**\*Mealys auction 20 April 2011**

**Lot 508 Roger Casement the Night before his Execution**

Casement (Roger) 1864 - 1916. A copy of Aubrey de Vere’s “Inisfail, A Lyrical Chronicle of Ireland.” 8vo L. n.d. NEW EDN., orig. green cloth.

\* Inscribed by Casement in Irish and English to Fr. Eamon Murnane, the priest who attended him in his prison cell on the night before his execution, with a transcription in Casement’s hand (on rear of title page) of four stanzas from his poem “In the Streets of Catania, Sicily 1900,” signed with initials R.C. dated 2 Augt. 1916, in Pentonville.

“All that was beautiful and just,

All that was pure and sad,

Went in one little moving plot of dust

The world called bad.

(one stanza forgotten)

Come like a highwayman and went

One who was bold and gay -

Left when his lighty-loving mood was spent

The heart to pay.

By-word of little Street and men

Narrower theirs the shame -

Tread thou the lava loving leaves, and then

Turn whence it came.

Etna all wonderful, whose heart

Glows as thine Throbbing glows,

Almond and Citron bloom quivering at start -

Ends in pure snows.

Laid in is a newspaper cutting of a letter by H. Montgomery Hyde outlining Casement’s religious background and the circumstances of his final conversion to Catholicism.

\*A most moving and unique memento of Sir Roger Casement, British statesman, Irish patriot hanged at Pentonville at dawn on 3rd August, 1916, following his conviction for high treason in consequence of his Irish Volunteer activities. He lived for the Rose of England, and died for the Green of Ireland.

€5000-7000 –

Sold for €7,500

Auction Date: 1998

Description: Rare Roger Casement inscribed association Copy, + De Vere (Aubroy) nisfail A Lyrical Chronicle of Ireland, post 8vo L. n.d. New Edn., orig. green cloth.++ Verso of title page with four stanza poem, entitled "In the Streets of Catania, Sicily - 1900 in the hand of Roger Casement, and signed with initials and dated, wR.C. 2 Augt. 1916, in Pentonville." Also inscribed "For Father Murnane, The Presbytery - Dockland, Bermondsey - S.E.n The verso of front blank is further inscribed In holy and loving memory of Roger August 3, 1916 on the day he was executed. Unique