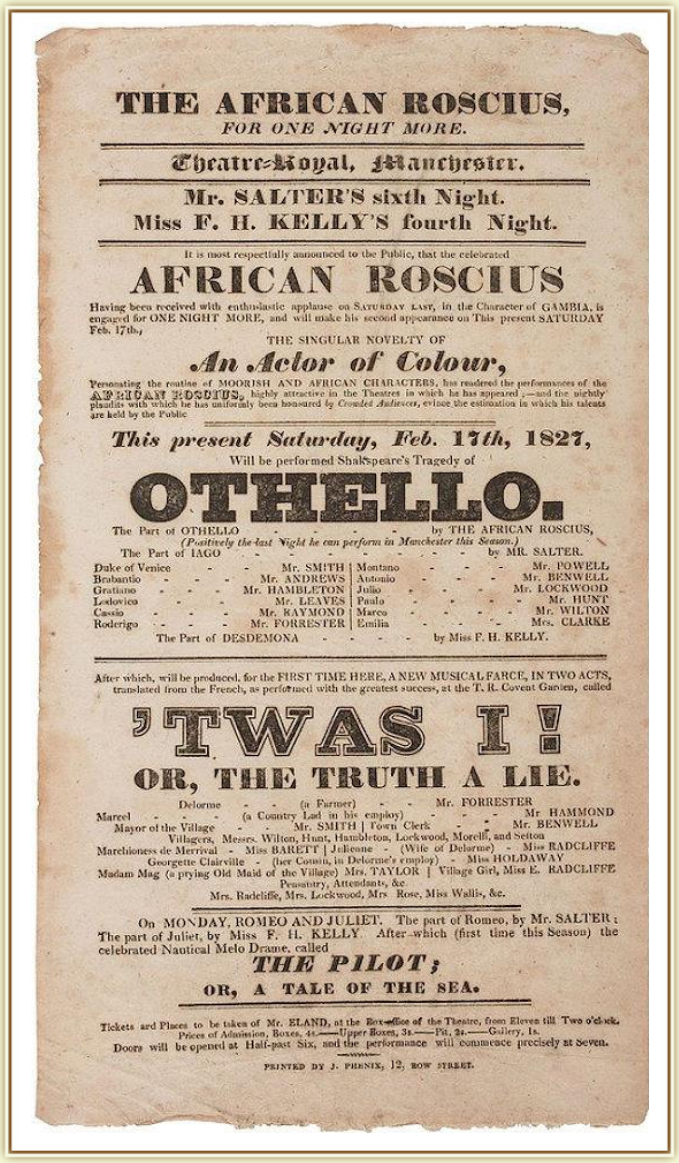
Kurt A. Sanftleben, ABAA, NSDA
Read'Em Again Books
Catalog 19-3 – September, 2019



THE AFRICAN ROSCIUS,
FOR ONE NIGHT MORE.

Theatre-Royal, Manchester.

Mr. SALTER'S sixth Night.
Miss F. H. KELLY'S fourth Night.

It is most respectfully announced to the Public, that the celebrated

AFRICAN ROSCIUS

Having been received with enthusiastic applause on SATURDAY LAST, in the Character of GAMBIA, is engaged for ONE NIGHT MORE, and will make his second appearance on This present SATURDAY Feb. 17th,

THE SINGULAR NOVELTY OF

An Actor of Colour,

Personating the routine of MOORISH AND AFRICAN CHARACTERS, has rendered the performances of the AFRICAN ROSCIUS, highly attractive in the Theatres in which he has appeared;—and the nightly plaudits with which he has uniformly been honoured by *Crowded Audiences*, evince the estimation in which his talents are held by the Public

This present Saturday, Feb. 17th, 1827,

Will be performed Shakspeare's Tragedy of

OTHELLO.

The Part of OTHELLO - - - - by THE AFRICAN ROSCIUS,
(Positively the last Night he can perform in Manchester this Season.)
The Part of IAGO - - - - - - - by MR. SALTER.

Duke of Venice - -	Mr. SMITH	Montano - - -	Mr. POWELL
Brabantio - - -	Mr. ANDREWS	Antonio - - -	Mr. BENWELL
Gratiano - - -	Mr. HAMBLETON	Julio - - -	Mr. LOCKWOOD
Lodovico - - -	Mr. LEAVES	Paulo - - -	Mr. HUNT
Cassio - - -	Mr. RAYMOND	Marco - - -	Mr. WILTON
Roderigo - - -	Mr. FORRESTER	Emilia - - -	Mrs. CLARKE

The Part of DESDEMONA - - - - by Miss F. H. KELLY.

After which, will be produced, for the FIRST TIME HERE, A NEW MUSICAL FARCE, IN TWO ACTS, translated from the French, as performed with the greatest success, at the T. R. Covent Garden, called

'TWAS I!

OR, THE TRUTH A LIE.

Delorme - - (a Farmer) - - Mr. FORRESTER
Marcel - - - (a Country Lad in his employ) - - - Mr HAMMOND
Mayor of the Village - - Mr. SMITH | Town Clerk - - - Mr. BENWELL
Villagers, Messrs. Wilton, Hunt, Hambleton, Lockwood, Morelli, and Sefton
Marchioness de Merrival - Miss BARETT | Julienne - (Wife of Delorme) - Miss RADCLIFFE
Georgette Clairville - (her Cousin, in Delorme's employ) - Miss HOLDAWAY
Madam Mag (a prying Old Maid of the Village) Mrs. TAYLOR | Village Girl, Miss E. RADCLIFFE
Peasantry, Attendants, &c.
Mrs. Radcliffe, Mrs. Lockwood, Mrs Rose, Miss Wallis, &c.

On MONDAY, ROMEO AND JULIET. The part of Romeo, by Mr. SALTER; The part of Juliet, by Miss F. H. KELLY. After which (first time this Season) the celebrated Nautical Melo Drame, called

THE PILOT;

OR, A TALE OF THE SEA.

Tickets and Places to be taken of Mr. ELAND, at the Box-office of the Theatre, from Eleven till Two o'clock.
Prices of Admission, Boxes, 4s.—Upper Boxes, 3s.—Pit, 2s.—Gallery, 1s.
Doors will be opened at Half-past Six, and the performance will commence precisely at Seven.

PRINTED BY J. PHENIX, 12, ROW STREET.

7. [AFRICAN-AMERICANA] [THEATER] An early broadside promoting a starring performance by "the celebrated African Roscius," Ira Aldridge, the African-American "Actor of Colour" who first shattered theater's racial barrier in the early 1800s. Manchester, England: James Phenix, 1827.

Our focus is on providing
unusual ephemera and original personal narratives including

Diaries, Journals, Correspondence, Photograph Albums, & Scrapbooks.

We specialize in unique items that provide insight into American history, society, and culture while telling stories within themselves. Although we love large archives, usually our offerings are much smaller in scope; one of our regular institutional customers calls them “microhistories.” These original source materials enliven collections and provide students, faculty, and other researchers with details to invigorate otherwise dry theses, dissertations, and publications.

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Reciprocal trade discounts are extended for purchases paid by check, money order or bank transfer.

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Any item may be returned for a full refund for any reason if the return is initiated within ten days of a purchaser’s receipt and the item arrives back to us in the same condition as when originally shipped. Prior notice of any return is appreciated. Return shipping costs will be paid by the buyer. All items are guaranteed as described. If a recognized authority finds an item or signature not to be genuine, the original purchaser may return the item at any time for a full refund including all shipping costs.

Regards, Kurt and Gail

_____

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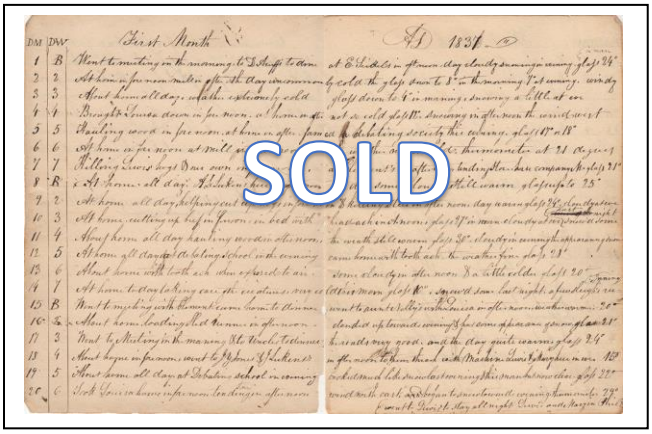
1. [ABOLITION] [FARMING] [RELIGION] A one-year diary kept by a young Pennsylvania Quaker who was just forming his abolitionist views and would later become very active in the anti-slavery movement. Henry Jones. Montgomery County in the vicinity of Gwynedd and Norristown, Pennsylvania: 1837.



This diary measures 6" x 7.5" and contains 40 filled pages. The spine has perished. The leaves are unbound; however, some signatures are intact and remain connected. The covers are present and illustrated poems on newsprint are pasted inside each. It appears the last one or two leaves are missing as the entries stop on the 9th day of Twelfth Month, i.e., December 9. Supple with light marginal toning.

Jones was probably 20 years old when he started this hand-made diary in First Month (January), 1837 as one of his entries reveals he first voted on October 10th. In it he made one short and concise, but meaningful entry for each day of the year. Jones has provided a wonderful record of life as a "yeoman farmer" that would make Thomas Jefferson proud. The daily entries are filled with entries describing Jones's prosperous agrarian life: harrowing, ploughing, fertilizing, sowing, and farrowing fields; cutting timber and milling wood; mowing, making, and selling hay; marketing products of his labor; animal husbandry; raising and butchering livestock; hunting for squirrel and snipe; and more. As well, it records personal events, such as weekly and quarterly Friends meetings, visits, self-education, friendships, funerals, suicides, and even records happenings that captured the interest of the nation like the great aurora borealis of January 25th, the full lunar eclipse of October 13th, and the launching of the largest warship of its day, the *U.S.S. Pennsylvania* on July 18th.

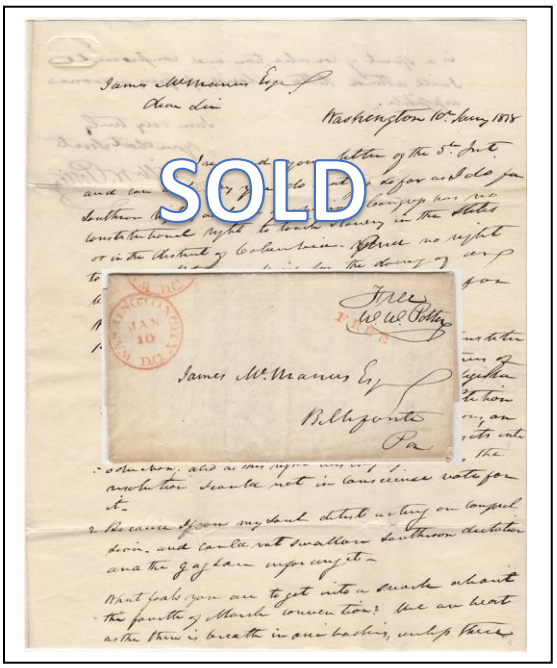
Most importantly, it documents Jones's budding involvement with the nascent abolitionist movement:

> "Second Month, Days 14--19 – At meeting in fore noon Lucretia Mott there & preached a very great sermon . . . Tending store in forenoon at Horsham in after noon Lucretia there at Shoemaker's in company with her . . . Went with Lewis Mary to Plymouth; at Uncle Sammy's to dinner in company with Lucretia who was at our meeting . . . Left F. Parry this morning for Bubury Meeting. Lucretia there. . .. (Lucretia Mott was one of the most influential early abolitionists. A founder of the Female Anti-Slavery Society of Philadelphia, her visit occurred shortly after she became its first president.)
>
> Third Month, Day 13 – Went to J Johnson's this morning after a halt at a debate in our school house this morning on the subject of Abolition. . ..
>
> Fourth Month, Days 21 and 24 – Went to hear Mr. Kim lecture on abolition in our School House . . . took Mr. Kim to the Billet this evening. . .. attended a debate held in the Academy between Mr. Kim & Morrow on Abolition. . .." (Probably Mr. J. Miller McKim, one of the founders of the American Anti-Slavery Society, who toured Pennsylvania in the late 1830s giving anti-slavery presentations)

This Henry Jones diary was one of five sold at auction in 2019. It was by far the earliest, the others being from the 1850s-60s when Jones was much older and, by then, heavily involved in the abolition movement. Historically valuable for both its detailed description of Mid-Atlantic agrarian life in the early 1800s as well as a record of a young man's burgeoning interest in the abolitionist cause. Scarce. As of 2019, nothing similar is for sale in the trade, nor are there records of any similar auction listings at the Rare Book Hub. OCLC identifies several institutionally-held personal papers collections that may include similar diaries.

SOLD Read'Em Again Books #9455

2. [ABOLITION] [GAG RULE] [PHILATELY] [POLITICS] [SLAVERY] [VIRGINIANA] Letter from a Pennsylvania congressman reiterating his support for "Southern Rights" and opposition to abolition while explaining why he voted against the Gag Rule in the House of Representatives. William W. Potter to James McManus. Washington, DC to Bellefonte, Pennsylvania: 1838.



This two-page stampless folded letter measures 16" x 10" unfolded. It is datelined "Washington 10th Janry 1838. It bears a red circular "Washington City D.C." postmark dated January 10 and a manuscript "Free" signed by "W. W. Potter". The letter is in nice shape. Transcript is included.

In this letter that appears to be a response to a constituent, Potter emphasizes his commitment to the Constitution and state's rights, however he also bristles at Southern representatives' attempts to pass a Gag Rule prohibiting the reading of citizens' Petitions regarding abolition, which he believed to be unconstitutional:

> "You do not go as far as I do for Southern Rights, as I am of opinion Congress has no constitutional right to touch slavery in the States or in the District of Columbia. And no right to receive Petitions asking for the doing any unconstitutional act, yet could not vote for Mr. Pattons resolution.
>
> 1st. Because I firmly believe that the Constitution guarantees to the citizens of the territories of the United States who are under the sole legislation and control of Congress the right of Petition – and reference and consideration of their petitions on the abolition of slavery or the prevention of its introduction and as this right was impugned by the resolution I could not in consciences vote for it.
>
> 2nd. Because I from my soul detest acting on compulsion and could not swallow Southern dictation and the gag law enforcing it."

In 1831 after abolitionists had given up on using American churches to affect emancipation, Congress was deluged with petitions of various types all "praying" for the abolition of slavery or its restriction from new territories. Most were presented to the House by John Quincy Adams, who not only abhorred slavery but was a strong supporter of the First Amendment which guaranteed citizens the right to petition for redress of grievances. Anti-abolition, pro-slavery, and constitutionalists objected, and passed a series of 'gag rules' that automatically 'tabled' all abolition or slavery petitions, preventing them from being read or discussed.

Anti-slavery politicians insisted that the gag rules were unconstitutional based on the First Amendment even though the petitioners' requests were not related to any personal grievance the government had committed against them and continued to pass gag rules that were ever more restrictive. (Interestingly, the abolitionists never challenged these rules in the courts; perhaps because they recognized their arguments as flimsy, but more likely because the Supreme Court was dominated by Democrats and not sympathetic to the abolitionist cause.) Despite Representative Potter's vote, in December 1837, Congress passed the Patton Resolutions referenced in this letter, which were introduced by John M. Patton of Virginia.

SOLD **Read'Em Again Books #9444**

3. [ABOLITION] [PHILATELY] [POLITICS] A "true copy" of votes cast at a New Hampshire town meeting for a Congressional representative in a bitterly fought election that broke "dams and dykes" allowing a "tide of anti-slavery feelings . . . [to] wash . . . down from . . . northern mountains upon the slave-cursed south." Attested to by John Brown, Town Clerk. Bridgewater, New Hampshire: 1846.

This partially printed document summarizes the vote taken "at a legal town meeting . . . at Bridgewater in the county of Grafton on Tuesday, march tenth, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and forty-six . . . for one person to represent this State in the Congress of the United States." Addressed to the Secretary of the State of New Hampshire and struck with a circular Haverhill, N.H. postmark. In nice shape.

Bridgeport's tally for this election was 78 votes for Democrat John Woodbury; 50 votes for the Independent Democrat John Hale, and 22 votes for Whig Ichabod Goodwin.

The New Hampshire election for the 29th U.S. Congress was bitter and hotly contested. John P. Hale, a Democrat representing the state in the 28th Congress supported the Democrat James K. Polk in the 1844 presidential election. Subsequently he was re-nominated for his Congressional seat without opposition. However, before the election was held, Hale publicly opposed Polk's proposed annexation of Texas based upon his anti-slavery convictions, after which he was branded a traitor to the Democratic Party and his name was stricken from the ticket by party chairman, Franklin Pierce, who substituted John Woodbury instead. Hale then ran for re-election as an independent against Woodbury and the Whig candidate, Ichabod Goodwin, in the first vote for the 29th Congress held in March of 1845. None of them captured enough votes to win.

Hale, however, subsequently embraced his new anti-slavery mantle and set out to convert all of New Hampshire to the abolitionist cause. He traveled relentlessly throughout the state in what was dubbed the "Hale Storm of 1845". The state voted again in September and November of 1845 and once more in March 1846 with the same result, the Congressional seat went unfilled for the rest of the term.

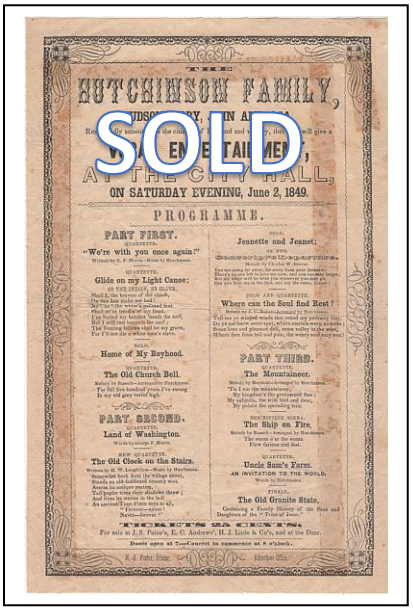
However, Hale's campaign was otherwise incredibly successful. Anti-slavery Whigs and Independent Democrats won control of the state legislature and governorship. Instead of heading to Congress, Hale was eventually elected to the state legislature where he served as Speaker until he was elected to be one of New Hampshire's U.S. Senators the following year. Of his election, John Greenleaf Whittier proclaimed

> "He has succeeded, and his success has broken the spell which has hitherto held reluctant Democracy in the embraces of slavery. The tide of anti-slavery feeling, long held back by the dams and dykes of party, has at last broken over all barriers, and is washing down from your northern mountains upon the slave-cursed south, as if Niagara stretched its foam and thunder along the whole length of Mason and Dixon's line. Let the first wave of that northern flood, as it dashes against the walls of the capitol, bear thither for the first time an anti-slavery senator." (For more information see "Hale, John Porter" in Appleton's' *Cyclopædia of American Biography*.

A "true copy" of a significant document attesting to an especially important watershed election that began the politicization of the abolitionist cause, which eventually led to the Civil War, the Emancipation Proclamation, and the 14th Amendment.

SOLD **Read'Em Again Books #9430**

4. [ABOLITION] [AMERICAN INDIANS] [FREE SOIL] [IMMIGRATION] [MUSIC] [REFORM] [WESTWARD EXPANSION] Broadside announcing a concert by New Hampshire's Hutchinson Family, the founders of both popular and protest music in the United States. Portland, Maine: N. A. Foster, Printer, 1849.



This broadside measures approximately 7" x 11.25". Clean with light wear and faint tape stains from mounting. A short partially legible paragraph is written on the reverse in pencil

New Hampshire's Hutchinson Family was the most popular American singing group of the 1840s and took New England by storm with four-part harmonies in which they initially coupled original sentimental, comic, and dramatic lyrics to well-loved church hymns and minstrel songs. When in 1842 their anti-drinking song, *King Alcohol*, became a hit with temperance audiences, they realized that there was money to be made in "reform" music and wholeheartedly embraced the "full-fledged commercialization of antislavery" with their rollicking anti-slavery anthem, *Get Off the Track!*, which was based on a blackface minstrel standard, *Old Dan Tucker*. Abolitionists loved the Hutchinsons, filled their concerts, and bought their sheet music. Moreover, not only did the Hutchinsons ensure that abolitionists knew they welcomed blacks to their performances, they begged abolitionists to bring blacks along when they attended concerts. In time, the family expanded its repertoire to include songs about promoting worker's rights, women's rights, immigration, and lamenting the treatment of American Indians. (See Gac's *Singing for Freedom: The Hutchinson Family Singers and the Nineteenth-Century* and "American Protest Music: How The Hutchinson Family Singers Achieved Pop Stardom with an Anti-Slavery Anthem," online at longreads.com)

In this broadside, "The Hutchinson family, Judson, Abby, John and Asa Respectfully announce to the citizens of Portland and vicinity, that they will give a Vocal Entertainment, at the City Hall, on Saturday Evening, June 2, 1849." The concert included two reform songs. *Glide on my Light Canoe* (*The Indian's Lament*) castigates "whites" who "have driven us from our home [and] swept our friends away" while pledging that "The whites polluted feet shall ne'er tread upon my head [and that] I'll not die the white man's slave." *Uncle Sam's Farm* is a paean to open immigration. Free Soil, and westward expansion.

The partially legible, confusing, and unsigned note on the reverse was obviously written by a concert attendee who may have enjoyed the' music but was not an ardent abolitionist. It appears to read:

> "Gen Sam'l Fessenden & wife attended accompanied by three ? Niggers. This valuable property acts entitled to more than ordinary care, was particular to arrange them on the right & left of Nimsey & wife ? ? them. The ? them ? ? value sequence & himself that aromatic flavor which is only equaled by the spicy ? that blom from Araby. . .."

Samuel Fessenden, a general in the state militia, was a rabid abolitionist and politician who "did all he could for the negro. . .. He received colored people at his house, visited them himself, and aided them in their attempts to attain position in society." Additionally, he used his home as a waystation on the Underground Railroad. (See *The New England Magazine*, Vol 18; Vol 24. P 117 (1898) and Snodgrass's *The Underground Railroad: An Encyclopedia of People Places, and Operations*.)

Scarce. As of 2020, no other examples of this broadside are for sale in the trade or held by institutions per OCLC. The Rare Book Hub lists only one auction result for a similar broadside in the past 50 years.

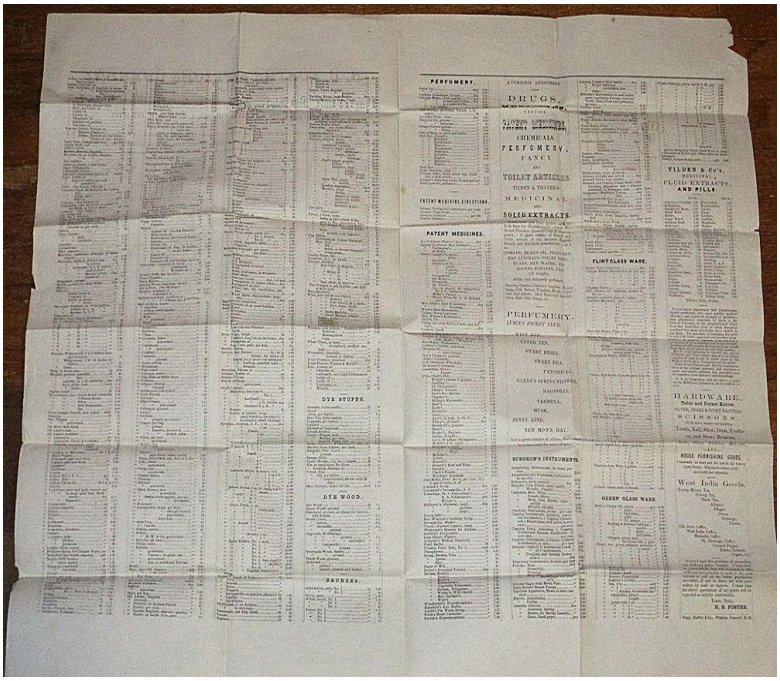
SOLD **Read'Em Again Books #9424**

5. [ADVERTISING] [MEDICAL] [PHILATELY] Large, mail-order bifold broadsheet, "H. B. Foster's Price Guide", advertising a huge stock of drugs, surgical instruments, patent medicines, perfumes, dyes, glassware, hardware and more. H. B. Foster. Concord, New Hampshire, 1862.

The large advertising flyer measures 22" x 15". It was folded four times into a 6" x 3" rectangle and sent through the mail to a New Hampshire physician. It bears a three-cent Washington stamp (Scott #65) and a circular Concord, N.H postmark dated March 22, 1862. In nice shape with just a little edge-wear.

A printed caution at the top reads:

> "This Price List I consider *Confidential* in all cases, and for the *exclusive* use to the party to whom I send it. Present prices subject to subsequent variations. To which I would invite the attention of Druggists, Physicians and Merchants, before purchasing elsewhere."



This list contains at least 1,750 items broken into categories including drugs and botanicals, patent medicines, surgeon's instruments, flint and green glassware, medicinal extracts and pills, dyes and dye stuffs, bronzes, perfumes and a selection of teas, coffees, and tobaccos.

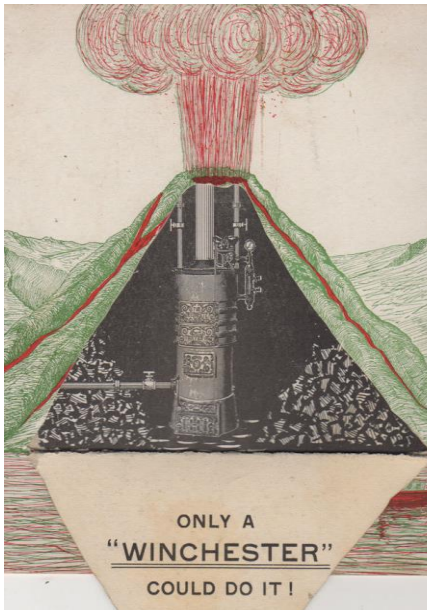
An astonishingly comprehensive snapshot-in-time listing anything a mid-19th century pharmacist or physician could possibly want for their practice.

Scarce. As of 2019, nothing similar is for sale in the trade. There are no records of similar items sold at auction per Rare Book Hub or held by institutions per OCLC, although both databases list trade catalogs and medical advertising almanacs from the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

SOLD **Read'Em Again Books #9464**

6. [ADVERTISING] [DISASTERS] [PHILATELY] [POPUPS & MOVABLES] [VOLCANOS] Large, lift-the-flap, insensitive, steam boiler advertising postcard card featuring the devasting Mt. Pelee volcanic eruption destroyed an entire city, killing 30,000 people. Boston, Massachusetts: Smith & Thayer Co., 1903.

This advertising postcard for Winchester Steam Heaters measures approximately 10" x 6". It features an all-over print, titled "The Secret of Mt. Pelee" in grey, green, and red, perhaps with a little additional hand-coloring, that shows an idealized version of the volcanic eruption, the island of Martinique (a Caribbean island in the Lesser Antilles), and the city of Saint- Pierre. A flap in the center of the volcano can be lifted to reveal the force behind the eruption, a Winchester steam boiler. The card is postally used, franked with a 1-cent Franklin stamp (Scott #300) cancelled with a Boston postmark. In nice shape.



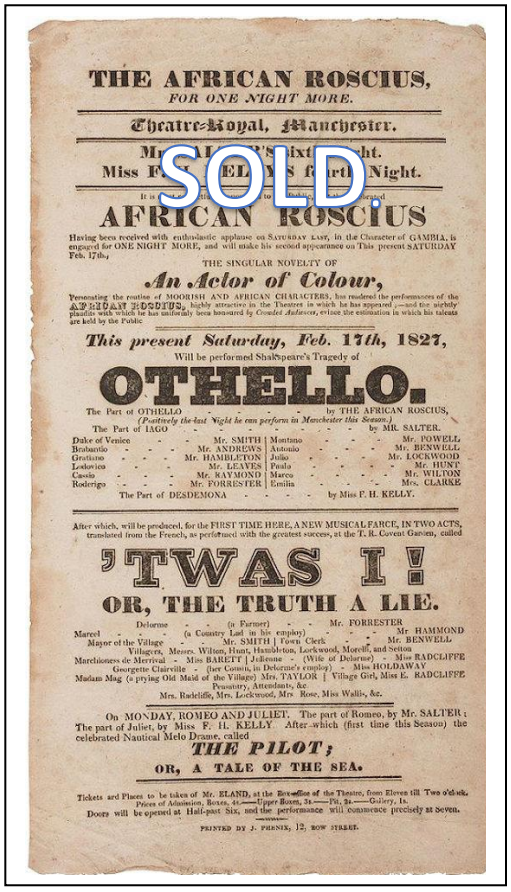
Mt. Pelee's eruption in 1902 destroyed the entire city of Saint-Pierre, killing over 30,000 people. It was the third worst volcanic eruption of all time, only surpassed by those of Mouth Tambora in 1815 and Krakatoa in 1883. Precursors of the eruption began on April 23 when yellowish clouds appeared near the mountain top and cinders rained down on its sides. By the 27th, deep rumbling sounds like underground boiling water could be heard and an unpleasant sulfurous smell permeated the region. Loud explosions and minor earthquakes began on 2 May and a steady pillar of black smoke rose from volcano's throat. On the 5th the sea suddenly receded and then rushed back to shore, flooding parts of the city. That night, atmospheric disturbances disabled the electric grid, plunging Saint-Pierre into darkness. Over the next two days, underground rumblings grew louder, and volcanic lightning crashed around the mountain top, which had begun to glow red. Early the next morning, while a telegraph operator was sending his daily status report, the transmission abruptly ceased. A ship at sea, but within sight of the city reported that suddenly the mountain exploded, and a gigantic black mushroom cloud rocketed skyward. A glowing thick cloud of superheated steam, gas, and pulverized rock roiled down the mountain's side, engulfing the entire city in less than a minute. Only two badly burned people survived the pyroclastic surge (which volcanologists estimate approached 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit and over 400 mph), although a few sailors and passengers aboard ships in the harbor were spared as well. Several more explosions over the next week killed an additional 3,000 rescuers as well.

I'm not sure this is the type of an explosive event one should use to advertise pressurized steam boilers.

Rare and the only extant example. As of 2019, no similar items are for sale in the trade. OCLC lists no similar items in institutional collections, and the are no auction records for similar items showing at Rare Book Hub, Worthpoint, LiveAuctioneers, or the StampAuctionNetwork.

SOLD Read'Em Again Books #9447

7. [AFRICAN-AMERICANA] [THEATER] An early broadside promoting a starring performance by "the celebrated African Roscius," Ira Aldridge, the African-American "Actor of Colour" who first shattered theater's racial barrier in the early 1800s. Manchester, England: James Phenix, 1827.


THE AFRICAN ROSCIUS,
FOR ONE NIGHT MORE.
Theatre-Royal, Manchester.
SOLD
Night.
AFRICAN ROSCIUS
Having been received with enthusiastic applause on SATURDAY LAST, in the Character of GAMBIA, is engaged for ONE NIGHT MORE, and will make his second appearance on This present SATURDAY Feb. 17th,
THE SINGULAR NOVELTY OF
An Actor of Colour,
Personating the routine of MOORISH AND AFRICAN CHARACTERS, has rendered the performances of the AFRICAN ROSCIUS, highly attractive in the Theatres in which he has appeared ;—and the nightly plaudits with which he has uniformly been honoured by Crowded Audiences, evince the estimation in which his talents are held by the Public
This present Saturday, Feb. 17th, 1827,
Will be performed Shakspeare's Tragedy of
OTHELLO.
The Part of OTHELLO - - - - by THE AFRICAN ROSCIUS,
(Positively the last Night he can perform in Manchester this Season.)
The Part of IAGO - - - - - - by MR. SALTER.
Duke of Venice - - Mr. SMITH | Montano - - - Mr. POWELL
Brabantio - - - Mr. ANDREWS | Antonio - - - Mr. BENWELL
Gratiano - - - Mr. HAMBLETON | Jollo - - - Mr. LOCKWOOD
Lodovico - - - Mr. LEAVES | Paulo - - - Mr. HUNT
Cassio - - - Mr. RAYMOND | Marco - - - Mr. WILTON
Roderigo - - - Mr. FORRESTER | Emilia - - - Mrs. CLARKE
The Part of DESDEMONA - - - - by Miss P. H. KELLY.
After which, will be produced, for the FIRST TIME HERE, A NEW MUSICAL FARCE, IN TWO ACTS, translated from the French, as performed with the greatest success, at the T. R. Covent Garden, called
'TWAS I!
OR, THE TRUTH A LIE.
Delorme - - - (a Farmer) - - - Mr. FORRESTER
Marcel - - - (a Country Lad in his employ) - - - Mr HAMMOND
Mayor of the Village - - Mr. SMITH | Town Clerk - - - Mr. BENWELL
Villagers, Messrs. Wilton, Hunt, Hambleton, Lockwood, Morrell, and Sefton
Marchioness de Merrival - Miss BARETT | Julienne - (Wife of Delorme) - Miss RADCLIFFE
Georgette Clairville - (her Cousin, in Delorme's employ) - Miss HOLDAWAY
Madam Mag (a prying Old Maid of the Village) Mrs. TAYLOR | Village Girl, Miss E. RADCLIFFE
Peasantry, Attendants, &c
Mrs. Radcliffe, Mrs. Lockwood, Mrs Rose, Miss Wallis, &c.
On MONDAY, ROMEO AND JULIET. The part of Romeo, by Mr. SALTER; The part of Juliet, by Miss P. H. KELLY. After which (first time this Season) the celebrated Nautical Melo Drame, called
THE PILOT;
OR, A TALE OF THE SEA.
Tickets and Places to be taken of Mr. ELAND, at the Box-office of the Theatre, from Eleven till Two o'clock.
Prices of Admission, Boxes, 4s.—Upper Boxes, 3s.—Pit, 2s.—Gallery, 1s.
Doors will be opened at Half-past Six, and the performance will commence precisely at Seven.
PRINTED BY J. PHENIX, 12, ROW STREET.

This broadside, which measures 7.5" x 14", advertises an early performance by Ira Aldridge starring as Othello at the Theatre-Royal in Manchester England on February 17, 1827. Minor toning, mostly along the margins.

The broadside twice promotes Aldridge as the "African Roscius" and goes on to boast:

> "The Singular Novelty of An Actor of Colour, Personating the routine of Moorish and African Characters, has rendered the performance of the African Roscius, highly attractive in the Theatres in which he has appeared; - and the nightly plaudits with which he has uniformly been honoured by Crowded Audiences, evince the estimation in which his talents are held by the Public."

Although Aldridge billed himself on the European stage as a Senegalese prince, he came from a poor, but free, African-American family in New York. The son of a straw-seller who was also a lay preacher, Ira attended the African Free School in Manhattan where, through the study of classics, he developed a deep appreciation for the theater. As a youngster, he worked backstage at the Chatham Theatre and, while in his teens, began acting at the city's African Grove Theatre, the first U. S. playhouse catering to and managed by African-Americans. There, Aldridge apprenticed under James Hewlett, the first African-American Shakespearean actor. Although he found steady work as an actor, Aldridge came to feel that the United States was not a hospitable place for theatrical performers, especially black theatrical performers. So, in 1824, he left for England where he became the valet for the British-American actor James William Walleck.

Aldridge made his English debut in 1825 at the Theater Royal Covent Garden, and continued to perform in London for the next eight years. Although initial reviews were poor, his popularity steadily increased, especially in the 1830s after he ventured from London to the provinces. Later, when Aldridge toured the continent, especially in Prussia, Austria, Switzerland, and Russia, he became incredibly popular. He is the only actor of African descent to be honored with a plaque at the Shakespeare Memorial Theater.

Aldridge acquired his stage name, "the African Roscius", from a comment in an early review that referenced Quintus Roscius Gallus, a Roman slave who became an actor. Taking no offense, he seized the name to bolster his fabricated identity. (For more information see "Ira Aldridge" at Shakespeare.org, and Hovde's "Ira Aldridge takes the stage" at the Folger Library's Shakespeare and Beyond blog.)

Extremely scarce. As of 2019, no other examples are for sale in the trade. The Folger Library holds several Aldridge playbills but only one billing him as the African Roscius, and all are from much later in his career. SIU holds reproductions and photographs of several Aldridge playbills, this one included. Rare Book Hub lists only two auction results for Aldridge broadsides, both from later in his career.

SOLD **Read'Em Again #9417**

8. [AFRICAN-AMERICANA] [EDUCATION] [LIBERIAN COLONIZATION] [PHILATELY] [SLAVERY] Letter from Dr. Wesley Johnson, the former governor of the Grand Bassa Colony in Liberia to Benjamin Coates, Vice-President of the Pennsylvania Abolition Society and an active supporter of the American Colonization Society, regarding the status of the colony in general as well as details about educational and agricultural initiatives. Dr. Wesley Johnson. Factory Island, Grand Bassa, [Liberia]: 1842.

This three-page stampless folded letter measures 16" x 10" unfolded. It is datelined, "Factory Island, Grand Bassa / July 13th 1842". It is addressed to Benjamin Coates in Philadelphia and bears an octagonal "6" arrival handstamp. The letter is intact; however, splits are starting along several folds. Otherwise in very nice shape.

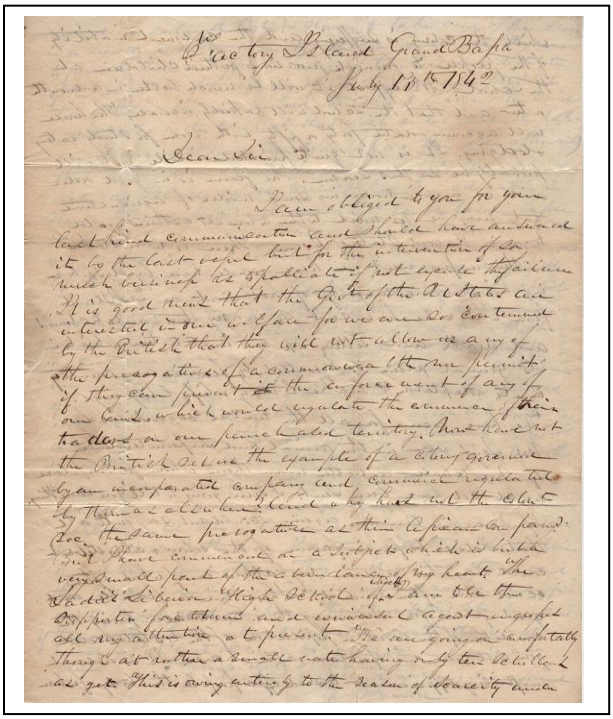
Wesley Johnson was a member of the Young Men's Colonization Society of Pennsylvania and served as the governor of its Grand Bassa Colony in Liberia until his organization merged with the American Colonization Society in 1838, after which he became the Superintendent of Liberia's only high school under the patronage of the Ladies' Liberia School Association of Philadelphia. Benjamin Coates was a wealthy Philadelphia merchant, the Vice-President of the Pennsylvania Abolition Society, and a strong proponent of colonization. (For more information, see the *Annual Report of the American Colonization Society* for 1845 and Lapsansky-Werner's "Back to Africa: Benjamin Coates and the Colonization Movement" in the Spring 2007 edition of *Quaker History*.

In his letter Johnson discusses the high school:

> "The Ladies Liberian High School of which I am to be the supporter factotum and universal agent engrosses all my attention at present. We are going on comfortably though at a rather small rate having only ten scholars as yet. This is owing entirely to the season of scarcity under which the colony is suffering and the consequent instability of the people to furnish provisions for their children at the school. We expect it will be much better in a month or two and that the school will capacity increase. The house will accommodate forty or fifty with room for study, eating, & lodging. It is not quite finished inside but will probably be so this season. . .. There is no mistake in the improvement we have made here by dispossessing his satanic majesty of his seat on F. Island from which he has sent so many there south to chains and death and setting up an institution which in its general plan is equaled by few in any country in its adaptation to make liberty & life blessings." (For more information about the high school, see Karen Fisher Younger's "Philadelphia's Ladies' Liberia School Association and the Rise and Decline of Northern Female Colonization Support" in the July 2010 edition of the *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*.)

Regarding "his satanic majesty," Johnson may be speaking either figuratively or specifically. He could be speaking about the institution of slavery and the African's slave trading "factories" that had once been located on Factory Island, or he could have been specifically referring to the slave-trading kings of the Dey and Gurrah tribes whom the colonialist militia had defeated in combat. (See Innes's *Liberia; or the early history and signal preservation of the American Colony*.)

He also reports about the colony's difficulties with Great Britain and the hypocrisy of the British regarding trade competition:



"we are so contemned by the British that they will not allow us any of the prerogatives of a commonwealth nor permit if they can prevent the enforcement of any of our laws which would regulate commerce of their traders on our purchased territory. Now have not the British set us the example of a colony governed by an incorporated company and commerce regulated by them as elsewhere? And why hast not the colon'l soc the same prerogatives as their African Company?"

And, he discusses Liberian agriculture, an extremely important topic to Coates who believed that the colony could develop a cotton-growing economy that would dwarf and destroy the South's, and thus, result in the complete abolition of American slavery. (See Coates's *Cotton Cultivation in Africa.*):

"The farm is in good order and we are introducing some modes of agriculture that may be as novel to the colonist as theirs would be to you in the good State of Penn. . .. Their system of agriculture is absolutely and certainly not more than one fifth as productive in proportion to the amount of labour bestowed as it might be with the usual means and methods in the northern states and the natives are and even will be inferior to them in this respect until they introduce more improved and labour saving plants."

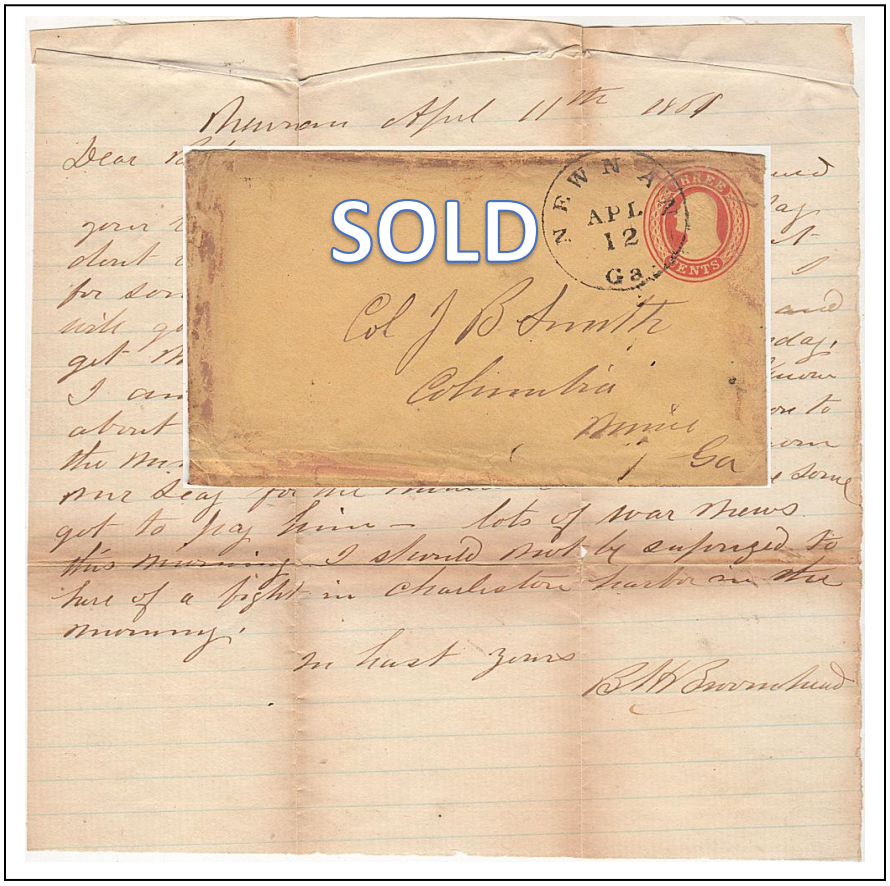
And he closes with a critically frank examination of the colonization effort:

"If I were in America again I could not say quite all that I did before in favour of the colony & colonists but could say . . . "Show me a feasible and good plan for securing the interests and improving the condition of the African population of the U States and you will cure me of colonization at once." It is a most surprising experiment to send off a people [who] never drew a breath but in slavery [to] a new and distant country. Still more so when they are to furnish their own officers, religious teachers, and [are] destitute of the principles of . . . life and have no examples but those of the barbarians around them. But I have often said . . . nothing ever showed the colony is half so bad [as] slavery. . .. And how can we be surprised to find a want of moral courage, of enlightened . . . principle, [instead finding] selfish views & feelings want of mutual sympathy. . .? Common among slaves [are] vices as lying, theft, natural connivance, and concealment. But these people are under the pressure of poverty and the compelling influence of a barbarous community about them whom they hold as inferiors. . .. I contend with those who complain of indolence among [the colonists, but] they must work or starve and labour now performed if well applied would be sufficient for all good purposes. . .. So at last it comes to "colonization in Liberia or nowhere."

A truly important summary of the problems that then beset the colony of freed American slaves in Liberia and the doubts of one of the most ardent white supporters of colonization. Scarce. As of 2019 nothing similar in the trade or listed in Rare Book Hub auction results. Nothing like this is specifically listed in any institution by OCLC, however a similar letter may be held within one of several personal papers collections related to Liberian colonization.

SOLD Read'Em Again Books #9463

9. [AFRICAN-AMERICANA] [MILITARY & WAR] [PHILATELY] Confederate letter on U.S. postal stationery written on 11 April 1861 accurately predicting the Civil War would begin the following day in Charleston harbor. B. H. Burmhead to Col J B (Bell?) Smith. Newnan, Georgia to Columbia, Georgia. 1861.



This one-page letter is datelined "Newnan April 11th 1861". It is enclosed in a 3-cent U.S. postal envelope (Scott U10) with a circular Newnan Georgia postmark dated April 12th. Minor wear to the envelope with light toning to the letter. Short (1") split beginning along one of the letters mailing folds.

This letter was written on the day before the Civil War began, and in closing Burmhead advises:

> "lots of war news this morning I should not be surprised to here of a fight in Charleston harbor in the morning."

Burmhead was accurate in his prediction. On Thursday, 11 April (the day this letter was written) three Confederate officers visited Major Anderson, the commander of Fort Sumter in Charleston harbor, to present him with a demand to surrender. They waited for hours while Anderson considered his options. At about 3:00 am on the 12th (the day this letter was posted), Anderson informed the confederates that his garrison would remain and fight. At 4:30 am on the 12th, the Civil War began when Lieutenant Henry S. Farley, commanding a Confederate artillery battery of two 10-inch siege mortars on James Island lobbed the first shell into the fort.

Burmhead also cautions "Bell"

> "don't let the negroes and mules want for food. . .."

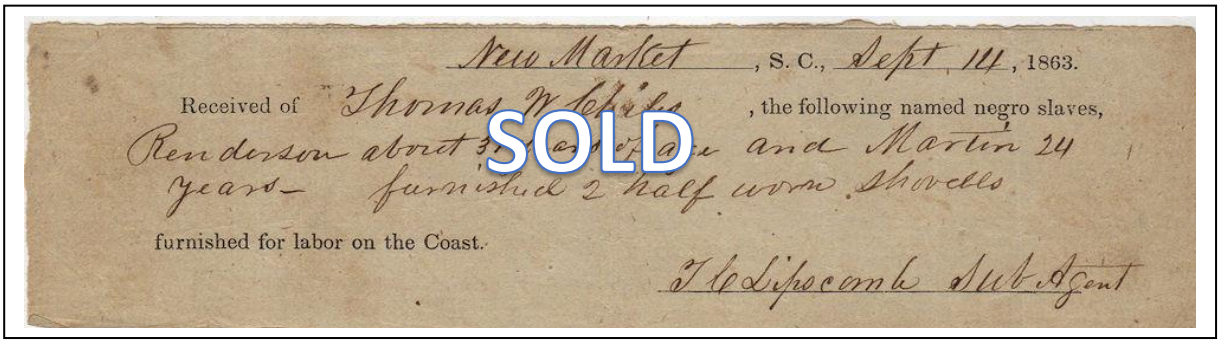
Southern mail using prohibited U.S. postal stationery after a state had declared its independence from the Union or had joined the Confederacy is scarce. Georgia seceded from the United States on January 19th, 1861 and officially joined the Confederacy on February 4th.

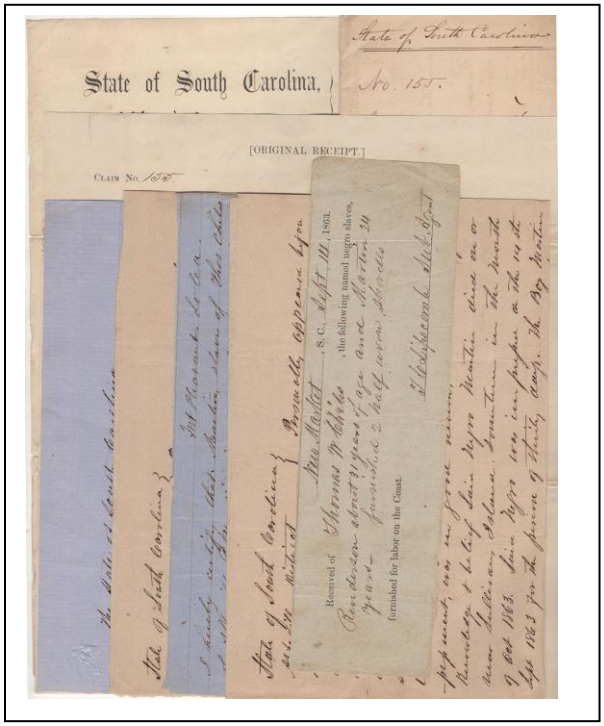
SOLD Read'Em Again Books #9443

10. [AFRICAN-AMERICANA] [MILITARY & WAR] [SLAVERY] An archive of 11 documents pertaining to the death of a slave who died while impressed by the State of South Carolina to help construct the defenses of Charleston at Sullivan's Island. Various signers. New Market and Abbeville, South Carolina: 1863-1864.

The eleven documents (on nine pieces) consist of:

11 Sep - A partially printed receipt from T. C. Lipscomb issued to Thomas W Chiles for the "the following named negro slaves, Renderson about 31 years of age and Martin 24 years – furnished 2 half worn shovels . . . for labor on the Coast."





7 Dec – A manuscript affidavit by Daniel Ramsey, "an overseer of Negros for Coast defense on Sullivan Island . . . that he had under his care a negro Boy named Martin, the Slave of T. W. Chiles, that . . . died on or about the 25th of October 1863 in the Service of the State."

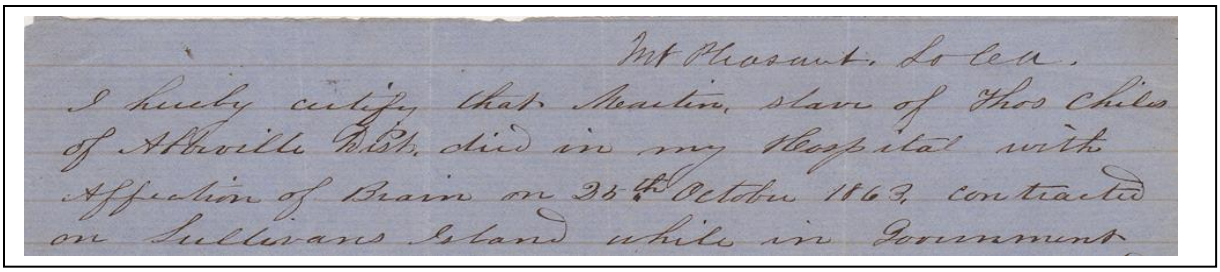
7 Dec – A manuscript affidavit by T. C. Lipscomb "that he did . . . receive from Thomas W. Chiles, a Negro Boy Named Martin . . . and gave him a receipt for Said negro"

8 Dec – A manuscript affidavit by Thos. W. Chiles "that he is the owner of a certain Negro Boy named Martin Who at the time of his death was about 24 years of age. Said negro was an Excellent field hand, had a good constitution, large & stout, & at the time of his impressment, was in good health, and . . . Said Negro died on or near Sullivans Island sometime in the month of Oct 1863. Said Negro was impressed on the 14th of Sept 1863 for the period of 30 days . . . on orders from W.M. Stevens State agt . . . and was under the supervision [of] an overseer. . .."

8 Dec – A manuscript affidavit by Samuel A Wilson that "he has read the affidavit of Thomas W. Chiles & can fully corroborate the Statements. . .."

8 Dec – A manuscript appraisal by John C. Chiles and James Steefle that "they are . . . well acquainted with the Said Boy & value him at Four thousand Dollars"

10 Dec – A manuscript affidavit by Henry M. Peeples, "Asst-Surg in charge" that "Martin . . . died in my Hospital with Affection of Brain on 25th October 1863 contracted on Sullivans Island while in Government employ. . .."


Mt Pleasant. So Ca.
I hereby certify that Martin, slave of Thos Chiles of Abbeville S.C. died in my Hospital with Affection of Brain on 25th October 1863, contracted on Sullivans Island while in Government

10 Dec – A partially printed "Report of the State Auditor for a slave lost in the public service" determining Martin "died of the disease so contracted without the default of his owner" and approving "his said claim for Four thousand dollars." The document is annotated in red "Amount allowed reduced to $1,800 in conformity with appraisement under Act of Decr 1862. See report to Genl Assembly this date."

13 Jan – A manuscript statement by Chiles appointing "my friend Tho. C. Perrine my attorney . . . to receive & receipt for all sums of money that may be due to me. . .."

20 Jan – A notarized partially printed power-of-attorney signed by Chiles that appointed Thomas C. Perrine "to receive from the state of South Carolina any and all moneys due . . . payable to me by the said State for My Slave Martin. . .."

21 Jan – A partially printed "Original Receipt" for "Claim No. 155" awarding Chiles $1,800 "for compensation of his slave, named Martin, lost by reason of the employment of the said slave by authorities of the confederate Government upon the military fortification in this State. . .."

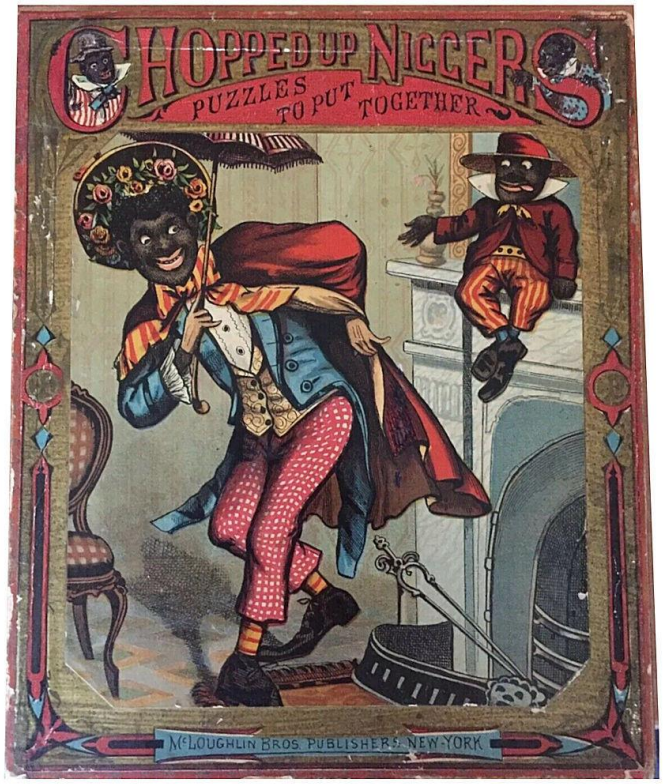
Sullivan's Island was the key link in the Confederacy's defense of Charleston harbor. Anchored by Fort Moultrie, it was eventually home to five other named coastal artillery positions and several smaller batteries. All required the building of labor-intensive earthworks, which were conducted by South Carolina slaves.

At the beginning of the war, many South Carolina plantation owners willingly sent slaves to work on the coastal defenses protecting Charleston. However, with time their enthusiasm faded, and the state authorized the impressment of slaves for a limited period with compensation provided to their owners. This forcible seizure of slaves angered most slave-owners; many drug their feet when ordered to provide slaves, and some resisted outright, even hiding slaves when impressment gangs visited. Regardless, tens of thousands of slaves were pressed into labor service throughout the South during the war. (See Ash's *The Black Experience in the Civil War South*.) One can't help but think that Master T. W. Chiles, whose plantation was located near New Market, South Carolina, almost 200 miles from Charleston was none too happy to provide two slaves for the coastal fortification effort.

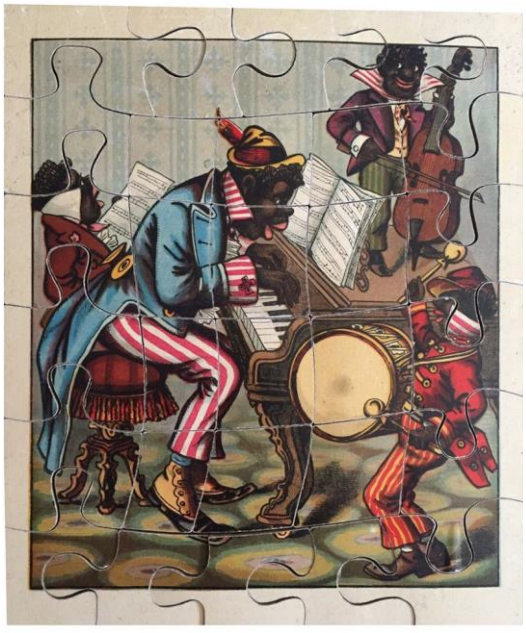
A scarce set of documents, not just helping to document the defense of Charleston, but delineating the process for slave owners to be reimbursed if one of their impressed slaves died while working for the State. As of 2019, no similar set of documents is for sale in the trade, and nothing similar has been sold at auction per the Rare Book Hub. OCLC shows only one similar set of documents held by an institution.

SOLD **Read'Em Again Books #9456**

11. [AFRICAN-AMERICANA] [CAKEWALK] [TOYS, GAMES, & PUZZLES] ***Chopped Up Niggers: Puzzles to Put Together*****.** New York: McLoughlin Bros., circa 1875.



This set contains two puzzles (each with all their pieces) and the box. The box measures approximately 8.75” by 10.5”. Each puzzle measures about 9” x 10.5”. One puzzle depicts an African-American cakewalk dancer in drag with bonnet, cape, and parasol. The other puzzle shows a four-person African-American combo consisting of a singer, piano player, drummer, and bass player. The box top illustration is the picture guide for one of the puzzles; there is no guide for the other. The puzzle pieces are in nice shape with some light soiling; one piece has been repaired. The box shows some minor wear and soiling but the top illustration and lettering is bright and colorful. The box hinge is intact.



There are apparently four two-puzzle sets in this series. The other box tops show a pair of cakewalk dancers, a man smoking a cigar, and a performer ringing a bell. All four are exceptionally scarce and very hard to find in serviceable original boxes with all their pieces. (Female cakewalk performers did not become common until the 1890s. Before that, men dressed in drag to portray women.)

These jigsaw puzzle sets have been characterized as “blatantly sadistic,” “threateningly violent,” and "the earliest and most racist" children's toy published in the United States. “Racist,” absolutely; “sadistic” and “threateningly violent,” absolutely not. The “chopped up” in the title simply refers to jigsaw or “dissection” puzzles, and another McLoughlin puzzle set published at the same time was titled *Chopped Up Animals*. (See Cross’s *Kids' Stuff: Toys and the Changing World of American Childhood*.

As of 2019, no other Chopped Up Niggers puzzle sets are for sale in the trade, and the Rare Book Hub shows no auction results for any of these puzzle sets. OCLC reports only one set is held (at the University of Florida) although other examples are at the New York Historical Society and at Princeton’s Cotsen Children's Library.

$5,000 **Read’Em Again Books #9422**

12. [AFRICAN-AMERICANA] [CERAMICS] [RECONSTRUCTION] [TOBACCO] Large figural tobacco jar in the shape of a nattily dressed and apparently well-to-do Reconstruction era freedman. Probably Johann Maresch. [Aussig on der Elbe, Bohemia, Austria-Hungary (now Usti had Labem, Czech Republic)], circa 1885.

This ceramic two-piece character humidor measures approximately 9" x 12.5". There are no maker's marks. It is in nice shape with some expected soiling, rubbing, and chips. Possible repair to the hat brim. Paint has been retouched in places. Still, an attractive piece.

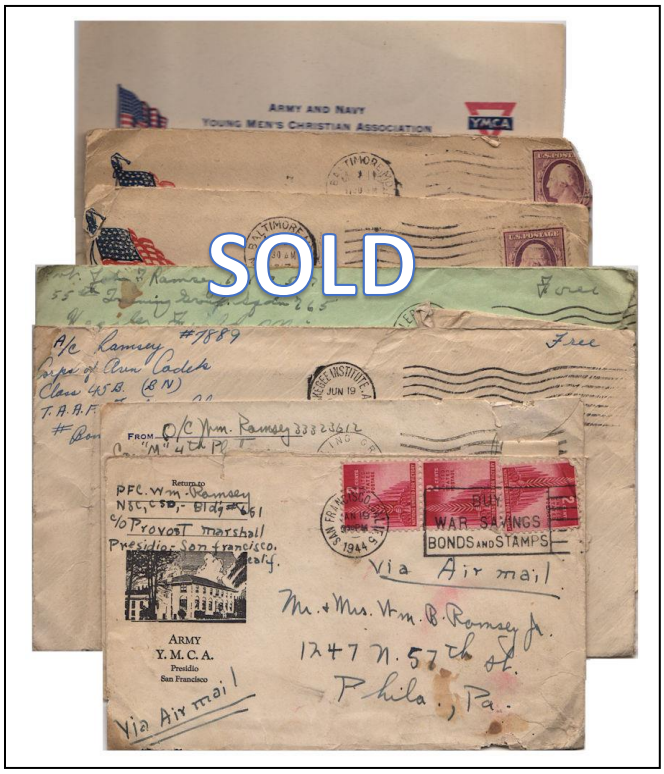
Figural humidors for loose tobacco storage were especially popular in Europe and North America from around 1870 to the beginning of World War I. Almost all were made in towns along the German-Austro-Hungarian border between Karlsbad and Dresden. At one time, there were over 50 "manufactories," some large and some small, employing 8500 potters. The Johann Maresch pottery was one of the largest and best. It produced hundreds of different characters in an array of sizes and variety of hand-painted colors. It was especially noted for handsome and realistic African-American character jars that were neither as romanticized, racist nor patronizing as those made by other firms. (See Horowitz's *Figural Humidors: Mostly Victorian* for more information.)

Although this humidor does not bear any maker's mark, it was likely made by Maresch, or if not, by another firm blatantly copying one of his designs. Horowitz (p. 107, #474) illustrates a near identical, but slightly smaller, humidor as Johann Maresch, JM3326, and notes "The top hatted dandy . . . is repeated on other Maresch jars as a head, bust or full figure." He identifies the jar as "Rare" and assigns a value of "$1000 and up" noting "The grading and value range is specific to the piece illustrated. Different sizes, colors and finishes of similar pieces may have other grades and values."

This humidor has some minor issues (possible repairs, rubbing, soiling, touch-ups) but still presents extremely well and would look great on the desk of a pipe-smoker. So, priced accordingly.

SOLD **Read'Em Again Books #9465**

13. [AFRICAN-AMERICANA] [MILITARY & WAR] [PHILATELY] [TUSKEGEE AIRMAN] Small group of soldiers' letters from a patriotic African-American father and his sons, two of whom were Tuskegee Airmen. The Ramsey Family. Various locations: 1917-1944.



The seven letters in is this grouping are all from members of the Ramsey Family of Philadelphia. William Ramsey, Jr. (the father) served in the all African-American 368th Infantry Regiment during World War I. In World War II, one son became a military policeman and attended Officer Candidate School, and two sons were Tuskegee Airmen. One of the airmen was an aviation technician, the other, a bombardier. Transcripts provided.

Three of the letters are from WWI, four from WWII, including two Tuskegee airmen letters, one from Tuskegee Army Airfield and one from Keesler Army Airfield.

This fascinating collection of letters follows the Ramsey men through stateside training in Alabama, California, Maryland, Mississippi, and Virginia before they deployed overseas in World War I and II. As expected, much of their content is about missing family and loved ones at home. However, the letters are also filled with pride in their community, training, duties, and several observations about race, including

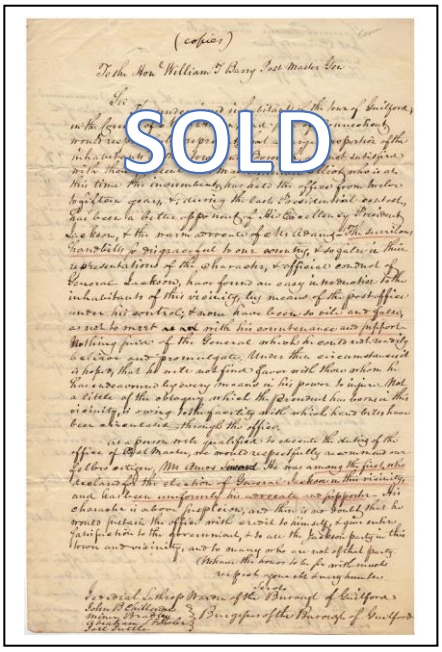
> "I'm dropping [a card] to Beatie Deglin. She & I were good friends. . .. Big clumsy Jewish girl, very nice and regular. . .. My boys (two fellow African-American MPs) are all out on . . . a drive on Marihuana peddlers You know all the big Colored outfits that were here are gone. . .. We three . . . are the only Cuffs. . .. Of course I'm a fay boy to, so it doesn't bother me. Odd tho being the only shine among thousands of paddys. Glad its not in the south. . .." ("Shine" and "paddys" speak for themselves. "Cuffs" was slang for black men, "cuff" being short for "handcuffs," the origin coming from the frequency with which black men were arrested and placed in "cuffs"; "fay boy" was slang for a white man; a derivative of "ofay" – see *The Racial Slur Database* online.)

> "I'm in Bowling Green, Va. At the "Cuff" U.S.O. at present. . .. However this is the dear south, so the 8 cuffs in Co "M" had to go to their own U.S.O. Our C.O. Lt. Askew tried to avoid it, but the native white U.S.O. director wouldn't have it so here we are. . .. The boys (white) rebelled at the thought of our not being allowed at the white U.S.O. & our officers tried to work us in, but the souths still the south, so here we are. I can go on quite a while on the south. . .. I'd love to have you here for the ceremonies [but] a southern train ride is what I'm trying to prevent all of you from putting up with. Its no fun. . .."

A very nice collection of correspondence from the men of an African-American family who served in both World Wars. I imagine that their wife and mother, Hazel Townsend Ramsey, a state-side YMCA hostess during World War One, was proud to hang a flag with three blue stars in her window during World War Two. It would be interesting to dig deeper to determine if later generations of the Ramsey's served during the Cold War or the Global War on Terror.

SOLD **Read'Em Again Books #9471**

14. [AGE OF JACKSON] [COFFIN HANDBILLS] [PATRONAGE] [PETTICOAT AFFAIR] [POLITICS] [POST OFFICE] Three-page working copy of a petition by citizens from Guilford, Connecticut to the Postmaster General to remove their current postmaster for distributing Coffin Handbills and replace him with a President Jackson supporter. Numerous requestors. Guilford, Connecticut: 1829.



This three-page rubricated document was initiated by the Warden and Burgesses from the "Burough of Gilford" and routed through various supporting officials with endorsements by leading citizens to William T. Barry, the Postmaster of the United States and the only cabinet member not fired by President Jackson during the Petticoat Affair. The citizens' complaint is entirely political in nature. Apparently, Guilford was a community of mostly Jackson supporters with an outspoken Anti-Jacksonian incumbent postmaster who outraged the community as described in the petition:

> "a large proportion of the inhabitants of this town and Borough, are not satisfied with the present Postmaster. Reuben Elliot who is at this time the incumbent, has held the office from twelve to fifteen years, & during the last Presidential contest, has been a bitter opponent of His Excellency President Jackson, & the warm advocate of Mr Adams – The scurrilous handbills so disgraceful to our country. & so false in their representations of the character, & official conduct of General Jackson, have found an easy introduction to the inhabitants of this vicinity, by means of the post office under his control; & now have been so vile and so false as not to meet with his countenance and support – Nothing said of the General which he could not readily believe and promulgate. Under the circumstances it is hoped, that he will not find favor with those whom he has endeavoured by every means in his power to injure . . . which the President has borne . . . owing to the facility with which handbills have been circulated."

Of course, the town had a recommendation for a replacement postmaster:

> "we would respectfully recommend our fellow citizen, Mr Amos Seward. He was among the first who declared for the election of General Jackson in this vicinity and has been uniformly his advocate and supporter. . .. There is no doubt that he would sustain the office with credit to himself. & give entire satisfaction to the government, & to all the Jackson party in this town and vicinity. . .."

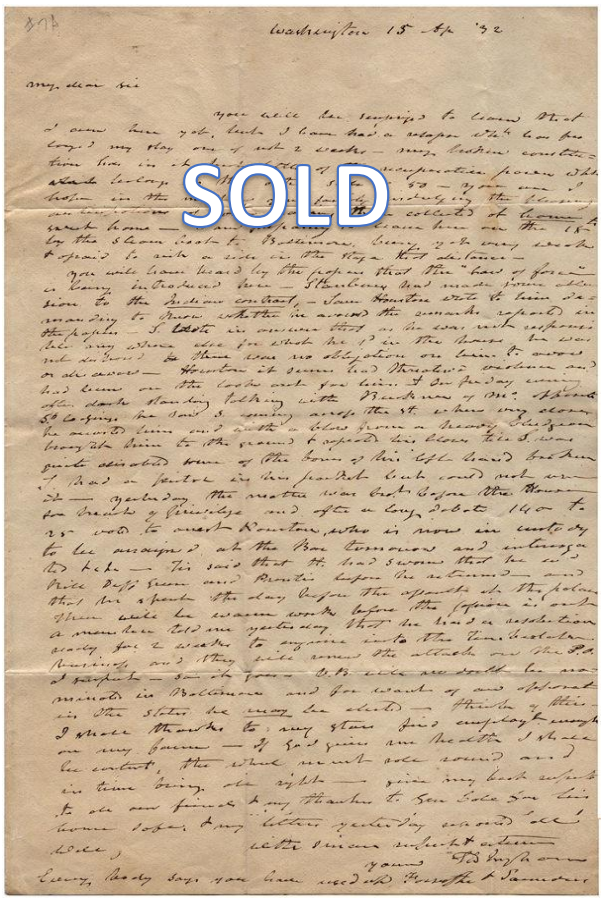
Although the outcome is unknown, it is likely that Seward was appointed as a new postmaster, as Jackson was the first president to use wholesale patronage appointments to reward supporters and punish enemies. Postmaster positions were distributed like candy, and in one year alone, over 400 long-serving postmasters with sterling records were dismissed to make room for Jackson's political allies.

The scurrilous handbills referred to in the petition are, of course, the infamously vile and mostly untrue Coffin Handbills that an anti-Jackson newspaper publisher in Philadelphia distributed to besmirch Jackson's military record. The first poster featured six named black coffins at the top with text declaring Jackson arbitrarily ordered their execution during the Creek War. Other coffins were also displayed to represent soldiers and American Indians allegedly put to death under Jackson's hand at the Battle of Horseshoe Bend as well as a vignette of Jackson stabbing a man with his sword cane on a Nashville street.

A nice document related to Jackson's unprecedented use of patronage to reward supporters and allies.

SOLD **Read'Em Again Books #9446**

15. [AGE OF JACKSON] [INDIAN REMOVAL ACT] [PETTICOAT AFFAIR] [PHILATELY] [POLITICS] [TEXANA] An autograph letter signed by Samuel D. Ingham to John Branch about Sam Houston's bludgeoning of an anti-Jackson Congressman. Samuel D. Ingham. Probably Washington, DC to Tallahassee, Florida: 1832.



This one-page stampless folded letter measures 15.5" x 13" unfolded. It was signed by Samuel Ingham on "15 Apr '32" and sent to John Branch in Tallahassee, Florida. It was probably privately carried, perhaps by Ingham himself, to Norfolk, Virginia where is was dispatched by coastal steamer to Florida. It bears a red circular Norfolk, Virginia postmark dated April 19 along with red "STEAM" and "FREE" handstamps. (Branch was a Congressman at the time, and mail sent to him required no postage.) Branch had departed for Washington, DC by the time the letter arrived, so it was forwarded to him in Washington, DC. At that time, the cover received a manuscript "forwarded" marking and a scarce oval Tallahassee postmark with a "high a" in Fla. (See p53, ASCC.)

Ingham and Branch had both been strong supporters of Andrew Jackson and members of his cabinet; Ingham was the Secretary of the Treasury and Branch, the Secretary of the Navy. Both men, whose wives had been leaders along with Floride Calhoun in the "Petticoat Affair," were forced to resign by Jackson who believed them to be in league with John C. Calhoun—a former Jackson loyalist and his Vice-President-who had split with Jackson over the "Tariff of Abominations" and "Nullification Crisis." (The Petticoat Affair was a major scandal in which nearly all of Jackson's cabinet members and their wives ostracized Secretary of War John Eaton and his wife.) Following their resignations, Ingham involved himself with coal mining, paper manufacturing, and the organization of a railroad; Branch became a member of the House of Representatives from Florida.

In this letter, Ingham provides Branch with the details of Sam Houston's infamous bludgeoning of Ohio Representative William Stanberry and then despairs that Jackson's protégé, Martin Van Buren, would succeed him as President:

> "You will have heard by the papers that the 'hand of force' is being introduced here – Stanberry had made some allegasion to the Indian contract – Sam Houston wrote to him demanding to know whether he avowed the remarks reported in the papers – S wrote in his answer that he was not responsible any where else for what he s'd in the house. he was not disposed & there was no obligation on him to avow or disavow – Houston it seems had threatened violence and had been on the look out for him and on Friday evening after dark standing talking with Buckner of Mo. opposite S.s lodgings he saw S coming across the St. when very close he accosted him and with a blow from a heavy bludgeon brought him to the ground and repeated his blows until till S. was quite disabled four of the bones of his left

hand broken S. had a pistol in his pocket but could not use it – yesterday the matter was bro't before the House for breech of Privilege and after a long debate 140 to 26 voted to arrest Houston, who is now in custody to be arraigned at the Bar tomorrow and interrogated &c. &c. – Tis said that H. had sworn that he w'd kill Duff Green and Prentis before he returned. . .. So it goes – V.B. no doubt will be nominated in Baltimore and for want of an opponent in the states he may be elected – think of this"

Sam Houston, a Tennessee politician and ally of Jackson who would later become the first President of Texas, had traveled to Washington in the spring of 1832 as an emissary of the Cherokee Nation to assist in negotiating several tribal issues. While there, a discussion of the Indian Removal Act took place in the House of Representatives during which William Stanberry, an enemy of Jackson, accused Houston of colluding with Jackson to obtain a contract to provide rations to the Cherokee. As Ingham reports, Houston took extreme offense and attempted to challenge Stanberry to a duel. When Stanberry ignored and then curtly dismissed the challenge, Houston waited to ambush him outside of his lodging at Mrs. Queen's boarding house on Pennsylvania Avenue. In the dark, Houston approached the Congressman asking "Are you Mr. Stanberry?" When Stanberry replied that he was, Houston shouted, "Then you are a damned rascal" and began beating the Congressman with a heavy walking stick. In defense, Stanberry drew a pistol from his coat, pressed it to Houston's chest, and pulled the trigger. The gun misfired, after which Houston continued to beat Stanberry senseless. When Houston's case was tried in court, he was defended by Francis Scott Key. Although Houston was found guilty, Key was able to limit punishment to a mere $500 fine, although Houston's U.S. political career was destroyed. Shortly thereafter, he emigrated to Texas.

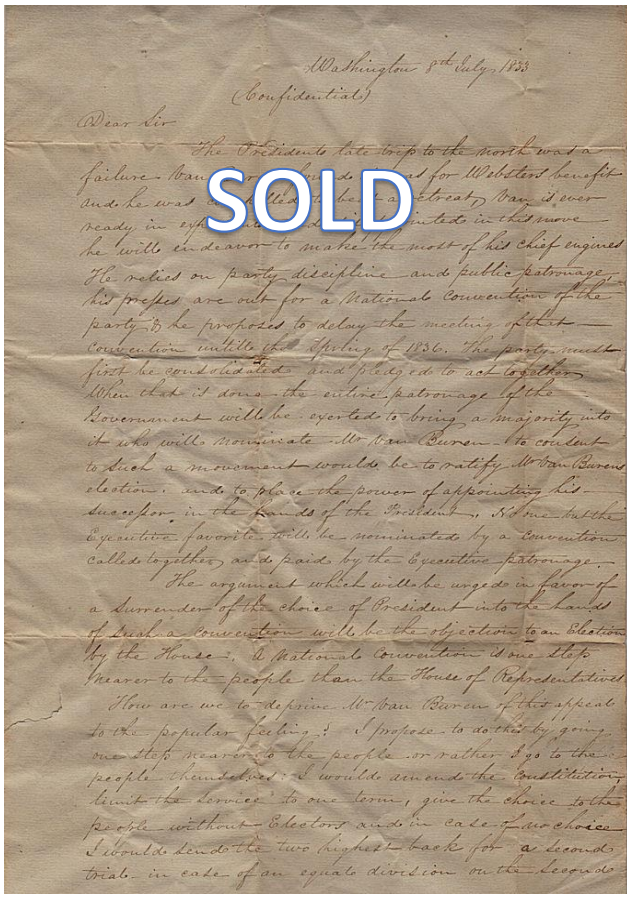
The turmoil, however, did not end for Ingham, Branch, and Duff Green (who Ingham mentioned in the letter). Green was the editor of the *United States Telegraph*, the principal newspaper promoting Andrew Jackson's first campaign for President and then supporting his administration until the schism with Calhoun occurred. Then, after a severe beating by one of Jackson's congressional supporters, Green became even more vehemently anti-Jackson and published an article summarizing the Petticoat Affair. In it he identified Ingham and Branch as principals in fomenting the Eatons' shunning. Eaton, then, repeatedly challenged Ingham to a duel. After Ingham refused, Eaton and some friends threatened him, stalked him, and hovered ominously around his house each evening. Ingham, in turn, hired a team of bodyguards and informed President Jackson, who, to avoid further controversy, silenced Eaton.

For more information, see Marzalek's *The Petticoat Affair: Manners, Mutiny and Sex in Andrew Jackson's Whitehouse* and "Houston, Sam" in Hatch's *Encyclopedia of the Alamo and Texas*.

A unique and remarkable letter between formerly loyal supporters, who abandoned President Jackson for John Calhoun and were fired from their cabinet positions during the Petticoat Affair, describing Samuel Houston's infamous attack upon an anti-Jackson Congressman that ended his career in U.S. politics but led directly to his new life in Texas.

SOLD **Read'Em Again Books #9439**

16. [AGE OF JACKSON] [PHILATELY] [POLITICS] An autograph letter to Charles A. Wickliffe, an influential Whig Congressman from Kentucky, signed by Duff Green, a former President Jackson loyalist who had abandoned him in favor of John C. Calhoun. Duff Green. Washington, DC to Bardstown, Kentucky: 1833.



This three-page stampless folded letter measures 15.5" x 13". It was signed and dated by Green on the "8th July 1833." It bears a red circular Washington, DC postmark dated and a red "FREE" handstamp. (There was no charge to send letters to congressmen like Wickliffe.) The letter is in nice shape with short (1") splits along two mailing folds. Part of one folded blank panel has been removed, possibly by Green to facilitate the letter's sealing before being mailed.

Duff Green had been an influential Missouri politician before he became more interested in influencing political outcomes as a journalist. In 1826, he moved to Washington, DC where he purchased *The United States Telegraph* and used that newspaper to advance Andrew Jackson's career. *The Telegraph* became Jackson's principal propaganda voice during his presidential campaign, and after he won the election, the newspaper continued to be the most important cheerleader for his policies. In turn, Green received patronage payments from Jacksonians amounting to about $50,000 per year, quite a sum at the time. After a schism developed between Jackson and his Vice-President from South Carolina, John C. Calhoun, over both personal issues and State's Rights, Green sided with Calhoun. Jackson, in turn, railed against Green. After Jackson stopped Green's patronage payments, *The Telegraph* became a virulent anti-Jackson, pro-Calhoun newspaper.

Green recognized that due to the factionalized nature of the U.S. political system (Calhoun Democrats, Federalists, Whigs, Anti-Masonics, and National-Republicans) it would be nearly impossible to defeat Andrew Jackson's protégé, Martin Van Buren, in the 1836 Presidential Election without taking drastic measures. In this "confidential" letter, Green reaches out to Charles Wickliffe, an independent Whig Congressman from Kentucky. Although a Whig and opposed to Jackson, Wickliffe also opposed many policies of his party's founders, Henry Clay ad Daniel Webster, including their positions on slavery. Green proposes a radical plan in which they together could foil Jackson and Van Buren:

> "The Presidents late trip to the north was a failure Van Buren found it was for Websters benefit and he was compelled to beat a retreat. . . . He relies on party discipline and public patronage, his presses are out for a national convention of the party & he proposed to delay the meeting of the convention until the Spring of 1836 [after] the party must first be consolidated and pledged to act together When that is done the entire patronage of the Government will be exerted to bring a majority into it who will nominate Mr Van Buren. To conduct such a movement would be to ratify Mr Van Buren's election and

to place the power of appointing his successor in the hands of the President. None but the Executive favorite will be nominated by a convention called together and paid by the Executive patronage. . ..

How are we to deprive Mr Van Buren of this appeal to the popular feelings? I propose to amend the Constitution, limit the service to one term, [and] give the choice to the people without Electors. . .. The advantage to the South is that it gives them the control of the Election and secures the South against the attempt to agitate the question of Slavery. If it is distinctly understood that the agitation of that question will deprive the candidate who may be in favor of Emancipation of the vote of the South, it will always rally in our favor a strong northern interest . . . having the constitutional argument in our favor. . .. Acting upon the belief that Mr Webster and his [Whig] party would ultimately hold the balance of power in his hands Mr Van Buren has been playing for the federal votes. . .. [We} are compelled to . . . assume a position between Mr Calhoun & Mr Webster. . ..

Now what will be the result of our taking a bold and decided stand in favor of a candidate of our principles? . . . Do you not see that it follows that instead of assailing us, the friends of both parties, of all parties will labor to conciliate our good opinion. It follows that as our votes become of importance our principles will become popular and that from a despised and abused minority we will Soon Swell into a historical triumphant majority! . ..

Will it not be well enough to move soon and with Spirit? Or will we, as in the late Presidential contest, fold our arms and permit our adversaries to grow rich by abusing us! I should be glad to hear from you and to compare roles with you on the propriety of an early and organized movement."

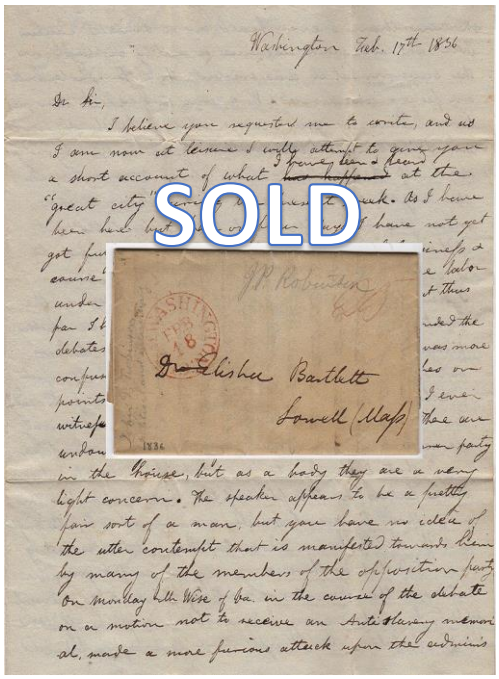
Green and Wickliffe apparently never joined together as Wickliffe abandoned his role in the federal government and chose not to run for reelection to his seat in Congress, and Van Buren with Jackson's endorsement easily won the 1836 Presidential Election, crushing the four candidates who ran against him in the Electoral College.

Green, however, continued to attack Jackson in his newspaper until it became so intolerable to the President that he dispatched one of his Congressional attack dogs. An entry in John Quincy Adams's diary notes that Representative James Blair "had knocked down and very severely beaten Duff Green, editor of the Telegraph...." Blair paid a "three hundred dollars fine for beating and breaking [his] bones." Yet, Green's newspaper continued to harass Jackson until he left office.

A unique testament to the political machinations attempted by one of the most rabid anti-Jacksonians in a futile attempt to thwart the election of President Jackson's hand-picked successor, Martin Van Buren.

SOLD Read'Em Again Books #9440

17. [AGE OF JACKSON] [GAG RULE] [POLITICS] [VIRGINIANA] Letter from a Massachusetts politician reporting upon John C. Calhoun's fiery anti-Jacksonian "We shall put him out" speech. John P. Robinson to Dr. Elisha Bartlett. Washington, DC to Lowell, Massachusetts: 1836.



This four-page stampless letter measures 15.75" x 10" unfolded. It is dated "Feb 17th 1836" and bears a red circular "City of Washington" postmark dated "Feb 18" with a manuscript "25" rate marking, the cost to mail a letter a distance of over 400 miles. The letter is in nice shape. Transcript provided.

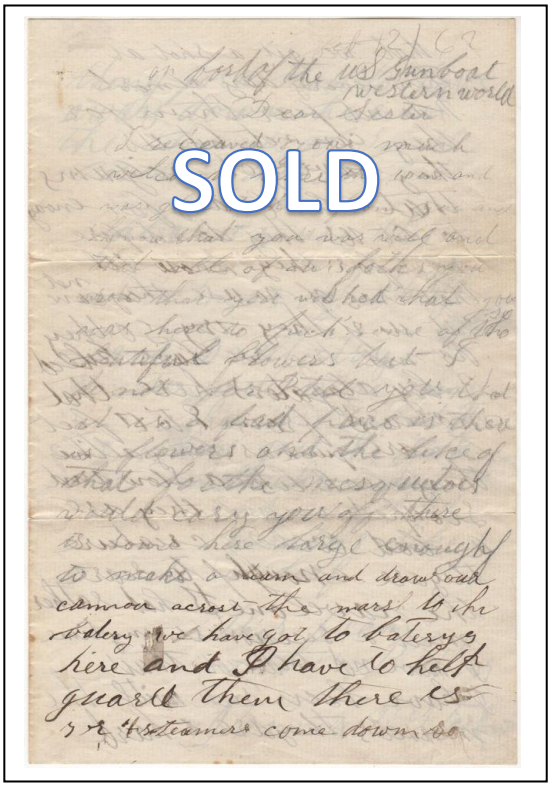
In this letter, Robinson, a former Massachusetts state representative and senator, describes three days spent observing Congress to his friend, Dr. Bartlett, a member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives. Although appalled, he also thinks it "fine sport" for the opposition to berate President Jackson and Vice-President Van Buren. Of note, he reports Representative (and future Virginia Governor) Henry A. Wise rising to first propose the "Gag Rule" that eventually would 'table' all slavery petitions, preventing them from being read in the House. More significantly, he provides a transcription of a fiery anti-Jacksonian speech by John Calhoun.

> "I attended . . . the House on Monday, and there was more confusion, calls to order, stupid & silly speeches on points of order and gross personalities than I ever witnessed in the Mass H. R. . .. The Van Buren party . . . as a body . . . are a very light concern. The speaker appears to be a pretty fair sort of a man, but you have no idea of the utter contempt that is manifested towards him by many members of the opposition party. On Monday Mr Wise of Va. in the course of the debate on a motion not to receive an Antislavery memorial, made a more furious attack upon the administration than I ever heard in a Lowell caucus There was not much eloquence or civility displayed on the occasion, but it was evident that the whole Southern feeling was aroused. . .. I spent yesterday & today . . . in the Senate chamber. There sits Van Buren with his whiskers trimmed up. . .. Calhoun looks like a tiger just ready to break loose and devour every thing in his way. He is terribly savage. . .. He rose in considerable agitation & addressing himself to the Vice President said 'Sir, I meant to be understood that there is now a great contest between the advocates of arbitrary power & the friends of Liberty. The president has nominated his successor. The post office & the press are in the hands of the advocates of arbitrary power. My letters are opened before I receive them. This is the only avenue we have to the ears of the people. . ..' His speech was the most savage I ever heard in my life. . .. 'There is a storm ahead, Sir. I see it The South are becoming united. They put Gen. Jackson into office. They couldn't put him out, for they were divided. Gen Jackson . . . had done the state some service, but he was audacious, he did not keep his word. He has nominated his successor. . .. His nominee has none of the lion or the tiger. He belongs to a different class of animals to the fox to the weasel. We of the South put down the last administration. We did it up in fine style. We put Gen Jackson in, but we shall not put in his nominee. We shall put him out. We shall do it, Sir.' . .. The Van Buren men say such things ought not to be tolerated. But I think it is fine sport."

A marvelous first-hand account by a Whig politician who clearly enjoyed the invective heaped upon the Jacksonians by renegade Southern Democrats led by the firebrand, Senator John C. Calhoun.

SOLD Read'Em Again Books #9441

18. [ALLIGATORS & MOSQUITOS] [MILITARY & WAR] Three-page letter from a Union sailor aboard the gunboat *Western World* deployed to tributaries of the Savannah River near Port Royal, South Carolina as part of the South Atlantic Blockading Squadron who doesn't think much of his surroundings. James O. Sterling. Aboard the Gunboat *Western World* (vicinity of Port Royal, South Carolina): February 12, 1862



In this three-page letter (no mailing envelope) Sterling describes life on his gunboat in the brackish coastal waters of South Carolina:

> "we have got to baterys here and I have to help guard them there is 3 or 4 steamers come down so that we git a shot at them every day almost I do not fear them for they can not hit us they have got no guns that will cary far enough to hit us they do not fire now for they know it that it is of no use they can not hit us if they try so they do not try. . .."

While Sterling may not have feared the Confederate steamers, the swamps and fauna of coastal South Carolina gave him pause:

> "you wrote that you wished that was here to pick some of the beautiful flowers but I do not for I tell you that it is a bad place as there is flowers and the like of that for the mesquitos would cary you off – there is some here large enough to make a team and draw our cannon across the marsh to the batery. . .. we have killed 3 big alagators here that maseurd from 9 to 11 feet they are quick as litnings although they look like a slow and steuped animal they are a bad looking creature they are enough to scare the eavel one I had rather meet a secesionist enytime I have not told you that I have been sick with the measels they are a hard thing for a man to have away down here in the swamps of South Carelina they are bad . . . my hand trembels like a leaf. . .."

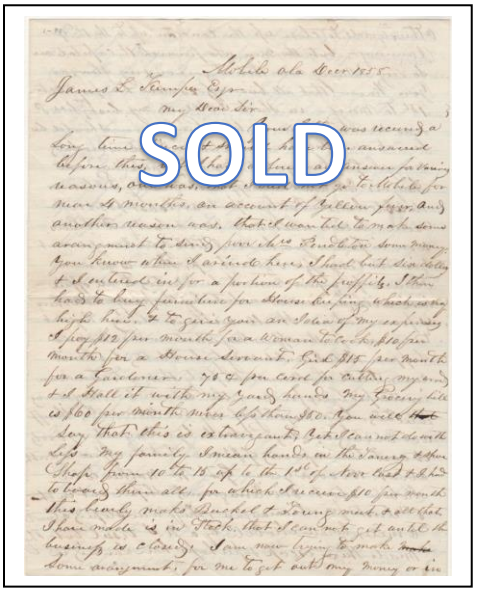
The *Western World*, a screw steamer built in 1856, was purchased by the Navy in September 1861. It was ordered to Port Royal, South Carolina in the following January as part of the South Atlantic Blockading Squadron where it swept the Savannah River and its tributaries. It repulsed an attack by five Confederate vessels on 28 January. No doubt, these are the "steamers" Sterling describes in his letter. Two days after this letter, the *Western World* drove off four Confederate ships attempting to break the blockade. It remained on station until 2 June continuing the blockade and protecting a Union battery at Venus Point

A short but entertaining and enlightening letter providing a first-hand account of gunboat life on the Southern coast.

Transcript included.

SOLD **Read'Em Again #9472**

19. [ANTEBELLUM LIFE] [BUSINESS & LABOR] [COST OF LIVING] [FILIBUSTERING] [POLITICS] [SLAVERY] A fascinating letter from a recent arrival describing life in Mobile including a report on the Filibuster William Walker's attempt to conquer Nicaragua. H. Carver to James l. Kemper. Mobile, Alabama: 1858.



This 4-page letter (no envelope) was written by a Virginian who had emigrated to Mobile, Alabama in the late 1850s. It was sent to James L. Kemper, at the time a General in the Virginia Militia (and later that state's governor). In the letter, Carver provides considerable information about life and events in Alabama:

William Walkers expedition to conquer Nicaragua – "Genl Mr Walker is in Mobile about 300 Emigrants slipped out on the 5th just for Nicaraugua, they were stoped about 6 miles below Mobile by a U.S. vessel but they made there escape & perhaps have Landed in Nicaraugua, old Buck (President James Buchanan) don't stand high in Mobile as a Large Majority are for Walker." (Walker had usurped the presidency of Nicaragua in 1856 and ruled until 1857 when he was expelled by a coalition of Central American armies. He returned in 1858 to reestablish his empire but was captured and executed.)

Plantations and slavery – "William was married on the 16th of Last month to the Daughter of a Sugar planter She is said to be worth $20,000 independent of part in her Mothers Estate who is said to be wealthy and has only three children. At any rate they made 200 HHds of sugar last year. Hirams Mother in Law made 35 HHds of Sugar. Wm will pay us a visit on the 22nd Just with his wife & May go on to Virginia to buy 15 to twenty servants for the family.

Cost of Living – "I then had to buy furniture for House keeping which is very high here. . .. I pay $12 per month for a woman to cook, $10 per month for a House Servant Girl, $15 per month for a Gardiner, 75c per cord for cutting my wood & I hall it with my yard hands My Grocery bill is $60 per month never less than $50. You will say that this is extravagant, yet I cannot do with less. . ."

Business – "My . . . hands (probably hired slaves) in the Taning & Shoe Shop from 10 to 15 . . . I had to board them all, for which I receive $10 per month . . . & all I have made is in Stock that I cannot get until the business is closed. I am now trying to make some arangements for me to get out my money . . . but the men who furnish the capital are so very busy now that it goes on very slow. . .. all business is done here from Octr 1st to May. . .."

Politics – "You should be here at an Election, our old VA Elections are bad enough God knows . . . our Mayors Election came off last Monday & I have no doubt but the Partys spent at least $25,000 a side. . .. I told you I would meet you in Congress – I give it up, there is no more chance for a poor man to be Elected . . . here with out he is nominated by the party – than there is for a cat in H-ll without claws – they want to run me . . . & I suppose that I could easily be Elected – but I wont. . .. I tell the Democratic party that it is to low down . . .. our Democratic Sheriff was Elected in August. . .. it cost him upwards of $3000 – but the office is worth about 15000 a year. . .. I have not changed my opinion about Wise (Henry Wise, the Governor of Virginia) & if he was to be the Democratic Nomenee for President I would not touch him with a pair of Tongs. . .."

And more.

SOLD **Read'Em Again Books #9445**

20. [BANDS] [CHAUTAUQUA] [MUSIC] [WOMEN] Two photographs of "The Pilgrim Girls," a popular all-woman band that performed on the Lyceum and Chautauqua circuits. Circa 1917.

Two photographs of The Pilgrim Girls are attached to this scrapbook page. One, appears to be a real photograph post card (RPPC) that measures approximately 5.5" x 3.5". The other is a smaller silver print photograph that measures about 2.5" x 1.5". Both are captioned. Three 3.25" x 2.25" silver print photographs of pet cats and dogs are on the reverse. In nice shape; the smaller photographs have some minor silvering.

The large photograph shows the gowned sextet performing. The band leader is playing a violin. Other members are playing the piano, a clarinet, a bass, a cornet, and the drums. It is captioned: "The Pilgrim Girls 1st violin & cornet Hannah Grove and Ruth Buzzell".

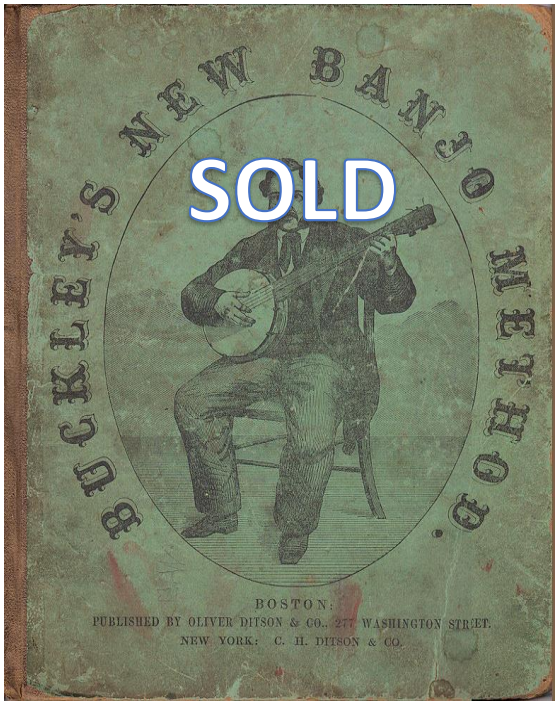
The smaller photograph shows all six women in casual clothes posing in front of a tent.

Hannah Grove was the manager of The Pilgrim Girls. The band toured coast-to-coast, performing on both the Lyceum and Chautauqua circuits. Issues of Billboard magazine report that the band sometimes performed in Pilgrim Costumes, and during World War One, it occasionally performed as The Liberty Girls in patriotic outfits.

Scarce. As of 2019, no other photographs of The Pilgrim Girls are for sale in the trade, and none have appeared at auction per the Rare Book Hub. OCLC shows that one institution holds a scrapbook kept by a Penn State student between 1911-1913 that includes a photograph of "'The Pilgrim Girls' (a women's orchestra)," perhaps the same band while they were college students.

SOLD **Read'Em Again Books #9467**

21. [BANJO] [MINSTRELSY] [MUSIC] Buckley's New Banjo Book: containing full and complete instructions for learning to play the Banjo, with or without a teacher . . . Being the very best Selection of Banjo Music ever presented to the Public. James Buckley of Buckley's Serenaders. Boston: Oliver Ditson (copyright held by Firth, Pond & Co.), 1860. First edition.



Collated and complete with all 80 pages. Illustrated card covers with cloth spine covering. Cover illustration of Buckley (not in blackface) sitting in a chair and playing his banjo. Worn spine and cracked hinges. Soiling and edge-wear. Pages toned, but not brittle. Owner names and miscellaneous docketing inside both covers. Several songs in the table of contents have pencil checkmarks. A sound example of a very scarce banjo book.

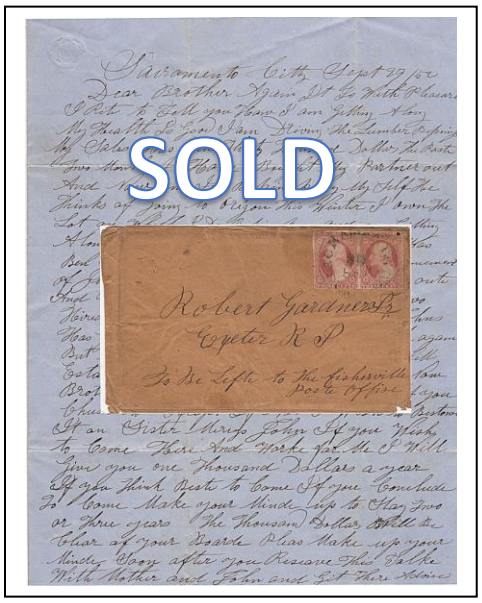
This classic, antebellum banjo instruction book and songster is an original first edition, not a modern paperback printing. It contains 10 pages of instruction, titled "Rudiments of Music," followed by music in standard notation for over 135 tunes, some with lyrics. Lots of early banjo highlights including *Yankee Doodle*, *Jim Crow Jig*, *Hail Columbia*, *Dan Bryant's Waltz*, *Old Dan Emmett's Waltz*, *Dixie's Land*, *Hard Times*, *Arkansas Traveler*, *I'm Off for Brighton*, *Root Hog or Die*, *The Glendy Burk*, etc.

"The Buckley Family were among the pioneers of negro minstrelsy. Their first appearance was in the Tremont Temple, Boston, in 1842, under the name of 'Congo Melodists,' and proved immensely successful. Subsequently they traveled through the South and West, and in 1846 visited England, where they performed successively at Drury-Lane and the Princess's Theatres. Returning to New-York, they located themselves in the Chinese Assembly Rooms, where they have since continued to produce burlesque operas, and become very popular with our citizens. The Buckleys consist of James Buckley, the father, and three sons—Richard, George Swaine and Frederick. . .. They are at present assisted by persons of considerable taste and skill, and the entertainments which they nightly present attract numerous and respectable audiences." ("The Black Opera," *N. Y. Tribune*, June 30, 1855)

Scarce. As of 2019, no other examples are for sale in the trade and no auction records are listed at Rare Book Hub. OCLC shows only five examples held by institutions.

SOLD Read'Em Again Books #9454

22. [BUSINESS & LABOR] [GOLD RUSH] [LUMBERING] [PHILATELY] [WESTWARD EXPANSION] Letter from a recently successful lumberman encouraging his brother and brother-in-law back home in Rhode Island to come to California and work for him. Zebulon Garner. Sacramento City: 1852.



The mailing envelope for this two-page letter is franked with a pair of nice-margined, dull-red 3-cent Washington stamps (Scott #11) cancelled with a circular Sacramento City postmark. The envelope is annotated "To be Lefte to the fisherville Poste office". Both letter and envelope are in nice shape; the envelope has some minor soiling and edge wear.

In this letter, Zebulon touts the success of his recently opened lumbering business:

> "My sales has been thirty thousand dollars the past two months I have bought my partner out and now am in besiness by my self . . . I own the lot on which I do business on and am gitting along very well . . . the mill running easy I have two hired men in my employ Mr H John has gone home thinks of coming back again but not to stop. . .."

So, Zebulon excitedly (and rather incoherently) offers the position to his brother Robert or brother-in-law, John:

> **"**I will make you an offer If you chuse to except if not I wish to bestowe it on sister Merys John I wish to come here and work for me I will give you one thousand dollars a year If you think best to come If you conclude to come make your mind up to stay two or three years The thousand dollars will be clear of your boarde Please make up your minde soon after you reseave this Talke with Mother and John and get there advise think of it well. . .. If you chuse to come out here I will leade you in prosperity but this matter thof of well should you conclude to come I wish you to make ready and be on the way as early as Posible. . .. if I thought I could not make you prosper I woulde not give you the invitation but donte come if you don't think it for the best and now if you donte conclude to come pleas relate my wishies of the same to Mery's John I wish him to come if all partys or agreed in regarde to his coming I wish him to leave soon after you reseave this If you do not come your self I wish you answer this by the following mail tellin me whether you or John is a coming or neither of you I shall be wating patiently to learn Donte fail riting soon after reseaving this. . .. Please if you don't conclude to com . . . be shure and rite to me and tell me what the conclusion is and I wait for you answer Patiently."

Zebulon also provides advice regarding the best way to reach California:

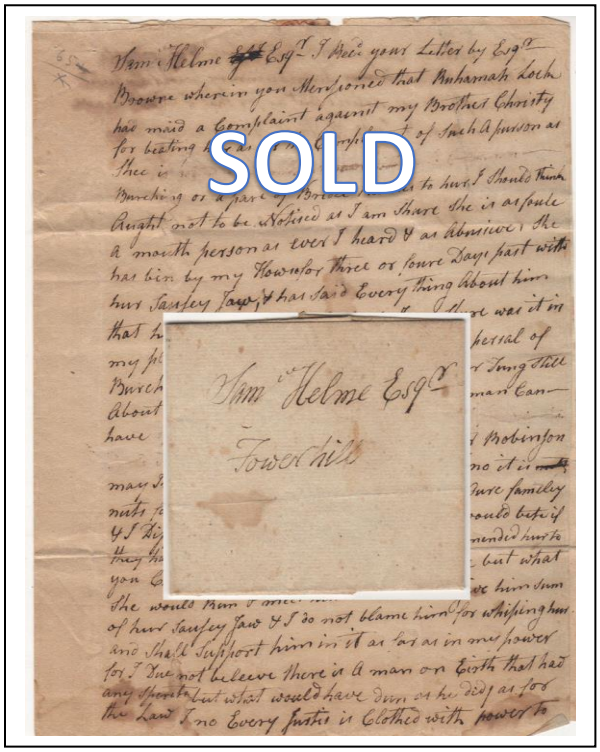
> "The vandabilt route will be the best route for you to take If you come bring only on suite of cloths with you or if you can git a passage by the panamnar route better Come that way git a second cabin bearth if you can."

Upon the discovery of gold in California, Cornelius Vanderbilt contracted with the government of Nicaragua to provide the cheapest route for East Coast emigrants wanting to make the journey west (steamer from New York to San Juan del Norte on the Caribbean coast, then by inland watercraft to Rivas, followed by a stage to San Juan del Sur and another steamer bound for San Francisco.

A nice California cover attesting to the booming business climate brought on by the Gold Rush with an attractive usage of an imperforate pair of Scott #11s.

SOLD **Read'Em Again #9452**

23. [CRIME & LAW] [MISOGYNY] [PHILATELY] [WOMEN] An astonishing (by today's standards) 18th century letter from the Deputy Governor of Rhode Island regarding the whipping of a "sausey jawed" woman. Samuel John Potter. Sent to Samuel Helme at Tower Hill (South Kingston), Rhode Island: 1794.



This two-page stampless letter measures approximately 6.5" x 7.75". It is dated "May the 2: 1794" and sent by Samuel Potter in reply to a letter from Samuel Helme at Tower Hill, Rhode Island. It bears no postmark indicating that it was hand carried, perhaps by "Esquire Browne," the man the text notes delivered Helme's letter to Potter. The letter is in nice shape. A transcript will be provided.

In this letter to Sam'l Helme Esqr, Deputy Governor (and future Senator) Potter defends his brother who, after suffering intensive verbal abuse from a female enemy of the family who had even trespassed onto his property to berate him, whipped the woman with a birch, i.e. a bundle of several smooth leafless twigs.

> "I Recd yours by Esqr Browne wherein you mentioned that Ruhamah Lock has maid a complaint against my Brother Christy for beating her. . ..
>
> Birching or a pare of Bridel Raines to her I should think Aught not to be Noticed as I am shure she is as foule a mouth person as ever I heard & as Abrasive. She has bin by my Howse for three or foure Days past with her Sausey Jaw, & has said Every thing about him that her Toung Coud Express I am shure was it in my place as it is in his I would get me a passal of Burches & would whip her till I maid her Tung still about me for that is all the satisfaction a man can have
>
> Sam'l Congdon & Silvester Robinson may Incorig hur as much as they pleas I no it is nuts for them for they have a Dislike for Oure family & I dispise them as much, & I believe they would bite if they had a chance, Congdon & Robinson recommended her to you Christy could not go about the Farme but what she would run & meet him in order to give him sum of her sausey jaw & I do not blame him for whipping her and shall support him in it as far as my power for I due not believe there is a man on Earth that had any sperit but what would have dun as he did as for the Law I no Every Justice is clothed with power to take notis of Complaints that [are] Just & Honorable & there is also discreationery power expected what aught to be noticed but as for that I shall leave that for you to judg of these. . .."

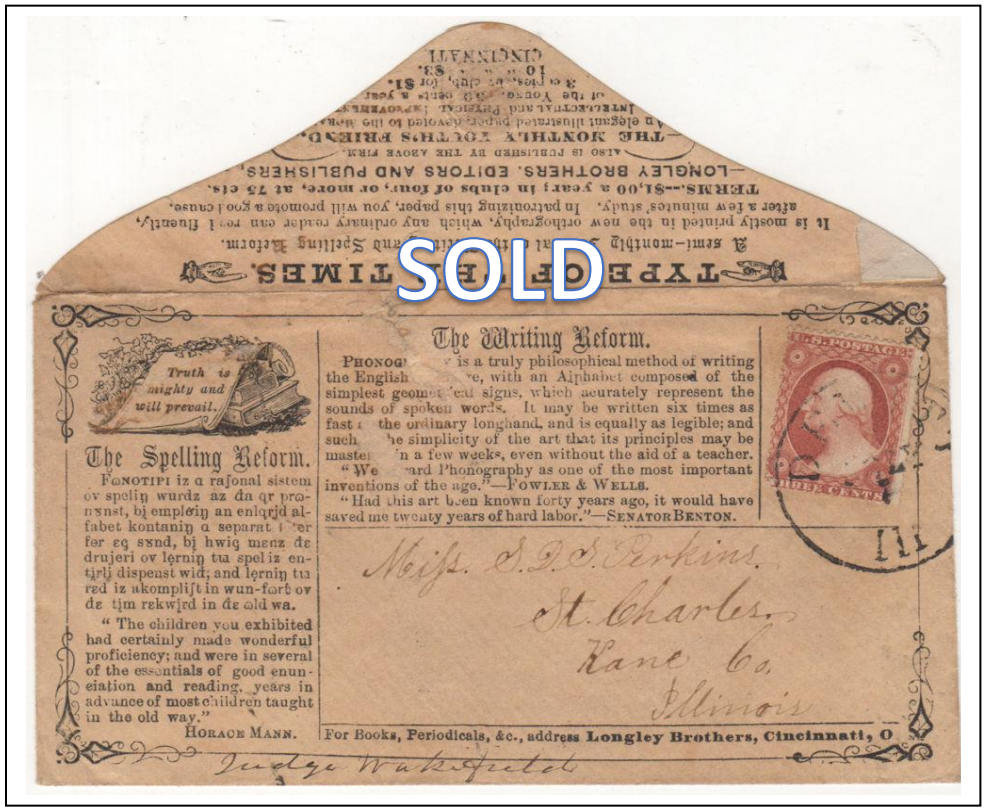
From the context of Potter's letter, Helme may have been a justice of the peace or similar official at Town Hill as he took the woman's complaint. Further, Potter's closing statements appear to remind him that while judges must act upon "Just & Honorable" complaints, they should use their discretion and ignore those that are unfounded. Clearly, he is attempting to convince Helme that his brother's action was justified and that the complaint filed against him was part of a continuing vendetta—probably political—by enemies of his family.

A remarkable, eye-opening letter that vividly documents an 18th century point of view that is considerably different than those held today.

SOLD **Read'Em Again Books #9420**

24. [EDUCATION] [PHILATELY] [PHONOGRAPHY] [PRINTING & TYPOGRAPHY] An illustrated envelope promoting phonography and advertising the "*Type of the Times: A semi-monthly Journal of the Writing and Spelling Reform.*" Cincinnati, Ohio: Longley Brothers, circa 1860.

This advertising cover promotes reforming American education by replacing the traditional alphabet and traditional spellings with a phonographic alphabet and phonographic spelling.



The front features endorsements from Senator Thomas Hart Benton, Fowler & Wells (a then well-respected scientific institution and publishing house specializing in physiological, hygienic, phrenological science) and Horace Mann (the champion of public education and the most important educational reformer of the mid-19th century). Half of Mann's endorsement is phenotypically printed. The sealing flap on the reverse advertises two journals, *Type of the Times: A semi-monthly Journal of the Writing and Spelling Reform* and *The Monthly Youth's Friend*. Both were published by The Longley Brothers, the leaders of the American phonography movement and world's largest and most important phonotypy printer.

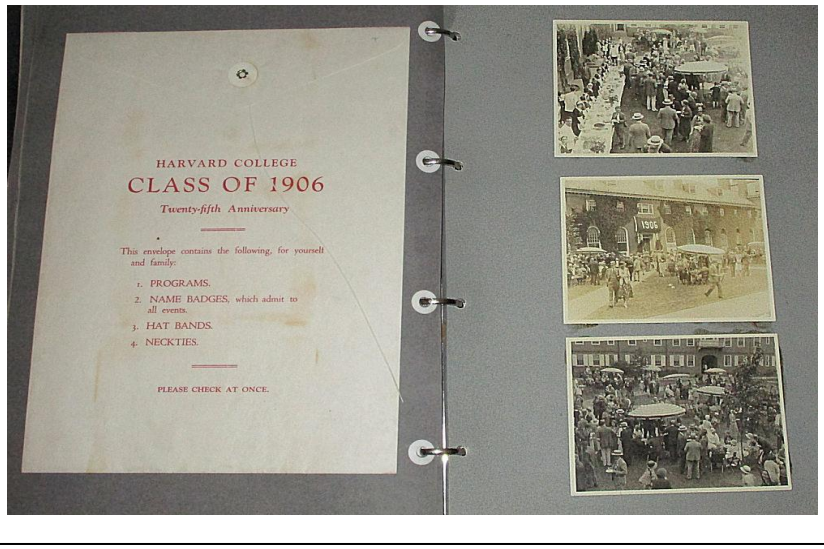
The envelope is addressed to Messers S.D.S. Perkins of St. Charles, Illinois. It is annotated in the bottom margin, "Judge Wakefield." It is franked with a 3-cent Washington stamp (Scott #26) and canceled with a partially legible circular postmark that appears to read DeWitt, Illinois. There are on-line genealogical records that indicate a Judge Wakefield lived in DeWitt, Illinois in the mid-19th century. The cover is in nice shape with a light scuff to some of the Fowler & Wells endorsement and small chip to the back flap.

Very scarce. As of 2019, there are no other examples known to be for sale in the philatelic trade. OCLC shows none held by institutions, and I could only locate three sold at auction in the past 25 years.

Slightly flawed, so priced accordingly.

SOLD **Read'Em Again Books #9431**

25. [EDUCATION] A comprehensive scrapbook-photo album documenting the 25th Reunion of Harvard University's Graduating Class of 1906. Unidentified compiler, but likely Robert Amory, the reunion chairman. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Twenty-Fifth Reunion [committee for the Harvard Class of 1906], 1931



This album, which measures approximately 11" x 14.5", has a gold-leaf title, "Harvard Class of 1906 / 25th Anniversary / Reports" on the front cover. It contains more than 100 pages filled with ephemera and artifacts including:

The 90 uncaptioned photographs measure about 3.75" x 5". They show receptions and gatherings, posed small groups, sports (badminton, softball, golf, tennis, swimming), a turtle race, hiking, swinging in the park, cheerleaders with megaphones, stadium crowds, and more.

There are reports for registration and reception, entertainment, sports, photographic, dinner, automobile-transfer, stadium exercise, hospitality, catering, and publicity committees.

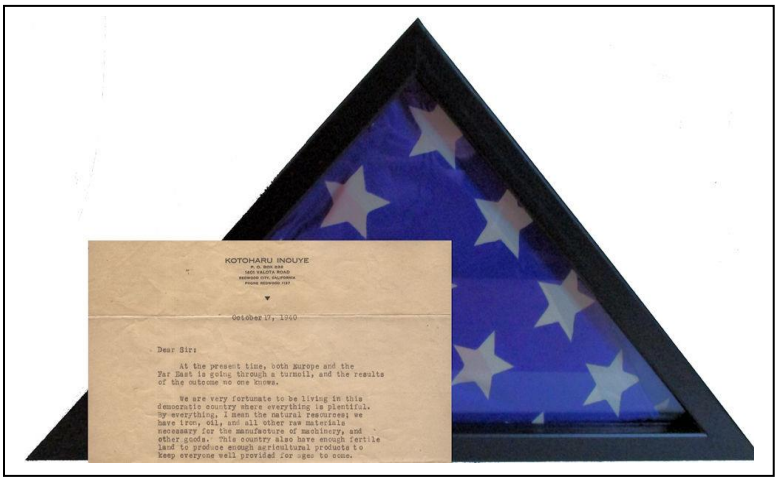
Letters regarding cigars and cigarettes, menus, photographs, and more.

Other items include the Reunion Program, the Songbook, windshield sticker, tie, medal, boater hat band, direction cards to various events, a large directional arrow, many menus, personal data sheets, expense records, multiple editions of the reunion magazine ("Six Appeal"), a campus map, many newspaper clippings, and more.

A phenomenal reunion record and a giant helping of school spirit. From the ephemera and photographs in this album, you would never guess it was compiled in the second year of the Great Depression.

$350 **Read'Em Again Books #9474**

26. [ESPIONAGE] [INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS] [JAPANESE INTERNMENT] [MILITARY & WAR] A flag and letter presented to an official or journalist by a California Issei who would later be arrested and incarcerated by the FBI on December 7, 1941. Kotoharu Inouye. Redwood City, California: October 15, 1940.



This typed letter, dated 17 October 1940 and signed by a prominent Issei member of California's Japanese-American community presents a 2' x 4' silk U.S. flag to an unnamed person, presumably a government official or journalist. Both are in nice shape; the display case is not original nor part of this lot.

The letter reads in part:

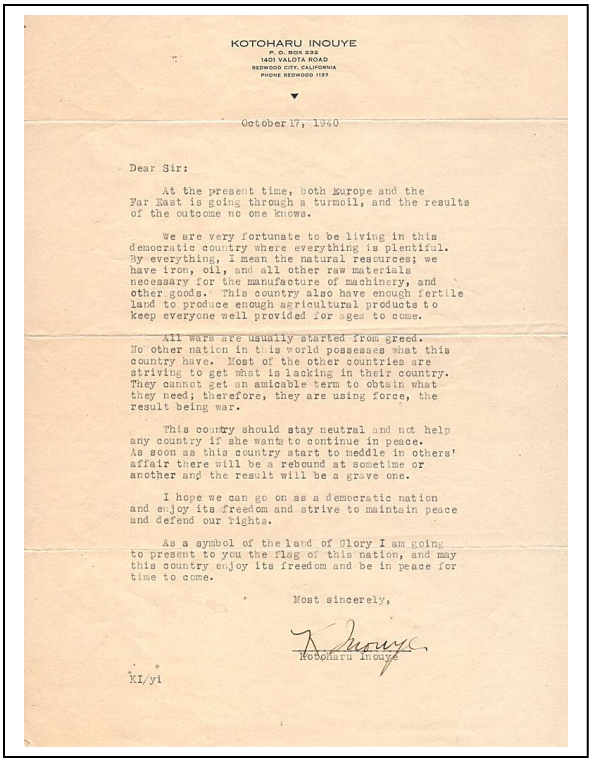
> "At the present time, both Europe and the Far East is going through a turmoil, and the results of the outcome no one knows. . .. We are very fortunate to be living in this democratic country where everything is plentiful. . .. Most countries are striving to get what is lacking in their country. They cannot get amicable term to obtain what they need; therefore, they are using force, the result being war. This country should stay neutral and not help any country if she wants to continue in peace. As soon as this country start to meddle in others' affair there will be a rebound . . . and the result will be a grave one. . .. As a symbol of the land of Glory I am going to present to you the flag of this nation, and may this country enjoy its freedom and be in peace for time to come."

Inouye's flowery words about our "democratic land of Glory" partially veil a duplicitous intent directly related to the Japanese Foreign Ministry's effort to stem the tide of adverse publicity Japan was receiving in the American press. What Inouye euphemistically referred to as "turmoil" was Germany's conquest and brutal occupation of Western Europe. More to the point of this letter, the "turmoil" was also Japan's rape of China and Southeast Asia. Inouye's plea for U.S. neutrality fails to mention that the Axis Pact, i.e., the Tripartite Treaty, was signed just a few days before. In it, Nazi Germany, Fascist Italy, and Imperial Japan pledged to support each other in their wars of conquest and subjugation, while formally acknowledging that Japan was entitled to rule all of Asia. Considering this, Inouye's 'suggestion' to "stay neutral" or expect "grave" consequences seems more of a threat than a cautious recommendation.

Inouye was an ambitious son from a Samurai family. He had wanted to become a naval officer like his older brother. However, after being turned down by the Japanese Naval Academy, he immigrated to California, where he established a nursery in Redwood City. He became very active in the quasi-official Japanese Associations that controlled most aspects of Issei life through tiered relationships with the Imperial Government. The Associations emphasized Japanese patriotism, churned out pro-Japanese military propaganda, promoted anti-Chinese hatred, and purchased equipment for the Japanese military.

No doubt, Inouye's samurai heritage, his brother's service in the Japanese Navy, his leadership in Japanese Associations, and this letter brought him to the attention of the FBI as tension between Japan and the United States grew, especially after President Roosevelt directed the FBI to coordinate surveillance of potentially dangerous aliens. Within hours of the Japanese sneak attack on Pearl Harbor, FBI agents appeared at Inouye's home where, after a search, he was taken into custody as part of a sweep that

included German, Italian, and Japanese nationals (Inouye was not a U.S. citizen) suspected of being or of being sympathetic to Axis agents. FBI records indicate that during this sweep, the foreign nationals were arrested if they possessed certain cameras, weapons, signaling equipment, or short-wave radios. Although records don't reveal what Inouye possessed, a local newspaper reported his son agreed that Inouye's arrest was the proper thing to do, which is indicative of a growing generational split among Japanese immigrants. Issei loyalty generally went to Japan and Nissei loyalty to the United States.



KOTOHARU INOUYE
P. O. BOX 233
1401 VALOTA ROAD
REDWOOD CITY, CALIFORNIA
PHONE REDWOOD 1137

October 17, 1940

Dear Sir:

At the present time, both Europe and the Far East is going through a turmoil, and the results of the outcome no one knows.

We are very fortunate to be living in this democratic country where everything is plentiful. By everything, I mean the natural resources; we have iron, oil, and all other raw materials necessary for the manufacture of machinery, and other goods. This country also have enough fertile land to produce enough agricultural products to keep everyone well provided for ages to come.

All wars are usually started from greed. No other nation in this world possesses what this country have. Most of the other countries are striving to get what is lacking in their country. They cannot get an amicable term to obtain what they need; therefore, they are using force, the result being war.

This country should stay neutral and not help any country if she wants to continue in peace. As soon as this country start to meddle in others' affair there will be a rebound at sometime or another and the result will be a grave one.

I hope we can go on as a democratic nation and enjoy its freedom and strive to maintain peace and defend our rights.

As a symbol of the land of Glory I am going to present to you the flag of this nation, and may this country enjoy its freedom and be in peace for time to come.

Most sincerely,

K. Inouye
Kotoharu Inouye

KI/yi

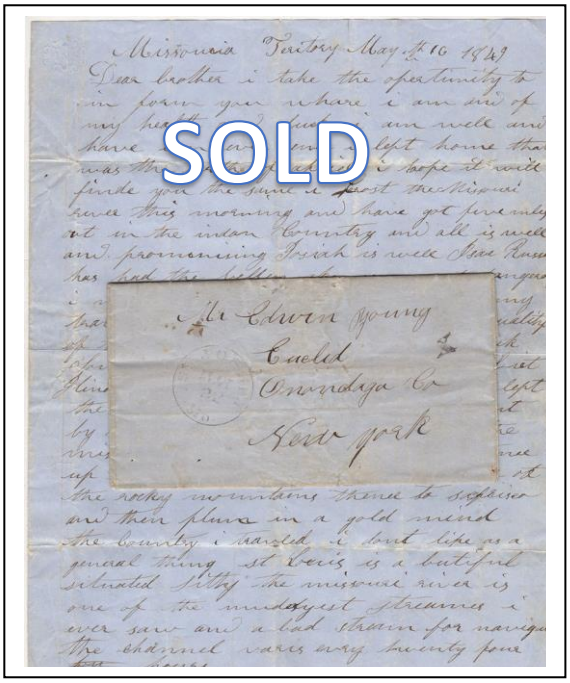
Inouye and two German nationals were first taken to a former immigration office barracks on Angel Island in San Francisco Bay, and then moved to a U.S. Justice Department detention camp at Sharp Park (now in the city of Pacifica) where about 135 other suspected agents were also held. From there, Inouye was moved through several other Department of Justice and U.S. Army detention camps (the Santa Fe and Lordsburg camps in New Mexico, the Ft. Lincoln camp in North Dakota, and Ft. Missoula camp in Montana), which should not be confused with the well-known concentration camps that were later operated by the War Relocation Authority (WRA). At the Ft. Missoula camp, additional screenings were conducted and many of those who had been arrested were released to the WRA. Inouye was not released; he was retained at Ft. Missoula until much later after he was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease and transferred to the Mayo Clinic for treatment. Following treatment at the clinic, Inouye was not sent back to a foreign agent camp but was instead transferred to the WRA's Topaz concentration camp outside of Salt Lake City, Utah where his family had been interned. Following the war, Inouye, along with his family returned to California.

For more information see: Muzac's "Inouye, Kotoharu" at the San Mateo County Historical Association Online, Ichioka's "Japanese Immigrant Nationalism" in *California History* (Fall, 1990), multiple articles in the online *Densho Encyclopedia*, "193 Aliens . . . Moved to Sharp Park Camp" at the Virtual Museum of the City of San Francisco, various articles in Okihiro's *Encyclopedia of Japanese American Internment*, the online *History of Angel Island Immigration Station* by the Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation, FBI Memorandum "Internal Security Alien Enemy Control", "Historic Resource Evaluation by the City of Palo Alto #16252H (Draft)", Baker's "Homefront Redwood City – A small town faces a big war" online at Humboldt State University, and Yenne's *Panic on the Pacific*.

A rare Issei propaganda letter and presentation flag; perhaps unique, although it is possible that Inouye presented additional letters and flags to other journalists or officials. As of 2019, nothing remotely similar is for sale in the trade, and Rare Book Hub shows nothing similar as ever being sold at auction. As well, OCLC shows no institutional holdings of other examples, nor anything else like them. Interestingly, the Hoover Institution has a partially cataloged "Kotoharu Inouye Family Collection" that appears to consist of only books and other publications, however that may change as its processing continues.

$1,750 **Read'Em Again Books #9473**

27. [GOLD RUSH] [MINING] [PHILATELY] [TRANSPORTATION] [WESTWARD EXPANSION] Two letters from Forty-Niners to a stay-at-home "chicken harted" New Yorker. Lattain Young and Isaac S. Russell to Edwin Young. "Missouria Teritory", 1849.



This two-page letter by a 49er to his brother is enclosed in a one-page stampless letter written by a mutual friend. Both letters are dated May 16th, 1849 and the stampless cover bears a black circular St Joseph, Mo May 22 postmark and an "X" handstamp indicating the cost to mail a letter over 300 miles. The delayed postmark suggests it was written after the 49ers departed St. Joseph and carried to back to that post office for mailing by an eastward traveler. Faint unrelated pencil docketing on the reverse of the envelope. The letter and envelope are in nice shape.

In this atrociously spelled and punctuated letter, Lattain Young informs his brother of his journey so far as well as his planned route for the rest of the journey:

> "i am well and have ben ever sense i left home that was the fourth of April. . .. i Crost the Missouri river this morning and have got five miles out in the indan Country and all is well and . . . Isaic Rssel has had the bellen ake sum not dangerous i must tell you something about my travels and what rout and the quality of the Country first point to Lima to Misbruck South Bend Michegan City Joliet Ilinois thence to Peru Ilinoy there i left the team and took the frit and went by water down the Ilinoy river to the Missippi River down to St. Louis thens up the Misouri to St Joseph thence to the rocky mountains thence to sanfisco and then plum in a gold mind the Country i travled i don't like as a general thing St Louis is a butiful situated Sitty The missouri river is one of the muddiest streames i ever saw and a bad stream for the channel varies every twenty four hour. I was 13 days going from St. Louis to St Joseph the trip can be made in six days we run in several sandbanks i got in st Jo to weeks I went in the country sum miles the country is beautiful as i even saw things are as cheap in st. Jo as they are in Hilsdale. . .. I presume you here a grate deal about the colery in this region it is true and thare fore there are a grate menny hundreds going back the danger of the fead sends hundreds more back so much the better for us there will be about 5 or 8 thousands wagons cross the plains as ny as it can be estimated at it has cost us a grate deal more than we calculated on when we got to st Jo we had to by a yoke of cattle which makes four yoak we can go whare hundreds . . . cant as speedly mules teames there is fifty ox teams to one of any other kind"

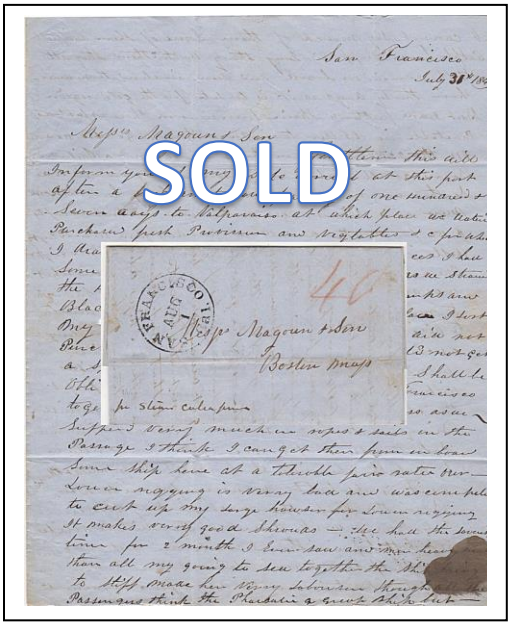
Their mutual friend, Isaac Russell, can't help but chime-in, goading brother Edwin to join them:

> "it appears that you are against going to California . . .. I am sorry to hear that you are so chicken harted. I think if you stay in york state you will forgit how to hunt So git up. . .."

Rather scarce. As of 2019, nothing similar is known to be for sale in the trade. Although Rare Book Hub identifies several auctions for letters of California bound gold miners, most are from much later and describe ship voyages while only two describe cross-country journeys. Similarly, while OCLC shows several institutions holding gold-miner travelling letters, most describe ship voyages and only six describe cross-country journeys.

SOLD **Read'Em Again Books #9432**

28. [GOLD RUSH] [MARITIME] [PHILATELY] [TRANSPORTATION] [WESTWARD EXPANSION] Letter from an early Forty-Niner ship captain describing his arduous voyage and the chaos in San Francisco Bay as most sailors from the 80 vessels in port deserted for the gold fields. George Allen. San Francisco: 1849.



This three-page stampless letter measures about 15.5" x 10" unfolded. It bears a circular "San Francisco Cal." postmark with a manuscript "40" postal rate (the price to mail a letter from the Pacific coast to anywhere else in the United States) and a note "per stemr California". In nice shape; when the wax seal was originally removed, it took a 1" square of text along with it. Transcript included.

In this letter, the Captain of the ship *Pharsalia* reports his arrival in San Francisco

> "after a long and tedious passage of one hundred & seven days to Valparaiso at which place we water'd Purchased fresh Provisions and vegtables . . . I have some considerable iron work to repair . . . the Head of the Rudder , , , and . . . I lost my topgall mast off Cape Horn. Shall be obliged to get them here at San Francisco together with some ropes and canvas as we suffered very much. . .. lower rigging is very bad . . . compelled to cut up my large hawser for lower rigging . . . It makes very good shrouds – we had the severist time . . . I ever saw and more heavy weather than all my going to sea together."

And he found the harbor chaos resulting from the Gold Rush both amazing and depressing:

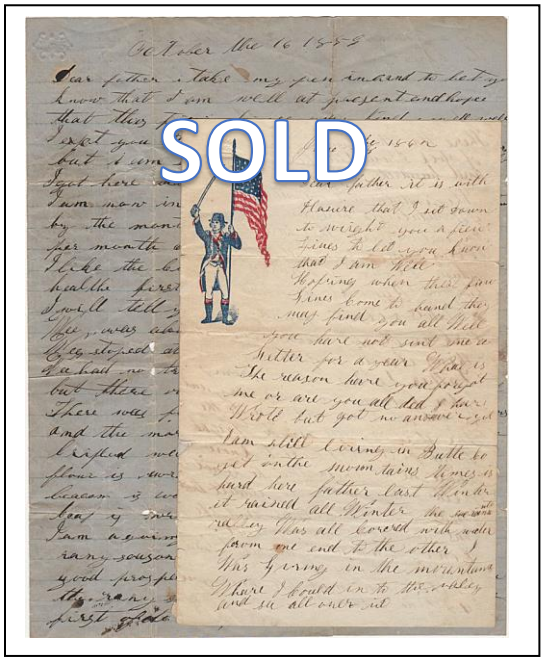
> "We arrived on the 22nd and on the 23rd we had not a Sailer on Board as all sailers run as soon as they are able to and so thair are now about Eighty Ships Lying here without men. . .. what we are coming to God only knows it is enough to make a man small it will take a fortune to discharge the ship Shall Endeavour to get along as cheap as possible. . .. I have concluded to put the whole [of the cargo] into the hands of Mess Mules & Harrison as it is absolutely necessary for me to be on Board the Ship . . . to get eny work done and thay will be able to get better prices than I could. . .. as to the future employment of the Ship . . . when or how we are to get away I cannot tell it is Possible by the time we get ready we may be able to get men enough to the ship to the sandwich isles for $250 per month thair wages going on until they arrive back to this port . . .with thair passage also paid. . ,, this is truly a great lunity. . .. Some Ship are entirely deserted with the Exception of the Captain and I believe in Some cases they have gone. . .. gold fever . . . often see some large gunks of the stuff How I am to get away from here I do not know and am not able to write you enny perticulars. . .."

As noted in Ashbury's *The Barbary Coast*, eventually there were at least 500 crewless ships stranded in the harbor, and most simply rotted away. A 2012 *National Geographic* article reported that many were intentionally sunk and covered with landfill upon which owners then built warehouses, saloons, and hotels and now lie under the streets between the foot of Market Street and the Transamerica Pyramid.

Scarce. As of 2019, no similar first-hand accounts of the 1849 chaos in San Francisco harbor are for sale in the trade. Neither are auction results for similar first-hand accounts about the early harbor chaos found at the Rare Book Hub and philatelic auctions sites. OCLC only identifies one institution holding of a ship's journal that may include a description of the harbor chaos.

SOLD **Read'Em Again Books #9451**

29. [GOLD RUSH] [MORMONS] [MOUNTAIN MEADOW MASSACRE] [WESTWARD EXPANSION] Two letters from a gold seeker whose wagon train was attacked by Mormons and Paiutes shortly after the infamous Mountain Meadow Massacre. John Utlley to his father: Oroville, California: 1859 and 1862.



One letter is dated October 16, 1858; the other, June 28, 1862. No mailing envelopes. The first letter has some small holes at the intersection of several mailing folds, and an old near invisible repair to a short split apparently made with archival tape. Utley's California address has been excised from bottom of the second letter's second leaf.

In Utley's first letter, he describes his journey to California. Most important is his nonchalant description of a hitherto unreported attack on a wagon train in Utah by the Mormon Militia and their allies, the Paiute Indians, that occurred shortly after their infamous unprovoked slaughter of 120 men, women, and children in the Baker–Fancher wagon train, most likely by the same force.

> "I will tell you i had a long Journey Wee was about five months on the road Wee stoped at pikes peak about three weeks Wee had no trouble crossing the plains but there was some men kiled on the road There were five men shot dead by the indians and the mormans in one place and one women Cripled wee had a long Journey"

Although Utley is at first excited and optimistic, but by 1862 he become disenchanted with California's cost of living and weather:

> "I got her about the first of september i am now in sacramento vally i am working by the month i am a getting fifty dollars per month and my dwell and washing i like the Cuntry firstrate. . .. I am a going to mining Just as soon as the rany season Comences I have got a purty good prospect now. . .. I am still living in Butte to yet in the mountains Times is hard here father last Winter it is rained all Winter the sacramento valley Was all covered with water from one end to the other. . .. There Was thousands of head of stok Drownded here and hundreds of families The Indians a Committing Depradations here in California They have killed men Women and Children . . . flour six dollars per hundred Beef 12 cts per pound Potatoes 5 cts per pound Pork 12 cts . . . everything else in proportion . . . California is not what it is Cracked up to be for I Tell you there is no enjoyment here at all"

Utley closes his second letter expressing concern about the war:

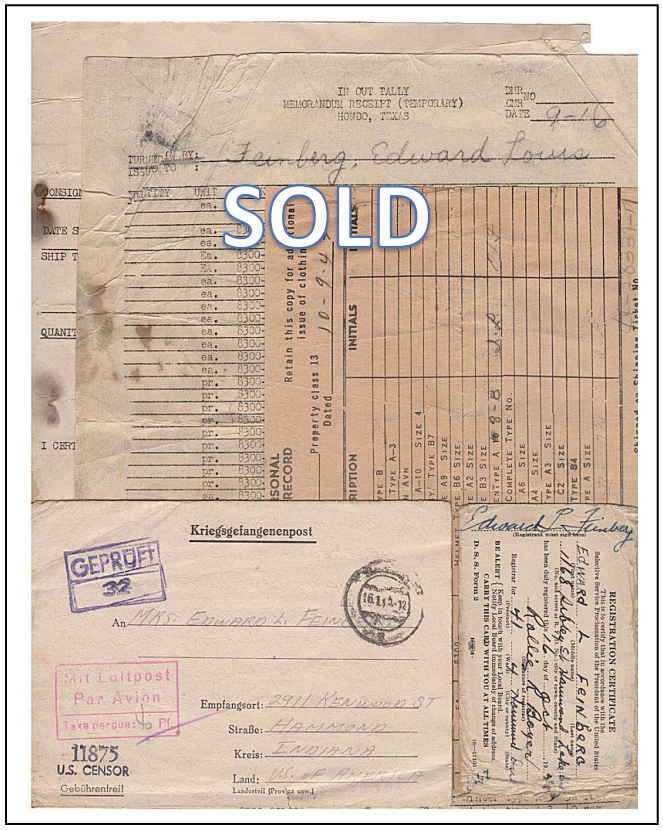
> "I got a letter from John Colgan the other day . . . Morgan had gon to the War if it is so tell him to Wright to me for i Would like to know Whare he is i hope that he is not With the south . . . Father tell me of all the boys that has gone to War "

The reporting of a second, previous unknown deadly Mormon attack on a wagon train to California is of exceptional historic value and certainly worthy of additional research to determine the exact circumstances of its occurrence and its relationship to the Mountain Meadows Massacre.

Although unique, the Rare Book Hub shows that a letter reporting still another Mormon attack on a wagon train that killed only one person was listed in a 1963 Eberstadt catalog.

SOLD **Read'Em Again Books #9448**

30. [JUDAICA] [MILITARY & WAR] Small archive related to Lieutenant Edward L. Feinberg, a Jewish Air Force Officer, who was shot down, captured, and imprisoned in Stammlager (Stalag) Luft I. Edward L. Feinberg. Various locations including Stalag I near Barth Germany: [1940]-1944.



There are six items in this grouping:

[1940} – Feinberg's "Selective Service Registration Certificate" (Draft Card)

September 16, [1943] – "In Out Tally [Aviator's Clothing] Memorandum Receipt (Temporary)" from Hondo Army Airfield in Texas, the site of the U.S. Army Air Corps Navigators School.

October 9, 1943 – "Flyer' Personal Equipment Record" from Alamogordo Army Airfield in New Mexico, the site of a U.S. Army Air Corps B-24 Liberator training unit.

[1944] – "Shipping Ticket" certifying receipt of a gas mask and other items from the 2nd Replacement & Training Squadron (Bomber) at AAF Station 238, AP) 639 (Cheddington, Bedfordshire, England).

May 5, 1944 – Photocopy of an article of The Jewish Post titled, "Feinberg Missing over Germany".

December 11, 1944 – A Kriegsgefangenen-post (Prisoner of War lettersheet) from Stalag Luft 1 to Feinstein's wife in Hammond, Indiana in which he assures her he and members from his crew are doing well, thanks her for writing other wives of the crew, reports that his new nickname was "Pappy' either from the birth of his daughter or a newly grown mustache, and expresses his love.

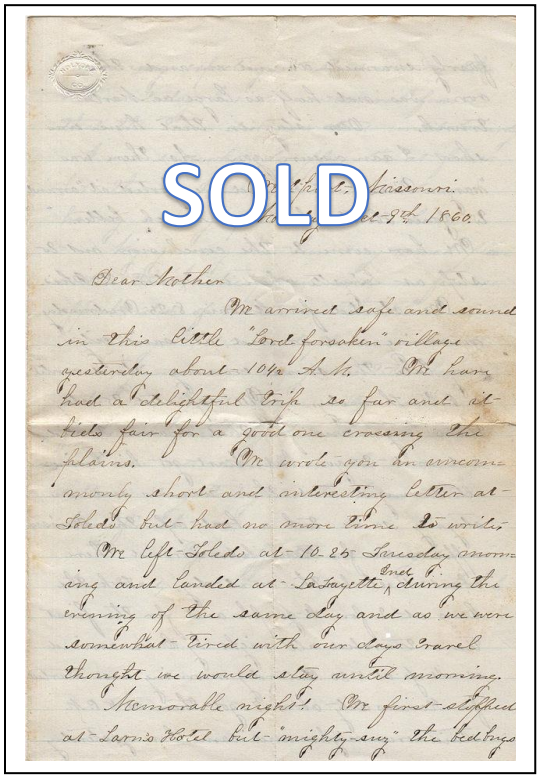
Feinberg, a young Jewish officer, was a B-24 Liberator navigator assigned to the 453rd Bomber Group stationed at Old Buckingham, England. On April 8, his plane participated in a massive bombing mission (664 bombers and 780 fighters) against Braunschweig (Brunswick), Germany. The mission was intercepted by 20 Luftwaffe fighter groups that shot down 65 bombers. Feinberg's bomber was attacked by German Ace, Josef Zwernemann becoming his 126th kill. His pilot and two other crewmembers were killed; the rest parachuted to the ground where they were captured. (Feinberg's B-24 was Zwernemann's last victory; his Focke-Wul FW 190 was shot down later that day.)

For more information, see the 453rd Bomb Group Memorial Association's Facebook page, Prien & Rodelke's *Einsatz in der Reichsverteidigung von 1939 bis 1945—Teil 2* (Operations in the Defense of the Reich from 1939 to 1945—Volume 2), "Edward L. Feinberg" at the online American Air Museum in Britain, Bard's online essay "Berga am Elster: American POWs at Berga," Gruenzner's *Postal History of American POWs*, and Shaffer's *Geographic Locations of U.S. APOs 1941-1978*.

Prisoner of War letters from Stalag Luft 1 are uncommon; a POW letter from a Jewish-American Air Force Officer shot down by one of the Luftwaffe's greatest combat aces just before he was killed is unique.

SOLD **Read'Em Again Books #9469**

31. [MILITARY & WAR] [PHILATELY] [WESTWARD EXPANSION] [WOMEN] A long letter from the wife of a newly commissioned West Point Lieutenant and her husband detailing their travel to Westport, Missouri and plans for continuing on via the Santa Fe Trail to Fort Craig, New Mexico for duty with the 7th Infantry Regiment of Mounted Riflemen. Mary and Martin Van Buren Lewis. Westport, Missouri: October 1860.



This seven-page letter, jointly written by Mary and Martin Lewis to Mary's parents in Ohio, includes its mailing envelope which is franked with a dull-red 3-cent Washington stamp (Scott #26) tied to the cover with a grid cancel and bearing a bold Westport, Mo. postmark dated "Oct 9 1860". Both are in nice shape; the envelope has some minor foxing. Transcript included.

In this letter, the Mary repeatedly ensures her parents that she is having a wonderful journey so far, despite a delay in the "Lord forsaken village" of Westport and that she has "no fear" regarding the rest of her journey and that they should "rest easy":

> "We arrived safe and sound in this little "Lord forsaken" village about 10½ A.M. We have had a delightful trip so far and it bids fair for a good one crossing the plains. . .. We left Toledo at 10-25 Tuesday morning and landed at LaFayette Ind during the evening of the same day. . .. Memorable night! We first stopped at Larn's Hotel but . . . the bedbugs fairly swarmed around us and the room was not as large as Mart's trunk. Our stay in that house was short – I can assure you [and] we "footed it" around to Jones Hotel which was much better. We have come to the conclusion not to stop at LaFayette when we return to Ohio. We started for St. Louis 8-25 Wednesday morning and arrived at said city very late the same evening staid until 4 P.M. Thursday. . .. We took a boat up the Mississippi river for Hannibal. arrived there about 11 oclock the next day. Took the Cars at 2 for St Joseph and for the first time traveled all night by Cars. arrived at St. Jo at 5-30 Saturday morning and started for Kansas City about 7. got there at 540 P.M. staid over night ad came here yesterday morning expecting to start out on the Plains today but on our arrival found that the train did not start until Saturday. . .. My journey has been very much pleasanter than I anticipated and no fear is apprehended of trouble on the Plains so rest easy. I do! People are constantly crossing over and every one tells Mart to take me by all means. . .."

She then turns the letter over to her husband who offers more reassurance and information about the rest of their trip:

> "As Mary says, it does look something like the jumping off place [and] we intend so doing Saturday [with] the departure of the Santa Fe mail, our mode of conveyance. Redskins are plenty in this vicinity, but as they are tame ones, we are not much "skeered". By the way I got some medicine to day that is a splendid specific for the varmints. (I don't mean bedbugs). I went to a hardware store and ordered 200 bullets to be run for a nice revolver that I purchased in St. Louis. I also got powder and caps and a large knife (dirk), so all I have got to say is "how, Mr Injun don't!" and if he does wo be unto his indiscretion. I don't think, however, that I shall have to resort to anything of the kind for all news from the plains is favorable and indicate a peaceful journey for us. I am going to get everything that I can

to make our trip a pleasant one, and that will make Mary comfortable. . .. I have already provided Mary with some good brandy and port wine which is very necessary for her to have while traveling. To-morrow I shall get a basket or provision box and have it well supplied. . .. It will take some fifteen days to get to Santa Fe but I think I shall stop a few days at Ft. Union – especially if Mary is much fatigued when we arrive at that point. She says however that she is not going to get tired at all and that there's no use of talking. . .. She has endured the journey so far amazingly well. . .. I think it agrees with her to travel, so do not be uneasy on that point. And what is more, she seems to be perfectly contented wherever we are and has no spells of discontent or uneasiness. . .. Westport is the greatest place for 'niggers' I ever saw – not free ones either. The house that we are stopping at is carried on by slave labor, and it is done right. Mary has taken a terrible liking to an old negress that waits upon us and declares she would like to have her for a housekeeper herself."

The couple completed their journey safely as Army records show Lewis joined his regiment later that month. The 7th Infantry Regiment had only recently been reassigned to New Mexico after protecting non-Mormon travelers and settlers in Utah from Mormon violence. Half of the regiment settled at Albuquerque and half at Fort Craig where its companies protected settlers and miners from marauding Navahos and Apaches.

Travel with the Santa Fe mail coach was rough business and its understandable that a supply of good port and brandy made Mary's trip a little more bearable. As reported by an officer stationed at Fort Union:

> "Mail escorts . . . were provided by mounted riflemen, whose provisions and camp equipage, as well as some forage for their horses, were carried in two wagons. . .. The 'mail outfit' was comprised of two stages and a baggage wagon, each pulled by four mules. The mail party also had a few extra mules, to replace any in the teams which might become broken down or lame. There were no stage stations . . . between Fort Union and . . . central Kansas Territory. . .. The mail and the escort followed a routine schedule, starting at daylight and traveling at a six-miles-an hour trot. They stopped for breakfast after going approximately 15 miles, giving the animals a break to graze for about an hour. The same rate of travel was resumed until they found another place to rest, where water and grass were available. Several such stops were made during the day, including one for supper before sundown. Usually, after the evening meal, they traveled another 10 or 15 miles before camping for the night. Each of the wagons carried a keg of water, and firewood was [foraged]. The passengers furnished their own bedding, and everyone (passengers, mail party, and escort troops) slept on the ground where they camped. Guards were posted to keep watch through the night." (See *Fort Union* "Military Operations before the Civil War," online at nps.gov.

With the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861, the 7th Infantry returned east. Unfortunately, Lieutenant Martin "died of disease" at Winchester, Virginia in 1862.

A fascinating letter by a young Army couple describing the journey to their first assignment at a remote post in New Mexico.

SOLD Read'Em Again Books #9450

32. [MILITARY & WAR] [POLITICS] [PHILATELY] [PRISONERS OF WAR] Civil War prisoner's mail from Congressman Alfred Ely while held prisoner at Ligon's Prison in Richmond following his capture while observing the First Battle of Bull Run (Manassas). Alfred Ely. [Ligon's Prison, Richmond}, Nov. 1861.

The cover (no content) is free-franked "Alfred Ely", a Congressman from New York and postmarked with Washington D.C. Nov. 17, 1861 circular date stamp. It is addressed to General Wm E. Lathrop, a Brigadier General in the New York National Guard. It is docketed, presumably by Lathrop, "Com. On the death of Bro. Huson". In nice shape. Light edge-wear with tiny chip at top.

Congressman Ely—along with other civilians—decided to observe the first major battle of the Civil War. He packed a lunch, climbed into his carriage, and rode out to the expected battlefield to enjoy the afternoon. Unfortunately, as noted by Galen Harrison in *Prisoner's Mail from the American Civil War*, after the Confederates had routed the Union Army and "the dust of the battle had settled, Congressman Ely had lost his carriage, his picnic lunch, and his freedom." Ely was taken to Ligon's Tobacco Warehouse in Richmond, which had become a makeshift prison to hold Union soldiers captured in the battle. There he "roomed" with Calvin Huson, a New York politician, who also was captured while watching the battle.

As docketing on this cover indicates, its letter contained details of Huson's death that Ely provided General Lathrop. Huson contracted typhoid while at Ligon's, and after pleading by Ely, was released into the care of Elizabeth Van Lew, a Northern sympathizer (and future Union spy) where despite receiving care, he died in her home. Lathrop's reference to "Bro." Huson, suggests both were Masons as on-line sources identify Huson as such, and Lathrop was the Commander of the Grand Commandery of the United States.

The cover's Washington postmark indicates that it did not travel via the normal route of prisoner mail from Richmond, i.e., through Old Point Comfort and Norfolk. Although some have suggested Ely may have had this cover smuggled out of the prison to be mailed in Washington, Harrison believes that was not likely. A more plausible explanation is found in Walske and Trepel's *Special Mail Routes of the Civil War*, "Prior to formal flag-of-truce mail exchanges . . . a few letters were sent in the care of released POWs, who would mail them during their return journey, so no CSA postal markings appear on them."

An exceptionally scarce Civil War cover. Harrison reports only seven Ely prisoner covers are known to exist, and examples only occasionally come up for sale. One sold at auction for $850 in 2006 by Schuyler Rumsey and one sold for $2,000 in 2010 by Siegel.

$1,500 **Read'Em Again Books #9466**

33. [MILITARY & WAR] A letter from a discouraged Union soldier following the army's disastrous defeat at Fredericksburg, railing against the dismissal of General McClellan, vilifying General Burnside, and suggesting that an army-wide mutiny was on the horizon if both political and military leadership did not improve. "Andrew" to his wife "Sarah". Fort Scott (Arlington), Virginia: December 18th 1862.

Four-page letter with two additional pages cross-written on the first leaf. No mailing envelope. In nice shape. Transcript included.

In this letter written just three days after the Union's disastrous defeat at the Battle of Fredericksburg, a dispirited Union soldier unloads his seething anger in an otherwise loving letter to his wife at home, first addressing the incompetence of General Burnside, especially in comparison with General McClellan:

> "It is nothing but a bad defeat. . .. I wished Burnside every success possible but I was doubtful if he could lead with success, such a large army. His late effort proves his failings and shows by comparison of other efforts at the same time the greatly superior ability of McClellan in spirit of assertions to the contrary. A large portion of the army are looking for his return. I sincerely believe they will never get along without him. The army will never have the confidence in its present commander to half the extent of the past one. With McClellan to direct the army the enemys works at Fredericksburg would have been carried triumphantly in spite of every obstacle, such unbounded confidence did they have in him. The more I see the more I realize his military ability above other generals of our army."

He continues, describing the command climate in the Army of the Potomac and expressing the potential danger to not just the war effort but to the government as well, if political and military leadership did not soon improve:

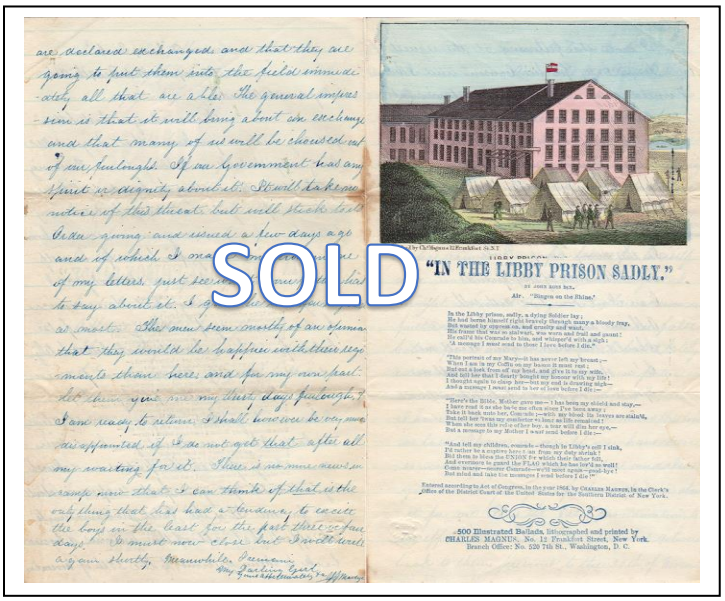
> "The armies are being sacrificed by the mistaken zeal of the many fools that abound in the North. . .. Their lives are being thrown away like so many dogs. This is the opinion of the most reliable part of the army. Those that have been through changes of all kinds from the very beginning of the war. Those meddling fools better beware. The army will not be trifled with much longer, to sacrifice everything they have they hold dear. For their country is their duty. But to be led to the slaughter by incompetent commanders forced on them by the actions of these same cowardly fools is too much to bear. There is a limit to everything. Their course is about run. You may think I use strong terms. I sincerely believe the occasion demands it. "

A candid and telling testament to the discouragement and frustration running rampant among the soldiers in the Army of the Potomac during the early years of the Civil War.

SOLD **Read'Em Again Books #9470**

34. [MILITARY & WAR] [SONG SHEETS] A parolee's cryptic letter with an original poem written on an attractive Libby Prison letter sheet from "Camp Parole". C. J. McArtye (?). Camp Parole, Annapolis, Maryland, 1864.

Bi-fold Magnus song-letter sheet. Color illustration of Libby Prison along with lyrics to "In the Libby Prison Sadly." Three pages of text. Couple of toning spots along fold. No mailing envelope. Transcript provided.



In this letter to his sweetheart, Almeda, McArtye cryptically informs her that there was no longer a need to hide his identity and that she could write him directly:

> "Sergeant McCarty [to whom the letter was addressed] . . . handed it to me with out opening it. . .. there is now no further necessity for writing under false Colors for I have had several letters lately addressed directly to me, so in future we can communicate openly. ..."

He also expresses regret about a likely a prisoner exchange.

> "No doubt you have seen something of it in the papers. . .. It is the Rebel proclamation . . . that all of the prisoners delivered back to them . . . are declared exchanged and that they are going to put them into the field immediately. . .. it will bring about an exchange . . . many of us will be loused out of our furloughs. . .. The men . . . would be happier with their regiments than here and for my own part, let them give me my thirty days furlough, & I am ready to return."

And in closing, he ends with a poem he composed for another soldier that he wants her to enjoy:

A Crostic
Do not Cousin dear forget me
Ever in my mind though art
Never let cruel care best thee
Not for-ever do we part
In this dreary "Camp Parole"
Sit I thinking of my friends
Care I not how time doth roll
All our troubles have their ends
Should they once again recall me
E'er should danger yet befall me
You're in my mind while life extends

Captured Union soldiers could be placed on "parole" and kept by their own side in a non-combat role, only returning to combat if prisoners of war were officially exchanged. In 1862, a parole camp was established in Annapolis, Maryland at St. John's College. When it ran out of space, two more were built.

SOLD **Read'Em Again Books #9457**

35. [MILITARY & WAR] [NEWSPAPERS] Panoramic WWI A.E.F. Photograph of "Censor & Press Co. No. 1. Staff of the Stars & Stripes." Brest, France: Thompson Illustragraph Co of Petersburg Virginia, July 1919.

This photograph measures approximately 35½" x 7" and is in nice shape with very light wear. It has a curl from being stored rolled for many years, but it easily flattens in a protective mount. In nice shape. A pencil annotation on the reverse reads, "L. L. Davies, 743 Treewood Ave." (The photograph will be shipped rolled; flat shipping will incur an additional charge.)

Not long after arriving in France, General Pershing decided that he wanted the American Expeditionary Force to publish a newspaper written by American soldiers for American soldiers. In November 1917, Lieutenant Guy T. Viskniskki, a press officer, censor, and former newspaperman, was asked to lead the project. He accepted and soon tracked down four enlisted men to work with him. The newspaper they produced, the *Stars & Stripes,* was similar in format and content to many small-town papers of the day and included not just unclassified news, but also illustrations, cartoons, sports new and columns, letters to the editors, advertisements, etc. The first edition of 1,000 papers sold out immediately, and by the end of the war when it was reaching over 500,000 readers, more than 150 soldiers were needed to publish the paper.

Several *Stars and Stripes* men, including two of the original staffers, went on to important literary or journalism careers after the war. Mark Spencer Watson received the 1945 Pulitzer Prize for international correspondence. Grantland Rice founded a motion picture studio. John Winterich became managing editor of *The Saturday Review of Literature*. Harold Wallace Ross co-founded *The New Yorker* magazine. And perhaps the most famous, Alexander Woollcott, became a famed New York City drama critic, a columnist at *The New Yorker*, the host of *The Town Crier* radio show, a prominent book editor, and a regular member of the Algonquin Round Table. Certainly, all these men are in this photo, and it would appear that the two men standing in the upper left of the group may be either Lieutenant Viskniskki (or perhaps his replacement Harold Ross) and Alexander Woollcott.

A scarce WWII panoramic photographic of a unique unit. As of 2019, no others are for sale in the trade, **SOLD Read'Em Again Books #9475**

36. [PATRIOTISM] [PHILATELY] [REPUBLIC OF THE FLORIDAS] [VIRGINIANA] A transatlantic letter to London describing a Richmond Independence Day celebration and announcing the capture of Amelia Island in Spanish Florida by the freebooter, Gregor McGregor. W. C. Thorton. Virginia: July 4, 1817.

This stampless letter measures 15.5" x 10" unfolded. It was written on July 4th, 1817 and sent to Norfolk by a James River steamboat (probably the *Powhattan* which began service in 1816). There it was placed aboard the ship, *Edward*, for England. It bears a "1N8" (one shilling and eight pence) manuscript postal rate, a "Falmouth Ship Letter" receiving mark on the front and a double-rimmed English duty handstamp on the reverse. In nice shape. Transcript provided.

This letter describes Richmond's Independence celebration

> "This . . . is the glorious day which gave birth to our happy country and after all the . . . military exercises which annually take place I devote with pleasure a few moments . . . to you. A military parade on such an occasion . . . is certainly becoming a people so ardently fond of Liberty as we all are, but – this done – and you well can guess at the sequel. In a word; all sorts of dissipation conspired to offend the eye of decency, and shock the tender sensibility of the moralist . . . the concourse of spectators is truly astonishing . . .. Buxom lasses from the surrounding Country . . . are swept along with the inquisitive throng to witness the spectacle. Tis extremely funny to see them coming thro' the broiling sun, two couples mounted on little miserable ponies . . . scarcely able to support the weight of a Virginia farmer."

Thorton further reports on the latest attempt to wrest Florida from Spanish possession:

> "Since my last . . . accounts of a very favorable return to the patriot cause continue to flow to us, . . . it seems highly favorable that Amelia Island is at the present moment in quiet possession of the Patriots; if so, - Sir Gregory will have in a very short time a strong foothold in East Florida. Tis inspiring to any person who knows any thing about the geographical portion of this country, with regard to the southern provinces . . . an effect so all important in its accomplishment . . .. Tis to be hoped however that his recent visit to these States may have been productive of valuable information on this, and other matters of great import."

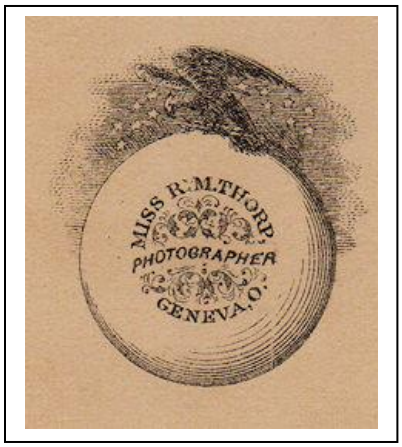
In 1812, a small group of American insurgents, "The Patriots of Amelia Island" seized the Spanish garrison with the secret approval of President Monroe, and almost immediately surrendered to a U.S. naval force. While not disapproving of Monroe's action, Congress feared fighting simultaneously wars with England and Spain, so the island returned to Spain. On 29 June 1817, a Scottish freebooter, the self-titled Sir General Gregor McGregor, invaded the island with a small force of 1812 veterans and declared himself to be the ruler of The Republic of the Floridas. McGregor soon abandoned the island to an associate, a French privateer Louis-Michel Aury, who took possession in the name of the Republic of Mexico. President Monroe, fearing that Florida would become a slave-smuggling hub, dispatched a force, and Aury surrendered. The American contingent then occupied the territory "in trust for Spain," until the Spanish government reluctantly ceded East Florida the United States in 1819.

Truly a first-person snapshot of patriotic U.S. ambition following the War of 1812.

SOLD **Read'Em Again Books #9425**

37. [PHILATELY] [PHOTOGRAPHY] [WOMEN] Three carte-de visit photographs taken by an early female studio photographer. Miss R. (Ruby) M. Thorp. Geneva, Ohio: circa 1866.

Of these three cdv photographs, two subjects are men, and one is a woman. The backstamps on two of the cards read "Miss R. M. Thorp / Photographer / Geneva O." These cards are franked by 2-cent U.S. Revenue stamps (Scott #s RC11 & RC13) which were only used between 1862 and 1871. The backstamp of the third card reads "R.M.Thorp / Geneva / Ohio" and has no revenue stamp. The cdvs have some minor scuffs and wrinkling and were slightly trimmed, probably to fit into an album.



Ruby Thorp was born in Geneva, Ohio in 1842, daughter of a well-to-do farmer and civic leader. With financial help from her wealthy father, she opened her photography studio in 1866. In 1868 she married James P. Woodworth, a Civil War veteran from Kingsville, Ohio. The extant spotty records suggest that both Wentworth and Ruby's brother Freeman W. Thorp joined her in the studio, which was renamed the Woodworth's Fine Art Gallery after her marriage, where they learned photography under her supervision. The studio included a reception room, operating room, laboratory, and printing and finishing department with then state-of-the-art equipment. Freeman Thorp was especially talented, and he branched out on his own, opening a studio in Bucyrus (Craford) in 1870 and was elected the Vice-President of the National Photographer's Association in 1871. Ruby and James continued to operate their studio in Geneva, where Ruby focused her efforts on outdoor views and color work. The couple closed their studio in 1886. (For more information see the *Annual business review of Ashtabula County, Ohio*, 1882, "Ruby M. Thorpe," in Weidman's *Artists in Ohio, 1787-1900: A Biographical Dictionary*, "Captain James P. Woodworth" in *Ashtabula County Biographies* on-line, and the Find-A-Grave online memorials for Freeman Woodcock Thorp.

Female photographers in the United States were decidedly uncommon in the mid-19th century. However, it was possible for a middle-class woman to end up running a photography studio, although seldom did a woman open a studio by herself. Usually this occurred when a photographer's widow took over her husband's work after his death, and by 1900, Latimore & Riches's *Women and photography* (online at Grove Art) reports there were two woman-owned studios in New York City, one in Staten Island, and one in Philadelphia. Ruby Thorps Geneva, Ohio studio is not mentioned.

As of 2019, no other Ruby Thorp photographs are for sale in the trade, and there are no auction records of her photographs at the Rare Book Hub. No Thorp photographs are held by institutions per OCLC.

SOLD Read'Em Again Books #9462

38. [PHILATELY] [POLITICS] [REPUBLICAN PARTY] [WOMEN] Two campaign advertising envelopes promoting the first Republican to run for President; one cover showing John Fremont and the other his politically-savvy wife, Jessie. Hartford, Connecticut and East Randolph, Massachusetts: 1856.

John Fremont cover – 3c dull red Washington stamp with outer frame lines (Scott #11). Margins at top and side; in at the bottom. Tied by a circular Hartford, Connecticut postmark dated Oct 13 on yellow cover to Uxbridge, Massachusetts, with three-quarter portrait and Putnam Brothers imprint (Milgram JF-4). Docketing on the left margin. Backflap torn upon opening. Very attractive.

Jesse Fremont cover – 3c dull red Washington stamp with outer frame lines (Scott #11). Margins all around; wide on the left. Manuscript cancel with faint blue circular East Randolph, Massachusetts postmark dated October 18 on cover to Newark, New Jersey with three-quarter portrait titled "Our Jessie" (Milgram JF-50). Sound and very attractive.

John "The Pathfinder" Fremont was an American explorer, politician, and Army officer who, in 1856, became the first candidate of the Republican Party for the office of President of the United States. During the 1840s, he led five expeditions into the American West, and during the Mexican–American War, he illegally assumed the role of California's military governor. He was subsequently found guilty of mutiny and although his sentence was commuted by President Polk, he resigned from the army, settled in Monterey and began to purchase cheap land in the Sierra foothills. When gold was found on his Mariposa ranch, Frémont became a wealthy man. Fremont's explorations had brought him in contact with the powerful Democratic Senator Thomas Hart Benton, and after he eventually married Benton's daughter, Jessie, the senator became his patron. Fremont, a Free-Soil Democrat, was elected as one of California's first senators in 1850, and as the 1856 election approached, he was asked by both the Democrats and newly organizing Republicans to run for President. Finding his "free soil" position more in tune, with the Republicans, he cast his lot with them, becoming their first-ever presidential candidate. The Democrats ran a brutal campaign against him that included illegally naturalizing thousands of alien immigrants in Pennsylvania, ridiculing his illegitimate birth, alleging that he was a Roman Catholic, attacking his military record, and claiming that if elected, he would assuredly bring on a civil war. Fremont lost the election, coming in second to James Buchanan in a three-way contest.

Jessie Benton Fremont was even more politically-minded than her husband. An outspoken opponent of slavery, she was not afraid to enter the political fray and actively campaigned for her husband. One of the Republican's campaign slogans was "Fremont and Jessie too," and party members referred to her as "the first lady of the land" during the campaign and for the rest of her life. When the Fremonts returned to California after the election she became one of the leaders of the state's anti-secession movement.

A nice pair of scarce and important campaign advertising covers.

$900 for the pair [Read'Em Again Books #9442]

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CHICAGOPEX (Chicago Philatelic Exhibition) – 22-24 November