
Cheselden's reputation as a teacher, clinician, and anatomist was well established during his lifetime, and he won great distinction in London's hospitals. His work on human anatomy went through thirteen editions and became a standard textbook. His Osteographia, with its magnificent plates depicting the human skeleton, separate and articulated, still ranks among the best osteographic atlases. It shows normal adult, fetal, and some pathological bones with great accuracy and artistry. Cheselden lost a considerable amount of money on the production of his anatomical atlas because so few copies were sold. As a result, many of the sets were broken up so the plates could be sold separately in order to reduce the amount of his losses. Because of this, complete copies of the work are rare. All complete copies, as here, contain the text and a double set of plates. One of the sets is lettered and has descriptions on the verso of each plate; the other set is unlettered with no descriptive information.