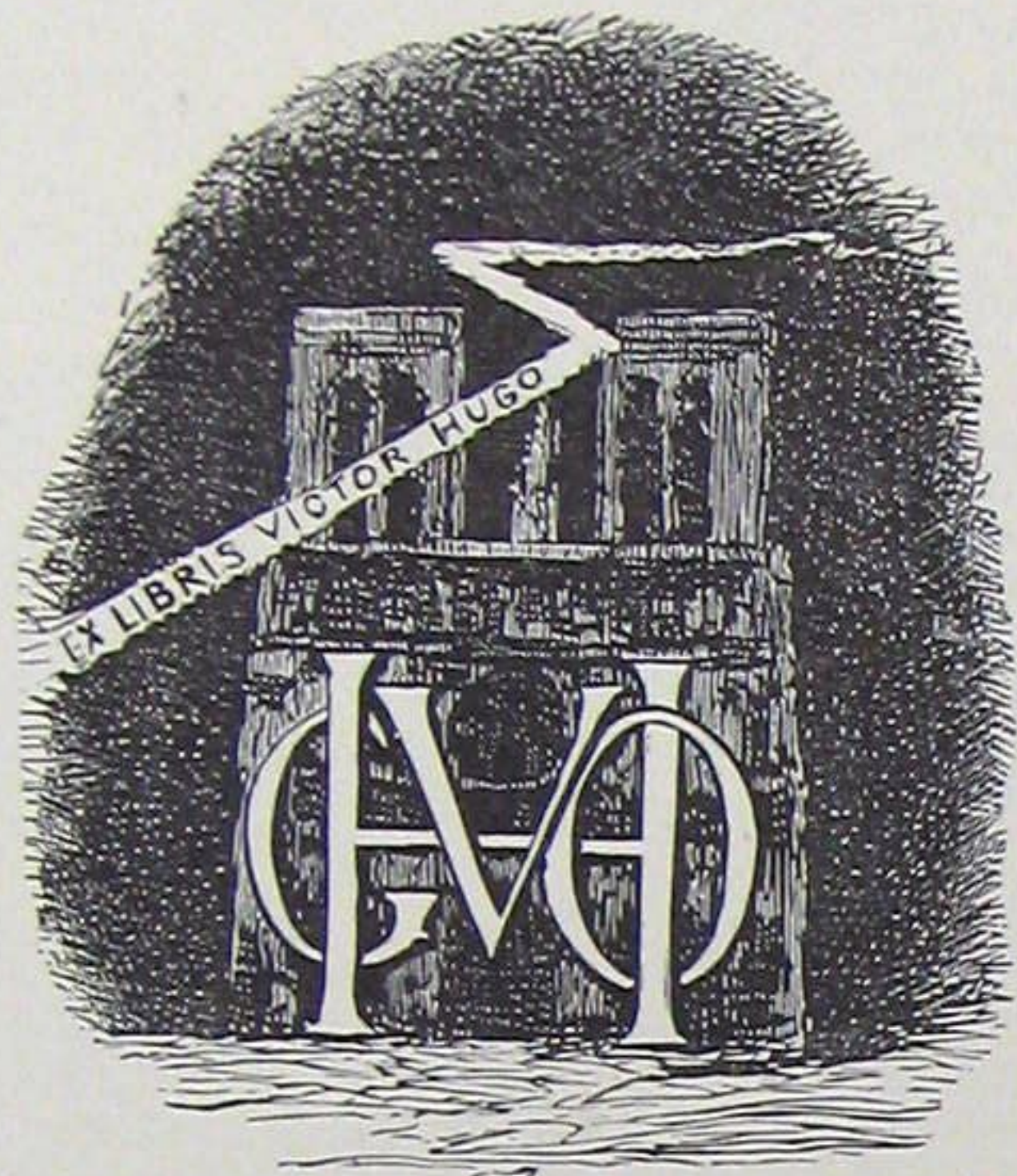
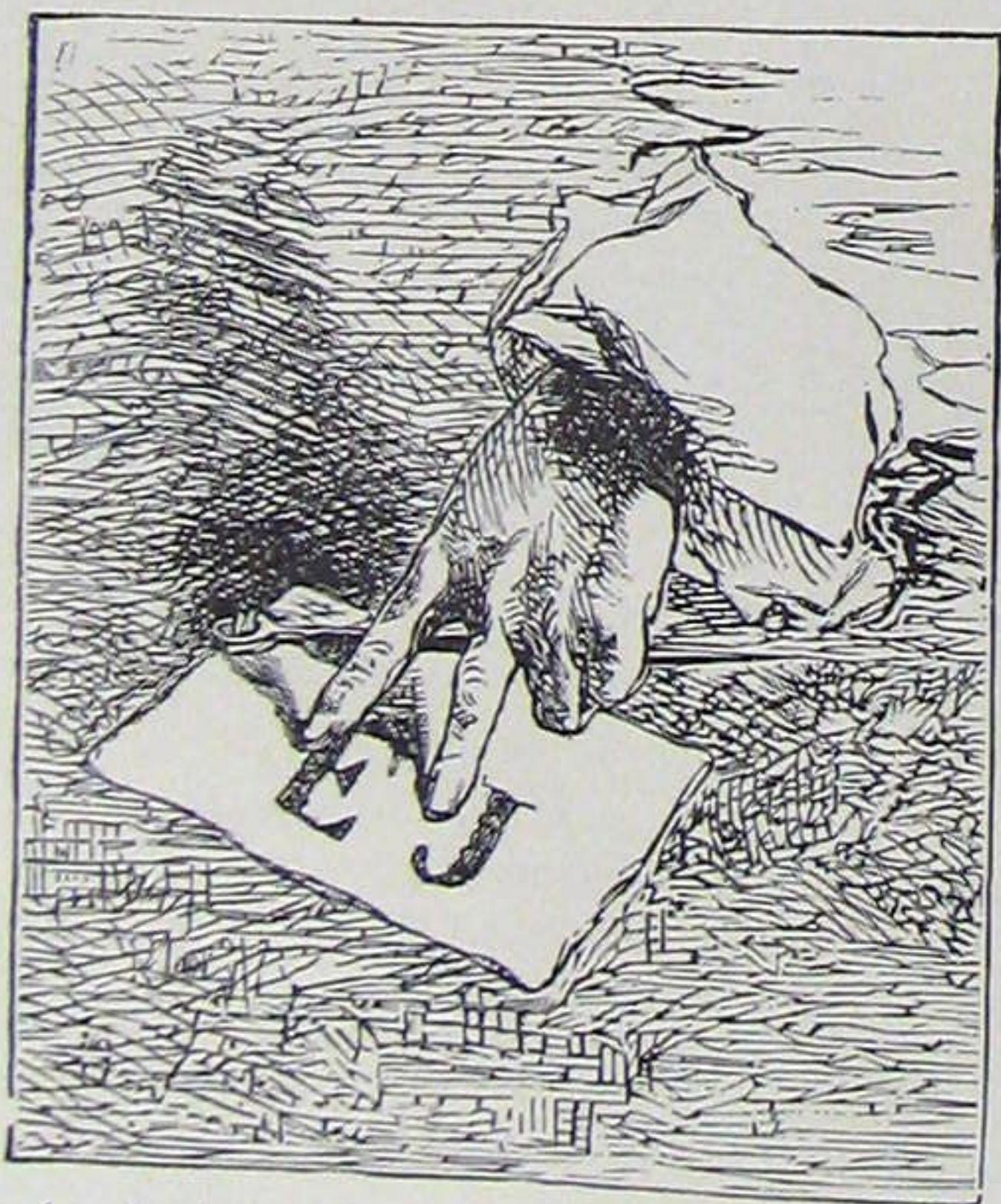


## "Ex-Libris."

**T**HE collection of book-plates now needs no apology—it is recognised as a legitimate pursuit. By the courtesy of a friendly collector we are enabled to present four good examples which it is believed have never yet appeared in print outside of their owner's books.



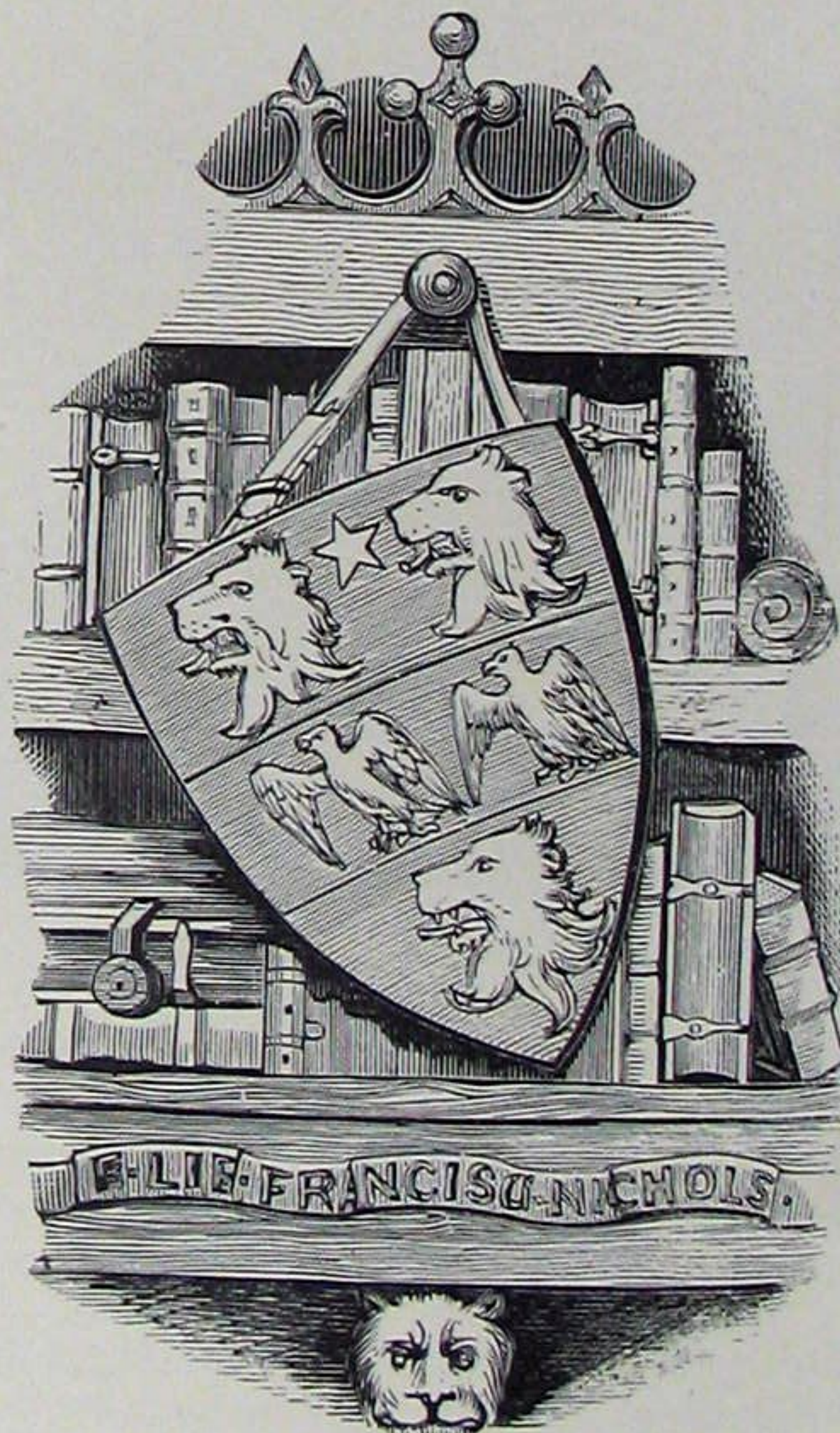
The first, Victor Hugo's book-plate, representing Notre Dame dimly seen in surrounding gloom, was designed and engraved by M. Aglaüs Bouvenne. The author of "Ex Libris Francais" says this drawing may possibly have inspired the verse by M. Auguste Vacquerie, "Les tours de Notre Dame étaient l' H de son nom." The flash of lightning may possibly be taken as a warning of the fate of any biblioklept who might be tempted to "lift" the poet's volumes.



The book-plate of the authors Edmond and Jules de Goncourt, illustrating the popular phrase "Les deux doigts de la main," was designed by Gavarni and etched by one of the brothers. Both of these are characteristically French in conception.



The next two are English. The first is the handsome book-plate of Mr. J. R. Planché, Rouge-croix Pursuivant of Arms, a seal-like design, admirably engraved by Sherbourne.



The second, the book-plate of Francis Nichols, is a slightly sketched design showing a shield couched on a carved book-case, and, below, the owner's name and "ex-libris." Both of these are undeniably good examples, but neither show the inventiveness and individuality of the French specimens.