Our list for RBMS includes forty manuscript and archival collections on a wide variety of subjects. Highlights include the archive of an HBCU president; the archive of a pair of Jewish activist scholars; a large collection of photographic negatives featuring an obscure Montana town; letters written by gold miners, pioneers, and book thieves; a pair of Mexican manuscript cook books; a scrapbook of World’s Fairs; the founding documents of a Chinese society in Cuba, and much more. Enjoy!

Cheers,
Teri, James, & Joe

Terms of Sale
All items are guaranteed as described. Any purchase may be returned for a full refund within 10 working days as long as it is returned in the same condition and is packed and shipped correctly. All items subject to prior sale. We accept payment by check, wire transfer, and all major credit cards. Payment by check or wire is preferred. Sales tax charged where applicable.

McBride Rare Books
Dobbs Ferry, New York
books@mcbriderarebooks.com
(203) 479-2507
www.mcbriderarebooks.com

Copyright © 2024, McBride Rare Books, LLC.
LETTER ARCHIVE OF A TEXAS HBCU PRESIDENT

1. [African Americana]. [Texas]. [Education]. Dogan, Matthew W. [Archive of Letters Written by, to, and About Dr. Matthew W. Dogan, Noted Long-Serving President of Texas HBCU, Wiley College]. Mostly Marshall, Tx.: 1940-1942. Approximately 320 typed letters, handwritten notes, and other documents, almost all a single page, plus a matted photograph, and over 130 personal invoices and receipts. Significant tanning to the majority of letters, resulting in noticeable brittleness, with mild to substantial chipping, occasionally costing text from a small percentage of letters. Occasional creasing, soiling, staining, and toning, as well. Good.

An extraordinary surviving collection of correspondence and personal papers by, to, and relating to Dr. Matthew W. Dogan, president of Marshall, Texas HBCU Wiley College for almost fifty years during the first half of the 20th century. The material in the present archive emanates from the last few years of Dogan's long and distinguished career at the school. The majority of Dogan's letters (and those sent by his secretary Ruth Brownlee) are retained, unsigned file copies of outgoing correspondence to a variety of recipients including Wiley students, fellow ministers, family, friends, colleagues, and more. The collection also includes a healthy number of incoming letters written to Dogan; these letters are generally original versions signed by the correspondents. In both cases, they are likely the only surviving examples of the letters, probably preserved by Ruth Brownlee or perhaps Dogan's family. A clutch of letters between Dogan and Brownlee provide wonderful insight into the management of an HBCU in Texas in the 1940s, with detailed information on campus business. About a third of the letters are exchanged between Dogan and his three children and one grandchild, providing a deeply personal view of Dogan largely outside the boundaries of his devoted work at Wylie as a counterpoint to the letters dealing mostly with Wylie matters.

Matthew Winifred Dogan (1863-1947) was born into poverty in Pontotoc, Mississippi during the Civil War. He worked as a shoe shiner and saved enough money to attend Rust University in Holly Springs, where he earned an A.B. at the top of his class in 1886. Rust College awarded Dogan an honorary Ph.D. in 1904, and he received two other honorary doctorates during his career, from Walden College (formerly Central Tennessee College, where he had taught) and Howard University. The pivotal moment in Dogan's career was his assumption of the presidency of Wiley College in Marshall, Texas in 1896. Wiley College (now Wiley University) is the oldest historically Black college west of the Mississippi River. Dogan spent forty-six years of his life as president of Wiley University, where according to a biography of Dogan, Wiley College “grew in size, enrollment, and stature with the addition of many new buildings and programs, including a library funded by the Carnegie Foundation. With Dogan's great planning and care, Wiley became a respected institution of higher learning for African Americans.” After a long and distinguished career, Dogan retired from Wiley in 1942 and spent the remaining five years of his life in Marshall.

The archive begins with about thirty letters exchanged between Dogan and his secretary, Ruth E. Brownlee. In many cases, both sides of the
correspondence are present here. Ruth Brownlee hailed from Anderson, South Carolina and worked for Dogan until his retirement. In the present letters, Brownlee reports to Dogan on Wylie school financials, school-related news and campus activities, necessary infrastructure repairs at Wylie, and more. Dogan’s letters to Brownlee were written while he was on the road, or during times she was back home, and largely report on Wylie business, detailing his travel plans, giving Brownlee instructions for action items to take care of on campus, and so forth. The general nature of the letters, which largely concern Wiley University business, is also unusual for the rest of the correspondence, which is largely personal in nature (though Dogan naturally covers a great deal of Wylie business in numerous letters to his family and friends).

Over 100 of the letters in the collection were exchanged between Dogan and his three children -- his son, M.W. Dogan, Jr., and his daughters Ruth Dogan Shelton and Blanche Dogan Hughes -- and his granddaughter Forest Shelton. Most of the letters are retained copies of Dogan’s letters to his kids, with a smattering of replies from his son and some incoming letters from his daughters and granddaughter. Dogan’s son, M.W. “Bud” Dogan, Jr. was working for or teaching at Gilbert Academy in New Orleans during this time. Dogan, Jr. was a graduate of Northwestern Law School, and in one letter his father ponders why he is not working as a lawyer after reading an article in the Chicago Defender about a young Northwestern graduate recently admitted to the Chicago Bar. In a few of his own letters present here, Dogan the younger implores his father to stay at Wiley instead of retiring (“I believe this is the time to continue -- during the war”), discusses his draft status and strategy (“I am waiting for my draft board to notify as what they are going to do with me. I imagine that because of my eyes and teeth, that I might have to get them adjusted”), and his own impulsive and apparently unhappy wedding (“I trust that you will not hold it against me too severely about this marriage business. My sincere regret is that this war scared me into it”), among other issues. Junior’s most interesting letter to his father is a three-page typed screed against the proposition that someone named Dr. Bowen be hired at Wiley (as an administrator or perhaps as a replacement for Dogan). The two men also exchange letters regarding details of Dogan’s will, loans owed from son to father, and Wiley’s football team.

Among the most interesting items in the present collection are Dogan’s various notes and outlines for a few addresses given as president of Wiley. In a one-page outline titled, “Inter-racial Advance,” Dogan’s address was focused on “bringing about better relations between the races.” His outline framed the discussion around individuals (Eleanor Roosevelt and Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames), Leading Southern Colleges (including SMU, TCU, UT, Oklahoma, and Emory), the Inter-racial Commission, the U.S. Government, Churches (Baptist and Methodist), and with a final section on “Agitation.” The latter included two points: “(a) Negro papers should be encouraged” and “(b) Many Negroes take the extreme views in thinking that all whites oppose racial betterment.” Another outline for an address is typed out on two index cards, and shows several manuscript additions and emendations by Dogan; the title at the top of the first card reads, “Some Scattered Facts About Wiley.” In this address, Dogan enumerated the size of the student body, faculty, campus, along with a series of “firsts” achieved by the school, including “First Negro college in Texas to debate a white institution and the only Negro college in Texas to debate a southern white college, namely TCU.” A third set of lecture notes for an address in Shreveport includes Dogan’s initial outline (marked “Points [for] Speech Tonight To Be Put on Cards Later”) as well as the final notes on index cards. This last address is dated September 20, 1940, and focuses on the relationship between Wiley and Shreveport, with detailed statistics in a section called “Facts and Figures About Wileyites from Shreveport.”

Despite the condition challenges of much of the archive, to reiterate, the contents likely constitute the only surviving record of any of the information herein. We could locate no other collections of Dogan’s papers in any institution. The archive also presents a unique opportunity for an institution to save the contents through preservation and digitization. It is certainly a unique and deeply informative snapshot of the career of a vitally important Texas African-American HBCU president, including both his professional and personal matters near the end of his tenure. A fuller description is available upon request.

$15,000
AFRICAN-AMERICAN SOLDIER IN OCCUPIED JAPAN


An interesting vernacular photograph album documenting the military service of Tyler H. Smith, an African-American Army private stationed in Occupied Japan immediately following World War II. According to a certificate from the 8th Army Information & Education Training School earned in Honshu, Japan, Tyler Smith was a Private First Class in the U.S. Army; a couple of the photos imply that Smith was in the Signal Corps. In the present album, Smith preserves photographs of himself, fellow soldiers, Japanese locals, and others during his time in Japan. Some of the photographs of fellow soldiers are inscribed or signed to Smith; the images capture various American soldiers on duty as well as enjoying leisure time in Japan, with a small percentage of the images showing the Japanese landscape or certain points of interest. One of the photographs laid into the album is a handsome portrait of Smith which he has inscribed to his mother while he was stationed in Yokohama in 1949. Another item of interest laid into the album is a rough manuscript diagram or map plotted with various Japanese cities and including some handwritten notations in Japanese; Smith may have composed this map himself or acquired it while stationed there. Photograph albums featuring African-American servicemen serving in Occupied Japan are rather rare in the market. (McBRB4596) $1,750

A WOMAN CONTEMPLATES A MOVE TO TEXAS


An interesting letter concerning a potential move to Texas from Alabama, in which a brother urges his sister to sell not only her house but also one of her slaves to pay for the endeavor. He opens with a slew of questions she ought to consider, including “How much money would there be to buy a home in Texas with?” He has a solution to this problem, however. “...I will advise first to sell Booker for every cent cash that he will bring and sell the place, but use and remain on it until next fall. If you can sell and send the money to [New Orleans], I will try and go to Texas & buy a place for you. With but little means, it is best to be prudent. Hiring negroes is profitable, but you run the risk of their being crippled or run off by person who are not apt to be careful of others property.” Mary, who was about twenty-six years old at this time, does not seem to have moved to Caldwell County, Texas; a document in Freedmen’s Bureau records, dated July 29, 1865, indicates that Mary Goodlett of Calhoun County, Alabama binds herself to “feed clothe and furnish suitable houses and pay the physician’s bills of the following colored persons....” Booker is not among the four names mentioned. (McBRB5104) $650
MANUSCRIPT REPORT ON A SHORT-LIVED 19th-CENTURY ALABAMA SCHOOL FOR WOMEN


An original manuscript reporting on the progress of the short-lived East Alabama Masonic Female Institute in Talladega, Alabama, written by S.R. Wright, Chairman of the Grand Lodge of Alabama’s Education Committee. Wright announces “the speedy completion and admirable arrangements of the East Alabama Masonic Female Institute, at Talladega.” Wright credits “the brethren of Clinton Lodge, No. 38, aided by the liberality of brethren of sister Lodges, and many friends who are not Masons” for assisting in the erection of “a noble brick edifice, one hundred and two, by fifty two feet, with twenty seven large and airy rooms” which will “go into operation...with six professors and teachers.” Wright also writes about the importance of universal education to civilization and reports on several other schools supported by the state’s Masons.

GROUP OF MATERIALS ON AFRICA RETAINED BY A PROMINENT BLACK SCHOLAR ON THE SUBJECT


An interesting collection of letters and publications relating to Dr. Josephus Coan’s work in Africa. Dr. Josephus Roosevelt Coan (1902-2004) was a noted minister, educator, missionary, and administrator born to sharecropper parents in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Dr. Coan earned a bachelor’s degree from Howard University in 1930, followed by a B.D. and an M.A. from Yale, and eventually a Ph.D. from the Hartford Seminary Foundation in 1961. Dr. Coan taught for two stretches at Morris Brown College, first from 1934 to 1938 and then from 1948 to 1959. Between his tenures at Morris Brown, from 1939 to 1948, Dr. Coan traveled to Evaton in the Transvaal Province of South Africa to help build the R.R. Wright School of Religion at the Wilberforce Institute, devoted to Christian missionary education. Soon thereafter, Dr. Coan began serving as the first African-American superintendent at Wilberforce. While in South Africa, Dr. Coan also worked as missionary bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church’s 17th District, which encompassed the present-day nations of South Africa, Botswana, Malawi, Namibia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. After his return from Africa in 1948, Dr. Coan and his first wife Sammye Fuller Coan settled in Atlanta for his second stint at Morris Brown, and remained there for the remainder of their lives, where Dr. Coan also served as pastor at St. Mark’s AME Church. Dr. Coan was a prolific writer, penning dozens upon dozens of sermons, speeches, conference papers, reports, pamphlets, book-length treatments of Daniel Alexander Payne and African Methodism, and much more.
The present archive encompasses a handful of letters or retained copies of letters by Coan himself, a small group of six letters written to him by officials of the American Society of African Culture, two manuscript postcards sent to Dr. Coan from correspondents in Africa, two copies of the Summary Minutes for the 1959 and 1960 AMSAC annual meetings, nine circular letters, as well as about fifty newsletters, flyers, and pamphlets on Africa, including some on South Africa during the Apartheid period. These publications include about twenty issues of the AMSAC Newsletter, its supplement, or related publications, twenty issues of Africa Weekly, two issues of Northern Rhodesia (Africa) News Survey, and a handful of others. Among Dr. Coan’s retained letters is his letter expressing interest in membership in AMSAC, and other AMSAC business. The letters to Dr. Coan include a welcome letter from AMSAC welcoming Dr. Coan into the organization and several letters dealing with Dr. Coan’s travel with the organization. The publications necessarily provide a detailed record of the political, social, economic, and other issues in Africa during this period, particularly pertaining to American work in various countries such as South Africa, Nigeria, Rhodesia, and Kenya. One of the more impactful items is a printed broadside from the South Africa Emergency Campaign reproducing a New York Times advertisement from May 31, 1960; it is titled, “We Protest Against the Policy of White Supremacy Called Apartheid....”

(McBRB5016) $3,750


This ledger records the register and pay information for approximately thirty-five men who worked at the Birmingham Iron Works from 1836 to 1841. The “Register of Hands That Work by the Ton” records each man’s name, his wage, days worked, how much tonnage, and his job description. The Iron Works supported an engineer, a blacksmith, a watchman, refiners, heaters, carters, rollers, puddlers, bricklayers, and some men simply described as laborers. The number of employees varies from year to year, ranging from thirty to forty-five or so, with many men listed as steady employees year after year. Also tucked in the front of the volume is a slim gathering of sheets labeled in manuscript as “Balance of Property Debts Goods & Chattels of the firm of Hoge & Hartman, Iron Manufacturers, Pittsburgh, Jany. 2nd 1840.” This lists receivables and debts for that company, which was one of several iron works in the area by 1840.
Located south of the Allegheny near 16th Street, the Birmingham Iron Works was founded in 1836. It had twenty single puddling furnaces, five heating furnaces, and produced bar iron, rounds, hoops, bands, and other forms of iron. There works were active from 1836 to 1871, and averaged 9,000 tons of production per year. This ledger therefore encompasses the first years of its operation, and is an early record not only for the company but for the region in terms of iron production, which would eventually lead to the steel boom that made Pittsburgh prosperous -- and Andrew Carnegie insanely wealthy. An excellent source for the labor history of the steel industry in Pittsburgh.

(McBRB754) $1,250

"YOU ARE NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO IS LOOKING FOR 'FIRST EDITIONS.' WE ALL ARE!" - MRS. JACK LONDON


An entertaining archive of manuscript and typed letters sent to one of the more infamous figures in the history of New York City bookselling, Charles Romm. Most of the letters were sent in 1919, but came to Romm as late as 1930 from twenty separate authors or their representatives (who occasionally wrote more than once). The letters were written to Romm in response to his requests for signed books and other autograph material. Romm's correspondents include Charmian London (Mrs. Jack London), Vincent Starrett, George Washington Cable, William Lyon Phelps, and other literary figures of the early-20th century. Charles Romm (1883-1937) was born in Russia but became a successful bookseller during the heyday of Book Row in Manhattan. Romm's career was bookended by two notable events -- the high-profile auction of his own collection in 1921 and then his imprisonment in Sing Sing a decade later after being convicted as the leader of a gang of thieves that plundered thousands of rare books and manuscripts from libraries and learned institutions. Most of the items stolen by Romm and his co-conspirators were never recovered.

The present collection of letters stand testament to Romm's energy and persistence in seeking signed items. Many of the correspondents obliged by signing books Romm had sent, agreeing to send signed photos, responding to Romm's various requests for additional information, and so forth. In 1919, Mrs. Jack London replied only in general terms to Romm's inquiry about first editions (which she was seeking out, as well, for her own reasons), but in 1924 she writes that she was willing to sell to Romm some original Jack London manuscripts. On occasion Romm aimed too high, however. Clara Barrus, companion and biographer of John Burroughs, said he would not copy out missing pages of a manuscript "for love or money." Henry Van Dyke's secretary tells Romm that his request to sign forty books was excessive but that he would sign a few. While Romm was apparently not above subterfuge, some letters make clear that the sender knew him to be a bookseller, and even in one case asks Romm for a return favor. Vincent Starrett, writing on the stationery of The Wave literary magazine in 1923, mentions his
forthcoming biography of Ambrose Bierce and asked to use Bierce letters from a limited edition previously published by Romm himself. Other letters range from the routine (a collector seeking Willa Cather’s rare first book) to the light-hearted (a suggestion by artist Ralph Barton that giving up a certain book would be akin to Lee surrendering his sword).

The letters to Romm are variously addressed to him at his bookshop on Fourth Avenue and to his nearby home in lower Manhattan. Taken together, they suggest Romm at times presented himself as a fan or collector, rather than as a bookseller in his mid-’30s when the earliest letters were written. A handful of them were sent to Romm care of the Students Literary Circle or the Modern Literary Club, both apparently fictitious and calculated to flatter Romm’s correspondents. The present letters also allow for the study of the movement of rare items to and through Romm, as some of these items were then sold in Romm’s 1921 auction at the American Art Association in New York City. A notable 1919 letter from “Sy” discusses strategy to obtain signed books via mail from Theodore Dreiser but cautioned that Dreiser would “smell a rat” if Romm called in person. Sy writes, in part: “I believe [Dreiser] will outdo himself in the matter if inscriptions, as I placed my plea well and intriguingly. I have also levelled my shafts at a few others and as the results come home I will send them to you.” The letter is signed in type with his shortened first name only, but his identity was revealed in Lot 45 of the Romm catalogue: “Inscribed to Symon Goldstein by Theodore Dreiser.” Goldstein was a fellow rare book dealer who later changed his name to Symond Gould; he remained active in the book trade, but also pioneered art house cinema and became nationally known as the founder and two-time presidential nominee of the American Vegetarian Party.

A unique collection of personal correspondence which provides an illuminating look at Romm’s methodology in the years before he turned to theft and was exposed as a bibliokleptomaniac. Romm is deal with in some detail in Travis McDade’s seminal study Thieves of Book Row, in which Romm is described as “built like a bulldog” with “the face and temperament of Al Capone.” A full list of Romm’s correspondents in the present collection is available upon request. 

8. [Buffalo Soldiers]. [Robinson, John]. [Pay Receipt for Private John Robinson, Noting His Discharge Pay for Travel from Texas to His Home in St. Louis]. [Las Rusias, Tx.]: September 16, 1874. Partially-printed document, completed in manuscript, 11 x 8.5 inches, printed docketing on verso, also completed in manuscript. Old folds, minor wear, a couple of tiny nicks to the edges. Very good.

An interesting pay voucher issued to Private John Robinson upon his discharge from Company H of the 9th U.S. Cavalry, more commonly known as the Buffalo Soldiers. Here, Robinson receives just over $110 for wages owed and travel expenses from Las Rusias, Texas to St. Louis. Las Rusias is a Texas border town just a mile north of the Rio Grande near Harlingen. Most interestingly, Private Robinson has signed the document at bottom right with a small “x,” which is surrounded by a secretarial signature reading, “John Robinson his mark.” A somewhat early Buffalo Soldier’s document from the wilds of the Texas borderlands, which are rare to find signed by the soldiers themselves.


An informative and useful stockman’s ledger containing five years of transactions between California cattle kings Dunphy & Hildreth and
their numerous customers in San Francisco just before and during the early years of the Civil War. The ledger begins with an alphabetical listing of the company’s customers who appear in the ledger, followed by almost 200 pages of entries recording detailed transactions. The ledger shows primarily beef sales (but also offal, tongues, tallow, and so on) from Dunphy & Hildreth to a wide variety of local and regional firms such as Stockton Street Market, South End Market, San Jose Market, Nevada Market, Broadway Market, the Salsipuedes Ranch, Hensley & Howard, Robin & Gray Metropolitan Market, and more. Some customers are identified by name, such as Herman Hertz, Herman Pope, Joseph Beals, Thomas R. Dean, John Zimmerman, and so forth. Meat sales are shown in pounds, with amounts owed in dollars, and with the right-hand column reserved for monthly payments made by each vendor. The ledger also contains pages recording the company, cash, and expense accounts of both of the partners.

William Dunphy was an Irish immigrant to the United States who engaged in cattle trading along the Mississippi River in his early career. In 1846, during the Mexican-American War, he contracted to furnish the United States Army with beef. Dunphy joined a regiment of Texas Rangers and was actually wounded in several skirmishes. Following the war, Dunphy engaged in the cattle business in Brownsville, Texas, but started for California in the watershed year of 1849. After tiring of gold speculation, Dunphy once again turned his attention to the stock business as rancher and dealer. He became officially associated with Thomas Hildreth in 1855, and over the next three decades the two men headed one of the largest cattle operations in the American West. Dunphy was the more active stockman, owning several large ranches in California and Nevada, and eventually bought out Hildreth in 1881. Hildreth died in San Jose in 1886; Dunphy lasted another six years, and died in San Francisco in 1892 as one of the richest men in California. The present ledger provides insight into half a decade of Dunphy & Hildreth’s commercial cattle dealing, as well as a wonderful snapshot of the economics of California stock raising just before and during the first few years of the Civil War.

(McBRB4816) $2,250

LETTERS FROM A GOLD MINER


An engaging group of three letters from a mining engineer named Jack in Oroville, California, to his partner and perhaps brother Eric that discuss the development of their investments in an area that saw a rapid growth in dredge mining around the turn of the 20th century. Our correspondent was working out a new mechanical process for gold mining on a promising site. However,
his partner and addressee had given power of attorney to an investor named Wyckoff who is described as “a snotty little devil” who “knows no more about a mine or my affairs than a jack rabbit,” but was starving the operation of cash while delivering a steady stream of insults. At one point Wyckoff, “Left me without cash for ten days when we had nothing but potatoes to feed in the camp.” The dastardly money man is also suspected of trying to steal the proprietary process, which had already yielded fruit in Mexico. If that weren’t bad enough, the author was in poor health -- passing blood, suffering from continuous headaches, and feeling faint. And yet, as with any mining venture, a fortune was just around the corner: “I will make you money in the mine and prove the process, so we can get bigger mines. Everybody is gold-crazy over here.” Good content concerning a region of California that saw significant commercial mining development during the late-19th and early 20th centuries.

(PcBRB2050) $875

PACIFIST GROUP ARCHIVE


Interesting collection of materials emanating from the Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors (CCCO), an important secular pacifist organization established in the late 1940s. The group was chaired by eminent and longtime supporters of conscientious objection, Ray Newton and A.J. Muste, and its other founding leaders included civil rights and anti-war activists such as Bayard Rustin and David Dellinger, later one of the Chicago Seven. The organization gained most prominence during the Vietnam War years, but the present material provides good context for the early years of the group. Included here are eighteen issues of the official newsletter, “News and Notes of the Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors,” which printed news of significant legal developments regarding specific cases involving objectors, related the recent activities of the CCCO, and discussed the current political and military policies towards pacifists and objectors. Also present are fourteen circulars and leaflets, which include an early call for membership dated 1948, several fundraising memos detailing recent efforts of the CCCO, and informational letters on specific campaigns such as naturalization for foreign pacifists and local cash bail funds to assist arrested objectors. Perhaps most interesting is a twenty-page, mimeographed reading list and selected bibliography developed by the committee for publications on conscientious objection, intended to inform on both historical and practical matters relating to the subject.

(McBRB4925) $875

PICTURING A PROMINENT CHILEAN MINING OPERATION FOUNDED BY THE GUGGENHEIM BROTHERS

12. [Chile Exploration Company]. [Mining]. [Guggenheim Family]. [Annotated Vernacular Photograph Album Documenting Construction and Featuring Various Structures at the Most Productive Open Pit Copper Mine in World History]. [Chuquicamata, Chile: 1917-1919]. [33] leaves, illustrated with 236 mounted photographs, most with neatly-written manuscript captions within the image or on the album leaves.
An informative collection of original photographs documenting various structures involved in the commercial mining activities of the Guggenheim Family’s Chile Exploration Company just after World War I. The same structures are pictured at various time periods over the course of the album, which is arranged in chronological order, in many cases showing the progress of construction. The manuscript title on the inside front cover reads: “Chile Exploration Co. Construction Department. Progress Pictures Dec. 1, 1917 to [blank],” with the final photographs dated in the early months of 1919. The photographs open with four shots depicting “Leaching Vat Excavation,” Sub-Station ‘A’ West,” the “Dechloridizing Plant,” and the “Tank House Extension” on December 1, 1917. Other notable structures among the remaining 230+ images include a “Native School” (featured in several pictures), a “Native Pulperio,” “House for School Teacher New Camp,” “Band Stand Native Camp,” the “American Club,” “New Solution Sump,” “Mastic Shop,” “House for Women,” “Bakery,” “Toilet House [of] Native School,” “Monastery,” and more. The images also feature a church, market, staff quarters, a foundry, leaching vats, a tank house, a smelter, and numerous other structures, with a series of photographs picturing a “Concrete Test.”

The Chile Exploration Company (Chilex) was formed in 1912 by the Guggenheim family in order to operate a mine in and around Chuquicamata, Chile. The Guggenheims operated the mine very successfully for over a decade before selling their interest in 1923. Evidenced by the present album, the Guggenheims practiced what they called “welfare work” at their Chuquicamata mine, building schools for both foreign and indigenous populations (who would both work at the remote mine), as well as housing, markets, railroads, clubs, amusements, and other infrastructure vital to maintaining civilization near their mining operation. Harry Guggenheim himself authored an article detailing this welfare work at Chuquicamata in a 1920 article in the Engineering and Mining Journal. Interestingly, the Chuquicamata mine is still in operation today, and is known as the most productive open pit copper mine in the history of the world.

$2,750

13. [Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations]. [Oklahoma]. [Land Patent Granting Forty Acres of Indian Territory to Eliza Ann Williams, Descendant of Slaves Within the Chickasaw Nation]. Indian Territory: January 8, 1907. Partially-printed document, completed in type, and signed in ink at bottom by several officials. Printed docketing on verso, completed in manuscript. Original folds, some foxing, a few edge nicks and small chips not affecting text. Good.

An intriguing document issued to Eliza Ann Williams, a “Chickasaw Freedman,” by the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations in early 1907. The document grants forty acres of land to Williams in the Chickasaw Nation of Indian Territory (soon thereafter the state of Oklahoma), in accordance with the Curtis Act of 1898 and a supplemental Act of Congress dated July 1, 1902, which granted “inalienable” land rights...
to the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations. The document states that the “Said Commission of the Five Civilized Tribes has certified that the land hereinafter described has been selected by or on behalf of Eliza Ann Williams, freedman, as an allotment.” Williams’ status as a “freedman” indicates she was the descendant of a person or persons of African descent enslaved by the Chickasaw before the Civil War and subsequently freed. Williams is in fact listed on the Dawes Rolls, Card 1038, as a twenty-seven-year-old “Chickasaw Freedman,” along with Lee Williams (aged 7) and Roberta Williams (aged 6), presumably her children. The present document is signed in ink at the bottom by Green McCurtain, the “Principal Chief of the Choctaw Nation;” Douglas H. Johnston, “Governor of the Chickasaw Nation” for over thirty years; two officials of the Department of the Interior; and with the official seals of both tribes affixed at bottom left. Interestingly, both McCurtain and Johnston would soon after be appointed chiefs of their respective tribes after the Dawes Act and the annexation of Oklahoma dissolved tribal governments. The present document is a rare survival treating with a little-known, and still under-studied, aspect of the history of African-American enslavement by Native American peoples, with an echo of “forty acres and a mule” in the quantity of land granted to Eliza Williams.

(00BRB4814) $1,750

FROM ANTEBELLUM TO RECONSTRUCTION


An eclectic and wide-ranging archive containing unique reportage of antebellum Georgia, as well as events during and after the Civil War, in the form of numerous letters and documents written to and among several members of the Bozeman and Lewis families of Georgia and Florida, as well as some of their friends and business associates. The letters largely concern the communication of family matters written to John Bozeman and Sarah Bozeman by various cousins and friends. The correspondents include Mary A. Bozeman, Abby E. Bozeman, Elisha W. Bozeman, Mary Turner, David Beasley, Mary A. Lewis, and others. One letter was written by John Bozeman, and several were written by Sarah A. Bozeman. The letters emanate from locations in Georgia such as Grooverville, Jefferson County, Charlton County, Dawson, and Thomasville, as well as Liberty County and Monticello, Florida.

John David Bozeman was born October 26, 1836 in Jefferson, Florida. He married Sarah Blanche Lewis in 1858 before moving his family to the recently platted town of Quitman, Georgia in 1859. A handful of his sister Sarah's letters were written to John the year he moved to Georgia. John worked as a carpenter before mustering into service after the Georgia 29th was reorganized in May 1862 following the passage of the Conscription Act. He enlisted from Thomas County, in Company C, known as the “Seventeenth Patriots,” under Captain Hiram C. Bowen, which became a part of the western army. Bozeman fought under generals Bragg, Johnston, and Hood. Following the Civil War, Bozeman returned home to his family in Quitman where he took up farming. He and Blanche raised eight children before her death in 1916. John Bozeman passed away at the age of 83 on May 16, 1920.
Though John Bozeman’s one letter is dated January 25, 1866, it was actually written in 1865, during his service in the Confederate Army during the last months of the Civil War. Bozeman would spend several stints in the hospital during the war, where he suffered a mysterious illness which seemed to affect him over the course of the intervening years. Writing from “Fair Grounds Hospital No. 2” in Montgomery, Alabama, Bozeman informs his wife that he and his unit were almost captured at the Battle of Nashville. Sadly he reports that only four members remain from his company. He tells Sara that he is on his way to Opelika, as his hospital moved around the south as various Union forces threatened their convalescence. He asks his wife to “write all that has taken place since I left old Georgia.”

The present collection also includes six letters from Bozeman’s sister Sarah A. Bozeman written between 1858 and 1862 from Monticello, Florida. Sarah writes all of these letters to John and Sara Bozeman, informing them of activities and news of the home front in Florida, the watermelon and peaches she is enjoying, updates on the health of various family and friends including the death of a brother from “the staggars,” information on a “tolerable good crop,” and more. Sarah’s 1862 letter includes news of the return of the 5th Florida Regiment from Richmond and the death of her “one tru love” from the measles in Little Rock, Arkansas.

The archive also includes letters to John from other siblings and relatives. His cousin Mary A. Bozeman reports she is “learning to paint on glass and to make bonnets and to cut without any patterns anything I want to. I have painted too as pretty pictures as you ever saw.” James E. Bozeman writes to inform John that he has recently moved to Terrell County, Georgia, and that he has “cancer in my mouth on my under jaw.” Another cousin named Abby E. Bozeman writes two informative letters which each mention her teaching job at a rural school in Terrell County; she says she is not making enough from the “very unpleasant business” of teaching school and asks John to look out for extra work for her “such as sewing.” Yet another Bozeman cousin named David Beasley writes a handful of letters to both John and Sara from Thomasville, Georgia. Beasley’s letters relate details on a recent drought, smallpox in Thomasville, the lateness of the year’s crops, being stuck in Grooverville without a horse, food shortages, and other matters. A Lewis cousin, Mary Turner, writes four letters to Sara Blanche Lewis Bozeman from Liberty County, Florida in 1856 and 1857. In these letters, Mary Turner informs Sara Blanche about family health matters, including her own recent sickness. In addition to the family letters, the collection includes a handful of letters from friends and associates writing to the Bozemans about various matters; in one of these letters, the correspondent, L.W. Bethea, begs forgiveness for long overdue wages owed to Bozeman, reports on the recent election in which his interests were “badly beat” by Grant, and observes that he is looking for work but that “most of cobblers in this county are Negroes, and the most of them are very rough though you know the nature of Negroes.”

After the Civil War, Bozeman and his wife Sara Blanche Lewis Bozeman settled in Quitman, Georgia. A couple of the letters and documents here concern business matters for Bozeman in Quitman. The first is a highly-detailed three-page contract dated in 1869 between Bozeman and a builder named Josiah Paine for the construction of a home for
Bozeman in Quitman. The second document is an 1876 agreement between Bozeman and a contractor named W.A. Bowen for the rental of various pieces of carpentry equipment. There is also a rather striking architectural drawing of the front elevation of a two-story structure by Bowen & Wind in 1856. This elegant structure was likely drawn by English architect John Wind or one of his associates; Wind was a prolific architect in southwestern Georgia during this time, and designed several monumental plantations in the state; the firm of H.C. & W. Bowen were Thomasville builders who erected many of Wind's designs. It is not known whether this particular drawing pictures the exact structure built by Bozeman, or was simply a reference for him. Rounding out the archive are numerous manuscript poems (at least one of which is signed at the end by Sara Blanche Lewis) and pencil sketches. An informative collection of unique, firsthand historical documents that provide much of interest relating to home front matters in Georgia and Florida before, during, and after the Civil War.

(McBRB2831) $3,250

LARGE ARCHIVE OF THE 94 TUNNEL MINING COMPANY

15. [Colorado Mining]. Francis, George. Possell, George. [Large Archive Documenting Activities of the 94 Tunnel Mining Company in Clear Creek Colorado]. [Primarily locations in Colorado: 1900-1908]. Approximately 300 total pages, comprising 90 letters and other various materials, primarily manuscripts. Contents clean with minimal wear, written in a clear and legible hand. Very good.

An extensive archive of letters and other documents from the founding of the 94 Tunnel Mining Company through its first years of operation. The present materials were accumulated by George Francis of LaPorte, Indiana, who served first as the company’s vice president and subsequently as its president. Most of the letters herein were written to Mr. Francis by the company’s founding secretary, George Possell, and most are dated either at Denver or at Yankee, Colorado between 1901 and 1905. In addition to more than 200pp. of correspondence, the archive includes a manuscript account of the company’s initial organizational meeting, a typed report on the property at Yankee Hill, typed reports of shareholder meetings, and numerous forms with stock and shareholder information. There is also a printed prospectus for the Yankee Hill Gold Section of Clear Creek County which mentions the mine, and a small ledger kept by George Francis recording expenses and other business information related to the company.

Yankee Hill is located approximately twenty miles northwest from the current outskirts of Denver. The 94 Tunnel Mining Company was organized on May 28, 1900 at a meeting in Denver, and the manuscript minutes of the meeting lay out the initial election of officers, as well as the by-laws governing the company. A typed report from July that year gives the location, general condition, and progress of the camp, as well as its geologic advantages. “The ‘94 Tunnel is three hours ride from Idaho Springs by stage, and the property of the company is located on the southwest slope of Yankee Hill. Its surface, buildings and large acreage or property has resulted in its being more generally known as ‘The ‘94 Camp.’ I should say that it was located at the very center of the mineral bearing belt of the camp.” The author goes on to report about the veins and lodes in the area, and the rosy future of the 94 Tunnel: “the ore in sight and that which will be developed by the ‘94 Crosscut can be treated very cheaply by reason of the situation and condition existing at your property... from the size and continuity of the veins I am prepared to say that there must be an amount that would appall one were he to reach figures by any method of computation.” The primary product was gold, though other ores were also in evidence. The company appears to have had at least two presidents in its first two years of
operation; an annual report from 1901 indicates George Francis as vice president, and by letters from 1902 he is named on the letterhead as president. This seems to have remained the case until 1908, when he shifted roles back to vice president. George Possell is listed as secretary and treasurer throughout this period.

Possell, who seems to have been a driving force for the success of the mine, writes in great detail about the operations at Yankee Hill. Possell was also involved with the Home Dairy Restaurant in Denver, and seems to have split his time and energy between the two businesses. His early letters are full of optimism for the success of the venture, and filled with rigorous detail. In addition to corresponding about matters relating to the company's stocks and finances in his role as treasurer, he gives precise information about ore loads and operations -- essentially, he was the company's man on the ground. Writing to Francis is December 1901, he discusses the production rates at the mill in the current wintry conditions:

“Well Mr. Francis I found the mill in operation and what work is being done is very satisfactory. The saving is very good and to concentrates have good value. The last assay by stack was $108.40 per ton on concentrates, but the amount that can be put through is to[o] small. As near as I can estimate the run about 50 ton in the last 17 day making a little over 4 tons concentrates. I don't think the concentrates will go much above $75.00 so you see we are not making enough to pay expenses of running the mill as are from $22.00 to $25.00 per day. ... it seems to me we better not try to run the milluntill our capacity is increased and the tables rebuild. As it is it takes five men to run, whereas three ought to and can do the work when the things are in proper shape.”

As the months and years progress, the difficulties involved in mining become more apparent, both to the reader and perhaps also to the author. In September 1902 the mine needed capital for improvements, and Possell writes, “Winter is almost upon us again and we can not expect to do a great deal of out side work this fall. I wish we could get enough money to get that placer patent through at once, and a most necessary thing that should be done by all means and that is to fix up the drainage in the 94 tunnel. This should be attended to at once or we will be in the same mess that we were in last winter. It not only fills the tunnel with ice but spoils the timbering if the tunnel. We are obliged to put in several sets of timber now on account of frost and ice last winter.” And flooding wasn't the only problem the mine faced that month. Writing a week later, he delivers “another disgusting piece of news” to Francis: “I was served with a summons this morning by which Mr. J.J. Smith brings action for $20,000.00 against the 94 Tunnel Mining Co. claiming that we unlawfully refused to issue him 147,994 shares of the capital stock of this company in accordance with a contract and agreement dated May 3rd, 1900.” He goes on to give Francis the background history on the matter, saying Smith had wanted stock issued but Possell lacked revenue stamps to issue it; he said Smith could provide the stamps, which he refused to do and then “got very abusive to me and drew a big knife on me and afterwards told Mr. Weicher that if I did not issue that stock he would cut my ---- heart out.”

In addition to Possell's lively correspondence, there are meeting reports and other relevant documents relating to the company's enterprises. One letters from May 1902 is written to Francis by a J.B. Knoblock, an entrepreneur and fellow Hoosier, who wishes to sell the company a Boileau Pulverizer machine; his letter includes samples of crushed rock folded into small sleeves of paper. There are also several printed circulars and reports dated after 1908 reporting on the activities of the company. Altogether, this is a tremendous trove of archival documentation recording the activities and travails of a Colorado gold mining operation at the turn of the century, written from one company officer to another. Clearly worthy of further research.

(McBRB1531) $5,500

Handsome manuscript cook book volume created by Evelia Marroquin in Mexico. A very modern-looking work, each recipe lists measured ingredients followed by instructions. Written in a highly legible hand, the book contains a wide variety of recipes in no particular arrangement, including Tarta de Garbanza, Salsa Americana, Chorizo de Extremadura, Brazzo de Gitano, Sopa de Macarrones Rellenos, Marquesitas, Albondigon Español, and Sopa de Esparragos a la Crema, among others. A lovely example of the genre.

*(McBRB5084)* $2,000

17. [Cook Books]. [Mexico]. *Libro de Cocina Propiedad de Ana Maria Palacios [manuscript title]*. Mexico City: [1906-1908]. [80]pp. Quarto. Original quarter cloth and marbled boards. Spine mostly perished, wear to boards. Some soiling and wear to contents, a few leaves excised, not affecting text; some tearing and loss to gutter margin, affecting a few words. Good plus.

Manuscript cook book kept by Ana Maria Palacios in Mexico City at the turn of the century. Written across several years and obviously well-used, the book records a variety of recipes without discerning about grouping them in any particular way. Recipes include Gorditas de Maiz Cacahuazintle, Chicarrones, Papas con Vino, Pan Yngles, Sopa de Macarrones, Torta de Sardina, and more. An index is included at the end, though it only covers the first seventeen pages of recipes. A wonderful little vernacular volume.

*(McBRB5083)* $1,850
FORMING A CHINESE MUTUAL AID ASSOCIATION IN CUBA

The documents present here are dated 1884 and emanate not from Havana, but from the small village of Corral Falso de Macuriges, now known as Pedro Betancourt, in the center of the province of Matanzas, east of the capital. Three smaller pieces record the process of the local government, and note their receipt of the application to form the society, a portion of the negotiation to receive approval for the association, including a request for a copy of the proposed rules and bylaws, and an acknowledgement of the receipt of those rules. The most significant document is the complete copy of the proposed rules, titled, “Reglamento de la Sociedad de Beneficencia y Recreo Asiatica de Corral Falso de Macuriges Denominanta ‘Recreo Asiatico Español,” that was provided to authorities. These rules are collected into eight sections, the first of which states the purpose and goals of the society, reading, in part:

“Esta Sociedad, denominada Recreo Asiatico Español, es con el objeto de propender al socorro al sus socios necesitados. Asi mismos proporcionales ratos de distraccion y recreo. Tendrá a la vez, casa de recreo y de salud donde serán asistidos los socios enfermos, siendo por cuenta de la sociedad gastos que se curacion demande. Uno de los medicos residentes en el poblado, será el que ha de encargarse de la asistencia, de los que enfermaren el cual será costeado de los fondos del Instituto. En esta sociedad, no de permitirán otras clases de fuegos [?] que los autoridades por las Leyes de este pais.”

Subsequent chapters continue to describe the responsibilities of the association officers, including the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, and the duties of its board of directors, as well as the responsibilities of its members. In all, the documents provide a significant record of the cultural and societal organization by Chinese immigrants in Cuba beyond Havana during the later stages of Spanish colonial rule on the island.

(McBRB3502) $8,500
DRIVING FROM FLORIDA TO DAKOTA IN 1925

19. [Florida]. [Early Automobile Travel]. Our Trip of 1925 [manuscript caption title]. [Various locations including Florida, Missouri, and South Dakota]: 1925. Forty-five leaves, encompassing approximately fifty pages of manuscript narrative written in white ink, interspersed with 108 photographs and a handful of ephemeral items. Oblong octavo. Contemporary red cloth photograph album, black letters on front cover, string tied. Minor edge wear. A few leaves detached, several leaves of narrative faded and difficult to decipher. Still, a wonderful and unique production. Very good.

A fascinating homemade travel diary, supplemented with over a hundred photographs, recording a 5000+ mile road trip in an early Dodge Brothers sedan, undertaken by Emil M. and Anna E. Gollnick (nee Redman) of Vero Beach, Florida. Emil Gollnick emigrated from Germany to the United States in about 1872 and moved to Florida in the early 20th century, where he operated a successful citrus-growing enterprise; he died in Fort Pierce, Florida in 1946. On the trip memorialized in the present album, the Gollnicks traveled along rough rural roads from Florida and then a circuitous route through Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Iowa, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, and Georgia. They started on July 14 and ended their trip on September 3, 1925. Important points along the way seem to involve family. The couple lingered longest in Springfield, Missouri and on a sister’s farm in Milbank, South Dakota. When not encumbered by family, the Gollnicks seem to have stayed mostly at tourist camps, almost always ending their daily drive around 4:00pm, well before dark.

The diary stands as a proto-travel narrative, and is written in an interesting and readable style. For instance, an excerpt from July 16 reads, “Detour of six miles beyond Madison and clay roads until up to Tallahassee, very hilly Havana, camped at Chatahatchee near this bridge for the night where hobo and pigs were our company.” Another entry reads, in part: “Started on after lunch and had muddy roads galore and meet car after car on the side of the road. Pulled one car out of the ditch and another one run into the ditch on the other side before we got away. Out tow rope was our salvation. Went on and found a car on our side and a car on the other side but we all laughed and had the time of our lives.” The photographs are often evocative, capturing roadside environs, family members and their houses, livestock, campsites, many other cars, trucks, and a tractor, including a Redman’s Ice Cream truck (presumably belonging to Anna’s family), and more. Following the narrative, and bound in at the rear, is a two-page typed accounting of the expenses for the trip, which provides a clear picture of their route. An intriguing original record of one couple’s travels from Florida to South Dakota and back again in the Roaring Twenties. (McBRB2653) $950

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD OF TRIBAL LANDS


A collection of aerial photographs and related map of the Nez Perce Reservation and surrounding area in Idaho intended for use during
the tribe’s Indian Claims Commission case in the early 1960s. The photographs feature various areas across the Nez Perce Reservation, mostly focused along waterways, as land use, particularly related to water and fishing rights, was a continuous point of contention between the Nez Perce and the federal government. The folding map of the reservation is keyed with manuscript annotations to the printed numbers on the photographs, indicating the location each photograph pictures.

According to the website of the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs: “The Indian Claims Commission, an independent agency, was established by the Congress in 1946 to hear and determine the claims of tribes and other identifiable groups of American Indians living in the United States. These claims represent attempts by Indian tribes to obtain redress for any failure of the Government to complete payments for lands ceded under treaty, for the acquisition of land at an unconscionably low price or for other failure to comply with a treaty or legislative action regarding Indian lands that grew out of the westward expansion of the United States.” The Nez Perce case before the ICC began in 1958 and was argued over the course of the next decade, with the commission awarding the tribe around $9 million for Docket 175, 175A, and 175B by 1972. The present map and collection of photographs provide primary source evidence of the continued conflict between Native Americans and the United States government.


A lengthy letter written by a woman in Ohio to her family in Indiana, decrying New Harmony as “the most fruitful spot of wickedness in the whole world” and describing the local cholera epidemic. Frances Lanphear, writing from the upright and sensible town of Cincinnati, goes on at length about her concerns for her brother’s soul and her relief that he has left the den of sin and iniquity that is New Harmony, Indiana. She also writes of the cholera epidemic in Cincinnati, and the blessed effects it has had in turning lost souls to the Lord, “causing many to fly to Christ for salvation and grace for a dying hour.” She observes, “Many fell on the right hand and on our left but we were spared. And to God alone be all the glory. It was an awful time indeed, the whole aspect of the city was changed, the streets were almost deserted and solemnity sat on every countenance.”

(McBRB5035) $750

Small archive of material relating to the business activities of Charles H. Liscom of Clinton, Iowa, as per his business card: “wholesale and retail dealer in coal of every variety.” Covering a period of about four years, the archive documents Liscom’s activities selling coal and working with several regional railroads to produce and lay railroad ties. It includes waybills recording freight transactions, business correspondence recording rates and labor, and other related information. It also includes Liscom’s business card and a printed broadside from the Camanche, Albany and Medota Railroad Company titled “Specifications for Cross-Ties” which details the dimensions and requirements for the railroad ties ordered.

Most of the correspondence here concerns prices and labor, either for coal and mining or for labor and delivery of railroad ties. Writing to A. Kennedy, the chief engineer of the Muscatine and Tipton Railroad, in November 1858 he offers his services in detail: “Dear Sir, Permit us to offer you a proposal for getting ties upon your road; having seen a handbill very late; however you may give us attention, and give us a contract for getting ties for the 14 miles at 50 cents a piece delivered on the bank of the river at Muscatine. We will get them of hard wood 8 feet long 6 inches face and 6 inches through and one in every 10 to be of 10 inches face and deliver them all before the first of September 1859. Providing you will advance us 1/4 in cash on signing the contract. For our ability to fulfill the contract we refer you to Milo Smith, chief engineer of the C.P. & I. R.R., Mr. Baker atty. for said road and Sherman & Bagly & Co. of Lyons.” In addition to being a purveyor of railroad ties, it seems Liscom also did some survey work. Writing to his mother in December 1858, Liscom relates his current activities: “Today I have been surveying for a Rail Road Bridge and Ferry. Tomorrow shall do the same if the fog clears away so to see. I expect when you come to this country you will cross on this same bridge, now don’t be scared!” He likewise dealt in coal, and correspondence and receipts here document that business. A letter from the Northern Illinois Coal and Iron Company addressed to Liscom discusses rates and the recent increase in costs:

“It is impossible for us to furnish coal at our old figures. Our standard price for coal now is $2.25 per ton on the Cars. But all of our customers to whom we have heretofore sold at $1.50 because of the competition which they are battling with, we are now selling at $2.00. This is 25c per ton less than our standard selling rates. We should chg. you the same, if you were still in the business. We are having orders for more coal than we can raise at $2.25 & if we were to put coal to that class of customers of which you & Mr. Davis form a part, at less figure than $2, our margins at present prices of labor would be too short to make the business lucrative. On the 1st Sept. miners raised 25c per ton for mining & other labor in & about the mines has raised in proportion, so that our margin is no more at $2 than it was before at $1.50. We do not think the river men can mine their coal cheaper than we. It may be that their freights are less. Perhaps you can get your frts. reduced. We should be glad to furnish you with coal, & would be glad to furnish you at lower rates if we could, but the prices of labor will not permit it.”

Most of the receipts record rates for freighting coal. Altogether, this is an interesting archive which documents the both the coal and railroad industries -- and the intersection thereof -- in the Midwest just before the Civil War. Worthy of further research.

(McBRB1916) $750
WITH AN ORIGINAL SKETCH IN WWII ITALY
BY 442nd STAFF SERGEANT GEORGE OKANO

23. [Japanese Americana]. [World War II]. [Okano Family]. [Wartime Archive of Letters, a Battlefield Sketch, and Manuals from George Okano and Jiro Okano, both Soldiers in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team]. [Various locations, including Wyoming, New York, Mississippi, and others: 1942-1950]. Ten manuscript or typed letters, a pencil sketch of a mortar field, a penciled for a “Mortar Range,” five greeting cards, two photographs, five War Ration books, a small collection of manuals and pamphlets, and assorted ephemera. Occasional minor wear and some soiling to letters, some wear to manuals and pamphlets. Very good.

A tidy collection of letters, an original pencil sketch and accompanying manuscript documents, military and other manuals and pamphlets, received greeting cards and V-Mail, two photographs, and assorted ephemera sent to or belonging to a pair of Japanese-American brothers who both served in the famed 442nd Regimental Combat Team during the Second World War, and assorted members of their family. Most of the letters are sent to George or Jiro Okano, and from a variety of correspondents including a fellow soldier (writing from Camp Robinson, Arkansas) and various family members and friends. Two of the letters were actually sent by George -- one to his parents and another to Jiro while George was in training at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. George's letter to his parents emanates from his time in the hospital in New York after being wounded in the leg in Italy earlier in 1944. His letter to Jiro appears to be the final page of a multi-page letter (other pages not present) sent while in training at Camp Shelby, in which George asks Jiro to fashion a dagger for him, and counsels him to take care of himself.

One interesting letter was written to Jiro by a friend named Dave Miyomoto in Michigan. Among other issues, Miyomoto asks Jiro to help him secure his car, as “Seeming niseis won’t be in the army for awhile they may send my car to your place via an American kid, driving it over.” The letter is dated just two months after the issuance of Executive Order 9066, and illustrates the disarray such a decree caused in the lives of Japanese Americans across the country. Miyamoto would eventually become brother-in-law to the Okano brothers, marrying their sister Haruko. A couple of the letters are written to Jiro and his sister Marion Okano by their cousin, Taro. Though most of the letters emanate from 1942-1944, one of the letters is written in Japanese, and was sent to “K. Okano” (likely George and Jiro's father Kakuji Okano) in 1921, and another was sent to George and Jiro's sister Pauline in 1950 from a friend named Joe at Michigan State University. Two pieces of V-Mail are also present here, both sent to Jiro Okano in Rock Springs - one from his brother George in April 1944 reporting on camp life (perhaps from Italy) and another from a year earlier from a fellow soldier named Earl Crapo, stationed in England. Both V-mail letters were routed through the postmaster in New York.

The most impactful item in the present collection is a pair of pencil sketches on a single sheet picturing a mortar field outside Cassino, Italy, dated February 9 and 10, 1944. The sketch of February 9th is titled, “Overlay for Mortar Section. Sec. leader S/Sgt. Geo. Okano Feb. 9, 1944.” The sketches are executed on a piece of Camp Shelby stationery and picture two mortar fields with topographical elements, encampments for two units (labeled “1st” and “3rd”), the placement of 60mm guns,
and various labeled targets spread out in the field. Though no location is given by Okano, the sketches must have been created by George Okano during movements outside Cassino, Italy, when Okano was serving as a forward observer for 60mm mortar placements. The sketch is accompanied by both a manuscript range card and a partially-printed range card completed by Okano in pencil, neither of these giving the location either. But the fact that the sketches indicate the location of two units - the “1st” and “3rd” - dovetails with the fact that the 1st and 3rd Battalions of the 133rd Regiment were fighting together on those two days in 1944, when they were shelling the town of Cassino, Italy. The 442nd served with the 133rd Regiment during the protracted Battle of Monte Cassino, which resulted in massive casualties for the Japanese-American unit but also allowed the Nisei soldiers to display epic bravery which helped establish the unit’s reputation as fierce and brave fighters.

The collection of manuals present here include the smaller edition of the regimental history of the 442nd, titled The Story of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. Another notable artifact from George Okano’s service is his copy of Pointers for Infantry Troop Leaders. The collection also includes three basic field manuals, a German-English dictionary, an Italian-language course book, and a history of the 34th Infantry Division. The two photographs present here picture Japanese-American subjects, but are not identified. Among the handful of ephemeral items include four Okano family war ration books, a key fob for the Disabled Veterans of America (likely belonging to George Okano as he earned four Purple Hearts during combat). A research-worthy archive of materials created by, sent to, and otherwise retained by a pair of well-decorated Japanese American veterans of the Second World War and their family. As a final note, both George and Jiro Okano are pictured and have detailed biographies on the Discover Nikkei website.

$5,500

LARGE ARCHIVE OF AMERICAN JEWISH ACTIVISTS

24. [Judaica]. Lelyveld, Arthur J. [Large Archive of Almost 600 Letters and Documents Relating to the Family, Career, and Social Activism of Rabbi Arthur Lelyveld and His Wife, Dr. Toby Bookholtz Lelyveld, Including 140 Letters Exchanged Between Them, and Over 450 Letters Sent to Them from Their Children, Parents, and Numerous Friends and Associates]. [Various locations: 1932-1957]. Approximately 570 manuscript and typed letters, signed, postcards, and notes, about half longer than one page, totaling over 1,000 pages, and approximately 180,000 words, plus one manuscript notebook, a typed article, numerous telegrams, printed programs, and other ephemeral items. Expected wear, and mostly very clean and well preserved. Very good.

A voluminous collection of early letters written by and to Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld and Dr. Toby Bookholtz Lelyveld, prominent Jewish intellectuals, activists, and religious leaders covering over twenty-five years of their lives in the early-middle 20th century. The present archive is comprised of about 140 letters, postcards, notes, and telegrams sent between Rabbi Lelyveld and Dr. Lelyveld beginning early in their life together, and written from numerous locations as the couple and their family moved or traveled to numerous places within the United States and other countries. The collection also includes hundreds of letters and postcards written to each of them by their own children and various friends and associates, and other material and ephemeral items. Obviously, the subject matter covered in the letters is legion, but overall the letters vividly display Arthur’s and Toby’s unique personalities, their loving and supportive relationship, the variety of their interests, their family dynamic, and so much more.

Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld (1913-1996) was a prominent leader in the Reform Judaism movement and a fierce activist; his New York Times obituary is titled, “Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld, 83, Rights Crusader.” Rabbi Lelyveld was not just an armchair activist, either. Over the course of his career, he spoke openly about the need for Jews to engage in “social activism” to better relations between races; was beaten by segregationists while helping to register voters in Mississippi in 1964; delivered public eulogies for Andrew Goodman, one of the three Civil Rights workers
murdered in Mississippi in 1964, and David R. Berger, one of the Israeli Olympians murdered in Munich in 1972; supported protesters speaking out against racist hiring practices in the construction of a federal building in Cleveland, and more. He also served as the first Jewish editor of the Columbia campus newspaper in the early 1930s; led congregations in Ohio, Nebraska, and New York; and lobbied President Truman to recognize the state of Israel in the late 1940s. He spent much of his later career in Ohio, where he passed away in 1996.

Toby Bookholtz Lelyveld (1912-1997) was also a noted teacher and Shakespeare scholar who earned a bachelor's, master's, and doctorate from Columbia between 1933 and 1951. During her distinguished career, Toby taught at Teachers College at Columbia, the University of Omaha, Western Reserve University, Julliard, and served for eight years as the director of the B'nai Brith Hillel Foundation at Hunter College. The couple divorced in 1964 after having three children, one of whom, Joseph Lelyveld, rose to executive editor of The New York Times.

The present collection includes over sixty letters from Arthur to his wife, Toby sent between 1937 and 1957. Many of Arthur's letters were written home while he was traveling for conferences, speeches, and similar engagements. A mere sampling of the letters reveal Arthur writing to Toby about family and financial matters, his activities at various conferences and his work in general, attending and conducting temple, visiting friends, attending concerts, his own corned beef hash recipe, books he needs from the library, films he sees (such as a documentary called The Negro Soldier in 1944), his frequent public addresses, and much more. Arthur also occasionally sends newspaper clippings documenting his activities, and in one letter in 1946, he sends Toby the text of his address before the Demonstration for Palestine. During these letters he mentions work with the Zionist Council, the B'nai Brith Hillel Foundation, as chairman of the Committee on Unity for Palestine, and other organizations. Many of Arthur's letters from the late 1940s mention or touch upon his activities in support of a Jewish homeland in Palestine; this includes the text of his February 1, 1946 speech at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco. One notable item is a Valentine's Day poem Arthur sent to Toby in 1948 entitled "My Lovely." In addition to his letters, the collection includes a manuscript notebook belonging to Arthur from his earlier school days with several pages devoted to religious studies and a 1936 term paper on Karaism produced by Arthur during his rabbinical studies at Hebrew Union College.

Toby Lelyveld's seventy-five letters to her husband were written by her almost exclusively over the course of a decade, between 1932 and 1942. Her letters begin in 1932, when both she and Arthur were still attending Columbia, and are often long and very informative missives, thick with personality, recounting her daily activities, her experiences in school, books and her reading habits, family business, her teaching work and research, various conference activities, her travels, and so very much more. In addition to Arthur and Toby's letters to each other, the present archive includes a large number of letters sent to Arthur, Toby, or both of them by numerous correspondents over the course of about thirty years. Chronologically these begin with over sixty letters to Arthur from his parents and grandmother in Brooklyn, mostly during his time at Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati between 1933 and 1934. These letters to Arthur from his parents necessarily contain a voluminous amount of information about their activities, their family, and news from home while Arthur was out west, including news about Toby who
was still living in the New York area. Other correspondents during this period include Toby’s sister Rossie, as well as her father. In addition to these family letters, the present collection includes over 250 letters and notes from a variety of correspondents outside the family, and help to document Arthur and Toby’s work in the 1930s through the 1950s. The correspondents include other rabbis, members of his temple and other temples, friends and associates, and more. Many of the letters sent to Arthur concern sympathies upon the death of his father in 1955. The collection also contains two letters from different officials at the War Relocation Authority in 1943 documenting Rabbi Lelyveld’s attempts to recruit a Japanese American internee as a domestic assistant; it is unclear if this ever came to fruition. There is also a sizable correspondence sent from various correspondents to Toby Lelyveld. In a survey of a fraction of these letters, which number around 150 examples, the correspondents write to Toby about her work in the theater, invite her for speaking engagements, inform her of her successful completion of the graduate program at Columbia, and so very much more. One of the most interesting items in the collection is a faux-leather binder containing over two dozen letters presented to Toby upon her tenth anniversary as director of the B’nai B’rith Hillel Foundation at Hunter College.

The description above necessarily just scratches the surface of the research angles to be found within the present letters. OCLC lists a collection of Rabbi Arthur Lelyveld’s papers at Western Reserve Historical Society Library, a small collection of papers at the American Jewish Historical Society in New York, and a smattering of his correspondence to various figures in a few institutions. However, we could locate no institutions holding a substantial amount of family letters from Arthur or Toby Lelyveld. OCLC only lists Toby’s Shakespeare-related works, and as far as we could tell, no manuscript material. A fuller description is available upon request.

(Speculating in Kansas During the Civil War, with an Unrecorded Kansas County Map)


A grouping of retained correspondence and a large promotional map relating to Kansas real estate speculation during and just after the Civil War. The letters were written to Jeffrey Sage (1791-1876) and his son William N. Sage (born 1828) of Broome County, New York and Virginia, who had invested in land in Nemaha County in northeastern Kansas, apparently in the now-defunct village of Albany just north of Sabetha. These letters from their agents and friends in Kansas offer some interesting details on frontier conditions there during the Civil War era. John L. Graham writes on January 6, 1861: “Miller is out on the Republican Fork of the Kansas River, hunting and trapping…. There are three houses in Albany and a steam sawmill in prospect, no school house and no school, no store. There are nine houses in Sabetha, no school house, but they have a school in the log house on the corner and have 30 scholars. There is a good blacksmith there, and he has a plenty of work. He has two marriageable daughters and Bill Graham waited on one of them to meeting down to Albany yesterday.”
Edwin Miller wrote from Missouri on August 19, 1865: “I have not lived
in Kan. since the war commenced. I was in the service 2 yrs, was lieut.
in the Kans. 7th Cavalry. Albany has got the P.O. away from Sabatha
since I left. There is no store in Sabetha, 2 in Albany.” He also lists the
residents of Albany. Another correspondent, J.C. Hebbard, a resident
of Seneca since 1860, sent his report on February 14, 1866, describing
the businesses in Seneca and Albany, and anticipating “quite a large
emigration to Kansas this year.” Hebbard’s gilt-accented letterhead from
1868 has a long promotional message regarding Nemaha County printed
on verso, and his August 15, 1868 letter boasts of Albany’s “two stores
and a very fine school building.” A very nice collection of letters with
solid research potential.

In addition to the letters, the collection includes a striking, and seemingly
unrecorded, cadastral map entitled, “Township Map of Nemaha County”
by J.W. Tuller, described at the top of the map as “General Tax Paying & Land Agent” in Seneca, Kansas. The map was produced in Hartford
by Bingham & Dodd, likely between 1861 and 1866. This substantial
map shows a proposed railroad (completed in 1866), settlements, school
buildings, saw and grist mills, and the famed Overland Trail (here
marked as “Great Overland Route to California”). A small square just
north of Albany is marked in red ink, probably the land owned by the
Sage family. We could locate no other examples of this map in OCLC. A
wonderful grouping of letters and a map which provide insight into the
development of a small Kansas community in the midst of the Civil War
and just afterwards.

A unique manuscript ledger book containing meeting minutes and other notes pertinent to the activities of the Housatonic Lodge of Papermakers No. 47, written over the course of three years in turn-of-the-century Massachusetts. The entries were written in the hand of several different recording secretaries, all identified. The minutes run from October 19, 1901 through March 26, 1904, and also include a list of officers for 1904. The ledger begins with a statement on the union’s formation: “The papermakers of this town meet at Central Hall for the purpose of organizing a Papermakers Union.” Interestingly, the union was not allowed back at Central Hall after their first meeting, and met thereafter in various locations. The ledger was presented to the Housatonic Lodge by an officer of the national union, as evidenced by the manuscript title page, which reads: “Recording Sec. Book. Presented by Nat. Vice President James Hawkins. Oct. 26 - 1901. United Brotherhood of Papermakers of America.” There are also several ephemeral items related to the papermakers union laid in to the present ledger, namely a printed circular from the national office, membership certificates, and dues receipts.

Within the minutes are detailed notes about meeting activities and
motions, officer elections, financial matters, applications for membership,
social events, and more. Of particular note, the union did not accept
women as members at the beginning, but one of the notes for the June
14, 1902 meeting indicates this changed: “Motion carried that our
new charter be opened for the admission of ladies.” The next line also

MINUTES OF A MASSACHUSETTS PAPERMAKERS UNION

26. [Massachusetts]. [Housatonic Lodge of Papermakers]. [Manuscript
Ledger Containing Minutes of the Housatonic Lodge of Papermakers,
Members of the United Brotherhood of Papermakers of America].
[Housatonic, Ma.: 1901-1904]. 60pp. of manuscript text. Folio.
Contemporary three-quarter red leather and black pebbled cloth boards.
Some chipping and noticeable wear to boards. Hinges reinforced, minor
dust-soiling to text. Very good.
states that “Sister Klein” and two others were part of “a committee on the character of all ladies whose application for membership was read.” Thereafter, the ledger records active participation by women, including their candidacy for membership, candidacy for election as officers of the union, service on committees, and so forth. By the end of the time period recorded in the ledger, the few entries for 1904 were written by recording secretary Mabel R. Geer.

(McBRB4871) $1,250

PLYING THE RIO GRANDE DURING THE MEXICAN WAR


A brief letter written by John B. Murray to his family back in New Albany, Indiana, in which he discusses his potential employment and that of his brother working for the government on steamboats down in Mexico. He writes: “...at this present time I am on board the S.S. George Lincoln bound down to the Rio Grand which I intend to leave her providing I can get something better to so at Rio Grand. You requested me to let you know if I could get anything for you to do this winter. But dear William now after the severe sickness of last summer there has arrived a great may people [from] different parts of the States and New Orleans at this present time is crowded, but I have no doubt but if you could get down to Rio Grand or any part of Mexico you might make out well by getting in the Government employ as caulker as Government

has a good many steam boats down on the river. My intention is to on my arrival to endeavor to get a situation as mate on one of the Gov’t steamers which pay $50 a month.” An interesting angle to the migration for work during the Mexican-American War.

(McBRB4621) $650

EXTENSIVE PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVE


A comprehensive and meticulous collection of photo negatives, comprising well over 2000 images of Saltese, Montana, its industry, development, and culture over the first six decades of the 20th century. The images present here were compiled across two generations of the Rogers family, primarily by Herbert Rogers and his son Gale Rogers, both influential citizens in the very small town of Saltese during its brief heyday. Herbert moved to Montana in the late-19th century and began this photo record soon after; and, until his retirement in the late 1920s, he was the chief owner and operator of the power and water services for the town. Gale attended a small business school in Butte and thereafter was involved in many of the Rogers’ local business interests, including the Woodburn Mining Company, the aforementioned Saltese Electric Light and Water Company, and the Rogers Tourist Cabins and Standard Service Station. The elder Rogers was perhaps the prime mover of this archive’s generation, as the photo series ends in 1959, following quickly upon his death the year prior.

Today the town of Saltese, in the northwest corner of Montana near the border with Idaho, is a small collection of houses with a bar and a general store sandwiched between Interstate 90 and the St. Regis River.
The 2020 census recorded a population of ten. In its former life, Saltese was a gold and silver mining town, established in the 1880s as Silver City and renamed after the Nez Perce chief in 1891; for a time in the early-20th century (and during the period covered by the present archive), it could boast over 2000 residents and a stop on the Northern Pacific Railroad. The twenty-two albums that house the negative collection each contains an index filled with manuscript dates and descriptions for each image.

The core of this archive is an almost sixty-year visual record of life in Saltese, with images of town architecture, views, industry, business, social activity, and citizens. The preponderance of images date from the early 1920s to the late 1950s, with one album covering the period before World War I. The negatives include classic mining images, railroad views, and town floods; floods of the St. Regis River, winter storms and their effects, and various weather mitigation efforts; social events, town baseball games, and family gatherings; group and individual portraits of town citizens, friends, and members of the Rogers family. In addition to the images of mining efforts, there is ample documentation of other industry in the region, such as lumbering and milling; the local water and power plants, which the Rogers owned; and construction of various edifices and businesses. The negatives are also an excellent record of town life, showing schoolhouse gatherings, town sports teams, fire lookouts, and Rogers family activities. A substantial portion of the collection documents automobile journeys taken across the intermountain West by the Rogers, who traveled extensively in Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, and elsewhere. A subset of these is an interesting group of major dam projects and construction, such as Polson Dam on the Flathead River and the Grand Coulee Dam on the Columbia River. In all, a fabulous and expansive visual archive of a small town northwestern Montana and life in the mountain West as it was lived by the Rogers family during the first half of the 20th century.

(McBRB4928) $6,750

BUSINESS CORRESPONDENCE OF A MONTANA LAWYER (AND KNOWN KILLER!)


A substantial group of nearly forty-five letters by Helena lawyer Theodore Shed to his client and business partner, D.W. Bateman, in Great Falls, Montana, during the early 1890s. Shed was something of a frontier character, who began his business career in the 1870s as the proprietor of the Kiyus Saloon on Main Street in Helena. By 1882, he had become the bookkeeper of Greenhood, Bohn & Co., general store for the town and region, and in the intervening years had developed a bitter feud with John Hugle, a traveling salesman for the company, which began over the improper borrowing of a Buffalo coat. When Hugle attacked Shed in front of the Cosmopolitan Hotel on the evening of June 23, 1882, Shed shot him in the face with a .38-caliber revolver. He was eventually acquitted of a murder charge in 1883, and became a lawyer, first in Marysville, Montana, before returning to Helena in 1890, when our correspondence begins. The addressee in the present letters is David Wellington Bateman, who came to Montana from Texas during the early 1880s.
In 1890, he founded a wholesale liquor and beverage business in Great Falls with his principal business partner, Jacob Switzer, in order to take advantage of the emerging mining bonanza there. By the early-20th century, they had been successful enough to become major investors in land irrigation projects, cattle ranches, hotels, and mining claims, amongst other interests.

This correspondence shows that Bateman had interests in land and mines during his early period as a businessman, as well. Shed, in his capacity as an attorney, acted as Bateman’s agent and advisor, and wrote to him often concerning financial details of mortgages, bills, mining claims, land sales, and other contracts. It is apparent at several points in the letters that Shed was also an investor in some of the projects and deals undertaken by Bateman. There is also much information concerning the legal wrangling that sometimes accompanied the transactions in which Bateman and Switzer were involved, which could involve quite large sums, as a receipt present here for $54,000 minus expenses collected by Shed for Bateman from a favorable court judgment demonstrates. In all, this group of material provides a fascinating look into the multi-faceted interests and operations of a successful Montana businessman from the perspective of his rather infamous attorney.

$1,750

A unique manuscript letter sent to the “Post Office for Indian Boys” and containing the names, ages, and mailing instructions to get letters to four “Creek Boys.” The address leaf also includes the name of Rev. Edward T. Peery at the Methodist Shawnee Manual Labor School in Shawnee Nation; either Peery included his address as the sender or the letter was perhaps sent to him. Peery was the superintendent of the Shawnee Labor School from late 1844 to around 1850, where young indigenous men were taught religion, basic academic subjects, and manual labor (farming, mechanics, sewing, etc.). Founded by Rev. Thomas Johnson, who supported slavery and used slaves at the school, the site was briefly the second capital of Kansas Territory when the pro-slavery “Bogus Laws” were enacted in 1855. Superintendent reports claimed that the children were enrolled willingly by nearby tribes and that each day the student’s time was divided equally between instruction and work. Recent scholarship has focused on the darker realities at the school, which was supported by the U.S. government as part of efforts to “civilize” tribes after the Indian Removal Act. The school operated from 1839 to 1862.

The present instructions pertain to four “Creek Boys” -- William Jacobs, William Buckham, Samuel Smith, and Simon Berryhill. The instructions state that letters for two of the young men should be sent to the Creek
Agency in Arkansas (Jacobs and Smith) and the other two should go to Little River Mission, Creek Nation (Buckham and Berryhill). An additional note names the fathers of both Buckham and Berryhill, noting that they both live on the Little River Mission. The letters of William Buckham’s father, Robert Buckham, written from Indian Territory between 1841 and 1844 are held by Cornell University in their Native American Collection; the finding aid states that he and his wife were unable to have children and planned to adopt “orphans.” An interesting and informative letter concerning four young indigenous boys at an obscure Native American “Manual Labor School.”

(McBRB4963) $850

ARCHIVE DOCUMENTING OIL CLAIMS IN INDIAN TERRITORY


Group of documents concerning oil leases for the Wellsville Oil Company on lands owned by the Five Civilized Tribes in Oklahoma. Most of the documents are from the desk of Gabe E. Parker, the Superintendent for the Tribes. The contents concern royalties, leases, inheritance issues on leased, and requests for delinquent reports from Wellsville. Several documents name specific tribal land holders or mention legal issues surrounding the owner and the oil company. An example of the legal issues herein reads, “There is herewith returned, for correction, division order between your company, as lessee, and Job Thomas, as lessor, Royalty No. 1586. It will be necessary to eliminate from this division order the NE4 of the NE4 and the SE4 of the NW4 of the NE4 of Section 20, Township 24 North, Range 17 East, being surplus allotment of Job Thomas, and, as he is dead, supervision over this land has been relinquished by the Department.” One document concerns the price of oil, and reads: “This office is directed by the Secretary of the Interior... to require leases under the supervision of the Department at not less than the minimum price basis heretofore fixed by the Secretary of the Interior, pending full investigation by the Department of the market price of oil. If, after investigation, it is ascertained this price is too high, adjustment will be made with lessees in accordance with the findings of the Secretary of the Interior.”

Oil production in Oklahoma took off in 1907, making it the leading producer of oil in the country. When oil was found in California, the two states competed for the title of “Biggest Producer” for the next two decades. Given that prior to statehood Oklahoma was known as Indian Territory, much of the oil was on tribal land. This resulted in a rush to swindle the Native Americans. The present archive provides a peek into the workings of the oil boom as it relates to the interchange of the federal government, the oil companies, and the Five Civilized Tribes.

(McBRB2480) $2,750
LINOTYPE. 'NUFF SAID.


A pair of interesting primary source volumes maintained by Orville Edward Reed (1901-1977) focusing on his work as a copywriter in the advertising department of the Mergenthaler Linotype Company in New York City and the Matthews Engineering Company of Sandusky, Ohio at the outset of the Roaring Twenties. Reed’s work for the Mergenthaler Linotype Company is the most evocative here. He provides candid entries in his diary relating to the working drafts and mockups of advertising campaigns for the firm’s prolific display type equipment, which was utilized mainly in newspaper production. A couple of early diary entries provide a flavor of Reed’s work and his style:

January 20, 1922: “To the N.Y. Tribune this evening to arrange for the taking of a picture for my new display ad ‘Don’t Tie Up Your Display Type Equipment in the Forms.’ Loafed around the composing room watching the Model 20 at work on heads.”

January 31, 1922: “Things went beautifully all day until about two o’clock this afternoon. Denman killed my ‘Time Switch’ folder which I spent a whole day on. He re-wrote it. It hurt me. Submerged me. Made me feel as tho I was not ‘keeping faith.’ Made me feel like hell. The confidence I thot I had in myself went ‘bang.’ I don’t possess it. From here on out I work always with the view to giving my best - putting everything I have into every task. And the capital ‘I’ has first preference in everything. To hell with the world. I’m going to look after ‘I.’ Take the cash and let the credit go.... I have turned out a lot of good stuff for Mergenthaler. There’s more where that came from. And I’m going to air it.”

Some of the most fascinating material here lies in the various mockups and drafts of advertisements Reed made for Mergenthaler, all of which are stored in his scrapbook. These include a couple of pencil mockups and a few drafts for a two-page ad for the company’s “All-Linotype” services, and mockups and drafts for two other ads, including one that asks, “Is Your Composing Room Earning All It Should?” The scrapbook also includes numerous business letters by and to Reed, a couple of his business cards, two company photographs, and a healthy amount of business correspondence to Reed when he switched to Matthews Engineering in Sandusky. A unique assemblage of material from a year-in-the-work of an “ad man” working for a New York linotype company and then an engineering firm in Ohio.

(McBRB5021) $850

WITH THE BIRTH DATES OF FOUR VIRGINIA SLAVES IN THE 1780s AND ’90s

A unique manuscript family genealogy for the Worrell family of Virginia as recorded by several hands in the margins and blank portions of two middle pages and on a few terminal and end leaves of a contemporary copy of a sammelband of two early American imprints -- The Family Adviser (1793) and John Wesley’s Primitive Physic (1795, revised and corrected) and on a single folded sheet folded and laid into the book. The entries within the book detail the births of the children of Josiah and Alice Worrell, and sometimes their in-laws. An example of the former: “Lewis Worrell Son of Josiah Worrell & Alice his wife was born March 7 / 1774.” And an example of the latter: “Polley Worrell wife of the said Lewis Worrell was born March the 9th / 1781.” The entries continue much the same, with the latest-dated entry reading: “Benj. Eldridge Worrell Son of Lewis Worrell & Temperance his wife was born June 21st 1835.”

Sometime, presumably in the 1790s, a member of the family also listed out a long accounting of the births of Josiah Worrell’s children on a longer piece of paper folded into the present work. Titled in manuscript, “Ages of Josiah Worrell’s children,” this sheet again begins with Lewis Worrell and lists a total of six members of the Worrell family. Most interestingly, the bottom of this sheet also contains the births of four family slaves. This listing reads, as follows: “Negro Ages. Ben was born the 8th day of June 1783. Solomon was born Dec. 20th 1785. Simon was born Feby. the 14th 1790. Isam was born the 20th Dec. 1792.” The inclusion of the birth dates of four slaves is highly unusual in a family record of this type, but remains valuable information on the lives of these four enslaved men owned by the Worrell family.

(McBRB3546) $1,500

“THE FREED NEGROES HERE DO NOT WORK TO SUIT ME...”


An interesting view of immediate-post-Civil-War rural Texas, specifically Centreville in Leon County. Centreville became the county seat of Leon County in 1850, and was the home of numerous members of the Burkhalter family. Nine Burkhalters are buried in Leon County’s Concord Cemetery, but P.H. Burkhalter is not among them. In the present letter, P.H. Burkhalter reports to a friend on the challenging state of farming in the area, referencing the impact of freed slaves on Texas agriculture three times: “Mr Currie, I have nothing of an interesting character to communicate. The crops in Leon are sorry, we have the sorryest prospect that we ever had since we have been in the State. I think it was partly owing to bad management, and great floods of rain. I have never experienced such a spring in life to farm. Last spring was nothing to compare with this, and you know it was bad enough. I have 100 acres in corn and another 40 in cotton. I have no negroes except a part of those we formally owned. The people of Texas seem to be working with more energy than ever was known though they have had quite a disheartening time to farm this spring.”

Burkhalter then speaks of his marriage prospects: “Well I am not married but want to very bad. Mr. Proctor has the son by law but I have not the honor of being the one. Jessy McClendon
married Miss Proctor, the one you said was my sweet heart. Perhaps you were acquainted with him, I know you was with part of the family, something about old wash, he came back to Leon again and came very near loosing his life. All he liked was the crowd never found him, when in search of him and some white men...I think it more probable that your brother had a hand in it...."

Burkhalter returns to his scathing view of the emancipated slaves within his sphere: "The freed negroes here do not work to suit me, they move around like they are hobeled. I have often wished they were in bondage a little while and that you had hold of them. Though I thought if they had not been free I could have got the hobels off myself." He then reports in greater detail on the state of farming and crop values, with another mention of the changes wrought by the freeing of the slaves in Texas, and his low spirits due to the challenges of farming now without free labor: "Provisions are tolerably high here. Corn is worth $1.50 a bushel. Bacon from 12 to 15 cents per lbs, Wheat is worth 50 cts per bushel in the wheat region, I am told, but I do not think it will remain at that price long. I think it will rise, for all the farms both on the Trinity and Brasos are ruined for this season, that is they will not be able to make any corn, hardly at all, perhaps they make a little cotton if the season is favorable. Mr. Moore is farming and merchandising, both on a small scale. The Lehmans are each farming on a little larger scale than before the liberation of the negroes.... I must acknowledge that I am in low spirits, and do not know what to go at to make money fast. I do not believe I can make freed laborers pay...." Burkhalter ends his letter with some family news and good wishes to Mr. Currie.

The present letter highlights the challenges faced by agricultural producers who employed slave labor before and during the Civil War. It is not surprising that Burkhalter now found it difficult to cultivate his land in a profitable manner without the benefit of slaves to do the work for free. This was a challenge faced by thousands of farmers across the South after the Civil War who had a tough time making “freed laborers” work profitably, if at all. This is the rare instance in which a young farmer from Texas actually admits to the challenges of bringing in crops without slave labor.

“RALPH MURILLO: A MAN WHO OVERCOMES OBSTACLES”


A unique collection of photographs, letters, and printed publications documenting over a decade of life and work by Rafael “Ralph” Murillo, Jr., a young disabled Mexican-American political figure in El Paso in the 1960s and ‘70s. Ralph Murillo (1944-2001) graduated from the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) in 1970, became Minority Enterprise Representative for El Paso office of the Small Business Administration the same year, and then served as an active leader of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), and was active in the Republican Party of Texas. Murillo also suffered polio in childhood
that left him technically a quadriplegic with mobility challenges in all four limbs, but he was able to walk and move; Murillo’s active nature despite his disability earned him various civic and professional honors throughout his life, which the present archive helps to document. In fact, much of the present collection centers around Murillo’s successes and awards during his career in the 1970s.

The present collection begins with two albums -- one containing photographs only and the other employed as more of a traditional photographic scrapbook. The former album collects over twenty mostly 8-x-10-inch photographs of Murillo with various subjects. Several of these photographs picture Murillo at a ceremony where he received a special honor from Vice President Nelson Rockefeller, who named Murillo as one of the nation’s top disabled federal employees in 1974. Murillo’s photographic scrapbook is the most informative and interesting item in the collection. The work is a mixture of photographs, congratulatory letters sent to Murillo by various prominent figures, LULAC and related programs, and newspaper extracts which present a positive portrait of Murillo and his work. A letter from Memo Acosta of LULAC announces Murillo as “Man of the Year” for District 4 in 1976, and a couple of items document a Jaycees award given to Murillo. No less a figure than Senator Lloyd Bentsen sends a letter to Murillo congratulating him for his recognition as “one of the ten National Outstanding Handicapped Federal Employees of the Year 1974.” The newspaper extracts are a mixture of clippings documenting LULAC and Murillo’s personal honors. The collection also contains over sixty loose photographs picturing Murillo in many of the same settings as above, namely the awards ceremony with Nelson Rockefeller (where Murillo is pictured with the other handicapped award recipients) and receiving an award from an unidentified African-American figure. About a dozen photographs also feature Murillo with various family members at private functions. The collection also includes numerous letters sent to Murillo that are not mounted in the scrapbook.

Politically, Murillo was an active member of the Republican Party, and the present collection includes a healthy amount of material related to Murillo’s political life. Murillo worked in several roles in the El Paso County Republican Party. He was apparently a big supporter of Barry Goldwater, evidenced by numerous paper items here, as well as a Goldwater campaign sticker on a small satchel. Murillo was also a supporter of Texas Senator John Tower; the collection includes two letters sent to Murillo by Tower, thanking him for his support and work during a rally during the 1966 midterm elections. The collection also includes Republican political pamphlets providing instructions for voting, a precinct manager’s manual, a typed “Resolution on Viet Nam” by the El Paso County Republican Party issued in 1968, the “Rules for the Republican State Convention” dated June 11, 1968, material from state and local candidates and Republican clubs, and more, all complemented by Murillo’s name tags and ribbons when he served as an El Paso County delegate to the Republican State Convention in 1968, as well as a membership card recognizing him as “a Charter Member of Youth for Nixon” the same year. In addition to the photographs, letters, and other material, the collection also includes a miscellaneous collection of pamphlets, newspaper clippings related to Murillo and his work with LULAC and the Republican Party. The present collection of material provides a unique opportunity to document and study the early career and accomplishments of a noted Mexican-American governmental administrator and leader of LULAC in El Paso, Texas. It also records a snapshot picture of the treatment of persons with disabilities in the early-1970s and offers ample opportunity to study how one young man from southwest Texas served his community and was celebrated for his efforts.

(McBRB4375) $7,500

ORIGINAL LETTERS CENTERING ON A YOUNG TEXAS MUSICIAN WHO SERVED IN WWI

36. [Texas]. [Music]. [Rogers, Larkin C.]. [Archive of Manuscript Letters and Printed Ephemera Centering on Early-20th Century Texas Musician Larkin C. Rogers]. [Various locations in Texas and elsewhere]: Mainly 1914-1926. Approximately 130 manuscript letters, totaling 275 pages, written on a variety of paper sizes and stationery, many with original transmittal envelopes, plus a handful of printed ephemera. Letters
arranged chronologically in several manila folders and housed in an archival folder. Original mailing folds, general wear. Very good.

A unique collection of manuscript letters mostly sent to Larkin C. Rogers of Mineral Wells, Texas. Larkin C. Rogers (Charlie or Larkin to his family) began studying at the Kidd-Key Conservatory of Music at Sherman, Texas in 1915. Friends and family write to him there, occasionally sending him notices of musical events, and throughout the correspondence are receipts for his orders for musical scores. Larkin’s mother and sister Nancy try to get him musician jobs in the Mineral Wells area but times are hard. His mother's letters are long, chatty, and detailed; as such she provides good local color on her particular area in North Texas. In May 1917, Larkin's mother writes: “How are you all coming in about the War excitement? Think you’ll have to go? And are you patriotic enough to want to go? I see all musicians who can read music well are wanted and will be trained, after joining, on some instrument - I suppose suitable for the bands. Then when they’re not needed in the one they’re used in the hospitals. I like that better for you - if you do go - than have to be in the fighting. They say the music is a necessary thing - so they have to have them. You’d better get to learning some band instrument - how do you like a piccolo?”

Larkin's brother Edwin is already in the Army, training near Waco, and is overseas by June of 1918. In May 1918, Larkin's mother again suggests he might like to enlist. By April she is urging him: “For we can never have universal peace till the Huns and all such are conquered. No one part is as essential as another - and where you are best fitted to serve it is your duty to get into - so leave no stone unturned to get into a band either in Waco or Camp Bowie.” By May he has enlisted but is not yet in a band - training at Camp Travis near San Antonio, where he asks his mother to come in order to help him find a band. By October 1918 he is overseas. Larkin's mother continues to provide motherly advice in her letters, including lecturing him against smoking. At this point, there is a long absence of news from him -- and his family fears the worst.

By May 1919, Larkin is shipped back to the States and admitted to the Army hospital at Oteen, North Carolina. His mother writes with home remedies, and fears that he is in for an “unmentionable disease.” In a sign of the times, however, he has influenza and bronchial complications. Larkin informs them that a woman near the hospital is allowing him to practice at her piano. His mother visits him at the hospital and is quite upset that he is sometimes bedded down with a patient with hereditary syphilis. In January 1920 his mother learns that all places of amusement in Ashville have been closed because of flu, which worries her as he is still not completely recovered. She knows about the flu, as they all have had it in Dallas. His mother reads that there is complete vocational pay for disabled soldiers; she tries to obtain the disability pay for Larkin in order to take a concert pianist course.

By January 1921, Larkin is out of hospital and studying again in Sherman. He gives his first post war recital in April. His brother Edwin has a job with the Dallas engineering department. In 1923, Nancy causes a flap and panic when she quarrels with her sister Lois and the music school in Virginia and goes off alone. Lois begs her mother to stop writing her altogether as it is too stressful. Both Nancy and Larkin end up in New York City in the music scene and their parents end up back in Mineral Wells. Their mother writes Larkin a very nasty anti-Semitic letter about the rumor Nancy is going to marry a Jew. She fulminates also about the illicit and dreadful drinking that Americans seem to have slipped into. The last letter, from Larkin's father, indicates that the two sisters and Larkin plan to combine households and stay in New York. An interesting collection of one Texas family's correspondence centering on a young musician who also served in the First World War before returning to his life in music. Worthy of further and deeper research.

(McBRB4528) $1,500

A wandering “woe is me” missive from Charles Penfield to his business partners back home in Massachusetts, detailing his numerous misfortunes on a journey by boat to Mexico and thence to New Orleans. He writes: “To tell you of my misfortunes, I think you should rather console with me than to sensure [sic] me, however you can write your friends in Baltimore & let them see me &c. First of my troubles I was fined in Mexico as you have the documents to amount of moste 600 dollars with the expenses. Next misfortune was detained in town 22 days to attend to the [?], board 2 dolls. per day, horse hire about 25 or 40 dolls. with expenses on the road, vessel being 40 miles before the town. Next, I took the yellow fever or Mexican fever & as you must expect, my bill was high when I went to town. The deaths was 25 a day, population of 6000.” He goes on to detail freight costs to New Orleans and the other expenses related to the journey, writing: “You had better get these papers translated by some Spanish merchant in Boston & make claim on Mr. Brown.” He also notes in a post script that the price of freighting cotton to Liverpool is a half penny per pound. A detailed account of the trials and tribulations of uncertain business ventures in antebellum America.

(McBRB3123) $450


A detailed record of one man’s travels upriver and overland to Missouri in search of a place to resettle. Jonathan Koiner (1820-1889) of Flatwoods, West Virginia, went on a western tour in 1855 to scout potential emigration destinations. He traveled with his brother, Absalom, who abruptly disembarked in northern Iowa, leaving Jonathan to continue alone. Most of this letter describes Jonathan’s travels in Missouri: from Hannibal by hack to Paris, and then 25 miles on foot to Mexico. There he saw a prairie fire, a bustling courthouse with judges and lawyers chomping on cigars, and several relatives of his wife’s. He took a carriage thirty miles to Columbia, “the Athens of the state, where the state university is situated & several fine female institutions.” At Marshall, his westernmost point, he saw the 300-acre hemp farm of a man named Bruce who “has a good many slaves, but he is one of the largest hemp growers in the U.S.” He also witnessed “scores of wild cranes & wild geese one cloudy day in the corn fields above Marshall.” He met the well-known pro-slavery jurist William Barclay Napton; former governor Meredith Miles Marmaduke; and numerous extended family members and friends who had already made the move west. On his way home, he was inspired by St. Louis and Cincinnati, with their “living moving masses of men & things!” He concludes with his decision to sell his Virginia land and move his young family west, though census records suggest that he never did so. An informative missive of an exploratory emigration journey.

(McBRB3164) $950
TEXAS MOTHERS SUPPORT THEIR SOLDIERS


An engrossing manuscript minutes book recording the activities of the World War Mothers of Austin, Texas during the Second World War. The minutes begin with the organization’s first meeting at the Driskill Hotel on January 13, 1942, where they record their purpose: “Organization of mothers of men in service in to a club” for “binding together of mothers with sons and daughters in the service of Uncle Sam - serving same, either in local camps within U.S.A. or on foreign fronts.” The meeting notes record lists of officers, committees appointed, motions made, readings and talks given during the meetings by both members and guest speakers, various fundraising efforts, the financial state of the organization, and much more. The ledger also occasionally includes lists of members and their dues paid. Interestingly, the World War Mothers also take some effort to involve the local African-American community. The notes for their July 24, 1942 meeting includes the following passage: “Influential color citizens to be interviewed as to colored organization.” Another brief note from the April 6, 1943 meeting reads: “It was decided to help with negro induction party.” At the next meeting on April 20, the minutes book includes a related mention: “Report of inductee party for negroes. It was decided not to continue these parties but Mothers of World War II pledge their help any time the negroes had a party of inductees.” At the same meeting, one of the mothers made a suggestion “for the group to pledge allegiance to the flag at each meeting.” The minutes book continues much in the same way through February 18, 1947, though the group changed their name in March 1945 to The American Veterans of World War II Council #1. A unique manuscript record of a Texas women’s military support group, worthy of further research and more in-depth analysis.

(McBRB4174) $650

ALMOST 100 WORKS DOCUMENTING THREE WORLD’S FAIRS


A wonderful collection of original material and sample documents used to pursue, evaluate, then approve for exhibit or reject fine art and architecture submissions for the World’s Columbian Exhibition of 1893, Paris Exhibition of 1900, and the Louisiana Purchase Exposition of 1904. The collection was retained and organized by Charles M. Kurtz, assistant to Halsey C. Ives in the Fine Arts Department of the 1893 World’s Columbian Exposition who then served in similar but more prominent positions in the subsequent two world’s fairs. The documents include pamphlets related to the fairs, partially-printed forms and letters, broadsides, circulars, stationery, envelopes, business cards, and other material intended for use by fair officials. The collection includes about twenty related to the 1893 Chicago fair, almost fifteen for the Paris fair, and the remainder relating to the St. Louis exhibition. The various works focus on the rules and regulations of the fairs’ Department of Art, announcements to potential exhibitors, submission guidelines, and much more. One of the more striking documents is a sample copy of the
large, multi-colored shipping label intended to be affixed to artworks shipped to the Chicago fair. Several of the pamphlets and forms are printed not only in English, but German, Dutch, French, or Spanish. The scrapbook also contains several newspaper extracts related to the fairs. A wonderful compendium of material related to the art and architectural exhibitions at three of the most famous world's fair exhibitions.

(McBRB4577) $850