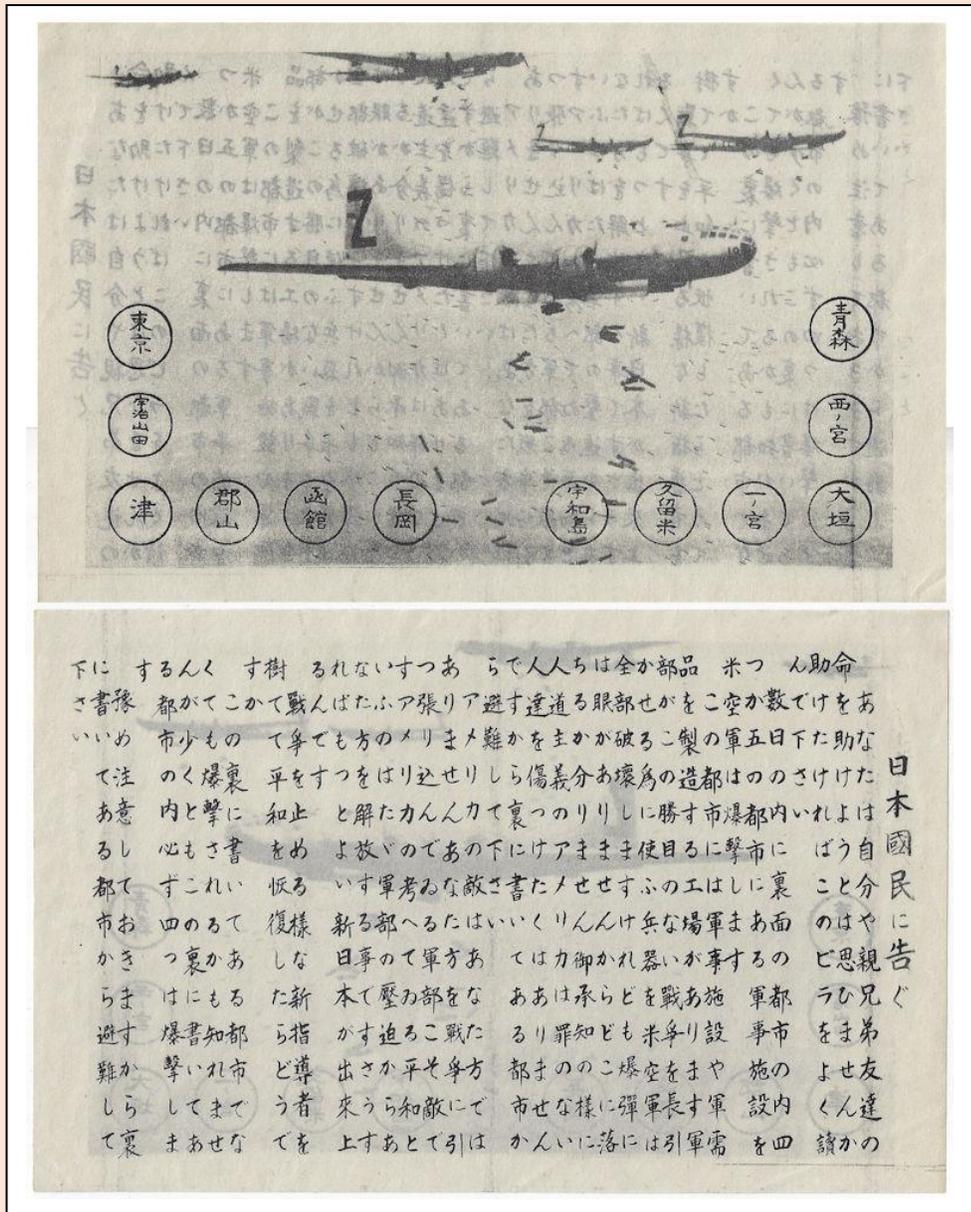


# Kurt A. Sanftleben, ABAA and ASDA

Paper Americana and Postal History

Catalog 23-1 – January 2023



1945 – A propaganda warning leaflet airdropped over 12 Japanese cities on 27 July 1945 just before the first Atomic Bomb was dropped at Hiroshima on 6 August.

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Regards, Kurt and Gail

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Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

1. [COLONIAL AMERICA] [CRIME – TREASON & COWARDACE] [MILITARY – THIRD ANGLO-DUTCH WAR]

**1674 [1846] – Official extract, taken in 1846, from Colonial Council Minutes of New York, that detail the surrender of New York to the Dutch in 1673 as well as trial of the British captain who surrendered the province without ever firing a shot in its defense.**

This official six-page extract from the Colonial Council Minutes of New York measures 8" x 13" and bound within a blank leaf tied with a pink ribbon. This single 1846 document combines the official 1674 record of Captain John Burroughs surrender of the colony to the Netherlands in 1673 as well as his subsequent trial and sentencing. It is in nice shape. In nice shape.

In 1609, under the flag of the Dutch East India Company, Henry Hudson sailed up the river that now bears his name searching for a northwest passage to Asia. Five years later, the Netherlands established *Fort van Nassouwen*, a fort and trading post near present-day Albany. In 1624, it established a second fur-trading settlement on what today is known as Governor's Island in New York Harbor and the following year, purchased the island from the Lenape band and built a citadel, *Nieuw Amsterdam*. By 1650, the population had reached 8,000, however in 1664, during the Second Anglo-Dutch War, English troops appeared in the harbor and Dutch Governor Peter

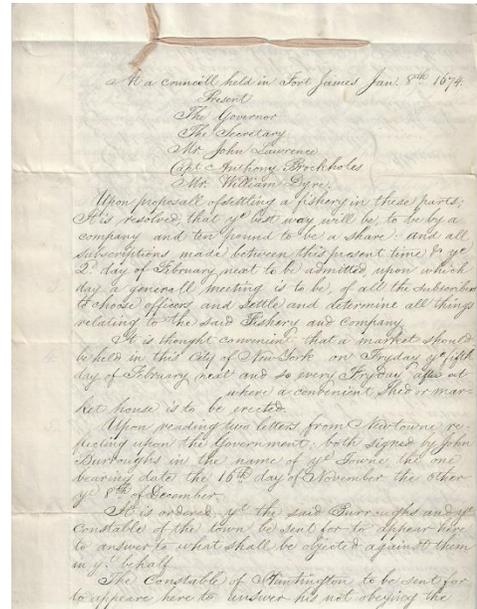
Stuyvesant, who had no force to defend the colony, surrendered it without firing a shot. After which, it was renamed, New York. However, that did not end Dutch rule in New York. Nine years later in 1673, the colony would again trade hands after a Dutch fleet of 26 ships arrived in the harbor and landed 600 Dutch soldiers. At the time the British governor was away, and the Sheriff of New York, Captain John Manning, promptly surrendered the province to the Dutch, again without a shot. Manning realized that he made a grave political error and caught a ship to England where he convinced King Charles II that he had not intentionally committed treason. The province was returned to Britain during the negotiation settling the Third Anglo-Dutch War. Despite Manning's royal pardon, New Yorkers were not as forgiving as the King. This extract provides a full first-hand account.

"The court have taken [Captain Manning's] case into serious consideration & examin'd all papers relating thereunto doth acquit him of ye treacherous part . . . but find him guilty of every particular besides & that the said crimes deserve to be punish with death: But in regard to his being in England since, and seeing his Maty & his Royall highnesse: They do adjudge ye s<sup>d</sup> John Manning to be . . . brought ought to the public place before ye City Hall, there to have his sword broken over his head & from that time be rendred uncapable of wearing a sword or serving his Maty in any public employ or place of benefit & trust within this government. . ."

(For more information, see Boxer's "Some Second Thoughts on the Third Anglo-Dutch War, 1672-1674" in *Transactions of the Royal Historical Society* Vol 16 and Rivers' "Orange is the New York" at the This Week in New York City website.)

An exceptional document. Nothing similar is for sale in the trade or held by any institution per OCLC. One similar New York Council Extract is known. It relates to the establishment of Vermont as a separate colony and was sold at a Swann auction in 2015.

\$750 [#9974](#)



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

## 2. [COLONIAL AMERICA] [FRANKLINIANA] [MEDICINE & NURSING]

**1761 – Continuation of the Account of the Pennsylvania Hospital; From the First of May 1754, to the Fifth of May 1761. With an alphabetical list of the Contributors and of the Legacies which have been bequeathed, for Promotion and Support thereof, from the first Rise to That Time.** [Samuel Rhoads and hospitals committee on publication.] Philadelphia: B. Franklin, and D. Hall. 1761.

Issued as a separate volume continuation of Benjamin Franklin's *Some account of the Pennsylvania Hospital* which was published in 1754. This was prepared by the hospital's "committee on publication" and printed at Franklin's printing house.

The pamphlet, measuring approximately 7½" x 10", is complete except for the titled wrapper (provided in facsimile). It is paginated continuously with Franklin's first volume, and its pages are numbered 41-77. It is string-bound to period paper stock in the rear. Some soiling and foxing with insect predation along the right margin which does not affect the text. (See Evans' *American Bibliography* #7197 and Morton's *The history of the Pennsylvania Hospital.*)

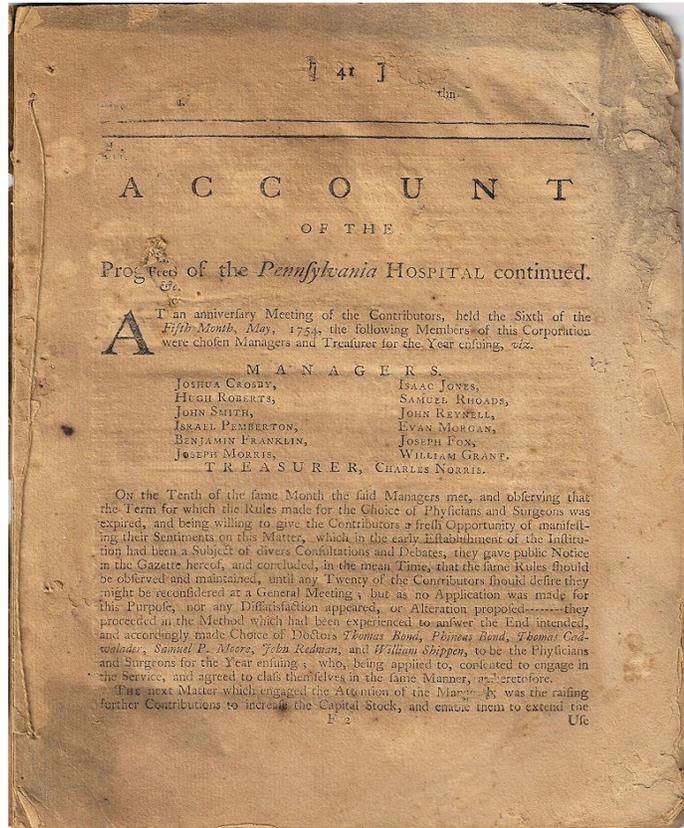
The impetus for publishing this continuation was the realization by the hospital managers in 1759 of a pressing need to raise funds for the facility. After the situation became desperate following an unsuccessful petition to the Pennsylvania Assembly in 1760, the managers decided to raise money by issuing this continuation of Franklin's publication to bring the hospital's history up to date.

Franklin is listed as a hospital manager on the publication's first page, however as he was abroad in England at the time, Richard Rhoads stepped in to lead the publication committee. Franklin's printing firm, Franklin and Hall, published the booklet, which described hospital activities, patient care, sources of support, income, and expenses. As a direct result, members of the Pennsylvania Assembly visited the facility and allocated £3,000 to retire its debts. (See Cohen's *Benjamin Franklin's Science.*)

Extremely scarce. Although digital, microform, and reprint copies abound, there are only few extant physical examples of the original printing. None are for sale in the trade, although one dealer is currently offering Franklin's part one. The Rare Book Hub shows only 21 examples have appeared at auction in the past 166 years. OCLC records are fuzzy, and it is difficult to identify actual physical originals among the plethora of reprints and digital or microform copies, however it appears no more than five or six institutions have the real deal.

Missing the titled wrapper and showing some insect predation, so priced accordingly.

**\$1,000** [#9975](#)



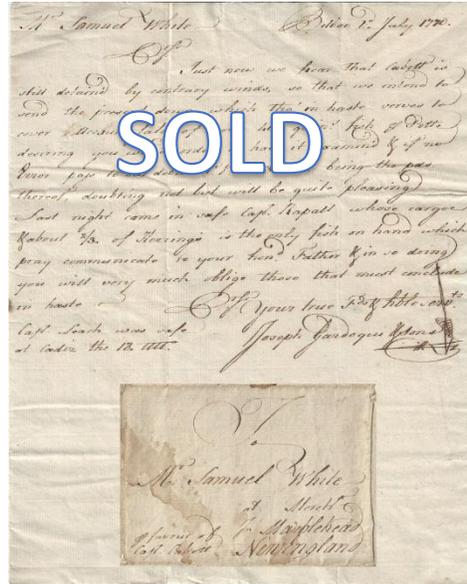
Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

3. [COLONIAL AMERICA] [BUSINESS – FISHING, INTERNATIONAL TRADE]] [MILITARY – REVOLUTIONARY WAR] [PHILATELY]

1770 – Letter to the son of a Massachusetts fishing fleet owner from an important Spanish merchant family who would soon funnel the first international financial and military aid to the Continental Congress.

This stampless folded letter with one page of text measures 15” x 9” unfolded. It was sent from Joseph Gardoqui and Sons (*Jose de Gardoqui e Hijos*) to Samuel White in Marblehead, Massachusetts. It is datelined “Bilbao 2<sup>d</sup> July 1770” and sent by “p favor of Capt. Cabott”. The cover bears no other postal markings, so it was likely that Cabott docked his ship in Marblehead and no additional inland postage was required. In nice shape. A transcript will be provided. The letter reads in part:

“We intend to send the present down, which tho’ in haste serves to cover account sales of your 460 quint<sup>s</sup> [460,000 pounds} fish of Potte desiring you wou’d order to have it examin’d & it now pays to our debits . . . doubting not but will be quite pleasing Last night came in safe Capt. Rapall whose cargoe of about 2/3 of Herrings is the only fish on hand which pray communicate to your hon<sup>d</sup> Father. . . Your true F<sup>ds</sup> & hble serv<sup>ts</sup>. Joseph Gardoqui & Sons”



The Whites were Marblehead merchants who managed a significant cod fishing and mercantile fleet, which was manned, in part, by enslaved crewmembers. (For more information, see Malloy’s “Slavery in Colonial Massachusetts” online and the “Samuel White Papers, 1767-1775” at the Phillips Library.)

One of Jose Gardoui’s eight children, Diego María de Gardoqui y Arriquíbar, was a prominent Spanish politician and diplomat as well as, perhaps, the most important member of his family’s business. He had been schooled in England and was fluent in English, so it is quite likely that he penned this letter to White.

Diego, an unsung hero of the American Revolution, was close to King Carlos III and served as Spain’s first ambassador to the Continental Congress due, in part, to his business ties formed while importing salt cod from Boston, Salem, and Marblehead. Gardoqui was acquainted with many Founding Fathers including John Jay, Benjamin Franklin, and George Washington with whom he had a close friendship. He organized the first shipment of muskets, pistols, and gunpowder to the American revolutionaries and continued to funnel military supplies throughout the war. Gardoqui was also instrumental in organizing a Spanish expedition of 11,000 men sent to Havana to fight with Governor Bernardo de Gálvez against the British in the Gulf of Mexico, Florida and Louisiana. In 1780 he met with John Jay in Madrid where he tendered 265,000 Spanish silver dollars to support the cause. Following the war, Gardoqui became Spain’s first ambassador to the United States, and at the 1789 Inauguration parade, he walked in the place of honor immediately behind George Washington. (For more information, see Acosta’s “Diego María de Gardoqui y Arriquíbar (1735-1789)” at George Washington’s Mount Vernon online.)

Letters from Gardoqui and Sons are uncommon outside of institutions, and this one testifying to its ties with the Marblehead fishing trade is of special interest. At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade. The Rare Book Hub shows no similar items having appeared at auction, and OCLC identifies a handful of institutions that hold several Gardoqui letters between them.

**SOLD #9976**

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

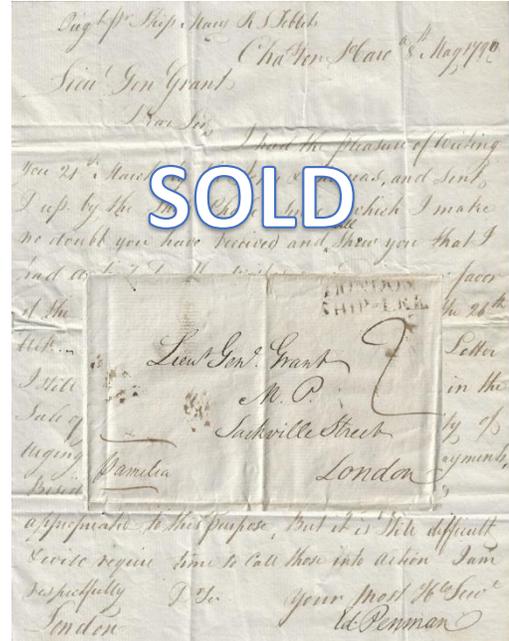
#### 4. [COLONIAL AMERICA] [FLORIDIANA] [PHILATELY] [SLAVERY]

**1790 – Letter from an infamous but influential South Carolina slave trader regarding the sale of enslaved people for a Scottish Laird who formerly had been the Governor of East Florida and a distinguished British General during the American Revolution.**

This stampless letter measures 8 ¾" x 7 ½". It was sent by Edward Penman from Charleston, South Carolina to James Grant, the Laird of Ballindalloch and former Governor of East Florida. It is datelined "8<sup>th</sup> May, 1790". The letter states it would be sent via the "Ship Mary R S Tobbel"; instead an address panel note states it was carried by the ship *Amelia*. It bears a "2d" manuscript rate mark, "LONDON / SHIP LRE" handstamp, and a London receiving mark dated "17 Jul 90". In nice shape. A transcript will be provided.

In this letter, Penman reports that he was still trying to collect payment from the sale of slaves from the Laird's plantation, which he abandoned after the Revolution.

"I still continue to think you are fully secure in the Sale of your Negroes, & I omit no opportunity of urging the purchasers to come forward with payment. . . . They have a variety of funds appropriate to this purpose. But it is still difficult & will require time to call those into action."



James Grant, the Laird of Ballindalloch, fought in the French and Indian War and in 1761 led a vicious British campaign against the Cherokee in South Carolina driving 5,000 men, women, and children into the woods to starve. Subsequently, he was appointed as the first royal governor of East Florida, which had recently been ceded to Great Britain by Spain. Grant vowed to turn the new colony into a profitable one. To that end, he established an indigo plantation, worked by 70 enslaved Africans. However, Grant was ultimately unsuccessful and complained that Florida was only populated by "crackers", dregs from London's "gin lanes," and a ragtag assortment of "Sinkboys, Bunters, Cinder wenches, whores and pickpockets." During the revolution, Grant led the British to victory on Long Island and commanded units at Bradywine and Germantown where his Hessians surrendered to Washington on Christmas in 1776. Still, he retained the confidence of his superiors and next led a force that captured the French island of St. Lucia. Following the war, Grant returned to Great Britain.

Edward Penman and his brother, James, secured royal plantation grants for at least 10,000 acres in East Florida from Grant in 1767 and became prominent merchants in St. Augustine. Edward later relocated to Charleston where he became president of the Bank of South Carolina and an important slave trader.

(For more information, see "Adventures in British America" in the April 2003 *Library of Congress Information Bulletin*, the Library of Congress Wise Guide: "The Other General Grant," the Letters of Dr. Andrew Turnbull at Florida History Online, and Swann auction #3483, lot 73.)

Extremely scarce. There are only other three items (two land grants and a funding request) related to Grant's governorship known to be in private hands. No similar items were held by institutions until 1999 when the Library of Congress convinced the then current Laird of Ballindalloch to donate the Grant's entire archive of East Florida material (essentially the only surviving records of British East Florida) to the National Archives of Scotland.

**SOLD #9977**

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

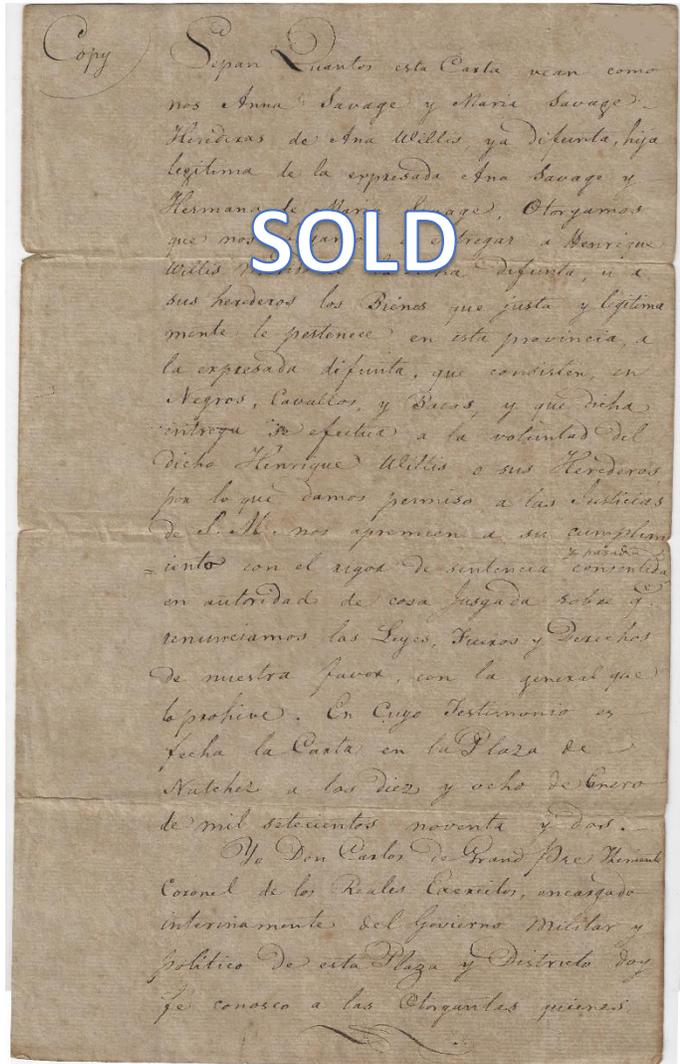
## 5. [LOUISIANA PURCHASE] [WESTWARD EXPANSION]

**1799 [1803] – An official copy of a legal document resolving the estate of a woman from Natchez, Spanish Louisiana, that was made just nine days before the territory was formally returned to France for sale to the United States 20 days later.**

This bifold legal document from Natchez, Spanish Louisiana, measures approximately 15½" x 12½" when opened. The original document from 1799 was filed in territorial records. This official copy from 1803 is written in Spanish with a follow-on English translation as the principals involved were Anglo-immigrants from the United States. It bears a Spanish Louisiana seal, and the accuracy of its contents and translation are certified by the territory's "Keeper and Translator of the Spanish Records." Both the Spanish copy and its English translation are quite legible and easy to read. The document is in nice shape, although the centerfold is just beginning to split and should probably be reinforced with transparent archival tissue or tape before it worsens.

The English translation reads in part:

"Be it known . . . that we Ann Savage and Mary Savage heiresses of the late Ann Willis deceased legitimate daughter of Ann Savage and sister of Mary Savage . . . oblige ourselves to deliver to Henry Willis the husband of the said deceased . . . the estate that justly and legally belongs to the said deceased within this province which consists in Negros, Horses and Cows. . . . In testimony whereof this deed is signed at Natchez"



This official copy was prepared in the middle of the political turmoil that transpired when the secret transfer of the Louisiana Territory from Spain to France was within days of being formally enacted and announced before the land was subsequently sold by France to the United States just twenty days later.

Letters and documents from this very short span of time are scarce; bilingual Spanish-English ones more so, and such documents from Natchez as opposed to New Orleans, exceptionally so. At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade. Rare Book Hub shows nothing similar has ever appeared at auction. OCLC shows that only Tulane University may hold similar items, probably from New Orleans or southern Louisiana, in two small personal papers collections.

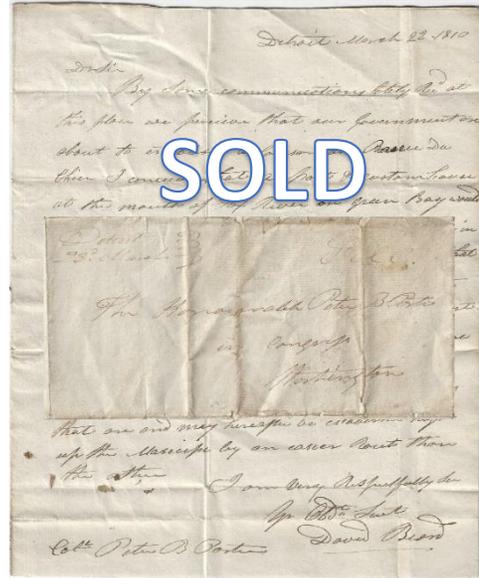
**SOLD #9978**

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

**6. [BUSINESS – FUR TRADE, INTERNATIONAL TRADE] [MILITARY – GREAT LAKES DEFENSE] [PHILATELY] [WESTWARD EXPANSION]**

**1810 – Letter from the Army Agent assigned to Detroit recommending that the United States establish a military trading post in the Michigan Territory on the Fox River at Green Bay and at Prairie du Chien on the Mississippi River to control Britain’s total disregard of U.S. sovereignty.**

This stampless letter measures 16” x 10” unfolded. It was sent by Army Agent David Beard in Michigan to Congressman Peter B. Porter at Washington. It is datelined “Detroit March 22 1810” and bears a manuscript postmark, “Detroit / 23<sup>d</sup> March”. It is free-franked as there was no charge to send mail to congress. In nice shape with some minor wear along the edges and filing folds. A transcript will be provided.



The letter reads in part:

“We perceive that our Government are about to establish a garrison at Prairie Du Chien I conceive that [and additional] port & customhouse at the mouth of the Fox River on Green Bay would be of use to the Government particularly in collecting duties on vast quantites of goods that are brought in there yearly by the British merchants it is also believed that a Factory [combination trading post and military garrison] at that place would doe more than Mackinac and chikago together & they might aid in forwarding military stores to those garrisons that are and may hereafter be established high up the Maseipe by an easier Rout than there. . . .”

In 1802, President Thomas Jefferson greatly reduced the size of the U.S. Army and in doing so eliminated the quartermaster corps. Instead he established a system of “military agents . . . to purchase, receive, and forward to their proper destination, all military stores, and other articles for the troops in their respective departments, and all goods and annuities for the Indians. . . .”

Beard, the Agent stationed at Detroit, witnessed British traders from Canada disregard for U.S. sovereignty as they dominated the fur trade at Prairie du Chien. He addressed his recommendation to Representative Peter B. Porter, a former general officer and “war hawk” who was focused upon protecting American interests from British hegemony. Beard’s interest in supporting future garrisons that would “hereafter be established high up the” Mississippi River was right on the money; in less than ten years, the Army established Fort Snelling at the confluence of the Mississippi and St. Peter’s Rivers, the site of present-day St. Paul.

(For more information, see the *Military Peace Establishment Act of 1802*, various articles at the Detroit Historical Society online, Beard’s *A genealogy of the descendants of Widow Martha Beard of Milford, Conn.*, “Peter Buell Porter” online at the U.S. Army’s Center of Military History, and Beaugom’s *The Logistics of the United States Army 1812-1821*.)

A scarce, early letter sent from Detroit when its population no more than 700 and the post office less than four years old. Likely, the first recommendation to establish a U.S. trading outpost at Green Bay as well as Prairie du Chien to reestablish U.S. sovereignty and support future upper plains Army posts. At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade. Rare Book Hub shows nothing similar has appeared at auction. OCLC identifies two personal papers collections that might contain similar items.

**SOLD #9979**

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

7. [BUSINESS – INTERNATIONAL TRADE, OLD CHINA TRADE] [ECONOMICS – SPECIE] [FOOD & DRINK – TEA] [OPIUM]

1817 – Letter and Bill of Lading regarding a shipment of 4,100 Spanish silver dollars to Canton, China to purchase goods for resale in the United States.

The Livezey (also Livesley) family was an important Pennsylvania Quaker mercantile and landowning clan. As noted in Lapp's "Thomas Livezey: Pennsylvania Merchant Miller" in the March 2010 edition of *The Chronicle of the Early American Industries Association*, the family arrived in Pennsylvania from England in 1683 and settled in the Philadelphia area. Tracing its genealogy is difficult as the family repeatedly used the same few male first names (John, Jonathan, and Thomas) over and over again in each generation.

These two items document the Livezeys' participation in the "Old China Trade" and provide insight on U.S. traders reliance upon Spanish silver *reales* to do business in China as well as the types of Chinese goods most desired in the United States.

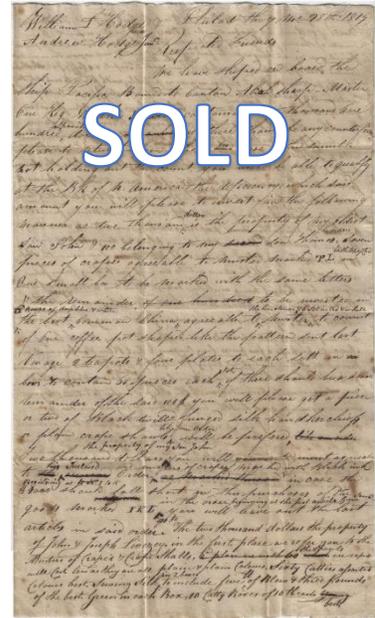
The four-page folded letter contains two pages of text and measures 16" x 14" unfolded. The letter, datelined "Philad the 7 Mo 28<sup>th</sup> 1817" was sent by J. Livezey, then the reigning family patriarch, to two supercargoes he had placed upon his ship *Pacific* in Philadelphia to oversee the purchase of Chinese goods for resale in the United States.

It is docketed "Copy of a Letter to William Hodge & Andre Hodge Jun<sup>r</sup> Super Cargoes of the Ship Pacific Bound to Canton 1818". The letter is in nice shape; a 3" x 5" section that affects no text has been removed.

The Bill of Lading measures 9½" by 5¾" and features an illustration of an American merchantman. It was printed by William W. Woodward of Philadelphia and was signed by Abiah Sarpe, the master of the *Pacific*, on 29 July 1817. It certified that J. Livesley had shipped "One Keg containing four thousand One hundred Spanish dollars" under the car of W & A Hodges. The document is in nice shape.

The letter to the family's supercargoes reads in part:

We have shipped . . . One Keg marked J Liversey containing Four Thousand One hundred Spanish dollars if there should be any counterfeits please to return them whole. . . You will please to invest in the following manner . . . the best 6 boxes of deep blue & white common China . . . 6 set in red & white to consist of one coffee pot shaped like the pattern sent last Voyage 2 teapots & four plates to each sett in boxes to contain 60 pieces each . . . Black twill fringed silk handkerchiefs or plain crape shawls. . . Crapes and Crape Shawls, the shawls we expect will Cost low as they are all plain & plain Colors. Sixty Catties assorted Colours best, Sewing Silk in 2 boxes to include five of Blew & three pound of the best Green in each Box. . . 10 Catty Boxes of 10 lb each best young Hyson Tea [and] Ten Catty Boxes 10 lb each, the best Imperial Tea, Ten Catty Boxes of 10 lb each best Gunpowder Tea, also 4 Boxes of 20 Canister each with 3 lb in a Canister of the very first quality Gunpowder Tea . . . As all are for private families we request they be fresh & of the first quality. . . [A catty (caddy) is a Chinese unit of weight and volume equal to about one and a third pound of tea.] Twelve sets of Handsome Red & white . . . China with 2 Teapots & a Coffy pot like the pattern sent last Voyage as near as possible, with plates to each set to Contain 69 pieces which we hope will not be so rought as the last & better quality. Sex sets of handsom blew and white to have more Blew floures on them [and] fifty sets of Handsom Common China with 2 Teapots & 1 Coffy pot with plates to each set to contain 60 pieces 10 sets of which to be of a handsom deep blew,



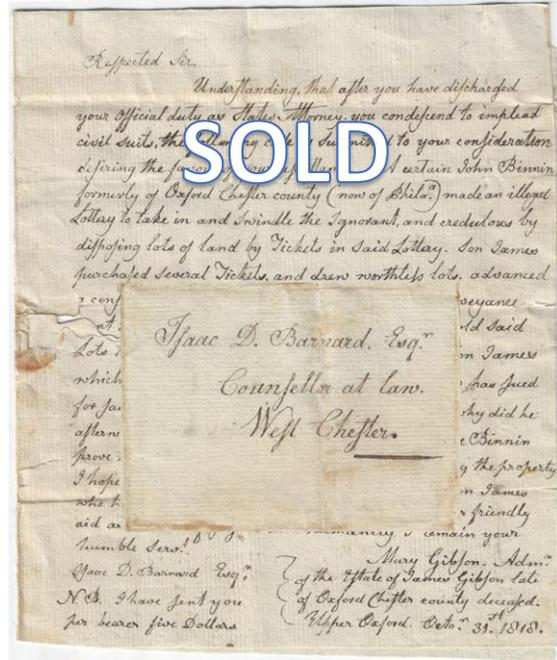


Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

8. [CRIME – SWINDLES] [GAMBLING – LOTTERIES] [PHILATELY] [WESTWARD EXPANSION] [WOMEN]

1818 - Letter from the female administrator of an estate requesting an attorney's assistance in rectifying a land lottery swindle

This stampless letter has one page of text and measures 13 ½" x 8". It is dated "Octo<sup>r</sup>. 31<sup>st</sup>.1818." It was sent by Mary Gibson, an estate administrator, from Upper Oxford, Pennsylvania to Isaac D. Barnard, a lawyer in West Chester. It bears no postal markings so was apparently hand-delivered. In nice shape with an opening tear that affects one letter where its wax seal was opened. A transcript will be provided.



The letter reads in part:

"A certain John Binnin formerly of Oxford Chester made an illegal Lottery to take in and Swindle the Ignorant, and credulous by disposing lots of land by Tickets in said Lottery. Son James purchased several Tickets, and . . . advanced a considerable sum of money. . . Binnin afterwards sold said Lots to others. Has said he received a note from Son James which he transferred to a certain Eli Carver, who has just sued for said alleged note. If Binnin received such note, why did he afterwards sell the property. You will please to make Binnin prove the Legality of the note and his plea for selling the property I hope to shew the nullity of the note on the return of Son James. . . I expect your friendly aid as a lover of Justice and humanity. . ."

It's been rightfully said that lotteries, not taxes, funded all levels of early American government; they existed here since 1612 when The Virginia Company held one to keep the struggling settlement at Jamestown afloat. Sponsored by both private citizens as well as governments, lotteries funded roads, buildings, libraries, wharves, bridges, and much more. Without them, early America could not have survived, much less expanded. Of course, lottery fever was driven by an urge to gamble, but overall, buying tickets was seen more as a civic duty than a sinful vice.

As shown by this letter, charlatans had seriously infested and corrupted lotteries by the early 1800s. P. T. Barnum famously unloaded a huge inventory of worthless glass bottles and tinware at a lottery in which he suggested that the prizes were valuable. Others were far more corrupt, offering land they did not own, absconding with funds, etc. By the 1820s, the public's interest in lotteries had begun to die off, although they remained popular with folks who mistakenly believed they could beat both the odds and the crooks. In 1833, Pennsylvania abolished all lotteries in the state.

(For more information, see Martin's "Lotteries in Pennsylvania Prior to 1833" in *The Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography* Vol 47 No 4, Vaux's "An Evil and a Remedy: The Lottery in Pennsylvania" at the Pennsylvania Heritage website, and Williams' "Lottery Fever" at the Back Story website.)

Scarce. At the time of listing, no other first-hand accounts of early 1800s lottery swindles are for sale in the trade. Rare Book Hub shows that none have appeared at auction, and OCLC shows none are held by institutions.

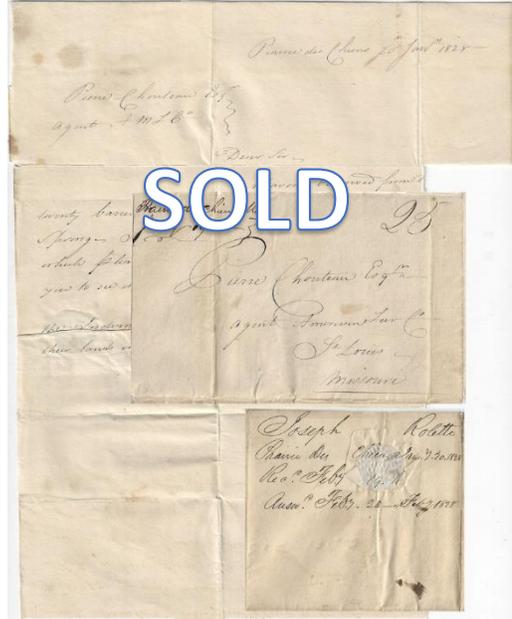
**SOLD #9981**

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

**9. [BUSINESS – FUR TRADE] [NATIVE AMERICANS – HO-CHUNK] [PHILATELY] [WESTWARD EXPANSION]**

**1828 – Letter from Joseph Rolette at Prairie du Chien, Michigan Territory to Pierre Chouteau in St. Louis, the two most important agents of John Jacob Astor’s American Fur Trading Company, reporting that “the Indians are peaceful altho’ intrusions” have been made into “their lands in search of mineral oar.”**

This four-page stampless letter has one page of text and measures 16” x 10” unfolded. It is datelined “Prairie du Chien 20<sup>th</sup> Jany 1828” and bears a very fine example of a scarce Michigan Territory, manuscript postmark (see ASCC Vol 1 p 177) with an accompanying “25” manuscript rate mark. It was sent by Joseph Rolette to “Pierre Chouteau Esq<sup>r</sup> / Agent American Fur Co/St Louis/Missouri”. Splits along the letter’s folds have well-done transparent repairs and reinforcement with archival tape. Part of the letter is missing including some text, however, its content remains discernable.



Docketing, presumably in Chouteau’s hand reads, “Joseph Rolette/Prairie Du Chien, Jan<sup>y</sup>. 20. 1828/Rec<sup>d</sup> Feby 9/Answ<sup>d</sup> Feby. 20. Feby 1828”.

The letter reads in part:

“Having borrowed twenty barrels of super fine flour to be returned early [next] Spring, I will thank you to . . . charge to upper M[ississippi] outfit 1827. . . The Indians are peaceable altho’ intrusions directly [made into] their lands in search of mineral oar.”

In the mid-1820s, lead was discovered in the Michigan Territory (today, southwestern Wisconsin) and white miners began to flock into Ho-Chunk territory. Although relations between the groups remained mostly peaceful, shortly before this letter was written, Redbird, a Ho-Chunk leader and three companions massacred two settlers and scalped a twelve-month old infant while in a drunken rage fueled by a mistaken belief that two tribal members had been hung for an earlier murder. Later, he and 40 warriors attacked a keelboat killing some of its crew. In response, 580 soldiers under the command of General Henry Atkinson were sent up the Mississippi River to Prairie du Chien from Jefferson Barracks in St. Louis. Other Ho-Chunk leaders, having no desire for war, met with Atkinson and forced Redbird and his three companions to surrender. Redbird was imprisoned, his companions were pardoned, and a peace treaty was signed. The Ho-Chunk peacefully resisted later attempted relocations; rather than fight, the bands simply returned to their homeland following each relocation until the government finally gave up and allowed those who wanted to remain in Wisconsin to do so.

(For more information see, Banta’s “A History of Jefferson Barracks, 1826-1860,” King’s “Lead, Land, and Cranberries: The Ho-Chunk Experience in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century,” and the Wisconsin Historical Society’s “Red Bird, Ho-Chunk chief, 1788 – 1828” all available online.)

An exceptionally scarce early letter between two giants of the fur trade made more significant by its report that the Ho-Chunk uprising had subsided. At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade. Rare Book Hub reports another Rolette-Chouteau letter sold at a Spink Shreves auction in 2010. No letters are reported by OCLC, but it is likely some are present in collections of American Fur Company papers located at several institutions. Unfortunately, missing a small section of text, so priced accordingly.

**SOLD #9982**

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

## 10. [LAW – TRIAL PROBLEMS] [PHILATELY] [SLAVERY]

### 1839 – Letter regarding witnesses at an upcoming trial carried by an enslaved worker from an Alabama lawyer to his client

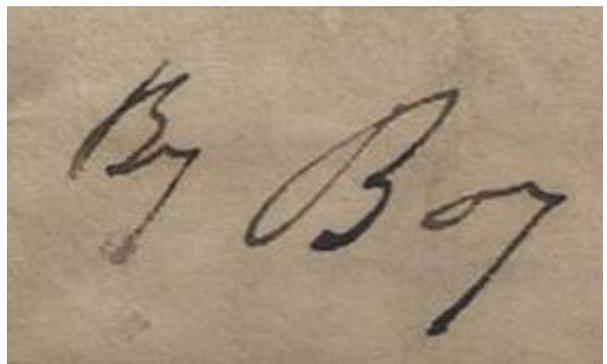
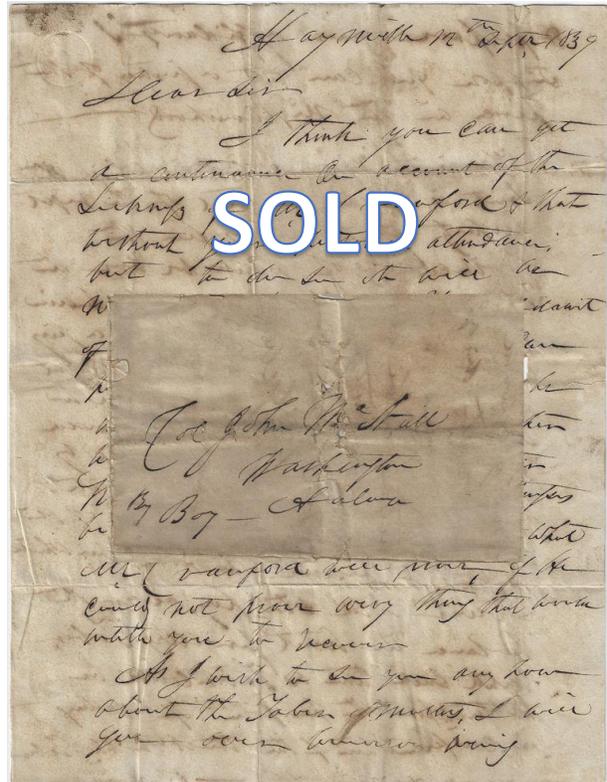
This four-page stampless folded letter is datelined “Haywith 12<sup>th</sup> Sept,r 1839” and measures 8” x 10¼” unfolded. It is annotated “By Boy” indicating it was carried by an enslaved worker from A. Gilchrist to Colonel John Mc Hall at Washington, Alabama. The letter has some minor soiling and postal wear.

An entry in Brewer’s *Alabama, Her History, Resources, War Record, and Public Men From 1540 to 1872* indicates that a lawyer named Archibald Gilchrist lived in Lowndes County, Alabama (just outside of Montgomery) during the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and served at least one term as a state senator. Washington County is located about a hundred miles southwest of Lowndes, and an 1835 map in Bradford’s *Comprehensive Atlas* shows that it included a city named Washington which apparently no longer exists. Colonel John Mc Hall could not be found in online genealogical records, perhaps because the name in the address is somewhat indistinct and the spelling may be incorrect.

The letter is related to an illness of a Mr. Crawford which Gilchrist feared might affect the conduct of a trial or, perhaps, even influence other witnesses to avoid testifying. It also briefly discusses the case, which was related to the Tobin (spelling?) family.

Although we have sold several examples of slave-carried mail over the past 20 years, such mail is exceptionally scarce. When encountered, the covers inevitably bear annotations similar to “Per boy” or “By Jane” indicating that the carriers had permission to be traveling alone on missions for their masters. At the time of listing, no other slave-carried mail is for sale in the trade or listed in OCLC. Also, no auction records for slave-carried mail are found at the Rare Book Hub, however the Stamp Auction Network shows that two have appeared at auction in the last 25 years.

**SOLD #9983**



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

## 11. [BUSINESS – LUMBERING] [PHILATELY]

**1840 – Letter between business associates reporting that the ice on the Hudson River in Troy, New York had broken without any damage to docks or timber stored upon them and recommending switching to the manufacture of “wall strips” in the coming year as there was “no movement in the lumber market.”**

This two-page stampless letter measures 8¾" x 12½". It was sent by C.W. Thompson in Troy on 12 February 1840 to business associates, the Nye Brothers, in Champlain, New York. It bears a circular red Troy postmark and a manuscript "1834", the cost to mail a letter between 150 and 400 miles. In nice shape. A transcript will be provided.

In this letter, Thompson keeps his promise to write the Nye Brothers to inform them of changes to the Hudson River. It reads in part:

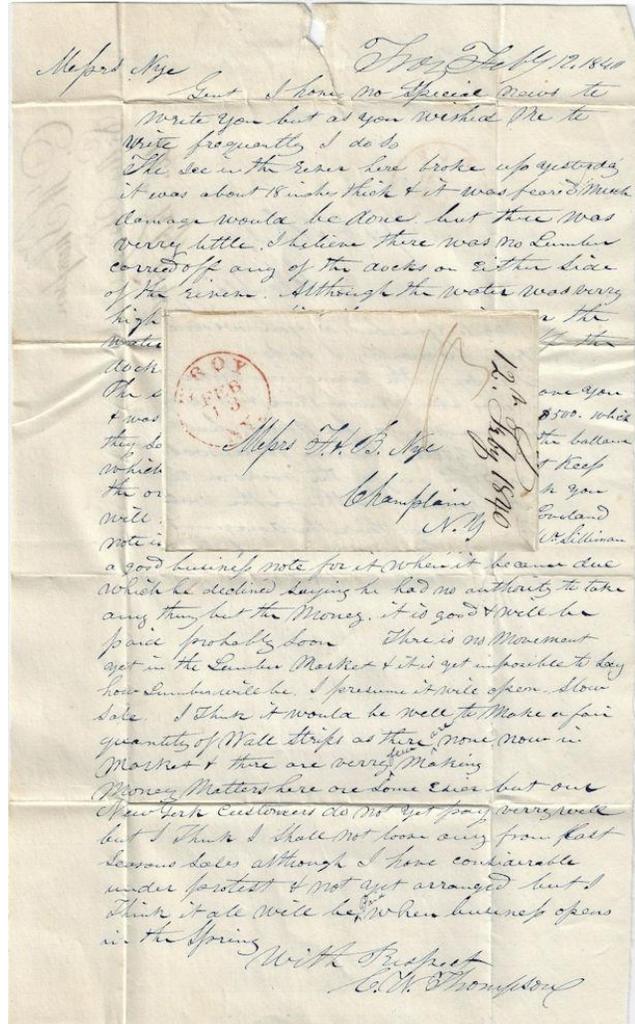
“ The Ice in the river here broke up yesterday, it was about 18 inches thick & it was feared much damage would be done but there was very little. I believe there was no Lumber carried off any of the docks on either side of the river. Although the water was very high we now think the danger is over the water is Falling & will probably be off the docks tomorrow or the day after. . . .”

He goes on to report that he is making progress getting payment from creditors for several “notes” and hopes the accounts “all will be paid when business opens in the spring. . . .”

In closing, Thompson advises that “there is no movement yet in the Lumber Market & it is yet impossible to say how Lumber will be. I presume it will open Slow Sale. I think it would be well to make a fair quantity of Wall Strips as there are none now in Market & there very few making [them]. . . .”

A nice first-hand account of the upper New York lumber market beginning to reopen after a frigid winter and frozen rivers.

\$100 [#9984](#)



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

## 12. [ART – GENRE PAINTING] [EDUCATION] [[PHILATELY] WOMEN]

**1840 – Letter, from a student at the Marietta Female Seminary, providing what are almost certainly the only descriptions of everything drawn and painted on the walls of her cottage by the teen-age art prodigy, Lilly Martin (Spencer), who would go on to become one of the most popular American painters of all time, and “the only American woman painter of note in the antebellum period.”**

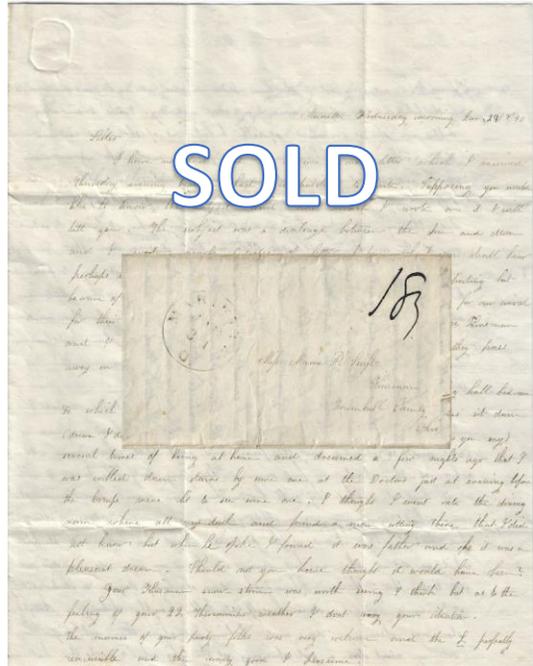
This four-page stampless letter measures 15½” x 9¾” unfolded. It was written on 29 January 1840 by Rebecca Swift, a 15-year-old student at the Marietta Female Academy, and sent to her sister, Maria, in Kinsman, Ohio. It bears a circular Marietta, Ohio postmark dated 31 January and a manuscript “18¾” rate mark, the cost to send a letter between 150 and 400 miles. The letter is in nice shape. A transcript will be provided.

In this letter, Rebecca provides a lengthy narrative describing her visit to the home of Lilly Martin to view the teenage prodigy’s collection of artwork that she had been drawing and painting on the cottage’s walls since she was 11 years old. It reads in part:

“I went up to Mr Martins, week ago last Saturday and saw the pictures . [We] went to the house and was asked into the parlor. [The] young lady’s name who paints is Lilly. . . Monsier Martin and his daughter showed us the

pictures. First we looked into the hall which we entered when we first come. . . Behind the door she had drawn a clerk casting up accounts – next she drew herself at full length looking as though she was opening a door and looking out upon those who might be entering, next stood a girl spinning at the “big wheel”. As the hall was very narrow she did not draw every thing onely men’s heads but on the other side stood Minerva the goddess of wisdom and the owl the bird of wisdom. . .

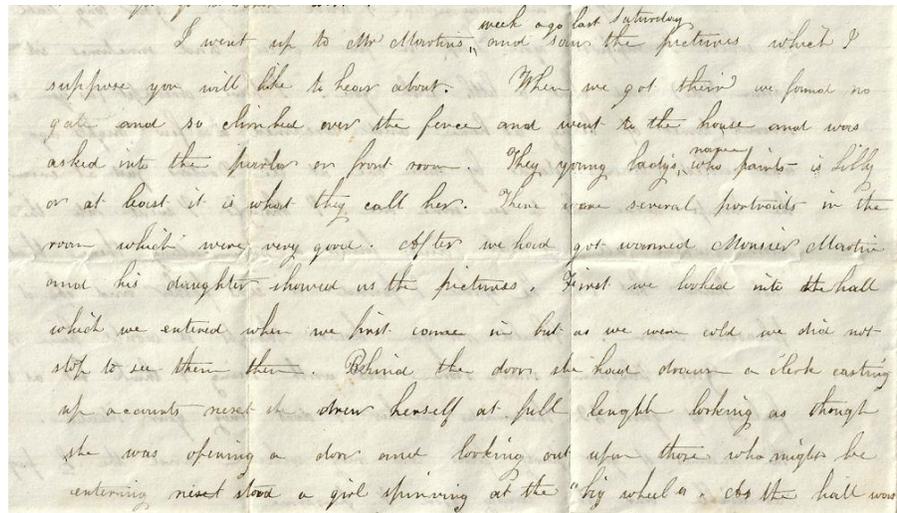
Then they took us through a very dirty kitchen into Miss Lilly’s room which was quite large and pictures all around it. . . Above the door was Bonapart and on the left hand side as we went in was a little boy playing with a dog and cat. Above [the fireplace] was another great man I have forgotten his name at the left hand side of that was what she called Le Premier Pas \_ which was a lady standing . . . with her arms around a little child and in the other [side] of the picture sat a little girl trying to induce the child to come to her. Next was another great man (great in history I mean) and then there was another picture call the Serenade. . . Then came . . . a wild horse . . . then landscapes dinner and walking parties. Only one more remains and that she had drawn after reading a novel describing the scene. It was that of a man presenting on bended knee a dagger to a lady who I should think by appearance was refusing it.



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

Those were all we saw. We did not have the pleasure of seeing the girl making bread which Mrs Dr Potter told grandma about. Every thing was very dirty in the home. . . .”

Angélique Marie “Lilly” Martin was only 11-years-old when her French parents settled at Tupperford Farm near Marietta, Ohio, where they



I went up to Mr Martin's <sup>much ago last Saturday</sup> and saw the pictures which I suppose you will like to hear about. When we got there we found no gate and so climbed over the fence and went to the house and was asked into the parlor or front room. The young lady <sup>name</sup> who paints is Lilly or at least it is what they call her. There were several portraits in the room which were very good. After we had got around Messrs Martin and his daughter showed us the pictures. First we looked into the hall which we entered when we first came in but as we were told we did not stop to see them there. Behind the door she had drawn a clock casting up accounts next to show herself at full length looking as though she was opening a door and looking out upon those who might be entering next stood a girl spinning at the "big wheel". At the hall was

supported a variety of causes like temperance and abolition while planning a Utopian community. Lilly was a talented artist, and her parents allowed her to draw on their home's walls with abandon. Word of her talent spread, and many visited the cottage to view her charcoal drawings. Two local artists introduced her to oil paint, and by the time Lilly was 18 (the year Rebecca Swift wrote this detailed letter) in addition to her wall art, Lilly had finished over 50 portraits, genre scenes, and scenes inspired by literature which she exhibited to the acclaim of regional critics. The following year, Lilly relocated to Cincinnati, which was then home to a vibrant art scene, and she soon became its leading artist. There, Lilly married Benjamin Rush Spencer, who assisted in selling her art and assumed all domestic chores for their growing family which eventually included 13 children. Although Lilly became one of the country's most popular genre artists and the most successful female artist of her time, exhibiting her paintings of humorous and blissful domestic life at the most important galleries in the country and selling over a million lithographs, the family was never financially secure. To conserve funds, Lily and Benjamin settled in a New Jersey home provided by a benefactor, where they raised chickens and vegetables to help keep the wolf at bay. In time, genre art lost popularity, and by the 1880's Lilly's work was ignored except for cheap copies of her most popular works that were used to decorate the walls of middle class homes. Her husband died in 1890; Lilly in 1902. After her death, she was forgotten by the art world until the Smithsonian produced a retrospective of her work in 1978 and launched a revival of interest in her work. Today Metropolitan Museum of Art website touts Lily as "the only American woman painter of note in the antebellum period."

(For more information see, *Conversation Piece* at The Met website, "Lilly Martin Spencer" at the Smithsonian American Art Museum website, "Spencer, Lilly Martin (1822–1902)" at Encyclopedia.com, "Lilly Martin Spencer: Portrait And Genre Artist Of The Mid-19th Century" at the History of American Women website, and Andrew's *History of Marietta and Washington County, Ohio, and Representative Citizens* available online.)

This de facto 'catalog' of all of Lily Martin Spencer's youthful wall art is almost certainly unique. At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade or has appeared at auction per the Rare Book Hub. Although OCLC identifies collections of Lily Martin Spencer papers held by the Smithsonian Archives of American Art and Ohio History Connection, finding aids and digital collections show no record of anything describing any, much less all, of the works this important artist drew and painted on the walls of her family cottage while a youth in Marietta, Ohio.

**SOLD #9985**

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

### 13. [ECONOMICS – PANIC OF 1837] [PHILATELY] [COURTSHIP]

**1842 – A letter from one cousin berating another for callously disregarding the affection of a young woman for whom the author clearly has romantic feelings of his own.**

This four-page stampless letter measures 16" x 10" unfolded. It was written by J. J. Pearse of Waterford, New York to Cornelius D. Groat in Albany on March 18<sup>th</sup>, 1842. It bears a circular Waterford postmark in red and a manuscript "6" rate mark. In nice shape. A transcript will be provided.

Pearse begins this letter to his cousin, Groat, by chastising him for callously disregarding the affection of a young woman with whom Pearse is clearly infatuated.

"I find all the skill I can muster and command must be exerted in order to make you believe my true sentiments . . . upon which you should not dwell with the lightness you have done, [saying] that I in reality was the one when you know that you was uppermost in her affections [and] should not be wounded by neglect on your part. . . . Treat her as is becoming in a gentleman and of a lover. That those 'brilliant orbs' may not grow dim. That that highly cultivated mind may not be left to waste in thoughts of your neglect and that her bright intellect and lady-like deportment should be spent and pine away at last a broken hearted and disconsolate girl. Cousin you cannot surely now leave her. . . . Think not that I have been jesting in this matter. . . . Why have you done so? Was it merely to retaliate or to blind my eyes. The latter I think. . . . Do you visit her or not? If you say not why then I am contented but if you say you do I fear there is something in the wind. . . ."

Although Pearse was only 18 at the time, his cautionary tone suggests that Groat was less familiar with women for he also somewhat misogynistically advises:

"You will find you have much yet to learn, and I should by all means advise you . . . there is nothing more calculated to correct a young mans morals than Ladies Society . . . in the mean time you can observe and learn by experience the treachery that lies in woman's heart. . . . There are some that are . . . true friends [and] there are too many directly the reverse, Heartless Coquettes, and deceptive beyond conception for these you have to be on your guard and be very careful on whom you bestow your affections, by doing so it may save you many a sleepless night and much trouble both of mind and body. "

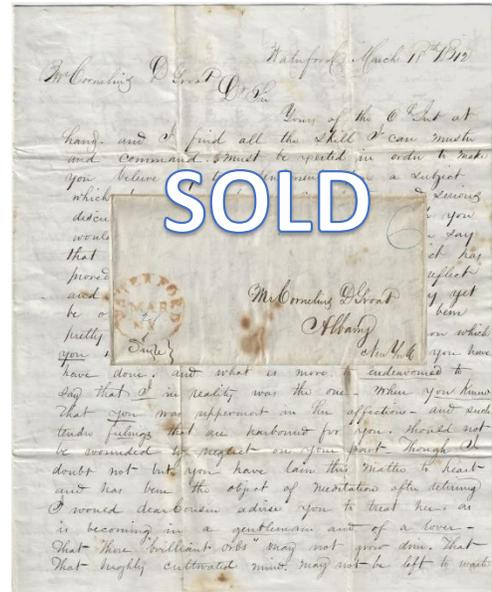
Lastly Pearse reports that the depression that crushed the nation following the Panic of 1837 has not yet dissipated and times remain hard.

"There are a great many [that] will be thrown out of employ . . . for the want of business. There has not been less than a dozen in our store for the last month wishing to obtain a situation. [Some] offered to remain . . . for their board only. [Your brother] will not be able to get a situation this side of New York and probably not there, for . . . merchants are anticipating but very little business this year."

Online genealogical resources reveal little about Pearse or Groat other than that Pearse was born in 1824 and died at the age of 23, five years after he wrote this letter.

A fascinating letter offering not just insight into a romantic triangle, but also suggesting courtship problems among young lovers may not be much different today than they were 180 years ago.

**\$\$SOLD #9986**



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

**14. [BUSINESS – IRON FOUNDRIES] [ECONOMICS – PANIC OF 1837] [PHILATELY] [TRANSPORTATION – RAILROADS]**

**1842-1843 – Two letters regarding the manufacture and sales of railroad wheels and gearing received by a company that would soon become the world’s largest manufacturer of railroad wheels.**

Two stampless letters, one measuring 8½” x 10¾” unfolded and the other 15½” x 9¾”. Both are addressed to “Mess Bush & Lobdell” of Wilmington, Delaware. One from Thompson & Lapham was sent from Boston in December, 1842 and bears a Boston postmark along with a “37½” rate mark, the cost to send a letter with an enclosure (not included) a distance of between 100-400 miles. The other, from Betts & Stetsenburg was sent from Wilmington in November, 1842 and bears only a Wilmington postmark. In nice shape; the Thompson & Lapham letter has a split beginning along one fold. Transcripts will be provided.

The Thompson & Lapham letter was used to forward accounting information, perhaps as evidence the company remained in secure financial shape during the crippling depression that followed The Panic of 1837.



“Enclosed we hand you our acct & account of sales of wheels made by us, also memo of wheels on hand the 30th ultimo. . . We regret that we have not been more successful in effecting sales the past season, but the perfect stagnation of all business in this market, reducing the call for them to almost nothing, & the fact that many new makers in this vicinity have filled the market with wheels, will account for the small sales we have made, but we hope we shall be able before spring to give you some orders. . .”

The Betts & Stetsenburg letter refutes a claim by Bush & Lobdel.

“Yours of yesterday is duly noted, and in reply we can state that we think your impression that you were entitled to the use of the Iron Mule gearing is incorrect. Our M Betts distinctly recollects that he paid a full price for them and considers them bona fidely his. . . We [must place] a restriction on them but the protection of our own interests requires that they shall hereafter kept within our control.”

One of the most spectacular rises in the American railroad boom that occurred between 1830 and 1865 was that of the Bush & Lobdell foundry. It was formed in 1838 by Charles Bush and his nephew George G. Lobdell following the death of Bush’s first partner Jonathan Bonney. Originally, the company began as a general machine shop and small regional foundry in Wilmington, Delaware, however, by 1836 it had begun to specialize in manufacturing especially durable charcoal-cast wheels made in cold-blast furnaces that were far superior to wheels made by its competition. A new foundry was built in 1844. After Bush died in an 1855 carriage accident, Lobdell bought out his heirs and reorganized the firm as the Logdell Car Wheel Company. By 1865, it had become the largest railroad wheel manufacturer in the world with over 300 employees and a gross annual income approaching \$600,000. To ensure a continuous supply of raw material, Lobdell eventually purchased cold-blast charcoal iron furnaces in southwestern Virginia including the White Rock Furnace near Rural Retreat and the Brown Hill furnace in Wythe County.

(For more information, see Livesay’s “The Lobdell Car Wheel Co., 1830-1867” in *The Business History Review* Vol 42 No 2 accessible through JSTOR, “Lobdell Car Wheel Company” at the Archives Space website, and “Lobdell Car Wheel Company” at the Social Networks and Archival Context website.)

**SOLD #9987**

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

15. [NATIVE AMERICANS – ONEIDA] [PHILATELY] [RELIGION – MISSIONARIES] [WESTWARD EXPANSION]

1843 – Letter from an important missionary at the Oneida Duck Creek Reservation in Wisconsin describing his effort “endeavoring to labor for the good of the Indians.”

This three-page stampless letter measures 15½” x 12½” unfolded. It was sent by Henry Root Colman to his brother-in-law, Richard P. Spier, who had recently settled in New Orleans. It is datelined “Duck Creek June 17th 1843” and bears a manuscript postmark reading “Duck Creek / W.T. June 19” and a “25” rate mark.

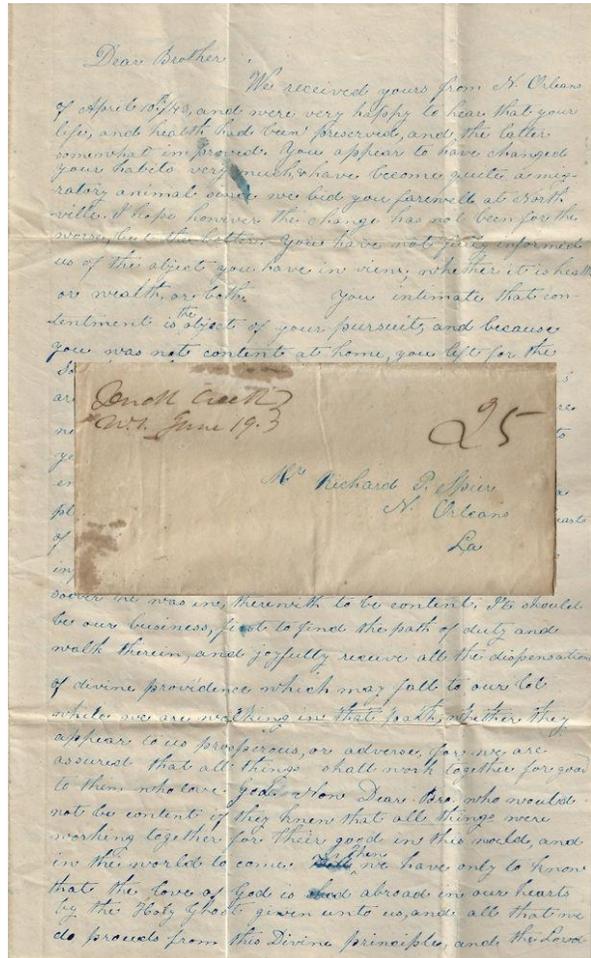
In this letter, Colman explained,

“An Indian Missionary does not see much of the world or have the privilege of sharing very largely in the blessings of civilized life. But all this we expected before we came here. We have been and are still endeavoring to labor for the good of the Indians. We have had some success among them but have not as yet seen any general outpouring of the spirit in the awakening and conversion of souls. We hope however to soon sow the seeds which may yet produce a plenteous harvest by the blessing of the Lord.

“We have had an unusual cold long winter which has produced a great scarcity in bread stuffs [and] some of the Indians have suffered very much. They have obtained a temporary supply. They have brought in enough to Green Bay since navigation opened but the difficulty is to get cash to buy with. The cold season and scarcity of bread stuffs makes the Indians very uneasy and discontented. There is much talk among them of removing to Missouri. Whether they will ever start or will get there if they should set out time alone will determine. I am trying to teach school this summer . . . and farm . . . while I preach to the Indians and visit among them. . . .”

It is also clear that the Colmans were worried about Spier.

“You appear to have changed your habits very much, & have become quite a migratory animal since we bid you farewell at Northville. I hope however, the change has not been for the worse. . . . You intimate that contentment is the object of your pursuit, and because you was not content at home, you left for the South in hope to find it there . . . yet there is one thing that we have all lived long enough to prove & that is, that contentment is not a plant of foreign growth, but it flourishes in the breasts of all who cultivate, and nourish it. . . . We hope dear Brother that you will not rashly expose your life & health for the sake of gain in the swamps of Louisiana. May the good Lord direct your way. . . . if you are in search of health why . . . breathe the Miasma of the south? If you will come to Wisconsin you may enjoy as healthy a climate as there is to be found under the Sun. . . .”



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

Between 1795 and 1845, the State of New York unconstitutionally imposed over 20 treaties upon the Oneida Nation that stripped it of hundreds of thousands of acres as federal courts claimed they were powerless to prevent the theft. In response the federal government granted the Oneida 300,000 acres of land and a significant portion of the tribe began to move to Wisconsin where the Duck Creek Reservation was eventually established near Green Bay in 1838. The "unusual cold long winter," known for years as the 'hard winter' reported by Colman was, indeed, devastating to both crops and wildlife; the ground remain covered with two feet of hard-crusting snow through March and nearly caused the extinction of wild turkey in the region.

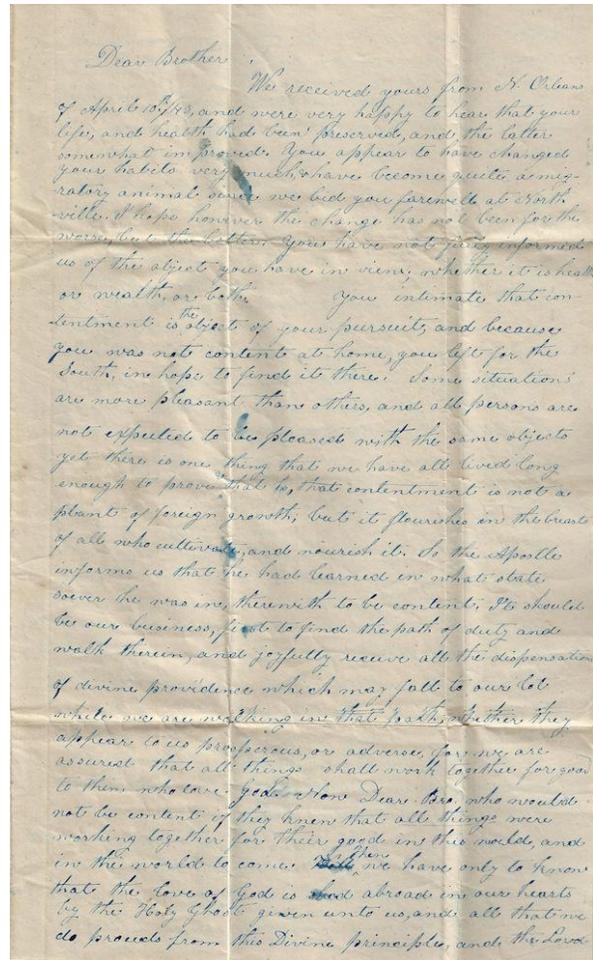
Henry Colman had been an itinerant Methodist Episcopal preacher in New York when he relocated with his family to Duck Creek in 1840. After five years of ministering to the Oneida, the family relocated to the Brotherhood Indian Nation at Fond du Lac where Christian members of the Mohegan, Pequot, Niantic, Narragansett, Montauk, and Tunxis peoples had migrated during the Great Awakening in the mid-1700s after becoming dissatisfied with the moral corruption prevalent among white New Englanders. There, he also ministered to the white population until overtaken by ill health. In 1847, Colman received a \$10,000 grant to establish a college (today Lawrence University) at Appleton, across Lake Winnebago from Fond du Lac, from the noted Massachusetts Episcopalian reformer and philanthropist, Amos A. Lawrence. Colman died in 1895.

Richard Spies did not remain long in New Orleans. He quickly joined the 49er Gold Rush to California, however upon arrival, he just as quickly became a merchant in San Francisco, realizing it was highly unlikely he would strike it rich as a prospector. He remained in the Bay Area for many years until relocating to Placer County shortly before his death in 1888.

(For more information, see the Oneida Indian Nation website, the Brothertown Indian Nation website, the Lawrence University website, "Colman, Henry Root 1800 – 1895" at the Wisconsin Historical Society Website, Schorger's "The Wild Turkey in Early Wisconsin" in *The Wilson Bulletin* Vol 54 No 3 available through JSTOR, and various online genealogical resources.)

Very scarce. At the time of this listing, no other Duck Creek missionary material is for sale in the trade, and the Rare Book Hub identifies only two Duck Creek missionary letters that have appeared at auction. OCLC shows the only related material is held by the Clements Library at the University of Michigan: four journals kept by a teacher at the Oneida reservation in 1841 and 1860. Additionally, the La Crosse Public Library holds a small collection of Colman family papers, however most appear to be related to Henry's descendants.

\$2,000 [#9988](#)



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

**16. [AFRICAN-AMERICANA] [EDUCATION] [RACE & RACISM] [PHILATELY]**

**1844 – Letter from a white student who was upset that a “molatto” in his class received preferential treatment at his expense as the headmaster carried favor with “abolisionists” .**

This three-page stampless letter measures 16” x 10” unfolded. It was sent by John Davis from Westfield, Massachusetts to his cousin and guardian at Thompson, Connecticut. Dated “Westfield April 29/44” and bearing a Westfield postmark with a “PAID” handstamp and a manuscript “10” rate mark. In nice shape; with small, repaired tear. A transcript will be provided.

In this letter, Davis reports that he has changed schools because the Principal Preceptor of Leicester Academy in Massachusetts gave preferential treatment to a “molatto” classmate.

“The occasion of my leaving Leicester was a small difficulty that I had with the teachers last term. I sometimes [spent] the evening out during study hours . . . provided it did not interfere with my studies. . . . Near the last of the term a Molatto from Boston, my Chum, and myself were invited out [on] the same evening. My Chum and myself went to get excused but we were refused. I asked Mr. Partridge [he said] that he could not excuse me. . . . Afterwards [I] heard that he had excused the Molatto, and thinking that was unjust to excuse one and not another . . . I concluded that I would go without permission. . . . The next day, he asked me my reasons [and] said that the excuse of another had nothing to do with [me,] and that unless I should acknowledge that I had done wrong, he should suspend me from school. I told him unless I could enjoy the same privileges that others did, I should rather not stay. I have since understood that the reason of his excusing the Molatto was because there were several Abolisionists in the place who thought considerable of him [and] if he (Mr. Partridge) had not excused him, he would have been blamed. . . .”



Leicester Academy was founded in 1784 and became coeducational shortly thereafter. However, its 1855 school history , *Brief Sketch of the History of Leicester Academy* by Emory Washburn, makes no mention that it ever enrolled an African-American or mulatto student. It is possible that thereferenced “Molatto” was sponsored by one of the institution’s powerful abolitionists supporters, most likely Charles Allen (a judge, congressman, and one of the founders of the Free Soil Party), John Milton Earle, (an early pioneer in the Anti-Slavery movement served as both a congressman and senator), or Samuel May, Jr (the pastor of the Leicester Unitarian Church who founded the Leicester Anti-Slavery Society and served as the General Agent of the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society).

(For more information, see Washburn’s *Brief Sketch of the History of Leicester Academy*, “Allen, Charles, 1797-1869” at the American Antiquarian Society, “Earle, John Milton” in *The National Cyclopaedia of American Biography*, “Samuel May, Jr. (1810-1899)” at the Worcester Woman’s History Project and the Leicester Academy Student Name Index at the Morgan Library of Ohio Imprints, 1796-1850 website.)

Quite scarce. At the time of listing there are no similar accounts of an African-American student receiving preferential treatment in an early American academy (much less by a disgruntled white student), and the Rare Book Hub shows nothing similar has ever come up for auction. Certainly worthy of further research to unravel the details.

**SOLD #9899**

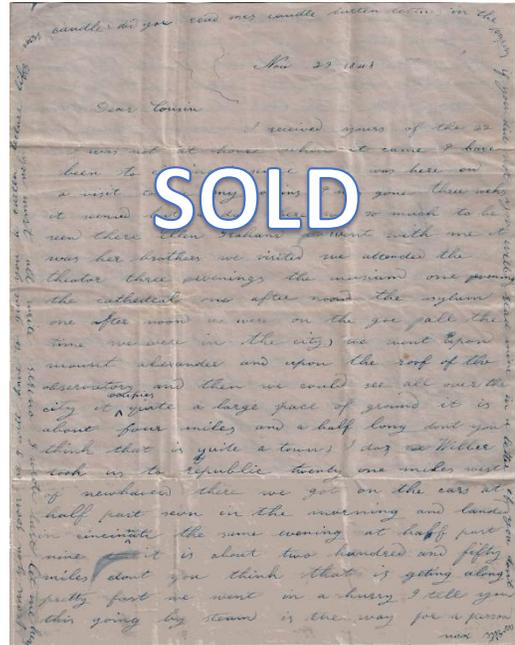
Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

17. [TRANSPORTATION – RAILROADS] [TRAVEL] [WESTERN EXPANSION] [WOMEN]

**1848 – Letter from a funny and domineering de facto family matriarch marveling at steam technology her train trip from Republic, Ohio to Cincinnati as well at the sights of the Queen City.**

This densely packed four-page letter, dated “Nov. 22 1848”, was written by a family matriarch who became so excited, tired, and wordy that she forgot to sign her name. However, she was living in Newhaven, Ohio at the time and provides numerous first names and a few surnames, so it is likely that she could be identified with additional research.

In this letter, she marvels of “going by steam” while traveling by rail from Republic to Cincinnati on the Mad River and Lake Erie Railroad (MRLER) which was only the second railroad to operate in Ohio, (The Erie & Kalamazoo, which ran from Toledo, Ohio to Adrian, Michigan beat it into operation by using horse-drawn cars.) Information about the MRLER is sparse, but suggests that the line, which began in Sandusky was intended to run to Springfield, where its cars would be transferred to the Little Miami Railroad and on to Cincinnati. They also suggest that this did not occur until 1849 as the MRLER suffered financial difficulties that delayed its extension to Springfield. This letter seems to prove that false as this author’s 1845 train trip ran straight through from Republic to Cincinnati and that could only have occurred if both the MRLER and the Little Miami had reached Springfield.



“[I] have been to Cincinnati [and] Ellen Graham went with me. [Mr.] Webber took us to Republic twenty one miles west of Newhaven there we got on the cars at half past seven in the morning and landed in Cincinnati the same evening at half past nine it is about two hundred and fifty miles don't you think that is getting along pretty fast. . . . I tell you this going by steam is the way for a person to go if they are in a hurry I enjoyed myself so well that I think I shall try go again. . . .”

After her arrival, she made the most of her time enjoying the city, especially the theater, museums, cathedral, observatory, and asylum. She became enthralled with idea of steamboat travel.

“My cousin . . . owns two splendid steamboats . . . in the New Orleans trade this winter he made me promise . . . I would come down and go with him down the river one or two trips I intend to go [for] I don't mean to always stay at home and never see . . . anything I have no one to lay up money for so I intend here after to take the good of it as I go don't you think that will be a notion, I do. . . .”

The remainder of the letter is filled with the author's good-natured badgering of her relatives while she checked up on their lives and provided unsolicited advice.

(For more information, see Black's *The Little Miami Railroad*, “All Aboard! Ohio Railroad History” at the Ohio Memory website, “Mad River and Lake Erie Railroad” at the Seneca County Digital Library, “The Mad River and Lake Erie Railroad” and “History of Railroads in Ohio” in *The Annual Report of the Commissioner of Railroads and Telegraphs 1902* available online).

A fascinating letter with new information about early Ohio railroading from an energetic older woman who embraced the then modern technology and intended to live her life to the fullest.

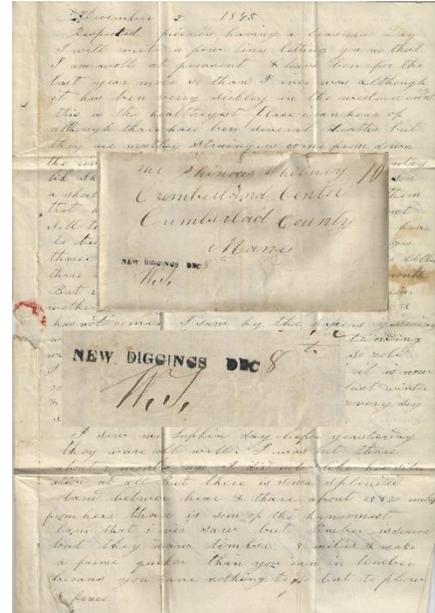
**SOLD #9990**

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

## 18. [MINING – LEAD] [PHILATELY] [WESTWARD EXPANSION]

### 1845 – Letter from a prospector describing life in the heart of Wisconsin's lead mining country

This stampless letter measures 16" x 12½" unfolded. It was written by D. Haskell at New Diggings, Wisconsin Territory on December 5, 1845 and sent to Phineas Whitney in Cumberland Center, Maine. It bears an excellent strike of rare combination handstamp and manuscript postmark that reads "NEW DIGGINGS DEC 8<sup>th</sup> / W.T." (see ASCC Vol 1 p 444) and a manuscript "10" rate mark. There is old pencil docketing that includes "1-2010 Risvold Sale 525.000 555 / 600.00. . ." (The Risvold Sale was an auction conducted 27-29 January 2010 by the Spink Shreves Galleries. This letter was one of three in Lot 1140 that realized \$1350 for the value of their philatelic markings alone with no mention of their contents.) The letter is in nice shape with some mended splits along several mailing folds that do not affect the text.



European explorers had known of the lead deposits in what today is southwestern Wisconsin since the mid-1600s. However local tribes prevented access to all but a few Frenchmen from whom they had learned of the mineral's value as ammunition. By 1810, they were bartering over 400,000 pounds per year for trading post manufactured goods. In 1816, a St. Louisan named John Shaw passed himself off as a French and shipped twenty tons of lead to St. Louis; the boom was on and prospectors surged up the Mississippi, overwhelming the local tribes who abandoned the area. The town of New Diggings sprang up in the heart of the mining district, and Haskell's letter describes what life was like in the area. Despite the hardships, the boom continued, and by the time of this letter, the region's population exceeded 10,000 and over 12 million pounds of lead was shipped annually by ox-train to and riverboat to St. Louis and New Orleans.

"I will write a few lines letting you no that am well . . . although it has ben verry Sickley in the western country . . . thare has ben several deaths but they are mostley strangers come from down the river they are a flocking in to this cuntry lik sheep I had a letter from Brother Moses son a short time ago he said thar was lots of them that had the wisconsin fever. . . I was a tending windlass [probably to hoist ore] in the fornoon it being so cold I did not go out in the afternoon . . . Thare are about 25 to 30 mules from hear [and although] timber is scarce they draw timbers 5 miles to make a farme [frame]. . . i have not spent quite enough prospecting I and my partners have a share in three prospects wich we wan to prove this winter & we are at work in two of them. . . I think you would not write often than i if you had the same chance ware I boarderd this summer was in an old log cabbin with one rom 16 fet squar & ten persons young & old with the rats runing over our faces. . ."

(For more information, see Henry's *Galena, Illinois During the Lead Mine Era*, Legler's *Life in the Diggings*, and Carter's *New Diggings is an Old Diggins*, all available online.)

A description of early life Wisconsin's lead region, both historically and philatelicly valuable. At the time of listing nothing similar is for sale in the trade. Rare Book Hub reports no listings for similar items. OCLC shows personal paper collections at the Wisconsin Historical Society contain mining records.

\$750 [#9991](#)

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

## 19. [BUSINESS – SUGAR TRADE] [COOLIE LABOR] [SLAVERY]

**1848 – Sales receipt for ten hogsheads of Barbados sugar from one of the largest slave-owning and sugar producing families on the island.**

This one-page sales receipt on behalf of the Reverend William P. Hinds, at the time a British ex-patriot from Barbados who was residing in Philadelphia, shows ten hogshead casks of Barbados sugar were delivered to England on board the ship *Candidate Fowle* in October 1848 to “J W Wing” and “Curtoys & Low & Drake,” who had placed their orders on 1 August and 29 August.

The Reverend William Prescod Hinds (not to be confused with William Hinds Prescod) whose wife may have been of mixed race, was one of the wealthiest members of the interracial Prescod-Hinds family that dominated the island’s sugar export industry as members of Barbadian high society. Hinds was born in 1795, and his father served at least two terms as the island’s president, while his brother became the Attorney General. Together the family owned over 20 plantations and more than 3,100 enslaved workers.

Although the Abolition Act of 1833 officially abolished slavery throughout the British Colonies, de facto slavery continued unabated in Barbados where a new seven-year apprenticeship scheme was quickly passed into law. Although declared “free,” and allowed to work one day each week for their own benefit, little else changed for the formerly enslaved workers. For their seven apprenticeship years, the workers remained tied to their former plantations and worked for their same masters. Workloads remained the same as did the old slave punishment system. This scheme bought the planters the time they needed to obtain replacement labor, East Indian coolies.

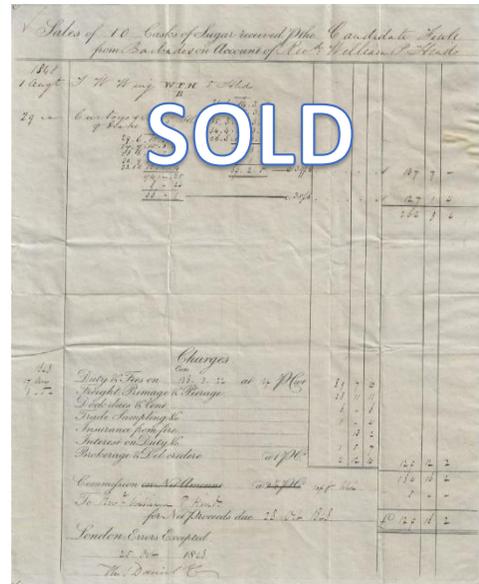
Britain specifically developed its government-run “coolie trade” to induce impoverished East Indians to sign oppressive indentured servant contracts by force or deception after which they were transported to work in other colonies. Once there, the coolies were treated only slightly better than the enslaved African-Caribbean workers they replaced. In 1838, the first 383 coolies were first brought to the Caribbean and by 1843 at least 5,000 more had arrived. Between then and the year of this shipment, another 29,000 had departed Bombay and Calcutta for these sugar plantations. There is little doubt that the hogsheads of sugar referenced in this lot were grown, processed, packed, transported to port, and loaded aboard ships by indentured East Asian coolies and former African-Caribbean slaves.

Hinds, who was schooled and ordained in England, managed some of the family’s plantations while serving as the island’s senior minister. After he was stricken with a debilitating “throat disease” thought to be related to the tropical climate, Hinds relocated to Philadelphia in 1834 while continuing to own plantations in Barbados. When Hinds died in 1859, his estate was valued at over \$1 million, i.e., about \$36 million in today’s money.

(For more information see “William Prescod Hinds” in Simpson’s *The lives of Eminent Philadelphians, Now Deceased*, Webster’s “Barbados Almanacs: Plantations & Sugar-Works 1848-1871” at the Bajan Thins website, “Barbados Plantation History” at the Creole Links website, and the “Introduction of East Indian Coolies into the British West Indies” in *The Journal of Modern History* Vol 6 No 2.)

A testament to the British sugar trade in the Caribbean.

**SOLD #9992**



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

## 20. [CRIME – MUTINY & MANSLAUGHTER] [MARITIME] [PHILATELY]

**1848 – Letter regarding a ship’s captain who was charged with manslaughter after he killed a crewmember to prevent a mutiny on his vessel**

Although this stampless folded letter measures approximately 18” x 11” unfolded; only one of the pages contains text. It is datelined “Wilmington, N.C. / Feby. 10<sup>th</sup> 1849” and postmarked with a circular blue Wilmington handstamp. It also bears a “10” rate stamp in blue. The letter was sent by Barry, Bryant & Co. of Wilmington to John B Stewart, Esqr. at Richmond, Maine. In nice shape. A transcript will be provided.

It reads:

“The mtr (our Mr. Adams) has just returned from Charleston S.C. whither he has been to attend the arraignment of Capt. Jellerson before the Grand Jury who returned a bill for manslaughter against him & acquitted the crew of mutiny. The trial will come on the 3d Monday in March. Capt J is very cool & calm in his troubles & behaves manfully. We offered Bail, but Capt J. said the time was so short that ‘twas of no consequence at the moment, would write if he wished it. He is Very Comfortable where he is – no restrictions.

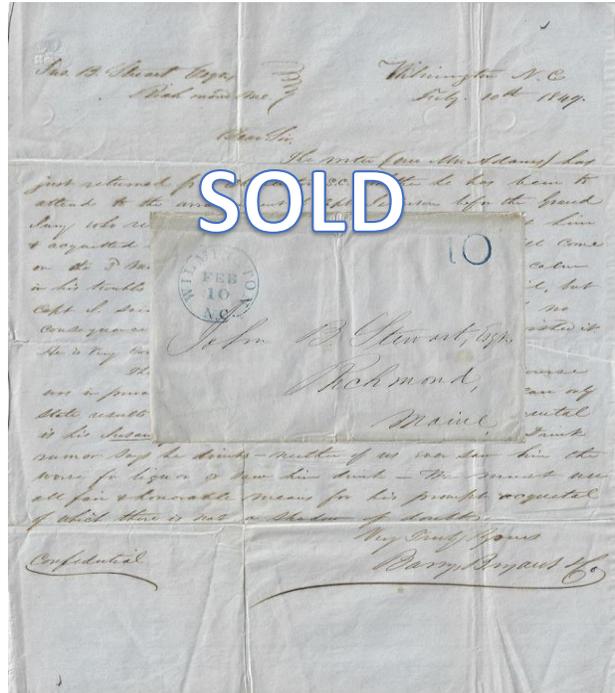
“The examination before the Grand Jury of course was in private & one at a time, hence the Master can only state results. The door open now for Capt J’s acquittal is his Insanity. Is he insane or not. Does he Drink rumor says he drinks – neither of us ever saw him the worse for liquor or saw him drink. We must use all fair & honorable means for his prompt acquittal of which there is no a shadow of doubt.”

Various newspaper reports of the time identify Jellerson as the captain of the Brig *Levant* out of Bath, Maine. On 6 December 1848, he, his mate, and a crew of four departed Wilmington on a voyage to deliver goods from Barry, Bryant & Company to Havana and Matanzas, Cuba. During the return voyage the ship wrecked off the coast of the Abaco Islands in the Bahamas. Upon rescue, Jellerson reported that the disaster was the result of an attempted mutiny during which he was forced to shoot one of the crewmembers who was intent upon murdering him. When they were brought to Abaco, his account of the crime and subsequent disaster was sent by telegraph to the United States where it was reported in several news publications including *The Sailor’s Magazine and Naval Journal*, *The Wilmington Journal*, and *Maine’s Lime Rock Gazette*.

Apparently when the five survivors were returned to Charleston, South Carolina, there was more to the story than had been sent by telegraph, and rather than the crew being held for mutiny, Captain Jellerson was charged with manslaughter. Although Jellerson’s supporters firmly believed that he would be acquitted by reason of insanity. I’ve have not located the results of the trial in any documents or news articles, but, admittedly, I have not searched very hard for them. They must be out there somewhere.

A fascinating letter in its own right, but also a terrific opportunity for additional research. No doubt the facts of the case will make for a wonderful story.

**SOLD #9993**



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

## 21. [MARITIME] [MINING – GOLD RUSH] [PHILATELY]

### 1849 – Letter from a sailor to his mother assuring her that he will not be “embarking on a gold hunt”

This stampless letter measures approximately 16” x 10” unfolded. It was written by Oliver Crary and datelined “New York 12<sup>th</sup> Feby 1849”. It was sent to his mother, Elizabeth, in Seaport, Maine and bears a circular red New York postmark dated 13 January. The letter is in nice shape. A transcript will be provided.

In this letter, Oliver assured his mother that he had recovered from gold fever and had no intentions of heading to California with the other 49ers.

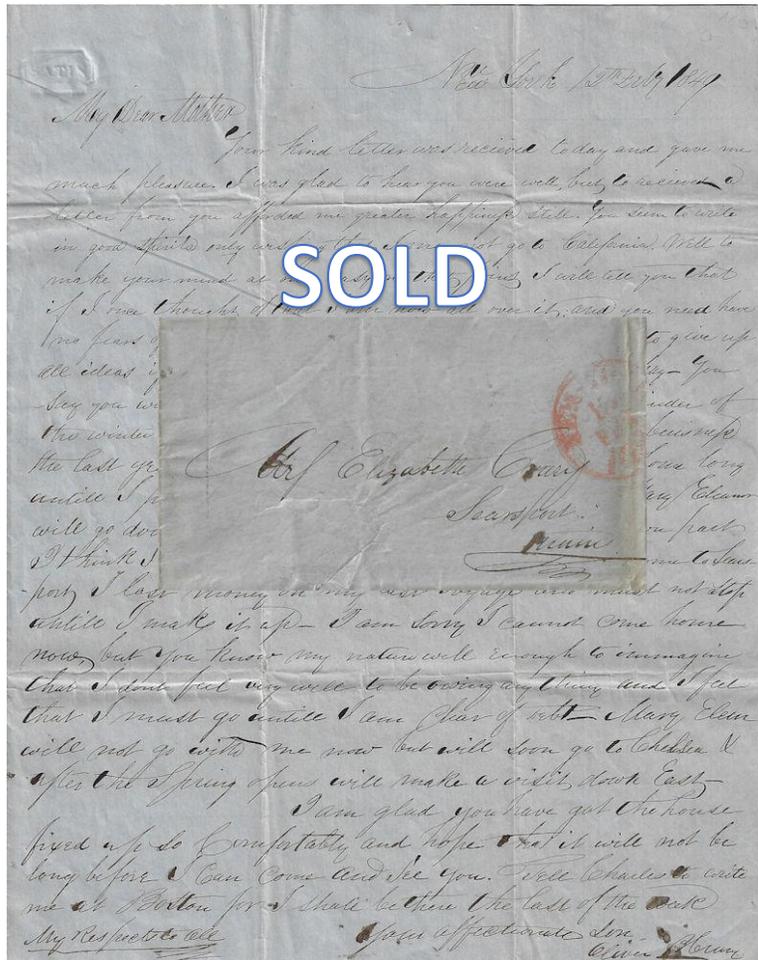
“You seem to write in good spirits only wishing that, I may not go to California. Well to make your mind at once easy on that I will tell you that if I once thought of that I am now all over it; and you need have no fear of my embarking on a gold hunt. Tell Charles to give up all ideas if he has any about the gold diggings they wont pay. . .”

Although his mother has asked him to spend the remaining part of the winter with her in Maine, Oliver explains that he must decline because he lost money on his last seafaring voyage.

“You say you want us to come home and spend the remainder of the winter I should like to but I have done so bad business the last year that I cannot think of staying at home long until I pay my debts. As soon as spring opens May Eleanor will go down East to make a visit, but for my own part I think I must make another voyage before I come to Seaport. I lost money on my last voyage and must not stop while I make it up. I am sorry I cannot come home now, but you know my nature well enough to imagine that I dont feel well to be owning anything and I feel that I must go until I am clear of debt. . .”

A nice family letter, from a young man who came to his senses before rushing off to California to seek a fortune in the gold fields.

**SOLD #9994**



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

## 22. [MARITIME] [MINING –GOLD RUSH] [PHILATELLE] [TOURISM] [WESTWARD EXPANSION]

**1850-1857 – A ship’s master and his wife abandon their life in the east and strike out for California where their family will become instrumental in opening Yosemite to tourism**

This lot consists of two letters with five pages of text between them. Both are in nice shape. Transcripts will be provided.

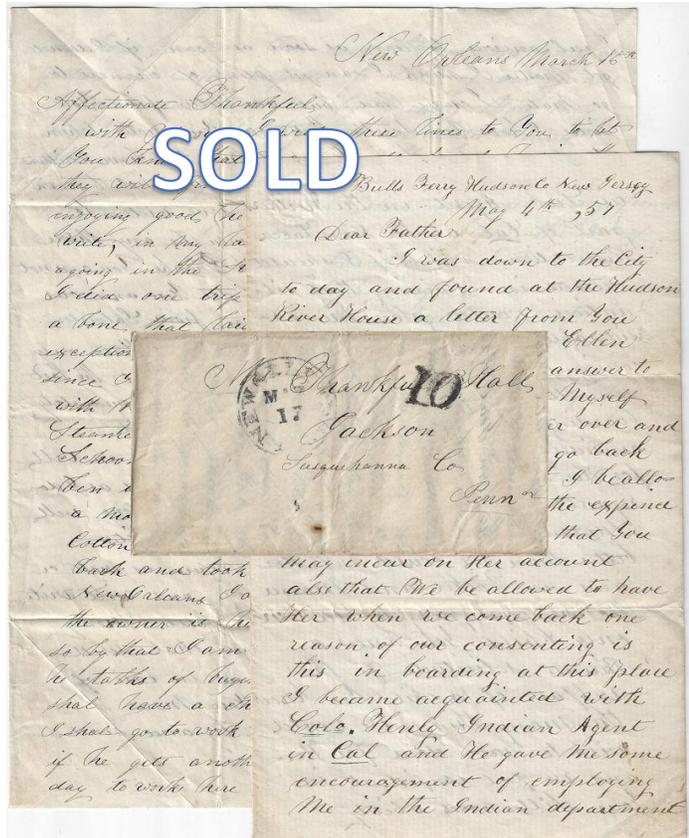
The earlier, which is datelined “New Orleans March 16<sup>th</sup>” was written by Captain Perry W. Hall to his wife, Thankful, who was staying with his parents at the family farm in Jackson, Pennsylvania, probably in 1850 based on genealogical records. It is a stampless folded letter measuring 15” x 9½” unfolded and bears a circular New Orleans post mark and a bold “10” rate handstamp.

The second, which is datelined “Bulls Ferry Hudson Co New Jersey / May 4<sup>th</sup>, 57” was written by Perry to his father. There is no accompanying mailing envelope.

Although raised on a farm, Perry Hall became a seaman, and by 1850 was serving aboard coastal vessels taking positions as either Master or Mate when available. He had also married a young Connecticut woman, Thankful Pease Bronson, with whom he had a child, born in 1849, Ellen May (May or Mary Ellen in some records). As his first letter attests, he was devoted to both.

“I told [You] that I was agoing in the Steam Boat Sam Williams which I did on trip & sprained my foot or broke a bone that laid me up a month . . . but I got a chance to go Master of a Schooner called the Victoria until now I have ben in her a month and a half at 45 dollars a month I went first to Sabine river after Cotton and carried it to Galveston then went back and took another Cargo for this place New Orleans I arrived here a few days ago the owner is here and agoing to sell the vessel so by that I am thrown out of employment he talks of buying another which if he does I shal go to work here in a day or two. . . I can get 2 dollars a day to work here but as it is rather sickly here I feel anxious to leave as soon as I can if I do not get Master I think I can get plenty of chances to go Mate. . . Thanks you cannot think how I want to hear and to see you and our little one . . . I want you to write immediately don’t wait hardly to read it before you write. . . Oh I never wanted to see you so bad as I do now I sincerely hope that you get along well at Fathers. . . I shal send you a little money in this letter 20 dollars and [will] send you more if I get a chance. . . wishing You may be blessed with health and a contented mind take good care of our Little Ellen May let her I am coming home before long Oh how I want to see the little witch. . .”

However, Perry must have tired of seafaring or found employment difficult, or, perhaps the couple was simply stricken with wanderlust as his second letter, written when Ellen would have been eight, announces their decision to relocate to California.



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

"I found at the Hudson River House a letter from you requesting us to send Ellen back I would say in answer to it that Thankful and Myself have talked the matter over and concluded to let Her go back with this proviso that I be allowed to pay You all the expence that She is to You or that You may incur on Her account also that We be allowed to have Her when we com back. . . . I became acquainted with Colo. Henly Indian Agent of Cal and He gave me some encouragement of employing me in the Indian department as Sub Agent in the northern part of Cal at the Nome Lacka Reservation . . . consequently We would have to send Her some distance to a boarding School under these considerations We deemed it best for Her to comply with Your request knowing that You & Marm would do as well or better than We could with Her and now Father and Marm We are consigning to You Our only Child You know a Parents solicitude for the welfare of a child You know the many things we would wish to have done for Her and we feel confident in Your skill and ability. . . . I wish you to write to Me as soon as Ellen arrives."

Thomas J. Hensley was the Superintendent of Indian Affairs in California, and Perry and Thankful did leave their daughter, Ellen, in the care of Perry's parents in Pennsylvania. However, Perry was not selected for the position of Sub Agent at the Nome Lackee Indian Reservation; it was given to Donald L. Hislop who held the job until 1870. Instead, the Halls settled in the Tuolumne gold region in a gold camp known as Deer Flat on the outskirts of Big Oak Flat. Whether the couple opened a business or mined for gold is not recorded. Perry died in 1866, Thankful remarried, and Ellen joined her mother and stepfather in 1871 after finishing her schooling in the East. Ellen soon married Henry Crocker, a former whaler who was twenty years older, and together they established an impressive fifteen-building stage stop for the Great Sierra Stage Line on the road to Yosemite, known as Crocker's Sierra Resort, which hosted a number of well-known travelers including John Muir, James Madison Hutchings, Steward Edward White, Edwin Markham, William Keith, and Herbert Hoover.

(For more information, see Paden & Schlichtmann's *The Big Oak Flat Road*, Thornton's "A Brief History of Groveland and the Formation of the Groveland Community Services District," and Hislop's *The Nome Lackee Indian Reservation 1854-1870*), all available online.)

At the time of listing, no other firsthand written material related to the Deer Flat mining camp or the beginning of Yosemite tourism are for sale in the trade. Neither is any identified in Rare Book Hub records or OCLC institutional holdings, although OCLC shows a number of photographs, maps, and advertising materials related to the Big Oak Flat Road to Yosemite are held by institutions.

**SOLD #9995**

Bulls Ferry Hudson Co New Jersey  
May 4<sup>th</sup> 57  
Dear Father  
I was down to the City  
to day and found at the Hudson  
River House a letter from You  
requesting us to send Ellen  
back I would say in answer to  
it that Thankful and Myself  
have talked the matter over and  
concluded to let Her go back  
with this proviso that I be allo-  
wed to pay You all the expence  
that She is to You or that You  
may incur on Her account  
also that We be allowed to have  
Her when we come back one  
reason of our consenting is  
this in boarding at this place  
I became acquainted with  
Colo. Henly Indian Agent  
in Cal and He gave me some  
encouragement of employing  
me in the Indian department

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

## 23. [RELIGION – TRACTS]

### 1850s – Five different religious pamphlets published by the American Tract Society

This lot consists of five different religious tracts published by the American Tract Society probably during the 1850s. They range in size from 4¼" x 7" to 4½" x 7¾". Three have four pages; one eight pages; and one 12 pages. One of the tracts, "The Brazen Serpent," features an illustration from the *Book of Numbers* (*Bemidbar* or *In the Wilderness in the Torah*). All of the tracts are complete, and all have some soiling or foxing. The titles include:

No. 165 – "Importance of Distinguishing Between True and False Conversions"

No. 382 – "Have Me Excused"

No. 404 – "I Have Not Time"

No. 511 – "The Brazen Serpent" by Rev. Edward D. Griffin, D.D.

No. 531 – "Saving a Soul from Death"



The American Tract Society was (and remains) the most prolific publisher of religious texts in the United States. Before it was founded in 1825 with the merger of the New England and New York tract societies, the *Bible* was the only widely distributed religious book in the country. Formed with the expressed purpose of making short religious lessons readily and cheaply available, it started off slowly but soon its tracts became incredibly popular, and their distribution reached incredible levels. By 1850, it had 529 different titles in its inventory, and it was printing 27,000 pamphlets daily. Between May 1847 and May 1848, over 8 million were distributed, primarily by Society colporteurs, i.e., traveling salesmen who also provided religious counseling and led church services.

The Society is still printing religious tracts, and business is still booming. Its headquarters relocated from New York City to Garland, Texas in the 1970s and today has well over 100 printing houses in 70 countries that print its tracts in more than 100 different languages.

Despite the immense number of tracts that have been printed, early printings, while certainly not rare, are also not commonly found; most likely the vast majority were simply thrown away with time. Today, the early tracts most often surface on ebay.

(For more information, see Thompson's "The Printing and Publishing Activities of the American Tract Society from 1825 to 1850 in *The Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America* Vol 35 No 2, *Brief History of the American Tract Society* published by The Press of T. R. Marvin, and the American Tract Society's website.)

\$150 [#9996](#)

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

## 24. [HOLIDAYS – VALINTINE’S DAY] [PHILATELY] [WOMEN]

**Circa 1851 – An early and elaborate St. Valentine’s Day card and envelope.**

This bi-fold heavily embossed Valentine’s Day card measures 9½” x 7” when opened. It has some light soiling and wear including a chipped corner and two small holes. Splits are beginning along the centerfold

A gold-tone floral applique has been attached to the card front. A heart-shape has been cut into both the applique and card and backed with shiny red paper. A poem, *Hope*, has been printed within the oval applique.

“Oh! might some being bless my lot  
With eyes as bright as thine,  
The ills of earth would be forgot  
And joy alone be mine”

There is an attractive and colorful illustration of a homestead inside the card that features a young woman playing with her dog in her cottage threshold as children play in the backyard.

The mailing envelope is also ornately embossed. It is addressed to “Mrs Mary A Hough / Chaplin / Conn” and franked with a 1851 series imperforate three cent George Washington stamp that has been cancelled with a circular Willimantic Connecticut postmark, dated February 16. One can imagine that Mr. Hough (I suppose the card was from Mary’s husband) may have been in a little trouble for posting this card two days late.

Although cards had been exchanged on St. Valentine’s Day for centuries, in the United States they were either homemade, cheap commercial prints, or expensive imports from England. Esther Howard, a recent graduate of Mount Holyoke and the daughter of a well-to-do Worcester stationer changed all that in 1849. She had seen the expensive imported cards in her father’s store and was struck by the idea that she could make similar cards on her own more cheaply and undercut the pricing of the English cards. She prepared a number of prototypes and convinced her brother, a salesman for her father, to sell them. The cards were a resounding success. By the mid-1850’s, Esther was earning over \$100,000 annually (about \$3 million in today’s dollars) and other Valentine’s Day card makers soon followed.

(For more information, see Cavanaugh’s “See the Valentine’s Day Cards That Changed How Americans Express Their Love” in the February 10, 2017 edition of *Time* and Brown’s “Cupid’s Capitalist: Meet Esther Howland, Creator of The Modern Valentine” in the February 14, 2020 edition of *Forbes*.)

**SOLD #9997**

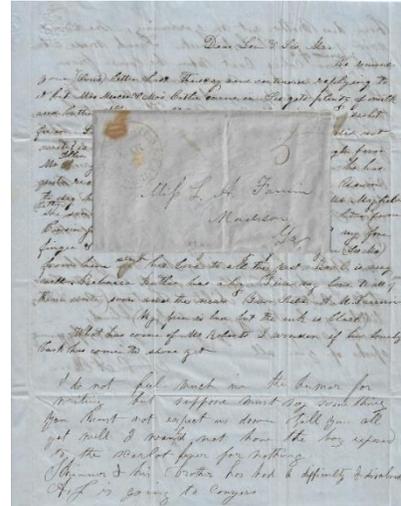


Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

**25. [AFRICAN-AMERICANA] [MEDICINE & NURSING] [PHILATELY] [SLAVERY] [TRANSPORTATION – RAILROADS]**

**Circa 1851-1857 – Letter sent via the Augusta & Atlanta Rail Road (later the Georgia Rail Road and Banking Company) regarding the delay of a visit home because the family and its enslaved workers had contracted Scarlet Fever.**

This stampless letter measures 15½" x 9¾". It was sent by A. M. Fannin and M P Allen to their relatives, care of "Miss L. A. Fannin / Madison / Ga." It bears a faint circular red "Augusta & Atlanta R.R." station agent postmark and a manuscript "5" rate mark.



In this letter Fannin and Allen express their concerns about a Scarlet Fever epidemic that has struck their family and its enslaved workers at Madison.

"All said all the negroes have had the sarlet fever Sis was so uneasy was the reason why we did not write is it so All had a very sore throat and high fever Ms Allen gave him Dr. Simmon's fever medicine he has quite recovered. . . you must not expect us down till you all get well I would not have the boy exposed to the scarlot fever. . . Mrs Chercer is quite sick, Mrs Tom Gibbs is in very poor health unable to leave the house. [the] little girl has gone entirely blind. . ."

Throughout the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, Scarlet Fever, was a mostly benign childhood disease. That changed abruptly around 1820, when a pandemic of particularly severe strains periodically erupted around the world. Although many outbreaks remained mild, often they resulted in a number of fatalities. An especially lethal outbreak occurred at Augusta, Georgia in 1832-3. No doubt that was bearing heavily on the Fannin families minds when this letter was written in the 1850s.

Although the letter is undated, we know that it was sent between 1851 and 1857 because of the rare Augusta & Atlanta R.R." station agent postmark. Although most of the word, "Augusta" is very faint, probably due to an off-center strike, enough is visible that it can be identified as the #455-A-4 postmark in Towle's *U.S. Route and Station Agent Postmarks*; this postmark was only used during those years.

Very little information about the Augusta & Atlanta Railroad is available. It was originally chartered in 1833. Several years later that charter was amended to include banking operations and the company's name was apparently changed to the Georgia Railroad & Banking Company. Although the banking side of the business was extremely successful, railroad operations remained small. By 1850 it operated only 213 miles of track, and by that had only increased to 232. As a result, the quantity of mail processed by the company (which was also referred to as the Georgia Railroad) was small.

(For more information see Martin's *Atlanta and its builders : a comprehensive history of the Gate city of the South*, Katz & Moren's "Severe Streptococcal Infections in Historical Perspective" in *Clinical Infectious Diseases* Vol. 14 and Storey's "Georgia Railroad" in *Georgia's Railroad History and Heritage* accessible via the Internet Archive Way Back Machine.)

At the time of listing, no other examples of mail processed by the Augusta and Atlanta Railroad are for sale in the trade. None have appeared at auction per the Rare Book Hub and none are held by institutions per OCLC. The Stamp Auction Network shows one example has appeared in a philatelic auction (Lot 1032 in the Schulyer Rumsey Auction Sale 45, 24-27 January 2012).

**\$600** [#9998](#)

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

## 26. [TRANSPORTATION – RAILROADS] [WESTWARD EXPANSION]

### 1852 – Letter from a foreman reporting the status of laying track for the Ohio and Pennsylvania Railroad with a crew of “men not worth a damn.”

This four-page letter from E. F. Judkins is datelined “Loudonville [Ohio] December 19 1852”. There is no mailing envelope.

In this letter, Judkins, who was apparently the foreman of a track-laying crew for the Ohio & Pennsylvania Railroad relates the difficulties he is facing and his hope to soon be appointed as a conductor.

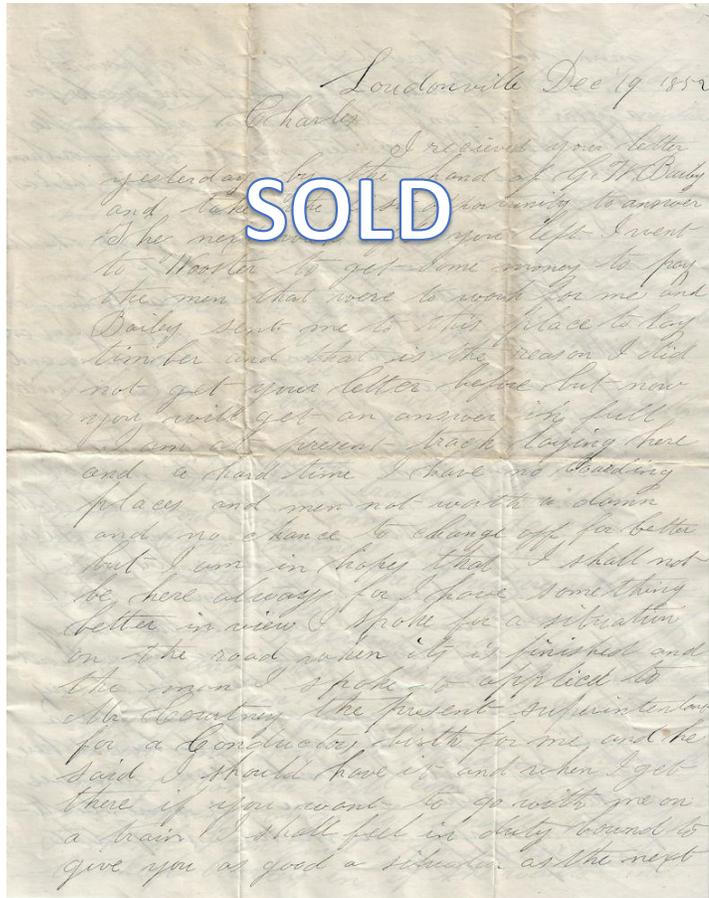
“The next week after you left I went to Wooster to get some money to pay the men that were to work for me and Bailey sent me to this place to buy timber. . . I am at present track laying here and a hard time I have had no boarding places and men not worth a damn and no chance to change off for better but I am in hopes that I shall not be here always for I have something better in view I spoke for a situation on the road when it is finished and the men I spoke to applied to Mr Courtney the present superintendent for a Conductors birth for me and he said I should have it and when I get there if you want to go with me on a train I shall feel it duty bound to give you as good a situation

as the next man has Should I get disappointed in that Bailey has offered me work for a year yet and before them all is Mr Stimpson who wanted me to work for him but there must not be any thing said as to that except in private. . . When I get done laying track I would like to have you out here to start a train with me should fortune smile on me enough to get it and you know sure I am of it. . .”

The Ohio and Pennsylvania Railroad was chartered in two states: Ohio on 24 February 1848 and Pennsylvania on 11 April 1848. It was approved to build a route from Allegheny City. Construction began on Independence Day in 1849, and the line had been extended to Wooster, just east of Loudenville by August of 1852. When it reached Crestline on 11 April 1853, a throughline from New York City to Cincinnati was formed via its connection with the Cleveland, Columbus, and Cincinnati Railroad. The Ohio and Pennsylvania eventually was consolidated with other regional lines to form the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Rail Road which when completed in December, 1859 provided the Pennsylvania Rail Road system dedicated track between New York and Chicago. (For more information, see Wikipedia.)

The letter also discusses Judkins concerns about leaving his wife and children at home rather than bringing them with him while laying the track through Ohio.

**SOLD #9999**



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

## 27. [TRANSPORTATION – RAILROADS] [WESTWARD EXPANSION]

**1855 – An Appointment and Position Description for the Master Machinist with overall responsibility of the operation of the “Machine Shop and Motive Power” for the Norwich & Worcester Rail Road Company.**

This 8” x 10” six-page, ribbon-bound document, dated May 1<sup>st</sup> 1855, from Acting President of the Norwich & Worcester Rail Road Company G. S. Perkins, appoints “Richard Colburn” (sic Colburn) as the Master Machinist responsible for company’s Machine Shop and Motive Power.

It charges Colburn with supervision of the five men assigned to the “Machine and Smith Shops” as well as the railroads “Engine Drivers.” He is given the authority to hire employees, designate their duties, and if necessary, “discharge” them for cause. It also makes clear that Colburn is authorized to act for the company president with regard to all measures regarding the “Locomotive department,” and

“1<sup>st</sup> To repair, and keep in repair, all the Locomotive and Tenders of the corporation. . . .

“2<sup>d</sup> To do this with the greatest possible economy and pumplitude.

“3<sup>d</sup> To take care of the building and machinery [and] see that the Engine drivers, Firemen, and workers . . . serve the interests of the Corporation to the best of their ability [while being] strictly temperate and cheerfully attentive to their duty and that they do not suffer themselves to waist or misapply and materials, or machines. . . .”

Perkins was especially interested in the moral fiber of the employees, insisting Colburn take disciplinary action for

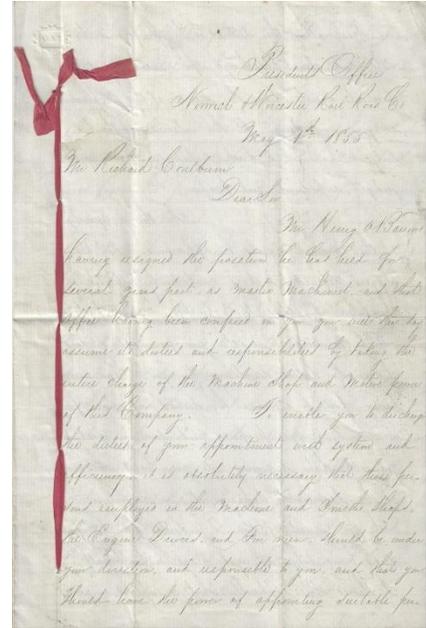
“All intemperance . . . in any degree of the use of intoxicating liquors, shall be treaded as cause of discharge, also all gambling, at any time, or licentious or sensual habits , or low vulgarity.”

In 1837, the Boston, Norwich and New London Railroad company merged with the Worcester and Norwich Railroad Company to form the Norwich and Worcester Rail Road. At the time of this letter, the primary company facilities, including those mentioned in this letter, were located along Railroad Avenue in downtown Norwich. By 1900 the company had been absorbed into New York, New Haven, and Hartford Railroad system.

Online genealogical records show that before Colburn was hired by the Norwich and Worcester, he worked for the Locks and Canals Company (later the Lowell Machine Shops), one of the first companies to manufacture locomotives in the United States, and around 1840 he was responsible for building one of the first “six-wheel” locomotives which was purchased by the Western Railroad (later the Boston and Albany Railroad, which became part of the New York Central system.) Colburn retired from the Norwich and Worcester in 1882 at the age of 67. He then manufactured croquet mallets until his death in 1901 at the age of 86.

A seldom seen position description detailing the duties of a superintendent of locomotive power for a mid-19<sup>th</sup> century railroad.

**\$150** [#10000](#)



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

## 28. [EDUCATION] [MEDICINE & NURSING] [PHILATELY] [RELIGION – QUAKERS]

**1855 – Letter from an alarmed college student to his father after discovering there is Scarlet Fever in the family of two of his hired workers.**

This two-page letter from John Livezey to his father in Germantown, Pennsylvania is datelined “Haverford School [June] 18<sup>th</sup> 1855”. It is franked with a pen-cancelled, dull-red 3-cent Washington stamp (Scott #11) and bears a circular red “West Haverford” postmark dated June 19<sup>th</sup>. The letter is in nice shape; the envelope shows some postal soiling. A transcript will be provided.

Throughout the 17th and 18th centuries, Scarlet Fever, was a mostly benign childhood disease. That changed abruptly around 1820, when a pandemic of particularly severe strains of the disease periodically erupted around the world. Although many of the outbreaks remained mild, they just as frequently resulted in a number of fatalities. An especially lethal outbreak occurred in the United States during the 1830s. No doubt that was bearing heavily upon John Livezey’s mind when he wrote this letter as this was the second family to come down with the disease in a short period of time



“Joseph arrived at School this morning with him some cherries and a pen knife, for which I am very much oblige to thee for. He also mentioned that they had the Scarlotte feaver at Jonathan Ellis’s. Thee knows that was Garrigueses children died with and if it gets in a family it very seldom gets out without two or three going with it. If I was there I would not have him to work for me anymore at present for he comes up there twice a day, and brings it with him every time. I would not like to have him come near the place once a week with it, let alone twice a day. I would rather pay two months work than one doctor, and if you all get it, thee will have a tremendous doctors bill to pay. . . . Thee know that sometimes a person going to a strange house, will carry it home with them no matter if it is twenty miles. I would be affraid to go to the stable while you have him for you dont know what hes got the disease about it. I would not hesitate three minutes to know what to do, & I would not take him back for a good while, for when the person that has the disease is getting better, it is the worst time. . . . I know that if thee [him] some of you will have it, for you cant help it. . . .”

Haverford School, today Haverford College, was founded by the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in 1833. The school’s “Report of Managers” for 1855 (available online) shows that John Livezey was a student there at that time. Online genealogical references show that his father, was a prosperous farmer in Germantown, Pennsylvania, near Philadelphia.

**SOLD #10001**

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

## 29. [COURTSHIP] [MILITARY – CIVIL WAR] [PHILATELY]

**1861 – Pair of letters from New Hampshire soldier who became infatuated with a young Pennsylvania Dutch girl as his regiment marched south to protect Washington, DC at the beginning of the Civil War.**

Both letters, which were written by George W. Ladd on patriotic stationery, are enclosed in their original patriotic envelopes. The first is datelined “Headquarters 2<sup>nd</sup> Regt., N.H.V. Camp Sullivan Co. B. / Washington Aug<sup>t</sup> 4 1861.” The second, “Camp Beaufort Dec 15 1861”. Both were sent without postage to “Miss Carrie C. Deppen” of Myerstown, Lebanon County, Pennsylvania. In nice shape; transcripts will be provided.

Ladd enlisted in the 2<sup>nd</sup> New Hampshire Infantry Regiment in late May 1861, just before it joined the forces assembling in Washington, DC to protect the capital. En route, its train passed through Pennsylvania Dutch country where it was warmly greeted by cheering locals who provided baked goods and German beer. At one stop, probably Myerstown, Ladd’s eye was caught by fifteen-year-old Caroline Catherine “Carrie” Deppen and he tossed a card to her with his mailing address. Later they exchanged letters. His first reads in part:

“It is a pleasant sabbath morn and I wish that you were here Carrie to gaze on the beautiful scene with the pleasant groves that surround us, Arlington’s Hights, Potomac River, and the city of Washington in full view, and then there is a nice cool brease today, again I say, I wish you was here to enjoy this with me, although perhaps you gaze on a beautiful and lovely a scene as this as by the glance that I got of the place where you reside it strikes me that it is a beautiful place. . .

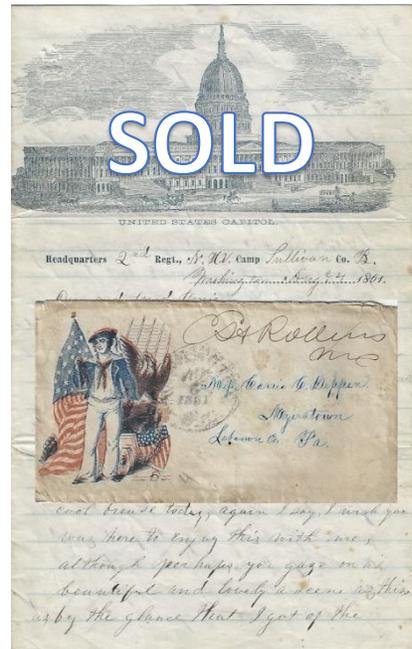
“I received your kind and affectionate and . . . letter and was overjoyed . . . as I didn’t know . . . but what you was fooling me for your own amusement but I am now convinced by the sincerity of your kind words which I read and reread that it is not so. . . You ask me if I remember the place where I threw the card out. Yes, I do Carrie and remember yourself as you stood waving a kerchief at us as we swiftly passed.

“The company that I am a member of . . . were not legally enlisted [so] they say they that we shall all have to go home. If we do go home I will except your kind invitation. If we do not . . . I will get a furlough [to] visit. . . your lover said that I wanted to fool you, far be it from me to do that especily for one that I could not help loving for their kind wishes and god knows that rather than cause you pain I would lose the hand that is scribbling this. . .

After participating in the First Battle of Bull Run, the 2<sup>nd</sup> New Hampshire returned to the defense of Washington where Ladd began to question, like President Lincoln and most Northern citizens began to question why General McClellan was not taking the fight to the Confederacy.

“We have had 2 fires in our Co this last week and 2 tents were burnt. Today during services our regt guard house was burnt, and then the rebels opened a new battery on the gun boats and the boys all run to see them fire. . .

Yesterday, all the Senators and Reps of New Hampshire and about 15 of the big bugs of the state with their ladies, chartered a steamer at the Navy Yard and made us a visit which pleased them as well as ourselves. It is quite a treat to see friends from home here and especially ladies as they are rather a



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scarce article. . . The rebels fired at them . . . but they said it would'nt have been a perfect trip if it had been otherwise. . . The battery that they unmasked today is opposite Rum Point and commands the mouth of Matawarman Creek where all our boats come in to the landing Some of the boys saw a shell strike one of our gunboat. We must shell them out or our boats cannot come in Last Monday our gunboats shelled a wagon train and they left in double quick. Then they shell out a camp and them went ashore in boats and set fire to a lot of grain houses. . . We have got 2 prisoners here from the other side and they say that they have 75,000 troops between here and Manassas and Entrenchments all the way. . .

I expected that we would have advanced before this, but some information obtained through our spies has detered us from it so report says. It seems to me at time that we are standing still and letting them get the advantage. . .

Ladd also affirms his commitment to Carrie.

“Don't mind what the girls tell you . . . as I don't know what I should do if I lost your love. . . That short word. Is there anything on Earth like it? That miraculous power of transformation which creates all things arises that burning baptism of the youthful heart which admits it as an immortal member into the bright communion of passion, poetry, and the ideal of beauty and art that comes like . . . some divine voice from the distant sphere-which lives in light forevermore and arouses us from the death-like sleep of selfishness . . . and teaches us the first short lesson of sacrificing our habits, hopes, desires, our all for the bliss of another being – to lose our very life and find it again purified – Exalted as it were in . . . in a boundless beatitude. . . Such it is to love.

In a postscript, he notes

“You ask if I should like to go home today. No not during the present Condition of our country as I wish to add my mite towards planting our flag in every state of our glorious Union. You say that you would like to know my thoughts. Well I could'nt tell them myself as there are 4 fellows that tent with me and they are raising the d all the time. You say you do not dare to tell me your feelings now dont be afraid to confide in me Carrie.

And closes with bad news received just before he mailed the letter.

“Bad news, our col Marstin is shot. His waiter was putting up his revolver and it went off and hit the Col in the side . . . Poor man he has had bad luck. Has been shot 3 times, twice at Bull Run.

Unfortunately, the star-crossed lovers would never meet, and Ladd would not live to see the U.S. flag planted in every state of the Union. His leg was amputated after receiving a horrible wound at Second Bull Run, and he died a month later at an army hospital in Georgetown.

(For more information about Ladd's regiment see Haynes's History of the Second Regiment of New Hampshire Volunteers and entries for both of the lovers at ancestry.com)

The first letter is written on patriotic stationery that features an illustration of the United State Capitol building, and its envelope features and illustration of a sailor, flag, eagle, and shield (Bischel #3769). The second is on stationery featuring an embossed cameo of George Washington surround by a blue star; it is SOLD #10002



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

### 30. [MARITIME – IRONCLADS] [MILITARY – CIVIL WAR] [PHILATELY]

**1861 -An overconfident letter from a sailor on U.S.S. *Minnesota* boasting of its victory at Cape Hatteras, clearing the sea of Rebel privateers, capturing many merchantmen prizes, and how it would soon destroy the new Confederate ironclad that was sheltering in Hampton Roads**

This six-page letter is datelined “Hampton Roads Sep 18<sup>th</sup> 1861 / U.S. Frigate *Minnesota*”. It was sent by an Ipswich sailor named Duff to a friend, James N. Webber back home. Its mailing envelope is annotated “U.S Frigate *Minnesota* / Hampton Road” and bears two handstamps, “SHIP” and “3”. Both the letter and envelope are in nice shape. A transcript will be provided.

A contemporary print, “First Naval Combat Between Iron Vessels: Hampton Roads, March 9<sup>th</sup> 1862” is also included. It was printed and copyrighted in 1862 by Hurlbut Williams and company. It shows some foxing and there are glue stains on the reverse from where it was probably once mounted in a scrapbook.

The U.S.S. *Minnesota* was the flag ship of the Union’s Atlantic Blockading Squadron and at the time of this letter was anchored in Hampton Roads. Near by the Massachusetts 14<sup>th</sup> Volunteer Infantry Regiment (later redesignated as the 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment Massachusetts Heavy Artillery) was garrisoned at Fort Albany in Alexandria (today Arlington) County, Virginia, one of the ring of forts and camps defending Washington, DC. The ship had just recently returned from destroying the Confederate defenses at Cape Hatteras.

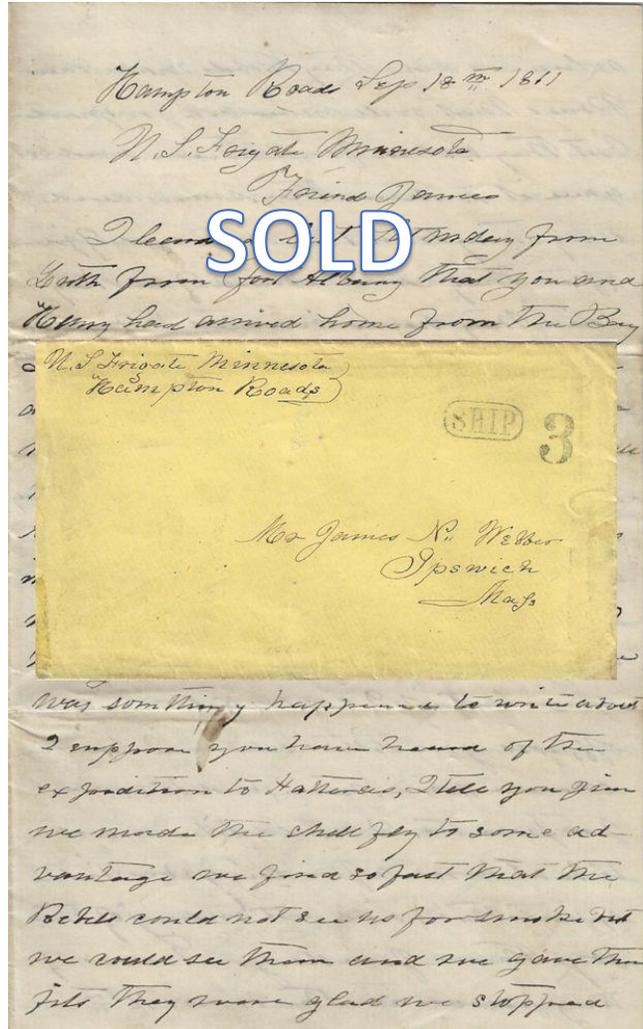
“I suppose you have heard of the expedition to Hatteras, I tell you Jim we made those shells fly

to some advantage and fired so fast that the Rebels could not see us for smoke but we could see them and sure gave them fits they sure glad we stopped when we did. Many Rebels make their Brags that they will never ask for quarter but they asked for it there and we gave it to them They surrendered everything to us 732 men and officers after they came aboard of us they said they never wanted to fight against sailors any more for they had enough of it all ready the said there was only 27 killed but we have found out since that there was nearly three hundred of them dispatched by us and if they had [not] hoisted the white flag they would not have come off so well as they did. . . .”

He also notes that

We have “Nothing to do here plenty to cut and wear. The privateers are nearly all cleared out. We have nearly 20 of their crew aboard of us now. We have taken 4 prizes from them within a week.”

And confidently reports,



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

“We have the Rebels penned up here and we shall come down on them one of these days when . . . they are not looking for it. Although the Rebels are strongly fortified here . . . we will turn them out and put our troops into the very forts they now occupy as we did at Hatteras. . . . The Rebels have a side wheeled steamer which they are agoing to run by the Blockade. . . . She is sheathed with Iron 3 inches thick, but they will never get out of here, for we keep steam up all the time and if she comes . . . we intend to put the Minnesota right alongside of her and take her at the point of the sword and I know they will have a good time of it there.”



The iron-sheathed steamer was, of course the C.S.S. *Virginia*, formerly the U.S.S. *Merrimac*. On the morning of 8 March 1861, the *Virginia* accompanied by two wood-sided Confederate warships rounded Sewell's Point and began to make way towards Newport News. The *Minnesota* quickly responded, but by the time she reached the *Virginia*, the ironclad had already sunk the Sloop-of-War *Cumberland* and burned the Frigate *Congress*. It then, in conjunction with the two other Confederate ships began to bombard the *Minnesota*, forcing it to ground on a mudbank. As the *Virginia* turned to return to Norfolk, the *Minnesota* fired a massive broadside that did no harm to the ironclad but drove itself deeper into the mud. The next morning, when the *Virginia* returned for the kill, she was met by the Union's new ironclad, the U.S.S. *Monitor* which had arrived during the night. The two ironclads engaged and found neither of their shell could damage their opponent, so the *Virginia* broke of contact and again returned to Norfolk. The following day, the U.S. Navy successfully freed the *Minnesota* from the mud, and escorted the ship to Fort Monroe for temporary repair. Obviously, Duff's shipmates never unsheathed the points of their swords, nor is it likely they had "a good time of it" during the battle.

(For more information, see "Minnesota I (Frigate)" at the Navy History & Heritage Command website.)

An excellent first-person account of the pre-*Virginia* success of the *Minnesota* before it became clear that older wooden warships would be no match for the new ironclads. Very scarce. At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade. Rare Book Hub reports that a 16-page account of the battle written 17 days later sold for \$4,800 in a 2021 Cowans auction. OCLC reports only photostat copies of letters related to the *Minnesota's* service during 1861 are held by institutions.

**SOLD #10003**

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

### 31. [CRIME – MUTINY & ARSON] [MILITARY – CIVIL WAR] [PHILATELY]

**1863 – Letter from a soldier in one of the most disgraced Union regiments of the Civil War reporting that it had been banished to Hilton Head Island as punishment for burning its barracks in Chicago and destroying a historic fence at Yorktown after it had been paroled following its ignominious surrender at Harper’s Ferry**

This four-page letter, sent by Private Jacob Brown to his father, is written on rather scarce patriotic stationary featuring a strutting rooster in red and blue, titled “Game Cock of Uncle Sam 1776 1882”. It is datelined “Head-quarters Hilton Reg’t Co. B. 115<sup>th</sup> regt / Hilton Head South Carolina Feb 6 1863”. It is enclosed in its original worn and soiled patriotic mailing envelope featuring a U.S. flag bearing a streamer reading “The Union Forever” with a legend that reads “Fast Colors. / Warranted Not to Run” that was once franked with three 1-cent blue Franklin stamps; two are now missing. It bears a double-circle Port Royal [South Carolina] postmark dated “Feb 7 1862”. A transcript will be provided.

The letter begins with a description of Hilton Head Island and a derogatory comment about African-Americans and President Lincoln’s recent Emancipation Proclamation.

“I take the Plesher once more to write a few lines to you to let you now that we moved again and that I am well yet as can be expeted for the change of Climate. . . . we havded had considerable of rain wile here and it rains two day witch makes it quite unplesent. . . . we are encamp on an lland here with a large Fort and nearley surrounded by gun Boats. . . . this lland is a low marshey Country being as low as the tide of the Ochen . . . witch makes it unhelthey in warm weather and the soil is of a light sand and wen the wind blows it puts me in mind of a northern Snow Storm. . . . the water we have to drink flows through the marsh [which] is inhabited by them Butiful reptiles the Aligator. . . . last of all the niger witch feel quite aristeratic under Old master Abes Blackamation. . . .”

He then explains why his unit was reassigned to such an inhospitable place.

I am “confident of wat we was sent here for we was sent here under celled orders. . . . we was convicted and centenced by the secretary of war and sent here for Burning the Barracks and rase corse fense at Duglas Camp Chicago and our Pay stopt sinse we left yorktown the 22th of last month our Cornel is a going to Washington in a few day to have a reinstatement of the regiment. . . . it may go all wright yet eney way we will do the best of it. . . .”

On August 1862, the 115<sup>th</sup> New York Volunteer Infantry Regiment broke camp at Fonda, New York and boarded train cars bound for Maryland to protect the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and by 3 September



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

had assumed defensive positions at Harper's Ferry along with three other regiments. Their positions left much to be desired and failed to neutralize the surrounding high ground. General Lee's Confederate Army was advancing up the Shenandoah Valley and elements of it surrounded Harper's Ferry emplacing 50 canon on Maryland Heights and beginning a fierce barrage into the town. Although the



defenders knew that a relief column was on the way, before the Confederate attack began in earnest, the Union defenders surrendered in mass, over 12,400 men, although having only suffered 44 soldiers killed.

As part of the 115<sup>th</sup> parole agreement, it was sent to Chicago where it encamped at Camp Douglas and some nearby horse barns. There, quarters were poor, rations sparse and tainted, sickness common, and the soldiers sullen. By November, the troops refused to bear arms and conduct drill or perform guard duty. Regular army units brought in to control the mutiny were continuously pelted by stones and brickbats, eventually shot at least one man who was trying to escape from camp. Eventually, the 115<sup>th</sup> and other mutinous units were summoned to Washington, and just before they boarded the departing trains, the soldiers torched their barracks. Arriving in Washington, the 115<sup>th</sup> encamped at Arlington Heights where its men were employed as laborers to strengthen defensive positions, before being shipped to Tidewater, Virginia to do the same. While there, members of the regiment destroyed a historic fence at the Cornwallis surrender sight, breaking it into small souvenirs that "are now in thousands of northern homes, preserved as relics." Finally, the War Department had enough; all pay and allowances were stopped, and after the 115<sup>th</sup> was formally released from parole, preparations were made to ship it to the desolation of Hilton Head, where the men were plagued by poisonous snakes, swarms of mosquitos and sand fleas, and alligators while they awaited an even worse assignment.

On February 7<sup>th</sup>, the day after Brown wrote this letter, the 115<sup>th</sup> was in Jacksonville, Florida to begin a thankless and failed campaign to drive Confederates from Florida's interiors. At the campaign's climax, the defeat at the Battle of Olustee, the 115<sup>th</sup> performed well although its casualty rate was 50%. This apparently placated the War Department, and subsequently the 115<sup>th</sup> was allowed to return to Virginia, where it performed well at the Battle of Petersburg and Brown was killed.

(For more information about New York's 115<sup>th</sup> Volunteer Infantry Regiment, see Silo's recent publication, *The 115th New York in the Civil War: A Regimental History*, and Clark's hagiographic apologist history of his former unit, *The Iron Hearted Regiment Being an Account of the Battles, Marches and Gallant Deeds Performed by the 115th Regiment N.Y. Vols. . .*)

A very scarce first-hand account of life in one of the most discredited Union regiments of the Civil War. Nothing similar is for sale in the trade, and no similar accounts have appeared at auction per the Rare Book Hub. OCLC suggests that a similar letter may be in a collection held by the Clements Library at the University of Michigan.

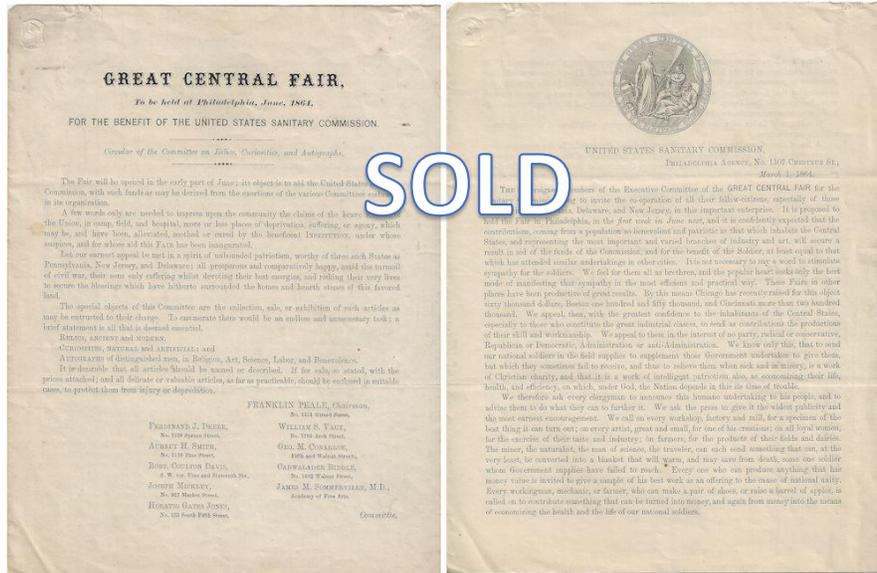
\$900 [#10004](#)

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## 32. [EXPOSITIONS – SANITARY FAIRS] [MEDICINE & NURSING] [MILITARY & WAR – CIVIL WAR] [SOCIAL SERVICES]

**1864 – Broadsheet requesting donations of Relics, Curiosities, and Autographs, as well as examples of manufacturing and craftsmanship to be exhibited and sold during the U.S. Sanitary Commission’s Great Central Fair to be held in June of 1864.**

A three-page broadsheet, measuring 8” x 10”, titled “GREAT CENTRAL FAIR, / To be held at Philadelphia, June 1864, / FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE UNITED STATES SANITARY COMMISSION.” It was published jointly on March 1, 1864 by the commission’s Executive Committee of the Great Central Fair and the Committee on Relics, Curiosities, and Autographs. In nice shape.



The broadsheet specifically requests that “in the spirit of unbounded patriotism,” people, churches, businesses, farms, and organizations donate “Relics, Ancient and Modern. Curiosities, Natural and Artificial; and Autographs of distinguished men, in Religion, Art, Science Labor, and Benevolence” as well as representative “specimens” of their work. These were to be exhibited and sold at the fair, which was held between 7 and 28 June 1864, as part of the commissions ongoing effort to alleviate the deprivation, suffering, or agony of “brave soldiers of the Union, in camp, field, and hospital. . . .”

The U. S. Sanitary Commission was a private organization formed in June of 1861 in response to a plea, issued a month earlier by the Army Surgeon General, for the public to establish “an intelligent and scientific commission” to assist the overburdened Medical Department in comforting the soldiers by “preventative and sanitary means.” The response was overwhelming and during the war, the commission organized thousands of volunteers and raised \$25 million (over \$442 million in today’s money)

At the Great Central Fair, even President Lincoln participated. He, his wife Mary, and son Tad visited the fair on June 16. Admission fees were doubled for that day, and over 100,000 people jammed the fairground hoping to see the President. Lincoln donated signed copies of the Emancipation Proclamation that were sold to the crowd for \$10. By the time of its close on June 28, more than \$1 million was raised through admissions, concessions, and sales of goods and souvenirs.

(For more information, see the commission’s self-published *The Sanitary Commission of the United States Army: A Succinct Narrative of Its Works and Purposes*, and Allen’s “A Presidential Fundraiser” at the Library of Congress Blog, both available online.)

Surprisingly scarce. At the time of listing, no other examples are available for sale in the trade. The Rare Book Hub reports no examples having been sold at auction. OCLC shows only one may be held by an institution in the Sanitary Commission graphics collection at Penn State.

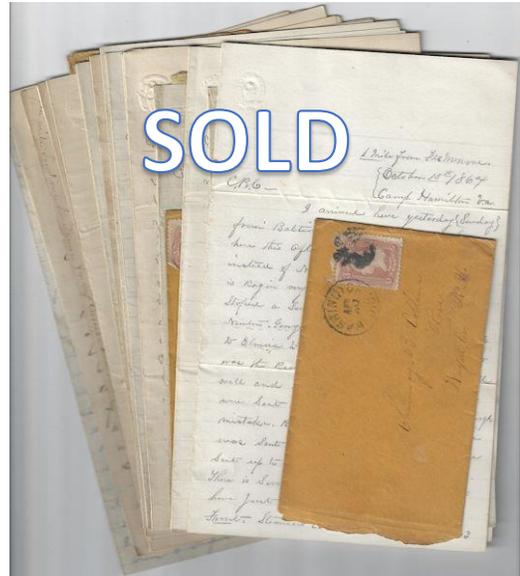
**SOLD #10005**

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

### 33. [MILITARY – CIVIL WAR] [PHILATELY] [RACE & RACISM]

**1864-1865 – An exceptional correspondence archive detailing the operations of the Union’s XXIV Corps and its role in the Fall of Richmond as part of the Union’s Army of the James.**

This archive consists of 19 letters (totaling 64 pages of text) written from mostly Virginia locations by Fernando C. Thomas, a private in the 3<sup>rd</sup> New York Light Cavalry, to his stepfather and half-brother in Rose, New York (Chauncy B. and Louis Dell Collins) between 10 October 1864 and 27 May 1865. Thomas included two sketches in his letters. One of his letters was written on a men’s cardboard shirt collar when no paper was available. About half of the letters have their mailing envelopes. In nice shape; envelopes show postal wear. Transcripts of all letters will be provided.



Thomas’s letters begin with General Butler’s abandonment of Wilmington, North Carolina, and end with discharge expectations at Richmond. Exceptionally well written and often satirical, but poorly spelled,. Besides detailed accounts camp life, day-to-day skirmishes, and artillery exchanges that took place along the James River during the Confederacy’s death throes, there are unexpectedly astute tactical, strategic, and political observations.

Especially compelling are Thomas’s scarce first-hand reports of the Skirmish at Fort Holly, the Battle of Trent’s Reach, and the chaos in Richmond after its fall. Additionally, Thomas provides caustic commentary about Abraham Lincoln, the election of 1864, the corruption of the military purchasing system, and the character of African-Americans which runs contrary to modern sensibilities.

This archive is so rich and enjoyable to read that is difficult to select excerpts, but here are a few:

“Our Battery [is] 8½ miles from Richmond. . . . It has been very quiet here . . . until Thursday Evening when Lanigan’s Ball opened [at Dutch Gap] Canal. . . . They fought all night and the Johnys took one line of our Brest-Works, which we took Back . . . such a Terrific fire of muskety I never heard. . . . We have 5 Monitors in the River at City Point all ready to come up . . . then look out for the hardest Battle of the War. . . . Them Damd Virginia Soldiers fight like Tigers. But the rest of the Confederate soldiers aint worth a damd. They Surrender every time. . . . The Rebs don’t send any but Virginia Soldiers on Picket anymore for the rest of the Southern State Soldiers Desert and come over into our line. . . .

“Artillery Cavalry & Infantry have been moving till night for the past two nights and crossing the pontoons over the James. . . . Arttilery, Baggage Wagons and Ambulances are all jammed in together down on the James at the Pontoon Bridges and we probably not get across before tomorrow night. This damd Virginia mudd is worse than Indiana, a fellow slips and slides around, can hardly stand up. . . .

“General Grant . . . says we must extend our lines as far as White Oak Swamp. Kautz Cavalry went out Friday Morning and drove the Johnnies out of there Works at the Swamp But came back in the morning with a great many saddles empty. . . . We caught 2 Rebel Spiys in the camp yesterday and sent them to head Quarters. Where they will probably be started upwards at the End of Some Yankee rope.

“There has been fighting here all along the lines for the past 3 Days and the most terrific Cannading that ever was heard. We have news [that] men are occupying the Rebs works in and around Petersburg and driving the Rebs before them. The Battle is raging most teffific! Sheridan has Flanked the Johnnies and captured 3 Brigades completely cutting the South Side Road . . . They have just telegraph up here to

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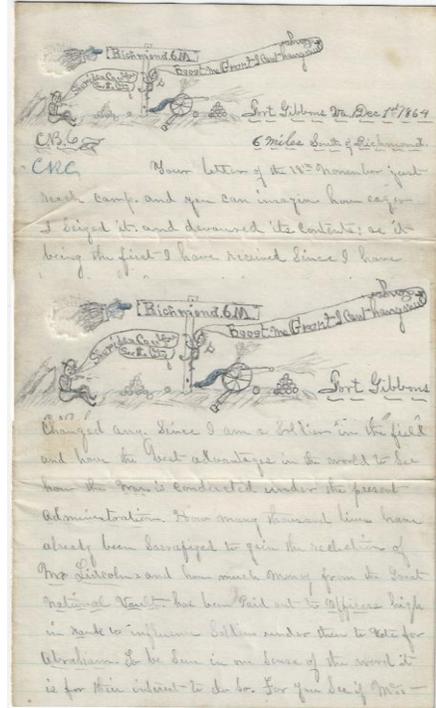
head Quarters for 300 of our Infantry support to come immediately [to] take care of the Reb Prisoners We have Captured today 10,000 Rebs and slaughter on Both sides is awful. . . .

"Yesterday morning [at Fort Holly] we heard a great cheering. . . Longstreet was coming down with 2 Divisions. . . On they came yeling like so many Demons. We let them come within  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile of us before we opened . . . on them with Grape & Canisters and Such a Slaughtering I never want to witness again. But that did not check them. . . On they came . . . up within 200 yards of our Breastwork 3 times and was Repulsed handsomely each. . . You never Saw men go in with mor determination . . . than the Rebs did for they were Drunk as we found. When burying the dead we found nearly every Reb Canteen filed with Whiskey. When they first Charged . . . I thought Sure I had got a pass for Canans happy land. . . Bullets flew thick and fast around us But we Boys stood the fire. . . One of the Gun Boats got range on them and Swept them down like grist before the Scythe. The Fight lasted from 1030 until 5 in the Evening when the 8 Maine . . . drove them back [and] this morning [we] found the Rebs retreating in force.

. . . Old Longstreet would have whipped us if we had of undertook to follow [but] he could not draw us into an ambush [and] as we learnd today he had some awful Masked Batteries where he expected we would follow . . . The 8<sup>th</sup> Maine lost a good many men and several Officers and one of General Ords Staff Officer was killed by a Reb Sharp Shooter. But the 1st District Columbia Cavalry behaved very Cowardly, they broke and ran for there lifes. The Rest of our Troops censure them very hard for running if they had have stood there ground [we might] have captured a whole Brigade of Johnnies. . . We Expect another attack imidiately and we are prepared . . . They will get there Bellies full of grape & canister. . .

"We have had one of the worse Rain Storms ever . . . the Rain poored down in Torrents & Mud you never have Seen. . . Poontoon Bridges all washed away on the James river. Consequently we came near Starving. Forage trains could not get over to us. We lived on 3 hard tack a day for 3 Days and 1 Day we did not get anything to eat. Our Horses went four Days without anything. . . But things are all right now. . . The Johnnies are strengthening their Works [but] a great many of them are coming over to us. 100 came [the] night before last, our Boys fired on them and killed four of them before they found out what they wanted. They were all of them Tennesseans. They report Horrible times at Richmond. . .

"We have been by the Side of our Guns for 36 hours [at Trent's Reach.] Old Lee tried to do a big thing, by arriving 3 of his Rams, down the James River and Cut our Poontoon Bridges, and Massing a heavy force on our front & Right. If he had Succeeded he would have Utterly destroyed the Army of the James. . . But our Monitor opened on them and land Batteries & kept them back. . . We Succeeded in blowing up one of the Torpedo Boats or Rams. They are [still two] under our fire. . . hard aground the Iron Hail forcing into them every Second. [If we had] Torpedo Exploders up there . . . we Should have run our Monitors up and grappled with & towed them down Stream. . . They had a heavy land force Massed on the Darbytown right in Sight of us last night, and if there Rams had got through all right they Calculated to make a desperate attack upon us. . . When the canonading commenced on the River the Johnnies opened there Batteries all along the lines, . . . So we opened 10, 20# Parrotts on them, and Silenced



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

them in 15 minits. . . . When the Smoke Cleared away there was many a Johnies toes Sticking up toward the Sky. . . . The Report just come in camp that the Rams [have] gone up the River. . . .

“We [believe] the Rebs [are] preparing for to Evacuate Richmond consequently we can be on the move in ten Minits. . . . The Johnnies are Deserting now faster than Ever there were 581 came in last Tuesday night . . . and there is a great many coming in on our lines mostly North & South Carolinians, and Some Georgia Troops. They say that Genl Lee can not hold out another month. . . . Jeff is agoing to put 1000,000 Niggers in the field, So the Johnnies Say. . . . If he should we will probably have one Ripping old Battle here. . . .

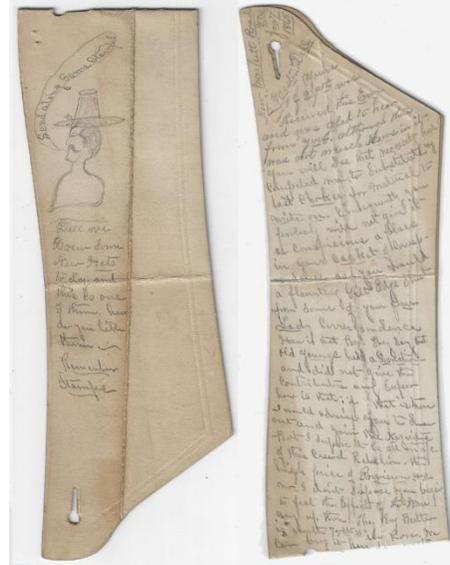
“As soon as the advance [on Richmond] commenced we thought our Battey did not travel fast enough [so two of us] pitched on a head, and got in about as soon as any of them. . . . The Business portion of the City is Burnt up and the Inhabitants [are] Squalid . . . half Starved to death and Ragged and filthy. But Tobaco the Streets are full of it Burning of the finest Quality. . . . Some of the Damd Skunks are bitter Secessionists yet. We have a Strong Force in there [and] our Batters are all arrond it on the Heights . . . Saw Som Johny Deserters that hid themselves on the Retreat and came back to there Familys, and took the Oath of Allegiance. Said they were whiped & Starved out and they are heartly Sick of the War. The Damd Skunks claim to be good Unionists . . . for they generly want a Safe guard put at there house if they happen to own any property. But they do not get it unless they take the oath. Confederate money is plenty here. All the Boys have got there pockets full, and when we go out in the County we buy Eggs & Butter and make them take there own Scrip. . . . There is no news to day only 1500 Prisoners were brought in from Lee’s Retreating Forces. Grant & Sheridan are right on his heals. . . .

“Everything has been topsy turvy. . . . The City is crowded with people coming in to take the Oath of Allegiance. . . . Thousands come everyday to the Quarter Master for there Rations, and yet you can See a Damd Bitterness in their continances. . . . Genl Lee & Staff arrived in the City yesterday and thousands of his Soldiers are Roaming around to find Some Trace of their former and prosperous plantations, But . . . they are to find nothing . . . but the Old Chimneys which loom up like 2 Sentinels. . . .

“The Damd Niggers have commenced to raise hell all ready, Driving what few whites there were left here from there houses. The Niggers have commenced already to ravish the White Women. Our soldiers [then] shoot them down like Dogs without Judge or Jury. . . .”

(For additional information, see “America’s Civil War: Desperate Ironclad Assault at Trent’s Reach” at History.net, “Skirmish in Front of Fort Holly: December 10, 1864” at The Siege of Peterburg Online, Cannon’s *History of Grant’s Campaign for the Capture of Richmond (1864-1865)*, and online genealogical records for the Thomas and Collins families.)

A lively and detailed first-person account from an artilleryman in the Union’s XXIV Corps of operations along the James River at the end of the Civil War and the capture of Richmond . Surprisingly quite scarce. At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade. The Rare Book Hub reports only a few Army of the James collections have been appeared at auctions, and OCLC identifies only one institution holding a similar first-person account, i.e., a diary kept by private in the 123<sup>rd</sup> Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment.



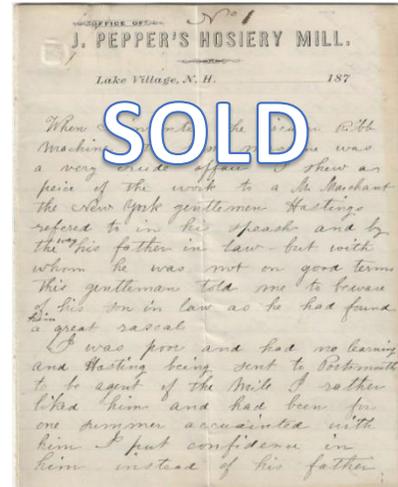
**SOLD #10006**

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### 34. [BUSINESS – INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION & KNITTING] [CRIME – PATENT INFRINGEMENT]

**Circa 1870 – The inventor of the circular ribbed knitting machine revolutionized the hosiery industry recounts efforts by his employers and competitors to cheat him from money due and steal his patents.**

In this unsigned 12-page summary on stationery headed “Office of J. Pepper’s Hosiery Mill, / Lake Village, N. H. 187”, John Pepper claims that employers and competitors cheated him, infringing upon his patents. In nice shape. A transcript will be provided.



John Pepper invented the first successful ribbed knitting machine in 1852 which revolutionized the hosiery industry, but his ownership of the patent was clouded by agreements and partnerships made with employers and competitors. Hosiery was big business in New England, and by 1860, Pepper was making 72,000 pair of socks annually. This summary provides Pepper’s case against industry kingpins including Henry Hastings, Henry Marchant, John Nesmith, and the Aikens family.

“When I invented the Circular Ribb Machine . . . I shew . . . the work to a Mr Marchant [who] told me to beware of [Hastings] as he had found him a great rascal. . . . I was poor [with] no learning and Hasting being [an] agent of the mill [I] put confidence in him. . . . Nesmith came down to the mill [and] I was . . . told they were going to move the machiney to Franklin [including my] Ribb machine They offered not only to buy the invention but to [make] me superintendent of the mill at the salary of one thousand dollars [and there] was also a clause . . . giving the patent back to me if the Co failed to use the invention for six months in succession. . . .

I took the job [but] lost my house which I mortgaged [to put] my money into supplies . . . and come out . . . \$4,000 in debt . . . . The Mill afterwards burnt [and] the patent was not used [and] Aikens began to build machines and sell them and there was no one to stop them. . . . I went to Nesmith who was president . . . and told him the six months was out and I wanted the patent [back, and] I tried from time to time to get possession of it [until] in despair I applied to Hastings [who] said if he got it I should have it – but found afterwards it [was] put into a Co and he [was] one third owner . . . but made him promise to let me [own] all the machines This he agreed to at once [but I] now find . . . the other members . . . pay in nothing. . . . There have been constant infringement of [my patents and copies of my machines] have been made openly. . . . I improved the machine [and this] stopt the sale of the Aikens machine . . . then Derby Ribb goods were called for and I got up an improvement whereby [other kinds] could be made. . . . I patented this invention. . . .

“The company never paid me for anything from first to last for building machines [so] my only chance to be paid was to sell the machines and take my pay as the Co from the first had no working capital. . . .”

In the summary, Pepper suggests that he was being sued by the company for doing so, but I have been unable to find the case or any reference to its resolution.

(For more information, see Lehman’s “Socks and Stockings, Shirts, Drawers, and Sashes,” and Candee’s “Portsmouth! N.H. and New England’s Knitting Industry! 1832 – 1875”, both available online.)

A unique first-hand record of the industrial revolution in New England’s 19<sup>th</sup> century textile mills. At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade, and the Rare Book Hub shows nothing similar has ever been listed at auction. OCLC shows that the Pepper Company’s later records from 1880 to 1906 are held by the American Textile Museum Library.

**SOLD #10007**

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

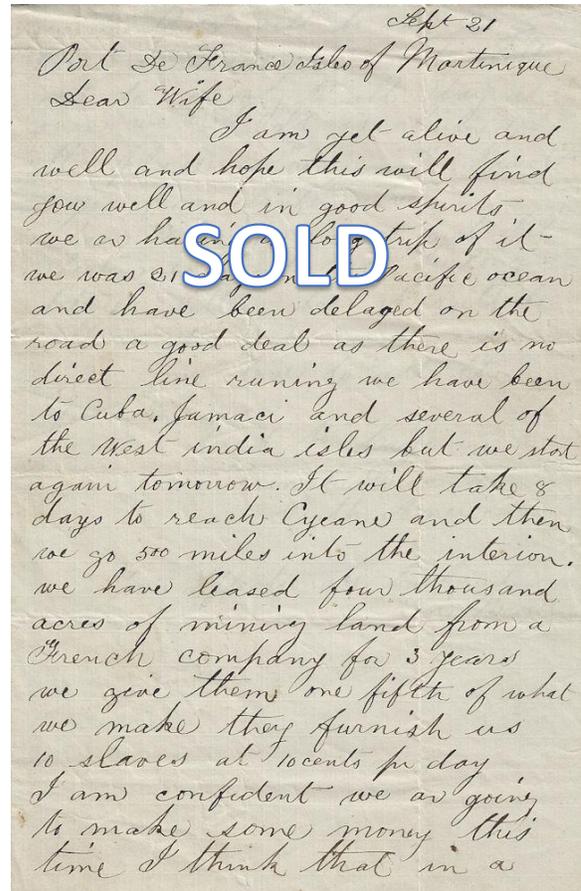
### 35. [MINING – GOLD RUSH] [SLAVERY] [SOUTH AMERICA] [TRAVEL]

**Circa 1873 – Letter from a gold prospector who had left California in a company of seven miners to participate in the Suriname-French Guiana gold rush.**

This two-page letter from Levi Morrell to his unnamed wife is datelined “Sept 21 [no year] / Port De France Isles of Martineque” and describes a company of miners travel from San Francisco to the northern coast of South America to try their luck in the Suriname-French Guiana gold rush of the early 1870s. There is no mailing envelope. A transcript will be provided.

It reads in part:

“I am yet alive and . . . having a long trip of it we was 21 days on the pacific ocean and have been delayed on the road a good deal as there is no direct line running we have been to Cuba, Jamaci and several of the West India isles but we start again tomorrow. It will take 8 days to reach Cyean and then we go 500 miles into the interior. We have leased four thousand acres of mining land from a French company for 3 years we give them one fifth of what we make and they furnish us 10 slaves at 10 cents pr day I am confident we are going to make some money this time I think that in a few months I will be able to go home and see you as it will not be necessary to all stay at once we are 7 It is claimed the place is very rich. . . Direct [mail to] Cayenne / French Guiana / South America. . .”



Sept 21  
Port De France Isles of Martineque  
Dear Wife  
I am yet alive and well and hope this will find you well and in good spirits we as had a long trip of it we was 21 days on the pacific ocean and have been delayed on the road a good deal as there is no direct line running we have been to Cuba, Jamaci and several of the West india isles but we start again tomorrow. It will take 8 days to reach Cyean and then we go 500 miles into the interior. we have leased four thousand acres of mining land from a French company for 3 years we give them one fifth of what we make they furnish us 10 slaves at 10cents pr day I am confident we ar going to make some money this time I think that in a

Although there had been some rather insignificant gold mining in both Dutch Surinam and French Guiana by the indigenous populations and a few European explorers, a true gold rush began in the early 1870s after significant deposits were found in both countries. Although Morrell asks his mother to direct his mail to Cayenne in French Guiana, he and his company were likely headed for Suriname. Slavery was abolished in all French colonies in 1848, while it remained legal in Dutch Suriname until 1863, after which former slaves were placed on a ten-year probation. The largest gold mine in French Guiana was only about 200 miles west of Cayenne, while the heart of Suriname’s good district was about 500 miles west, and most French Guiana mines were owned by individuals while Suriname leased big mining concessions to international companies, the first in 1870 to the New York Suriname Goldmining Company.

(For more information, see Viega’s *Artisanal Gold Mining Activities in Suriname*, Koie-A-Sen’s *Gold deposits of Suriname: geological context, production and economic significance*, and Vesol’s *Artisanal gold mining in Suriname*, “Gold mining in Montagne d’Or, French Guyana,” and *French Guiana* part of the 1919 Paris Peace Treaty Handbooks, all available online.)

An interesting and scarce account from an American prospector enroute to participate in the South American gold rush of the 1870s.

**SOLD #10008**

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

### 36. [EXPOSITIONS – COLUMBIAN] [PHILATELY] [WOMEN]

**1893 – Letter written on Kern County World’s Fair Association map stationery from one woman to another regarding the setup of displays in the Chicago World’s Fair’s California and Woman’s Building.**

This one-page letter was sent by Cora Bocca from the Chicago World’s Fair to Lillian L. Grant in Rochester, New York. It is written on “Kern County World’s Fair Association” stationery with a full-page map of “The Kern Delta” Its mailing envelope with a corner card that reads “Kern County / World’s Fair Association / World’s Columbian Exposition / Chicago” is included. The envelope is franked with a 2-cent Columbian Exposition stamp and postmarked at the “World’s Fair Station” in Chicago on September 17, 1893.

Cora’s letter reads in part:

“You must not think we spend all of our time in [the California Building], but Belle and her aunt are ‘loving’ The Woman’s building, & I took this opportunity to skip over here (it being very near) and drop you a line to say we are having a glorious time, though I must own a rather tired time too. We have been all over the grounds and feel quite well acquainted. It is a great place. . .”



Kern County produced one of the most striking exhibits inside the California Building. It featured a bridge that showcased displays of jars fruit (peaches, pears, apricots, apples, oranges, lemons, nectarines, figs, olives, quinces, grapes, cherries, etc.), dried fruit and nut mosaics (a world map, the American shield, the U.S. flag, a Maltese cross, etc.), a triple-tier stand loaded with gold, silver, copper, antimony, lead, and other Kern County minerals, and large photographs of county orchards, vineyards, alfalfa fields, and ranches. The map identifies railroads, proposed railroads, county and other roads, canals, ditches, etc.

The Woman’s Building was one of the fair’s twelve principal buildings. It was designed by 21-year-old M.I.T. graduate, Sophia Hayden, America’s first college-educated female architect. The building featured works by women in fine art including a mural by Mary Cassatt, applied art, literature, music, and science, as well as women in American history, industry, and politics. Although a vocal group of exhibitors objected to their works being exhibited in a separate building, the building was quite popular with the public.

Woman played a major role in organizing the fair, and unfortunately for Hayden, a wealthy socialite, Bertha Palmer (of Palmer House Fame), who had wrangled one of the most important positions in the Fair, President of the Board of Lady Managers, took a disliking to her. Palmer had her own ideas about the building’s design, and when Hayden refused to acquiesce, Palmer made Sophia’s life miserable, and eventually caused her to collapse on site from nervous exhaustion after which she was fired. Frustrated, Hayden retired from architecture and became an artist.

(For more information, see the *Final Report of the California World’s Fair Commission . . . Chicago 1893*, *The Book of the Fair* “Chapter the Eleventh: Woman’s Department” available online, and Wikipedia articles “Sophia Hayden” and “Bertha Palmer.”)

A fine and unusual Columbian Exposition memento.

**\$150** [#10009](#)

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

**37. [CULTURAL APPROPRIATION – JUDAICA] [EXHIBITIONS – PAN-AMERICAN] [FRATERNAL – MACCABEES] [PHILATELY] [SOCIAL SERVICES] [WOMEN]**

**1901 – An eye-popping business envelope sent by the Buffalo chapter of the Ladies of the Maccabees to the Supreme Record Keeper, Bina M. West, at the Maccabee Temple in Port Huron, Michigan.**



NOTE THE PROSPERITY OF THE Ladies of the Maccabees OF THE WORLD. Established October 1st, 1892	
Membership, Dec. 31, 1892.....	319
Membership, Dec. 31, 1893.....	2,429
Membership, Dec. 31, 1894.....	5,450
Membership, Dec. 31, 1895.....	9,765
Membership, Dec. 31, 1896.....	17,037
Membership, Dec. 31, 1897.....	24,049
Membership, Dec. 31, 1898.....	43,158
Members Admitted in 1898.....	24,362
Net Gain in Membership in 1898.....	19,409
New Hives in 1898.....	471
Benefits Paid in 1898.....	\$154,847.88
Benefits paid from organization to Oct. 1st, 1899.....	\$888,235.16
Subordinate Hives, Oct. 1st, 1899.....	1,610
Death Rate in 1898, Only.....	4.82
Established in 42 States and Provinces.	
Membership, Supreme Hive, Oct. 1st, 1899.....	72,424
Membership, Great Hive, Michigan, Oct. 1st, 1899.....	47,225
Total L. O. T. M. Membership.....	119,649
Membership, Supreme Tent.....	488,071
Membership Great Camp, Michigan.....	82,304
Total K. O. T. M. Membership.....	279,435
Total Membership of the Order of the Maccabees, K. O. T. M. and L. O. T. M., Oct. 1st, 1899.....	390,084
Headquarters of Order, Maccabee Temple, LILLIAN M. HOLLISTER, Supreme Commander, 307 Kirby Avenue West, Detroit, Mich. BINA M. WEST, Supreme Record Keeper, Maccabee Temple, Port Huron, Mich.	

This business envelope was sent by the Buffalo, New York chapter of the Ladies of The Maccabees to the Supreme Record Keeper, Bina M. West, at its national headquarters, the Maccabee Temple in Port Huron, Michigan. It is franked with a 2-cent stamp cancelled by a Buffalo duplex post mark dated January 4, 1901. The L.O.T.M beehive logo is printed in the upper left corner, and the reverse is almost completely covered with a printed membership synopsis. Most impressively, the sender affixed five colorful labels advertising the Pan-American Exposition that was soon to be held in Buffalo from May 1 through November 2, 1901.

The Knights of the Maccabees, a sub-group of the Order of Foresters, was organized the 1870s and based its name, ceremonies, and rituals on the pious and heroic Jewish brothers and their followers who overthrew the Seleucid Empire's Hellenized Jewish rulers of Judea in 167 BCE. The group grew rapidly and by 1880 had over 10,000 members in Canada and the United States. One of the organization's main purposes (probably its principal purpose and attraction) was to provide low-cost life insurance to its members. After a period of near insolvency and a schism between its Canadian and U.S. Great Tents (i.e. chapters), the Maccabees reorganized in at the Supreme Tent (national meeting) held in 1881 at Port Huron, Michigan.

Sabina "Bina" Mae West Miller is said to have attended a Knights of Maccabees' picnic in 1891 and after learning about its life insurance mission vowed to create a parallel beneficial organization specifically for women. Subsequently, she was instrumental in establishing the Ladies of the Maccabee's as an auxiliary of the Knights of the Maccabees under the leadership of Adelpia Grace "Mother" Westbrook Ward. By 1913, it had over 80,000 members and had paid out over \$50 million in death benefits. The organization was renamed as the Women's Benefit Association in 1915 and still exists today as the Woman's Life Insurance Society.

(For more information, see the McElroy's "Bina West Miller: Pioneer" at the Foundation for Economic Freedom website, the "Maccabees & Ladies of the Maccabees" Facebook page, the Women's Life Insurance Society website.)

**SOLD #10010**

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

### 38. [POLAR] [TRAVEL]

**1903 – A bi-fold broadsheet advertising an “illustrated lecture” by the famous travel-writer Harry de Windt about his recently completed overland journey from Paris to New York across the Bering Strait along with a souvenir card bearing his autograph.**

This four-page advertisement measures 16” x 11” when opened and is in nice shape with two storage folds and a small scuff on the rear where it may have been attached to an album page. The partially printed souvenir autographed card measures 4¾” x 2½” and reads, “The Signature of / Yours Truly: / Harry de Windt., Oct 20 – 97.” It shows some light soiling and foxing.

The front of the advertisement features a photo-mechanical portrait of Harry de Windt wearing a fur hood. It reads, “Mr. Harry de Windt / F.R.G.S. / The Famous Traveller and Explorer in an Illustrated Description of his Hazardous Journey / Paris to New York – Overland / Under the sole management of / Major J. B. Pond - - Everett House, New York.” There is a faint purple autograph handstamp in the upper margin that reads, “J.B. Pond” and a manuscript annotation at the top that reads, “This is the only novelty of the season if that is what you want.”

The second page includes an “Announcement Extraordinary” that provides a short biography of de Windt and introduction to the lecture which was illustrated by “over one hundred stereopticon” projections.

The third Page contains a “Synopsis of the Lecture”, and

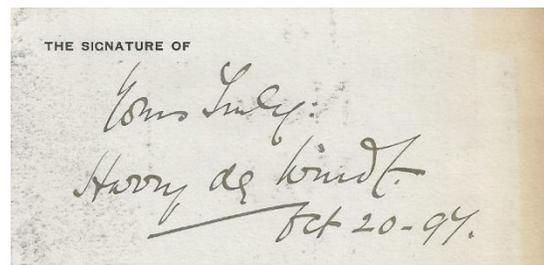
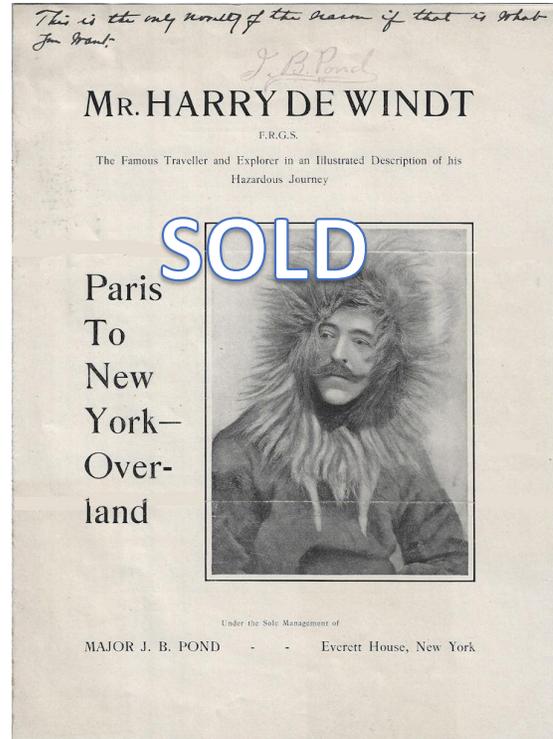
The last page contains reviews of the lecture, which had been previously given in London, by the *Daily News*, the *Daily Telegraph*, and the *Daily Chronicle*.

De Windt’s journey included travel on the Trans-Siberian Railway, sleighing over frozen post roads, trekking over frozen tundra, dogsledding along the Arctic coast, boarding a Revenue Service cutter for a short hop, hiking over ice floes, and riding in a walrus-skin boat.

Harry Willes Darell de Windt was the aide-de-camp to his brother-in-law Charles Brooke, the Raja of Sarawak, although he is best known as an explorer and travel writer. He was the son of a British army captain and although he attended college at Cambridge, did not graduate, instead choosing to undertake and write about adventurous journeys including *Overland from Paris to New York via Siberia*, *Peking to Paris*, *Russia to India via Persia*, and *Through Savage Europe . . . the Balkan States and European Russia*.

While de Windt’s published account of this journey is available for sale in the trade and held by many institutions, this lecture advertisement is not. Neither is it identified by OCLC as being held by any institution at the time of this listing.

**SOLD #10011**



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

### 39. [EXPOSITIONS – JAMESTOWN] [POLITICS] [PHILATELY]

1906-1907 – Pair of Jamestown Exposition letters with their accompanying illustrated mailing envelopes.

Both letters are on official Jamestown Exposition stationery, and both are in nice shape.

The first letter was sent by the Board of Jamestown Exposition Managers for Massachusetts soliciting subcommittees within the state to provide “articles illustrating colonial history, such as furniture, clothing, cooking utensils, articles manufactured in the colonies, books, jewelry, lace, fans, portraits and paintings, samplers and examples of needlework” worthy of being exhibited at a world’s fair. The letterhead and envelope both feature an illustration of the Seal of Massachusetts. The envelope is postmarked December 15, 1906.

The second letter was sent from Richmond by William Washington Baker, one of the commissioners of the exposition, on colorful Jamestown Exposition stationery (both writing-paper and envelope) that features the state flag of Virginia. Baker, who had been a Confederate privateer during the Civil War was a successful businessman and former member of the Virginia House of Delegates. It is addressed to John W. Churchman, a member of the House of Delegates, in Staunton. In the letter, Baker humorously chides Churchman about running for Speaker of the House.

“I saw by the Times-Dispatch this morning that you claim to be the very oldest member that ever served anybody, anywhere, much less in the House of Delegates. . . . Now I have a little bird whispering to me that you had better be on the lookout. . . . You have two very formidable opponents, that are after your scalp, and if you didn’t get a move on they would wear your auburn locks around their waist. I was sorry to hear this especially after you had aired your age &c before the Richmond female sex. Well, you remember the old adage, “Pride goes &c.” . . .”

Baker was defeated for the speaker position by R. E. Byrd of Winchester.

Two scarce and attractive Jamestown Exposition items

**SOLD #10012**



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

40. [BUSINESS – DAIRY PRODUCTS] [EXPOSITIONS – JAMESTOWN] [FOOD & DRINK] [PHILATELY]

1907 – Letter soliciting a prospective customer to attend the Jamestown Exposition and visit the store of a “Wholesale Dealer in Butter, Cheese and Eggs”

This one-page illustrated letter was sent by the E. H. Hobbs Company of Norfolk, Virginia to H. C. Jones, Esq. in Beaufort, North Carolina. The writing paper features an illustration of the company's products. Its accompanying envelope features an illustration of the exposition's seal and is franked with a 2-cent Jamestown Exposition stamp that has been cancelled with a Jamestown Celebration postmark dated June 6, 1907. In nice shape.

The letter reads in part:

“The Exposition is now about complete, and it compares favorable with the Saint Louis and Chicago Expositions and in a great many things, far Excels them.

“The rates here, for lodging and meals, are not exorbitant by any means, and I take this means of advising my friends and customers that we will be glad to assist them in any way we can in securing rooms, and we have a special desk in our offices for the use of our North and South Carolina customers. . . .

“Make our office your head-quarters while in the city. . . .”

A fine and unusual Jamestown Exposition memento.

**SOLD #10013**





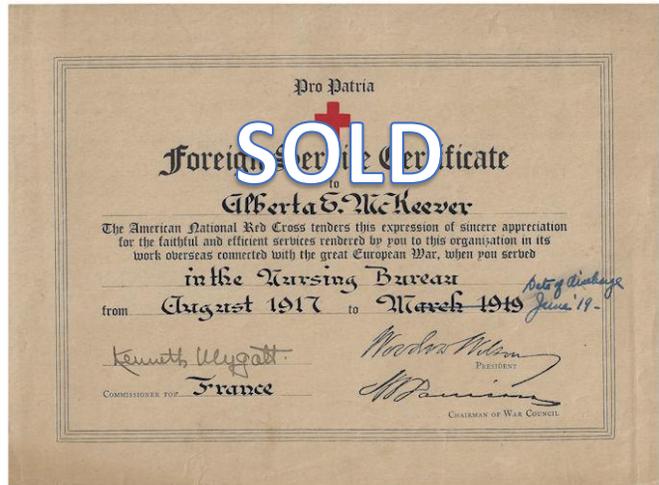
Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

**42. [MEDICINE & NURSING] [MILITARY & WAR – WORLD WAR 1] [WOMEN]**

**1917-1919 – An exceptional nurse's photograph album documenting life in one of the first to arrive and last to leave hospitals supporting the America Expeditionary Force in France during World War I.**

This half-leather photograph album is 13" x 9" inches. It was compiled by Alberta E. McKeever, a nurse in Base Hospital No. 27 which set up in the Mongazon Seminary at Angers, France. It contains 52 pages that hold over 300 uncaptioned items, including about 265 vernacular photographs ranging in size from 1" x 1¾" to 6¼" x 4½". There also are two large official photographs of transport ships, one 9" x 7" and one 10¼" x 5½", as well as over 25 small souvenir album photos, more than 15 postcards, and one Christmas card. The album also contains one of the Welcome Letters signed in print by King George that was presented to many arriving U.S. soldiers. All of these items have been glued to the album pages. A Foreign Service Certificate from the War Council of the American Red Cross is laid in. Although the pages and contents are in nice shape, the album is well-worn. Its hinges have been partially mended, and the original page 'locks' no longer function.

Base Hospital No. 27 was an Army reserve hospital first organized in April, 1916 from the staff of the University of Pittsburgh's Medical School. With the U.S. entry into World War One, the hospital staff mobilized at Pittsburgh on August 18, 1917 and three days later boarded train cars bound for Allentown, where it began five weeks of training. It departed New York on September 27, 1917, on the transport S.S. Lapland for Liverpool, England. It departed England for France on October 16, and arrived at Le Havre, France the next day and arrived at Angers on the 19<sup>th</sup>. There, it occupied the Mongazon Seminary, a large three-story masonry structure, which was readily converted into a hospital, and began to receive patients on November 9, 1917. After constructing additional wooden wards, its normal capacity increased to 2,800 beds, and the hospital could be expanded to 4,100 beds for emergencies by setting up additional beds



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

under canvas. The hospital closed its doors on January 5, 1919 and sailed for home where it was demobilized at Camp Dix, New Jersey on March 25, 1919. During its time in France over 19,500 patients, almost evenly split between medical and surgical cases, were cared for by Base Hospital No. 27.

McKeever's photographs and postcards appear to be arranged chronologically. The first item is a large official photograph of the S.S. *Laplant*, the ship that transported the hospital to Europe, and it is followed by a series of snapshots of the warships that protected its convoy. Next are postcards and photographs from England, followed by photographs taken at Angers of the female nursing staff, wooden wards, male staff members and officers, presumable physicians. A series of photos show an arriving hospital train and patients in the wards. More photos follow showing the nurses, physicians, enlisted staff and patients at meals, ceremonies, and parties, as well at the Mongazon Seminary campus. McKeefer has also included photographs of the local community as well as postcards and photos of places she visited, probably while on leave or pass. Several post cards show nurses visiting General Lafayette's tomb and U.S. troops marching through Paris. The album concludes with the relative scarce letter of welcome from King George, a "Mother's Christmas Prayer" card with a color illustration of a Blue Star service flag and holly branch, and the laid-in Foreign Service Certificate. The last photograph in the album is of the U.S. Transport Ship *America*. This is apparently the ship that carried McKeever back to the United States although the Army Medical Department history of the hospital reports the unit returned on the S.S. *Manchuria*.

(For more information, see Ford's *The Medical Department of the United States Army in the World War*, and various online military and genealogical databases.)

A very nice photo-record of an early-deploying World War One Army hospital's service in support of the American Expeditionary Force.

**SOLD #10015**



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

### 43. [FLORIDIANA] [SOCIAL MORES – ROARING TWENTIES] [WOMEN]

#### 1928 – A one month pocket diary detailing the life of a free-wheeling young woman living the party-life at Miami Beach, Florida

This 2.5" x 5" pocket diary for the month of February 1928 was kept by an unidentified young woman living in Miami Beach in which she devoted two detailed pages to each of the month's 29 days. (It was leap year.) In nice shape. Written in pencil, but easy to read.

The diary documents the life of an independent young woman living on her own in a beachfront apartment. She has no visible means of support, never mentions a job, and some entries suggest she is supported by her parents. Instead

of the drudgery of work, her life is one continuous party; her days are filled with lounging at the beach, driving all around southern Florida, shopping for clothes, dating, movies, nightclubs, dinners, dancing, drinking, and spiritualist parties. Seldom was she home before 1:00 a.m., and it was not unusual for her to be out until the wee hours of the morning. Some excerpts include:

"Billy called me on phone said he would be over at 7 p.m. I came up & manicured my nails. Got dolled up & was ready when Billy came – We went to Little River & saw "Male & Female" with Tom Meighan & Gloria Swanson. . . Came out and drove to Buena Vista had a drink & drove to Miami . . .

"I dolled up . . . hopped on trolley & went to Miami. Took a walk and went to Hollywood office to listen to band. . . Sat out front with Dorothy & a lady came along she knew & the 3 of us went for a walk to So. Beach. On the way back a guy with a big red car picked us up & drove all around the Beach. . .

"A Mr. Geo Simmons I met yesterday at Hollywood called to see me but I chased him. . . Had a couple of ladies in for a smoke. . .

"Now 2 a.m. ready to hit the hay. . . wonderful evening. All women 12 in all & some hot bunch! . . .

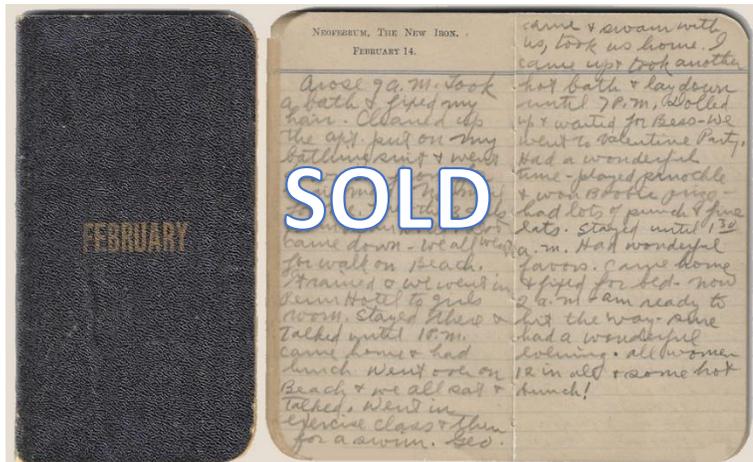
"Had a couple drinks & pack of smokes. . . Went over to Besses & drove her car with 5 girls to Columbus Hotel to a 500 game. None of us won. Went to the Frolics night club. Had a bottle of Rye & ginger ale – watched the Revue. . . Left at 114 & drove to Beach. . . It is now 320 a.m. . . .

"Went out for a walk & on corner flirted with 3 fellows [who]took us to town & and over to Silver Slippers – saw a wonderful show & danced – had high balls etc bill was \$32. . . It is now 345 a.m. . . My eyes burn for lack of sleep. Must keep better hours. . .

"We all went to Bohemian Club - had bottle of Bacardi & ginger ale. Watched revue then drove to Hollywood – had lots of fun – came back to town & restaurant – fine feed. . . It's now 415 a.m & I am ready to hit the hay – have a slight hang-over. . .

A fascinating account demonstrating the change that occurred in America's social mores following World War One, detailing the life of a young woman that would never have been imagined in the previous decade.

**SOLD #10016**



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

#### 44. [MUSIC - SONGBOOKS] [SCRAPBOOK – MOVIE STARS] [WOMEN]

**Early 1930s – Handmade songbook with lyrics to 80 songs illustrated with fan magazine illustrations of the singers and movie stars who popularized them**

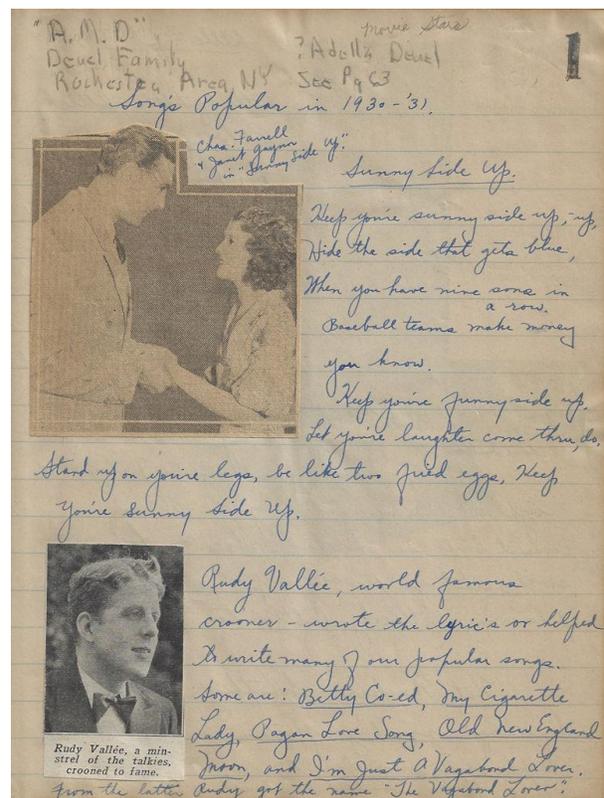
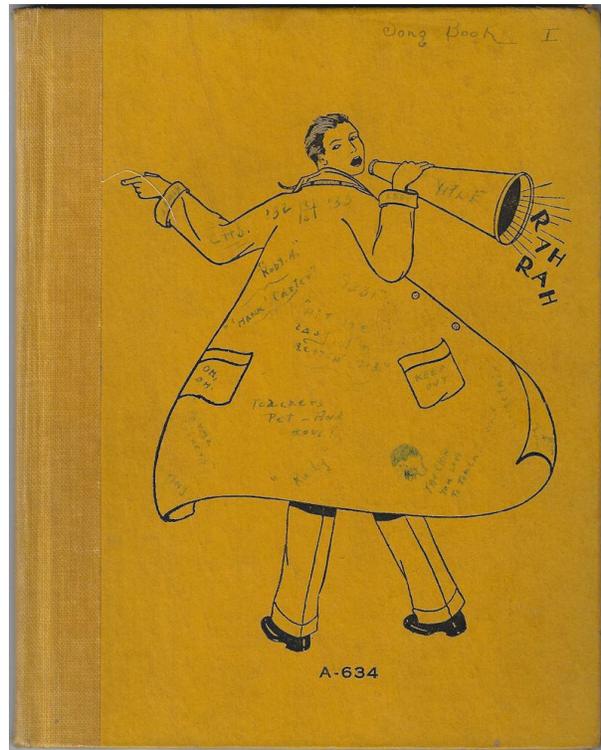
This appealing songbook, titled “Songs Popular in 1930 – 1931,” measures 7” x 8½”. It was made by Adella Deuel of Rochester, New York and includes handwritten lyrics to 80 popular songs illustrated with clipping from fan magazines. The bright yellow composition notebook’s cover features a printed illustration of college ‘sheik’ holding a megaphone and wearing a yellow slicker raincoat covered with handwritten ‘collegiate’ slang from the late 1920s and early 1930s. (Looks like it this guy could have walked right out of the opening of Good News, the classic MGM set in Tait College.) In nice shape.

Some of the songs include: *Sunny Side Up*, *After the Ball is Over* (the biggest Tin-Pan Alley hit of all time revived in the 1932 hit film of the same name), *Would You Like to Take a Walk*, *My Cigarette Lady*, *The Sidewalks of New York* (another ‘Gay Nineties’ classic revived in the 1934 Shirley Temple film, *Little Miss Marker*), *Vagabond Lover*, *Rio Rita*, *Betty Coed*, *Happy Days Are Here Again*, *Just a Gigolo*, *Million Dollar Baby*, and many, many more.

Fan magazine clippings include Rudy Valee, Janet Gaynor, Eddie Quillan, Robert Montgomery, Joan Crawford, John Bowles, Bebe Daniels, Maurice Chevalier, Douglas Fairbanks, etc.

A terrific keepsake from the early years of the Great Depression when the music and film industry used snappy songs and screwball romantic comedies to provide the public with some cultural relief during the dreary days of the 1930s.

\$200 [#10017](#)



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

45. [ATOMIC BOMB] [MILITARY & WAR – WORLD WAR II] [PHILATELY] [PROPAGANDA]

1945 – A propaganda warning leaflet airdropped over Japan just before the first Atomic Bomb was dropped on Hiroshima.



This propaganda leaflet measures 8" x 5½". It was prepared at Tinian, Northern Mariana Islands by the United States Army Strategic Air Command and dropped by B-29 Superfortress bombers over 12 Japanese cities on 27 July 1945 just before the first Atomic Bomb destroyed Hiroshima on 6 August. In nice shape with no wrinkles or soiling.

The front features a photo-mechanical illustration of five bombers dropping incendiary bombs over Yokohama. Circles along the bottom border represent 11 potential targets. The list of cities includes Aomori, Nishinomiya, Ogaki, Ichinomiya, Kurume, Uwajima, Nagaoka, Hakodate, Tu, Uji Yamada, and Tokyo. Hiroshima or Nagasaki were not included, although the leaflet specifically states other cities may also be targeted

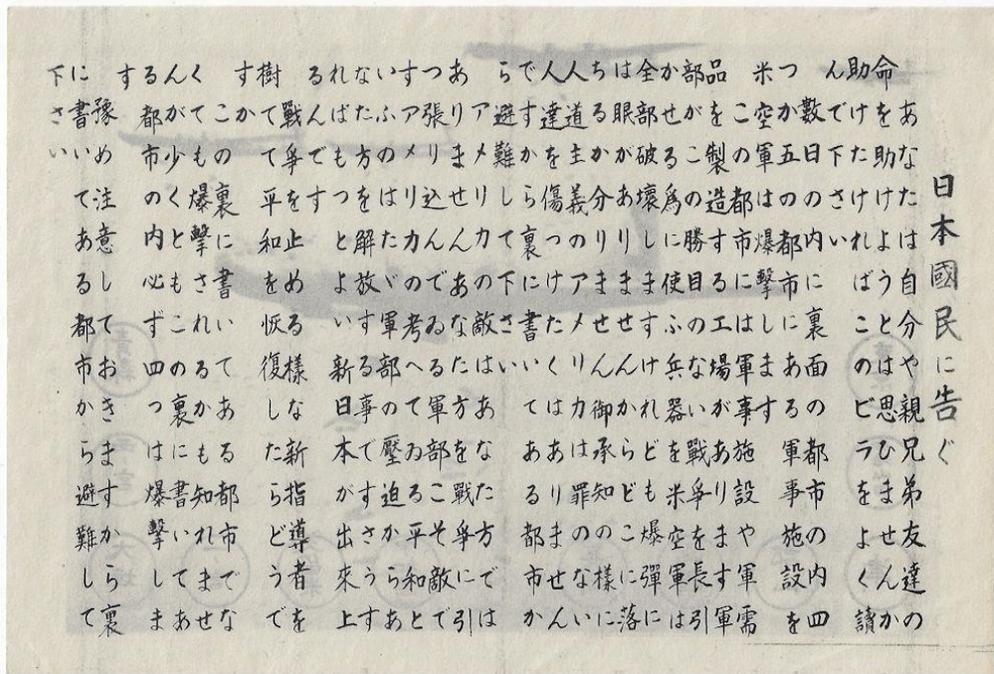
The reverse contains the warning text. Translated into English, it reads,

“Attention Japanese People. Read this carefully as it may save your life or the life of a relative or friend. In the next few days, four or more of the cities named on the reverse side of this leaflet will be destroyed by American bombs. These cities contain military installation and workshops or factories, which produce military goods. We are determined to destroy all of the tools of the military clique they are using to prolong this useless war. Unfortunately, bombs have no eyes. So, in accordance with America’s well-known humanitarian policies, the American Air Force which does not wish to injure innocent people, now gives you warning to evacuate the cities named and save your lives.

“America is not fighting the Japanese people but is fighting the military clique, which has enslaved the Japanese people. The peace, which America will bring, will free the people from the oppression of the Japanese military clique, mean the emergence of a new, and better Japan.

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

You can restore peace by demanding new and better leaders who will end the War. We cannot promise that only these cities will be among those attacked, but at least four will be, so heed this warning and evacuate these cities immediately."



The next day, Aomori, Ogake,

Uwajima, Ichinomiya, Tu, and Uji Yamada were firebombed and left in ashes..

Bomb warning leaflets had been dropped by the U.S. Army Air Force over cities throughout the war over cities in Germany and Japan. This example, related to the Atomic Bomb is the most famous of all. Over 700,000 were dropped on the night of 27-28 July on Japanese cities by the 73<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Wing.

Subsequently, other leaflets with similar messages were dropped over Japan on 30 July, 1 August, and 3 August. Although military and intelligence records indicate Hiroshima and Nagasaki were included in at least one of these drops, some historians believe they were not dropped before those two cities were destroyed.

These pre-Atomic Bomb leaflets are colloquially referred to as "Lemay Leaflets" as they were prepared at the direction of Curtis E. Lemay, then the Commanding General of the U.S. Army's Air Force's XXI Bomber Command. Some sources suggest that Lemay even had a hand in their design.

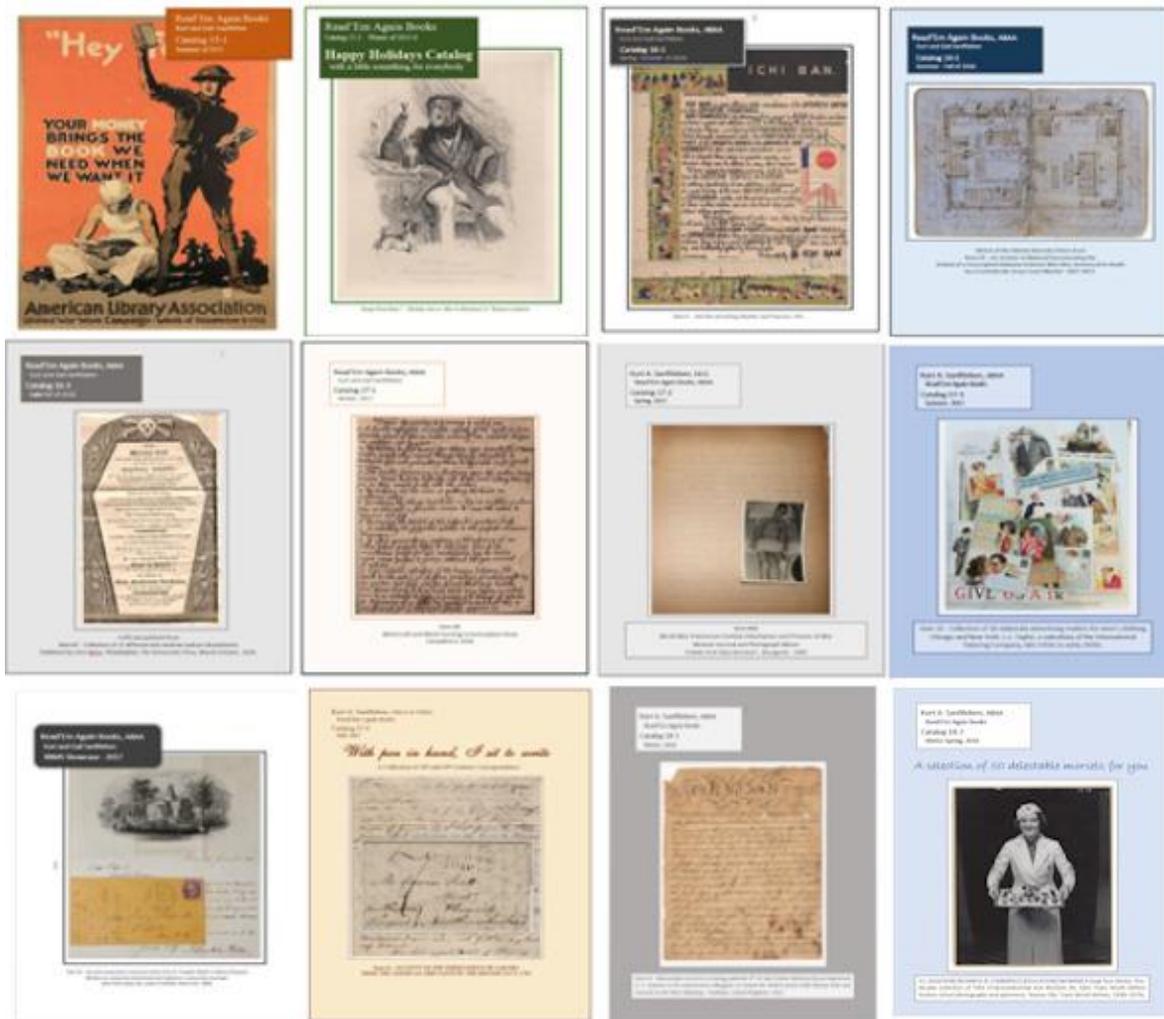
(For more information, see Daugherty's *A Psychological Casebook*, Wellerstein's "The Hiroshima Leaflet" and "A Day Too Late" online at Restricted Data: The Nuclear Secrecy Blog, "World War II Propaganda Leaflets" at the National Air & Space Museum website, and "Very Rare WWII 1st Edition Lemay Leaflet - Atomic Bomb Hiroshima & Nagasaki" at the Premier Relics website,

Exceptionally scarce. Although 700,00 of these leaflets were dropped on the night of 27-28 July, only a few are known to have survived. Those that have are in similarly nice condition, and one is known to have been saved by a flight crew member; that is likely the case of this example.

At the time of listing, no Lemay Leaflets are for sale in the trade, although one was recently sold by a militaria dealer. The Rare Book Hub shows only one having ever been listed at auction. OCLC shows that only digital copies are held by institutions, however, the Smithsonian's Air and Space Museum holds three of the later Lemay leaflets.

**SOLD #10018**

Please [let us know](#) if you would like to receive our electronic catalogs of diaries, letters, ephemera, postal history, photographs, and sometimes even books.



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We hope you can join us at one of our upcoming live shows

**10-12 Mar 2023 – Florida Antiquarian Book Fair – St. Petersburg, Florida**

**17-19 Mar 2023 – Ephemera 43, East Greenwich, Connecticut**

**24-26 Mar 2023 – St. Louis Stamp Expo – St. Louis, Missouri**

**1-4 Jun 2023 – NAPEX – McLean, Virginia**

**10-13 Aug 2022 – Great American Stamp Show – Cleveland, Ohio**