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KNAVE OF THE RENAISSANCE

Pulci, Luigi. 1432-1484.

Sensuyt l'histoire de Morgant le geant...le co[m]te Roland. Paris, D. Janot & A. Lotrian c. 1533. 4to. [iix], [340]p. Bâtarde type (81), 39 long lines per page, historiated & floriated white-line metalcut initials from several series, ONE FULL-PAGE & THIRTEEN TEXT WOODCUTS, TITLE IN RED & BLACK WITH A BATTLE SCENE.

CONTEMPORARY PARISIAN BLIND TOOLED CALF over paper boards (worn, some loss), panels alike with rule frames around a portrait & acanthus leaf roll (Gid pl. 93 TMf1, Parisian ateliers), central rectangle open, evidence of four deerskin ties, in a calf backed folding box. \$32000.00

Only Copy Known. Lorenzo de' Medici's mother, Lucrezia Tornabuoni, commissioned this satiric chivalric romance as dinner entertainment. The present French translation/adaptation remains anonymous. Its two earlier printings also survive as unica (1519, 1522).

MORGANTE DIRECTLY INFLUENCED RABELAIS, CERVANTES, GOETHE AND BYRON. A contemporary German owner covered the front and rear blank leaves with receipts in four languages for candles, papermaking, glass cutting, counterfeiting, peeling fruit.... A fine unrestored copy. Bechtel, *Gothiques* M-511; Moreau IV: 780; König, "Margutte-Cingar-Lázaro-Guzmán. Zur Genealogie d. *pícaro* u. d. *novela picaresca*" in *Romant. Jb.* 32 (1981) 291; Palma, "Of Courtesans, Knights, Cooks and Writers: Food in the Renaissance" in *MLN* 119 (2004) 37-51; see Brunet IV: 974.