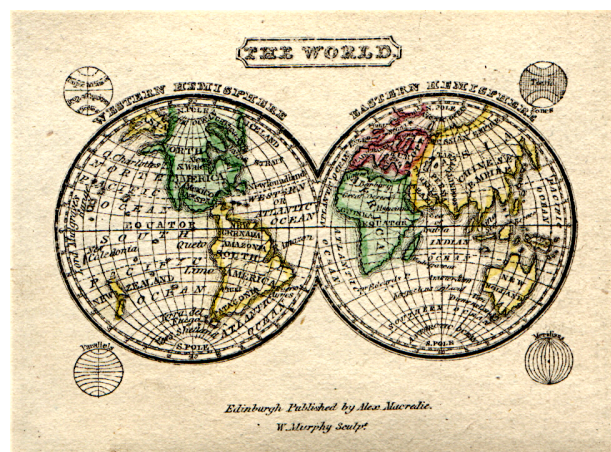
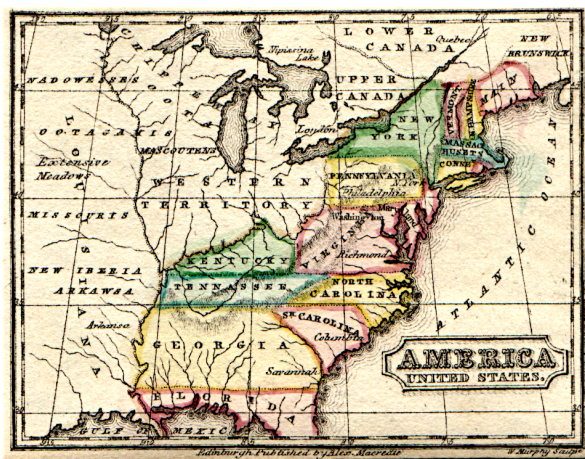
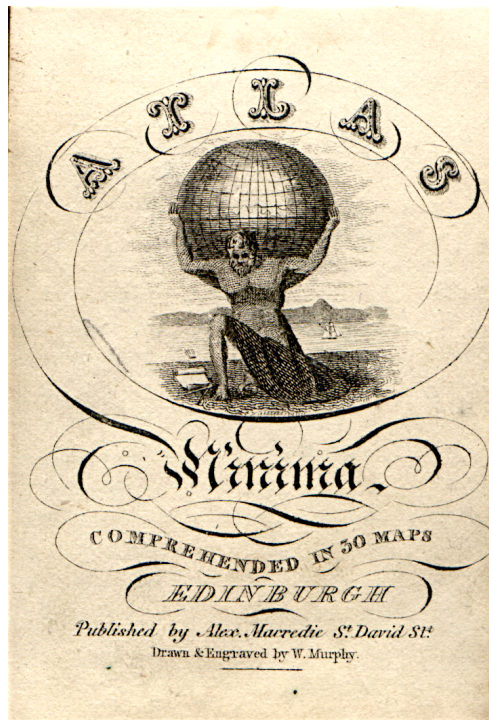


Born in 1797, William Murphy was a very prolific Scottish engraver whose output included several pocket atlases with miniature maps (see also 1832a, 1832b, 1832e, 1835 & 1850a). The smallest of these at 70 x 100 mm., is entitled *Atlas minima*, which is rather odd as the masculinity of Atlas can be in no doubt. According to the printed label on the front cover, it sold for two shillings and sixpence plain and three shillings and sixpence coloured. It contains thirty tiny numbered maps, about 80 x 60 mm., which have both the publisher's imprint and the engraver's signature at the foot:

The World (Western & Eastern Hemispheres); The World. on Mercator's projection; Europe; England; Scotland*; Ireland*; France in departments; Germany; Italy*; Norway and Sweden*; Denmark*; Russia*; Spain and Portugal; Netherlands; Holland; Prussia; Austria; Swisserland; Turkey in Europe*; Asia; Turkey in Asia; Hindoostan*; The Asiatic Isles; China; Africa; Egypt*; Nth. America*; America United States; West Indies; Sth. America*.*





The title-page, index and twelve* of the maps are at right angles to the rest of the book. The dating of this lovely little gem is problematical, with libraries opting for various years. The publisher and bookseller Alex Macredie is thought to have been in business from 1823 to 1843. Murphy's earliest work dates from 1825 and it is listed here under that year, following the National Library of Scotland. The two men later produced a miniature atlas of Scotland (see 1832a).

However, they also produced another undated pocket world atlas, *The Select Atlas for the Use of Schools*, which cost three shillings. This is about 140 mm. high and contains twelve small double-page maps, which have both the engraver's signature and the publisher's imprint. The only recorded copy is hand coloured and in the Osher Map Library (Smith Collection) of the University of Southern Maine in Portland, U.S.A.

Atlas minima: comprehended in 30 maps ... drawn & engraved by W. Murphy.
Edinburgh, Alex. Macredie, (1825).

