

1830b

Robert Scott



Robert Scott (1777-1841) of Edinburgh was regarded as the best Scottish engraver of his generation. His lovely *Juvenile atlas* is undated, but its paper has an 1830 watermark. The title-page features a cherub leaning on a globe and is followed by an 'Index of the various maps with views of the principal rivers & mountains.' These two plates of rivers and mountains were a common feature of atlases of the time. Measuring 117 x 90 mm., the work was engraved throughout and the plate marks indicate there were several pages to a plate. Although it purports to contain thirty-three maps, there is one less, as the hemispheres of the double-page world map are numbered 1 and 2. This measures about 130 x 90 mm. but the rest of the maps are single-page and only 65/70 x 80/90:

*The World; Europe; England; Scotland; Ireland; Norway and Sweden; Denmark; Russia in Europe; Prussia; Austrian Empire; Germany; Holland and the Netherlands; France; Switzerland; Spain & Portugal; Italy; Greece; Turkey in Europe; Asia; Turkey in Asia; Persia; Hindoostan; China; E. India Isles; Australia; Africa; Egypt; North America; Canada; United States of America; West Indies; South America.*



Six years later the maps appeared again, but in Glasgow and as lithographs with the imprint 'Allan & Ferguson lithog.' at the foot of all except those of the World and Europe. They accompanied sixty-four pages of text by Robert Wallace. The world map became a folding frontispiece and the title-page illustration was retained. The 'rivers plate' is upside-down facing the 'mountains' one and the maps are now in pairs, face to face. Number 13, Holland and the Netherlands, was changed to Holland and Belgium.





These lithographs turned up again in an undated atlas published in London and the British Library copy has an accession date of 25 May 52. With the imprints unchanged, the maps are face to face as in 1836 and the 'rivers' plate is the same too. They appeared finally in a miniature paperback atlas with the cherub still on the title-page but number 26, *Australia*, was updated. It was published by Webb, Millington & Co. of London, whose imprint replaced the previous one at the foot of the same maps. This work was also undated but ownership inscriptions of 1856 and 1859 provide some clues and there were at least three issues because the 'rivers plate' occurs in three states: upside-down as before; original way up and title repositioned to the centre; as before but with the imprint moved to the foot of the page.



*Juvenile atlas, comprehending the principal countries throughout the world, from the latest authorities.* Edinburgh, Robert Scott, (1830).

*The Pocket guide to modern geography: comprehending the principal countries throughout the world.* Glasgow, W.R. McPhun; London, N.H. Cotes, 1836.

*The Diamond pocket atlas, comprehending the principal countries throughout the world.* London, John J. Griffin & Co.; Glasgow, Richard Griffin & Co., (1852).

*Miniature atlas comprehending the principal countries throughout the world, from the latest authorities.* London, Webb, Millington & Co., (1856), (1858), (1859).

