We have been cataloguing up a storm this summer, and we're pleased to present this list of thirty, freshly-catalogued new acquisitions. Highlights include an African-American business directory from Columbus, Ohio; an extensive California quicksilver mining archive; a 19th-century Cuban manuscript on agricultural renewal, illustrated with maps; an illustrated Mexican manual on animal husbandry; an amazing archive of letters written from early Republic Texas; and a mammoth Jackson photo of the Great Falls of the Yellowstone. Enjoy!

Cheers,
Teri, James, & Joe

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SUGAR RAY LEONARD READING WITH HIS SONS


A pair of promotional posters advertising the American Library Association’s 1985 campaign to “Get a head start at The Library.” Each poster is emblazoned with that title. One of the posters features a young African-American girl sitting on the ground, reading a book titled, Making the Most of Your First Job while leaning against her lemonade stand. The caption at the bottom says simply, “Read.” The credit along the left side of the poster notes the photograph was taken by Julie Melton. The second poster depicts champion boxer Sugar Ray Leonard reading Hansel and Gretel to his two sons, Ray, Jr. and Jarrell Leonard (the two small gougues in this poster occur in the area of Jarrell’s hair). This photograph was taken by George de Vincent. The caption at the bottom of this poster says simply, “Read together.” These posters are part of a long-standing promotional program by the American Library Association to encourage reading and visiting the local library. The 1985 campaign also included subjects such as Dan Marino and Lee Iacocca; these posters are among the few up to that time to feature African Americans.

$850

UNRECORDED YEARBOOK OF A SEGREGATED SCHOOL IN JIM CROW WEST VIRGINIA


A delightfully homespun junior high school yearbook featuring the African-American student body at the segregated Boyd Junior High School in Charleston, West Virginia. Though undated, a timeline of school history printed in the book notes that the current principal began his position in 1951. The content of the yearbook is typical of most school publications of the type, but nonetheless informative, with individual portraits of the graduating class, numerous class group portraits and club photographs, portraits from “Prom Time,” and others. Listings of the senior class include each student’s nickname and “ambition” after graduation. Ambitions include everything from civil engineer, boxer, and salesman to physician, mechanic, and musician, among others. The female students’ ambitions are very much a product of their time, with multiple girls giving answers such as stenographer, nurse, secretary, and beautician. The “History of Boyd School” closes with a poignant passage: “The walls of this school and land mark may some day crumble or be demolished, but its imprint on those who have passed through its portals will last for generations to come.” Kanawha County schools would be integrated by the end of 1956. A visually-interesting work that paints a picture of African-American
education in the American South in the dying years of segregation. No copies in OCLC.  
(McBRB4062) $950

RARE OHIO AFRICAN-AMERICAN BUSINESS DIRECTORY FROM THE GREAT DEPRESSION

3. [African Americana]. McWilliams, W.A. Columbus Business & Professional Negro Directory. Columbus, Oh.: [1930]. 2,84pp., advertisement leaf laid down on front pastedown. Quarto. Mid-20th century textured maroon cloth, gilt titles on front cover. Minor edge wear. Closed tear to bottom edge of one leaf, clean internally. Very good. A rare African-American directory for the city of Columbus, Ohio. The compiler and publisher, Rev. W.A. McWilliams calls this “our second Year Book and Directory,” but this is the only example we have located. The work contains dozens of advertisements for local merchants and professionals, some illustrated with photographs, and textual passages on area churches, women’s groups, hairdressers, lists of vital statistics, clubs & organizations, a list of the “Columbus Branch of the National Association of Negro Musicians,” restaurants and hotels serving the Black community, and much more. The work provides a detailed rendering of Columbus’s African-American professional, business, and social community. McWilliams expresses “increased pleasure in presenting some of the members of the white group, who have, and are now proving themselves friends and benefactors to us, we believe, not because we are Negroes, but American citizens making an honest effort to raise the status of our race.” One of the many photographic portraits features Reverend McWilliams, described as “Author, Editor, Minister, Pastor of Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, Stanbough Avenue.” OCLC records just four institutional holdings of this directory, at Emory, Columbus Metropolitan Library, Ohio History Connection, and the Milwaukee Public Library.  
(McBRB4052) $2,500

AFRICAN-AMERICAN CHURCH IN NEW JERSEY BURNS ITS MORTGAGE


An unrecorded handbill emblematic of an intriguing practice by mortgage holders in the late-19th and early-20th centuries. Mortgage burning services and celebrations were particularly popular in African-American churches, and involved just what they imply: upon the completion of payment of a given mortgage, the debtor would burn the promissory note to signal its fulfillment. As related in the present handbill, a mortgage burning would often result in a neighborhood party (“Come and Rejoice With Us on the Occasion. This Mortgage Is of About 20 Years Standing.” The present celebration involved two days of
sermons, addresses, music, and food, most notably a lecture by Right Reverend Alexander Walters. The handbill includes the names of other preachers and the trustees involved in the event. No copies in OCLC.  
(McBRB4138) $450

ORGANIZING FOR CIVIL RIGHTS


A nice contemporary copy of the annual report for the Southern Program of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), prepared by Hosea L. Williams, the director of the Southern Program, and presented to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the SCLC’s Board of Directors at the organization’s annual meeting held in Louisville, Kentucky March 29-30, 1967. The work begins with a summary of the activities of the SCLC over the past year, including the work of 104 people in 180 counties in ten southern states. Williams reports that “For the past twelve months the Southern Program has been involved in voter registration, political education, withholding patronage campaigns, school integration, organizing community organizations in counties where needed, Get-Out-the-Vote Campaigns, developing the Negro economic potential, organizing farmer’s cooperatives, labor strikes, community newspapers, investment corporations, tutoring classes especially for Negroes with deficiencies attending previously all-white schools, organizing Negro candidates, organizing and registering the farmers to fully participate in the ASCS (Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service), non-violent workshops, business and professional clubs, direct action campaigns, non-violent street protests, credit unions, county-wide mass meetings on a regular basis, youth programs, mobilizing existing organizations, adult education, school boycotts and open housing.” The next dozen pages are taken up with charts that detail which of the above activities were carried on in each of the 180 counties in the ten states, from Alabama to Kentucky, Virginia to Texas, and more. This is followed by a “Recapitulation of SCLC’s Southern Program by State, and finally an “overall recap of the Southern Program” presented as a total of each activity quoted above. The present work came from a collection of SCLC material out of Atlanta once belonging to Hosea L. Williams. A valuable snapshot of the types of activities and the breadth of work being performed by the SCLC’s Southern Program in the midst of the Civil Rights Movement.  
(McBRB4069) $1,250

“NEGRO LEADER IS WELCOMED ON EDUCATIONAL PILGRIMAGE”


reprinted herewith from the New York Evening Post, and several other publications describe the effectiveness and value of a series of meetings held throughout the State of Tennessee, November 18 to 28, 1909, by Dr. Booker T. Washington of the Tuskegee Institute. A special correspondent of the Evening Post accompanied Dr. Washington and party during the whole of the trip. The other publications include an editorial from the Springfield (Mass.) Republican and an article and an editorial by R.E. Park which appeared in The Boston Transcript. Washington spoke in twenty Tennessee towns and cities: Bristol, Johnson City, Greenville, Knoxville, Chattanooga, South Pittsburg, Winchester, Decherd, Fayetteville, Columbia, Pulaski, Nashville, Springfield, Clarksville, Paris, Humboldt, Brownsville, Memphis, Jackson, and Milan. Washington also spoke in two Kentucky locations (Guthrie and Hopkinsville). One of the reports notes that some members of the Washington party got off the train in Big Sandy “just to say they’d been there.” According to the report, Big Sandy was infamous as a town in which no African American was allowed to remain after sunset. OCLC reports just three copies, at NYPL, Yale, and the University of California, Davis.


A delightfully homespun songbook produced by the Ohio Federation of Colored Women’s Clubs, and printed for the group’s fiftieth anniversary by the Supreme Liberty Life Insurance Company of Chicago. The pamphlet prints over forty songs important to the club, most notably “The Star-Spangled Banner,” “Lifting As We Climb,” and James Weldon’s and J. Rosamond Johnson’s “Life Every Voice and Sing,” listed here under the title, “Negro National Anthem.” The songs are divided into two tables of contents - “Songs” and “Pep Songs.” The work was probably intended as the successor to the group’s Official Song Book published in 1927. No copies in OCLC.

A large and important archive of material documenting the business activities and expenditures of the Redington Quicksilver Mining Company in northeastern Napa County, California over the course of almost two decades in the late-19th century. The present collection offers rare documentation of the company’s day-to-day business operations through a voluminous number of letters, documents, balance sheets, assessments, receipts, invoices, tax valuations, partnership agreements, licenses, and more. The Redington Quicksilver Company was originally known as the X.L.C.R. Mining Company, located in Sulphur Canon, north of Berryessa Valley. Discovered in 1860 or 1861 by silver prospectors on land being graded for a road, the cinnabar deposits proved rich and valuable, and a company was formed and changed hands several times over the next decade. The 1881 History of Napa and Lake Counties, California quotes mine superintendent Charles E. Livermore, “The Redington Quicksilver Mine is located in the northeastern portion of Napa County, about eighteen miles from Clear Lake. The mine was discovered some twenty years ago, and has been worked more or less successfully ever since. Some three hundred men, with their families, forming quite a little town known as Knoxville, owned by the company, are usually clustered around this mine, thus making, with the farmers around, a community of some five hundred people.”

Further details and highlights from the material in each of the three file boxes include:

1) Approximately a hundred manuscript letters, comprised of twenty-two letters from 1872, sixty from 1874, and twenty from 1876, most to superintendent C.E. Livermore, some to others, many from company treasurer Horatio Livermore, some on Redington Quicksilver Company letterhead. A typical document of interest is a manuscript “Inventory of Kitchen, R.Q. Co., August 31 1872,” with prices, lots of coffee, cornmeal, sugar, rice, cabbage, and even some salmon.

2) Dozens of monthly balance sheets from H.P Livermore, Treasurer of the R.Q. Co., plus hundreds of shipping receipts and waybills, often with line-item costs for transporting material.

3) Hundreds of receipts for the purchase of supplies from various companies, most notably lumber and equipment, and for extensive business travel by numerous company officials all over California and the West Coast, offering a granular account of the business operations of the R.Q. Co.

We have but scratched the surface on what is most assuredly a deep and informative collection of business records for a notable California mining company, with great research potential.

(McBRB3501) $4,500
NEW CONSTITUTION OF COLUMBIA


“Edicion oficial revisada por una comision de la Camara de Representantes, compuesta de un miembro por cada estado.” In 1863, the political pendulum swung liberal and a new constitution was established, which lasted until 1886. The new constitution renamed the country the United States of Colombia, gave the states all powers not reserved for the central government, contained fully defined individual liberties, and guaranteed Colombians full religious freedom. Fewer than ten copies in OCLC. (McBRB4205) $750

MANUSCRIPT, IN A CONTEMPORARY CUBAN BINDING

10. [Cuba]. Zona Central Puerto Principe Año de 1879 [manuscript title]. [Cuba: 1879]. [26]pp., mostly on pre-printed lithographic forms completed in manuscript, plus nine folding manuscript maps on drafting linen, executed in pen- &-ink with some color, all mounted on stubs. Quarto. Contemporary full blue Cuban calf, ruled in gilt, binder’s ticket on front pastedown reading, “Encuadernacion de J. Rafael Estevan, San Ramon num. 49, Puerto Principe.” Moderate rubbing, scuffing, soiling, and edge wear to boards. Light scattered foxing to text. One map separated along one horizontal fold, another with minor loss along one fold line. [with:] Zona Central Poblado de Pueblo Nuevo [manuscript title]. [8]pp.

Plain wrappers with manuscript title plus gathered signatures comprised of pre-printed lithographic forms completed in manuscript, sewn. Laid into the larger work. Very good.

A likely-unique collection of information relating to the repair and revival of the “Central Zone” of the central Cuban territory of Puerto Principe (modern-day Camaguey) and Pueblo Nuevo in 1879. The text of the work contains a listing of landowners whose farms are under reconstruction in the territories following the conclusion of the Ten Years War against Spain, an important period in the history of Cuba, when many areas were decimated, and reconstruction was a necessity. The text also contains additional important information related to these reconstruction efforts, with the size of each farm, its location, dates of reconstruction, each farm’s inhabitants (both free and slaves), and its four types of farm animals. The information on Pueblo Nuevo comes from a related shorter manuscript laid in and titled, Zona Central Poblado de Pueblo Nuevo, listing various farmers, their family size, and their landlords.

These detailed tables of farm information in Puerto Principe are followed by nine informative folding maps of various localities, and apparently
military installations, in Puerto Principe and Pueblo Nuevo. These maps range in size from about 17 x 23 inches to 30 x 33 inches. The largest, titled “Zona Central,” is effectively a master map of the area, featuring the city of Puerto Principe in the middle, with various smaller towns and dozens of farms plotted all around it, and showing other topographical features such as rivers and elevations. The remainder of the maps are detailed views of eight of the smaller towns within the Central Zone: Yaba, Claveles, Pueblo Nuevo, Caobillas, Altagracia, Vista Hermosa, Las Minas, and Santa Isabel de Troncones. Each map shows a handful of land plots, some highlighted in color, and other features relating to the reconstruction project encompassed in the present work. The Las Minas map indicates some development there relating to military installations.

A highly-informative combination of demographic information and manuscript maps which provide a detailed snapshot of a notable location in Cuba in 1879 amidst an improvement project designed to rehabilitate the farms and towns in modern-day Camaguey following another war with Spain.  

A decidedly rare Cuban imprint, the title of which translates roughly to Memory or Notions Drawn from Facts and Experience with the Disease Commonly Known as Black Vomit or Yellow Fever. The text opens with the challenge of dealing with the disease: “It is a difficult endeavor to write a memoir about yellow fever, whose cure belongs to the realm of internal diseases, where there are hidden obstacles and certain dangers: about a disease so malignant and impenetrable....” Among the epidemics which scourged the island of Cuba, the one that brought death to the greatest number of victims and thus the biggest horror to visitors, as well as being responsible for our slow progress, was the Black Vomit. In the present work, Dr. Jose Antonio Bernal Munoz provides an introduction or “Preliminary” to the terrible disease of Black Vomit or Yellow Fever. He explains the disease, its causes, how the said causes affect non-acclimated individuals to produce yellow fever, the periods observed in yellow fever, the different classes which he divides into four, as well as a formulary of recommended prescriptions and treatments. An early Cuban work on Yellow Fever, and a very rare work, with no auction records and just two copies listed in OCLC, at the University of Florida and the Wellcome Library.

A highly-informative combination of demographic information and manuscript maps which provide a detailed snapshot of a notable location in Cuba in 1879 amidst an improvement project designed to rehabilitate the farms and towns in modern-day Camaguey following another war with Spain.  

A highly-informative combination of demographic information and manuscript maps which provide a detailed snapshot of a notable location in Cuba in 1879 amidst an improvement project designed to rehabilitate the farms and towns in modern-day Camaguey following another war with Spain.
A short passage from the February 15, 1851 issue of the New York Tribune describes the nature and impetus for the present work, and also reveals why most of the limited text was printed in Spanish: “MOLE at BUENOS AYRES. - We have received a large lithographic design of a mole, to be submitted to the Argentine Government, for erection at Buenos Ayres, the Government, we understand, having contemplated such an undertaking. The plan represents a mole of solid masonry, 1,000 varas (about half a mile) in length, extending diagonally into the river so as to enclose between it and the shore a sheltered place of anchorage. It is to be of solid masonry, with a railroad running its entire length, and a lighthouse at the extremity, where, also, sea steamers will be enabled to touch. Mr. John C. Mitchell of this city is the designer of the plan, which strikes us as fully adapted to the wants of Buenos Ayres.”

We were not able to find much information on John C. Mitchell as a New York engineer. A man of the same name is listed as a member of the Ringgold Expedition, which departed the United States in 1853, and later surveyed much of the coastline from Southeast Asia up the Pacific to the Bering Sea. Mitchell is listed as third engineer aboard the brig John Hancock. The Ringgold Expedition became known as the North Pacific Exploring and Surveying Expedition, and resulted in improved knowledge of the western and northern Pacific Ocean as well as the establishment of friendly relations between the United States and several East Asian countries. The talents of an engineer who could produce the current work would certainly have been of value to such an expedition.

The present work is untitled, and was likely part of a larger proposal to the government of Argentina. As a private work, Nathaniel Currier would have had no reason to push for a title to be added. We could locate no evidence that the mole pictured here was ever constructed by the Argentine government, but the design remains nonetheless an awe-inspiring proposition and an engineering marvel. No records of any kind could be found in OCLC or larger searches of databases and government records for this project or for any other printed works related to John C. Mitchell or the construction of a mole at Rio de la Plata in 1851.

(McBRB3627) $3,500
RARE SWEDISH EDITION
OF FREDERICK DOUGLASS’S LIFE STORY


A profusely illustrated Swedish edition of Fredrick Douglass’s second memoir, *My Bondage and My Freedom*. The illustrations begin with the cover, showing a stylized scene of slaves in a tropical setting and a portrait of a young African American man intended to represent Douglass. The frontispiece is a much more recognizable representation of Douglass, captioned, “Frederik Douglass. Negerslafven, som blef en af Amerikas storste man” which translates roughly to “Frederick Douglass. Negro, who became one of America’s greatest men.” In addition to these, the text is interspersed with twenty-three illustrations accompanying Douglass’s life story. OCLC records only three copies, two in Sweden, and another at the University of Minnesota.

price: $1,250

EDUCATING INDIAN CHILDREN


Original printed self wrappers, sewn. Minor soiling to front wrapper, significant browning to final leaf. Very good.

A rare circular focused on the education of Native American youth in the early years of the Yankton Agency in the Dakota Territory. The work was written by William Hobart Hare (1838-1909), who oversaw the Christian schools among the Native Americans at Yankton, from Dakota in January 1874, and was issued by the Office of the Indian Commission of the Protestant Episcopal Church in New York. Headlined “The Church and the Indians,” this series of circulars began with the present issue and ran through 1877. In the present work, Hare acknowledges the “many Christian people for the interest which they have shown in the Boarding-School work,” and then lays out the “general plan of the school work.” Hare’s tone is clearly contemptuous of the indigenous peoples in Dakota, whom he variously refers to as “wild people” and “idle,” arguing that Indian boarding schools are necessary to “draw some of them from their wild ways to serve our Saviour in industrious, honest and holy lives.” Hare then describes the school building, its location, the composition of the student body, more about his plan “to make the school self-serving,” and further details on each school day. Hare signs the end of his circular as “Missionary Bishop of Niobrara.” The final two pages provide details on a few dozen scholarships available to fund the education of about a hundred students at the Yankton Agency, Santee Mission, Crow Creek Mission, and Cheyenne Mission. Fewer than ten institutional copies of this first issue in OCLC.

price: $650
WORKING DRAFT OF AN IMPORTANT THESIS
ON ALASKAN NATIVE POPULATIONS

15. [Inuit Peoples]. Weyer, Edward Moffat. The Eskimos: A Study in
Adaptation to Environment...A Dissertation Presented to the Faculty
of the Graduate School of Yale University, in Candidacy for the Degree
of Doctor of Philosophy. New Haven: 1930. [5],494 leaves, plus various
additions and insertions. Large quarto. Contemporary black buckram,
gilt titles to front cover and spine. Moderate edge wear and rubbing to
boards, minor soiling. Very good.

An impressive production on the adaptation of Inuit peoples in Alaska
and other Arctic regions by Edward Moffat Weyer, Jr. of Yale University,
being a working typescript of his graduate dissertation submitted in 1930.
A pencil note on the front free endpaper notes it as a duplicate, but it is
very likely a unique draft of Weyer's thesis. The text includes numerous
original manuscript edits, portions of new text pasted over or pinned
over certain sections, updated pages paper-clipped to bound portions of
the same text, and sometimes with sections of the work struck through
and replaced with inserted typed pages. The work is presented in thirteen
chapters ranging from “Position of Eskimos Among Peoples of the
World” to studies of the Inuit habitat, diet, natural resources, “Intertribal
Relations,” communalism, property rights, and more. Two chapters of
the work detail the “Influence of Geographical Conditions on Mode of
Life” and one focuses on “bodily adjustments” of the Inuits to factors
such as the weather and climate. This latter focus on climate conditions
on the Inuit peoples provide an interesting opportunity to study climate
change in the region as presented in 1930. The text is supplemented with
numerous maps, charts, diagrams, and tables of data.

Edward Moffat Weyer, Jr. was a pioneering anthropologist who studied
indigenous peoples in Alaska, the Arctic, Brazil, and Mexico. Dr. Weyer
went on to become director of the School of American Research,
specializing in the research of indigenous populations in the Arctic and
American tropics; he also edited Natural History magazine and is credited
as being the first outsider to visit the Chavante (or Shavante) Indians.
Weyer published numerous books on indigenous peoples, including the
present work. In a naturally somewhat different form, the present work
was published as The Eskimos: Their Environment and Folkways by Yale
in 1932. As such, the present thesis provides a chance not only to study
Weyer’s work on the Inuit peoples, but compare versions of his text up to
and including the published edition.

As with his groundbreaking visit to the Chavante peoples, Weyer was no
armchair anthropologist. According to the opening paragraph of Weyer’s
“Digest of Conclusions” which opens the present text: “This dissertation
differs from all previous studies of the Eskimos in that it embraces all
the groups or tribes. In it are combined the findings of all investigators,
including the information gathered by the author as Anthropologist
of the Stoll-McCracken Arctic Expedition of the American Museum
of Natural History.” The Stoll-McCracken Arctic Expedition visited
the Aleutian Islands, Bering Strait, and other Arctic regions in 1928.
Writing in The New York Times prior to their departure, expedition
leader Harold McCracken said their mission would take them “into the
Arctic from the West Coast of America in search of mummies, believed
to be remnants of the first men who emigrated from Asia to the North
American Continent. This quest will take the expedition to Alaska and
through the chain of the Aleutian Islands, the stepping stones by which
it is supposed the first human beings crossed over from their Asiatic
homes to the unpeopled shores of America.” The expedition was a
great success, with contemporary newspapers reporting “the find of the Stoll-McCracken sub-polar expedition, which reached Winnipeg this morning from Prince Rupert rivals the tomb of Tut-ankh-amen.” (The Calgary Herald, October 16, 1928).

In the title and throughout the work, Weyer refers to the subjects of his study as “Eskimos,” the common term among Western nations at the time for the indigenous peoples of the northern circumpolar region stretching from eastern Siberia through Alaska, northern Canada, and Greenland. While the exact etymology of the term remains uncertain, it is regarded by many Inuit and Yupik people as offensive and colonialist given that it has never been used by either peoples to refer to themselves and homogenizes several distinct cultural and ethnic groups. The term is still in common though diminishing use throughout Alaska, where “Alaska Native” is gaining prominence as a means to refer to the Inupiat (Alaskan Inuit), Yupik, Aleut, and other groups. Greenland’s Inuit population are officially designated as Greenlanders or Greenlandic Inuit, which includes the Kalaallit, Inughuit, and Tunumiit. Yale holds two archival copies of Weyer’s thesis, but their online catalogue lists the work as 497 leaves; we assume this is the final printed version of Weyer’s final draft.

A sobering document relating the disposition of the estate of Kentuckian George Edwards after his death in 1835. George Edwards (1761-1835) was the brother of John Edwards (1748-1837), who became a U.S. Senator. George’s estate inventory begins like many others, listing household goods, farm animals, equipment, and more, along with their appraised values. The third page, however, contains a long listing of Edwards’ eighteen slaves, listed by name and appraised value. The slave inventory may indicate that multiple generations of a single family reside on Edwards’ plantation, with listings for Aaron and “young Aaron” as well as Robert and “young Robert.” A separate listing on the fourth page includes the slaves willed by George to his daughter, Sarah Ann Edwards; Sarah Ann received four female slaves, including “Caroline and her child.” Of the estate’s total value of about $13,600, about 68% was attributed to Edwards’ slaves. The appraisers were local farmers and merchants, including Noah Spears, who ran a distillery and emancipated his own slaves in 1861. All three appraisers and both executors have signed the present document.

A KENTUCKY SLAVE INVENTORY, PARTIALLY LEFT TO THE DECEASED’S DAUGHTER


A sobering document relating the disposition of the estate of Kentuckian George Edwards after his death in 1835. George Edwards (1761-1835) was the brother of John Edwards (1748-1837), who became a U.S. Senator. George's estate inventory begins like many others, listing household goods, farm animals, equipment, and more, along with their appraised values. The third page, however, contains a long listing of Edwards’ eighteen slaves, listed by name and appraised value. The slave inventory may indicate that multiple generations of a single family reside on Edwards’ plantation, with listings for Aaron and “young Aaron” as well as Robert and “young Robert.” A separate listing on the fourth page includes the slaves willed by George to his daughter, Sarah Ann Edwards; Sarah Ann received four female slaves, including “Caroline and her child.” Of the estate’s total value of about $13,600, about 68% was attributed to Edwards’ slaves. The appraisers were local farmers and merchants, including Noah Spears, who ran a distillery and emancipated his own slaves in 1861. All three appraisers and both executors have signed the present document.

IMAGES OF BLACK SOLDIERS IN KOREA

An unusual vernacular photograph album featuring African-American servicemen in Korea, likely in the late-1950s. The photos capture the soldiers at work and play, interacting with the local population (including their Korean girlfriends), and also showing busy street scenes displaying storefronts, street vendors, and other local people. Other images feature the soldiers' barracks and base, rambles around the countryside, and various shots of the men working on base, on patrol, having meals, and more. One image captures the sign for the Headquarters Company of the 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry, presumably the compiler's unit. An excellent group of photographs capturing African-American military service in midcentury Asia.

(McBRB3766) $850

AN EMIGRE TO NEW ORLEANS WRITES HOME TO NEW ENGLAND


Phelps then offers a hint about why he would be willing, seventeen years later, to join the Gold Rush to California. He had found “the advantages of traveling...much greater than I had anticipated,” having “corrected” some of his opinions and prejudices and “given me a better acquaintance with all the intricacies and varieties of the human character. I have spent some time in Mexico...[a] beautiful and interesting country” which he liked “much better than Louisiana,” where the government, left over from Spanish colonial days, persisted in “sheltering despotism.”

Despite an abiding interest in the life of Abner Phelps by Judge William Newson - father of the current Governor of California - still little is known about this pioneering New Orleans and San Francisco lawyer. Several Phelps diaries are held by Tulane University, but they do not begin until 1837, after he was settled in New Orleans as a lawyer and became known as a somewhat controversial politician. Interestingly, the Phelps House in San Francisco was supposedly built first in New Orleans and then moved to the West Coast in pieces because Phelps's wife was homesick for Louisiana; this story is perhaps apocryphal, but certainly fits the romantic nature of Phelps's far-flung life. The present letter appears to be the earliest known Phelps epistle, written at the tender age of twenty-seven.

(McBRB4161) $1,250
A rare U.S.-Spanish language imprint concerning the submerged telegraph lines running between Europe and the Americas by the Universal Telegraph Company. The work covers the physical conditions of submarine-telegraph lines, a critique of the company’s work (including proposed telegraph lines between Cuba and New York, Cuba and Mexico, and Pacific lines in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands), the profitability of the company, and the expenses of the company’s endeavors, with the last chapter consisting of a “Conclusion.” The text is followed by a small folding map tracing the “Lineas Submarino Telegraficas de Europa a las Americas, del Atlantico al Pacifico.” An informative Spanish exposé on the transatlantic telegraph system, with just ten copies in OCLC, including just three in American institutions. ($750)


A fantastic sammelband of Mexican agricultural “theoretical-practical manuals” featuring information and illustrations on roosters, hens, poultry, pigs, cattle, dogs, and other farm animals. Each work focuses not only on the animals themselves but on the methods to achieve “profitable breeding.” The works are detailed as follows:

1) Manuales Teorico Practico para la Cria Lucrativa del Gallo y de la Gallina en Cuanto Tiene Relacion.... Mexico City: Imprenta de J.M. Aguilar Ortiz, 1879. vi,104,[2]pp., plus two engraved plates. The work covers the history of various roosters and hens in different regions, including some information on roosters produced for cockfighting, and other details on breeding cocks and hens. The two plates feature several roosters, such as the “breed rooster and hens,” “country rooster,” and the “gallo espanol de combate” (Spanish fighting rooster). OCLC lists just one copy, at the National Agricultural Library in Maryland.

2) Manual Teorico Practico de la Cria Lucrativa de las Aves de Corral.... Mexico City: Imprenta de J.M. Aguilar Ortiz, 1879. iv,115,[1]pp., plus two engraved plates. This work focuses on the successful breeding methods for numerous “aves de corral” (poultry) such as turkeys, peacocks, pigeons, pheasant, partridge, guinea fowl, quail, ducks, swans, and geese. The two plates here show the common turkey, as well as an image of a quail, duck, geese, and swan. No copies in OCLC.

3) Manual Teorico Practico para la Cria Lucrativa de los Animales de Corral.... Mexico City: Imprenta de Aguilar e Hijos, 1880. iv,128,[4] pp., plus three engraved plates. The last work focuses on the successful
breeding methods for numerous “animales de corral” (barnyard animals) such as rabbits, cows, sheep, rams, goats, pigs, donkeys, and dogs. The three plates in this work feature fattened pigs, a dog, rabbits, goats, sheep, donkeys, and cows. Just two copies in OCLC, at the National Agricultural Library and Warren Wilson College (North Carolina).

(McBRB3875) $1,750

“...THE ADVENTURERS FROM THE UNITED STATES ALSO INVADE THE BORDER AND COMMIT ALL KINDS OF ATTACKS AGAINST THE PROPERTIES AND INHABITANTS OF THAT PART OF THE REPUBLIC...”


A seemingly-unrecorded Mexican broadside in which the Deputy President of the Congress of the State of Veracruz Ramon Teran argues for a special session of the legislature in order to address some of the serious issues at hand in the country. These issues included tariffs and the smuggling that results from unsteady commercial security, the opening of the isthmus at Tehuantepec, and the colonization of national lands, among other problems to be addressed. Principally among Teran’s concerns is the issue of border security. A substantial passage relating to this issue is as follows (in English translation): “The depredations of the border have reached such a point that the civilized world is scandalized when considering them, because it is no longer only the savage tribes that invade our territory to rob and murder our brothers, but for example, the adventurers from the United States also invade the border and commit all kinds of attacks against the properties and inhabitants of that part of the Republic. The proportions of these evils are increased because the bloody incursions of the barbarians are no longer limited to the most distant and abandoned points of the frontier. Lately, these incursions have extended to the state of Zacatecas.” Teran concludes his message by summing up the issues to be faced at a special session of the Legislatura del Estado de Veracruz (in English translation): “The federation’s governing council is encouraged to convene the general congress to special session for the immediate month of September in order to deal with them: to dispatch the reform of the maritime customs tariff, and the other pending financial business; to provide security and defense of the frontier, exposed to vandalism by barbarians and adventurers; to enact laws that speed up and facilitate the colonization of national lands; to promote the opening of communication routes, and to complete other businesses that are considered urgent.” We locate no other copies of this interesting broadside.

(McBRB3607) $850

PICK THE RAILROAD, NOT THE CANAL


An informative autograph letter, signed, from Elmer Lawrence Corthell to Lt. John T. Sullivan, US Navy, involving an unusual engineering plan for providing access across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec. Corthell, a renowned engineer who had been involved in construction projects from Siberia to the Mississippi, was Chief Engineer of an enterprise to connect the Atlantic to the Pacific by way of a 150-mile-long railway across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec in southern Mexico. Corthell’s plan was to install powerful hydraulic lifts to raise a ship out of its ocean berth onto a “lift carriage”, with locomotives then carrying vessels on a six-track rail line to the Pacific. His project was in competition with the better-known enterprise to dig an interoceanic canal through Nicaragua across the Isthmus of Panama.
Corthell wrote this letter to Lieutenant John T. Sullivan, a Naval officer who had just published an official report, revealing what Corthell called a typical Naval predilection for the “Nicaragua scheme”, and pointing out that Sullivan had no personal knowledge of the subject, never even having seen the most reliable map of the Tehuantepec Isthmus. According to Corthell, Sullivan had disregarded the projected cost of $300,000,000, requiring twenty-five years of labor to excavate 180,000,000 cubic yards of clay soil. Corthell estimated that his Railway could be constructed for a sixth of that amount and predicted that within six years, Sullivan could take his vessel from ocean to ocean by railway across Tehuantepec. As it happened, the Tehuantepec plan proved impractical, and while the Panama Canal project also proceeded slowly by fits and starts over the next two decades, it was finally begun in 1904, with the Canal open to interoceanic commerce ten years later. The letter is written on handsomely engraved stationery, including a small inset map, of the Tehuantepec Ship Railway.

(McBRB4162) $650

VERNACULAR IMAGES OF PUERTO RICO IN THE EARLY 1940s


A jam-packed scrapbook and annotated vernacular photo album assembled by Lieutenant Benjamin Knight, a U.S. Navy machinist living in Puerto Rico at the outset of World War II. The book includes many hundreds of photographs and ephemeral items documenting Lieutenant Knight’s experiences in Puerto Rico, including dozens of photographs capturing indigenous Puerto Rican people in a variety of settings, with the majority of the photographs captioned in ink below the images. The photographs featuring locals begin with the first photograph in the album, showing four young boys in swimsuits, with the manuscript caption reading, “Porto Rican Divers Caguas 6-15-41.” Other photographs picture “Muchacha Bonitas” (two young girls), the “Maid of Carolina” (a young girl walking down the street), “Caguas Miss in Summery Dress,” “Urchins of Cayey” (two young men on the street), a page of portraits of various young people captioned, “A Few Puerto Rican Characters,” two shots of a Puerto Rican man lying on the street “On the Evils of Strong Drink,” a “bar maid” in Santurce, a pair of young men captioned “Boot Blacks,” a young mother described as “Madonna of La Perla,” and other images of locals on the streets. One page captures several images of a “Negro Girl from Boca Congreso.” Numerous photographs depict Puerto Rican street scenes or events such
as the Fiesta de San Antonio. Still other images feature various scenes around the island, such as “The Hills of Aibonito,” “El Morro at Entrance to San Juan,” Barranquitas, downtown San Juan, several shots of the fields and hills “near Aguadilla,” the beach at Point Sardinia, Fort San Geronimo, “water front dives” in San Juan, a “roadside restaurant” in Isla Verde, the “Plaza Baldioroty” in San Juan, a cemetery at Cayey, a “slum area” in Puerta de Tierra, a churchyard in Rio Pedras, Fort San Cristobal, Condado Beach, and others. A page of seven photographs depict scenes “in and around Arecibo, Puerto Rico,” including two fishing shots, street scenes, and a large building called “Resp Logia ‘Tanama’ No.2.”

Knight also records himself and others engaged in various activities around the island, at lunch, exploring the island, dancing, at picnics, and more. There are also a couple of larger group photos, one memorializing the Naval Air Station baseball team. A handful of later photographs document Knight’s brief stay in Florida in 1942, with images of a “Seminole Shack” a young “Seminole Indian” in Miami, and a pair of “Seminole Boys” in the Everglades. In addition to the photographs, Knight held onto many dozens of ephemeral items which he included in the present album. These include his driver’s license and other personal cards, Puerto Rican business cards, lottery ticket stubs, picture postcards, liquor labels, matchbook covers, Puerto Rican currency, cigar labels, and more.

(McBRB3753) $1,250

“ALL HAIL TEXAS.”


Fascinating and early Galveston and Houston, Texas Republic, correspondence from an enterprising young man from Goshen Connecticut, Virgil Collins (1810-1839) to and from his wife Jane L. Collins (1816-1843) and Virgil’s New York agent J.S. Gold (1810-1844). Virgil and Jane were married in Goshen Connecticut on May 25, 1836, quickly having a daughter, Eveline. In 1838, Virgil traveled to New York City with the goal of establishing a mercantile near Houston, with the backing of two New York merchants, J.S. Gold and H.B. Northrup.

On December 21st, 1838, Virgil writes his wife, “I have connected myself with Mr. Gold and Northrop from Cornwall. And I am taking out stoves of all descriptions, hardware, tin, some clothing. The whole amount I take will be about $2000 worth.” J.S. Gold was not only a wholesaler of merchandise but also an inventor who several years later, in Philadelphia, would take out a patent on his “Union Refrigerator.” On December 25th, 1838, Jane Collins writes to her husband, “In your next letter...be more particular in writing about your health and write as soon as you get to your journey’s end.”

The next letter is dated January 30th, 1839, and labeled No. 5 (several letters from Virgil were apparently miscarried as both Jane and J.S. Gold complain about Virgil’s lack of communication). The letter was started
while still in the Gulf of Mexico enroute to Galveston. On February 3rd, the ship anchored off the coast, and Virgil gives his first impressions, describing an infant Galveston:

“All Hail Texas. At three o’clock I went on shore. There is no wharf built as yet, but they are building one. Galveston is an Island about 35 miles long and average width 2-1/2 miles. One year ago there was but one house on the place and now there is bout 100, and about three thousand inhabitants. There is but three trees on this place, some bushes about the shore. The inhabitants on the Island are mostly from the United States, principally from the south. There is not much of the land cultivated. There is some planters with their negroes that are about commencing the cultivation of cotton. They can raise from two to three crops of corn a year. They are now gathering one crop. Figs, grapes, watermelons, oranges, peaches, prickly pear grow to perfection. Animals, deer, wild horses are plenty.”

On February 25th, 1839 J.S. Gold writes to both Jane Collins -- “This morning we received a welcome letter from Mr. Collins informing of his safe arrival at Galveston, Texas, after a passage of 17 days” -- and to Virgil Collins, “We are much gratified to find you so well satisfied with the prospect of doing business in Texas, and you may depend we shall do all the business you’ll want, or at least all we can, in executing your orders.” The letter to Texas includes a rare Ricker Express Mail postmark from New Orleans.

Several weeks later Virgil again writes to his wife about an unlikely stroke of luck. Meeting a family member in the Republic: “Since I wrote to you last I was introduced to a man formerly from Litchfield Farms (Connecticut) by the name of Pierpont, own Cousin to Father Collins; He immediately ordered my baggage to be removed to his house & I must live with him while in Texas. He says I am the only relation he has in two or three thousand miles. He is very rich and as fine a man as I know of. I have all the comforts that man can enjoy in Texas.”

In a wonderful letter dated Spring Creek, April 25, 1839, Virgil gives descriptions of the area in and around Houston. Houston was founded less than three years earlier and incorporated as a city on June 5, 1837, so this is an early first-hand account. He opens by complaining about the health difficulties associated with Houston, writes about his business prospects, the developing city, and the local Indians: “My health has not been good all the time I was in Houston. I have been troubled with the complaint that is common in this country to Northerners, Bilious attacks. I would not stay in the City of Houston all through the warm weather for all Texas, in fact I could not live it out. But in the section of the country where I reside I think it to be as healthy as it is in Goshen. … Why it should be so much more unhealthy in Houston than in other places I cannot account for it.”

He goes on to detail business transactions made while in the city, including an important investment: “I do believe I can make $10,000 a year from my store with prudent management, and do considerable other business. I have just completed my new store and the goods put up. We purchased 5 acres of land in connection with the store and I am now trying to contract for 100 acres more adjoining. My object is simply this, this will probably be the county seat for the new county being made, and if does prove so I shall want no better piece of speculation. I hope today I can complete the contract, if we do I am immediately going to have it laid out into city lots. … South of the store is one vast prairie. From the place I am now writing you can see herds of deer, cattle, horses &c. But the other side of the store is woodland. The prospect can not be more beautiful than is presented to the eye here. Snakes, alligators, wolves, bears, panthers, tigers, deer, buffalo, turkeys, mustangs, and Indians are plenty around us. It is music every night that would charm you to hear their cries.”

He elaborates on the locals: “Daytimes plenty of squaws buying calico, &c. When I return home I shall talk Indian to you all. There is more or less of them at the store most every day. … At present it is the stillest time about the store there has been since I have [been] at Spring Creek, no one around. But at any moment I expect the Indians, Squaws in. (Bobashele totrum livo santisto par men yuon.). That’s Indian, Ha ha ha, I will talk Indian.”

Alas, all that speculation seems to have been for naught, as Virgil died just a month later. One Elisha Blakeman, writing from Cincinnati, breaks
the news to Jane: “It becomes my painful duty to inform you of the death of your husband, Mr. Virgil Collins, who died at Houston on the first day of June. Through his sickness, which was about ten days, he was at the house of his cousin, Mr Pierpont, where he received every attention, both friendly and medical…. His complaint was a fever, I think bilious, a kind that is very common in that country.” Several subsequent letters from the New York merchants follow, asking the widow for an update on the state of affairs in Texas. Overall, a wonderful archive of a brief but interesting career as a Texas émigré and merchant.

(McBRB4017) $17,500

Valuable Compilation of Work by the First Mexican Romantic


The first edition of an uncommon collection of poetry and plays written by noted Mexican author Ignacio Rodriguez Galvan. Born in 1816 in the small town of Tizayuca in what is now the state of Hidalgo, Rodriguez Galvan is widely credited with initiating the Romantic movement in Mexico. He wrote novels, poems, plays, and was the editor of several periodicals, most especially Calendario de las Senoritas Mexicanas and Ano Nuevo, El Recreo de las Familias. He died of yellow fever in Havana in 1842 at the tender age of twenty-seven while en route to South America on a diplomatic mission. A few of the poems in the first volume of the present work were penned by Rodriguez Galvan in Havana just before his death. Volume one here offers Rodriguez Galvan’s “Composiciones liricas originales,” with “Composiciones dramaticas originales” in the second volume. The frontispiece at the beginning of the first volume is a fine lithographic portrait of Don Ignacio, in the Romantic style of course, and the printers employ liberal use of handsome tailpieces throughout. The work was compiled and edited by the author’s brother Antonio, who writes a four-page introduction including valuable biographical information on the author; he also writes that he compiled the work to express his “el amor a la memoria de mi infeliz hermano.” A scarce work, with only about a dozen copies in OCLC.

Palau 273981. Sabin 72510.
(McBRB4201) $950

Early Radio Sermons from a Notable Leader of the Civil Rights Movement


An erudite, powerful, and seemingly unrecorded collection of radio addresses written and delivered by Reverend Kelly Miller Smith during his early career as pastor of Mount Heroden Church in Vicksburg, Mississippi. Reverend Smith was educated at Morehouse College and Howard University before accepting the pastorship at Mount Heroden at the tender age of twenty-five in 1946. Smith was twenty-eight when he delivered the present “microphone messages” described by Smith in the Foreword as “a collection of nine sermons delivered by the author over Radio Station WQBC and WVIM, Vicksburg, Mississippi. Most of them were delivered during the evening services at the Mount Heroden Church. (These services are broadcast over station WQBC). These sermons are designed to administer unto the religious needs of
those who would perhaps be otherwise unreached. Deliberate effort has put forth in these messages to offer practical explanation to certain phases of the Christian religion.” In addition to the religious sermons, Smith’s final sermon is a celebration of prominent African Americans. Delivered during “Negro History Week,” Smith’s “God’s Answer: The Negro in History” seeks to “examine the fruits borne by men and women of color.” Smith provides short passages on prominent historical African Americans such as George Washington Carver, Benjamin Banneker, Phillis Wheatley, and Richard Allen. He also namechecks contemporary African Americans such as Duke Ellington, Marian Anderson, Adam Clayton Powell, Ralph Bunche, and Howard Thurman, and refers to both Paul Robeson and Lena Horne as a “credit to the race.”

Smith himself later became a prominent leader of the Civil Rights Movement upon his relocation to Nashville, where he lived the remainder of his life. In the late 1950s and early 1960s, Reverend Smith served as the president of the Nashville NAACP, founded the Nashville Christian Leadership Council, and helped organize the Nashville lunch counter sit-ins. Later, he became the first African American to obtain a faculty position at the Vanderbilt University Divinity School. No copies of the present work in OCLC.

TEXAS COUNTERCULTURE


A selection of issues of a scarce alternative newspaper published in San Antonio, Texas at the dawn of the 1970s, and dedicated to reporting on environmental, social justice, and counterculture issues. The issues present here include volume one, numbers 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 13; volume two, numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5; and volume three, numbers 1 and 2. A quick survey of the issues yields a cross-section of the combination of local, national, and international subjects covered by the newspaper: a Frank Zappa concert in San Antonio, the Vietnam War, San Antonio police corruption, women’s liberation, an interview with Lawrence Ferlinghetti, air quality, local development projects, gay liberation, prison reform, boycotts and protests, and various issues related to African American, Latin American, and Native American communities. OCLC reports just a smattering of issues of this notable Texas underground newspaper at nine institutions.

(McBRB3817)

HYDROPOWER IN WISCONSIN

28. [Wisconsin]. St. Louis River Water Power Company. [Collection of Original Documents Pertaining to the Formation of the St. Louis River Water Power Company]. [Various locations in Wisconsin, namely Falls City and Superior]: 1881. Eight manuscript documents, totaling [37] pp., on folio sheets, each document folded three times and housed in a
yellow envelope captioned “Miscellaneous Papers Pertaining to the St. Louis River Water Co.” Minor overall wear. Very good.

A collection of original documents and two onionskin copies comprising some of the founding documents of the St. Louis River Water Power Company, organized in Wisconsin in 1881. The Articles of Organization here state the base of the stock corporation would be Falls City, Wisconsin, and the company aimed “to conduct, manage, transact, and carry on a general Lumbering and Logging business; to engage in the manufacture, purchase and sale of logs, timber, telegraph and telephone poles, lumber, lath, pickets, shingles, grub-pins, fence-posts, railroad ties” and other materials “produced from wood.” They also set out to participate in mining, build machinery, and other activities, principally to create “water power” by harnessing the “Bay of Superior, St. Louis Bay, the St. Louis River and the tributaries of same” in far northwestern Wisconsin and Lake Superior near Duluth, Minnesota. The longest document present here is a corrected manuscript draft of the “By-Laws of the St. Louis River Water Power Co.” Other documents include the minutes of the first meeting of the corporation (“Record of the first Meeting of the Corporators of the St. Louis River Water Power Co.”), a power-of-attorney form, a proxy form, and other similar documents. The company would issue a prospectus two years later, and operate in the region until the early-20th century. The company built a hydroelectric dam on the St. Louis River which was financed by Jay Cooke; the company later donated over 2,300 acres of land to create Jay Cooke Park in the same area.

(McBRB4225) $875

**THE LARGEST HOUSE OF PROSTITUTION IN THE WORLD, CONSTRUCTED IN A PUBLIC STREET... AND NOW READY FOR OCCUPANCY.**


A stark and sobering illustrated leaflet calling to action the parents and citizens of Seattle to help close a house of prostitution in the city, and at the same time stop the construction of another across the street. Apparently a local businessman, former mayor, and current mayoral candidate named H.C. Gill allowed for the construction of a large dormitory-style building which housed 250 prostitutes; recently the foundation was laid for another building across the street, slightly larger, that would accommodate around 300 girls. The authors of the present leaflet implore the reader to vote against Gill, the candidate who would “ratify the construction and operation of these buildings and the placing of 500 young girls inside as white slaves under the plea that such a thing is necessary for the Alaskans and the men of this city.” The authors ask, “Do the women of this city want 500 girls to be compelled to ply a shameful avocation in little cells 8x12 all night?” And they beg voters to reject the candidacy of H.C. Gill as mayor in order to stop the construction and operation of these house of ill
repute. The final sentence pleads: “Let every mother and home-loving woman go to the polls on March 5 and vote for Mr. Cotterill, so that these buildings may remain uninhabited; that our homes may remain unpolluted, and that the shame of Seattle may not be advertised to the world.” A photograph of the exterior of the brothel already built covers page two of the work, while a floor plan of the second and larger proposed building occupies page three. The printed caption for the former reads, “The Largest House of Prostitution in the World, Constructed in a Public Street, Under the Sanction and Approval of H.C. Gill, when Mayor, and now Ready for Occupancy.” The last page excerpts relevant unsavory passages from a Grand Jury Report on the subject. OCLC records just a single institutional copy, at the Seattle Public Library.

(McBRB3745) $450

LARGE FORMAT PHOTOGRAPH
OF THE GREAT FALLS OF THE YELLOWSTONE


A gorgeous large-format photograph commonly called the Great Falls of the Yellowstone or Lower Falls of the Yellowstone. The image was likely taken by William Henry Jackson, as it bears the most resemblance to his photograph of the same name taken while part of Hayden’s 1871 U.S. Geological Survey of the Territories for the Department of the Interior. The present image is taken slightly closer to the Falls than Jackson’s most common image, but bears the hallmarks of Jackson’s image much more closely than Jay Haynes’s similar images taken from about the same vantage point. The image captures the waterfalls of the Yellowstone River flowing into a canyon inside Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming. A wonderful display piece featuring one of the most famous scenes at Yellowstone.

(McBRB4120) $1,750

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