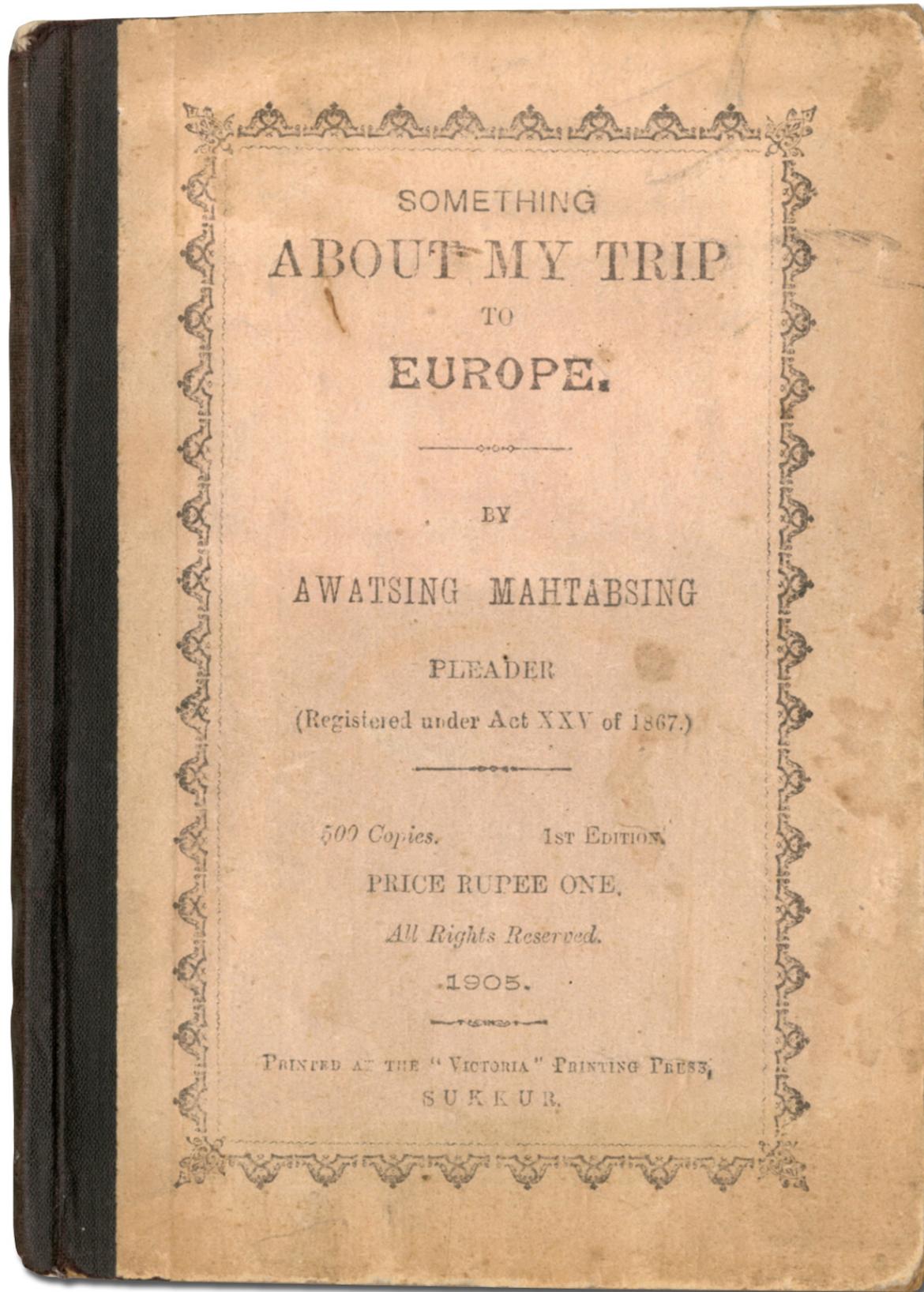


# BETWEEN THE COVERS RARE BOOKS

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**Awatsing  
Mahtabsing,  
pleader**  
*Something About My  
Trip To Europe*  
Sukkur: Printed at the "Victoria"  
Printing Press 1905

First edition. Quarter cloth and printed flexible card covers. 119pp. One of 500 copies printed. Text in English. A few smudges on the boards and a few page corners creased, but a remarkably nice, very good or better copy of a fragile volume. Impressions of a young Indian gentleman from Sind visiting Europe for the first time in the form of a diary. Written in a lively and engaging style as travel literature for friends rather than as a tedious "guidebook", full of firsthand descriptions of the places and fellow passengers he encounters en route from Bombay to Karachi by way of Paris, London, Edinburgh, Lucerne, and Milan. There is heavy emphasis on his time in the U.K. where he compares the English as overlords on the subcontinent and as hosts in their own land, including their attitudes towards race and morality, including some poignant observations on their behavior and customs: "In Sind we see very little of the English people, neither do we know them nor do they know us. We learn that some of the Anglo Indians are very haughty, overbearing and do not hesitate to insult natives of high rank or position. We are told that they consider it below their dignity to shake hands with natives.

They would not like to travel with them in the same railway carriages if they could help it. ...In England the British people take a pride in being kind to strangers, who happen to be in their land. They consider it mean to be otherwise and they feel it their duty to resent any unmannerly conduct that may be shown towards strangers by the rude and rough who are to be found in the streets. Anglo Indians in England are foremost in paying attention to Indians. They take a great interest in their welfare. Some Anglo Indians have greeted me so enthusiastically as if I was their long departed friend. I was received on equal footing with brotherly feelings." (p106). *OCLC* locates no copies in the U.S., and a single copy overall, at the British Library. In 1932 Mahtabsing also wrote a catechism of the Sikh religion (also located in a single copy, in Canada).

[BTC#394490]