

Jeremy Cooper

UNDER THE HAMMER

The Auctions and Auctioneers of London

Constable London

Contents

Acknowledgements	11
1 Auctions and Auctioneers	13
2 Christie's. The Establishment Auctioneers	42
3 Sotheby's. Experts and Entrepreneurs	82
4 'Phillips the Auction People'	122
5 Bonham's. The Family Auctioneers	134
6 Sotheby's Belgravia and Christie's South Kensington	144
7 The Specialist Auctioneers	158
8 The Smaller Auctioneers	174
9 A Guide to the London Auction Rooms for Buyers and Sellers	184
<i>General Advice for Sellers</i>	184
<i>General Advice for Buyers</i>	185
<i>General Characteristic; of the Four Principal Fine Art Auctioneers:</i>	187
Ch-istie's	188
Sotheby's	193
Phillips	198
Bonham's	202

Contents

<i>The Specialist Auctioneers:</i>	205
Stamps	205
Carpets and Rugs	211
Cigarette Cards, Postcards and other printed Ephemera	214
Book?	216
Coins and Medals	217
 <i>The Smaller Auction Rooms</i>	 2(7
Notes and Sources	229
Select Bibliography	³ 34
Index	² 37