The Property of a Distinguished American Private Collector Part I

Auction
December 18, 2012
Profiles in History
In the wake of Hurricane Sandy, Fraunces Tavern and Museum remain closed. The public exhibition of highlights for our 18 December sale, The Property of a Distinguished American Private Collector, Part I, has been moved to the following venue:

Douglas Elliman’s Madison Avenue Gallery
980 Madison Avenue (between 76th and 77th Street)
New York, New York 10021

The exhibition will be open to the public December 3-9 from 11am to 6pm daily.

Private viewings by appointment only will take place December 10-14. Please contact Marsha Malinowski at info@marshamalinowski.com or Profiles in History at 310-859-7701 to schedule an appointment.
Tuesday December 18, 2012 at 11:00 AM PST

Place your bid over the Internet! Profiles in History will be providing Internet-based bidding to qualified bidders in real-time on the day of the auction. For more information, please visit us @ www.profilesinhistory.com

**Catalog Price**  
$50.00

**Auction Location**  
Profiles in History  
26901 Agoura Road, Suite 150,  
Calabasas, CA 91301

**Public Previews in California**  
Profiles in History  
26901 Agoura Road, Suite 150, Calabasas, CA 91301  
1-310-859-7701  
Monday, November 26 – Monday, December 17, 2012  
9AM to 6PM, by appointment only

**Public Previews in New York**  
Douglas Elliman's Madison Avenue Gallery  
980 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10021  
Monday, December 3 – Sunday, December 9, 2012  
11AM to 6PM

**Private Previews in New York by Appointment Only**
Please contact Marsha Malinowski at info@marshamalinowski.com or call Profiles in History 310-859-7701 to schedule an appointment for New York private previews

**Telephone**  
1-310-859-7701

**Fax**  
1-310-859-3842

**Website**  
www.profilesinhistory.com

**E-mail Address**  
info@profilesinhistory.com
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Descriptive Definitions

Manuscripts:

Autograph letter signed- entire letter and signature is in the hand of the author.

Letter signed- only the signature is in the hand of the author. The body of the text is in the hand of a secretary.

Typed letter signed- only the signature is in the hand of the author. The body of the letter is typewritten.

Document signed- only the signature is in the hand of the author. The body of the Document is in the hand of a secretary or scribe.

Autograph note signed- entire note and signature in the hand of the author.

Autograph musical quotation signed- entire musical quotation, text and signature is in the hand of the composer.

Autograph Manuscript Signed – entire manuscript and signature is in the hand of the author.

Books:

In bibliographical contexts, format is used to indicate the size of a volume in terms of the number of times the original printed sheet has been folded to form its constituent leaves. The most common forms are:

Folio- each sheet is folded once-approximately 11 x 14 inches or larger.

Quarto- each sheet is folded twice-approximately 8 x 10 inches.

Octavo- each sheet is folded three times-approximately 5 x 7 inches.

Condition Definitions

Manuscripts and Books:

Foxed/foxing- spotted or discolored patches on manuscript pages of book leaves.

Washed- cleaning of manuscript pages or book leaves with a chemical rinse to remove spots, stains or blemishes.

Silked- when manuscript pages or book leaves are very fragile or in need of repair, they can be faced on both sides with a thin, virtually transparent textile like fine silk or cotton gauze for reinforcement.
The following terms and conditions, including the Conditions of Sale and Terms of Consignment both of which Profiles in History ("Profiles") will offer for sale and sell the property described in the Catalog. These Conditions of Sale constitute a contract between Profiles and Profiles including but not limited to these Conditions of Sale are not entered into in a State of California, which is where the agreements are to be performed and the auction to take place, nor where Bidder is situated and no matter by what means or where Bidder is situated, which is to be charged to Profiles. Profiles will not be liable for any miscalculations, misrepresentations, omissions or errors of any kind made in the catalog or elsewhere including but not limited to these Conditions of Sale, and all matters incorporated herein or otherwise annotated shall be binding upon any participant at the time of sale, no lots may be divided for the purpose of sale.

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for incidental, special, indirect, exemplary or consequential damages
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by employees, agents or representatives of Profiles to Bidder, including statements regarding specific lots, even if such employee, agent
or representative represents that such statement is authorized, unless
reduced to a writing signed by all parties, are statements of personal
opinion only and are not binding on Profiles, and under no circumstances shall be relied on by Bidder as a statement, representation or
warranty of Profiles.
13. Buyer’s Remedies: This section sets forth the sole and exclusive
remedies of Buyer in conformity with Sections 10 (“Warranties”) and
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other rights or remedies which might be available to Buyer by law. The
Buyer hereby accepts the benefit of the consignor’s warranty of title
and any other representations and warranties made by the consignor for
the Buyer’s benefit. In the event that Buyer proves in writing to Profiles’ satisfaction that there was a breach of the consignor’s warranty of
title concerning a lot purchased by Buyer, Profiles shall make demand
upon the consignor to pay to Buyer the Purchase Price (including any
premiums, taxes, or other amounts paid or due to Profiles). Should the
consignor not pay the Purchase Price to Buyer within thirty days after
such demand, Profiles shall disclose the identity of the consignor to
Buyer and assign to Buyer all of Profiles’ rights against the consignor
with respect to such lot or property. Upon such disclosure and assignment, all responsibility and liability, if any, of Profiles with respect to
said lot or property shall automatically terminate. Profiles shall be entitled to retain the premiums and other amounts paid to Profiles - this
remedy is as to the consignor only. The rights and remedies provided
herein are for the original Buyer only and they may not be assigned or
relied upon by any transferee or assignee under any circumstances. Lots
containing ten or more items are not returnable under any circumstances. The exercise of rights under this Section 13 must be made, if at
all, within thirty (30) days of the date of sale.
14. Profiles’ Additional Services: For Buyers who do not remove purchased property from Profiles’ premises, Profiles, in its sole discretion
and solely as a service and accommodation to Buyers, may arrange
to have purchased lots packed, insured and forwarded at the sole request, expense, and risk of Buyer. Profiles assumes no and disclaims
all responsibility and liability for acts or omissions in such packing or
shipping by Profiles or other packers and carriers, whether or not recommended by Profiles. Profiles assumes no and disclaims all responsibility and liability for damage to frames, glass or other breakable items.
Where Profiles arranges and bills for such services via invoice or credit
card, Profiles will include an administration charge.
15. Headings: Headings are for convenience only and shall not be used
to interpret the substantive sections to which they refer.
16. Entire Agreement: These Conditions of Sale constitute the entire
agreement between the parties together with the terms and conditions
contained in the Registration Form. They may not be amended, modified or superseded except in a signed writing executed by all parties.
No oral or written statement by anyone employed by Profiles or acting
as agent or representative of Profiles may amend, modify, waive or
supersede the terms herein unless such amendment, waiver or modification is contained in a writing signed by all parties. If any part of these
Conditions of Sale are for any reason deemed invalid or enforceable,
the remaining portions shall remain fully enforceable without regard
to the invalid or unenforceable provisions.
AUCTION GENERAL GUIDELINES
Conditions of Sale: Before you bid, you must read the Conditions of
Sale, immediately preceding these pages. They represent a contract
between Profiles and you, and they contain important terms and conditions such as jurisdiction, payment terms, warranties and remedies.
The Conditions of Sale are controlling over these general guidelines in
the event of any conflicts between their respective terms.
Estimate Prices: In addition to descriptive information, each entry in
the catalog includes a price range, which reflects opinion as to the price
expected at auction. These are based upon various factors including
prices recently paid at auction for comparable property, condition, rarity, quality, history, and provenance. Estimates are prepared well in
advance of the sale and subject to revision. Estimates do not include
the buyer’s premium or sales tax (see under separate heading). See
Paragraph 10 of the Conditions of Sale for important restrictions as to
reliance on estimated prices.
Reserves The reserve is the minimum price the seller is willing to accept and below which a lot will not be sold. This amount is confidential
and will not exceed the low pre-sale estimate.
Owned or Guaranteed Property: Profiles in History generally offers
property consigned by others for sale at public auction; occasionally,
lots are offered that are the property of Profiles in History.
Buyer’s Premium and Sales Tax: The actual purchase price will be the
sum of the final bid price plus the buyer’s premium of 23% of the hammer price (discounted to 20% when full payment is made in cash or by
valid check); or twenty-three percent (23%) if bid on and won through
internet bidding. California sales tax shall automatically be added to

the purchase price unless exempted.
Before the Auction: You may attend pre-sale viewing for all of our
auctions at no charge. All property to be auctioned is usually on view
for several days prior to the sale. You are encouraged to examine lots
thoroughly. You may also request condition reports (see below). Profiles in History’s staff are available at viewings and by appointment.
Hours of Business: Profiles in History is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
on weekdays. The viewing schedule for the auction is published in the
front of the auction catalog.
Condition Reports: If you wish to obtain additional information on
a particular lot, or cannot appear at the viewing, Profiles in History
may provide, upon request, a condition report. We remind prospective buyers that descriptions of property are not warranted and that
each lot is sold “as is” in accordance with the terms of the limited
warranty. Condition reports, as other descriptions of property, are not
warranted; they are only provided as a service to interested clients.
Neither Profiles in History nor the consignor make any express or
implied representation or warranty concerning the condition of any
lot offered for sale; any information furnished does not modify or negate the limited warranty contained in the Conditions of Sale. See
Paragraph 10 of the Conditions of Sale for important restrictions as to
reliance on condition reports.
Registration: If you are planning to bid at auction, you will need to
register with us. Please arrive 30 or 45 minutes before the sale to complete bidder registration and to receive a numbered paddle to identify
you if you are the successful bidder. If you are a new client, or if you
have not made a recent purchase at Profiles in History, you may be
asked to supply bank and/or other credit references when you register.
To avoid any delay in the release of your purchases, we suggest that
you pre-arrange check or credit approval. If so, please contact Profiles
in History at (310) 859-7701 or by fax at (310) 859-3842. You must
acknowledge having read your agreement with all of the Conditions
of Sale prior to your registration and prior to your bidding on any lot.
The Auction: All auctions are open to registered bidders only. You
must register to bid or otherwise participate.
Bidding: Property is auctioned in consecutive numerical order, as it
appears in the catalog. The auctioneer will accept bids from those present in the salesroom or absentee bidders participating by telephone,
internet or by written bid left with Profiles in History in advance of
the auction. The auctioneer may also execute bids on behalf of the
consignor to protect the reserve, either by entering bids in response
to salesroom, telephone or absentee bids. Under no circumstances will
the auctioneer place any bid on behalf of the consignor at or above the
reserve. The auctioneer will not specifically identify bids placed on
behalf of the consignor to protect the reserve.
Bidding Increments: See registration page.
Absentee Bids: If you cannot attend an auction, it is possible to bid
by other means. The most common is the absentee bid, sometimes
called an “order bid.” Absentee bids are written instructions from you
directing Profiles in History to bid for you on one or more lots up to
a maximum amount you specify for each lot. Profiles in History staff
will execute your absentee bid as reasonably as possible, taking into
account the reserve price and other bids. There is no charge for this
service. If identical bids are submitted by two or more parties, the first
bid received by Profiles in History will take preference. The auctioneer may execute bids for absentee bidders directly from the podium,
clearly identifying these as order bids. Absentee Bid Forms are available
in the back of every auction catalog and also may be obtained at any
Profiles in History location. See Conditions of Sale and Registration
Form for absentee bid details.
Telephone Bids: It is also possible to bid by telephone if you cannot
attend an auction. Arrangements should be confirmed at least one day
in advance of the sale with Profiles in History at (310) 859-7701. Profiles in History staff will execute telephone bids from designated areas
in the salesroom. See Conditions of Sale and Registration Form for
telephone bid details.
Internet Bids: Profiles in History is pleased to offer live Internet bidding at www. profilesinhistory.com. To ensure proper registration,
those Bidders intending to bid via the Internet must visit this site and
register accordingly at least one full day prior to the actual auction.
Please be aware that there is a minimum 3-second delay in the audio
and visual feeds, which may confuse some bidders. If you have questions about this feature, please call Profiles in History well in advance
of the auction. Winning bidders will be notified by Profiles. Profiles is
not and cannot be responsible or liable for any problems, delays, or any
other issues or problems resulting out of use of the Internet generally
or specifically, including but not limited to transmission, execution or
processing of bids.
PLEASE NOTE: On some occasions beyond the control of Profiles,
the online bidding software or the Internet itself may not physically
keep up with the pace of the auction. In order to help avoid disappointment, Profiles recommends placing a realistic absentee bid now. Occasionally the auctioneer may eliminate or reject an internet live bid, and
the auctioneer may also reopen a lot after the close of the internet live
bidding (typically but not always because a floor bid or a telephone bid
was missed), and your bid may be rejected even if you were shown to
be the winning bidder. By bidding online, you acknowledge and agree
that Profiles in History may award the lot to another bidder at its sole
and final discretion under the circumstances described above or under
any other reasonable circumstances. Since internet bids are not shown
to Profiles until Profiles opens the lot on the floor, Profiles treats those
bids the same as floor or telephone bids. In most cases, however, the
floor and/ or telephone responds before the internet bid is presented,
due to live internet bid software or internet lag time, so for consistency
it is Profiles in History’s policy that floor bids and telephone bids are always considered first over online bids with floor bids being considered
before telephone bids. Also please note that all Profiles lots purchased

online carry a 23% Buyer’s Premium. Profiles in History strongly urges
the bidder to resolve any questions about these policies or their implementation PRIOR TO BIDDING.
Successful Bids: The fall of the auctioneer’s hammer indicates the final
bid. Profiles in History will record the paddle number of the buyer. If
your salesroom or absentee bid is successful, you will be notified after
the sale by mailed or emailed invoice.
Unsold Lots: If a lot does not reach the reserve, it is bought-in. In other
words, it remains unsold and is returned to the consignor.
AFTER THE AUCTION
Payment: You are expected to pay for your purchases in full within
seven calendar days of the sale or five calendar days from the invoice
date, whichever is later, and to remove the property you have bought
by that date.
Shipping: After payment has been made in full, Profiles in History
may, as a service to buyers, arrange to have property packed, insured
and shipped at your request and expense. For shipping information,
please contact Profiles in History at (310) 859-7701. In circumstances
in which Profiles in History arranges and bills for such services via
invoice or credit card, we will also include an administration charge.
Packages shipped internationally will have full value declared on shipping form.
Sales Results: Interested clients may obtain sale results for specific lots
at least three business days after the auction by calling Profiles in History at (310) 859-7701.
THE SELLER
Auction Estimate: If you are considering selling your property, you can
bring items to our Calabasas Hills salesroom by appointment only. If a
visit is not practical, you may instead send a clear photograph together
with dimensions and any other pertinent information you may have.
Profiles in History cannot be responsible or liable in any case for damage or loss to photographs or other information sent.
Consignment Agreement: If you decide to sell your property at auction, the procedures are simple and you should find Profiles in History
staff helpful to you throughout the process. After discussions with our
staff you will receive a contract (Consignment Agreement) to sign, setting forth terms and fees for services we can provide, such as insurance,
shipping and catalog illustrations. For all categories, Profiles in History’s standard consignor commission rates are fifteen percent (15%)
of the final bid price. Profiles in History generally charges a minimum
commission of $100 for each lot sold. Profiles in History will discuss
with you a suggested reserve price and our recommendations for presale estimates for each piece of property you consign for sale. The terms
and conditions contained in the actual Consignment Agreement will
govern our respective rights and obligations; those terms and conditions are controlling over these general guidelines.
Delivery of Property to Profiles in History: After you have consigned
property to us for sale, you can either bring your property to Profiles
in History yourself, arrange with your own shipper to deliver it to us
or Profiles in History can arrange for it to be shipped through their
shipping department. We are always happy to assist you. For more information please contact us at (310) 859-7701. Property usually arrives
at Profiles in History at least three months before the sale in order
to allow time to research, catalog and photograph the items. Prior to
the auction your property is generally stored at Profiles in History’s
facilities.
Pre-Auction Notification: Several weeks before the scheduled sale,
along with thousands of Profiles in History’s worldwide subscribers,
you should be receiving a copy of the sale catalog in which your property is offered.
After approximately 30 business days following completion of the sale,
pending payment by the purchaser, you will be sent payment for your
sold property and a settlement statement itemizing the selling commission and other damages.
Photographs, Illustrations and Screen Shots: Unless otherwise explicitly set forth in the catalog description for an individual item, all photographs, illustrations, and screen shots are furnished solely for reference
purposes and not as a statement, representation or warranty that the
image depicted is the exact item offered. Due to the fact that multiple
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in the photograph, illustration or screen shot is the very same item
offered at auction.
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A lifetime member of the Manuscript Society, Joe Maddalena is widely recognized as the nation’s leading authority on historical documents. Maddalena won a spot in the Guinness Book of World Records in 1991 for paying a then record price at public auction for a handwritten letter of Abraham Lincoln dated January 8, 1863 regarding his issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation for $748,000. Maddalena sits on the boards of various private foundations and has built a permanent display of historical documents at the Beverly Hills Public Library and another at the Portland Oregon Historical Society to further the public’s awareness of U.S. history.

His expertise is well known and relied on. In 1997, Maddalena was instrumental in exposing the Lex Cusak $13 million dollar JFK/Marilyn Monroe forgery hoax and was interviewed by Peter Jennings of 20/20 as the industry expert.

In February 2009, Maddalena worked with the Library of Congress to stage and secure manuscripts for “With Malice Toward None: The Abraham Lincoln Exhibition,” the most successful exhibition in its history, celebrating the 200th anniversary of Lincoln’s birthday. The exhibition ran from February through May 2009, after which it traveled to five U.S. cities.

Founded in 1986, Profiles in History has bought and sold some of the most important Manuscripts for its clients in existence. Early in his career, Joe had the pleasure to work with and be trained by noted autograph expert Charles Hamilton, and then later by Chuck Sachs of the Scriptorium.

Maddalena states, “After three decades of being a full-time of dealer of manuscripts and rare books for our worldwide clientele, I have decided to pursue auction as the best way to bring wonderful materials on a regular basis to market as we have done in other fields of collecting.”
Marsha E. Malinowski

With over 26 years of experience as Senior Vice President in charge of manuscripts at Sotheby's, Marsha is president of Marsha Malinowski Fine Books and Manuscripts LLC, which offers appraisal, advisory and media services to private clients, corporations, media and institutions. Profiles in History is pleased to announce Marsha is our Senior Consultant in charge of our Books and Manuscripts auctions.

Marsha has been involved with some of the most extraordinary sales of manuscripts in auction history. From the sale of Magna Carta for over $21 million to being in charge of the groundbreaking sale of baseball memorabilia from the collection of Barry Halper, which fetched in excess of $24 million, Marsha's expertise and range of experience is unparalleled. Single handedly, Marsha carved out the collecting field of artists’ letters. She has brought to the market stunning collections, which have included letters by Michelangelo, Van Gogh, Gauguin, Magritte, Monet, Toulouse-Lautrec and Giacometti to name just a few. From history to literature—a letter by Catherine of Aragon while imprisoned to a Sherlock Holmes manuscript story by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle; from science to music—Einstein’s Theory of Relativity manuscript to a cache of Chopin letters, Marsha’s depth of knowledge in all fields of manuscript collecting is second to none. Marsha has a B.A. from Wellesley College and her M.A. from Brown University. Both institutions have served her well. Her knowledge of history coupled with her language skills has put her at the top of her field.
Washington Dec. 30, 1806

Dear Sir,

I have received your favour of the 15th. &c. It has been an invariable

habit, when I am away from home, to write a letter of instruction to

recommendation to my friends. But until now I have given you no

orders of business. But will now in full confidence. I will say that it is

necessary that the business should be attended to. I shall employ my

friend and assistant, Mr. Adams, to act in the matter. He is a man of

judgment and experience. His abilities are well known, and he has

been long employed in the service. I have no doubt that he will do his

best to carry out the instructions given.

I am, your melancholy and declining Brother,

John Adams

Hon. Mr. Gerry
1. Adams, John, Fine autograph letter signed as President, 1 ½ pages (10 x 8 in.; 254 x 203 mm.), “Washington,” 30 December 1800 to “Hon. Mr. Gerry” - fellow signer of the Declaration of Independence Elbridge Gerry, with Gerry’s twelve-word autograph docket on the verso of the integral leaf: “Washington Letter, President Adams, 30th Decr 1800, & Gerry’s answer 20th Jany 1801” discussing the uncertainty over who would succeed Adams as President; repair to folds, light browning.

Who will succeed Adams as President of the United States?

Adams writes to Elbridge Gerry regarding the outcome of the “election” of 3 December 1800. The “election” was, in fact, a series of local contests to choose Presidential electors. In a number of cases, the outcome had already been determined months before. In other cases, electors were chosen on various dates during the month of November. The day set for the electors to actually cast their votes in their respective states was 3 December 1800.

The possibility loomed that it might be Aaron Burr, as Adams explains in full: *Dear Sir I have rec’d your favour of the 18th. It has been an invariable usage twelve years, for the P to answer no Letters of Solicitation or recommendation to Office. But with you in full Confidence I will say that it is uncertain whether I shall appoint any Consuls to France. Mr. Lee is represented to me as a Jacobin, who was very busy in a late Election in the Town of Roxbury on the wrong Side. His Pretensions however shall be considered with all others impartially, if I should make any appointments. Your anxiety for the issue of the Elections is by this time allayed. How mighty a Power is the Spirit of Party? How decisive and unanimous it is! 73 for Mr Jefferson and 73 for Mr Burr. May the Peace and Welfare of the Country be promoted, by this result. But I see not the way, as yet. In the Case of Mr. Jefferson there is nothing wonder full: but Mr Burr’s good fortune surprises all ordinary rules, and exceeds that of Bonaparte. All the old Patriots, all the Splendid Talents, the long experience, both of Feds and Antifeds, must be subjected to the humiliation of seeing this dexterous Gentleman rise like a balloon, filled with inflammable air, over their heads, and this is not the worst. What a discouragement to all virtuous Exertion and what an Encouragement to Party Intrigue and corruption? What course is it We steer and to what harbour are we bound? Say, man of Wisdom and Experience, for I am wholly at a loss. I thank you Sir and Mrs Gerry for your kind condolence with us in our afflictions under a very melancholy [sic] and distressing Bereavement. I thank the Supream [sic] that I have yet two Sons, who will give me Lone consolation, by a perseverance in those habits of Virtue and Industry which they have hitherto preserved. There is nothing more to be said, but let the eternal Will be done. With great regard, I have the honor to be, Sir, your obliged friend and obedient Servant. John Adams.*

The election of 1800 was a battle between the Federalists – who advocated a strong central government with only such political power for the various states as was absolutely necessary – and the Democratic-Republicans – who believed that the states should yield to the federal government only that which was necessary. The Federalist candidates were President John Adams (for a second term) and Charles C. Pinckney as his running mate. The Democratic-Republican candidates were Thomas Jefferson and Aaron Burr. Both the President and Vice President were elected by the same ballot. One faction of the Federalists – led by Alexander Hamilton – hoped that Pinckney would receive the Presidency and that Adams, with the second largest number of votes, would then become Vice President.

Reports came in very slowly, prolonging the outcome. As time progressed, it became certain that neither John Adams nor Charles Cotesworth Pinckney could be considered the winner, but the outcome of the voting concerning the other two candidates was still unknown. One thing was clear: the Federalist Party had lost its grip in the new nation. Of the 276 votes cast, 73 went to Thomas Jefferson and 73 went to Aaron Burr. [Adams received 65, Pinckney received 64 and John Jay received 1 vote.] The election was referred to the House of Representatives (which was dominated by Federalists) to decide which candidate would be the President – and which would be the Vice President. [Some Federalists believe Burr to be the lesser evil of the two – and plotted to elect him President.] Balloting to decide the tie took place on February 11, 1801. The representatives did not vote individually – but by state groups, each state being entitled to one vote. To win, Jefferson or Burr had to carry nine states, a majority of the sixteen in the Union. On the 36th ballot (February 17, 1801), Federalists in the Vermont and Maryland delegations abstained, thereby giving those two deadlocked states to Jefferson. Ten states voted for Jefferson, four for Burr, and two voted blank (Delaware and South Carolina). Jefferson was declared elected President and Burr his Vice President.

Provenance: The Collection of Philip D. Sang, Sotheby's, New York 26 April 1978, lot 5. $30,000 - $50,000
Burr’s project of making himself V.P. of U.S. to a reasonable Man would have appeared an high degree of Extravagance, for there were ten thousand Men in the United States, who were as well qualified for it and had merited it by much greater Services, Sufferings and Sacrifices. Yet in this he succeeded. Buoyed up by the flattery of the Presbyterians in Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and all the Southern States, from the Veneration in which they held his Father and Grandfather, the Factions of Clintons and Livingsons alternately employed him as their Instrument, till the Virginians conceived the Project of engaging him to corrupt the State of New York from the Federal Interest. In this They and he succeeded: but all the rest of his Projects have been whimsical and without Success. What could have inspired Burr with hopes of being an Ambassador, a Chief Justice of Pensilvania [sic] or a Governor of New York or Vice P. of U.S.?

Omnia Numina Absunt, Sui abit Prudentia. Prudence is the first of Virtues and the root of all others. Without Prudence, there may be abstinence but not Temperance; there may be rashness but not Fortitude; there may be insensibility or obstinancy but not Patience. Without Prudence, to weigh and deliberate on the Nature and consequences of an Enterprise, and to consider his means and his End, a Man who engages in it, commits himself to Chance, and not Seldom when a thousand Chances are against him to one in his favour.

I pity my old Friend, [Thomas] McKean [(1734-1817) - signer of the Declaration of Independence, Chief Justice of Pennsylvania (served 1777-99) and Governor of Pennsylvania (served 1799-1808)]. Like many others of our Antedeluvian Patriarchs he was carried away into Error by the French Revolution and delivered himself into the hands of a Party with whom he never could cordially cooperate. In the Time of Robespierre [(1758-1794) - French revolutionary leader responsible for much of the Reign of Terror] and his bloodyest Cruelties I dined once in Company with McKean, [Albert] Gallatin [(1761-1849) - Secretary of the Treasury (served 1801-14)] and Burr and they were all very loud in praise of Robespierre. ‘He was honest, and the Savior of France.’ Some of the Company presumed to censure their Patriot and Hero, and all three of these Gentlemen cried out ‘Robespierre’s Crime is his Honesty.’ How many Instances do We See every day which prove that Honesty is not the best Policy. They have all of them tried a different Policy, but I believe they will all come to a sad End and find at last that Honesty would have been a better Policy.

I now come to a Mystery in your Letter. I have but four Grandsons; two of them are Boys under Seven Years of Age [George Washington Adams (1801-1829) and John Adams II (1803-1834)] and have been at my House and in Boston all Winter. They are the Children of my son John [Quincy Adams (1767-1848)]; the two others are Sons of my Daughter [Abigail - or Nabby] Smith [(1765-1813), the youngest of whom whose name is John [Adams Smith (1788-1854)] is now with me, and has not been in Philadelphia since last May; the oldest is William [Steuben Smith (1787-1830)] now to my great grief in Trinidad. No Letter therefore have I received from any Grandson of mine. I cannot unriddle this Mystery but by Supposing that some adventurer has forgot it, commits himself to Chance, and not Seldom when a thousand Chances are against him to one in his favour.

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He writes in full: Dear Sir, Your favour of the third is received. I am willing to allow your Philosophers your Opinion of the universal Gravitation of Matter, if you will allow mine that there is in Some Souls a principle of absolute Levity that buoyz them irresisibly into the Clouds. Whether you call it etherial [sic] Spirit or inflammable air it has an uncontrollable Tendency to ascend, and has no capacity to ascertain the height at which it aims or the means by which it is to rise. This I take to be precisely the Genius of Burr, Miranda and Hamilton, among a thousand others of less or more Note. These Creatures have no Prudence. If a Man is once So disarranged in his Intellect as to deliberate upon a Project of ascending to the Seven Starrs, it is natural enough that he should first attempt to Seize the two Horns of the New Moon and make her his first Stage.

Benjamin Rush had served as a member of the Continental Congress (1776, 1777) and was a signer of the Declaration of Independence. At the time of this letter, he was serving as Treasurer of the U.S. Mint (1797-1813), appointed by President John Adams; it was Adams who mediated the reconciliation between Rush and Thomas Jefferson after both had retired from active politics. A reflective Adams, now retired in Quincy after years of public service, writes freely to his close friend.

He writes in full: Dear Sir, Your favour of the third is received. I am willing to allow your Philosophers your Opinion of the universal Gravitation of Matter, if you will allow mine that there is in Some Souls a principle of absolute Levity that buoyz them irresisibly into the Clouds. Whether you call it etherial [sic] Spirit or inflammable air it has an uncontrollable Tendency to ascend, and has no capacity to ascertain the height at which it aims or the means by which it is to rise. This I take to be precisely the Genius of Burr, Miranda and Hamilton, among a thousand others of less or more Note. These Creatures have no Prudence. If a Man is once So
Pennsylvania can fall down on one broadside and then roll over to the other Broadside, and then turn Mast upwards and then right her self up again. She is a Ship however so violently addicted to pitching and rolling that I should not wonder if she dismasted herself.

To quit the figure and Speak plain English I have long thought that the first Serious civil War in America will commence in Pensilvania [sic]. The two Nations of Irish and Germans who compose the principal Part of the People, are so entirely governed by their Passions, have So little reason and less Knowledge that it will be impossible to keep them steady in any just System of Policy. They will one day repent in Sac[k]cloth [a coarse cloth, made of goats' hair, worn as a symbol of penitence] the ascendency they have given to the Transaleganian [Trans-Alleghanian, i.e., the states containing the Allegheny Mountains - Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia] and Southern Atlantic States [North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia] and So will New York. But So contagious is Folly that we in the Mass[achusetts]. are running the Same Course. I do not believe how even that Sullivan, if he should be chosen, will harmonize long with his Party. Not half so long as McKean has. He is in heart and in head no more of a Democrat than McKean. I have known him not much less than forty years. He has never been a steady nor a [obscured by wax seal] Man. But he is not malevolent Enough for his Party nor ignorant. His general aim has been to be of the Strongest Side and consequently has often offended all Parties at times. I should be glad to receive your explication of the Strange Story of my Grandson. You do not say that the Letter was from Col. Smith. What can the Tenet be?

My Family reciprocate the friendly Sentiments of yours and none of them more heartily than J. Adams

As described in the previous lot, the election of 1800 turned into a contentious drawn out affair and weighed upon Adams enormously. Little wonder that years after the election of 1800, Adams continued to harbor great resentment at the powers wielded by Burr in influencing the outcome of the New York elections.

Provenance: Christie's New York 19 May 1995, lot 2. $30,000 - $50,000
Quincy Jan 26. 1814

Dear Sir,

If I may judge of others by myself, Mr. Hay had no cause of apprehension that should be tedious; for when I had read the first page, I could not lay aside the book till I had read the last. I know not when I have seen a discussion of any legal or political question pursued with so dispassionate a temper, or written with more perspicuity, accuracy or luminous arrangement. The author is master of his subject and all the learning necessary to support his position.

What can Blackstone mean by universal Law? Are the canon Law and the feudal Law, universal Laws? Are the Pope or his eldest Son the Emperor universal Legislators? Many Law universal, but the law of our natures, written on our hearts, and obligatory on all Men from their beginning and through all their dispersions? The Doctrine of universal and perpetual, inherent and indefeasible Allegiance has no other foundation, than in a degenerating Supremacy and an unrelenting Despotism.

To push the War with Vigor, till We have a Peace neither disgraceful to the Nation or the Government is the sincere hope and ardent Wish of my Heart; your Assurance therefore of a determined Spirit in all Branches of the Government, is delightful to me.

Our northern Gentlemen are foaming to stop the Wheels; but all will end in securing their State Elections. I am ye

John Adams

Richard Rush Esq.
Controller R.
3. Adams, John. Important autograph letter signed (“John Adams”), 1 page (9 ¾ x 8 in.; 248 x 203 mm.), Quincy, 26 January 1814, to Richard Rush, the son of signer Benjamin Rush regarding his position to a successful conclusion to the War of 1812; light browning, mounting remnants on verso.

To push the War with Vigour, till We have a Peace, neither disgraceful to the Nation or the Government is the Sincere hope and ardent Wish of my heart . . .

Like his father, Richard Rush was born to serve his country. He served as comptroller of the U.S. Treasury (1811), Attorney General (1814-17), Secretary of State (1817), and Minister to Great Britain (1817-25). Later he served as Secretary of the Treasury (1825-28) and Minister to France (1847-49). Adams first comments on a legal treatise written by George Hay (1765-1830), American jurist, who is best remembered as U.S. Attorney for the District of Virginia, in which capacity he conducted the prosecution of Aaron Burr for treason; then, in the second paragraph, Adams, discussing “universal law”, refers to Sir William Blackstone (1723-1780), British jurist, whose history of the doctrines of English law were very influential on jurisprudence in the United States.

Adams writes in full: Dear Sir If I may judge of others by myself, Mr. [George] Hay had no cause of apprehension that he should be tedious: for when I had read the first page I could not lay aside the book till I had read the last. I know not when I have seen a discussion of any legal or political question pursued with so dispassionate a temper; or written with more perspicuity, accuracy or luminous arrangement. The author is Master of his Subject and all the Learning necessary to support is Position.

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Our northern gentry are foaming to stop the wheels: but all will end in securing their state elections. I am &c John Adams

Former President John Adams states his position with regard to a successful conclusion to the War of 1812 with the words that the United States must “…push the War with Vigour”. At the time of this letter, the United States was still at war with Britain, motivated by Britain’s unyielding position on neutral shipping – specifically, the impressment of seamen, interference with trade and the blockade of American ports, as well as by the British encouragement of Indian hostilities.

It was not until late 1814, after two years of war, that Britain was willing to engage in peace talks. Though the Treaty of Ghent (December 24, 1814) restored the peace between Great Britain and the United States, many of the leading demands of the U.S. were not met – including satisfaction on impressment, blockades, and other maritime grievances. In fact, the treaty was silent on the very issues over which Great Britain and the U.S. had initially clashed, and gave to neither party what it originally proposed. News of the signing of the treaty reached New York on February 11, 1815. It was unanimously ratified by the Senate on February 15, 1815, and proclaimed by President James Madison on February 17, 1815. $20,000 – $30,000

First edition, presentation copy inscribed and signed by John Adams to Richard Henry Lee and also signed by John Quincy Adams. Adams inscribes the blank leaf just before the title page: “Mr. Lee's acceptance of this is requested. It is sent him in Boards interleaved that at his Leisure Mr. Lee may make his Remarks in it, and communicate them if he will be so good to the Author.” Also signing the blank leaf is “John Quincy Adams”. The title page contains the bold signature of “Ludwell Lee.”

Adams’ book A Defense of the Constitutions of Government of the United States of America was to contain Adams’ defense of the constitutions of the various American states, and was to clarify the true and proper basis of sound government. It was Adams’ hope that the work would establish beyond question the principle of separate and balanced branches by using the lessons of history and the writings of philosophers to defend his arguments. It was his major work - an anthology or disquisition on the nature of true government. Adams’ wife, Abigail, wrote to her son John Quincy, that the work was “an investigation into the different forms of government both ancient and modern - monarchal, aristocratical, democratical, and republican - pointing out their happiness or misery in proportion to their different balances.”

Feeling the need to finish the work as soon as possible, Adams, in London as Minister to Great Britain, completed the work in a few short weeks, but due to his haste, the finished product was haphazard, disorganized, and filled with errors. Nonetheless, Adams had effectively stated his main theme. He wrote: “Without three orders and an effectual balance between them in every American constitution, it must be destined to frequent, unavoidable revolutions; though they are delayed a few years they must come in time.” Adams supported a free government with a solid democratic base in the form of a popular assembly responsive to the people. He asserted the need for “democratical branches” or popular assemblies in government that represented the mass of the citizens of the state. The response to the book was favorable - and considerable. It sold very well, and appeared in a number of editions, which were widely read and hotly debated. It was the first extensive examination by an American of the nature of government. The book was Adams’ longest work, and his only multi-volume work - as long as all the other published works in his lifetime. It was also the last great statement of a certain political school of thought – the classical Republican.

In January of 1787, Adams sent off a rough manuscript copy of his Defense to the printer for a limited printing. When the printer returned printed copies, Adams discovered many typesetting errors, but proceeded, in any case, to get copies off to Jefferson and Lafayette, as well as a number of close friends in America, including Cotton Tufts, President Willard of Harvard, Professor Williams, Tristram Dalton, Richard Cranch, John Thaxter, General Warren, Samuel Adams, and Francis Dana. He also sent copies to each of his sons, and 30 volumes to a Boston bookseller chosen by Tufts. The blank sheets in the present volume were probably purposely inserted by the book binder, as Adams puts it in his inscription to Lee: “It is sent him in boards interleaved that at his Leisure Mr. Lee may make his Remarks in it, and communicate them if he will be so good to the Author.”

This particular volume is the first edition of Adams’ London edition, and appears to be the actual copy that Adams personally gave to Richard Henry Lee (1732-94) - a Virginia delegate to the Continental Congress (1774-79) and a fellow signer of the Declaration of Independence - and a man whom Adams had pronounced to be “a masterly man” when the two first met at the Congress of 1775 in Philadelphia. At that time, Lee and Adams agreed that it was time that the colonies adopt their own governments. [At Lee’s suggestion, Adams was encouraged to draw up his Thoughts on Government (1776).] Lee was instrumental in urging the resolution (formally presented on June 7, 1776 - then adopted on July 2, 1776 and formally endorsed on July 4, 1776) that became known as the Declaration of Independence – the manifesto in which the representatives of the 13 American colonies asserted their independence and explained their reasons for their break with Britain, with the words: “…these united colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent states; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved.”

The date when Lee received the book from Adams is probably April or May, 1787, when copies of the work first reached Philadelphia, though there is a slight chance that it might have been later - between 1789 and 1792 – when Adams and Lee were together on virtually a daily basis - Adams serving as Vice-President and Lee as a member of the Senate. (Lee wrote to Adams in September, 1787 from New York that Adams’ book was “here”, though he may not have been referring to this particular presentation copy, but to the fact that the book was now in this country.)

Ludwell Lee (1760-1836), son of Richard Henry, has signed the book across the title page. Apparently, the book passed down from Richard Henry to his son. It is interesting to note that Ludwell's son, also named Richard Henry (1802-65), carried on a sizeable correspondence with John Adams’ son, John Quincy Adams (1767-1848) during the years 1824-43. The book is not only signed by John Adams (signing as “the Author”), but is also signed by his son John Quincy Adams. It is highly likely that, at some time c. 1830-40, Ludwell’s son Richard Henry, who received the book from his father, asked John Adams’ son John Quincy to sign the book (note John Quincy’s shaky hand). The book has gone “full-circle”, so to speak, “signed” by both Adams (first by the father and then, much later, by the son), inscribed to Richard Henry Lee (the father), signed by his son Ludwell Lee, and passed on to his son Richard Henry.

The book is also signed and dated 1846 (beneath John Adams’ inscription and John Quincy Adams’ signature) by John Strohm.
(1793-1884), a Pennsylvania congressman (March, 1845 - March, 1849). The route of the book from the Lees to Strohm is undetermined, though the book was either acquired directly from Richard Henry Lee (or his heirs) or perhaps, from John Quincy Adams (who would have received the book from either Ludwell Lee or his son, Richard Henry Lee). There is also no available information on specifically why the volume passed out of the hands of the Lee family.

There is some additional handwritten content in the volume. On a blank leaf bound between the Table of Contents and the first page of text, there is a quotation (in French) in an unidentified hand taken from and attributed to Memoires de Commines, regarded as one of the classics of medieval history, written by the French chronicler Philippe de Commines. The passage states: “Entre toutes les Seigneuries du monde dans j’ai connaissance, ou la choice publique est mieux trait’e, & ou regne moins de violence sur le peuple - c’est l’Angleterre”.

Excessively rare in original boards and the associations with two generations of the Adams and Lee families is nothing short of extraordinary.

Provenance: Francis K. Gaskell (bookplate). $80,000 - $120,000
5. Adams, John Quincy. Autograph letter signed as President, 1 page (10 x 7 ¾ in.; 254 x 197 mm.), “Washington,” 9 March 1827, to Richard Riker Esquire, Recorder of the City of New York, regarding the completion of the Erie Canal; marginal split at horizontal fold.

*President John Quincy Adams on the successful completion of the New York Canals [i.e., the Erie Canal] which have mingled the waters of the Western Lakes with the waves of the Atlantic Ocean.*

President Adams sends thanks to his correspondent for two copies of an elegantly bound narrative on the completion of the Erie Canal (October 26, 1825).

He writes in full: *Sir. I have duly received your Letter of the 26th. ulto. [February 26, 1827] together with two copies elegantly bound of the very interesting Memoir of Mr. Colder upon the New York Canals, and the annexed authentic narratives of the Celebrations upon the completion of those great Works which have mingled the waters of the Western Lakes with the waves of the Atlantic Ocean.*

One of these copies was intended by the kindness of the Corporation, for my deceased father [John Adams, d. July 4, 1826], and in his name, and in that of his Representatives, I pray you to tender to that body our thanks for this civic tribute to his memory. For the copy of them designed and forwarded for me the Corporation will please to accept my acknowledgements. It contains in itself evidence that many of the Arts which adorn, as well as those which comfort human life, are prospering in our Country and evinces that the Spirit, which was found equal to the great undertaking of inland communication is persuading every portion of your community, and moving in happy concert towards that object of the aspirations of the wise and good, the improvement of our common condition. Accept also for your self, the thanks and Respects of your fellow Citizens. John Quincy Adams.

On October 26, 1825, the Erie Canal was completed - then officially opened at Buffalo. It connected the Hudson River with Lake Erie by way of the Mohawk River, channels in Lake Oneida and short stretches of other rivers. Mules pulled flat-bottomed barges through the four-foot deep, 363-mile long canal at the rate of a mile and a half an hour. During its first year of operation, the Erie Canal saw 7,000 barges travel its course from Albany to Buffalo. Those who had worked on the canal, begun in 1817, remained to establish towns along its route. The flow of goods along the Erie Canal and the Hudson River - a combined distance of 550 miles - soon made New York the nation’s busiest seaport, as well as the nation’s financial center. The completion of the Erie Canal signalled the beginning of a major era of canal building; 3,000 miles of inland waterways were constructed by the 1840s. Combined with the surge of road building, the construction of these inland waterways helped open up many new territories in the west to commerce and settlement.

A number of other Western canals were completed between 1825-56 linking the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers with the Great Lakes. They included: (1) the Ohio Canal connecting Portsmouth and Cleveland (1825-32); (2) the Miami Canal connecting Cincinnati and Toledo (1825-45); (3) the Louisville and Portland Canal around the falls of the Ohio River (1826-31); (4) the Wabash and Erie Canal, linking Toledo with Evansville - the longest canal in the U.S. (1832-56); (5) the Illinois and Michigan Canal connecting Lake Michigan and the Illinois River (1836-48); and (6) the original Welland Canal around Niagara Falls connecting Lakes Erie and Ontario (built by Canada, 1829-33).

Of all the canal projects, the Erie Canal was unique in that it achieved a profit. Most of the other canals eventually failed because their construction required an insurmountable debt that could not be recouped from users’ fees. The new age of the railroads brought an end to the role of canals in the commercial growth and westward expansion of the nation.

$3,000 – $5,000
Thomas Hutchinson (1711-1780), a lawyer and merchant, served in the Massachusetts legislature (1737-49) and as a member of the Governor’s Council (1749-66), and also acted as the colony’s historian. He believed that in the constitutional relationship between England and America, each party should be free to pursue its own interests, though in a test of supremacy, England and specifically Parliament, should be able to decide for the whole or the colonies’ subordination within the empire would become meaningless. His political philosophy proved to be his undoing. In August 1765, Boston mobs burned down his house as they vented their fury at the passage of the Stamp Act (March 1765) on the wealthy merchant and multiple officeholder.

In January 1773, Hutchinson, the Royal Governor of Massachusetts (served 1771-74), made a speech to the General Court answering the Boston Committee of Correspondence (formed in November 1772) and its “Boston Pamphlet”, which had asserted that British encroachments upon colonial rights pointed to a plot to enslave America. The pamphlet was first issued in late November 1772. By the spring of 1773, the committee had printed 600 copies of the pamphlet. Almost half of the towns and districts of the colony took action, forming their own committees of correspondence and passing resolutions echoing Boston’s dread of the sinister plot against their liberties. A major grievance voiced in the pamphlet was the issue of taxation without representation. The pamphlet also accused Governor Hutchinson of taking part in the conspiracy, labeling him as “merely a ministerial Engine.” It asserted that the colonials were British subjects and retained the rights of subjects—absolute rights—that could not be alienated. No power could lawfully remove them from the people’s control. Hutchinson’s speech deplored Committees of Correspondence and the claim to absolute rights. According to Hutchinson, a colonist derived his rights from the charter granted him by the Crown. From the founding on, the premise of the government was that a colonist was subordinate to Parliament. According to Hutchinson, the men who were challenging the Parliament were in the wrong.

Hutchinson’s speech actually strengthened the opposition to the British Crown. The powerful constitutional case against the supremacy of Parliament in the colonies, which had been stated repeatedly since 1765, was now restated by Samuel Adams, the Committee of Correspondence and the citizens of Massachusetts.

In June 1773, the Boston Committee published the letters of Thomas Hutchinson, his brother-in-law Andrew Oliver and several others to Thomas Whately, the British subminister. The letters, dated 1767-79, revealed the extent of their writers’ disenchantment with the popular opposition to the actions and policies of the British government. The “treachery” of Hutchinson and his friends, agents of the Crown in America, was not exposed; Britain’s agents, Hutchinson and Oliver, seemed to confess that they were advocates of a conspiracy. Portrayed as a traitor to his native country for having joined in an alleged general scheme to enslave the American colonists, Hutchinson was forced to withdraw his family to England after the implementation of the Coercive Acts (March 1774). Benjamin Franklin, who, six months earlier, had sent them to Thomas Cushing with the injunction that they be kept secret, had obtained the letters. $8,000 - $12,000

6. Adams, Samuel. Autograph letter signed (“Sam Adams”), 2 pages (9 ¾ x 8 in.; 248 x 203 mm.), “Boston,” 21 June 1773, to Arthur Lee, American diplomat, who, at the time of the present letter, was serving as Massachusetts colonial agent in London; marginal stains, skillful marginal repairs.

The Boston Committee of Correspondence, led by patriot Samuel Adams, publishes the “Hutchinson Letters” revealing the treachery of Massachusetts Royal Governor Thomas Hutchinson and his friends, agents of the Crown in America.

Adams writes in full: I wrote in very great haste a few days ago and then inclos a printed Copy of Letters sign’d Tho Hutchinson, And Oliver &c., with certain Resolutions formed by a Committee by the House and with very little Variation adopted, as you will see by the inclosd. Upon the last Resolve there was a Division of 85 to 28; since which five of the Minority altered their Minds, two other Members came into the House and desired to be counted, so that finally there were 93 in favor and 22 against it. Mary, if not most of the latter voted for all the other Resolves. A Petition and Remembrance against Hutchinson and Oliver will be brought in, I suppose, this Week. I think enough appears by these Letters to show, that the Plan for the Ruin of of [sic] American Liberty, was laid by a few Men, ‘born and educated’ amongst us, & governed by Avarice and a Lust of Power. Could they be remov’d from his Majesty’s Service & Confidence here, effectual Measures might then be taken to restore ‘placidam sub Libetate Quietam’. Perhaps however you may think it necessary that some on your Side of the Measures might then be taken to restore ‘placidam sub Libetate Quietam’. They be remov’d from his Majesty’s Service & Confidence here, effectual educated amongst us, & governd by Avarice and a Lust of Power. Could for the Ruin of American Liberty, was laid by a few Men, ‘born and educated’ amongst us, & governed by Avarice and a Lust of Power. Could they be removed from his Majesty’s Service & Confidence here, effectual Measures might then be taken to restore ‘placidam sub Libetate Quietam’. Perhaps however you may think it necessary that some on your Side of the Measures might then be taken to restore ‘placidam sub Libetate Quietam’.

I send you our last Election Sermon delivered by Mr. Turner. The Bishop of Postaph—I have read with Singular Pleasure.

An exceptional Revolutionary War-date letter regarding the Northern Campaign.

Adams writes in full: I am requested by a Member of Congress from South Carolina for whom I have a particular regard, to introduce his Friend Mr Henry Crouch to some of my Boston Friends. He is a merchant of Charlestown and will let off on a Visit your Way tomorrow. I take the Liberty of addressing a letter to you by him. Your friend by Notice of him will greatly oblige me. I heartily congratulate you on the happy Change of our Affairs at the Northward. The Feelings of a Man of Burgoyns Vanity must be sorely touched by this Disappointment.

Howes Army remains near where they first landed and is supposed to be ten thousand fit for Duty. Washingtons Army exceeds that Number, is in health & high Spirits, and the Militia have joined in great number, well equipped and ambitious to emulate the Valor of their Eastern Brethren. Our light Troops are continually harrassing the Enemy. The Day before yesterday they attacked their out Posts & drove them in, killing & wounding a small Number. By the last Account we had taken about seventy Prisoners without any Loss on our side. Our Affairs are at this moment very serious and critical. We are contending for the Rights of our Country and Mankind — May the Confidence of America be placed in the God of Armies!
By 30 June 1777, General Burgoyne’s army of 4,200 British regulars, 4,000 German mercenaries, and several hundred Canadians and Indians had reached Ft. Ticonderoga, commanded by General Arthur St. Clair. On the evening of 5 July, St. Clair evacuated the fort after enduring a four-day siege, abandoning substantial supplies. Burgoyne, in pursuit, took Skanesborough and Ft. Anne (6–7 July). Meanwhile, a British force under the command of Col. Barry St. Leger, advanced eastward from Oswego on Lake Ontario.

British morale soared after the victory at Ticonderoga. King George is reported to have exclaimed, “I have beat them! I have beat all the Americans!” Yet rather than shrink from the threat, the Continentals rallied. Patriots slowed Burgoyne’s advance by blocking roads, destroying bridges, and sacking crops and livestock in the surrounding countryside. Soon, the logistical difficulties for the British became critical; supply problems became alarming. Upon reaching Fort Edward on 30 July, the British commander was forced to call a halt to rest and re-supply his beleaguered army. With this delay, the Americans were able to concentrate and pounce on the British in short order.

On 16 August, the American force surprised and destroyed an 800-man detachment that Burgoyne had sent from Fort Edward to Bennington, Vermont, to seize patriot supplies. This disaster brought home to Burgoyne the precariousness of his army’s position: it was isolated deep in enemy territory, and threatened by a large and growing American force. In the coming days, his situation would grow worse, and conversely, the American prospects for victory would loom ever larger.

Following the date of the present letter, things continued to go well for the Continentals well into autumn. General Burgoyne resolved to press on to Albany and crossed to the west side of the Hudson (13 September), moving against the entrenched position Gates had prepared on Bemis Heights. On 19 September 1777, General Burgoyne attempted to gain high ground on the American left but was checked at the Battle of Freeman’s Farm by General Daniel Morgan and Colonel Henry Dearborn.

On 3 October 1777, General Clinton, commanding British troops in New York City, moved up the Hudson, taking Forts Clinton and Montgomery on the 6th. Clinton received an urgent call for help from Burgoyne on the 9th. Clinton felt too insecure to push on to Albany, and returned to New York. Burgoyne was now desperate. On 7 October, Burgoyne launched his second drive, venturing out of his lines toward the American left again. A countermove by Gates, led by Morgan and General Ebenezer Learned, repulsed the British attack. Gates secured an important victory at the (Second) Battle of Saratoga (7 October 1777), while Benedict Arnold, contributing to the victory, led a fierce assault, which threw Burgoyne back upon Bemis Heights. The Americans carried the Breymann redoubt. Burgoyne withdrew north eastward and, on October 9th, retreated to Saratoga. On 13 October 1777, surrounded by a force now three times the size of his own, he asked for a cessation of hostilities. The convention of Saratoga transported Burgoyne and 5,700 British troops back to England. $8,000 – $12,000

8. Anderson, Robert. Autograph letter signed, 1 page, (8 ¾ x 5 ¾ in.; 210 x 133 mm.), Fort Sumter, South Carolina, 7 April 1861, to F.A. Kilton, Providence, R. I.; mounting remnants on verso of integral blank.

Five days before the bombardment of Fort Sumter begins, the fort’s commander, Robert Anderson, predicts the awful truth that war is at hand.

Just five days before the start of the bombardment of Fort Sumter Major Anderson, who would soon sustain the first shots of the Civil War, resigns himself to the fact that war is imminent.

Anderson writes in full: Dear Sir: Yours of Mar. 30th gratifies me, in showing a patriotic spirit. I fear, though, that unless we appeal, with all our hearts, to God, to help us in this, our time of need & of trial, we shall soon have our land accursed by the shedding of our brother’s blood. May I not live to see the light of that day!

Yours respy
Robert Anderson
Major USA

A remarkable premonition written by the Union officer who so gallantly held the fort for 34 hours before he was forced to surrender. $6,000 – $8,000

310-859-7701
10. [Battle of Bunker Hill.] Martin Gay. Highly important and extremely rare autograph letter signed twice, 4 pages (9 x 7 ¾ in.; 229 x 187 mm.), “Boston,” 8 July 1775, being Gay’s retained copy to his brother Jonathan, providing an incomparable description of the legendary Battle of Bunker Hill; skillful repair to horizontal folds and ink burns affecting the first signature.

A dramatic eyewitness account of the Battle of Bunker Hill.

Gay writes in part: The Victory obtained by about two thousand regular troops commanded by Genl How [General William Howe] over a large body of the Country Rebels (tis said about six thousand) on the heights of Charlestown, the 17 ult. was a remarkable action, it proves that nothing the Enemies to Great Britton can do will daunt the courage of the British Troops. The Rebels had Intrenched themselves on the top of a high hill which is but about a quarter of a mile from Charles River, in approaching which, the troops had to brake through stone walls and other difficulty which gave the Enemy every advantage they could wish for; however after a most Violent hot fire, the brave soldiers forced the Intrenchments to the Joy of all the Spectators (myself being one) and others on this side of the river, who are friends to their King and Country. Immediately on the Kings troops appearing on the top of the Redoubt, the Rebels ran off in great confusion, leaving their Cannons. Intrenching tools and a large number of their dead and some wounded, the loss was great on both sides. The action lasted about an hour and a quarter. We have Reason to lament the loss of so many Valuable brave officers . . . the famous Doctr. Worrin [General Joseph Warren], who has for some year bin a sturer up of Rebellion, was kild in the action . . . soon after the actions began the Town of Charlestown was seat on fire in several places by fire balls from a battery on this side which continued burning till all the buildings in it were consumed, except a few houses at the Extreme part, near where a body of Regular troops are now Incamped . . . the the Rebels meet with a shamefull defeat, they still continue in their opposition in fortifying hill and other places near this Town . . . .

The Battle of Bunker Hill (17 June 1775) occurred outside British-occupied Boston early in the Revolutionary War. After the
British defeats at Lexington and Concord on 19 April 1775, the British sent three of their top generals, Sir William Howe, Sir Henry Clinton and John Burgoyne, to America to help General Thomas Gage, commander of the British Army in America, put down the burgeoning rebellion; the three arrived at the end of May on His Majesty’s ship *Cerebus*. The newly arrived generals concluded that an attack on Cambridge across Boston Neck and the Charles River must be mounted as soon as possible while diversionary raids were made on the high ground overlooking Boston. Before the plan could be put into effect, rebel spies in Boston learned of it. On the starlit night of 16 June, 1200 American militiamen, armed with picks and shovels, advanced towards the Charlestown promontory with orders to fortify Bunker’s Hill, the highest peak on the peninsula. However, due to a misunderstanding or stupidity, the diggers set to work on the next shallow eminence, Breed’s Hill, where they began digging a long, shoulder-high earthwork above the town. The fortification was completed by dawn.

From their ships offshore and from land batteries, the British began an artillery bombardment, though most of the balls struck harmlessly against the earthen wall; as well, many of the guns could not be sufficiently elevated to reach the works at all. Awaiting a favorable tide after noon, Gage landed his troops on the southeast end of the peninsula and launched a frontal assault—2400 under the command of General Howe—to dislodge the Americans. The main American position—1600 men with six cannon under the command of Col. William Prescott—turned back two advances by Howe’s troops, who were in tight formation, burdened by heavy packs. Reinforced by Clinton for a third assault, Howe had his men drop their packs and rush forward in a bayonet charge. The British pushed their way to the top edge of the redoubt, just as the American resistance ceased when their supply of powder gave out. The powder-blackened faces of the enemy who were swinging their muskets as clubs met the redcoats. The American retreat became a near rout; Howe decided against pressing on toward Cambridge and stopped the pursuit at the base of the peninsula. General Howe had won for General Gage an utterly useless peninsula—at a horrible cost. No British officer who witnessed the slaughter could ever get the memory of it out of his mind. The British had won the field, but the loss was staggering: 1,054 casualties, 226 killed and 828 wounded. No fewer than 63 officers were wounded and 27 were killed of their force of 2,500 men. The American losses were relatively light—140 killed and 301 wounded. The battle had destroyed the British myth that Americans could not stand against the regulars. Clinton was to comment: *A dear bought victory, another such would have ruined us.* The Battle of Bunker Hill boosted the morale of and support for the Revolutionary Army. Two weeks after the battle, General George Washington reached Cambridge and took formal command of the Continental Army on 3 July 1775; he began the siege of Boston, which ended with the British evacuation on 17 March 1776.

At the foot of the last page of his letter, Gay records a draft of another letter albeit brief, from Boston on 27 July 1775, noting it is not in his power to send any of the articles his brother has requested. A stunning record of a seminal chapter in American history.


*$20,000 - $30,000*
11. [Battle of Little Big Horn.] Josiah Chance. Highly important and extremely rare autograph letter signed, 23 pages (9 ¾ x 7 ¾ in.; 244 x 197 mm.), Supply Buffalo on the Yellowstone at mouth of PowderRiver M.T. 20 June to 5 July 1876 to an unidentified friend being an extraordinary contemporary account of the Battle of Little Big Horn; some creasing, some splits to horizontal folds.

An extraordinary contemporary account of the Battle of Little Big Horn.

The present letter begins with a soldier’s narration of the quotidian realities of a cavalry unit in the field. On 11 June the unit reached their supply depot on the Yellowstone near the mouth of the Glendive’s Creek. At this juncture, Josiah Chance was assigned the duty of Depot Quarter Master (in the rear with the gear), much to his disappointment.

He writes: Very much to my disgust, the day I marched here Genl Terry appointed me Depot Quarter Master, leaving my Company with 4 others to guard the Depot. I was very much disappointed, as I had made arrangements to accompany the forces in the field, which I preferred to remaining in camp. A man in the Army not being a “Free agent” must necessarily submit to the powers that be, and from long experience I have always found the easiest to be the best way, and I have therefore submitted to my fate without protest in this case. I will make myself comfortable while I remain, and that will doubtfully be until the close of the campaign.

Though clearly unhappy, Chance’s assignment no doubt saved his life and allowed for the present account to be written.

Chance proceeds to record all the intelligence he received from a group of eight of General Custer’s scouts: Nothing of importance has occurred since writing the above, until yesterday when our Camp was thrown into great excitement over the news received from Genl. Custers Command. Eight of General Custers Scouts who were cut off from his Command, came into camp yesterday with the startling news that 7th Cavalry were engaged in a terrible battle, and when they left were surrounded-cut off from water, and unless assistance arrived they would all be killed.

It appears that Genl. Custer after striking the Indian trail near the Rosebud (of which I have spoken of before) followed it rapidly in the direction of the Bighorn, and came upon their camp about noon of the 25th, inst. on the Bighorn 25 miles from the Yellowstone. It appears, also, that Maj. Reno with three (c) Companies of Cavalry (A. G & K Commanded by Capt. Moylan. Lieut Godfrey and Lieut McIntosh) and Indian Scouts (Leitut Varnings in the Command) seemed to have been detached and was several miles in advance of the main Colonel under General Custer. About 1 o’clock P.M. Maj. Reno crossed his com’d from the left to the right bank of the river, leaving Gent. Custer with the balance of the command on the left bank some five (5) miles below. As soon as Renos Command reached the opposite bank he came suddenly upon some Indians, who opened fire, and they fell back. The country being heavily numbered, Maj. Reno dismounted his com’d leaving the horses in the woods and advanced on foot. He had advanced but a short distance when he came in view of a small village, and immediately ordered a charge—thinking there was but few Indians in the village as but few teepees could be seen. It was not long however, before he knew what he had struck, as he became hotly engaged in a few minutes, and places where a moment before no Indians could be seen, was now swarming and commenced pouring woolly, after volley, into his ranks. After reaching the teepees Reno saw he would be unable to hold his position, as the Indians were receiving reinforcements from the camps below, and he at once determined to fall back and re-cross the river, as it was evident that he would soon be surrounded and cutoff from the main Command. While the fight was going on, the Indians succeeded in firing the woods in which the horses has been left, causing a general stampede of the animals, many of which ran into the Indian camp and many others being killed.

At this stage of the action Reno ordered a retreat, and succeeded in crossing the river with most of his command (dismounted) but in doing so lost a number of men and two officers (Srents McIntosh +Hodgon) and his chief guide Glas. Reynolds. The Indians at once crossed the river and commenced to circle round his com’d. Reno seeing he was outnumbered, 10 to 1—directed his com’d to take (page 12) position on a high bluff nearby, and there determined to make a stand, until assistance from Gent. Custer arrived, whom he supposed would join him as soon as he knew his situation.

He had not been in this position very long before he found himself completely surrounded and closely pressed upon all sides. Cut off from water, and prospect of Custer coming to his assistance. This was the condition of Reno’s Com’d Saturday evening when the scouts left. As regards Casters command nothing positive was known by the scouts—only he had been fighting all day and was reported killed, and his com’d (what was left of it) in about the same condition as Renos, surrounded but still fighting. Still later:--Two more scouts arrived about 9 o’clock P.M. and confirmed the above report. Although they left 12 hours later, they report the situation about the same. Our men still fighting but heavily pressed. They met a number of Casters men who reported him killed, besides other officer whom they did not know and that his command was surrendered some four (4) miles from Reno. From all the information gained the field upon which they are engaged must be rough and unfavorable for our forced. The high hills and ravines being heavily lumbered and both banks of the river thickly covered with willows, making it impossible to execute a rapid and concentrated movement of Cavalry. The Indian Camps are reported to extend four or five miles along the left bank of the river, and contain from eight to nine (8 to 9) hundred lodges, and if this be true it is safe to estimate their strength at not Jess than 2,700 warriors. However much truth there is in the reports of these Scouts, I can’t say, but there is not the slightest doubt in my mind, but what Caster has had a terrible hard fight, and perhaps wounded in the first attack, but as I have such doubts, unbounded confidence in the heroic character, bravery, and cool judgement of the man to think him totally defeated is simply impossible. He may have been defeated by detail—but never with his whole command with him! I will here close for the present and wait for further and more authentic information. Besides there will be no chance for sending the mail for sometime and if there was, I would not like to make a report of this kind without official information. More anon!

On 3 July, Chance writes of preparations for their Centennial 4th of July celebration: Although we do not expect any great display, or any flowery 4th of July orations, yet we will celebrate it in a quiet but patriotic way, by pandering, and firing a salute from the hands of every man in the command . . . He notes: No news yet from Genl. Custer.

On 5 July, Chance records: Yesterday while we were quietly grafting our 4th—talking upon various subjects regarding the growth and progress of civilization during the first century of our Republic, our attention was suddenly attracted to the beautiful calling corporal of the guard post 4, in rapid succession and our going out of my tent—heard the men crying...
Bucking Camels on the Sidestones
At incamp of Dakota's 141
June 20th, 1876

My dear friend,

Although I am not in possession of those things which were lastly
pleasurable, yet with all the disinterestedness of an incident to camp life, I
will proceed to state my promise of what I can and will in any
consider it a heresies or unpleasantries, etc., although it
may somewhat mar the joy of the
march, and am quite certain that I shall
not fail to give you a true and complete description
of our march, and the country over which we
marched, you must not overlook the
lack of desire in this description.

I wrote you a short note
before leaving Lincoln, stating that the situation
intended to start May 15th, but on account of
weather the order was countermanded and we
did not move until the 19th. Although the weather
had by no means become settled, the
marched.

Please drink this with your usual fervor.

Very sincerely yours,

[Signature]
“Steam boat! Steam boat!” and upon asking from what direction it was coming, was answered by a dozen voices, “Down the river.” Turning my eyes in that direction I could plainly see the long black chimneys of a steamer in the distance coming rapidly down the river, and as we knew it was bringing tidings from our friends, and the result of the late battle, everyone was more or less excited, and waited in breathy suspense for her landing, and learning the fate of our comrades. It proved to be the “Far West”, en route to Lincoln carrying the wounded (46 men) and a staff officer bearing dispatches from Genl. Terry to Genl. Sheridan. From this officer I obtained some of the particulars of the late fight.

Chance proceeds to recount his understanding of just what happened at the Battle of Little Big Horn: I have lost so many friends and noble comrades, that I sicken at the thought of their fate and my heart is too full of sadness to write, especially when I think of the many houses that will be made desolate by the untimely loss of their dear ones. If what I have already written was the whole truth, it would be less painful for me to write, but as it does not convey in the slightest, half, what the actual truth has proven, I will not at this time attempt to paint or describe the horrible scene. At present it is simply impossible for me to give a truthful account as I have not words sufficiently strong to paint the picture.

It appears that Genl. Custer came upon the Indian Camp about noon on the 25 (June) with 8 Companies and Scouts., the balance of his command under Col Beuteen being left some miles to the rear, as guard over the Pack Train. The Genl., thinking he had struck the lower end of their camp, detached Maj Reno, with 3 Companies and Scouts (of which I have mentioned before) with orders to proceed to the upper end of their camp, cross the river and attack, and he in like manner would attack from below, and as soon as the Indians were driven the Com’ds would unite, and act together. Maj. Reno at once proceeded to execute the orders given him, and 1 o’ccl crossed the river and made the attack, resulting as I have already stated in being driven back to train. Shortly after Reno’s departure the Genl. with 5 Companies, crossed the river, and charged upon what he supposed to be their camp, but which afterwards proved a decoy, an ambuscade.

The side of the river on which the Indians were encamped, some distance back from the bank was a heavy thicket of young willows and of which had been constructed hundreds of false teepees. In the willows beyond the Indians lay concealed, and as soon as the troops advanced beyond these teepees, they opened a murderous fire, unsaddling half the command at the first fire. It was at once evident to the General that instead of attacking them in flank, he had struck them in the center, where they quickly waited his approach, and opened fire when they had all this advantage. He soon gave order to fall back—but from some cause not explained the order was not promptly obeyed, and seeing the critical condition of affairs, determined to leave his command if possible and as quick as though, he put spurs to his horse, taking the bridle reins in his teeth, drawing both revolvers, and charged into the thickest of the fight, cheering his men, and succeeded by his presence and personal bravery, in coming off with 40 men and a number of officers, crossed the river, taking a position on a high butt where he made a noble stand, “and fought his last battle.” This position was gained late Sunday evening, and he was no sooner in it than he found himself surrounded, cut off from water and closely pressed upon all sides, when night came to their relief and closed the fight for the day. No one will ever know the thoughts or feelings of that noble little band as they lay there that long night, surrounded by a savage and unrelenting foe, knowing that a few hours more their ammunition would be exhausted and nothing but death waited them. In the following morning the struggle commenced again but no one knows how long they fought on the hour that closed the terrible slaughter, as there was not a living soul left out of the 5 Companies which followed Custer to tell the tale. They were all dead! Nine officers and 40 men with their chief lay dead, behind their horses which they had killed and used as breastworks. During the evening, Saturday Col. Beuteen with the balance of the command succeeded in joining Reno where they made a desperate fight all day Monday repulsing several charges and holding their position until the Indians gave up the fight, making a hasty retreat, leaving all their dead (which was hundreds) and a great deal of supplies and camp equipment on the field.

The cause of their rapid flight was their seeing the advance Columns of Gent. Gibbons command - which soon arrived on the field and relieved our almost famished troops under Reno. It was not until after the arrival of General Gibbon that Reno learnt the fate of Custer and the 5 Cos. with him. The sordest and most heartrending scene was yet to be witnessed in the burial of our dead. Going over the ground, and in the deep ravines where our men had fought their bodies were found stripped of their clothing, scalped, mutilated and cut to pieces, and in many cases could not be recognized- having their heads cut off. The total number buried on the field was 16 officers (names hereunto enclosed) 4 civilians and 265 enlisted men. Number of Indians killed not known.

From a “brow Indian” who was with Gent Custer when he made his attack furnishes all the information we have in regard to the fight. He succeeded in making his escape, at the time Custer fell back and recrossed the river, by stripping a dead Sioux of his clothes, and dressing himself in his costume and passed through the lines unobserved. He states shortly after the fight began he went to Gent Custer and begged him to leave the field with him, as he knew they would all be killed, and that he was too brave a man to be killed in this way. He said the General started and went some distance with him, and all of a sudden he stopped still (with his back towards the Indians) dropping his head as if in deep thought, and remained in that position for some moments, when he went up to him, catching hold of his arm & motioned him to come. The General instantly turned showed him away - turned his horse, took of his hat and charged back in the midst of the fight[.]. He then left and he is today the only living being who last saw the noble and heroic Genl Geo A Custer after he went into the fight.

Chance closes his letter apologizing for its length and perhaps uninteresting content to his correspondent. He relays he knows not how long he will remain in the field but reckons he will not return earlier than September. Chance’s letter constitutes a truly remarkable contemporary account of the bloody Battle of the Little Big Horn. $40,000 – $60,000

Father to son with a poignant report from home.

Brown writes in full: I wrote you a few days before the death of our infant son saying we expected to loose him. Since then we have some of us been sick constantly. The measles & Hooping Cough went so hard with Sarah that we were quite anxious on her account; but were much more alarmed on account of my wife who was taken with bleeding at the Lungs Two or Three days after the death of her child. She was pretty much confined to her bed for some weeks, & suffered a good deal of pain; but is now much more comfortable, & able to be around. About the time she got about, I was taken with Fever & Ague & am unable to do much now, but have got the Shakes stoped [sic] for the present.

The almost constant wet weather put us back very much about our crops, & prevented our getting in much Corn. What we have is promising. Our Wheat is of very good quality but the crop is quite moderate. Our Grass is good; & we have a good deal secured. Shall probably finish harvesting Wheat to day. Potatoes promise well. Sheep & Cattle are doing well & I would most gladly [be able] to add; that in Wisdom & good morals we are all improving [sic]. The Boys have done remarkably well about the work. I wish I could see them manifest an equal regard for their future well being. Blindness has happened to us in that which is of most importance. We are at a loss for the reason that we do not hear a word from you. The friends are well so far as I know. Heard from Henry & Ruth a few day[s] since.

Provenance: The Library of Estelle Doheny, Christie’s 21 February 1989, lot 1720. $4,000 - $6,000


John Jay’s narrow escape from the British while sailing to France.

Clinton writes in full: I am favored with your Letter of the 15 Ult[imat] e & am sorry to hear of the Dangers & Disappointment our Friend Mr. Jay had to encounter the beginning of his voyage but I admit there is [in] it a Happiness that has escaped the Hands of the Enemy and I flatter myself that before this he has reached his destined Port without further Accident. I feel myself deeply interested in his Welfare and it will always give me Pleasure to hear of him. Genl. Scott has long since set out for Congress -- he has with him the Papers relative to the Vermont Business properly authenticated and if he has not been as Dilatory on his Journey as he was on setting out he must soon be with you. You are continued as a Delegate. Genl. Schuyler who left this Place ab’t 10 Days ago for Philadelphia too with him (as the Atty Genl. informs me) the concurrent Resolutions of the Legislature on this Subject. No Support Bill has been passed at this present Meeting of the Legislature -- the Reason they assign is that it might be productive of Injustice if the Money continues to depreciate, to grant nominal Sums to the Officers of Government which as the Treasury is exhausted cannot now be paid to them. They talk however of providing for them rather more generously tho’ how far their Liberality will carry them you are as able, as I am, to determine. A Tax Bill has passed -- little different in its Principles from the last -- there is however some slight alteration in the mode of assessing and appeal to the assessors is granted to any Person who shall conceive himself aggrieved! $2,000 - $3,000

A rough patch for Buffalo Bill but the show must go on.

Cody writes in part: I was very much disappointed in not getting to see you, but of course realized the reason, and Fred said you would see Mr. Starr on your return. Fred makes a suggestion that the Barnum & Bailey Ltd. furnish the entire plant same as Bailey & Cole used to furnish Cody & Salsbury, and to furnish it on a percentage. This I would agree to, providing that the Barnum & Bailey Ltd. feed their own people and horses. Before Cody & Salsbury paid for one half of the feed for Bailey & Cole’s horses and people, and it was never right. As we have given America four years rest we should certainly do the biggest business of any Show in America. And by being partners with the Barnum & Bailey Ltd., all the big shows could be routed so as not to conflict; and speaking of routing, we don’t want any more routing like we have had in these last four years. We have given America four years rest and certainly should do the biggest business of any Show in America. And by being partners with the Barnum & Bailey Ltd., all the big shows could be routed so as not to conflict; and speaking of routing, we don’t want any more routing like we have had in these last four years.

And now see what is best to do to make some money. I think I can put up a far better show for next year, than I have ever given, and at no greater cost. I think we should sell about a hundred head of these horses for what they will bring. We have every possible thing against us at all shows, and the big shows could be routed so as not to conflict; and speaking of routing, we don’t want any more routing like we have had in these last four years. Whenever we get to a town where we could make some money, we over play the town, and we should not have been in this Hungarian Country, which is solely a farming country in the midst of harvesting. No Show would think of going into North Dakota during harvest. We have had every possible thing against us all during this European tour the deaths of Mr. Salsbury and Mr. Bailey of course, were the greatest. Then the sickness of our horses, having to kill them all, and so many unexpected unlooked for troubles came up so constantly, that its a wonder I am alive. As you will admit, I feel sure, that we have been paying an enormous rent for the Barnum & Bailey Ltd. cars and horses. We are paying good interest on a Million Dollar Plant for them, but let’s change that up to the other unfortunate experiences of this European tour.

At the time of this letter, Cody was wrapping up his European tour and getting ready for a new American show. He had wanted to retire, believing that his glory days had come to an end, but his financial situation precluded that luxury, and his show would continue for another decade. Most recently, Cody had beaten off competition from J. T. McCaddon’s International Shows. Then, a sudden outbreak of disease resulted in two hundred out of three hundred of his horses having to be destroyed. A shattering blow to both morale and finances, it was followed by the sudden death of James Bailey early in 1906. Dreams of retirement were banished. Debts, plus the fact that Bailey’s wife and other heirs to his estate wanted to leave show business, meant that Cody could not afford to end his career. $2,000 – $3,000
15. Cody, William F. ("Buffalo Bill"). Autograph letter signed, 3 pages (11 x 8 ¼ in.; 279 x 216 mm.), "Tucson, Arizona," 26 October 1908, on imprinted stationery of Buffalo Bill’s Wild West, to Joseph T. McCaddon.

Injured and angry, Buffalo Bill vents his frustration.

Cody owned only a third of his own show (and that third was mortgaged); the co-owners were the heirs of Nate Salsbury and James A. Bailey. The heirs of the deceased Bailey began to make demands on Cody in his final years with the show, with Cody hanging on lest the show collapse without him. In Tucson with his show, Cody writes to McCaddon back in New York. He complains bitterly about the demands made upon him by the co-owners and about the show's direct competition with various circuses, accusing McCaddon (i.e., the Baileys) of trying to make him go broke. Facing financial ruin, Buffalo Bill still has great faith in his Wild West Show.

He writes in full: Yours of Oct 13th suggesting sending the Mexicans home from El Paso to hand. It's simply impossible to cut the Mexicans out. You say they will hardly be missed. You Gentlemen sitting in New York are in no position to tell exactly what will be missed. I have already by suggestions made all the big cuts of the performers I possibly can. And now to cut the Mexicans means the loss of two of our strongest acts - that is the Mexican Act and the Bucking Horse Act - for I am so short of cowboys in the bucking horse act can't be done without the Mexicans. With the few cowboys I now have five of them are crippled. Besides the Mexicans have to take the bucking horses to and from the cars - the cowboys the buffalo. We are carrying 98 canvassmen and employing all the idle help in each town to do their work. We used to get along for years with 80 canvassmen.

And there are other cuts that could be made without killing the performance entirely. I see we show New Orleans barely two weeks behind the Barnum Circus. The show was evidently sent out this season to go broke. That's the way it looks to all showmen. The way this show was routed to follow either the Ringlings or Barnum Circus the entire season would have killed any show on earth but this one.

I suggested some weeks ago to bill Zuma a little. And had it been done we could have taken $4000 there. Just with the side show speakers & our Orator announcing in the morning, we took $600. In this southern country there are many Mexicans and ropers. And they come to see Orefases [?] and the Mexicans. Their act is strong in this country, Texas, New Orleans etc.

As for myself I am riding when by rights I should be in a hospital. And I may have to give up any day. Some Time ago I was taking a sponge bath in my car when the car took a lurch and I sat down on a red hot oil stove. Four days ago in the dark I struck an iron rusty stake with my shin bone - and I have one awful leg should blood poison develop. I won't be able to ride as its all I can do to ride now, burnt in my seat - and the stirrup leather rubbing my sore shin bone. So I am not having a very pleasant time. $2,000 – $3,000

Colt receives an order from the British Government and wonders whether the Belgian Government will follow suit.

Noting he has sent his nephew to Brussels to work on his much neglected education, Colt turns to business matters.

He writes in part: *I enclose you the copy of a note from Mr Newton, which added to what I have before written, is conclusive as to the protection I have in my Belgium patented rights. I want to know in detail what each of the respectable manufacturers of arms at Liege say in answer to the recent instructions I gave reducing my prices for the parts of my arms sent to Belgium to add them in their apparent [sic] wants. If they should not be wanted there let me know it at once & I will give further directions about them. The British Government having adopted my arms into their service & ordered all I can make induces me...as earley [sic] an answer to the question, whether or not the British Government or the manufacturers at Liege require the parts of arms refired too.*

He closes his letter asking his correspondent to let him know that his nephew has arrived safely in Brussels. $3,000 - $5,000

17. Cornwallis, Charles. Autograph letter signed (“Cornwallis”), 2 pages (9 x 7 ¼ in.; 229 x 184 mm.), “New York,” 26 November 1781, to [Nisbet] Balfour, a distinguished British officer who was the commandant of Charleston.

Cornwallis informs his commandant at Charleston of his surrender at Yorktown.

Cornwallis writes in full: *So many of my letters to you have miscarried that I cannot attempt giving you any account of my history for those last five months without entering into a detail much too long... I shall only say that altho’ I have been unfortunate I trust I have not been criminal. They tell me that you are leaving Charleston [Charleston], I rejoice for your sake, but lament it for my country, & for Leslie to whom I am sure you would have been peculiarly useful. Wherever you go be assured of my unalterable regard & friendship, but I trust that we shall soon meet in England. As I thought you might possibly have left Carolina before the arrival of this letter I have troubled Leslie with the little business I had at Charleston. We embark in a few days on board the Robust. In a postscript, Cornwallis has added: Lt. Garrat of Brown’s Corps who behaved remarkably well on every occasion has got a Commission in the 23d.*

At the conclusion of Cornwallis’ letter his aide has added, *You will lament for every reason both publick & priva[te] the misfortunes of this Campaign, but I am very certain that you will at least have the satisfaction to hear from all quarters that they have not happened by Lord Cornwallis’ fault. Lord Cornwallis has written to General Leslie & has desired that he will send all our baggage... .*

Cornwallis wrote this letter five weeks after his surrender to Washington at Yorktown after a siege, brilliantly executed by joint French-American land and sea forces, had virtually ended military operations in the U.S. War of Independence. Earlier in May 1781, “after a series of reverses and the depletion of his strength in the Southern campaign, the British commander Lord Cornwallis made his way to the coast, moving from Wilmington, North Carolina to Petersburg, Virginia.... Threatened by a sizeable Continental force under the Marquis de Lafayette, Cornwallis retreated through Virginia, first to Richmond...and finally, near the end of July, to Yorktown, which he proceeded to fortify. Lafayette’s forces, now numbering 8,000 troops, blocked any possible escape route by land. Cornwallis’ army, totaling 7,000, waited in vain for rescue or reinforcements from the British Navy. Instead, a French fleet of 24 ships under the Comte de Grasse assumed control of the strategic waters of Chesapeake Bay. Under this naval umbrella, General George Washington in late August and early September led 7,000 additional Franco-American troops from New York to Virginia in hopes of entrapping Cornwallis on the Yorktown Peninsula. When a British rescue fleet, two-thirds the size of the French, set out for Virginia on 17 October with some 7,000 British troops, it was too late. Bombarded by the French fleet and 16,000 allied troops on land, the Cornwallis surrendered his entire army on 17 October, virtually assuring success to the American cause.*

In 1778, Nisbet Balfour had accompanied Cornwallis to Charleston, where he was appointed a commandant after the capture of the
city and raised 4,000 militia among the loyal colonists. The following year he accepted the difficult post of commandant at Charleston, and there acquitted himself to the complete satisfaction of Cornwallis. In late July, Cornwallis sent the British general, Alexander Leslie to Charleston but Clinton ordered him back to New York. Reaching New York around mid-August, he was supposed to sail for Charleston on 28 August but Clinton rescinded this order and held him at headquarters another two months. During this time Leslie took part in the councils of war that Clinton held during the Yorktown Campaign. In late October Leslie sailed to Charleston as Cornwallis’ successor in the Southern Theater.

A fine letter with great historic importance. $10,000 - $15,000
18. Darrow, Clarence. Two typed letters signed, 5 pages and 4 pages (11 x 8 ½ in.; 279 x 216 mm.), “Chicago,” 9 and 28 June 1928 to The Reverend C. Russell Prewitt, First Methodist Church, Northampton, Massachusetts; on his personalized stationery; with envelopes.

A sharp rebuttal of the Reverend Prewitt’s defense of Christianity in a pair of letters.

Responding to the progressive minister. Darrow opens his first letter by stating his interpretation of Christianity.

Darrow writes in part: I believe I know what Christianity means today. It means the old story of the creation of man, the temptation and fall on account of the terrible sin of eating from the tree of knowledge; it means the serpent speaking in Hebrew to Eve; it means that unborn generations of women were condemned to bring forth children in pain and anguish, all on account of this terrible sin; it means the flood and the whale and all the rest of it; it means that Jesus was born of a virgin, and that on account of his terrible sacrifice those who do not know better can accept the myths and keep out of hell and get into heaven, although it does not seem to provide that woman shall not still suffer in childbirth but to indicate that the Lord overlooked a point . . . nobody knows anything about Jesus, whether he ever lived or what he said. There are not over ten lines that by any process of reasoning or evidence could be attributed to Jesus . . . no man who ever lived has had a copyright upon what may be said to be the chief, moral doctrines of the world. These most likely imply imagination which carries with it kindness, with the determination not to judge, and perhaps some other things whose origin would probably go back almost to primitive man.

He continues in a more personal vein: . . . it is impossible for me to see how you can accept and practice what is called Christianity, without accepting it all . . . It does seem to me that you people who are claiming to be Christians and religious ought to make some statement that is definite and specific as to what you mean by religion and what you mean by Christianity. Perhaps this has been done but if so it has escaped my notice . . . I know that even the liberal ministers are today not raising their voices against the fundamentalists who literally believe in the cardinal tenets of Christianity as contained in the Westminster Catechism and the Apostles Creed which are about the most immoral, impossible and degrading beliefs that have ever been given to man.

Darrow concludes his first letter with a piquant commentary about lawyers and preachers: I think the preachers are as honest as the lawyers, which is not saying much for them. I think that there is more injustice in the administration of law than you can find most anywhere else in the world; in fact, man does not know the meaning of the word justice, too many things are involved and it would be utterly absurd for you to judge me or for me to judge you. It requires a knowledge of many things, that even the subject knows nothing about.

In his second letter to Prewitt, Darrow uses the first two pages of his letter to quote and then rebut many of the statements in Prewitt’s letter. His overall response is that he is “afraid it does not pay us to discuss the questions that have grown out of our correspondence.” In particular, Darrow is disturbed by Prewitt’s definitions of religion and Christianity: If this is a correct definition of the word religion then all the dictionaries ought to be called in and burned . . . Your definitions of religion and Christianity and all the rest are so changeable and unique that one does not know where he stands, and expresses the uncertainty of discussing with one who makes the dictionary over anew.

The lawyer then attacks the preacher: Aren’t you obsessed [sic] of the word Jesus? Who was he, anyhow, and why do you have to spend so much time thinking about him and talking about him? He was certainly one of the lesser people of the earth so far as we are able to find out anything about what he said or thought, which is almost nothing. He is credited with saying some good things but also saying ’he that believeth not shall be damned’, or words to that effect. However, this was after he had been resurrected [sic] and he might not have been quite responsible.

Darrow closes his letter criticizing Prewitt for “wasting his mind on ill-conceived questions and faulty definitions: There is no reason why one cannot use simple and ordinary expressions when he wants to convey real ideas. I must say that I wish you would approach this question as you would any other because you certainly have too good a mind and equipment, in my opinion, to go to waste on metaphysics.”

A fascinating pair of letters revealing Darrow’s utter disrespect for fundamentalists, an element that may have had something to do with his brilliant defense of Scopes, or more correctly, his brilliant defense against fundamentalist William Jennings Bryan.

$4,000 – $6,000
Davis, Jefferson. Superb autograph letter signed (“Jefier Davis”) and initialed (“D.”), as President of the Confederate States of America (C.S.A.), 4 pages (8 x 5 in.; 203 x 127 mm.), “Richmond, Virginia,” 1 April 1865, marked “Private” at the head of first page to General Braxton Bragg; repair to vertical fold of second leaf.

At the Confederacy’s darkest hour, just eight days before General Robert E. Lee’s surrender at Appomattox, C.S.A. President Jefferson Davis looks back on all that he has given, and lost, to the Confederate cause.

Davis responds to a letter from Bragg sent from Raleigh, where he had withdrawn in the face of Union General William T. Sherman’s northward advance. Bragg had complained of his own weakened position and the lack of order and loss of morale among the Confederate troops. Davis, casting his lot with a man on whom he bestowed his trust and full confidence despite open opposition from his military allies.

Davis writes in full: Yours by Col. Sale was duly received. I am sorry to learn that so much of the good tidings published in regard to operations in N.C. is without solid foundation. My best hope was that [Union General William T.] Sherman while his army was worn and his supplies short would be successfully resisted and prevented from reaching a new base or from making a junction with [General John] Schofield [Commander of the Department of North Carolina]. Now it remains to prevent a junction with [General Ulysses S.] Grant, if that cannot be done, the Enemy may decide our policy.

Your long and large experience in Tenn. and Ga. render palpable to you the difficulty and danger of a movement towards either. If we could feed the army in Va. after exposing R.R. communication with the South the problem would be even in the worst view of it one of easy solution. How long this could be done I cannot say, but fear the supply of grain is quite small. Our condition is that in which great Generals have shown their value to a struggling state. Boldness of conception and rapidity of execution has often rendered the smaller force victorious. To fight the Enemy in detail it is necessary to outmarch him and to surprise him.

I can readily understand your feelings. We both entered into this war at the beginning of it. We both staked every thing on the issue and have lost all which either the public or private enemies could take away. We both have the consciousness of faithful service and may I not add the sting of feeling that capacity for the public good is diminished by the covert workings of malice and the constant iterations of falsehood. I have desired to see you employed in a position suited to your rank and equal to your ability. I do not desire to subject you to unfair opposition when failure may be produced by it and will not fail on the first fitting occasion to call for your aid to the perilous task which lies before us.

At Missionary Ridge in November, 1863, Bragg’s army suffered the most humiliating defeat yet suffered by a Confederate army. The circulating opinion was that Bragg had been in a fog for months,
and as a result of the disaster, the government would undoubtedly suffer the terrible consequences, as it (i.e., Davis) had assumed the responsibility of retaining him in command. 1863 was a terrible year for the Confederate cause. Tennessee was entirely lost – as was Louisiana east of the Mississippi. With the fall of Vicksburg went much of Mississippi. In Virginia, the success at Chancellorsville had not kept Union forces out of the state, and Maryland seemed lost. Gettysburg had been a disaster. Foreign relations remained non-existent. The economy was in precarious shape and the Southern people were tiring of the struggle. Davis had not been the leader his people needed in their final hour.

1864 was no better. Davis’ inadequacy was partially due to his unyieldingly blind devotion to men such as Bragg throughout the final years of the war. Davis has prejudiced his chances of success by consistently adhering to a man whose record gave cause to expect little but defeat. Stubbornly, he refused to be moved by popular opinion, and would not take the chance of giving command to generals who had victories to their credit. After Bragg’s removal from field command, he became Davis’ General-in-Chief, his chief advisor. Bragg’s name quickly became anathema in the War Department; he generated respect from no one and hostility from almost everyone. In the last months of the war, however, Davis consistently tied his fortunes to Bragg, demonstrably the worst of all his generals. There was talk in the Congress of deposing the president, though the opposition essentially remained, from the first to the last, a petty group of squabbling, self-important, second-rate politicians. To all concerned, however, Davis had ceased to be presidential.

As if fully aware that the war is now lost, Davis still cannot admit that defeat is imminent. He still voices his support for Bragg, hoping to see him employed in a position suited to your rank and equal to your ability and pledging that he will not fail on the first fitting occasion to call for your aid to the perilous task which is before us. The resistance to Davis in the Congress proved to be impotent, though Davis remained obstinate, guided by his prejudices for and against men. The situation was doomed for both Davis and the Confederacy. By the end of March of 1865, most officials had left the Confederate capital of Richmond; only Davis and his cabinet remained. To most Southerners, Davis’ determination was mere delusion and his cause lost.

A remarkable letter written the day after Davis put his wife Varina and his children off at the Danville railroad. His words to his wife: If I live you can come to me when the struggle is ended, but I do not expect to survive the destruction of constitutional liberty. Davis fully believed that he was saying his final farewell to his family. The day after his letter to Braxton, Davis learned from the War Department that the enemy had broken through Lee’s lines, endangering the last remaining avenue of escape; to save his army, Lee had to evacuate immediately. Richmond had to be abandoned. It was only a matter of days before the war would be over. $40,000 - $60,000

20. Davis, Jefferson. Exceptional letter signed with a lengthy autograph postscript signed (“J.D.”), 6 pages (9 ½ x 7 ½ in.; 241 x 191 mm.), “Beauvoir, Mississippi,” 8 April 1878, to his former West Point classmate, Crafts J. Wright.

After an erroneous report of the events of his capture surfaces in the Chicago Tribune, former CSA president Jefferson Davis sets the record straight and gives a gripping account of his capture by Union forces near Irwinville, Georgia at the end of the war, and denies that he attempted to escape in women’s clothing.

Davis writes in full: I have just received yours of the 2nd & 4th insts. together with the Chicago Tribune which you enclosed to me. I thank you for the affectionate zeal you manifest in my behalf. Mrs. Davis is now in Memphis & I have not the advantage of availing myself of her recollection of events. So as you ask me to answer at once I can only give you at this time my own recollections to be filled out as soon as I may with what I may learn from her.

As has been heretofore stated our little encampment was surprised by the firing across the Creek, being a combat of the Federal brigade with the other. It was then as stated so dark that the troops did not recognise each other. My coachman waked me up & told me there was firing across the Creek; as I had lain down fully dressed, I immediately arose, stepped out, & saw some cavalry deployed at large intervals advancing upon the Camp. It was not light enough to distinguish any thing distinctly, but the manner of the movement convinced me that it was not by the mananders who were expected, but by troopers; and I stepped back so to inform my wife. She urged me to leave them believing that troops would not injure them but that I would be in danger by remaining. She threw over my shoulders her own Waterproof cloak and a shawl also, and sent her servant girl, a colored woman with me as if going to the Branch for water. There were no sentinels around the tents, but a horseman advanced towards me, ordered me to halt & dropped his carbine on me. I instantly threw the shawl & cloak off so as to be unencumbered & answering his demand for a surrender with a defiance, advanced towards him. My wife seeing this for I was still very near to the tent, ran after me & threw her arms around my neck, I then turned back, led her to the tent -- & passed around to the rear of it, to a fire which was burning there. The colored woman picked up the cloak & shawl and returned with them to the tent. All statements not in keeping with this, are false. Some time elapsed after this before I saw Col. Pritchard, he afterwards told me that he was sent in pursuit of the wagon train, that he had no expectation of finding me with it and did not know for three hours after that I was in the camp – which time he has however now reduced to ‘ten minutes’! With the addition of the purpose of which is evident, that he also thus early learned, that I was ‘disguised when captured.’ The pillage of the Camp commenced immediately & my servants, who were preparing some breakfast for my children had it snatched from the fire when it was partly cooked & this was the thieving which provoked my angry language to Col Pritchard when he at length came, & told me he was the Commanding Officer. I cannot with any accuracy answer your inquiry as to how much was lost, by the members of the party at that time. I only know that the pillage was general, rapidly & expertly executed – for example – My horse was seized, the Waterproof cloak strapped behind the saddle (similar to the one Mrs. Davis threw over my shoulders, which I had been in the habit of wearing in Richmond) was taken from the saddle, the saddle taken from the horse, one girth taken off, saddle blanket & one rein of the bridle, so that the horse & his equipment were soon in different places, even down to
Jefferson Davis was captured by the Fourth Michigan cavalry in the early morning of May 10, 1865, at Irwinsville in southern Georgia. With his party, known as the “fleeing Confederacy”, were Mr. John H. Reagan of Texas, his postmaster general; Captain Moody of Mississippi, an old neighbor of the Davis family; Governor Lubbock of Texas and Colonels Harrison and Johnson of his staff; Mrs. Davis and her four children, a brother and sister of Mrs. Davis, a white and one colored servant woman, a small force of cavalry, a few others and a small train of horses, mules, wagons and ambulances. Among the horses were a span of carriage horses presented to Mr. Davis by the citizens of Richmond during the heyday of the Confederacy; also a splendid saddle horse, the pride of the ex-president himself.

In the postscript, entirely in his hand, Davis recounts all the horses in his entourage being looted by Colonel Pritchard.

Besides his own fine gray suit, Davis was wearing his wife’s large waterproof shawl and a blanket shawl thrown over his head and shoulders, which led to rumors that he was wearing women’s clothes in an attempt to disguise himself. Some of the most egregious and slanderous reports included one that asserted he was wearing a “hoopskirt, sunbonnet and calico wrapper”, which had little basis in truth. The shawl and robe he was wearing are believed to have been deposited in the archives of the war department at Washington by order of Secretary Stanton.

Jefferson Davis found the years following the Civil War to be difficult. After his capture, he was incarcerated at Fort Monroe, then released. He did not seek a pardon from President Johnson, as he felt it would be a betrayal of both his countrymen and his beliefs. He also refused to accept a U.S. Senate seat from Mississippi, stating that it would cause “insult and violence, producing alienation between the sections, would be the only result.” Though a man of great moral conviction and stature, he remained a controversial figure for the rest of his life, and was in essence a living anachronism for the U.S. government — the personification of treason (in the eyes of Northerners) living peacefully within U.S. borders.

An historic and highly important letter from Davis, giving his own account of his capture by Union forces after the fall of the Confederacy.

References: This letter is published in the Rowland edition (1923) of Davis’ papers, (vol. 8, pp. 175-78), and in Carl Sandburg’s Lincoln Collector (1950), pp. 294-96

Provenance: Collection of Oliver Barrett. $20,000 - $30,000

Eisenhower articulates his concerns on atomic testing after leaving office.

Eisenhower writes in full: I am not familiar with the present Administration’s position on the question of resuming atomic tests, assuming USSR refusal to permit effective reciprocal inspection of any agreement for cessation. I think you are aware of my own attitude, expressed and repeated in governmental circles in the late months of 1960, that the time has come to terminate the moratorium. You will remember, of course, that I have previously announced my Administration’s determination to avoid any kind of tests that would add to the contamination of the air. Even though I believed (and still do) that the contamination created by normal testing is insignificant, it was and is my opinion that all of the information we need could be obtained by underground, supplemented as necessary by outerspace tests.

You are also familiar with the conclusion I voiced to you and to others to announce resumption of the tests as of some time late in 1960, assuming, as I did then, that Dick Nixon would be elected President of the United States. Because of the unfortunate outcome of the election and the long term effect of the projected decision which was to be publicly announced, I concluded that the incoming Administration should have a free hand in making its own decision in the matter. I would like to know whether this agrees with your own memory or whether you have any existing documents to which you might refer. The above reflects accurately my memory, but my concern is that I cannot recall the identity of the person or persons with whom I was discussing the subject.

$4,000 - $6,000

22. Ellery, William. Autograph manuscript signed (“A friend to Man”), 4 pages (10 ¾ x 7 ¾ in.; 260 x 197 mm.), [no date], with numerous corrections throughout; browned.

An editorial on slavery and the consequences of emancipation.

Signed as A friend to Man, Ellery discusses slavery and the consequences of emancipation.

Ellery writes in part: Whether the slave trade can be justified on the principles of reason or not it is not my intention to inquire…. My present design is to mention some of the bad effects which would probably flow from a general emancipation of the slaves in the North American states, and in the West India islands. A sudden general emancipation of them would prove… highly injurious to both countries and even to the blacks themselves. It would put a stop to four most important branches of commerce. I mean the sugar, the indigo, the rice, and the tobacco trades, which give employment and subsistence to a vast number of whites, as well as blacks. If the blacks, who are the principal instruments in cultivating those articles should be manumitted, many years would elapse before a sufficient number of white people could be engaged in that business, if whites could endure the hot sun under which the two first articles especially are cultivated. In the mean time what temporary employment could be found for them? Or what new channels could be opened for their continued industry, if their constitutions should be unable to sustain the intense heat to which the slaves are exposed in the West India islands and the two southernmost North American states? The advocates for a general emancipation of the blacks, I suppose, have thought of this matter and can tell how the whites might in this case be employed and subsisted; and certainly they have devised a way in which the numerous blacks, who are unacquainted with mechanic arts, and unaccustomed to provide for themselves, could be supported without violating the property of others.

It appears… that a sudden liberation… would open a door to repeated violence, and expose numbers of them to famine and death. It will perhaps be said that the earth is not full of inhabitants and that the whites may find fields for the exercise of their industry in more temperate climes… if some other way than the culture of the earth should be devised to employ them; and as for the blacks they may be sent back to Africa… But who will transport them? Is it certain that a country which sold them as slaves will receive them as freemen, and sell land for them to live upon?… Are there generous whites who will purchase of the proprietors of Africa territory sufficient for the emancipated blacks, and ensure them freedom there?… If this should be effected I believe no objection would be made to the sending the blacks already freed to Africa, and, if it can be proved that slavery is unjustifiable it may be presumed, that no one will, for the sake of his interest, hold them as slaves against his reason and conscience, but will admit of their being gradually manumitted and translated to the land of blacks. I hold one, and shall not object to his embarking for Africa with the freed blacks who may go thither, provided I can be sure that he will live happily and not be made a slave by the Negroes when he gets there.

Whether there are as many species of men as there are of horses and dogs, or not; and whether Providence designed that the black, wooly-headed, flat-nosed and thick-lipped should be slaves; and whether black folks are the seed of Cain or not are questions too high for me. I presume that Adam...
and Eve were copper colored, for the meaning of the word Adam I am told is red earth, and it is supposed that he was named Adam, because he was formed out of red earth, and probably he and his wife were of the same hue. What distinguishing color or mark was put upon Cain I believe it is impossible to tell . . . . This we know from observation and experience that the child follows the color of the father rather than that of the mother. We know too that according to Moses' history, Noah did not descend from Cain, let his complexion be what it might, but from Seth, Adam's third son. Noah consequently was of similar color with Adam and before the flood we hear not a word of servitude. Soon after the deluge, Canaan, who was the son of Ham, who was the son of Noah, was cursed by his grandfather, who at the same time declared that he should be a servant of servants to his brethren. Whether this strong expression denotes that he should be an absolute slave...or not, and how extensive this servitude or slavery was to be, whether it was to extend to his or his children's children, and stop there, or was to attend his posterity forever; or was to be confined to and cease with Canaan himself I leave to casuists to investigate and determine. Here I think I may rest: if one man can become rightfully possessed of an absolute property in another man a third man may purchase him as well as any other species of property. The remainder of the final page is filled with Biblical quotations relating to bondage and the curse of Canaan.

During his tenure in Congress, which lasted from 1776 to 1786, William Ellery distinguished himself as a committeeman, especially in matters of commerce and the navy. In 1779, he was appointed as one of the congressional members of the newly created board of admiralty. When hostilities ceased, Ellery became sympathetic with the state-rights movement, which was so strong in Rhode Island. In 1785, he was elected chief justice of the superior court of the state but never took his seat, urging the necessity of his staying in Congress. At this time, he was a particularly valuable member of that body because so many of the older members had withdrawn since the war. After retiring from Congress, Ellery spent the final thirty years of his life as collector of customs for Newport. In 1817, the American Colonization Society had been formed for the purpose of purchasing hundreds of slaves and transporting them and other freemen to Liberia, with money raised from churches, state legislatures and private benefactors which may well have spurred Ellery to write the present manuscript. $8,000 - $12,000
23. Fillmore, Millard. Rare autograph letter signed as President, 3 pages (10 x 8 in.; 254 x 203 mm.). “Washington,” 4 April 1851 to United States Representative Solomon G. Haven, the third member of the law firm of Fillmore and Hall, who later served as Mayor of Buffalo, New York and United States Representative from New York; docketed on verso of third page; second leaf reinforced.

After ordering a general housecleaning of his enemies from federal offices in New York State, President Millard Fillmore declares that vocal opposition to his government and the U.S. Constitution’s guarantee of freedom of speech must still be safeguarded.

President Fillmore writes in full: You must excuse me. I owe you two letters and a thousand apologies. But I have been too busy to attend to my private correspondents. You perceive that I have made some changes in N.Y. The policy may be doubtful; but the course of the canal board, in sweeping every friend of mine from office, seemed to leave me no alternative. I do not mean by this however any general proscription for opinions sake but simply to let these folks know; that a man’s opinion who favors the policy of the administration is as sacred and as much entitled to protection as is his who opposes it, and that when he is attacked for it I will defend him, by retaliation. But we have not seen the end; and I have some doubts whether the more moderate of my friends will sustain me in what I have done, while the office seekers and the more ardent ones will clamor for more. But I think I have vindicated the right to support this administration, and shall rest here except in flagrant cases and for cause.

I think you are altogether mistaken about parson Sprague. If he is not a good Union Whig and does not show himself so, then I will admit I have been imposed upon, and shall take the earliest opportunity to correct the mistake. I enclose you a letter which I received from him yesterday which you can read and return.

I wish something could be done for our friend Thompson, but I do not yet see when or where. I think the P.M. G. will appoint Osborn travelling agent, and employ Dix for collections merely. D. is true blue, but not discreet. Osborn is just the man for that plan - quiet, sensible and discreet.

[John T.] Bush was here yesterday and returned here last night. I presume he will not change Gates at Buffalo. He will make a change at Syracuse and Albany; and should Dr. [Thomas M.] Foote take charge of the Register, as I hope he will, I think he may offer the principal deputyship at Albany to [Jerome] Fuller. Should he not accept I hope you will find a good businessman for that plan.

I supposed the Legislation would now press resolutions - attacking the administration directly or indirectly - and I am prepared for any thing. I prefer open to secret enemies - avowed hostility to hypocritical friendship; and it seems clear that we must have the one or the other.

President Millard Fillmore embraced all aspects of the Compromise of 1850, which was proposed in the Senate by Henry Clay to attempt to solve the North-South differences over the extension of slavery into the territories, specifically the newly annexed Texas and land acquired after the Mexican War. Anti-slavery agitators, who had fought the extension of slavery, now had that issue eliminated from their agendas. However, they turned to a new issue - the Fugitive Slave Act, which placed fugitive slave cases under exclusive Federal jurisdiction, and subjected those who aided and abetted fugitive slaves to stiff and severe criminal and civil penalties.

Fillmore was denounced for signing the measure. Agitators gave the President no rest on the subject, arguing that the law had made it possible for freed, as distinguished from fugitive, slaves to be condemned back into slavery by unscrupulous slave traders. Demands were voiced by anti-slavery Whigs who were being forced into fellowship with slavery by the party’s official endorsement of the Compromise to eliminate the possibility. Fillmore’s primary adversaries were Thurlow Weed, editor of the Albany Evening Journal and the leader of the Whig Party in the political domination of New York State, and William H. Seward, United States Senator from New York both of whom held to the anti-slavery cause, using it for their own political purposes.

Already Weed’s power had been eroded in the election of 1850, weakening his grip on the New York party. He took steps to regain his strength in New York state by making arrangements with Democratic Barnburners, who controlled the state’s canal board, to replace all of Fillmore’s “Silver Greys” among the canal’s officeholders who supported the Compromise of 1850) with his faithful followers. In return, Weed promised that New York state’s Whig Governor, Washington Hunt (1811-1867), would treat the Barnburners generously in other posts. Weed pretended to be reconciled to Fillmore so that he could recapture the major source of real Whig opposition to himself in the state, New York City’s important patronage, dispensing offices. Soon, Fillmore became wise to Weed’s strategy. In late February of 1851, Fillmore informed Governor Hunt that there would have to be some judicious removals of officeholders, and by mid-March, gave the signal to Weed enemy Hugh Maxwell, Collector of Revenue for the port of New York, to clear out the New York custom house; two key Weed men lost their jobs. By the summer of 1851, the administration’s nationwide repression of agitation finally became effective. $4,000 - $6,000.
24. Ford, Gerald R. Historic typed letter signed as President, 2 pages (10 ½ x 7 in.; 267 x 178 mm.), “Washington, D.C.”, 14 May 1975, the Honorable Abraham D. Beame, Mayor of New York City, on White House stationery.

Ford refuses to bail out New York.

Ford writes in full: The purpose of this letter is to respond to your and Governor Carey’s request to me for my support for Federal legislation which would enable the City of New York to use the credit of the United States for a period of 90 days and in the amount of $1 billion. As you and Governor Carey explained it to me, this 90-day period would enable the City to bridge the period needed for the New York State Legislature to act upon your request for increased taxing authority and subsequently enable you to submit, and the City Council to adopt, a balanced budget for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 1975.

I was deeply impressed with the problems you and the City Council must face in the next few weeks in meeting the financial problems of the great City of New York. I was also deeply impressed with the difficult steps confronting you to eliminate the extraordinary imbalance between current revenues and current expenses. However, it was also clear that the City’s basic critical financial condition is not new but has been a long time in the making without being squarely faced. It was also clear that a ninety day Federal guarantee by itself would provide no real solution but would merely postpone, for that period, coming to grips with the problem.

For a sound judgment to be made on this problem by all concerned, there must be presented a plan on how the City would balance its budget. This, given the amount involved to accomplish that balance, would require an evaluation of what the City can do through curtailment of less essential services and subsidies and what activities the City can transfer under existing state laws to New York State.

Fiscal responsibility is essential for cities, states and the Federal government. I know how hard it is to reduce or postpone worthy and desirable public programs. Every family which makes up a budget has to make painful choices. As we make these choices at home, so must we also make them in public office too. We must stop promising more and more services without knowing how we will cover their costs.

In view of the foregoing considerations, I must deny your request for support of your Federal legislative proposal. [Highlighted in margins with red marker]

Secretary of the Treasury William E. Simon, a holdover from the Nixon administration, headed Ford’s Economic Policy Board in charge of coordinating the administration’s overall economic policy, a tight money policy which sought to fight inflation (despite rising unemployment, up to 9.2% by June, 1975) by reducing government spending. In early 1975, President Ford was asked by financially strapped New York City to lend them federal funds for the famous New York City Bail Out. In this historic letter, President Ford refused. Finally, on November 26, 1975, after the city itself raised taxes and cut spending, Ford signed legislation extending $2.3 billion in short-term loans, enabling New York to avoid default.

$8,000 – $12,000
25. **Forrest, Nathan Bedford**. Dramatic Civil War-date autograph letter signed (“N.B.F”), 3 pages (12 x 7 ¾ in.; 305 x 200 mm.), 15 April 1865 - the day of his surrender to Union forces at Gainesville, Alabama, to his son, Lieutenant William M. Forrest; water staining and small splits to horizontal folds, mounting remnants on verso of third page.

The very same day of Abraham Lincoln's death, Nathan Bedford Forrest, fearing reprisals for the President's assassination, writes what he considers to be his last words of affection and advice to his only son.

At the time of this letter to his son, Forrest did not know whether he would be imprisoned or executed, having just been defeated by the Federal Cavalry. This coupled with Lincoln's assassination left Forrest in great fear of what the immediate future held.

Forrest writes in full: Loving you with all the affection which a fond father can bestow upon a dutiful son, I deem it my duty to give you a few words of advice. Life as you know at best is uncertain, and occupying the position I do it is exceedingly hazardous. I may fall at any time, or I may at no distant day be an exile in a foreign land, and I desire to address you a few words which I trust you will remember through life. You have heretofore been an obedient dutiful son, you have given your parents but little pain or trouble, and I hope you will strive to profit by using suggestions I may make.

I have had a full understanding with your mother as to our future operations in the event the enemy overruns this country. She will acquaint you with our plans and will look to you in the hour of trouble. Be to her a prop and support. She is worthy of all the love you bestow upon her. I know how devoted you are to her, but study her happiness above and beyond all things - give her no cause for unhappiness. Try to emulate her noble virtues and to practice her blameless life. If I have been wicked and sinful myself, it would rejoice my heart to see you leading the Christian life which has your mother has adorned your mother's.

I have heard with pain and astonishment of your matrimonial engagement. My dear son, let me beg you to dismiss all such thoughts for the present. You are entirely too young to form an alliance of this sort and the young lady upon whom you seem disposed to lavish your affections is unworthy of you. There are unsuperable objections to her, which I would name if I thought it necessary to induce you to change your mind. Take the advice of a father and abandon such all thought of marrying. You must wait until your character is formed and you are able to take a proper position in society. You will then be the better prepared to select a suitable partner. At the proper time you will have my consent to marry and my blessing upon the union.

What I must desire of you my son is never to gamble or swear. These are baneful vices and I trust you will never practice either. As I grow older I see the folly of these two vices and beg that you will never engage in them. Your life has heretofore been elevated and characterized to a high-toned morality, and I trust your name will never be stained by the practice of those vices which have blighted the prospects of some of the most promising youth of our country. Be honest, be truthful, in all your dealings with the world. Be cautious in the selection of your friends. Shun the society of the low and vulgar. Strive to elevate your character and to take a high and honorable position in society. You are my only child, the pride and hope of my life. You have fine intellect, talent of the highest order. I have watched your entrance upon the threshold of manhood and life with all the admiration of a proud father, and I trust your future career will be an honor to yourself and a solace to my declining years. If we meet no more on earth I hope you will keep this letter prominently before you and remember it as coming from Your affectionate father N.B.F.

This letter constitutes an incomparable testament of Forrest's most intimate sentiments toward his son as he faced an uncertain future. $8,000 - $ 12,000
My dear Sir,

Cowenstreet—London June 2, 1762.

I am much obliged by your friendly letter of the 17th of October, and thank you for your kind offers; I had understood that Mr. T. has been long in London, where I would have been glad to have seen you.

You assure me that you have a son in America. I hope he may have as good fortune as my dear boy has. I had a letter from him the other day, and I am very happy to learn that he is well and in good health.

I have been in Portugal, where I was very kindly received and entertained, and I was very much pleased with the country. I had a letter from my dear wife, who sends her love and kisses to you. I hope you are in good health and that you will write to me soon.

I remain your humble servant,

Benjamin Franklin

Lot 26
Franklin summarizes his voyage back to America from 1762 to 1763, including the suppression of rioters who murdered peaceful Indians.

Franklin begins: “You require my History from the time I set sail for America. I left England about the end of August 1762, in Company with Ten Sail of Merchant Ships under Convoy of a Man of War... On the first of November, I arrived safe and well at my own House after an absence of near Six Years, found my Wife & Daughter well, the latter grown quite a Woman, with many amiable Accomplishments acquired in my absence, and my Friends as hearty and affectionate as ever, with whom my House was filled for many Days, to congratulate me on my Return. I had been chosen yearly during my Absence to represent the City of Philadelphia in our Provincial Assembly, and on my Appearance in the House they voted me £300 Sterling for my Services in England and their Thanks delivered by the Speaker... In the Spring of 1763 I set out on a Tour through all the Northern Colonies, to inspect and regulate the Post Offices in the several Provinces. In this Journey I spent the Summer, travelled about 1600 miles, and did not get home till the beginning of November. The Assembly sitting through the following Winter, and warm Disputes arising between them and the Governor I became wholly engaged in Public Affairs; For besides my Duty as an Assembly-man, I had another Trust to execute, that of being one of the Commissioners appointed by Law to dispose of the publick Money appropriated to the Raising and Paying an Army to act against the Indians and defend the Frontiers. And then in December we had two Insurrections of the back Inhabitants of our Province, by whom 20 poor Indians were murdered that had from the first settlement of the Province lived among us and under the Protection of our Government. This gave me a good deal of Employment, for as the Rioters threatened farther mischief, and their actions seemed to be approved by an increasing Party. I wrote a pamphlet entitled A Narrative, (which I think I sent you) to strengthen the Hands of our weak Government, by rendering the Proceedings of the Rioters unpopular and odious. This had a good Effect; and afterwards when a great Body of them with Arms march’d towards the Capital in defiance of the Government, with an assured Resolution to put to death 140 Indian Converts then under its Protection, I formed an Association at the Governor’s Request, for his and their Defence, we having no Militia. Near 1000 of the Citizens accordingly took Arms; Governor Penn made my House for some time his Head Quarters, and did every thing by my Advice, so that for about 48 Hours I was a very great Man, as I had been once some Years before in a time of publick Danger; but the fighting Face we put on, and the Reasons we used with the Insurgents (for I went at the Request of the Governor & Council with three others to meet and discourse them) having hem’d them back, and restored Quiet to the City, I became a less Man than ever: for I had by these Transactions made myself many Enemies among the People; and the Governor (with whose Family our publick Disputes had long placed me in an unfriendly Light, and the Services I had lately rendered him not being of the kind that make a Man acceptable) thinking it a favourable Opportunity, join’d the whole Weight of the Proprietary Interest to get me out of the Assembly, which was accordingly effected at the last Election, by a Majority of about 25 in 4000 Voters. The House however, when they met in October, approved of the Resolutions taken while I was Speaker, of Petitioning the Crown for a Change of Government, and requested me to return to England to prosecute that Petition; which Service I accordingly undertook, and embark’d the Beginning of November last, being accompanied to the Ship, 16 Miles, by a Cavalcade of three Hundred of my Friends, who filled our Sails with their good Wishes, and I arrived in 30 Days at London. There I have ever since engaged in that and other Publick Affairs relating to America, which are like to continue some time longer upon my hands; but I promise you, that when I am quit of these, I will engage in no other; and that as soon as I have recover’d the Ease and Leisure I hope for, the Task you require of me, of finishing my Art of Virtue shall be performed. In the meantime I must request you would excuse me on this Consideration, that the Powers of the Mind are possessed by different Men in different Degrees, and that every one cannot, like Lord Kaims, intermix literary Pursuits & important Business without Prejudice to either.”

Having read Kaims’ excellent Elements of Criticism, Franklin continues with an in depth disquisition on his theories of music, melody and harmony, describing Scottish tunes as the best traditional example. He verbalizes his dislike of “modern” music and virtuoso performances. Writing that the Pleasure Artists feel in hearing much of that com’d in the modern Taste, is not the natural Pleasure arising from Melody or Harmony of Sounds, but of the same kind with the Pleasure we feel on seeing the surprising Feats of Tumblers and Rope Dancers, who execute difficult Things. He therefore believes that a common audience would not appreciate or enjoy modern music while a plain old Scottish Tune, disdained by the performers, would give manifest and general Delight. He gives his opinion that the Reason why the Scotch Times have liv’d so long, and will probably live forever (if they escape being stifled in modern affected Ornament) is merely this, that they are really Compositions of Melody and Harmony united, or rather that their Melody is Harmony. He then goes on at length discussing the composition of Scotch music (originally for the harp) and its minstrel origins. The Connoisseurs in modern Music will say I have no Taste, but I cannot help adding, that I believe our Ancestors in hearing a good Song, distinctly articulated... felt more Real Pleasure than is communicated by the generality of modern Operas.

As mentioned in the letter, to strengthen public resolve against murderous rebels, Franklin wrote a pamphlet entitled A Narrative of the Late Massacre in Lancaster County, which encouraged nearly one thousand citizens to take up arms to restore “Quiet to the City.” In addition, Franklin mentions he would eventually complete his Art of Virtue, a work planned since 1732, yet it was never completed. A fascinating autobiographical letter describing the events in Franklin’s life between 1762 and 1764 allowing glimpses into his personal life and interests.

References: Published in The Papers of Benjamin Franklin, ed. L.W. Labaree, vol. 12, pages 158-65. $30,000 - $50,000
27. Gerry, Elbridge. Autograph letter, 4 pages (12 ½ x 7 ¾ in.; 318 x 197 mm.), “Watertown,” 20 June 1775 to the Massachusetts Members of the American Continental Congress just three days after the Battle of Bunker Hill on 17 June 1775. The signature was added in another hand to identify the author of the letter; margins reinforced, light browning.

Elbridge Gerry provides the Massachusetts Members of the American Continental Congress a detailed eyewitness account of the Battle of Bunker Hill.

Gerry writes in full: I Recd. The Letters, with which you were pleased to favor me by Mr. Fessenden, on Saturday last being the 18th Instant, at a Critical Time for the Army posted at Cambridge. The Evening preceding Orders were Issued in Consequence of a Consultation between ye General Officers an Committee of Safety to take possession of Dochester Hill and Bunkers hill in Charlestown which I must confess gave me most Sensible Pain on hearing, more especially as it had been determined about Ten Days before by ye Same Council & a Junction of the Committee of Supplies by their desire, that it would be attended with a great expence of Ammunition by Ordinance and that therefore it was inexpedient & hazardous.

As soon as it was discovered by ye Enemy on Saturday Morning a firing began from the Lively in Charlestown River & also from ye Batteries in Boston, which was returned against the Latter by the American Forces until it Subsided on their Side of ye Enemy & only one Man was lost in ye Morning. Our Forces exerted themselves in getting entrenched & Soon discovered that a Warm engagement must take place: notwithstanding which Care was not taken to place a Sufficient Number of Artillery & Cannon on ye Hill to defend it. At Noon the Enemy bro’t in Two or Three Ships of the Line with which the Lively, & Batteries at Boston, they endeavored to Dislodge our Forces. Soon after they landed about 3000 Regulars & a warm Engagement began, in which our Forces in the Intrenchment behaved like Heroes, but were not Sufficiently provided with Artillery nor timely reinforced from Cambridge. They soon found it necessary to Abandon an intrenchment on a Hill to the Eastward of Bunkers Hill & Made a Stand at ye Lines on the Hill last mentioned. The Town then being put in Flames by the Enemy the Enemy advanced by a Furious Fire kept up for sometime on both Sides until ye Enemy Forced ye Lines & depended on pushing their Bayonets. Our Forces after being overpowered in ye Intrenchments left them to the Enemy who are now posted there, and retreated about 3 Quarters of a Mile toward Cambridge where they have four One of which is on a high Hill opposite or near ye Stone House 7 so situated that with good Conduct we expect an Efectual Stand.

Our good, our beloved Friend Doctor [Joseph] Warren was on Bunkers Hill when the Lines were forced & is no more. He was two Day before Chosen Second Major General, Accepted on Friday & on Saturday dyed like a Hero. We can only drop a Tear for our worthy Brother & Console ourselves with ye. Consideration that his Virtues and Valour will be rewarded in Heaven. The Reports relative to our loss in variant from 20 to 80 Killed & wounded but I cannot think we shall find it quite so inconsiderable & from ye best Judgment wh. I can form at present believe it will turn out about 150 or 200—this is a Matter we decline noticing here at present, Altho we don’t neglect to Speak of ye Loss of the Enemy which I suppose is fully equal to our own. We labour, we are retarded, we suffer for want of a General at Cambridge. Ward is an honest Man but I think wants the Genius of a General on every Instance, Command, order, spirit Invention & Discipline are deficient; what then remains that produced this Choice, I know not. General [John] Thomas is from his Character & Conduct a fine fellow; his camp at Roxbury is always in order without trouble to Congress or their Committees, ye other at Cambridge ever wanting & never right. I hope We shall not suffer from this Accident. Colo. [James] Fry of Andover is in ye Cabinet intended a
suppose will be chosen and Commission this Day, but we must have the Assistance of Military skill wherever to be found on the Continent. It will I fear be difficult entirely to drop [Artemus] Ward. If he is superseded by Washington & posted at Cambridge with him and General Thomas &c. at Roxbury I cannot but think we shall be in a Good Situation provided it is timely effected. General [Charles] Lee must be provided for & heartily engaged in the Service without being Commissioned at present. He is a Stranger & cannot have the Confidence of a Jealous people when struggling for their Liberties. He will soon become familiar & be courted into office. I revere him as an Officer and wish he had been born an American. It affords Consolation that the Congress have or are taking Command of these Matters. We notice their Resolve in wh. The Army is Called the American Army. May the arrangement be happy & Satisfy each Colony as well as afford us good General.

Medicine is much wanted & Docr. [Benjamin] Church has given us an Invoice of necessary Articles, which we beg may be ordered here from Philadelphia as soon as possible. I notice what is said relative to powder. No Exertion has been wanting in the Committee of Supplies since I have been acquainted with it, to procure this Article. Colo. Bower we depended on for 200 half Barrels & were disappointed, & the plan of fortifying lines with heavy cannon was not then in Contemplation. We must hold our Country by Musketry principally until Supplies can be got to expel the stance of the Humanity of the Enemy after they had obtained ye Hill; not Satisfied with burning the other part of Charlestown they proceeded to set Fire to Houses on the Road to Winter Hill. The Newhampshire & Connecticut Forces as well as ye Massachusetts in the Heat of Battle suffered much. I suspect some of our inferior Officer are wanting & one is under Arrest. We have lost Four pieces of Artillery & nothing more at present. We are in a worse situation than we shall in future Experience in many Instances, & great exertions are necessary. The Committee of Supplies have a Good Share at present from Sunrise to 12 at Night constantly employed for several Days but we have now a little abatement. Hall of Medford was excused from ye Committee on Ac. Of a Weak Constitution & the Congress Judiciously chose one of a Strong Constitution to supply the place. Another Engagement is Hourly expected may the great controller of Events order it for the Happiness of these Colonies. I have just Read. A Letter which puts it beyond Doubt that ye Enemy have sustained a great Loss. Capt. [John] Bradford is an Intelligent Man but whether the Loss is equal to 1000 I cannot say. I inclose you ye Original itself. Complaints from all Quarter of Disorder in the Camp at Cambridge, that it is more like an unorganized Collection of People than a Disciplined army. I cannot rest on this precipice; & engaged as the Commee. Is shall find time to move this Day that a Committee of Observation be immediately chosen to enquire into & assist in & Rectify the Disorder of the Camp untill they shall subsist.

Good G-d that a Congress so vigilant should have chosen a lifeless T—for such an Important trust. Will ye Hon. Mr. Hancock assist ye Committee in having the Invoice sent us forthwith—ye Notes of ye Colony can be made as payment without delay. They carry 6 pCent Interest are negotiable & received in all ye Government acts. Readily & without Hesitancy. The committee of Supplies are greatly obliged by his proposal relative to the Du[tr]ch. Docr. Church proposes ye Boston Donations for this Purpose since the Notes are equal with the Cash in this Colony.

An extraordinary contemporary eyewitness account of a major event in American history, written just three days after the Battle of Bunker Hill by the signer of the Declaration of Independence from Rhode Island.

Provenance: The Collection of Philip D. Sang, Sotheby’s, New York 26 April 1978, lot 101. $40,000 - $60,000

310-859-7701
28. Grant, Ulysses S. Autograph letter signed ("U. S. Grant, Maj. Gen.") 4 pages, (9 ¾ x 7 ⅝ in.; 251 x 191 mm.), Head Quarters, Dept. of the Tenn., LaGrange, 23 November 1862, to Confederate Lt. General Pemberton at Jackson, Miss., responding to his offer to ensure the transport of supplies for the treatment of sick and wounded rebels after battles in Tennessee; light scattered staining.

Ulysses S. Grant to Confederate General Pemberton concerning care of the wounded Confederate soldiers after battles in and around Tennessee in 1862.

Grant messages that his soldiers will transport supplies to confederate hospitals for the rebel wounded, or if General Pemberton wishes his men to transport the supplies, Grant will provide safe passage and also allow ambulances to transport out the wounded and sick.

Grant writes in full: Your letter of the 19th inst. reached here yesterday during my temporary absence-from this place, hence the delay in answering. The goods you speak of sending for the use of your wounded, now confined to hospitals in Jackson, will be received at any point between here and Abberville, says Holly Springs, and sent by our conveyance in charge of some responsible officers to their destination. Should you prefer sending these articles by your own conveyance then they can go from some point on the Mobile and Ohio Road by way of Bay Springs. This route will be left free for your ambulance whilst engaged in removing the sick and wounded.

Grant, with a force of some 30,000 men, was engaged at this time in attacking CSA forces around Tennessee and south to Mississippi, and had taken LaGrange from where this letter was written only a few weeks before. The main objective of the attacks was an assault on Vicksburg, commanded by Pemberton. In June 1863, the battle of Vicksburg took place, with Grant’s forces opposing those of Pemberton. On the 3rd of July, with Pemberton’s forces decimated, he asked for an armistice, but Grant demanded an unconditional surrender, which Pemberton gave the next day.

An extremely rare and remarkable humanitarian communication between leaders of the Union and Confederate Armies. $4,000 - $6,000

29. Grant, Ulysses. Autograph letter signed, 1 page, (8 3/4 x 7 3/4 in.; 222 x 197 mm). City Point, Virginia, 2 December 1864. Written to Maj. Gen. Halleck, Chief of Staff; a few marginal tears

Magnificent one page handwritten civil war directive from General Grant after Hood’s defeat at the Battle of Franklin (and just two weeks before Hood’s defeat at Nashville): Grant writes in full:

Is it not possible now to send reinforcements to Thomas from Hooker’s Dept.? If there are new troops, organized State Militia or anything that can go, now is the time to annihilate Hood’s Army. Gov. Bramlett might put from five to ten thousand horsemen into the field to serve only to the end of the campaign. I believe if he was asked he would do so. U.S. Grant Lt. Gen.

With the fall of Atlanta (1 September), Hood devised a plan to divide Sherman’s army with the hope that he could defeat Sherman in the mountains. Sherman countered by detaching both Thomas and John McAllister Schofield (1831-1906), in command of the Army of the Ohio, against Hood, who was outnumbered. Forced to abandon his campaign against Sherman, Hood instead launched operations against Thomas and Schofield in Tennessee, hoping to take that key Union base as well as reinforce Lee in Virginia. He suffered heavy defeats at Franklin (30 November) and Nashville (15-16 December).

An important Civil War letter showing Grant’s overall philosophy of taking the battle decisively to the enemy and a clear understanding of the opportunity that had presented itself. With the defeat of Hood, the Army of Tennessee ceased to be a threat to the Union. $6,000 - $8,000
Greene articulates his concern over the woeful lack of public spirit and the weak currency: The growing avarice and declining currency are poor materials to build our Independence upon.

Greene writes in part: . . . I am very sorry that there is a probability of a breach between General Sullivan and the state. The local policy of almost all the states is directly opposed to the great national plan; and if they continue to persevere in it, God knows what the consequences will be. There is a terrible falling off in public virtue since the commencement of the present contest. The loss of morale and the want of public spirit leaves us almost like a rope of sand. However, I believe the state of Rhode Island acts upon as generous principles and ever has done as any one state of the Union. Luxury and dissipation is very prevalent. These are the common offspring of sudden riches. When I was in Boston last summer I thought luxury very predominant there; but they were no more to compare with those now prevailing in Philadelphia than an infant babe to a full grown man. I dined at one table where there was an hundred and sixty diners and at several of them not far behind. The growing avarice and declining currency are poor materials to build our Independence upon.

Greene continues his letter countering General Varnum’s assertion that the military forces are despised. He explains: I believe the Congress have it in contemplation to make some further provision for the army; but whether it is in their power is a matter of doubt. I cannot agree with you that the army is despis’d, it is far from being the case in Philadelphia. The officers were never more respected. The great Maximus will write you upon the subject of your resignation and Mr. Ellery also. Is your application serious, or is it only done to alarm the Congress, in order to make them more attentive to the complaints of the army. The freedom of America must depend upon the army and therefore it is very impolitick to neglect it. There is a report prevailing in Philadelphia that Count Estainge has got a drubbing by Admiral Byron’s fleet. The French forces met with a defeat at St. Lucia which I suppose you have seen in the papers. Our affairs are much against us to the southward. The capital of Georgia is in the enemy’s hands and the people under great apprehension for the safety of Charlestown the capital of South Carolina. General Lincoln is drawing the militia of the country together in order to expel them, but I am not very sanguine upon the subject. There is no European intelligence of late date; but I think from every movement here and from the complexion of the lost accounts we had from Europe we shall have another campaign. The enemy will continue garrisons at NewYork and Newport in order to hold our troops at bay; and ever to range our frontiers and make inroads upon the southern states . . .

An important and lengthy letter from the Major general who commanded the Army of the South.

$6,000 – $8,000
31. Hancock, John. Important letter signed as President of the Continental Congress, 2 pages (12 ¼ x 7 ½ in.; 311 x 191 mm.), Philadelphia, 15 March 1776 to The Provincial Convention of New York, the body of the letter in the hand of Jacob Rush; light browning and corner chipped.

Aware that war with the British is unavoidable, John Hancock, the President of the Continental Congress, exhorts New York, a major battlefield during the Revolutionary War, to expedite the raising and arming of Battalions for the defense of the colony against the British.

The letter reads in full: As it is now apparent, that our Enemies mean to prosecute this cruel and unjust War, with unrelenting Fury; and as every Intelligence assures us, that they mean to bend their Force against your Colony, I would not do you the Injustice to suppose, there will be any occasion to use Arguments, to stimulate you, to exert your most strenuous Endeavours, to expedite the raising and arming the Battalions ordered to be raised in your Colony, for its Defence. Enclosed I send you the Commissions for the Field Officers. If any of them are provided for in Canada, they are to continue there, and others will be elected in their Room. Such of them as are in Canada, and unprovided for, have orders immediately to repair to their respective Regiments.

Lest our Enemies should come upon you before the Continental Troops can be in Readiness to receive them; or in Case they should come with superior Force, the Congress have thought proper, to empower the Continental Commander at New York, to call to his assistance the Militia of your Colony, and that of Connecticut, and New Jersey, agreeably to the enclosed Resolve: and I have it in Command to request you, to hold your Militia in Readiness, to march in such Numbers, and at such Times, as he may desire.

The Congress have ordered five Tons of Powder for the Use of the Troops employed in your Defence, which will be forwarded with the utmost Expedition.

In a postscript, Hancock alludes to objections of Rudolphus Ritzema being appointed a command position but Ritzema won command of the 3rd New York Battalion on March 28, 1776 and served until November of 1776. Subsequently, he joined the British Army.

It was the Second Continental Congress (1775-81), with John Hancock at its helm as President (1775-77) that guided the thirteen colonies to rebellion, and eventual military victory. Convening in Philadelphia on 10 May 1775, the 2nd Continental Congress, faced with armed conflict in Massachusetts and the British refusal to redress American grievances, had no other choice but to act as a national government. Following the Battle of Lexington and Concord, the delegates organized the Continental Army (with George Washington serving as Commander-in-Chief after July of 1775). While making a conciliatory gesture to King George III in the Olive Branch Petition (July, 1775), an overture of peace, the Congress proceeded with its plans for war, the numbers growing of those who no longer believed in the King as America’s advocate. The Continental Congress showed its resolve to resist in its “Declaration of the Causes and Necessity of Taking Up Arms.” A Continental Navy was organized, and attempts were made to win Canada to the cause. In May of 1776, two months after Hancock’s letter to the New York Provincial Convention, Congress authorized the colonies to replace their governments based on royal authority with those grounded in the people. In June of 1776, Richard Henry Lee made his famous motion for independence, foreign alliance and confederation. There was a vote for independence (2 July 1776) followed by the adoption of the Declaration of Independence (4 July 1776).

Though perhaps the most conservative of all the colonies, New York was the first to suggest an intercolonial congress, known as the Albany Congress (1754), to resist British measures. At the time of this letter from the Continental Congress, the New York Provincial Convention, counting as its members the elite in the colony, guided and controlled the populace. New York was not to approve the Declaration of Independence until 9 July 1776 though a large, indeterminate number of New Yorkers remained loyal to the British Crown. New York’s colonial status was not to come to an end until April 20, 1777, when the Provincial Congress created and approved a state constitution. New York was to become a major battlefield during the Revolutionary War. Nearly one-third of all Revolutionary War engagements were fought in New York.

This is an historically important letter, a letter of exhortation and assurance, from the Continental Congress President to the Provincial Congress of the colony of New York.

Provenance: Sotheby’s New York, 7 November 1994, lot 52. $40,000 - $60,000
32. Hancock, John. Historic letter signed as President of the Continental Congress, 1 page (12 ¾ x 8 in.; 321 x 203 mm.), “Philadelphia,” 19 July 1776, addressed in Hancock’s hand to: Convention New Jersey, the body of the letter entirely in the hand of Charles Thomas, Secretary to the Continental Congress during its entire fifteen year lifespan, above the letter, Thomas has also penned a Resolve of the Continental Congress, issued In Congress 17 July 1776, which directly prompts the action recommended in Hancock’s letter to the convention; light browning, skillfully repaired.

Less than two weeks after the Declaration of Independence, Continental Congress President John Hancock signs a Resolve of Congress and an accompanying letter addressed to the Convention of New Jersey stating that livestock on the sea coast are in danger and advising they should be removed.

Charles Thomas writes in full: In Congress July 17, 1776. Resolved that it be earnestly recommended to the convention of New Jersey to cause all the stock on the sea coast, which they shall apprehend to be in danger of falling into the hands of the enemy to be immediately removed and driven back into the country to a place of safety. Extract from the minutes.

Philad July 19th 1776.

Gentlemen, The Congress being informed that there is a large quantity of stock on the sea coast of your Colony, which are much exposed to the incursions of the enemy and that many of the proprietors of them actuated by motives of interest or disaffected to the cause of their country, would be glad to dispose of them to the enemy. I am ordered to forward to you the above resolution & Earnestly recommend it to you to cause the stock to be removed back into the country to a place of safety. I am Gentlemen, Your obed. Humble serv.

Hancock executes his trademark grand and imposing signature and the name of the letter’s addressee at the bottom of the letter, in full:

“John Hancock Presid. Convention New Jersey”

A Continental Congress–related historical document of great rarity—not only written by Thomson, who beheld the great drama of the American Revolution as enacted on the stage of the Continental Congress, but also signed by the first signer of the Declaration of Independence, Continental Congress President, John Hancock. $20,000 - $30,000
33. Hancock, John. Autograph letter signed, 3 pages, (9 ¾ x 7 ¾ in.; 238 x 181 mm.), “Boston,” 30 September 1779 to Jeremiah Smith, of Milton, Massachusetts concerning a “Scoundrel” named Marshall who has spread the rumor that they will not be paid by Hancock for carting his wood; with integral address leaf; scattered staining; small paper losses primarily at intersecting folds of second leaf.

John Hancock fumes with anger over accusations about him made by Mr. Marshall, who has blackened Hancock’s name in the village of Milton, Massachusetts: he well knows that if any money is due to him, it is but a meer trifle, & to give his Tongue such a saucy & untrue Latitude is what vexes me much...

In rebuttal, Hancock implies that Marshall has even charged Hancock for wood not delivered and that Marshall has perhaps withheld payment to his employees. Hancock assures Smith that in the future he will demand receipts for every cord, and will prosecute Marshall to the full extent of the law if he is found to have stolen any wood.

Hancock writes in full: I have heard to my great surprize that Mr. Marshall has said that there is Money due to him from me on Account of Wood, & that I refuse to pay him; he or any man else that dare say that is a Scoundrel, & shall meet my heaviest Resentment, & moreover I have heard that the Gentlemen of Milton believe this Report of Marshall’s, & that they are averse to cart wood for me, lest they should not be paid; I have not the least objection to their placing the utmost confidence in Mr. Marshall, but to convince them that I can do without Marshall & without the aid of those credulous Gentlemen in Milton, I shall send Men to cut my wood, & also send the team from other towns to cart it, and request of you to take the full charge of any interest at Milton, & see that the Persons I send do me Justice. The apples in my orchard you will take care of, & have them made into Cyder, & sent me. Marshall took a load of empty barrells, I beg you to take them from him, & take the whole charge of all my concerns at Milton, & I will satisfy you for your trouble. I am not indebted to Marshall, was I to be severe & call on him to make good all the wood that I am charg’d with, & was not deliver’d, I did not intend to be so very particular, but I am now determin’d that he shall produce me a receipt for every cord, & if he does not comply I shall take such steps as will be very disagreeable to him. If he has not paid the money he has Rec’d of me to the persons whom he employ’d, it is not my Fault; he well knows that if any money is due to him, it is but a meer trifle, & to give his Tongue such a saucy & untrue Latitude is what vexes me much - I have directed my Clerk to write him to come & settle. I have not seen him, & I believe he would blush to see me; he may depend I shall not put up with his conduct towards me. I wish to stand fair with everyone, but I shall make no undue condescension to any Persons, either of Milton or any place to induce them to do Business for me, if it is not for their Interest they will not undertake. I shall send men to perfect what I want and the first person I find using my property or taking any wood without any leave, I will prosecute him to the utmost extent of the Law. My brother & Mr. Adin my Clerk will be with you. Whatever they agree upon I will abide by. I wish you would go with them to Marshall’s, & secure any Barrells & any Cyder.

I beg this my Letter with respect to the money due to Mr Marshall may be as publick as possible, & let Mr Marshall contradict what I write if he thinks proper. I would have him as explicit as possible with me, for he may be assured I shall be very particular with him; he may bring the receipts as soon as he pleases. I am ready & always have been to settle with him, & if I was to exact the pay for all the lost wood, I really suppose there is nothing due to him.” I have given my Brother & Mr. Adin full power to Act as they think best.

A fascinating letter in which Hancock doggedly defends his reputation. $12,000 – $15,000
34. Henry, Patrick. Autograph letter signed (“P. Henry”) as Governor of Virginia, 2 pages (9 ½ x 7 ¾ in.; 241 x 184 mm.), “Williamsburg,” 27 May 1779, to Governor Thomas Johnson, the first Governor of the state of Maryland; light browning and scattered spotting, skillful repair to head and foot of leaf and integral address leaf.

Details on the Mathew-Collier raid.

Henry writes in full: The enemy who lately invaded this State with a Fleet of Ships of War consisting of the ‘Raisonable’ of 64 guns, the ‘Rainbow’ of 40 guns, the other of 14 and sundry other armed and unarmed vessels commanded by Commodore Sir George Collier, together with a number of Land Forces amounting to 1500 or 2000 commanded by Maj. General Mathew evacuated Portsmouth on Tuesday last after committing ravages and depredations (plundering) of the most cruel and unmanly sort. After their departure of Portsmouth they drew up their whole Fleet before Hampton and by a parade of their flat-bottomed boats threatened a descent on that place. But a considerable body of troops under Col. Marshall were so well prepared to receive them and maintained so firm a contenance that they did not choose to hazard the experiment, and yesterday about noon they hoisted sail and proceeded to sea. No conjecture can be made concerning their destination from their course, but from the Immense quantity and particular kind of some of their plunder, there can be little doubt but that they will return to New York.

On 10 May 1779, British forces captured and burned Portsmouth and Norfolk, Virginia. The Mathew-Collier raid was a particularly brutal and successful one for the British forces. Without the loss of one man, they captured huge quantities of naval supplies, ordnance, and forage, and sunk 137 American ships. Henry mentions that if Colonel Thomas Marshall (1730-1802) had not been prepared for them at Hampton, they would have done further damage. An important letter containing a detailed description of military action during the Revolutionary War. $6,000 - $8,000

35. Houston, Samuel. Autograph letter signed, (“Houston”), 4 pages (9 ¾ x 7 ¾ in.; 248 x 200 mm.), “Huntsville,” 1 August 1853 to Benjamin B. French; mounting remnants on first and fourth pages.

I trembled for the democracy for the union and for my country.

Houston writes with great characteristic zeal: You will allow me ... to congratulate you on your appointment of commissioner of P[ublic] Buildings. That is a bright streak in the dark cloud which has hung over our political atmosphere. I understood, previous to leaving the city, that Genl. Pierce had refused your very respectful appointment and that he had assigned as a reason that you were from ‘Concord’ I am glad that you have received one; worth something, if not equal to your merits. Well French, you know my zeal and activity in the Congress and my intense anxiety for the success of the party. When the victory was won, I claimed nothing, but I made a personal request of Genl. Pierce that Mr. Scaman should be appointed to a place filled by Mr. Zamora, Whig, and assured him that it was the only personal request that I would ever ask of him. He has not granted the request and of course it will not only put an end to personal requests but to personal intercourse. This will be on the ground that the want of personal respect on part of the President for me has caused him to reject the application and I am not so bountiful in my liberality as to cherish respect for those who do not retain for me a small portion. The recommendation in Mr. Scaman’s favor was of the most imposing character, independent of my only personal request of the President. French, I fear we have fallen upon evil times. When Mr. Hunter, a disunionist, was called by the President to accept ... and form his Cabinet I trembled for the Democracy, for the Union and for my country. But yet I had hopes! When I saw in many instances where he could ... that he preferred Ultras to old line Democrats, and when I saw that the President was driven to such straights that he had to look among the rubbish of the old ‘Southern’ I felt that hope in discretion and patriotism was at an end. I hope our destiny will ward off the evils which seem to be marked by such measures. At all events European powers will be furnished with amusing food for speculation.

A fine letter with interesting political content. $3,000 - $5,000
36. Houston, Samuel. Autograph letter signed, 4 pages (9 ¾ x 7 ¾ in.; 248 x 200 mm.), “Huntsville,” 11 October 1853 to Benjamin B. French; mounting remnants on first and fourth pages, marginal fraying and browning.

It is not the first time, both in public and private life that we have men suffer more from their friends than from their enemies.

Exasperated with the current political machinations afoot, Houston relates he is taking a reprieve in Independence. He then proceeds on a rant on happenings in Washington.

Houston writes in full: I am about to remove to a situation distant and west from this place about seventy-five miles. Independence is the site and it is pleasant and very healthful. This you know will keep me rather in a mess and take much time to do but little. I am not posted well as to the great work at Washington but it does seem to me that too much of the Union is with defenses, and apologies of the administration and too many . . . were made going and returning to the crystal palace. If such things are done in the green time, what will it be in the dead? It is not the first time, both in public and private life that we have men suffer more from their friends than from their enemies and that a man's worst enemies are that of his own household!! Is it so or not with the President? You and I have known long acquaintance, and you can judge of the sincerity of my assurances when I give them. Now God knows that no man was more anxious for Genl Pierce's success than I was during the canvass and no man wished him a more glorious administration than I did. I thought he deserved it, and the country needed such a one. I did not dream that at this day the organization of the President would be catching at every word, saying or almost, of him to sustain his position before the American people. Straus may do to indicate the currents of the winds, but they will not do for the foundation of fame's pillars. I feel deeply but say nothing until I can see you, when we can communicate fully. I am much gratified at what you tell me about Seaman's! Is it fixed sure? My wife has urged, and my wishes urge me, as well as my desires, not again to return to the Senate but a sense of duty will cause me (God willing) to try once more.

A fine letter revealing Houston's bold opinions on the politics of the time. $4,000 - $6,000

37. [Inquisition of Mexico and Florida]. Printed broadside signed, 1 page (17 x 12 in.; 432 x 305 mm.), In Spanish, “Printed in Mexico in the house of Henrico Martinez,” 1 December 1601.

A decree aimed particularly at the Jews in Mexico and the Spanish provinces in Florida, accusing them of heresy which will be dealt with due punishment.

The Inquisition had formally begun in the West Indies in 1569 when Philip II established tribunals of the Holy Office at Mexico and Lima. It was specifically charged with vigilance against Moors, Jews, and New Christians. The great privileges it exercised and the dread with which Spaniards generally regarded the charge of heresy made the Inquisition an effective check on dangerous thoughts, whether religious, political, or philosophical. The Inquisition largely relied on denunciations by informers and employed torture to secure confessions. Indians were originally subject to the jurisdiction of Inquisitors but were later exempted because as recent converts of supposedly limited mental capacity they were not fully responsible for the deviations from the faith. The first execution occurred in 1574, and by 1596, the tenth took place. Many of the victims of the Holy Office were amongst the Portuguese settlers, who were persecuted for political rather than religious reasons. It was a symptom of the political and religious status of the country that such a court could flourish in an atmosphere where the greatest occupation of mankind might well have been the subjugation of nature, and the development of a normal Christian state.

The present broadside is headed, CONSTITUTION OF OUR MOST BLESSED LORD CLEMENT BY THE DIVINE PROVIDENCE POPE THE EIGHTH Against those who, not having been promoted to the sacred order of Priesthood, boldly take the authority of the Priests, dare and pretend to celebrate the Mass, and administer to the faithful the Sacrament of Penance. POPE CLEMENT THE EIGHTH AD PERPETUAM REI MEMORIAM.

The text of the broadside reads in part: Although at other times Pope Paul, our predecessor of happy memory, in order to repress and repel the evil and sacrilegious temerity of some men, who not having been ordained priests, take daringly the priestly powers and presume the authority to celebrate the Mass and the administration of the Sacrament of Penance; having determined that such delinquents should be delivered to the Judges of the Holy Inquisition, to the Curia and secular body so that due punishment would be administered to them; and after Pope Sixth the Fifth of venerable memory, also our predecessor, had ordered that the so-mentioned decree be renewed and be kept and followed with all care; but the audacity of these men has gone so far that giving the pretext of ignorance of these decrees, the penalties, as has been stated, should be imposed against the transgressors who think they are not subject to them, and who pretend to liberate and exonerate themselves from them. For this reason we consider these persons to be lost and evil men, who not having been promoted to the Holy Order of Priesthood, dare to usurp the right to the celebration of the Mass; these men not only perform external acts of idolatry, in regard to exterior and visible signs of piety and religion, but inasmuch as it concerns them, they deceive the faithful Christians (who accept them as truly ordained and believe that they consecrate legitimately), and because of the faithful's ignorance they fall into the crime of idolatry, proposing them only the material bread and wine so that they adore it as the true body and blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ; and that the same
hearing the Sacramental Confession not only do not appreciate the dignity of the holy Sacrament of Penance, but also deceive the faithful, perversely taking the priestly role and the authority of absolving the sins with great danger, and causing the scandal of many.

For this reason, so that the ones who commit these very serious heinous deeds be punished with due penalty, in the proper manner and with our scientific certainty and mature deliberation, and with the fullness of the Apostolic power, in accordance with the conscience of the Judges of the Holy Inquisition, and so that from now on no one can doubt the penalty that has to be imposed on those such delinquents, following the steps of our predecessors, for this constitution of perpetual value, we determine and establish that anyone, who without being promoted to the Sacred Order of Priesthood, would find that he who has dared to celebrate Mass or to hear Sacramental Confession, be separated from the Ecclesiastic body by the Judges of the Holy Inquisition, or by the seculars, as not deserving the mercy of the Church; and being solemnly demoted, from the Ecclesiastic Orders, if he had achieved some, is later to be turned over to the Curia and secular body, in order to be punished by the secular judges with the due penalties . . . .

A handwritten statement that “It agrees with the its original” and signature of the notary appears at the conclusion of the text.

The history of the first half of sixteenth century Florida was marked by conflicts and unsuccessful settlements by the Spanish, French and English, who were all vying for possession of peninsula. Finally, in 1565, a colony of Protestant Huguenots established on the St. Johns River was wiped out by Spaniards, who boasted of slaughtering the French, not for their nationality but for their religion. This Spanish expedition founded St. Augustine near the decimated settlement. Shifting alliances and allegiances continued during the following centuries, until the acquisition of East and West Florida by the United States in the nineteenth century.

$10,000 - $15,000
38. Jackson, Thomas Jonathan ("Stonewall"). Highly Important Civil War-date autograph letter signed ("T. J. Jackson Maj. Genl"), 1 page (8 ½ x 7 ¾ in.; 216 x 184 mm.), "Hd. Qrs. Valley Dist." 14 May 1862, 7:40 a.m. to Colonel Turner Ashby; scattered light browning, vertical folds at head of page reinforced.

Jackson gives orders for the destruction of the Manassas Gap Railroad.

Recently apprised of the alarming news that Union General N. P. Banks was preparing to march for Fredericksburg, Jackson directs his partisan cavalry commander, the heroic Colonel Turner Ashby, to destroy the Manassas Gap Railroad in order to prevent Banks from evacuating the Valley for Fredericksburg, from where he could then join McClellan to assist in the Peninsula Campaign.

Jackson writes in full: Maj. Genl. R.S. Ewell is of the opinion that Banks is on his way to Fredericksburg. If Banks is thus moving, it is important to destroy as soon as practicable the Manassas Gap R.R. and I have suggested the possibility of sending yours and his cavalry toward this purpose. If you believe that you can effect the object I hope you will take steps at once to accomplishing this very desirable object. With the exception of two companies I’ve but to direct the cavalry that are with me to join you, but do not delay your movement by waiting for their arrival. They should be in Harrisburg in Friday; via Harrisburg and Warm Spring turnpike.

General Stonewall Jackson’s Shenandoah Valley Campaign.

The purpose of “Stonewall” Jackson’s presence in the Shenandoah Valley was to keep Union forces from reinforcing McClellan’s forces on the Peninsula, where they threatened Richmond. By playing of the fears of the Federal administration for Washington, Jackson was tasked with immobilizing the 70,000 troops in middle Virginia by placing them on the defensive with the mere 20,000 widely scattered Confederate troops ringing the Shenandoah Valley under various Confederate commands. With his fast-moving infantrymen led by Ashby, Jackson ranged up and down the Valley for months in early 1862, keeping three Union commanders – John Charles Frémont, Nathaniel Banks, and Irvin McDowell – busy and thoroughly unsettled, as their combined forces, though vastly outnumbering Jackson’s, were unable to stop him. Numerous skirmishes including Winchester, Kernstown, Front Royal, Woodstock, New Market, Cross Keys and Port Republic were all victories for Jackson, though at each battle site the Union forces were sure he would be defeated. Jackson inflicted numerous casualties, seized huge quantities of supplies (mostly from Banks), and kept almost 40,000 Federal troops off the Peninsula during the campaign. Overall, Jackson’s Valley Campaign was a major triumph, adding to his previous victory laurels at Bull Run. By June 14, 1862, he had forced the Union to proceed up the valley, rather than march on to reinforce McClellan’s army against Richmond.

At this time, Jackson was operating under Robert E. Lee’s explicit instructions to contain Banks, as stated in a letter from Lee dated 8 May 1862 and then a letter following up directing Jackson to prevent Banks from going to Fredericksburg or to the Peninsula. Jackson, however, had anticipated this directive and already put the first part of his plan of attack into motion, sending Ashby to cut off Banks’ most immediate method of escape via the Manassas Gap Railroad. With this accomplished, Jackson marched his troops forward to Front Royal for the first of his brilliant counteroffensive maneuvers against Banks.

Less than two weeks after the date of this letter, and no doubt for his brilliant execution of these instructions from Jackson, Turner was promoted to brigadier general. Yet, one week following his promotion, just three weeks after receiving the present orders from Jackson, Turner was tragically killed in action at Harrisonburg. Of his gallant service, Jackson later remarked; As a partisan officer I never knew his superior; his daring was proverbial; his powers of endurance almost incredible; his tone of character heroic; and his sagacity almost intuitive in divining the purposes and movements of the enemy.

An extraordinary letter from a crucial moment in Jackson’s storied career, written to the partisan cavalryman whose name is forever etched into the history of this important campaign. In this letter, Jackson demonstrates the talent for anticipation, quick thinking and rapid movement of forces which would make him an American military legend. $20,000 – $30,000
39. Jackson, Thomas J. ("Stonewall"). Important Civil War-date autograph letter signed ("T. J. Jackson"), 2 pages (9 ¼ x 7 ¼ in.; 235 x 184 mm.), "Caroline County, Virginia" [Jackson was wintering at Moss Neck, a grand mansion ten miles south of Fredericksburg], 21 January 1863, to his close friend and a member of the Confederate Congress, Colonel Alexander R. Boteler (1815-1892) of Virginia, concerning his district; on blue-lined Confederate stationery; scattered spotting, repair to paper losses on first leaf affecting several characters of three words, page fold reinforced.

Transferred to the Army of Northern Virginia following the Shenandoah Valley campaign, Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson ponders his future as a commander and laments the suffering of those in western Virginia.

Jackson writes in full: Your letter respecting the condition of the Valley has been received. Though I have been relieved from command there, and may never again be assigned to that important trust, yet I feel deeply when I see the patriotic people of that region again under the heel of a hateful military despotism. There are the homes of those who have been with me from the commencement of the War in Virginia, who have repeatedly left their families and property in the hands of the enemy and braved the dangers of battle and disease. There are those who have so devotedly labored for the relief of our suffering sick and wounded. Well may you feel deeply interested in the welfare of such a constituency, and well may they be attached to you for your devotion to their interests & security. In this connection permit me to thank you for the great assistance which you rendered me by having supplies for the troops promptly forwarded, and for the various other ways in which you contributed to their comfort and efficiency, and to the defence of that important section of the State. Not only I myself, but also other people there, and the country owe you a lasting debt of gratitude.

The purpose of "Stonewall" Jackson's presence in the Shenandoah Valley (March-June, 1862) was to keep Union forces from reinforcing McClellan's forces on the Peninsula, where they threatened Richmond. With his fast-moving infantrymen, Jackson ranged up and down the Shenandoah Valley for months in early 1862, keeping three Union commanders - John Charles Frémont, Nathaniel Banks, and Irvin McDowell - busy and thoroughly unsettled, as their combined forces, though vastly outnumbering Jackson's, were unable to stop him. Numerous skirmishes - Winchester, Kernstown (a Union victory that brought disaster for the victors), Front Royal, Woodstock, New Market, Cross Keys, Port Republic - were all victories for Jackson, though at each battle site the Union forces were sure he would be defeated. Jackson inflicted numerous casualties, seized huge quantities of supplies (mostly from Banks), and kept almost 40,000 Federal troops off the Peninsula during the campaign. Overall, Jackson's Valley Campaign was a major triumph, adding to his previous victory laurels at First Manassas (called First Bull Run by the Union).

Later that year, Jackson was promoted to lieutenant general (10 October 1862), in command of the II Corps under General Lee in the Army of Northern Virginia. Jackson, however, viewed this as a minor demotion, deprived of the independence with which he had flourished in the Shenandoah Valley. Joining the Army of Northern Virginia, he fought gallantly at Fredericksburg (13 December 1862) and then retired his command to Caroline County for the winter. Military operations at this time were virtually impossible to effect. Union General Ambrose Burnside attempted his ill-fated "Mud March" across the Rappahannock River on 20-23 January 1863, contemporaneous with the present letter, in the face of a torrential rain-storm. His Federal troops, mired in mud, were rendered completely impotent, ending all purposeful campaigning for the winter in Virginia.

Just three months following the date of the present letter, Jackson met his early fate at the Battle of Chancellorsville, when he was mistakenly shot by one of his own men. The death of this most ablest of Confederate commanders caused General Lee to utter this glowing epitaph: I have lost my right arm.

A compelling letter being an incomparable testimony to Jackson's grace, modesty and compassion. $15,000 - $25,000
40. James, Frank. Fine autograph letter signed (“Ben”), 12 pages (8 x 5 in.; 203 x 127 mm.), “Gallatin, Montana,” 8 July 1883. To his wife, Annie James in Independence, Montana; with original envelope.

Advice and reflection from the notorious bank and train robber to his wife from prison: There are none so happy as those who labor . . . and as to riches not one in ten thousand who possess them are ever happy.

In his lengthy and heartfelt letter, James reflects on his values, relates how he and his wife should dress for his impending murder trial, and points out that his defense lawyer’s reputation will be at stake as well as his own life.

The desperado writes in full: Your dear letter of the fourth received yesterday. I would have answered the same day, but had just written you. I read your dear letter a number of times. I studied each word and sentence thoroughly, and I assure you I appreciate your letters and always feel much happier after reading them. You are a true and noble woman and just such women make true and faithful husbands. Notwithstanding I love you more than I do my own life. I wish it was possible for me to love you more than I do. Never mind just wait ’till I get out. Dont I wish I could be with you and our dear little boy today how I would love and caress you. Yet if I am denied that pleasure I can and do console myself with the reflection that you love me and are no doubt thinking of me whilst I am writing this. Darling do you know I often recall the many happy days spent together in old Tenn. Ah! Those were far happier times than we realized at the time. Dont you think so? There are none so happy as those who labor.

Nevertheless it seems to be the common belief among the majority of people that it is absolutely necessary to possess either riches or talent in order to be happy. I say no, a thousand times no and I believe you will concur with me in this belief. History does if you do not. Look at Tom Marshall of Ky who was conceded by not a few to be one of the brightest lights that grand old state produced. Was he happy thinking you? No, no far from. Listen what he said whilst dying -- ‘My God this is dreadful dying in a house built by the hands of charity and under covering bought by the County’. Look again at the great Goldsmith. ‘tis said of him that he derived more genuine pleasure from his flute whilst playing before some cottage amidst the Alps, than he ever did from his beautiful writing. And as to riches not one in ten thousand who possess them are ever happy. The only true happiness that can exist that does exist is the true relationships existing between a true wife and a true husband. Riches and fame are but hollow mockery. You can but remember what Gray murmured as he sat upon a moss covered grave stone in the Country church yard, while the leaves of the ‘rugged Elms’ whispered above him.

The pride of heraldy, the pomp of power-- And all that wealth c‘er gave await alike the inevitable hour. The paths of glory lead but to the grave’. What a beautiful sentiment and how true, when we shake off this mortal coil’ riches will be nothing, fame will be nothing. The only question then will be have we been true to ourselves? I hope when that day arrive we both may be able to say we have been true to ourselves. I hope you and Robie may both keep well and try and enjoy yourselves as best you can. Do not take things to heart too much. Remember God never forgets his own. Mamma to try to tell you what I was doing would be a waste of Time. You know the surroundings and know just about how I am putting in the Time each and every day. You must know however that I miss you very much. I do wish I did not have to be separated from you this way. It makes me sick at heart to think of it. I send you a clipping form the Sentinel republished by the Democrat of this place. I do think that man Payne is one of the most contemptible dogs living. I do hope if he should ever speak to you -- you will have the courage to treat him with perfect contempt. I would like to know what all Grand Pa asked about me? Tell me wont you? I am glad to know he is friendly to us and hope he may continue to be. You asked me if I had heard from Mr. Dean? Yes he tried hard to get here and regretted very much that he could not I also saw a letter from Charles P. Johnson and whilst he was tacking around trying to get here his wife gave birth to a fine boy. I guess he was proud when he arrived home. I believe I have a letter yesterday. I would have answered the same day, but had just written you. Mr. Charlie Johnson said he met Frank O’Neal and that he said that according to the way he understood returns I suppose I will hear some news. Mr. Charlie Johnson said he met Frank O’Neal and that he said that according to the way he understood the matter I ought to been out on bail long go and told Johnson he would write Edward at Jefferson City and they would consult with Philips and all parties and see what could be done. I hope they have done so but are afraid the meeting has not taken place. I am of the opinion Johnson is thoroughly in earnest now he knows that his reputation as a criminal lawyer is at stake and it behooves him to better himself and I hope to goodness he will. I am growing so anxious to be with my precious ones. When we do meet it will be like Mrs. Holland says just like getting married won’t it? It will be nice, wont it hon? I guess you are now smiling and thinking you bad bad fellow. What a man thinks in his heart that he is, says the Bible. I think if I continue to write I will have nothing to say for Thursday. Do you really think that Mrs. H and G will attend the trial or is it all talk. I wish they would come, dont you. Mamma I want you to be fixed up ever so nice when you come. And if you want me to look you will have to get me a white vest and a nice pair of shoes like that cut you have cut form the paper. I know you will laugh and say you proud old goose. Mind now I dont ask you to get them I leave the matter entirely to you. I know money is scarce and dont
So there now dont cry it is the best thing on earth, amm it hon? You are bount to acknowledge the corn, actions you know speak louder than words sometimes. I guess you will not let any one read this letter will you? You can if you like. But I quite sure you wont Oh, you say you Monkey, thats all right if you do but you are bount to acknowledged I am a right spry old man yet. I have not outlived my usefulness by a good many years yet I can tell you. Why I feel to day as I was not more than twenty five I am afraid you are getting old though it is rather a bad sign to be complaining with your back. However I hope by August will be feeling like a spring chicking. Never mind Mamma it dont matter if you do complain. Sometimes I wouldnt give you as you are for all the women on earth I know if I had the power to make one that would suit me half as well as you. You are just as perfect as it is possible for one to be. I do wish above all thing that you could know just how dear you are to me. I spent six hours out in the yard Sunday. Had a number to call Misses Mary Lee Josie Cox-Emmans. I enjoyed being out but could I sit down with you and Rob I would enjoy your company ten thousand times more than I would any ones on Earth. No woman looks half as interesting to me as my dear little wife. Mr.Barnes brought me over a quart of nice cherries. I divided with Mrs. C. and the children. Pady says the ‘Kid’ is walking right along Mrs. Brosius is still confined to her bed. I am thankful to God that you are healthy. I would be more than happy to have you on my knee to night I would pinch a piece out of sure. I hope you will step down and see Mr. Hardins folks the first time you are in town. I think they are good friends of ours. Dont you. I want you to remember me to all our friends tell them I appreciate them so much and write me often it will do me lots of good to hear from them every few days. Let me tell you right [here]. I dont neither want either shoes nor vest that was all talk. But I do want you to get such things, as you want I will now put my arms around you and kiss there now. Love to all the family I must now tell you goodbye- but before I do I will ask you to love and think of me often. Wont you? So bye bye. In a postscript, James has added, I dont think I will have much to write next Thursday but I will do so all the same.

James wrote the present letter while in jail in Gallatin while awaiting trial for the murder of Frank McMillan, a stone quarry laborer, during the robbery of a Rock Island train at Winston, Missouri in 1881. In the ensuing trial, the state sought to prove that Frank was seen near the scene of the crime and that he had fatally shot McMillan. The state, however, had to contend with a formidable witness, Confederate General Joseph O. Shelby, who was known for his sincerity, earnest convictions and his loyalty to any man who had fought under his command. When called to the stand, Shelby testified that at the time of the train robbery, he had met Jesse James, Dick Liddil and Bill Ryan at his home, when Jesse told him that Frank was not with them, but was in the South, and that he had not been with the gang for five years. The general’s testimony not only held tremendous weight with the people and created a sensation, but it was also responsible for Frank’s acquittal. In this letter, James refers to three of his defense attorneys, Charles P. Johnson of St. Louis, a former Lieutenant Governor of Missouri; Judge John E Philips of Kansas City; and William Rush of Gallatin. Interesting to note is James’ use of the alias, “Ben” to prevent the letter from falling into reporters’ hands or into wrong hands. 

$3,000 - $5,000

41. Jay, John. Autograph Letter Signed, 1 ¼ pages (8 ¾ x 7 ¾ in.; 225 x 187 mm.), “East Hartford, [Connecticut],” 18 June 1792 to his wife, Sally, in New York; integral address leaf with seal tear.

John Jay relays New York gubernatorial race results to his wife and the wrongdoing involved in the election: A few Years more will put us all in the Dust; and it will then be of more Importance to me to have governed myself, than to have governed the State.

In 1792, John Jay was the Federalist candidate for Governor of New York but he was defeated by Democratic-Republican George Clinton. Jay received more votes than Clinton, but on technicalities, the votes of Otsego, Tioga and Clinton counties were disqualified, giving Clinton a slight plurality. The State constitution stated that the cast votes shall be delivered to the secretary of state by the “sheriff or his deputy.” In the case of Otsego county, the sheriff’s term had expired, so that legally, at the time of the election, the office of sheriff was vacant and the votes could not be brought to the State capital. Clinton partisans in the State legislature, the State courts and Federal offices were determined not to accept any argument that this would, in practice, violate the constitutional right to vote of the voters in these counties. Consequently, the votes were disqualified and Jay lost the election despite the fact he had more votes.

Reporting that the majority of electors voted in his favor, Jay writes in full: About an Hour ago I arrived here from Newport, which place I left on Friday last. The last Letters which I have reed. From you, are dated the 2 & 4 of this month. The Expectations they intimate, have not it seems been realized. A Hartford Paper which I have just read mentions the Result of the canvass. After hearing how the Otsego votes were circumstanced, I perceived clearly what the Event would be. The Reflection that the majority of the Electors were for me is a pleasing one. That Injustice has taken place, does not surprise me; and I hope will not affect you very sensibly. The Intelligence found me perfectly prepared for it. Having nothing to reproach myself with in Relation to this Event, it shall neither discompose my Temper, nor postpone my Sleep. A few Years more will put us all in the Dust; and it will then be of more Importance to me to have governed myself, than to have governed the State.
Hartford -- Monday Eveng. Peet has returned from the office, without letters. I fear you did not receive mine from Newport in season. Tuesday morning -- I am waiting to have my Horses Shod, and in expectation that Judge Cushing who is behind will be here this morning. I have concluded to crop from Bennington to Albany and return from thence by water. A letter directed to me there, if seasonably written will probably meet me there.

An important letter in which Jay relates injustices in the New York gubernatorial election of 1792 and humbly reveals his great strength of character. $8,000 - $12,000

42. Jay, John. Autograph letter draft, unsigned, 2 pages (9 ¾ x 7 ¾ in.; 238 x 200 mm.), “Albany,” 29 March 1799 to Benjamin Goodhue of Salem, Massachusetts; integral blank.

A letter discussing the potential war with France

Jay writes in part: The letters...have been received, and disposed of in the manner you requested. The information...has given me much concern. The expediency of the President's declaration, that he would not send another minister to France, until he should receive assurances, etc., was not, in my judgment, unquestionable. There are political considerations against it, and there are others in its favour. Such a declaration, however, was made, and the propriety of it seems to have been acquiesced in. It is to be wished that Mr. Murray had been more reserved in his conversations with the French secretary, on the subject of our national differences. These matters were foreign to his department, and I presume they were not within his instructions. Those conversations have facilitated overtures, which are calculated...to perplex and divide our councils, and to mislead public opinion.

The manner in which Mr. Murray transmitted these overtures...is such a deviation from the official and customary course as...is certainly exceptionable. Nor does any reason occur to me why the President thought it proper to omit communicating the overtures to the Secretary of State. Such is my confidence in the patriotism of the President, and also of the secretary, that every indication of want of confidence between them appears to me singular, and to be regretted. Whether these overtures...should have been accepted, or encouraged, or rejected, or neglected, are questions not free from doubts. I am inclined to think that immediate attention to them was neither necessary nor advisable, and that they had not as yet acquired such a degree of maturity as to call for any formal, national act. But...I suspect it is one of those [subjects] on which statesmen might naturally be led to opposite opinions, by the difficulty of estimating the precise weight and balance of the many and diverse considerations comprehended in it.

Much might be said, but not too much purpose; for whatever remarks may be applicable...to...this perplexing affair, it is as it is. Nothing therefore remains but to make the best of the situation...and to avail ourselves of all the advantages to be derived from the united talents and efforts of the best friends to our country and government. The apprehensions entertained from the projected negotiations may not be extensively realized, and events may yet rise to press the Directory into proper measures...not to be expected from their sincerity or sense of decorum or justice. I am for aiding and adhering to the President, and for promoting the best understanding between him and the heads of the departments...I hope his real friends will not keep at a distance from him, nor withhold from him that information which none but his friends will give him. Union, sedate firmness, and vigorous preparation for war generally afford the best means of countering the tendencies of insidious professions, and of too great public confidence in them.

Following the conclusion of Jay's treaty with Great Britain, relations between the United States and France began to deteriorate. A powerful and aggressive France sought revenge against what she regarded as an American alliance with her old enemy. Party feeling became so embittered in America that some friends of Jefferson advised the French minister to destroy American shipping—owned largely by Federalists. French depredations against Great Britain. The French Government, hostile and provocative, refused to receive an American Minister in Paris.

Jay, regarding the situation as dangerous to the survival of the United States as an independent nation, urged his countrymen to guard against foreign intrigue. Republican fervor for the Revolution in France and the "X, Y, Z" affair only strengthened his resolve to support President Adams' policy under all circumstances. Adams' decision in February 1799 to appoint William Vans Murray as minister to France came as a surprise to Jay, but he supported it nonetheless. Other Federalists who looked to war for the settling of differences between the two nations were less acquiescent. Adams had promised that no peace with France would be made until all grievances were addressed, and to many it seemed that his offer to send Murray to Paris was a humiliating admission of defeat. Also, controversial was the fact that Adams took action without consulting Secretary of State Pickering or any other of his cabinet officers. In spite of efforts in Congress to block the appointment, Murray received his commission on 6 March with instructions from Pickering not to communicate with any French agents on subjects relating to the war. At the same time, Patrick Henry and W. R. Davie were also made commissioners to treat with the government in Paris. By the time the three men reached their destination, Napoleon Bonaparte had come into power. $8,000 - $12,000
43. Jay, John. Autograph manuscript, 11 pages (12 ⅞ x 8 ⅛ in.; 327 x 206 mm.), [no place, no date], headed \textit{List of Claims} being a list of claims of loyalists for loss of property in the American revolution; with docketed paper wrappers.

**John Jay lists the claims of loyalists for property loss in the American Revolution.**

The claims of the Loyalists of New York are listed alphabetically by the claimants’ last names with their respective amounts, predominantly for property, as well as debts, and a few for income. For some claims, the amounts of the loss are not specified, and the claimant Benjamin Whitecuff is mentioned as being a negro. In addition, the codes H and R are noted for several claimants; these codes are explained by Jay at the conclusion of the document: \textit{N.B. Those claimants against whose names H is noted have been heard & Enquired by the Commissioners and those whose names R is not noted have been reported to the Land Commissioners of the Treasury.}

A remarkable historical record tracking the repercussions from the War for Independence. $8,000 – $12,000
44. Jefferson, Thomas. Fine autograph letter signed (“Th: Jefferson”), 1 page (10 x 7 ¾ in.; 254 x 200 mm.), “Philadelphia,” 28 March 1791 to James McHenry, a participant in the Constitutional Convention from Maryland; light browning and spotting, minute paper loss at intersecting fold affecting one character of one word of text.

Jefferson reports the murder of some friendly Indians near Fort Pitt and news from Europe.

In his informative letter, Jefferson provides intriguing news from both home and abroad.

Jefferson writes in full: Having sent your letters to Mr. Short with a desire that he will, as far as is right, patronize the applications which shall be made to the minister on your demand, instead of destroying your first letter to Messrs. Le Couteux, I have thought it better to return it to you, in proof that your desires have been complied with. —a murder of some friendly Indians a little beyond Fort Pitt is likely to defeat our efforts to make a general peace, & to render the combination in war against us more extensive. This was done by a party of Virginians within the limits of Pennsylvania. —The only news from Europe interesting to us is that the Brit[ish] Par[l]iament is about to give free storage to American wheat carried to Eng[lan]d in Brit[ish] bottoms for re-exportation, in this case we must make British bottoms lading with wheat, pay that storage here, in the form of a duty, & give it to American bottoms lading with the same article, in order not to keep our vessels on a par as to transportation of our own produce, but to shift the meditated advantage into their scale, at least so say I.

At the time of Jefferson’s letter, James McHenry was fully entrenched in the State Senate of Maryland. Although a staunch Federalist, McHenry shared many of Jefferson’s views on issues both domestic and foreign. A fascinating letter in which Jefferson relates the murder of Indians and predicts the ramifications of the crime to affect peace efforts dramatically. Turning his attention to news abroad, Jefferson reports on wheat export with England and suggests a duty to balance what is being proposed by British Parliament. $20,000 - $30,000
45. Jefferson, Thomas. Autograph letter signed (“Th: Jefferson”) as President, 1 page (9 ¾ x 7 ¾ in.; 248 x 200 mm.), Washington, 16 November 1808 to Mr. John McAlister Optician, Phila a well-known Philadelphia optician who took over Benjamin Franklin’s optical practice; docketed on the verso in another hand: light browning.

President Thomas Jefferson orders spectacles based upon inventor Benjamin Franklin’s bi-focals from Franklin’s successor, optician John McAlister.

Jefferson writes in full: I am extremely satisfied with Dr. Franklin’s method of fixing the spectacles, by composing each glass of two half glasses of different magnifying powers, and those you made for me answer perfectly except that the frames being circular, the glasses are always twisting round & bringing the seam between the two half glasses in the way of the eye. to prevent this the frame should be oval. I send you therefore the oval frames you last made for me, being much approved in their size, and I pray you to furnish a set of half glasses for them from the magnifying power of the glasses now in them up to the greatest. those now in them suit the present state of my vision. I think the larger of the two magnifiers put into the same frame should differ but a single number from each other, the largest magnifier being uppermost. altho these glasses are very small, & consequently the half glasses uncommonly so, I am not afraid but that they will prevent full space enough for reading, writing, etc. as I am satisfied that the pencil of rays in these cases occupies little more than a speck on the glass. the spectacles may be safely returned by post, if done up in the way they now are. be so good as to send with them a note of the cost, of which I will direct payment to be made.

A fine letter in which the great statesman shares his knowledge of optical lenses with his Philadelphia optician. His detailed request that his oval frames be fitted with a set of half glasses (i.e., bifocals) to prevent the problem previously encountered with a round frame in which the lenses twisted around, obstructing vision, stands as a remedy worthy of Franklin himself.

McAllister worried that the half lenses of the bifocals would be too small to see through. Nevertheless, he forwarded two pairs to Jefferson nine days after receiving this letter. Jefferson was still using McAllister’s spectacles in 1815 when he requested a small correction be made to the lenses by McAllister’s firm. $40,000 - $60,000
46. **Jefferson, Thomas.** Highly important autograph letter signed (“Th: Jefferson”) as President, 1 page (9 ¾ x 7 ¾ in.; 248 x 200 mm.), “Washington,” 15 January 1802, “to the honorable President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Representatives of Georgia”; browned; page folds reinforced and margins extended.

**With great eloquence, Thomas Jefferson waxes profound on the superior structure of America’s government with the Constitution being the law and the life.**

Expressing his heartfelt appreciation to the Senate and Representatives of the state of Georgia for their support of his election to the chief magistracy of the United States, Jefferson writes in full: *To the honorable the President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Representatives of Georgia. Gentlemen.*

The confidence which the Senate and Representatives of the state of Georgia are pleased to repose in my conduct, and their felicitations on my election to the chief magistracy, are testimonies which, coming from the collected councils of the state, encourage continued efforts to deserve them in future, and hold up that reward most valued by me.

State rights, and State sovereignties, as recognized by the constitution, are an integral and essential part of our great political fabric. They are bound up by a common ligament with those of the National government, and form with it one system, of which the Constitution is the law and the life. A sacred respect to that instrument therefore becomes the first interest and duty of all.

Your reliance on the talents & virtues of our republic, as concentrated in the federal legislature, that the public good will be its end, & the constitution its rule, is assuredly well placed; and we need not doubt of that harmony which is to depend on it’s justice.

*I pray you to accept for yourselves and the Houses over which you preside my grateful thanks for their favorable dispositions, and the homage of my high consideration and respect. Th: Jefferson*

An extraordinary letter embodying Jefferson’s idealistic democratic principles, which made him president. Jefferson’s firm belief in the superior structure of the government of America with the Constitution as its guiding light is clearly and concisely articulated. Jefferson’s conviction that state rights were an essential part of our National government could not be more elegantly and succinctly stated: *State rights, and State sovereignties, as recognized by the constitution, are an integral and essential part of our great political fabric. They are bound up by a common ligament with those of the National government, and form with it one system, of which the Constitution is the law and the life. A sacred respect to that instrument therefore becomes the first interest and duty of all.* $200,000 – $300,000
To the Honorable the President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Representatives of Georgia.

Gentlemen

Washington Jan. 13th, 1802

The confidence which the Senate and Representatives of the state of Georgia are pleased to repose in my conduct, and their felicitations on my election to the chief magistracy, are testimonies which coming from the collected councils of the state encourage continued efforts to deserve them in future, and hold up that reward most valued by me.

State rights and State sovereignties, as recognised by the Constitution, are an integral and essential part of our great political fabric. They are bound up by a common ligament with those of the National government, and form with it one system, of which the Constitution is the law and the life, a sacred respect to that instrument therefore becomes the first interest and duty of all.

Your reliance on the talents and virtues of our republic as concentrated in the federal legislature, that the public good will be its end, and if the Constitution it is rule, is assuredly well placed; and we need not doubt of that harmony which is to depend on it’s justice.

I pray you to accept for yourselves and the House, over which you preside, my grateful thanks for their favorable dispositions and the homage of my high consideration and respect.

[Signature]
Th. Jefferson
Jan. 10, 1806

A sterling example of Jefferson's great eloquence following treaty negotiations for greater definition of the boundaries for the Cherokee Indians. Jefferson lauds the Cherokees on their accomplishments but sternly advises against further warring. Stressing peace and harmony, Jefferson’s words transcend time.

Provenance: The Collection of Philip D. Sang, Sotheby’s, New York 30 January 1979, lot 98. $200,000 – $300,000
my friends & children chiefs of the
cherokee Nation

Having now finished our business, I finished it
Hope to mutual satisfaction, I cannot take leave of you
without expressing the satisfaction I have received from your
visit. I see with my own eyes that the endeavors we have been
making to encourage I lead you on in the way of impro
ving your situation have not been unsuccessful. It has
been like grain sown in good ground producing abundantly.
You are becoming farmers, learning the care of the plough &
the hoe, enclosing your grounds, employing that labour
in their cultivation which you formerly employed in hunt
ning or in war. I see handsome specimens of cotton cloth,
raised spin & woven by yourselves. You are also raising ca
tle & hogs for your food & horses to assist your labours, so
on. My children, in the same way, I be assured the further you
advance in it the happier & more respectable you will
be. Our brethren whom you have happened to meet
here from the west & the north west, have enabled you
to compare your situation now with what it was
formerly. They also make the comparison. They see
nor to obtain justice for you & we will support them in it.

If any of your bad people injure your neighbors, be ready to do
knowledge it, & to do them justice. It is more honorable to repair
a wrong than to resist it. Tell all your chiefs, young men
women & children that I take them by the hand & that fast.

that I am their father, wish them happiness & well being, &
I am always ready to promote their good.

My children, thank you for your visit.

I pray to the Great Spirit who made us all a planted race in
this land to love together like brothers that he will con-
duct you safely to your homes & grant you to find your
families & your friends in good health.

J. Jefferson

Jan. 10, 1806.
48. Jefferson, Thomas. Important autograph letter signed (“Th: Jefferson”), 2 pages (9 ½ x 7 ¼ in.; 241 x 184 mm.), “Monticello,” 21 April 1810, to his nephew and close friend John Wayles Eppes; docketed (on the verso, at the top margin) Eppes John W.Apr. 21. 10.; light browning; scattered spotting and later marginal ink splotch.

Ex-President Thomas Jefferson, wary of the deceptive Napoleon I—whom he calls the testy emperor, that spoiled child of fortune—first learns of Congress’ intent to repeal the Non-Intercourse Act, which reopened trade with England and France on 1 May 1810.

Jefferson writes in full: I found here your letter of the 2nd on my return from a three weeks visit to Bedford: and as I see by a resolution of Congress that they are to adjourn on the 23rd. I shall direct the present to Eppington where it may meet you on your passage to Carolina. Mr. Thweatt is to let me know when I am to set out for Richmond. He says it will be in May & perhaps early. This however you can learn from him. My principal compensation for the journey is the visit to my friends at Eppington from which your absence would be a great deduction: for be assured that no circumstances on earth will ever lessen my affection for you, or my regret that any should exist which may affect the frequency of my meetings with you. But here I must brood over my grief in silence. The company of my dear Francis [John W. Eppes’ father] has been a great comfort to me this winter; I shall restore him to you at Eppington, in fine health I hope, and not less advanced in the first elements of education than might be expected. Patsy [Jefferson’s daughter, Martha Jefferson (1772-1836)] has the whole merit of this as her attentions to him have been the same as to her own.

Your letter gave me the first intimation that an accommodation with England was expected. I rejoice at it; for she is the only nation from which serious injury is to be apprehended. This may put us under the ban of the testy emperor, that spoiled child of fortune, and it is true that if excluded from the continent our trade to England will be of no value. But I would rather suffer in interest than fail in good faith. We are neutrals, & have been honestly so. We have declared we would meet either or both parties in just accommodation, and if either holds off, it is her fault not ours. Altho’ connected with England in peace, I hope we shall be so with the other party in principal, and that our accommodation will involve no sacrifice of the freedom of the seas. For this however I can safely trust to the present administration, as well as the republican majority in Congress.

In April 1809, the British minister in Washington, David M. Erskine, signed a convention providing for the mutual suspension of the British and American restrictions—effective 10 June 1809. However, the agreement was repudiated in London because Erskine had exceeded his instructions. Non-intercourse was restored against England by President James Madison (9 August 1809). On 1 March 1809, Thomas Jefferson himself, as President, had signed the Non-Intercourse Act (effective 15 March 1809), which reopened all overseas commerce to American shipping, with the exception of France and Great Britain.

One year later, in May 1810, shortly after Jefferson’s letter, Congress repealed the Non-Intercourse Act and substituted Macon’s Bill #2—since the Non-Intercourse Act was set to expire at the close of the Second Session of the 11th Congress on 1 May 1810. The law reopened trade with England and France—though it promised to reimpose non-importation against either belligerent if the other rescinded its restrictions on neutral trade.

It was Napoleon I’s opportunity to deceive the U.S. He ordered his Foreign Minister, the Duc de Cadore, to promise French cooperation. In the “Cadore Letter,” sent to the American government (August 1810), France pledged to suspend the Continental Decrees if the U.S. “shall cause their rights to be respected by the English”—presumably by reimposing non-importation. Of course, it was never Napoleon’s intention to make good on his promise. The French released a few American ships for appearances sake, and then continued to prey on American shipping. As well, they imposed a new series of French tariffs and exports restrictions which rendered American trade with the Continent virtually impossible. It was Napoleon’s plan to give the appearance of making concessions to the U.S. so as to further embroil the new nation with England.

An important letter in which the ex-President foresees the problems to come from Napoleon I, whom he names that spoiled child of fortune, realizing that a war with Britain could only be detrimental to the United States, for, as he states, England is the only nation from which serious injury is to be apprehended—and also realizing that any such accommodation with Britain will most certainly aggravate the French Emperor. $30,000 - $50,000
Jefferson, Thomas. Autograph letter signed (“Th: Jefferson”), 1 page (10 x 8 in.; 254 x 203 mm.), “Monticello,” 10 May 1810, to John W. Eppes; browned; seal tears to integral address leaf and split to page fold.

On the eve of the War of 1812, Former President Thomas Jefferson correctly predicts the coming war while offering his opinion that the present situation offered proof as to what was condemnable among mankind.

Jefferson writes in full: Mr. Thweatt’s letter with your P. S. came to hand late last night, and I shall dispatch Francis tomorrow morning in the case of one of our most trusty servants I have. it will take to-day to have Francis affairs ready for the road, and he will be obliged to make out but two days of the journey to arrive at Eppington on the eve of your departure for Carolina. considering the shortness of the time you will be with him I was almost tempted to keep him till your return from Carolina, but I thought it better by a prompt compliance with your wish, to merit the receiving him in deposit again during your next winter’s visit to Washington. You will receive in him in good health, and his reading and writing have been well attended to.

In the present unexplained state of the world, the difficulty of deciding what is best to be done for us, has produced a general disposition to acquiesce in whatever our public councils shall decide. Between the convoy system (which is war) and that which has been adopted, the opposite considerations appear so equally balanced, that the decision in favor of those which continue the state of peace will probably be approved. the public sentiment as far as I could judge of it from limited specimen under my observation. I think when peace shall be restored that the examples present mad epoch will be so far from being appealed to as precedent of right, that they will be considered as prima facia proofs of whatever is wrong and condemnable among mankind. I have learnt with great concern the very ill state of your health during the winter, have you tried the daily use of the warm bath? From it’s effect on rheumation in one instance within my knowledge, it is worthy of trial.

Jefferson’s postscript relates to the gift of a dog: I send you by Francis a female puppy of the shepherd dog breed. The next year I can give you a male. The most careful intelligent dogs in the world excellent for the house or plantation.

In the years leading up to the War of 1812, America attempted to maintain its neutrality in the Anglo-French wars that had been raging off and on since 1793. Both French and British ships were harassing American merchants bound for the other’s ports. This was seriously affecting American economic interests while British impressment of American sailors further deteriorated relations with that country. The debate over the best way to deal with these issues was dividing the Americans into two political camps with the Republicans favoring economic sanctions over military force.

During his administration, Jefferson took the typical republican stance. From December of 1807 a series of economic measures were attempted by his administration to convince both the French and English to respect the neutrality of American shipping. These measures, which suspended trade with the belligerents, were unsuccessful at gaining respect for U.S. neutrality while at the same time causing severe economic hardship in America. With each failure of these economic sanctions came more popular support for a military solution.

Congress made one final effort in May of 1810 to reach a peaceful solution by passing the Macon’s Bill No. 2. This act reopened trade with France and Britain but also authorized the president to suspend trade with either of the major powers if the other should lift its restrictions. Trade with Britain swiftly reached pre-December 1807 levels. However, trade with France remained much more limited due to the strength of the British fleet. Napoleon therefore announced that his restrictions on U.S. shipping would be revoked in November 1810. Madison therefore reapplied non-intercourse with Britain.

It was while congress was considering Macon’s bill no. 2 that Jefferson penned this letter. Here he predicts that the country will momentarily side with those attempting to use peaceful means to gain respect for U.S. neutrality. However he also notes that public sentiment is no longer in unison with the republican’s pacifist stance and foretells of the war that was to come two years later. After France was the first country to lift its sanctions, Britain soon continued the harassment of American shipping and the impressment of American sailors. Because of the Americans inability to peaceably induce Britain into respecting U.S. neutrality on the seas, even Republicans came to view war as the only solution to Britain’s refusal to recognize American neutrality.

An important letter in which former President Jefferson correctly predicts the events leading to the War of 1812, and uncharacteristically offers his feelings on the madness of the era.

$20,000 - $30,000

Jefferson’s solar observations at Monticello with his grandson.

In the present manuscript, Jefferson records solar observations made by himself and his teenage grandson, Thomas Jefferson Randolph, at Monticello. In part, their observations appear to involve the testing of their instruments, as Jefferson’s notes include allowances for error of instrument as well as calculations for degrees of refraction . . . parallax . . . true altitude . . . Zenith distance . . . declination [from] Greenwich and latitudes of Willis’s Mount and Monticello. Some observations are introduced by substantial narrative passages such as, Latitude of Willis’s mountain by observations of the Sun; meridian altitude taken from the peak on the right side of the gap, & next adjacent to it, as seen from Monticello while others are briefer. Jefferson’s integral signatures appear when he assigns credit for his own or his grandson’s readings, as in Th: J’s observation Nov. 21. . . and Th: J.R’s observn of Dec. 18.

A solar eclipse was visible and witnessed at Monticello on 11 September 1811, and it is likely that this astronomical event prompted Jefferson and his grandson to undertake their observations herewith. A fascinating manuscript revealing Jefferson’s wide and varied interests as well as his desire to impart both knowledge and intellectual curiosity upon his grandson. $8,000 – $12,000
Edward M. Kennedy expresses his views on the sentencing of Sirhan Sirhan after his conviction in the assassination of Robert F. Kennedy, evoking Martin Luther King.

In this heart-wrenching letter to Evelle Younger, Los Angeles County District Attorney, Edward M. Kennedy expresses his views on the possible penalties available to the court under law, in the trial of Sirhan Sirhan.

Kennedy writes, in part: *My brother was a man of love and sentiment and compassion. He would not have wanted his death to be a cause for the taking of another life. You may recall his pleas when he learned of the death of Martin Luther King. He said what we need in the United States is not division, what we need in the United States is not hatred, what we need in the United States is not violence or lawlessness, but love and wisdom and compassion towards one another. Moreover he was a young man totally committed to life and living. He stood against injustice, poverty and discrimination for those evils lessened life. He grew to despise war for war denies the sacredness of life. And he had a special affection for children for they held the promise of life.*

We all realize that many other considerations fall within your responsibility and that of the court. But if the kind of man my brother was is pertinent we believe it should be weighed in the balance on the side of compassion, mercy and God’s gift of life itself.

Sirhan Sirhan was convicted on 17 April 1969 and sentenced to death on 23 April 1969. The sentence was commuted to life in prison in 1972 after the California Supreme Court, in its decision in California v. Anderson, invalidated all pending death sentences imposed in California prior to 1972.

An emotive letter from Edward M. Kennedy on the punishment of Sirhan Sirhan for the assassination of his brother, Robert F. Kennedy.

Together with: Autograph notes in the hand of Edward Kennedy, 1 page, legal folio, 21 June 1968 being his notes upon hearing his brother Robert F. Kennedy had been shot. With arrow marks for dividers, his notes read in full: *Hamilton AFB, Ambass[ador], Central Receiving Hospital, 483-7311, Good Samaritan Hospital, Hu-2-8111*

A Kennedy aide marks the letter with a brief notation: *These notes were made by Senator Edward M. Kennedy in his suite in the Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco, Calif. early on Wednesday morning, June 5, 1968 shortly after returning to his room from a TV broadcast. (He had been in Calif. campaigning for his brother Senator Robert F. Kennedy). When he turned on his hotel TV set he heard the report that his brother, Bobby had been shot in the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles. He got on the telephone to try to reach the various places where his brother had been taken -- Ambassador Hotel, Central Receiving Hospital, L.A. where he was first treated, Good Samaritan Hospital, and finally Hamilton Air Force Base, San Raphael, Calif. where it was arranged to have an Air Force Lear jet fly him to Los Angeles. I drove in a police car with him & his staff to Hamilton A. F. Base. V.M.G.*

An extraordinary record of one Kennedy brother learning of the shooting of another Kennedy brother. *$4,000 - $6,000*
52. Kennedy, Jacqueline. Autograph letter signed, 1 page (7 ⅝ x 7 in.; 194 x 178 mm.), [no place or date], to an unidentified woman; in pristine condition.

Devoted wife Jackie Kennedy prescribes care for her bedridden husband, Jack Kennedy.

In her curious and whimsical note, Kennedy writes in full: Please get a white nurses uniform and a little cap with a Red Cross on it - then when you have it- this is the schedule:

Midmorning - Cocoa (whipped cream if he's in his office). Cortone pill [medication containing corticosteroid- a replacement for adrenal insufficiency].

Lunch - Tea, cream & sugar, unbuttered white toast (from cafeteria) & a pat of butter. Hot plate that I will bring.

Mid Afternoon- Cocoa & cortone pill.

A glass of hot water in the morning & afternoon if you can work it in.

Make sure he brings home thermos & hot plate at night. Many many thanks - Jacqueline Kennedy  R.N.

In 1947, during a visit to England, John F. Kennedy collapsed suddenly with acute nausea and low blood pressure; his illness was diagnosed as “Addison’s Disease” — caused by an insufficiency or failure of the adrenal glands, which secrete the hormone adrenaline. The symptoms of adrenal insufficiency include dizziness, nausea and weight loss, with eventual circulatory collapse if not treated properly. In most cases, Addison’s Disease is caused by tuberculosis of the adrenal glands; Kennedy’s adrenal insufficiency was exacerbated by the malaria he caught in the Pacific during World War II. By 1950, it was discovered that cortisone was a better method of treatment than that used for the previous twenty years - treatment with adrenal hormone. Kennedy found he could treat his disease with a new drug called DOCA (desoxycorticosterone acetate), administered in pellet form - the pellets implanted in the skin behind the thigh; he would stockpile emergency supplies of DOCA pellets in safe-deposit boxes across the country.

Kennedy’s chief health problem, however, was not Addison’s Disease, which was treatable and kept under control. His most severe health problem was his back. He needed an operation to fuse the degenerating discs in his back but the Addison’s disease made surgery hazardous. By mid-1954, his back became so painful that he could hold back on the surgery no longer. His chances were 50-50. He entered the hospital on October 10, 1954; spinal surgery took place on October 21st. The two-part operation was completed, at Jack’s insistence, in one step - but, as the doctors feared, in his weakened condition, he contracted a staph infection and lapsed into a coma. Kennedy was not released until after Christmas, and then, in February of 1955, there was another infection- and a second operation to remove a steel plate inserted earlier and to graft floating bones.

During this period, Kennedy’s wife Jacqueline tried to cheer him up. One practical joke she played on him was to ask beautiful blonde actress Grace Kelly to dress up as a nurse and tend to Jack. However, Jack — a notorious womanizer — was in such pain that he hardly noticed any of his attendants — and did not recognize the screen star. She came out of his room muttering: “I must be losing it.” No doubt, the present note was another attempt to buoy her husband’s spirits. $10,000 - $15,000
53. **Key, Francis Scott.** Autograph letter signed ("F S Key"), 3 pages (12 ⅝ x 7 ⅞ in.; 321 x 200 mm.), "Georgetown," 8 October 1819. To Reverend William Meade of New York; light browning, second leaf skillfully reinforced.

**Francis Scott Key criticizes Monroe’s African policy.**

Key writes in full: Mr. Crawford’s fears are realized. The President has forgotten his promises and what simple Courtiers were we to suppose it would be otherwise. We have it all to go over again. But never fear -- we shall bring him back to the point we had gained. He is gone, & we must write to him & get him to give his orders at once in black & white. Mr. Crawford had a talk with him & the Atty Genl. & I have seen them both. All the difficulties that we had before removed about the vagueness of the law & the difficulty of its execution re-appeared. Mr. Crawford tried to remove them -- contra the Atty. Genl. The President thought he could not purchase land, therefore could make no settlement nor any provision for receiving the Captured Negroes in Africa. He desired the Atty. Genl. to take the law & examine it & give him his opinion. The Atty. Gent said that without further examining it, he would at once advise him to do nothing, that Congress would soon meet & pass another law in which they might say plainly what they wanted done. Mr. Crawford said the law was just what it ought to be & presented neither doubt nor difficulty. Thus they broke up. Nothing was done. Caldwell has seen Mr. Crawford & the Atty. Genl. also, & we have not met to compare notes since. I went to see him, but he was gone to Alexandria. I spent several hours with Mr. Wirt. He acknowledged that he was uninformed about the business, thought our plan impracticable, but concurred in all our wishes. I found him reading our report, & he says he will read everything about it & consider it. I think he will be a friend, at any rate, not an enemy. He seems to fear the danger of some excitement among the Slaves in consequence of our proceedings, & made some observations on that subject that deserve to be considered. He said the President would certainly appoint Bacon the agent, & that we ought to write to him & remind him of what had passed between us, as to which he had no doubt he would do what he had promised & intimated that he would not oppose us. He added that he would write to the President today upon the subject.

We must therefore immediately prepare to carry on a correspondence with the President, & I will prepare a letter for our Committee to sign & forward as soon as Genl. Mason (who is one of us, & the only one of us who has any weight) returns, which I hear will be tomorrow. We shall all, that is, Caldwell & myself, be in consequence of this state of things, a good deal wanted here. Nevertheless if you think it more important that we should meet you in Philadelphia we will do so -- at least I will, if possible. My idea is that the President will appoint an agent, two if we can find another (which by the bye we must do & I wish you to look about for another) that he will send a ship of war to the Coast, & probably a transport with the Coloured men from this Country as Labourers & some agricultural implements & that he will authorize him to settle in our territory & make preparations for receiving the Captured Negroes; and I think this will do. I wish you to bring on a dozen of the Sermons you sent me, the Plea for Africa. I have promised one to Mr. Wirt. The one I had, I lent, & cannot get again. I think it calculated to help us greatly. If we have no meeting in Philadelphia, I think you had better bring on Bacon with you; the sooner you are both here the better, unless you are doing something material, of which you will be the best judge. May God bless you!.. In a postscript, Key has added, Caldwell, I presume, has written & given you his account of our diplomatic adventures.

William Meade was the Episcopal Bishop of Virginia and a founder of the American Colonization Society, whose purpose was the liberation of American slaves so that they could emigrate and founded the nation of Liberia. The society bought a tract of land in Africa in 1821, and the first settlers arrived the following year. Eventually 15,000 freed slaves settled there.

$2,000 - $3,000
54. King, Martin Luther. Important typescript outline of a portion of a speech with extensive autograph additions and emendations, 4 pages (10 ¾ x 8 ½ in.; 276 x 216 mm.), “Frogmore, South Carolina,” [before 14 November 1966]; puncture holes from staples at top left corner, marginal fraying and creasing.

Martin Luther King strengthens an outline of a speech for the SCLC in his own hand.

Herewith, King edits an outline of a speech he was preparing to give at Penn Center, Frogmore, North Carolina for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference staff retreat on 14 November 1966. The outline contains over 130 words penned by King as well as several strikethroughs in his hand.

The outline begins: From whence we have come; where we are now; where do we go from here. King’s speech is a powerful testament to his role in the Civil rights Movement. His autograph insertion on the first page is stunning: The greatest victory of this period was what it did to the psyche [sic] of the Negro new dignity and destiny. We come out of this period only slightly integrated in the external society, but powerfully integrated within. We armed ourselves with dignity and self respect, and our adversaries tasted the gall of defeat. On the second page of the outline is the sentence: The roots of racism are very deep in America. King adds in his own hand the following: No one surveying the moral landscape of a nation can overlook the hideous and pathetic wreckage of commitment twisted and turned to a thousand shapes under the stress of prejudice and irrationality. Noting the line of progress in the civil rights revolution is not straight, King provides a thoughtful analogy: It is like curving around a mountain when you are approaching a city. Often it feels as though you are moving backwards, and you lose sight of your goal; but in fact you are moving ahead, and soon you will see the city again, closer by.

An extraordinary record of King’s eloquence as he reworks his speech for the SCLC staff retreat in 1966. $10,000 - $15,000
55. Lee, Richard Henry. Important autograph letter signed, 2 pages (13 ¾ x 8 ¾ in.; 340 x 210 mm.), “Baltimore,” 17 January 1777 to John Page of Williamsburg, Virginia; left margin of first page reinforced, repair to lower horizontal fold, integral address leaf.

Lee provides a detailed report of General Lee's capture, including mention of General Washington crossing the Delaware North River with his troops.

Lee writes in full: I do not recollect that I have heretofore given you any of the particulars of General Lees captivity, and therefore I will do it now, as I know you take great share in what concerns that brave and worthy Officer. When Gen. Washington crossed North river with the Southern Troops, he left Gen. Lee with the Eastern men to guard the passes on Hudson’s river, where he remained until the enemies progress thro the Jerseys occasioned him to repair thither, which he did with about 1700 men. He was joined in the Jerseys by as many militia as made his number about 3000. With these he continued on the enemies rear constantly expecting that reinforcements of militia would soon enable Gen. Washington to push the enemies front so as to put it in his power to distress their rear greatly. And in the mean time he proposed to harrass them with desultory war. But at length he received peremptory orders to join the General as the militia came too slowly forward. He was on his rout for this purpose thro the western parts of Jersey, intending to cross Delaware above Trenton, when he received an Express from Gen. Gates which he expressed a desire of answering, and wished for a house to do this business in.

Now there happened a man, one Vanhorn who hearing this, and being considered as a foe to the British army from the heavy complaints he made against their procedure, informed the General of a house near (about 2 miles off) where he might securely do his business. It was a Whigs house it seems, and the proposal was accepted. The Villain Vanhorn pushed away in the night and gave information to the enemy who were posted, a body of them, about 20 miles from the place. They detached 70 light horse under the command of Colo. Harcourt, who riding very hard got up to the place where Gen. Lee was, in the morning, surrounded the house and made him prisoner. Took him off with great precipitation, and with him a french Gentleman, a Lt. Colonel in the service of france, who had landed to the Eastward and was on his way to offer his service to Congress. The General had a guard of 20 men with him, who being dispersed when the Horsemen arrived, never collected or defended their General in the least.

The Congress, pursuing the custom of Europe, offered Six Hessian field officers in exchange for him, but afterwards, hearing that Gen. Lee was committed to the Provost, a military Goaler, under the idea of his being a British Officer, became the Tyrant, had not accepted his resignation in order that if-they got him, they might avail themselves of the law martial for his condemnation; the Congress notified to Gen. Howe that if the proffered exchange was not accepted, they should detain Six Field Officers, of whom Col. Campbell would be one, that they might in their persons undergo exactly the same treatment in every respect that should be shewn to Gen. Lee.

I have been the more particular in this relation that you may do the brave General justice if any licentious tongue your way, should, as they have done in other places, calumniate by base insinuation a great character, whom some hate for the reasons that all good men love, I mean an attachment to, and ability to serve the cause of American liberty. By a Gentleman who passed thro our army at Morris Town in Jersey on the 8th instant, we learn that the Men were in good spirits, that he judges their number to be about 12000, that he understood they were under marching orders, and that their destination was towards Elizabeth Town, which is between the main body of the enemy and N.York. That Gen Heath was expected to join the army on the 9th with between 2 & 5 thousand men. That he met large bodies of Militia going towards the Jerseys, and upon the whole it seemed probable from his relation that either the enemy must soon quit the Jerseys, or do worse. But unhappily the force of our Army is chiefly militia and their stay very uncertain, which renders the speedy reinforcement of regular Troops absolutely necessary.

An important, unpublished account of General Lee’s capture providing abundant information on the movements of Generals Washington, Howe and Gates during a crucial time of war.

$20,000 - $30,000
56. Lee, Robert E. Extraordinary autograph manuscript, 1 page (8 x 5 in.; 203 x 127 mm), [no place, no date], being a listing of the highlights of his military career during the Civil War; left margin frayed, scattered spotting.

Robert E. Lee’s Confederate service record in his own hand.

Two months after Lee’s death on October 22, 1870 his eldest son, George Washington Custis Lee sent this handwritten manuscript to Charles Marshall, Lee’s aide-de-camp and secretary during the war. Marshall not only drafted Lee’s acceptance of Union General Ulysses S. Grant’s terms of surrender (Appomattox Courthouse 9 April 1865), but also drafted Lee’s General Order No. 9, his eloquent farewell address to his vanquished Army of Northern Virginia (Head Quarters, near Appomattox, 10 April 1865).

Herewith Lee writes in full:

Commd. in VA [Virginia] Service 23 Apl. ’61
Appd. [appointed] Comm Brigr Genl in C. [Confederate] Army – in April or May ’61
Directed to assume control of Confederate forces in VA [Army of Northern Virginia] by Secy Walker. 10 May ’62
Appd.to the command of Mil [Military] forces of C. States by Gen’l Order No. 3
Adjt & Inspt Gens office. 6 Feb’65
Assumed command 9 Feb ’65
Attack of Grant on Petersburg Lines
2 Feb April ’65. Retreat 3 Apl. ’65
Surrender 9 Apl ’65

Together with: George Washington Custis Lee. Autograph letter signed and initialed twice, 5 pages octavo, Lexington, Virginia, 28 December 1870) to Colonel Charles Marshall, Lee’s aide-de-camp written shortly after his father’s death being the transmittal letter for Lee’s service record above.

Lee’s dutiful son writes in full: I am very sorry to learn from your letter to me of the 21st inst. That you have been and are still, such a sufferer from rheumatism. I trust however that you are by this time relieved.

I shipped by express, today, to your address, two boxes of papers relating to the war, which I hope will reach you safely. I had endeavored to arrange them to some extent; but was obliged in the packing to put them in as best I could. You will find among them all the maps I have been able to get, excepting a large birds-eye-view map of Gettysburg which is too large for the box, and which I will send separately [sic] if you so desire.

Thinking it best to err on the safe side, I have probably sent you much that you may not need; but as you arrange the papers to suit your plan of work, you can lay aside what you do not require, and return to us at your convenience.

I believe I have sent all we have relating to the late war between the States. There are some few papers in reference to my fathers command in Texas prior to the civil war, which I shall have to look over more carefully; and if I find anything which promises to be of use to you, I will forward it at once.

You will find among the books sent an old order book in which are entered some few orders, and some letters since the war in my handwriting. Some of the letters will be of no use to you, but as I think they are copied into another book, you can keep them (that is the book) as long as you wish.

We can not pay in advance here further than Staunton, and you will therefore have to pay freight on the boxes from Staunton to Baltimore, and send amount to me or to Washington College. Col. Johnston has written to Mr. Davis in regard to the W. Va. And Southern operations, and I am in hopes you will before long receive his account. Col. Taylor, in reply to my note to him on the same subject, says that he will write to you as to what he can do for you.

Genl. Callem’s book is entitled, I think, the graduates of the U.S. Mil. Academy, or something to that effect. I have not yet been able to get hold of it, but expect to do so in a few days, and can then give you more definite information. As you go on with your work, if you will make notes of what we can do for you here, and send them from time to time, I will try and attend to them promptly. I merely suggest this as a means of saving you some writing.

Lee’s postscript links the manuscript of Lee’s service record to Marshall confirming the provenance:

P.S. I believe I mentioned in a previous letter that Genl. Mankin’s communication was forwarded to its destination, with an extract of as much of your letter to me as related to it. G.W.C.L.

I enclose a little memorandum in my father’s handwriting, which may be of use to you. I need hardly ask you to try and preserve all the papers sent you, and especially those in my father’s handwriting. G.W.C.L.

Charles Marshall never wrote a biography of Robert E. Lee, though he did deliver an address in Baltimore before the Society of the Army and Navy of the Confederate States in the State of Maryland (January 19, 1864), which contained details of Appomattox, and is today considered a major authority on the subject.

$20,000 – $30,000

In the first year of the Civil War, President Lincoln reassures Brigadier General William T. Sherman that he will receive military support and more men to carry on the offensive.

At the time of this letter, Sherman was serving in command of the Department of the Cumberland, comprising the states of Kentucky and Tennessee. [On November 9, 1861, the department was renamed the Department of the Ohio, and three states were added: Ohio, Michigan and Indiana.] Troops in the area were under the command of a number of generals, including George McClellan, William S. Rosecrans, O. M. Mitchel, and Robert Anderson. Sherman voiced his complaint that a sufficient force had not been placed at his disposal with which to devise a suitable offensive plan of operations.

Lincoln’s responds to Sherman in full: I am glad you concur with us in thinking it best to accept three years men only, in Kentucky. Let it be so. I

shall appoint [Thomas J.] Wood and [Richard W.] Johnson tomorrow. We send arms as fast as possible. Five thousand to Ohio, and Five Thousand to Indiana were ordered forwarded today. A. Lincoln

At the onset of the Civil War, the loyalty of four Border States, Maryland, Delaware, Kentucky and Missouri, was in serious question. Lincoln worried that if Kentucky supported the Confederacy, the other three states would follow close behind, and Lincoln could ill afford to lose Kentucky’s population of 1,150,000. On 22 September 1861, Lincoln was to comment that . . . to lose Kentucky is nearly the same as to lose the whole game.

Just a few days after Lincoln’s letter to Sherman, a “council of war” was held during the afternoon of 16 October 1861 in Louisville, Kentucky, attended by Simon Cameron, the Secretary of War, Adjutant General L. Thomas, and William T. Sherman. It was at this meeting that Sherman expressed his views to Cameron on the Union’s military strength in Kentucky, as detailed by General T. J. Wood in a report written after the war on 24 August 1866): General Sherman began by giving his opinion of the people of Kentucky, and the then condition of the State. He remarked that he believed a large majority of the people of Kentucky were thoroughly devoted to the Union, and loyal to the Government, and that the Unionists embraced almost all the older and more substantial men in the State; but unfortunately, there was no organization nor arms among the Union men; that the rebel minority, thoroughly vindictive in its sentiments, was organized and armed (this having been done in advance by their leaders), and, beyond the reach of the Federal forces, overawed and prevented the Union men from organizing; that, in his opinion, if Federal protection were extended throughout the State to the Union men, a large force could be raised for the service of the Government...General Sherman explained forcibly how largely the difficulties of suppressing the rebellion would be enhanced, if the rebels should be allowed to plant themselves firmly, with strong fortifications, at commanding points on the Ohio River. It would be facile for them to carry the war thence into the loyal States north of the river. To resist an advance of the rebels, General Sherman states that he did not have at that time in Kentucky more than some twelve to fourteen thousand effective men. The bulk of this force was posted at camp Nolin, on the Louisville & Nashville Railway, fifty miles south of Louisville...General Sherman proceeded to consider it [the military situation] from the offensive stand-point...it was absolutely necessary the Government should adopt, and maintain until the rebellion was crushed, the offensive. For the purpose of expelling the rebels from Kentucky, General Sherman said that at least sixty thousand soldiers were necessary...General Sherman expressed the opinion that, to carry the war to the Gulf of Mexico, and destroy all armed opposition to the Government, in the entire Mississippi Valley, at least two hundred thousand troops were absolutely requisite.

It was not until December 3, 1861, that Lincoln felt confident of Kentucky’s loyalty: . . .Kentucky . . .for some time in doubt, is now decidedly, and I think, unchangeably, ranged on the side of the Union. (Annual Address to Congress)

A fine letter revealing Lincoln’s prompt and decisive actions to ensure Kentucky’s loyalty in the early days of the Civil War.

$10,000 - $15,000

Lincoln recommends the release of the wayward son of a Kentucky Chaplin.

Boyle writes the present letter on behalf of Rev. J.H. Bristow, Chaplain of 5th Infantry, Kentucky volunteers. Boyle writes in full: At the request of the Rev. J.H. Bristow Chaplain 5th Infantry, KY.Vols., I have the honor to state to your Excellency that Chaplain Bristow is one of the most loyal and patriotic citizens of the State, and united his earnest effort with those of Maj. Gen. Goussain in making the 5th Ky “The Louisville Legion” and has been the Chaplain of it since its organizations. Mr. Bristow has rendered valuable service to the Government in the field and at home. He has a gallant and brave son in the 1st Iowa Cavalry. He has unfortunately a wayward son, eighteen years of age, who joined Morgen last year during the raid into Kentucky and is now a prisoner of war at Camp Douglas. Rev. Mr. Briston informs me his son is repentant and anxious to return to his allegiance. I trust favor may be shown Chaplain Bristow in release of his son, on account of the patriotic service of the father and elder brother, and the youth of the prisoner, unless there be reasons against it not to be resisted and not known to me.

Lincoln’s endorsement orders: Let the boy, Samuel B. Bristow, named within, take the oath of allegiance, be discharged, and go with his father. He is at Camp Douglas. A. Lincoln. Oct. 22, 1863. $6,000 - $8,000

59. Lincoln, Mary. Autograph letter signed with initials (“M. L.”), 1 page (7 x 4 ½ in.; 178 x 114 mm.), [no place], 23 October [1864] to Mrs. Lincoln’s confidant, Abram Wakeman, a New York politician whom Lincoln had appointed Surveyor of the Port of New York, a sought-after patronage post; in fine condition.

Lincoln writes in full: I have been much amused, in looking over the Sunday Mercury, to see that some kind merchant has been so generous towards us! When will these vile fabrications cease: Not until they find Mr. L. reelected. This is the reason that makes their falsehoods so desperate! Please say not a word, to any one, not even W [Thurlow Weed] about the 5th Avenue business. I write in great haste.

It is likely that the story in the Sunday Mercury refers to Mrs. Lincoln having been forgiven a debt. By the fall of 1864, the unstable Mrs. Lincoln had begun to ring up enormous debts with both her personal wardrobe and her White House redecorating scheme, and was being pressed for payment. Terrified that her husband would discover the extent of her bills, as well as her dabbling in politics, she made a practice of concealment. The “W” Mrs. Lincoln refers to is Thurlow Weed, a publisher and New York political boss, who was Abram Wakeman’s mentor. $8,000 - $12,000
60. Lindbergh, Anne Spencer Morrow. Autograph letter signed in pencil ("Anne Lindbergh"), 5 pages (8 ¼ x 5 ¾ in.; 210 x 133 mm.), Seven Gales Farm, “Vineyard Haven, Massachusetts,” 2 April 1942 to a woman named Janey on onion skin paper; scattered light spotting.

Anne Morrow Lindbergh, who lost her infant son to a kidnapper/murderer, writes to a woman who has just lost her baby.

Lindbergh writes in full: Thought I know you so little I feel as if I knew you much more partly because of Con & partly because the few times we did meet I felt we could go quickly through the superficial. And so when I got a letter from Con telling me you had lost your baby I could not help thinking very intensely of you. Sitting up in bed tonight, waiting for my own baby, I cannot help thinking of you & of my own life & wishing I could help you. I remember all the false comfort or non-understanding comfort given me at times. The friend who said when I tried to explain, ‘It isn’t exactly as a person that I miss the baby…’ She interrupted there with, ‘Oh no Anne, that would be sentimental’… I never went on to explain.

People do not seem to understand that it isn’t the Past only that is cut off, in grief, but—even worse—the Future. The Future, like a new crop that was already planted and coming up. Perhaps what I was trying to explain was something I read afterwards beautifully expressed in a book. The book was by a man but I think it must have been his wife he was speaking of for he could not have imagined it. The women had lost a baby, very young, & she had said I think something like this: ‘I don’t miss the baby so much except when I look at these clothes I made for him & then it seems so dreadful that they are useless—like all this love welling up in me & the milk in my breasts.’ The apparent waste of love is terrible, though I don’t really believe it is wasted. I think it must be somehow strengthened & waiting for use—like winter wheat. The green shoots are all killed on top but the roots are stronger for having been through the winter, than the seeds that are put in new in the spring.

Don’t answer this. You need all your strength for getting well. And it will be harder to get well without the baby to help you. Even physically it will be harder—just as it’s harder for a woman to get well who isn’t nursing her baby. It helps to know sometimes the physical disadvantages. It keeps one from blaming one’s spirit too much. I hope you will be good to yourself & not expect too much from either your spirit of your body & that sometime I may see you again.

An extraordinarily intimate and insightful letter. Anne, having lost her baby, is able to sense Janey’s pain and anguish and provides solace, comfort and encouragement. $4,000 - $6,000

A stunning cache of (64) love letters from Douglas MacArthur to his first love and first wife. The largest archive of MacArthur letters ever to be sold at auction and with staggering content revealing extraordinary details of his personal life with his first wife and his professional life with Commander-in-Chief John Pershing, Secretary of War, John W. Weeks and others.

An extraordinary archive of handwritten letters from Douglas MacArthur to Mrs. Louise Cromwell Brooks MacArthur, covering the period of his courtship, engagement, and marriage on 14 February 1922. The letters form a complete whole: from October 1921, the time of their first meeting through June 1925 after their return from Manila and during MacArthur’s command of the IV Corps Area in Atlanta, Georgia. It is clear he is madly in love with her from the very beginning - With you disaster has no power to harm. Without you success has no power to please. (23 October 1921). She totally disarmed him with her charm and vivacity: I am tired of Kings and Dukes and Princes. I wish that I might take you by the hand to lead you to the garden and watch the bees buzz round the roses. I love you. (23 October 1921). A giddy romantic the warrior MacArthur has become: I have been drunk with the intoxication of you all day. The caress of your eyes, the tenderness of your lips, the sparkle of your wit! The gleam of your smile makes my pulse shiver, the touch of your hand my head whirl, the warmth of your mouth suffocates my gasping senses and
post at West Point, and shows his great anger with the forces at work - Secretary of War John W. Weeks and Chief of Staff John J. Pershing: My relief before the end of my tour will be regarded throughout the service and the country as an effort to discredit me and the progressive policies I introduced. It will arouse a bitterness of resentment...Hundreds of thousands of men- the American Legion, the educational world, the athletic world, and a large part of the press all will fail to see anything other than the venting of a personal spite. (No date, probably mid-late January, 1922). Earlier, he had advised her on how to deal with jealous "suitor" Pershing: I am sorry the C.I.C. [Commander-in-Chief Pershing] is worrying you. Sorry he is such a bully - such a blackguard as to try and blackmail you...He is trying to break your spirit. Don't let him. If you do, you are gone. Ignore him, do not let him come to your house, do not let him telephone you, do not dance with him, do not let him speak to you except when unavoidable. Such treatment will kill him. See the Secretary of War [Weeks] yourself and tell him the entire story. Omit no detail. He will be shocked beyond words. This will disarm Pershing's case if he ever tries to poison Weeks' mind. (15 November 1921). In assisting Louise in her defense against the personal accusations about her "relationship" with Pershing, he explains, point by point, the details of Pershing's "attack" and his reassignment. He concludes: Whatever may be the underlying motives, the Army, the public, will see only the brutal application of official power applied with the approval of the Secretary to get rid of an officer who was in the way as a rival for your heart and hand. (No date, probably mid-late January, 1922, at the time of Pershing's announcement of MacArthur's replacement by Sladen.) MacArthur even reveals to Louise his personal thoughts about leaving West Point: My leaving West Point is a matter of complete indifference to me. My work of reconstruction is almost done. On the mortal road to Paradise... (15 November 1921). His motto (the West Point motto) has been forever modified:...my motto 'Duty, Honor, Country,' reads from now on - 'Duty, Honor, Country, Louise.' (28 October 1921). The passion overflows: Are you really mine, you beautiful white soul - you passion breeding woman - you mirth making child - you tender hearted angel - you divine giver of delight - you pulsing passionflower - you exquisite atom of crystalline purity? Are you really mine? This I know. There can be no Heaven for me without you. (8 November 1921). His pet names for her abound: My darling, My adorable, Sweetest of Women, My Angel Girl, Lovely Lady, 0 Sunshine of my Life, You Adorable Piece of Loveliness, Breath of my life, Sweet Lady of My Dreams, Exquisite One, My Wonder Girl. The effect is MacArthur's full surrender: The pressure of those tender fingers, the warmth of those soft palms, their sweet scent of perfume, thrills that captive trio - my heart, my soul, my spirit, - with an ecstasy of shaking surrender that only those who have felt can know. (29 November 1921). He is entirely convinced - due to the suddenness of the emotion flooding his heart - that they are destined to be together for life: Was ever such a romance in this entire world before! Were we to tell the story no one would ever believe. I am no fatalist- but somehow in this case I can but believe that God intended it so. He made us to be mates and when by accident we failed to join he intervened and brought us together. In no other way can I explain the instant love that overwhelmed me when my eyes first met yours... I believe that our life together is to be one of those beautiful consecrations made in heaven and lived on earth... All my life I shall love you, and glorify you, and worship you... (18 December 1921).

In the midst of all the ethereal poetry, MacArthur also writes with great clarity of his reassignment by Pershing to Manila from his
62. Madison, James. Highly important letter signed as Secretary of State, 8 pages (9 ¾ x 8 in.; 248 x 203 mm.), Department of State, 6 June 1804 to Tobias Lear, former private secretary to George Washington; pages tied together with pale blue ribbon, last page reinforced.

The official instructions given to Lear as he assumed the post of consul general at Algiers during the height of hostilities with the Barbary rulers—one of the first international tests of American nationhood.

For years the bane of Mediterranean commerce, the infamous Barbary Pirates made North Africa their home base from where they made raids on Mediterranean (and occasionally Atlantic) shipping and ports, demanding booty, ransom, and slaves. Attacks on American ships by pirates from Tripoli and the other Barbary states of Algiers, Morocco, and Tunis continued—and became more belligerent. An incident in September 1800, in which the frigate George Washington was required to hoist Algerian colors and transport a sizable tribute to Constantinople, was the straw that broke the camel’s back. President Thomas Jefferson finally decided to take action against the pirates—and against the bribery which to him was “money thrown away”. On June 1, 1801, he sent a squadron of frigates into the Mediterranean with the aim of protecting American commerce against attack. In response, Tripoli declared war on the U.S. (June 10, 1801). With the nation facing a foreign menace it was not prepared to meet, Jefferson convinced Congress to pass legislation authorizing the enlargement of the navy for operations against the Barbary states (war was declared against Tripoli on February 6, 1802), and a stronger squadron was dispatched to the Mediterranean early in 1802.

Though the campaign began well, disaster soon struck: Captain William Bainbridge, commander of the Philadelphia, ran his ship aground off Tripoli while in pursuit of a small enemy vessel. The ship and her crew (over 300 men) were captured and held hostage by the Pasha, creating a military and diplomatic quagmire for Washington—not only were the hostages in danger from any future U.S. military action, but now the Pasha had at his disposal a large, modern warship. While the hostages languished in Tripoli, young Lieutenant Stephen Decatur mounted a daring raid into the harbor of Tripoli on the evening of February 16, 1804—just four months before the date of the present letter—to salvage the situation. Commanding a recently captured ketch renamed Intrepid, Decatur secretly approached the Philadelphia and in a swift hand-to-hand battle managed to flush the Tripolitans from her decks. Within 20 minutes, the Philadelphia was ablaze; shortly thereafter the powder magazine ignited, blowing her up in the middle of the harbor.

With this victory, President Jefferson and his Secretary of State, James Madison, suddenly found themselves in a much improved bargaining position: the threat of violence against Tripoli was now a real one. Tobias Lear, who had just returned from the troublesome consular post at Santo Domingo (a country which was attempting to break free from French rule), was chosen to negotiate a long-discussed treaty with Tripoli. Lear, the lone mediator, receives his instructions from Madison while the U.S. prepares to resume combat operations.
Madison writes in part: On receiving information of the loss of the Philadelphia the inclosed act was passed by Congress, whereby a million dollars was appropriated to enable the President to impart such vigor to the conduct of the war as might at once change the exultation of the enemy in his casual fortune into a more proper sentiment of fear and prepare the way for a speedy and lasting peace with Barbary. Commodore Barrow has orders to provide at a suitable time for your joining him in order to the negotiation of a peace with Tripoli. This we hope may now be effected under the operations and auspices of the force in the hands of that officer, without any price or pecuniary concession whatever. Should adverse events or circumstances, of which you can best judge, and which are not foreseen here, render the campaign abortive and a pecuniary sacrifice preferable to a protraction of the war, you are authorized to agree in the last instance, and in that only, to the terms of peace specified in my letter to Mr. Cathcart of the 9th of April 1803, with such modifications as may be convenient. Of the twenty thousand dollars permitted to be given as the first purchase and consular present, five thousand are to be retained until a consul for Tripoli to be commissioned by the President shall arrive. Should you be able to reduce the terms, as may be expected, you will retain a proportionate sum for this object. On peace being made you have authority to place at Tripoli a temporary Agent to attend to our affairs. For the ransom of the prisoners, if a ransom be unavoidable you may stipulate a sum not exceeding five hundred dollars for each prisoner including officers, but deducting from the number in the hands of the Bashaw those promised to Capt. Dale to be released in return for the release of some of the Bashaw's subjects who had been captured by him, and also as many as may be considered an equivalent for the captures of Capt. Preble. A desirable shape to give the ransom money would be an annuity payable in four or five instalments. This rate of ransom must not be yielded however without such a change of our affairs by accident to the Squadron or by other powers joining against us in the war as is very unlikely to happen: and you will bear in mind that the sum of 500 dollars per man connected with the terms which were otherwise favorable was the voluntary offer of the Bashaw to Capt. Preble in the month of January prior to the reverse which he has since experienced, and to his knowledge of the force now sent against him. . . .

Shortly after Lear arrived in North Africa the U.S. Navy opened a new campaign against the Pasha (August, 1804). Eventually, the Pasha dropped his demand for the payment of American tribute and accepted $60,000.00, about half what he had previously demanded, as a ransom for the crew of the Philadelphia after a series of meetings with Lear. A treaty of peace and amity was signed with Tripoli on 4 June 1805. Lear remained as consul in Algiers until the beginning of the War of 1812.

An important diplomatic letter from Madison on the Tripolitan War. $15,000 - $25,000


James Madison writes to Thomas Jefferson with his comments on a Napoleon portrait.

Madison writes in full: The bearer Mr. E. Tayloe, son of Col. Tayloe of Washington is desirous of making a respectful call at Monticello, and I can not refuse to his motive, the gratification of a line presenting him to you. He is at present a resident at Fredericksburg, reading Law with his kinsman Mr. Lomax; and appears to be quite estimable & amiable.

Mr. T. is so good as to take charge of the 4 last volumes of Law Cases, which have been waiting for some such oppy. to get back to you. With every allowance for the painting talent & partial pencil of the author, the picture of Napoleon, exhibits a most gigantic mind & with some better features than the world had seen in his character.

No doubt, Madison is referring to the Reports of Cases Determined in the General Court of Virginia from 1730 to 1740, and from 1768 to 1772, edited by Thomas Jefferson and published in 1829, after his death. $8,000 - $12,000
While war with Great Britain looms ominously, President James Madison keeps in close contact with one of his foreign ministers in another hostile region: Algiers and the Barbary States.

Madison, first discussing an exchange of livestock and grain, writes in part: I must particularly thank you for the Sheep & Wheat accompanied by one of them. The Wheat was sown partly by myself, and partly by several friends among whom it was distributed in order to multiply experiments, and secure its propagation. In every instance however it was put so late into the earth, that another year will be necessary to test its merits. It was remarked that it did not escape the aggressions of the Hessian Fly, more than other Wheats in the vicinity. This circumstance attracted notice, because it decides a late Theory, which maintains that the Egg of that insect is deposited in the grain, and may be destroyed by steeps; unless indeed the insect be known in Barbary, which I presume not to be the case. The Sheep arrived all safe; one of these proving however to be a wedder, not a ram. The others were disposed of, 1 to Mr Jefferson, 1 to Capt: Coln. 1 to Genr Claiborne, and one to a friend in this neighborhood. For myself, I retained the ram with 4 horns, the oldest Broad tail, and the lamb of that breed; hoping that way to prolong my possession of an imported breeder. The Lamb however was killed by accident before he reached my farm; and the 4 horned ram died soon after. Retaining therefore, the old ram only, and feeding the mutton of the broad tails of which I have for some years had a mixture of blood in my flocks, I am induced to ask the favor of you to procure in a pair, or if readily to be done, more than one pair of those animals. The only objection to the breed is the coarseness, and almost hairiness of the wool. It is desirable therefore, that, as differences were noticed in the fleeces, the selection be made of the individuals least objectionable on that score. Perhaps there may be broad-tailed families in Algiers, clothed with fine fleeces; fairer even than those of one ordinary sheep. It is certain than in Tunis, towards the mountains at least, there are broad-tailed sheep, with fleeces considerable finer than our common wool. I have seen samples of them, from a flock of Judge Peters, who sent them to me, with a sample of cloth made of the material, & like an Eulogium on the longevity, the mutton, & other merits of the Sheep. I understand also that, Southward of Tripoli there is a broad-tail sheep, equally remarkable for the succulence of the meat, & a fineness of wool, almost rivalling that of the Merino . . . .

The President then turns to state affairs: For intelligence I refer you to communications from the Dept Of State; and to the newspapers, which will accompany them. From the later you will gather the general state of our relations with Europe, the progress of things in Spanish America, and the temper of this Country as to both. The general state of things at home will also be disclosed thro the same channel. With the exception of our embarrassed commerce, the prosperity was never greater. As the basis of it we have more universally redundant crops of every kind, than we remembered.

In Washington a month before the new Congress was to convene, President Madison spent this anxious time discussing with his Cabinet the initial message to Congress, a tough-worded reiteration of his opposition to British atrocities on the high seas, specifically, the impressment of American seamen. But the changing mood of the country against Britain had given him a powerful ally in his campaign to raise American resistance: the U.S. Congress. The recent elections had brought into power a small but significant vocal minority, soon to be known as the “War Hawks.” These representatives included some of the most revered and influential men to ever sit in the House: John C. Calhoun, William Lowndes, and Langdon Chevers of South Carolina; Henry Clay and Richard M. Johnson of Kentucky; and Felix Grundy and John Sevier of Tennessee. The “War Hawk” Congress convened on November 4, 1811, just nine days after the date of the present letter. Clay was elected Speaker of the House, and the other members of the new “War Hawk” faction managed to take control of several crucial committees. Consequently, Madison’s 5 November message to Congress, in which he called for the expansion of the Navy and an increase in expenditures for war preparations, was warmly received. With this speech the young United States, in defense of both national pride and free commerce, began the inexorable slide toward war with Great Britain. $8,000 - $12,000
65. Malcolm X [Little, Malcolm]. Rare and important typed letter signed (“Malcolm X”), 1 page (10 ¾ x 7 ¼ in.; 264 x 184 mm.), “New York,” 2 February 1965 to Miss Ellenie R. Ash of Amsden, Ohio, on his letterhead stationery with “Malcolm X” in red script lettering at head; scattered spotting.

Malcolm X asserts he does not hate white Americans.

Malcolm X writes in full: I hate no one because of their color. My judgement of people is based upon their deeds, their intentions, their conscious behavior. However, the strong position of economic and political power and prestige enjoyed by the present generation of white Americans does stem from the exploitation done to millions of BLACKS here in this country during slavery by the past generations of whites. The negative characteristics in most Black Communities aren’t inherent weaknesses of the Blacks, but are the effects that still are with us from the days of slavery. Slavery was so cruel and inhuman that we in this present generation still bear the scars from what was done to our grandparents by your grandparents.

However, if anything meaningful is ever done by whites to undo the physical and psychological harm done by slavery to the Blacks...it will have to be done by the young whites of your generation.

Moslem is only the anglicised form of the Arabic word Muslim. Moslem and Muslim are the same word, with the same meaning. It means one who has submitted himself completely to the will of God, by accepting Islam, which in Arabic only means the ‘religion of submission to God.’

Shortly after this letter, in the middle of February 1965, Malcolm X’s home was fire-bombed. He believed that leaders of the Nation of Islam—and even more powerful elements within the American government—wanted him dead. Then, one week after the fire-bombing, on 21 February, Malcolm X was assassinated at the Audubon Ballroom in Harlem. Three men, two of them Black Muslims, were convicted of the killing and given life sentences; the trial did not reveal whether or not the assassins were part of a conspiracy.

During his lifetime, Malcolm X influenced disparate wings of the black movement. His greatest contribution was the raising of the Afro-American consciousness to the racial pride necessary to the struggle for equality. $4,000 - $6,000
James Monroe in agreement with St. George Tucker's analysis of the development of United States law.

St. George Tucker was an important American jurist who produced an annotated edition of the *Commentaries* of Sir William Blackstone whose works on English law were the most important legal writings in the early years of the United States. Monroe makes an important comment about how great the American Revolution’s effect was on institutions, which had been imported from the Old World. He is discussing a manuscript by Tucker, which must have been his work soon to be published under the title “Examination of the Question: How Far from the Common Law of England Is the Law of the Federal Government of the United States?” Monroe writes very favorably of Tucker’s analysis, wishing only that he carried some of his examples further.

Monroe writes in full: Immediately on ye leaving Richmond I procured the manuscript you authorised me to peruse, on the question, whether the common Law of England is in force under the constitution of the U. States, and can assure you I was highly gratified by the perusal of it. I think it an excellent essay on that subject and likely to produce a considerable effect especially with the more enlightened part of the community. It is the first regular analysis I have seen of the change wrought by our revolution on the feudal institutions of Europe, tending to shew how complete that revolution was in the principles of our government and legislation. The pamphlet will I think be read generally and refer’d to in some views as authority in our courts. The only defect I see in it is that it does not in some cases persue the illustration as far as it might and ought for many of those who will read it. Some it is true will take the idea and carry it thro without further aid but others may not be able to do it. This however may be corrected in a republication hereafter if indeed the objection is a sound one. I have returned the paper as soon as I had read it…

Tucker’s was printed by Dixon at Richmond as a 42-page quarto pamphlet, but according to Sabin the exact year is not known. This letter would seem to place it at circa 1800. At this time, Tucker was a judge in the Virginia General Court. An important letter concerning a central question in the development of United States law, with Monroe’s significant remark that Tucker’s work tends to show how complete that revolution was in the principles of our government and legislation. $3,000 - $5,000

During the closing days of the War of 1812, Secretary of War James Monroe orders up additional troops from Kentucky and Tennessee to reinforce Andrew Jackson—soon to fight the legendary Battle of New Orleans.

Monroe writes in full: General Jackson having called to his aid two thousand five hundred men from Tennessee and this department having ordered five thousand, from that state to join General Jackson, making a total of 7500 men, and which number upon further reflection is thought to be too great to call out at one time from that state; you are therefore requested to furnish form the state of Kentucky 2500 men, to substitute that number called form the state of Tennessee, and advise the governor of that state whether you can do so or not. Should any unforeseen circumstances occur to prevent your furnishing them, they must go from Tennessee. You will take the necessary measures to forward these men to General Jackson with all possible dispatch.

In May of 1814, General Andrew Jackson was named commander of Military District No. 7, including the Mobile-New Orleans area and the U.S. army in the southwest. Immediately, he prepared an invasion of Spanish Florida. On 23-24 December 1814, Jackson led 5,000 troops, supported by the 14-gun war schooner Carolina, in a night attack upon the enemy. The attack, which checked the British advance, was followed by a furious artillery battle on 1 January 1815, in which the Americans outgunned the enemy. The Battle of New Orleans, in which these men from Kentucky and Tennessee were destined to participate, was fought after the peace treaty had been signed but before news of the treaty reached New Orleans. Yet the battle was not an exercise in futility. It is very doubtful that, had the British won the battle and taken New Orleans, they would have ratified the treaty, signed or not.

An important letter as Monroe orders into battle the troops who would forever put an end to British influence in America. $4,000 - $6,000
68. Monroe, James, Autograph letter signed as President, 3 pages (9 ¾ x 8 ¾ in.; 251 x 210 mm.), “Washington,” 4 July 1823 to Charles Jared Ingersoll, U.S. District Attorney for Pennsylvania; splits to vertical folds.

Laying the groundwork for the Monroe Doctrine.

On September 4, 1821, the Russian Czar issued an imperial decree extending Russian claims along the Pacific coast to north of the 51st parallel (within the Oregon territory) and closing the surrounding waters (including the important Bering Strait) to the commercial shipping of other powers. The Russian claim was challenged by Secretary of State John Quincy Adams, who informed the Russian minister to the U.S. that “we should contest the right of Russia to any territorial establishment on this continent, and that we should assume distinctly the principle that the American continents are no longer subjects for any new European colonial establishments.”

In the summer of 1823, President Monroe and his Secretary of State John Quincy Adams concluded a treaty with the Czar of Russia delimiting Russia’s sphere of activities on the Pacific coast.

Monroe writes in part: Mr [Secretary of State John Quincy] Adams has been most intensely engaged in preparing instructions, to our ministers, in G. Britain, & Russia, Spain, & the new govs. in So America, & has I presume not been able to answer your letters. That he had no other motive for the omission, I am well satisfied from his reading to me, a passage in your letter, respecting Russia, which he thought entitled to great consideration. I told him that you had written to me to the same effect. The fact is, the Emperor took that step, without much consideration, as was manifest, from what occurred, on the first move[men]t of Mr [Henry] Middleton [the American Minister to St. Petersburg] on it; his govt. showing a desire to withdraw from it, in a quiet & friendly manner. The ukase [decree] was altered as to the sea, & an invitation given to treat on the subject at St. Petersburg, with an intimation that a like invitation had been made to G. B., & been accepted by her. I am strongly impress[e]d with the opinion that the affair will be arrangd amicably, to our satisfaction. Whatever documents we have, you shall be furnished with, relating to the philosophical topic mentioned in yours just rec’d, and I am satisfied that Mr Adams, will cheerfully, after the present urgency ceases, add any light to be taken from his own resources.

Nine months after this letter, on 17 April 1824, Henry Middleton, the American Minister to St. Petersburg, acting on instructions similar to those sent to Richard Rush, Minister to Great Britain, concerning American claims in the North West, concluded an agreement in which the Russians agreed to confine their operations north of 54°60’. In addition, the Russians, by recognizing the American position on freedom of the seas, abandoned their efforts to establish a mare clausum in the Pacific. As well, permission was granted to American merchants to trade in the unsettled regions north of 54°60’ for ten years. In return, the U.S. renounced all claims to territory north of that line. To President Monroe, the treaty proved that the Czar had “great respect” for the United States. The agreement, ratified by the Senate with only one dissenting vote, further protected America’s claim to Oregon. This treaty was most significant in that it laid the groundwork for the principle regarding future European colonization in the New World, which was to become more familiar after its incorporation in the Monroe Doctrine.

In his annual message to Congress on 2 December 1823, President Monroe repeated Adams’ formula virtually in Adams’ own words, announcing it as the Monroe Doctrine. Monroe declared that “the American continents, by the free and independent condition which they have assumed and maintained, are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by any European powers.” The historic doctrine supplemented a previous formula, that the there should be as little political connection between America and Europe and America as possible, with the statement that the United States would exclude European intervention in the New World. $4,000 - $6,000

69. Morris, Robert. Letter signed (“Robt Morris”), 4 pages (9 ¾ x 7 ¾ in.; 235 x 194 mm.), “Philadelphia,” 26 May 1797, to Alexander Wilcocks and James Gibran; browning and scattered spotting.

I hope there is not a citizen in the United States who knows anything of me that does not believe that I ever have been or ever shall be ready and willing to pay all just debts when I have the means of doing it.

Morris requests that Wilcocks and Gibran perform a service in the character of Friends, as well as that of my Counsel, he writes, in part… some of the parties who have obtained judgments have taken out Casas in the Expectation that the dread of Imprisonment would force me into exertions for the Payment of their Debts, and they have thought (knowing the difficulty of raising Money) that the first that laid hold of me would be the first paid. I hope there is not a citizen in the United States who knows anything of me that does not believe that I ever have been or ever shall be ready and willing to pay all just Debts when I have the means of doing it… You will receive herewith a List of the Gent. of the Bar as far as I know them, who are employed in the actions against me, and it is my desire that you immediately apply to them personally & request that they procure from their respective clients an Authorization under which they can direct the Sheriff not to execute any of the writs … until the last day of August.

Morris proceeds to give details of specific instructions as to how the matter of contacting the creditors is to be handled.

One of the most important financiers of the American Revolution, Morris lost all of his vast fortune and land investments in the 1790s as a result of the Napoleonic wars. In February of 1798, he was arrested and taken to a debtor’s prison where he remained for over three years. When he was finally released, he was a frail and broken man. $2,000 - $3,000
70. Paine, Thomas. Important autograph letter signed, 3 pages (9 x 7 ¾ in.; 229 x 184 mm.), “London,” 20 November 1787 to the 1st Marquis of Lansdowne; docketed on verso of third page; light soiling.

Sincerely do I wish that this infamous business of perpetual wrangling between England & France might end.

Paine extends his thanks to his correspondent for his kind invitation to Boxwood and explains: I had written to your Lordship my thanks and discanted [sic] a little on the then state of public affairs, but they appearing to grow every day more perplexing, I determined to lay it aside—this, together with the hopes of seeing your Lordship in town at an earlier period, than mentioned in your letter, will I hope interest you to excuse the omission.

Paine proceeds to expound on the precarious political situation with France and England: Sincerely do I wish that this infamous business of perpetual wrangling between England & France might end. It would be called by a coarser name than I chuse to express were a like case to happen between two individuals; and it is a curious paradox that enlightened nations should have less sense than enlightened individuals. Hoping for peace among the two countries, Paine continues: I most heartily wish that some great line of Politics, worthy of an opposition might be struck out. Peace might be easily preferred were proper persons in the management of affairs. There are so many of these in France who would very heartily concur in such a measure, and unless this be done, it appears, at least now, that something worse than war will set in, for the France is not in a good condition for war, England is still worse.

Paine closes his letter noting he is enclosing a pamphlet which has just made its appearance. Most likely the enclosed pamphlet was Prospects on the Rubicon, or an investigation into the causes and consequences of the politics to be agitated at the meeting of Parliament.

A thoughtful letter by Paine as he grapples with the fraught political climate in France and England.

Enclosed with the lot is a copy of A Letter to the Earl of Shelburne, now Marquis of Lansdowne, on his Speech, July 10, 1782, respecting the acknowledgement of American Independence. New edition 1791, stitched as issued.

Provenance: Christie’s London, 12 October 1994, lot 53. $20,000 - $30,000
71. Paine, Thomas. Extraordinary autograph manuscript signed, “Federal City,” January 1803, 8 pages, consisting of three leaves measuring (12 ½ x 7 ¼ in.; 318 x 197 mm), one leaf measuring (8 ½ x 7 ¾ in.; 216 x 197 mm); bronzing and staining, marginal paper losses affecting a few characters of a few words of text.

A remarkable and exceptionally rare eight-page Thomas Paine autograph manuscript.

The present manuscript completely in Paine's hand and boldly signed in full (“Thomas Paine”) is of the highest rarity, desirability, and importance. The manuscript was written shortly after Paine's return to America after fifteen years in Europe, during which time he had written the Rights of Man and the Age of Reason and had encouraged and supported revolution in England and France; in England he was tried and found guilty of publishing seditious literature, and in France he was elected to the National Convention and later arrested and nearly executed.

The eight pages actually contain three individual manuscripts, all in Paine's hand. The first manuscript (page 1) contains an apparently unfinished draft of a satirical article on the comparative vices of the “Prude” (a vice displayed by ladies) and the “Fop” (a vice displayed by gentlemen). The second manuscript (pages 2-7) is of extraordinary importance: a six-page signed draft of Samuel Adams' letter criticizing Paine's Age of Reason and Paine's lengthy response to this letter. The third manuscript (page 8) contains a risqué riddle, followed by the answer, the word “GLASS” in large capital letters one inch tall: What word is that which all men loves [GLASS]? And by taking away the first letter most men loves [LASS]? And by taking away the two first letters shews the character of a man that loves Neither [ASS].

Adams' letter and Paine's response were printed on the front page of the January 26, 1803 issue (Vol. Ill, No. CCCLIV) of the National Intelligencer and Washington Advertiser.

The issue begins with an explanatory note by Paine: Towards the latter end of last December I received a letter from a venerable patriot, Samuel Adams, dated Boston, November 30. It came by private hand, which I suppose was the cause of the delay. I wrote Mr. Adams an answer dated January 1st, and that I might be certain of his receiving it, and also that I might know of that reception, I desired a friend of mine at Washington to put it under cover to some friend of his at Boston, and desire him to present it to Mr. Adams. The letter was accordingly put under cover while I was present and given to one of the clerks of the Post Office to seal and put in the mail. The clerk put it in his pocket-book, and either forgot to put it in the mail, or supposed he had done so among other letters. The Post-master General, on learning this mistake, informed me of it last Saturday, and as the cover was then out of date, the letter was put under a new cover with the same request and forwarded by post. I felt concern at this accident lest Mr. Adams should conclude I was unmindful his attentionreceiving it, as well as to relieve myself from that concern, I give the letter the opportunity of reaching him by the newspapers. I am the more induced to do this, because some manuscript copies have been taken of both letters, and therefore, there is a possibility of imperfect copies getting into print; and besides this, if some of the federal printers, (for I hope they are not all base aike) could get hold of a copy they would make no scruple of altering it and publishing it as mine. I therefore send you the original letter of Mr. Adams and my own copy of the answer. Thomas Paine. Federal City, January 22, 1803.

This explanation is followed by Samuel Adams' original November 30, 1802 letter to Paine, reprinted in its entirety, and Paine's response. The original manuscript herewith contains the majority of the printed text in draft form. The printed and handwritten versions of the texts are remarkably similar; the latter contains crossed-out words, minor corrections, word insertions, and a lack of consistent capitalization, spelling, and punctuation, all of which were corrected in the printed version. The manuscript is apparently without one leaf which contained the last three lines of Adams' letter and the first four paragraphs of Paine's response, the text of which are supplied within brackets in the transcript of the manuscript.

Paine left America for Europe in 1787, where he continued the fight for freedom in England and in France. Paine was considered most knowledgeable in the new republican form of government. His challenge to the English Government and his defense of the French Revolution. Paine was elected to the National Convention, which in 1793 acted as a jury in the trial of Louis XVI, King of France. Paine fought with vigor to save the life of Louis XVI. When the death sentence was voted, Paine, through an interpreter made a dire plea. Despite Paine's plea the death sentence was approved 380-310. Paine later was to pay heavily for his dramatic attempt to save the King's life, when the radicals under Robespierre took over the power.

In 1793 Paine, devoted his attention to publishing what he had long had on his mind, his religious beliefs. He called his manuscript “The Age of Reason,” and had Lanthenas translate it into French, intending to publish it in Paris to combat the growing atheistic movement. On 27 December 1793, Paine was barred from the National Convention because of his English birth, and the following day he was arrested and taken to the Luxembourg prison. En route, he arranged to meet Joel Barlow, who was proofreading his work, and personally handed over the remainder of the manuscript. While Paine was imprisoned, Barlow had the work published. Paine was imprisoned for seven months and narrowly escaped the guillotine. He was released from prison on 15 November 1794, after the fall of Robespierre.

Paine returned to America on 30 October 1802. Disgusted with the stamping out of freedom by Napoleon and the strong measures taken by England against his principles Paine returned to America, where he hoped to find freedom. Thomas Jefferson, Paine's most steadfast admirer, was President at the time. Paine was immediately attacked by both friends and enemies as an atheist and infidel for this publication of the Age of Reason nearly ten years before. His well-considered theism, fruit of so much thought, was suddenly called infidelity or atheism. Samuel Adams, the prominent Revolutionary leader from Massachusetts, who had highly praised Paine for his Common Sense and the Crisis, wrote Paine on 30 November 1802, accusing his eminent friend of infidelity. Paine replied, giving additional arguments in defense of his religious beliefs.

A complete transcription of the manuscript follows, retaining
Paine’s original spelling and punctuation. Text lacking from the manuscript but present in the printed version has been supplied within brackets.

[Fellow Citizens]

I have taken it into considerations it hath been Queryed which the Prude or the Fop is (the Most useful in Society; and) worthy of the greatest Respect (as to the utility in society I shall pass by with few observations only) and from the two proposed characters I shall treat both Little respect. But as I am of turn Inclined to favour the Ladies. I will make some observations on behalf of the Prude. in preference to the Fop, tho’ I quite freely oppose both, except we distinguish them we can have no debate, therefore I oppose the Fop only.

1st, What (gentlemen) can we conceive more Ridiculas and truly absurd a young man just in his prime of health & strength the very time he should exercise all his functions and foremost efforts in procuring what might be a comfortable subsistance. Th’o the infinite variety of chances. not knowing what might be his fate, whether by some impediment or old age. he might become so abased as to be incapable of preserving any science or branch of Business that would be adequate for his Subsistence. what I Say can be more imprudent than this. to pass the Precious time of the tender youth in the vanity & pride of this world, to appear in all its pomp and grandeur for some short space, & at length by some cruel accident the system to Summons all the thriving Calculations on the plan of Oeconomy to procure an independent subsistence which will be infallable beyond all accidents, Rather than to become a vagabond & Nutrient in Society. O, poor fop, thy case is Lamentable, a Spectacle like this so engaging and awfully Sublime is worthy of Notice by every good moral citizen.

2nd, By your Leave gentlemen, I’ll proceed to make some appology for the tirade, for error has claim to indulgence if not to Respect therefore I will indulge all the female sect by a few words of congratulation hope none can oppose it, after my observations are Laid down, I feel that such a proposition was brought in question, for the preceding observations will not admit of treating the present character with much Respect for I have asserted that both is vanity and error but by the custom of the country we are all certain that the Ladies have not the opportunity of going in company and making their bargains to such satisfactory & perfection as the gentlemen have.

[Page 2—Second Manuscript]

From The National Intelligence
Boston Nov.30th 1802

Sir,

I have frequently with pleasure reflected on your Service to my native and your adopted country, your Common Sense, and your Crisis unquestionably awaked the public mind, and led the people loudly to call for a declaration of our national independence, I therefore esteem you a warm friend to the liberty and lasting wealure of the human race. But when I eard that you had turned your mind to a defence of infidelity, I felt myself much astonished, and more grieved, that you had attempted a measure so injurious to the feelings and so repugnant to the true Interest of so great a part of the citizens of the united states. the people of new england, if you will allow me to use a Scripture phrase, are fast Returning to their first love, will you excite among them the Spirit of angry contraversy; at a time when the are hastening to unity and peace. I am told that some of our news papers have announced your intention to publish an additional pamphlet upon the principals of your age of Reason. Do you think that your pen, or the pen of other man can unchristianize the mass of our citizens or have you hopes of Converting a few of them to [assist] you in so bad a cause? we ought to think ourselves happy in the enjoyment of opinion without the Danger of Persecution by Civil or ecclesiastical Law.

To Samuel Adams. My dear and venerable friend, I received with great pleasure your friendly and affectionate letter of November 30th, and I thank you also for the frankness of it. Between men in pursuit of the truth, and whole object is the happiness of man both here and hereafter, there ought to be no reserve. Even error has a claim to indulgence, if not to respect, when it is believed to be truth. I am obliged to you for your affectionate remembrance of what you stile my services in the awakening the public mind to the declaration of independence and supporting it after it was declared. I also, like you, have often looked back on this times, and have thought, that if independence had not been declared at the time it was the public mind could not have been brought up to it afterwards. It will immediately occur to you, who were so intimately acquainted with the situation of things at that time, that I allude to the black times of Seventy-Six; for though I know, and you my friend also know, they were no other than the natural consequences of the military blunders of the campaign, the country might have viewed them as proceeding from a natural inability to support its cause against the enemy, and have sunk under the dependancy of that misconceived idea. This was the impression against which it was necessary the country should be strongly animated.

I now come to the second part of your letter, on which I shall be as frank with you as you are with me. “But (say you) when I heard you had turned your mind to a defence of infidelity, I felt myself much astonished....” What, my good friend, do you call believing in God infidelity? for that is the great point maintained in the Age of Reason against all divided beliefs and allegorical divinities. The bishop of Landaff (Doctor Watson) not only acknowledges this, but pays me some compliments upon it in his answer to the second part of that work. “There is (says he) a philosophical sublimity in some of your ideas when speaking of the Creator of the Universe.”

What then (my much esteemed friend for I do not respect you the less because we differ, and that perhaps not much, in religious sentiments) what I ask, is this thing called infidelity? If we go back to your ancestors and mine, three or four hundred years ago, for we must have had fathers and grandfathers or we should not be here, we shall find them praying to saints and virgins, and believing in pugatory and transubstantiation, and therefore all of us are infidels according to our forefathers belief. If we go back to times more antient we shall again be infidels according to the belief of some other forefathers.

The case, my friend, is that the world has been over-run with fable and creeds of human invention, with sectaries of whole nations, against other
There is however one point of union wherein all religions meet, and that is in the first articled of every mans creed and of every nations creed that has any creed at all. I believe in god- those who rest here, and there are millions who do, can not be rong as far as their creed goes. those who chose to go further may be rong, for it is impossible that all can be right since there is so much contradiction among them, the first, therefore, are in my opinion on the safest side.

I presume you are so far acquainted with ecclesiastical history as to know, and the bishop who has answered me has been obliged to acknowledge the fact, that the books that compose the N. Testament were voted by yeas and nays to be the word of god (as you now vote a law) by the popish councils Nice and Laodicia about 1450 years ago, with respect to the fact there is no dispute, neither do I mention it for the sake of controversy, this vote may appear authority enough to some and not authority enough to others. it is proper however that every body should know the fact.

With Respect to the age of Reason, which you so much condemn, and that I believe without having read it, for you say only that you have heard of it, I will inform you of a circumstance because you cannot know it by other means.

I have said in the first page of the [first] part of the work, that it had long been my intention to publish my thoughts upon religion, but that I reserved it to later time of life. I have now to inform you why I wrote it and published it at the time I did.

In the first place I saw my life in continual danger, my friends were falling as fast as the guillotine could cut their heads [page 4] off, and as I every day expected the same fate, I resolved to begin my work. I appeared to my Self to be on my Deathbed, for death was on every side of me, and I had no time to lose this accounts for my writing at the time I did. Joel Barlow was with me and knows the fact.

In the second place the people of france were running headlong into atheism, and I had the work translated into their own language to stop them in that career and fix them to the first article (as I have before said) of every mans creed who has any creed at all. I believe in god. I endangered my own life in the first place by opposing in the convention the execution of the king, and labouring to shew the were trying the monarchy, and not the man, and that the crimes imputed to him were the crimes of the monarchial sistem. And I endangered it a second time by opposing atheism. And yet some of your priests, for I do not believe that all are perverse-- cry out, in the war whoop of the monarchial priest-craft what an infidel; what a wicked man is thomas paine; the might as well add for he believed in god and is against shedding blood.

But all the war whoop of the pulpit has some concealed object. Religion is not the cause. but is the stalking horse, the put it forward to conceal themselves behind it. It is not a secret that there has been a party composed of the leaders of the federalists, for I Do not include all federalists by their leaders who have been working by various means for several years past to overturn the federal constitution established on the representative sistem and place government in the new world on the corrupt sistem of the old. to accomplish this a large standing army was necessary and as a pretence for such an army the danger of foreign invation must be bellowed forth from the pulpit, from the press and by their public orators.

As you have given me one scripture phrase I will give you another for those ministers, it is said in exodus chapter 22nd [verse 28] “thou shalt not revile the gods, nor curse the Rulers thy people” but those people [ministers] such I mean as Dr. Emmons, curse ruler and people both for the majority are, politically, the people, and it is those who have chosen the Ruler whom the curse.as to the first part of the verse, that of not reviling the gods. it makes no part of my scripture, I have but one god.

Since I began this letter, for I write it by piece-meals as I have leisure, I have seen the four letters that passed between you and John Adams. in your first letter you say “let divines and philosophers, statemen and patriots write their endeavours to renovate the age by inculcating in the minds of youth the fear and love of a Deity and universal philanthropy.” why, my dear friend this is my Religion exactly, and is the whole of it. that you write their endeavours to renovate the age by inculcating in the minds of youth the fear and love of a Deity and universal philanthropy. why, my dear friend this is my Religion exactly, and is the whole of it. that you may have an idea that the age of Reason (for I believe that you have not read it) inculcates this reverential fear and love of a Deity. I will give you a paragraph from it:

[page 6] “Do you want to contemplate his power? we see it in the immensity of the creation. Do we want to contemplate is wisdom? we see it in the unchangeable order by which the incomprehensible whole is governed. Do we want to contemplate his munificence? we see it in the abundance with which he fills the earth. Do we want to contemplate his mercy? we see it in his not with holding that abundance even from the unthankful.” As I am fully with you in your first part, that Respecting the Deity, so am I in your second that of universal philanthropy; by which I do not mean merely the Sentimental benevolence of wishing well. but the practical benevolence of doing good. we cannot serve the deity in the manner we serve those who cannot do without those services, he needs no service from us we can add of much more value [and of much more value] than a load of such persons as Dr. emmons and some others.
You, my dear, & much Respected friend, are far in the vale of years. I have yet I believe some years in store: for I have a good state of health and a happy mind and I take care of both: by nourishing the first with temperance and the latter with abundance.

This I believe, you will allow the true philosophy of life you will see by my third letter to the citizens of the United States that I have been exposed to, and preserved through many dangers, but instead of buffetting the Deity with prayers as if I distrusted him or must dictate to him, I repose myself on his protection; and you, my friend, will find, even in your last moments more consolation in the silence of resignation than in the murmuring wish of prayer.

In everything which you say in your second letter to John Adams Respecting our rights as men and citizens in this world I am perfectly with you. on other points we have to answer to our creator and not to each other. the key of heaven is not in keeping of any sect, nor ought the road to it, to be obstructed by any our Relation to each other in this world, is as men and the man who is a friend to men, and to his Rights. let his rights. let his Religious opinions be what the may. is a good citizen to whom I can give as I ought to do. (and as every other ought) the Right hand of fellowship, and to none with more hearty goodwill my dear friend, than to you.

Federal city
Jan-1-1803

What word is that which all man Loves
And by taking away the first letter most men loves
And by taking away the two first letters shews the character of a man that loves Neither
GLASS
Thomas Paine

Without question, the most significant Paine manuscript to be sold at auction. $120,000 - $180,000
72. Patton, George S. Typed letter signed ("G S Patton Jr.") 1 page, (10 ¾ x 7 ⅛ in.; 273 x 181 mm.), 22 August 1935 to "Jerry", on stationery of the Headquarters Hawaiian Department Military Intelligence General Staff; fine condition.

In light of the worsening world political situation Patton invests in munitions stocks.

Patton provides his correspondent with detailed instructions on how to go about purchasing munitions stock.

Patton writes in full: *I was surprised and delighted to find out I had some money with you inspite of my efforts in rubber checking...I am so convinced that a war will start soon that I wish you would gamble about $4000.00 of my money on munitions stock. Possibly Vickers-Armstrong would be good as the British are not apt to put on embargoes. However use your own judgement. If when you get this it seems to you that the stock is already gone to high lay off, however before you do that see where it sold in 1913 and then in 1918. That should give you a good index to where it will go. With love to the family and consideration to the young ladies there of. Affectionately,

P.S. Copper will also go up.*

$4,000 - $6,000

73. Pickering, Timothy. Fine autograph letter signed ("T. Pickering"), 1 page (9 ¾ x 7 ¾ in.; 248 x 197 mm.), “Washington,” 5 March 1816 to Robert Rantoul Esquire, integral address leaf with free frank, with seal tear and repair to marginal split at horizontal fold.

Pickering objects to a bill passed by the House in his absence.

With great conviction Pickering articulates his discontent over the passing of a bill to pay veterans who have lost both arms $40.00 monthly.

Pickering writes in full: *An act has been passed granting special pensions to a few soldiers who have lost their limbs. To those who have lost both arms forty dollars a month. The soldiers are named in the act. John Cramersey is one. The Senate had proposed $15. a month. By a sudden motion (I was absent on a committee) 40 dollars was proposed in the House! and heartily adopted. The allowance is disproporsionated to any & all other provisions to disabled officers & soldiers. You will see the act itself published in the Chronicle, where the U.S. laws are published.*

An important letter concerning compensation of wounded soldiers. $2,000 - $3,000
In a revealing letter written to his troubled daughter Patti, future President Ronald Reagan discusses the principles of honesty to which he adheres.

Reagan writes in full: Yes — turning yourself in was the right thing to do and I’m sure you feel better for having done it. I’m sure you realize also that it was proper for the school to impose a punishment as they did. If we could pay for rule breaking just by confessing it there wouldn’t be much law and order. In the Bible we can read where Jesus heard confessions and promised forgiveness but on the condition that we would go forth and not do the sin again.

There are two issues here Dear Patti. One is the fact that for two years you broke not only school rules but family rules and to do this you had to resort to tricks and deception. Why is this of such great concern to the school or to me and your Mother? The answer is very simple. We are concerned that you can establish a pattern of living where in you accept dishonesty as a way of life.

Let’s turn from you and translate it into someone else. Would you be happy if you weren’t sure that I was quite honest? Would you be comfortable if you had to wonder whether you could believe things I said? Or if perhaps now you had to worry that maybe I was being dishonest in that job - that some day the paper would carry a story exposing me as a law breaker? You know the answer of course. But don’t you see - compromising with truth no matter how trivial does something to us. The next time it serves our purpose we do it again and one day we find ourselves in trouble and we’re not quite sure why or how.

Now issue number two - smoking itself. I’m sure I don’t have to repeat all the reasons why it’s bad for you. Science leaves us very little doubt about it anymore. Yes I know many adults continue to smoke but I don’t know any who don’t wish they could quit. That alone should tell you something - if they want to quit & can’t that’s pretty good proof that tobacco is capable of forming a habit stronger than human will power. Unfortunately women are more susceptible to habits than men and find them much harder to break or change. How many I’ve seen (among our friends) pregnant and told by the Dr. that smoking during pregnancy would harm their baby - but the habit was too strong. You see it’s very hard to do something wrong and just hurt yourself.

I enjoyed your poem although I read a touch of nostalgia. There is nothing wrong with that, all our lives we build memories and the important thing is to build happy ones. I too will remember the ranch with nostalgia but with great warmth for the happy days spent there. You’ll be part of those memories - sitting up on a big black horse (Baby) in front of my saddle - splashing in the pool (without bathing suit) at age 3 and getting your own first horse.

What keeps the memory from haunting us with unhappiness is if we have moved on to something equally or more enjoyable. For example I built and loved a small ranch in the valley before you were born. I remember it happily but then came the ranch you know - now there will be another ranch and so it goes. There was Baby then Nancy D. and now it will be ‘Little Man.’ Life is to remember with pleasure and look forward with anticipation. Your poem will add to the pleasure of remembering when we must leave this ranch and thank you for it.

I must go now. I hope you’ll accept and work out your hours without bitterness and with the intentions of not repeating the act that brought them about.

I hope too you’ll continue to improve in your studies.

We are all looking forward to Easter vacation together at Bama Deedees & Bapas. They were over here for our wedding anniversary yesterday. You’ll probably quit writing poems if you think each one will bring on a 4 page letter from me. I promise not to do that often.

The letter from Patti Davis provides the context for Reagan’s lengthy letter. In the body of the letter she explains in full: The letter was written in the early 60’s when I was in high school in Arizona. My friends had been caught smoking and, although I had been smoking also I wasn’t caught. I turned myself in, solidarity with my friends being very important to me.

My parents had been notified about this, but I wrote to my father explaining myself. The poem he refers to is a poem I wrote about the Malibu ranch which he had just sold. I no longer have that poem.

A letter of extraordinary content from the future fortieth President. $6,000 - $8,000

Reagan reaches out to his estranged daughter on Christmas Eve 1989.

In his heartfelt letter, Reagan tries to connect with his daughter in an attempt to understand the separation between them. Noting his upcoming eightieth birthday, on 6 February 1990, Reagan feels his time on earth is short.

Reagan writes in full:

Alright I’ll quit bothering you but I had more in mind than arguing politics. The line in the song says it all; “The days dwindle down to a precious few.” On Feb. 6th I’ll be 80 years old.

Your mother and I are hard put to understand the separation between us and our first born. It didn’t just happen with your growing up and leaving home. I can recall your mother coming home in tears after driving you to school. She couldn’t understand your complete silence even to the point of your not saying “good bye.”

Was it having to share with a new born brother? I remember a loving daughter who never let us leave the house without waving good bye from the window. We have some snap shots that reveal a difference in a little girl. We ask ourselves, “what did we do wrong?” We were once a loving family.

Well, as I said earlier “I’ll stop bothering you” but I don’t understand the separation of our family. I recall a little girl sitting on my lap and asking me to marry her. Her mother across the room behind her signaled me to say “yes.” So I did and explained we’d have to wait til she was a little older.

A particularly poignant letter revealing an aging father’s dire wish to be close to his daughter again. $6,000 - $8,000

76. Revere, Paul. Extraordinary autograph letter signed, 2 pages (9 ¾ x 7 ¾ in.; 251 x 197 mm.), “Boston,” February, 1810, to his son, Joseph Warren, in London. Illustrated on last page, as Revere has sketched a diagram of a roller used in his copper mill near the foot, along with its dimensions; with address overleaf penned entirely in his own hand; light browning.

Fearful that the country is drifting towards war with Britain, Paul Revere expresses anger over the Madison Administration’s dealings with France and Great Britain, events that led directly to the War of 1812.

Revere writes in part: I wrote you last by the British Packet from N York, I mentioned Maynard & Lamb had failed the first has been sometime in the West In’, the latter is in N York. But little hopes they will take up the Note you got discounted I have heard nothing since you have been gone, either from Government, or Charlestown. We have five ships in hand Goddard, Wood, Briggs, Catts & Stevens, Thomas and Jacob Little. I am in hopes if Carson does anything for us I shall be able to take up our Notes. We are yet without any accounts of Your Brother John it has been a great weight on my Spirits which news from him would relieve. Should he have arrived in England tell him to let me know what letters he has lost & I will endeavor to have them replaced …We have had the most extraordinary weather ever knew; for myself, I cannot recollect anything like it for forty years. Until/ Jany 18 on Thursday the weather was very soft, similar to what you found in N York …the morning was so pleasant, I concluded to go to Canton. I took the two Boys & Joe in the Afternoon & evenings it rained About 10 in the Evening the wind got to North West, & blew quite a hurricane; & continued nearly a week; it was extremely Cold, the whole harbour in two days was so Closed with Ice, that it was passable in every direction from Boston. It is now growing a little moderate. Macon’s Bill (the one you mentioned at New York) has passed the House, gone to the Senate & now is said to have been hung up to dry. They are only waiting to hear from Europe. I have as yet had nothing to Alter my Opinion respecting Our administration. They are a set of Miserable politicians, what they do one day, they undo the next. I see clearly, that French policy is there only study, and nothing but the fear of the New England States had kept
them from involving in a War with Britain. As to Madison, whatever I hoped from him, I now believe He is as much a Friend to France as Jefferson, and notwithstanding some of his Actions, He has been trying thro Armstrong, to form an alliance with France. I do not write to John because I do not know where to write to, and you can communicate what I write you, do take every care if you meet him in England or elsewhere. Lydia writes by this conveyance which goes by the way of Halifax. The Family are in general well, all send their best love. Mr Miller intends writing by the Packett but it is uncertain when she will sail.

Revere then pens a drawing of a roller and writes its dimensions:

- **Length of Body** - 42 inches
- **Diameter of Body** - 13 ½
- **Length of Necks** - 6¼
- **Diameter of Necks** - 7 ¾
- **Length of Square** - 4 ½
- **Size of Square** - 5 inches

The House bill of which Revere is speaking is that of Congressman Nathaniel Macon, entitled “Bill Number Two.” Vehemently opposed by the Federalists, the bill permitted President Madison to resume trade with France and Great Britain, with the stipulation that if either of those countries removed its trade restriction before the beginning of March 1811, the Non-Intercourse Act would be re-invoked against the other. Revere, friendly with fellow-Bostonian John Adams, was allied with the Federalists. The feeling in Boston at this time was very much against France; some anticipated war with England and it was thought that the French were scheming to promote such a conflict. Such fears were well-founded; deception on the part of Napoleon led Madison to revive the Non-Intercourse Act against England in 1811, setting an inevitable course toward the War of 1812.

Paul Revere was the first American to develop a method of rolling sheet copper, and built the first mill in the U.S., at Canton, Massachusetts, for that purpose. Previously, sheet copper had to be imported. By the time this letter was written the Revere family had a rolling mill in England, and Joseph Warren (named after Paul Revere’s friend, the patriot Joseph Warren, who sent Revere on his famous ride) was in England to look after that business. The drawing at the end of this letter is a roller of the kind used in his sheet copper rolling operations. He was probably giving his son specifications of a roller he wished to be used at their rolling mill in England. **$20,000 – $30,000**
Written the day Rochambeau left France to aid the colonists in the American Revolutionary War.

Rochambeau writes, in full: *We are casting off at 5 am with a light North wind which hopefully is supposed to get stronger. We will be ahead of Graves who will sail with the same wind, but from Plimouth; nevertheless, once he gets in Arburoth, he will join us in a harbor until a second division arrives, which will help restore our naval superiority and bring more troops if necessary. He will said without a convoy and will arrive in NewYork earlier than we. I entrust the friendship of my dear old comrade and the zeal of my ministry with carrying on with this expedition and its reinforcement, for the nation’s sake.*

At the age of fifty-five, after forty years of service, Rochambeau was at last given an independent command to head an expeditionary force of four thousand men whom the French government had decided to send to America to aid the colonists in their struggle for independence. Louis XVI, believing that England was ever ready to make war on France, now felt that he should step up the aid France was already giving England’s rebellious colonies. Moreover, Lafayette rekindled enthusiasm in Paris for the American cause. The selection of the commander-in-chief appears to have been made by the Prince de Montbarey, the Secretary of the Army, who was wise enough to see that Rochambeau was better fitted for this difficult command than anyone else. Rochambeau knew his métier. The French troops were to serve as a separate unit, but with the understanding he was to accommodate himself in every way to the wishes of General Washington. The instructions to Rochambeau made it clear that the French troops were serving as auxiliaries and that therefore they must always yield the place of honor to the Americans.

By the end of March 1780, six regiments quartered near Brest were ready to embark but the lack of transports and unfavorable weather caused delay. Finally, on 2 May they got under way. The corps was still too small for Rochambeau’s liking, but the officers were competent. On 18 June they overhauled a cutter, and learned the unwelcome news that the British had captured Charleston and were competent. On 18 June they overhauled a cutter, and learned the unwelcome news that the British had captured Charleston.

The crossing had taken seventy days. $2,000 – $3,000

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78. Rodney, Caesar. Autograph letter, 2 pages (12 ¾ x 7 ¾ in.; 311 x 187 mm.), [ca. 1778-79, during Rodney’s term as President of Delaware (1778-January 1782)], to the Delaware General Assembly delegates; repair to folds and left margin of first page.
79. **Roosevelt, Franklin D.** Autograph letter signed, 2 pages, (8 x 5 in.; 203 x 127 mm.), “On Board The Cunard R.M.S Aquitania” letterhead stationery, 9 May 1932, to an unidentified friend named Henry; in pristine condition.

After announcing his candidacy for president, New York governor Franklin D. Roosevelt takes his first vacation in three years.

Roosevelt writes in full: *I am thinking about the article but that is as far as I have gone so far! The joy of being away from telephones & reporters for the first time in three years is so great that I am confining myself to gazing at the horizon and playing cards with Elliott I. Perhaps, I hope, the spirit will move me - but I guarantee nothing as yet!*

Written in the spring of 1932 while F.D.R. was still Governor of New York, and after he had announced his candidacy for the Democratic presidential nomination in January 1932, Roosevelt takes a much needed reprieve. He expresses his joy about being able to take some vacation, the first in his three years as Governor. Just two months later, on 1 July 1932, he was nominated for President at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago, Illinois, and then defeated President Hoover in the November election. A rare autograph letter signed by F.D.R. with fine content. **$6,000 - $8,000**

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80. **Roosevelt, Theodore.** Fine autograph letter signed, 4 pages (7 ⅞ x 5 in.; 200 x 127 mm.), 21 August 1889 to “My Dear Mr. Meredith”; on stationery headed: “Sagamore Hill, Syosset Station, L.I., Oyster Bay P.O”; light soiling.

**Commentary on the fighting abilities of Confederate soldiers.**

Roosevelt adamantly defends Confederate leadership as he criticizes an article by Woosley.

Roosevelt writes in full: *I was very much pleased at receiving your kind letter; and was extremely interested in the conversation you mention. By the way, do you not think Woolsey's conclusions better than his premises? While agreeing heartily with his estimate of Lee's generalship I thought his article as a whole very slipshod, and his complacent allusion to what a regular European army corps could do was ridiculous - I should like to have seen him, or any other English General, with an equal number of troops, matched against Lee, Johnson or Jackson, or Grant, Sherman or Thomas, in '63 or '64. I remember an old friend of mine, a veteran of the Army of the Potomac, who saw most of the Franco-Prussian War, remarking that the Germans were good soldiers and excellently drilled, but for all that he would a good deal rather face them than the same number of Confederates - or, as he put it laughingly, of 'ragged rebs'. By the way, do you happen to know Parker, who wrote ‘Recollections of a Naval Officer’, and McClellan, who wrote a history of Stuart's campaigns? They are two admirable books. I am now writing another volume for the statesman series which will be out next winter, a life of Gouverneur Morris; if you happen across it I should like you to glance at how I handle the abortive northern discussion movement in 1814. **$3,000 - $5,000**
81. Roosevelt, Theodore. Typed letter signed as President, 2 pages (10 ¼ x 7 ¼ in.; 264 x 200 mm.), “Washington,” 18 November 1905 to the Honorable John Allison, Chancery Court Chambers, Nashville, Tennessee, marked “Confidential”; on White House letterhead stationery; with White House envelope, postmarked Washington, D.C., November 18, 1905.

Roosevelt on Stock-gamblers, plungers, and speculators.

Roosevelt writes in full: Many thanks for your letter and your kind words. Now just a word as to what you say about Secretary of the Treasury Leslie M. Shaw and his ‘standing pat and keeping the money in the Treasury out of the hands of stock-gamblers, plungers, and speculators, so as to teach them a wholesome lesson.’ As bad a stock-gambler, plunger, and speculator as I know is Mr. [Thomas William] Lawson; and though he has done some good service by turning state’s evidence on former confederates, he is on the whole a most mischievous of his tribe now in existence, and his appeal and the appeals of men like him is that they shall receive assistance from the Government by the Government’s refraining to take action which in time of stress is always taken and always must take. There are bear speculators as well as bull speculators, and there is not the slightest moral difference between them. Of course, one crowd howl against the Treasury for acting, and the other for not acting. The business of the secretary is to disregard both crowds, and to be as entirely indifferent to the threats of a man like Lawson as to blandishments of Lawson’s ex-allies, probable future allies, but temporary opponents. I need not say that Lawson’s pretense of entire disinterestedness would not take in even as over-trustful child of six who is acquainted with the facts. Mr. Shaw will not act for any slight strain or in any slight emergency. He will let a good deal of suffering take place before he will act; but if it becomes necessary he can not afford to allow a panic to take place, which might involve the whole country, merely because the panic was originally started by certain people whose antics he thoroughly disapproves. If a pickpocket starts a panic in a theatre for the purpose of picking pockets in the rush, and the panic becomes serious, he is in as much danger as anybody else of being trodden to death. To stop the panic saves in incidentally [word substituted for “instantly”—added in Roosevelt’s hand]; but we cannot on that account refuse to stop it.

Stockbroker and author Thomas William Lawson was worth at least $50 million by 1900. In 1902, with Winfield M. Thompson, he published The Lawson History of America’s Cup, detailing Lawson’s grievance regarding the fact that his own yacht, the Independence, was practically barred from competition by the New York Yacht Club. Lawson’s book prompted the editor of Everybody’s Magazine to publish—under the title “Frenzied Finance”—Lawson’s allegedly true story of Amalgamated Copper; many of the club’s wealthy members had suffered heavy losses back in 1897 when the stock declined in price. Lawson exhibited an easy, slashing style of writing combined with a knack for colorful phrasing, which made his rough-and-tumble attack on the “money-kings” vastly popular—even though many of his readers considered him as belonging in the same category. He also wrote articles containing his “remedies” from the correction of stock-market gambling. “Frenzied Finance” was eventually published in book form, and was followed by Lawson’s Friday, the Thirteenth (1907), an attack on the stock market. However, Lawson’s Frenzied Finance cost him many friends and clients; in the last fifteen years of his life, his fortunes declined steadily and he died a comparatively poor man.

$3,000 - $5,000

82. Roosevelt, Theodore. Important typed letter signed as President, 3 pages (10 ½ x 8 in.; 267 x 203 mm.), “Washington,” November 11, 1907 to Joseph H. Kibbey, Governor of Arizona, on White House stationery; together with Joseph H. Kibbey. Typed letter signed, 1 page, 3 December 1907, stating he will attend the conference organized by Roosevelt.

Theodore Roosevelt: the conservation President.

Roosevelt writes in full: The natural resources of the territory of the United States were, at the time of settlement, richer, more varied, and more available than those of any other equal area on the surface of the earth. The development of these resources has given us, for more than a century, a rate of increase in population and wealth undreamed of by the men who founded our Government and without parallel in history. It is obvious that the prosperity which we now enjoy rests directly upon these resources. It is equally obvious that the vigor and success which we desire and foresee for this nation in the future must have this as its ultimate basis.

In view of these evident facts it seems to me time for the country to take account of its natural resources, and to inquire how long they are likely to last. We are prosperous now; we should not forget that it will be just as important to our descendants to be prosperous in their time as it is to us to be prosperous in our time.

Recently I express the opinion that there is no other question now before the nation of equal gravity with the question of the conservation of our natural resources; and I added that it is the plain duty of those of us who, for the moment, are responsible, to make inventory of the natural resources which have been handed down to us, to forecast as well as we may the needs of the future, and so to handle the great sources of our prosperity as not to destroy in advance all hope of the prosperity of our descendants.

It is evident that the abundant natural resources on which the welfare of our nation rests are becoming depleted and in not a few cases are already exhausted. This is true of all portions of the United States; it is especially...
true of the longer settled communities of the East. The gravity of the situation must, I believe, appeal with special force to the Governors of the States because of their close relations to the people and their responsibility for the welfare of their communities. I have therefore decided, in accordance with the suggestion of the Inland Waterways Commission, to ask the Governors of the States and Territories to meet at the White House on May 13, 14, and 15, to confer with the President and with each other upon the conservation of natural resources.

It gives me great pleasure to invite you to take part in this conference. I should be glad to have you select three citizens to accompany you and to attend the conference as your assistants or advisors. I shall also invite the Senators and Representatives of the Sixtieth Congress to be present at the sessions so far as their duties will permit.

The matters to be considered at this conference are not confined to any region or group of States, but are of vital concern to the Nation as a whole and to all the people. These subjects include the use and conservation of the Mineral Resources, the Resources of the Land, and the Resources of the Waters, in every part of our territory.

In order to open discussion I shall invite a few recognized authorities to present brief descriptions of actual facts and conditions, without argument, leaving the conference to deal with each topic as it may elect. The members of the Inland Waterways Commission will be present in order to share with me the benefit of information and suggestion, and, if desired, to set forth their provisional plans and conclusions.

Facts, which I can not gainsay, force me to believe that the conservation of our natural resources is the most weighty question now before the people of the United States. If this is so, the proposed conference, which is the first of its kind, will be among the most important gatherings in our history in its effect upon the welfare of all our people.

I earnestly hope, my dear Governor, that you will find it possible to be present. President Theodore Roosevelt's contributions to the cause of conservation were immense. He had a passionate interest in the national forests, in reclamation of arid Western lands by irrigation, and in the conservation of water power and other natural resources. From the very beginning of his Presidency, Roosevelt expressed his support of conservation. In his first message to Congress (1 December 1, 1901), he remarked: The forest and water problems are perhaps the most vital internal problems of the United States. Later in his administration, in his seventh annual message to Congress, Roosevelt again warned: To waste, to destroy our natural resources - to skin and exhaust the land instead of using it so as to increase its usefulness - will result in undermining in the days of our children the very prosperity which we ought by right to hand down to them amplified and developed.

His opponents were the land-robbers, the mine-grabbers, and the wood-pulp pirates who fought him at every point. They were vicious adversaries who appealed to the old laws to discredit and damn the proposed reforms. The May, 1908 conference of governors took place as scheduled; after the conference, which was attended by the governors of most of the states (as well as elder statesmen of every persuasion), Roosevelt appointed a Conservation Commission on 6 June 1908, with Gifford Pinchot as its head.

During his terms in office, Roosevelt reserved some 125 million acres in national forests, 68 million acres of coal lands, and 2,500 water-power sites. Roosevelt worked for beauty, reserving National Parks for the use and delight of the American citizenry for generations to come. $12,000 - $18,000


Roosevelt on the League for International World Peace.

Roosevelt writes in full: First and foremost, let me explain that I appreciate just what you say about the Senator’s attitude; and for that reason I was most careful to tell him that I would stand by any plan which he and you approved. I had read with the utmost care your editorial on Brumbaugh’s vetoes. I entirely agree in what you say as to the duty of the Progressives to support him. It seems to me that the proposals you make in your letter cover the case. I shall take the liberty of writing to Senator Flinn, recapitulating the suggestions you have made and saying I think they are the ones that ought to be adopted.

By the way, there is one point about those gentlemen who support a League for International World Peace that is worthwhile considering. Six months ago or more I outlined the program, which they announced they had just discovered the other day. But I then very emphatically stated that it was a program for the future and that our first business was to make good the promises we had already made and to put ourselves in position to defend our own rights. These gentlemen declined to say a word in favor of our fitting ourselves to go into defensive war in our own interest; and yet they actually wish to make us at this time promise to undertake offensive war in the interests of other people! It is a striking illustration of the recklessness with which the average American is willing to make any kind of a promise without any thought of how it can be carried out. Taken concretely, they propose that we shall pledge ourselves in the future to coerce Germany if it acts say toward Switzerland or Holland or Denmark as it has acted toward Belgium. Either such a promise is an empty nullity or it means that we undertake to prepare in such event to send an army of a couple of million men to Europe. Yet these same individuals praise Wilson for shirking his duty under the moderate Hague Conventions we have already signed and for failure to prepare either to protect our own citizens when murdered on the high seas or to protect them when murdered in Mexico. They won’t advocate preparedness for defensive war in our own behalf but are willing to make utterly reckless promises that we will undertake offensive war in behalf of others.

An important letter from Roosevelt with his views on how to achieve and maintain peace. $6,000 - $8,000

Important heretofore missing letter from Benjamin Rush to Thomas Jefferson concerning the plague and quarantine laws in the United States and abroad.

Rush writes in full: I return you herewith Sir John Sinclair; pamphlet upon old age with many thanks. I have read it with pleasure, and subscribe to the truth of most of his opinions. They accord with opinions which I published, any years ago in the 2nd volume of my medical inquiries & observations. I have just finished reading Col. now Sir Robt:Wilson’s account of the British campaign in Egypt. It is well written, and is a very popular work in our city, chiefly from its containing the history of the cruelties exercised by Bonaparte’s in that country. Its merit to me consists much more in the facts he has related respecting the plague. The annexed extract from one of our newspapers [attached herewith to the present letter] contains the substance of them. They will be followed as Robert says, by several valuable publications by medical men in which the non importation, non contagion, & domestic origin of the plague will be fully & clearly proved. I wish this subject occupied more of the attention of the legislators of all countries the laws which are now in force in every part of the world to prevent the importation of malignant fumes are absurd, expensive, vexations, & oppressive to a great degree. Posterity will view them in the same light that we now view horseshoes at the doors of tanners houses to defend them from witches. We originally imported our opinions of the contagious nature of the plague from the ignorant & degraded inhabitants of Egypt. It is high time to reject them from countries when free inquiry is tolerated upon all subjects connected with the interests & happiness of nations. There is more hope upon this subject from laws upon many others. A thousand considerations oppose the extinction of wars, which cannot operate upon the extermination of pestilential diseases. There is no moral vel [sic] in them, & of course no obstacles to their destruction, but what arises from ignorance and prejudice. It would seem as if a certain portion of superstition belonged necessarily to the human mind, and that that part of it which had been banished from Religion, had taken sanctuary in medicine, hence thousands of the Citizens of the United States who would be ashamed to exclaim “Great is Diana of Ephesus,” now openly and zealously cry out “Great are the Quarantines of all our States.”

In his postscript, Rush writes of Napoleon Bonaparte and how he dealt with the plague and the distress it is causing among inhabitants of the city of New York: Had not Bonaparte been a believer in the contagion of the plague, he would not have added to his other crimes— the destruction of 580 of his soldiers who were confined with the plagues, least they should infect his whole army. There is no calculating the amount of the cruelty, & misery which have issued from a belief in that most absurd Doctrine. It is just now beginning to produce distress of every kind in the city of New York. Our citizens instead of offering its inhabitants and asylum have this day interdicted all intercourse with them by land and water.

A fine letter from one of the most celebrated physicians in American history. A fellow founding father of the United States, Rush was a signatory of the Declaration of Independence and attended the Continental Congress. He maintained close ties to Jefferson in the years to follow. In fact, Jefferson sent Meriwether Lewis to Rush in Philadelphia in 1803 in preparation for his extensive expedition with William Clark. It was Rush who taught Lewis about frontier illnesses and the performance of bloodletting before he began his famed expedition in 1804. A telling clue of the depth of the friendship Rush shared with Jefferson can be found in Rush’s closing to the present letter: From Dear Sir with great respect your sincere old friend of 1775, Benjn Rush.

The present letter was received by Jefferson and recorded in his Epistolary Record. After the death of Rush, the letter was returned by Jefferson to Richard Rush, the son of Benjamin Rush. Richard Rush annotated his father’s letter with the following explanatory note: My father to Mr. Jefferson. August 5, 1803. Sir Robert Wilson’s British Campaign in Egypt. Quarantine Laws. Non-contagion of the plague and its domestic origin. Although Rush’s transcript of the letter was published in The Letters of Benjamin Rush, 1951, the actual letter has been missing until now.

Provenance: Purchased from a direct descendant of Benjamin and Richard Rush. $4,000 - $6,000
85. Santa Anna, Antonio Lopez de. Autograph letter signed twice (“Ant. Lopez de Santa Anna”) and in full in the text, in Spanish, 5 pages “Kingston, Jamaica,” 1 February 1849 to the President of the Section of the Grand Jury (i.e. the Supreme Court); “Copia” erased from head of first page, marginal scattered spotting.

Santa Anna writing of the circumstances leading to his exile in Jamaica.

In this extraordinary letter from exile, Santa Anna writes in part:

In painfully contemplating the sad situation of the country and that in the position to which I had been reduced, I could do nothing to serve it, I decided to turn to the General Government so that I may be permitted to remove myself to foreign soil, and I did this in the terms expressed in the following note. Est[em]’d. Sir, The world witnessed the solemnity with which I was called to the fatherland, the exile which was imposed on me as a consequence of our political misfortunes, and it is well known that in abandoning the enjoyment of the comforts of home, I sought to correspond to that high honor until my abilities could attain it, without omitting means or sacrifice of any kind. Providence, wise and just, but ineradicable in its works, did not deign in this case to favor the Mexican people with victory, and with most extraordinary efforts have been fruitless. Such a lamentable circumstance the enemy bastards have been able to capitalize on to harass me without risk, going even as far as calling me a traitor, forgetting that they are able to make their grave offenses heard only because I was prodigal in granting them attention and benefits: in vain it was held out for them to see that my fortune had been ruined at the hand of the invaders; the rancor of theirs, even in their writings, my public duties, the honesty with which, as is my wont, I helped the soldier who marched to the field, without my being compensated, the obvious risks I had run in the field of battle, and finally, that before granting a disgraceful peace, I preferred the battle, and finally, that before granting a disgraceful peace, I preferred the

As it turned out, so as to be able to live under the protection of the bandits who roamed through here in sizeable parties, I had to spend more than two thousand pesos to main a small escort, which was necessary to this end, whereas by the cash reserves of the treasury I served without pay. In such circumstances, when my services seemed unnecessary, my situation being most deplorable, nobody could justifiably reproach me for tending to providing for my innocent family, and so in consequence I decided to look for asylum on foreign soil, where I would spend my last days in the tranquility which could not be found at all in that of my birth. A victim one time of the furor of factions, persecuted by them without mercy, for me it is almost indubitable that my misfortune extends to being deprived of the solace a man about to die needs, and to be insulted in the country of his fathers, even though I have spilled my blood on it and have fought to protect the fatherland. This conviction prompted me to apply, in respectfully soliciting the Supreme Government, for such permission to emigrate from this Republic, making my voyage by rout which circumstances will afford, and I must thank Y.E., should such request be granted, if the official passport can be dispatched to this place in the shortest possible time. I can assure you that the honorable distinctions with which the magnanimity of the nation has deigned to favor me for some services which I was obliged to render it will always live in my memory, and that my gratitude for your singular benevolence will be eternal. In this frame of mind, I have the honor to offer Y.E. the consideration of my particular appreciation. God and liberty, Tehuacan, January 22, 1848- Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna.-Est’d St. the Minister of War.-Queretaro.

Santa Anna wrote this letter during the second of his three exiles. In 1841, he became a military dictator in Mexico and governed by violence till he was driven into exile by mutiny in 1845. He fled to Cuba, but was recalled to command against the invading army from the United States in 1846. The Americans beat him, and once more he went into exile in 1848. In 1853 he was recalled and named president for life, with the title of Serene Highness. In less than two years he was again overthrown and had to go abroad in August 1855. For the rest of his life, Santa Anna lingered on the outskirts of Mexico, endeavoring to find an opening to renew his old adventures. $3,000 – $5,000
The political issues leading to the Compromise of 1850 prove divisive.

Seward writes in full: I have the pleasure of acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 12th instant in behalf of the Committee of Arrangements for a meeting to be held at Winthrop on the 29th & 30th, to which I desire to reply in a private rather than in a public way. The Advocates and Apologists for the late absurd attempt to force the economy of the slave states to a sanction by the free states desire for obvious reasons to change the issue to one of Union vs Disunion. They set it down in their plan that I with others in Congress opposed to slavery would agitate the country, if not with a view at least with a tendency to Disunion. I have thought this an advantage I ought not to afford them. I have therefore abstained from addressing the public anywhere and any way even in my own state, while standing on the guard of freedom in my place here. If it were not egotistical I would add that an issue has been made up on my own conduct, upon which a public decision has been invoked. It is my earnest desire to leave that decision to be procured without any word of self-defense or justification or excuse here or elsewhere. Will this explanation confidentially of my sentiments be accepted by the Committee, to whom I beg leave to tender assurances of my sincere respect and cordial sympathies.

Just 12 days after Seward’s letter, aging Senator Henry Clay—who had dedicated his political career to preserving the Union—expressed his annoyance at the extremists from both the South and the North who were threatening to resort to force. He offered the Senate a series of resolutions that he hoped all sides could agree on; from these resolutions eventually came the Compromise of 1850. The Compromise of 1850 was an attempt to solve the North-South differences over the extension of slavery into the territories, specifically the newly annexed Texas and land acquired after the Mexican War. Enacted 9-20 September 1850, the compromise included the following provisions: the admission of California as a free state, the use of popular sovereignty to decide free or slave status for New Mexico and Utah, the prohibition of the slave trade in the District of Columbia, the passage of a more stringent fugitive slave law, and the settlement of Texas-New Mexico boundary claims. It included the Fugitive Slave Act, which placed fugitive slave cases under exclusive Federal jurisdiction, and subjected those who aided and abetted fugitive slaves to stiff and severe criminal and civil penalties. As well, the Compromise favored new territorial acquisitions by peaceful means. The continuing debate centered on the slavery question in newly acquired regions, with the southern states opting for the right of the people in the new territories to adopt their own constitution and form of government—including the organization of the state without restrictions on slavery. The Compromise was successful in averting civil war between the states—with the moderates in the North pacified, and the increasing militants in the South temporarily mollified. Only South Carolina was ready to secede rather than accept the Compromise.

Seward—an anti-slavery advocate—vigorously opposed the Compromise of 1850, stating in a speech on 11 March 1850 that all legislative compromises were radically wrong and essentially vicious. He appealed to a higher law justifying refusal of constitutional protection to slavery. $3,000 - $5,000

An extraordinary archive manuscript material on the bombing of Cell Block D in the hand of the Birdman of Alcatraz.

The archive contains the following: (A.)Autograph Manuscript, 50 pages, Alcatraz, California, October 1946—Stroud’s manuscript (a typed transcript is included) titled “I Accuse by Robert Stroud”—an affidavit in support of Criminal Complaints against: James V. Bennett, Director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons; C.J. “Gracie” Shuttleworth, Warden, U.S. Penitentiary at Milan, Michigan; Frank “Bloodhound” Johnson, Alcatraz, California; Isaac Sway, Senior Warden’s Assistant, U.S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth; Gordon MacDonald, Inmate, U.S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth; Doctor Joseph Cronin, U.S. Public Health Service; Doctor Louis Roucek, U.S. Public Health Service; Guard Attendant Smith, U.S. public Health Service; Guard Jones, now of Alcatraz, formerly of Leavenworth; Guard Sharff, of U.S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth; and Walter A. Hunter, U.S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, and others.

Stroud accuses the above listed persons … for violation of the following statutes of the United States…

Title 18, U.S.C. Section 51, Depriving a citizen of a right guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States; Title 18, U.S.C. Section 251, Misprison of Felony; Title 18, U.S.C. Section 242, Intimidation of party or witness; Title 18, U.S.C. Section 452, Murder; Title 18, U.S.C. Section 455, Assault with intent to murder; Title 50, U.S.C. Section—Sabotage, Second War-Powers Act, as set out fully herein.

Stroud begins his manuscript with a number of paragraphs of personal information: My name is Robert Stroud; I am 57 years of age; I am an inmate of D-Block, the punishment department, of the United States penitentiary on Alcatraz Island, located in the mouth of the Golden Gate, within the Southern Division of the Northern Judicial District of California, a place under the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States. I have been held in solitary confinement in D-Block since my arrival at Alcatraz on December 19, 1942. I have been imprisoned continuously since January 18, 1909; I am now serving a life sentence for the killing of a guard at Leavenworth on March 26, 1916; I have been held in Solitary Confinement from that day until this—a period of more than thirty years. All of that time has been devoted to study, twenty-two years of it to scientific research in the field of avian pathology and therapeutics. I have the best conduct record of any man who has ever been confined in any Federal Prison, not having been punished or reprimanded for violation of prison rules since November 2, 1919, a period of twenty-seven years. I am the author of two books: ‘Diseases of Canaries,’ published at Kansas City, Missouri, April, 1933, and ‘Stroud’s Digest on the Diseases of Birds,’ published at Minneapolis, Minnesota, December, 1943, as well as many scientific articles of avian physiology and pathology.

Five different accusations make up the body of the manuscript. The first begins: I ACCUSE James V. Bennett, Director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons; C.J. ‘Gracie’ Shuttleworth, Warden of the U.S. Penitentiary at Milan, Michigan, official stoop pigeon for Mr. Bennett; and Frank ‘Bloodhound’ Johnson, of Alcatraz, with making an unprovoked assault upon my person with at least 15 antitank grenades, with the deliberate and declared intention of murdering me, this on May 3, 1946, at Alcatraz, California.

Continuing his accusations against Bennett, Shuttleworth, and Johnson, Stroud opens his lengthy handwritten manuscript with a detailed account of the particulars of the bombing of D-Block: On May 2, 1946. Three prisoners in the main cellhouse, as a protest against starvation and other Gestapo methods of the Bureau of Prisons, seized a guard, one rifle, one pistol and about 70 rounds of ammunition. They captured a number of guards and officials, including the guard in D-Block, shot some in the more obnoxious of their prisoners, killing one. They then took refuge in the main cell block, fought off recapture until their ammunition was exhausted and they were killed, which occurred about 4 o’clock on Friday, May 3, 1946…

(B.)Petition for Temporary Writ of Habeas Corpus signed, Three pages, Alcatraz, California, 27 December 1946—Stroud’s handwritten petition in the case of Robert Stroud (Petitioner) vs. James A. Johnston (Warden, United States Penitentiary, Alcatraz, California, Respondent) – To the Honorable A.F. St. Sure, Senior District Judge, In the United States District Court For the Northern District of California, Southern Division. Stroud petitions: Therefore, petitioner prays that this court issue a temporary writ of habeas corpus ordering the Warden of said penitentiary to surrender the body of petitioner, together with his legal papers, to the custody of the United States Marshal, and ordering said Marshal to transport petitioner and his papers to the office of the United States Commissioner at San Francisco, there permit petitioner to make his statement and transact all lawful business essential thereto and, at the termination of said legal business, to return the body of petitioner safely to the custody of the aforementioned Warden of the United States penitentiary at Alcatraz, California. Robert Stroud, No. 594, Alcatraz, California. The petition is also signed by the Associate Warden, U.S. Penitentiary, Alcatraz, California.

Attached to the petition is Stroud’s lengthy two-page statement made to Attorneys Vinkler and Spagnoli (a typed transcript of the text is included), in which Stroud states: I may be wrong, but it is my idea that an acquittal in this case will be as bad as a conviction unless it results in a thorough Congressional investigation of the whole rotten mess which is the prison Bureau…there is one thing that you can and must use, the story of the bombing of D Block. I must tell that story. I am the one man who can tell it as it should be told. It is in the bombing of D Block that these people went out on a long limb and sawed that limb off. Here is the score, and we can prove all this, too…

(C.) Petition Signed. Two pages, Alcatraz, California, October 1946—Stroud’s handwritten petition (a typed transcript is included) which states: Comes now Robert Stroud, who upon his oath states that he is the author of the attached Criminal complaint; that every accusation made therein is true and, for the most part, provable without the use of convict witnesses; that twice, as set out in the complaint, attempts have been made upon his life by persons having authority over him; that, though not necessarily fearing for his life, petitioner knows from experience that the persons accused are in possession of great power which they will not hesitate to use ruthlessly in order to silence him…

$20,000 – $30,000
Taylor grieves over the loss of his mother.

Taylor writes to his brother in part: Your two letters of the 19th of Decr 22 & 19th of Jany 23 only reached me a few days ago since & about the same time —the first giving me the melancholy & disturbing intelligence of the death of our good kind & affectionate mother; & although I had expected that event, from the turn Peggy informed me her disease had taken, yet the information has truly distressed me. I had anticipated the pleasure of once more seeing her, but providence has directed otherwise, & our family has for the few last fatal years been among those that have been most severely afflicted. I sincerely hope that our good father will be able to bear up against this severe trial with his usual firmness. What course he will pursue relative to his breaking up or keeping house, time must determine. You are on the spot and I have no doubt will aid him with your advice, & I wish it was in his power to follow those pursuits, & walk of life that is most agreeable to him. But I am fearful that he will be under necessity of keeping house, on account of Sally & perhaps the other likewise; & should this be the case, you can advise whether it will be best for him to keep the plantation or dispose of it, & purchase a small establishment . . . .

Taylor continues his letter with details on various family matters including an impending legal battle. Fearing his brother had not purchased a small plantation in order to get my negroes together. A heartfelt letter from one brother to another as they grapple with the loss of a parent. $4,000 - $6,000

88. Taylor, Zachary. Autograph letter signed (“Z. Taylor”), 4 pages (9⅛ x 8 in.; 251 x 203 mm.), “Baton Rouge, Louisiana,” 30 December 1823 to his brother Hancock Taylor in Louisville, Kentucky; address panel integrated into fourth page with text and postmarked 1 February 1823; some dampstaining; seal tear, red wax seal remnant.


William Thornton, the first architect of the U.S. Capitol, Washington, D.C., describes his close friend, George Washington.

Thornton responds to an article printed the day before, giving his own recollections of his close friend, George Washington, then turns to a brief defense of Secretary of State John Quincy Adams based upon Washington’s confidence in him when he served as his Minister to Prussia. At the time of this letter Adams was a potential Presidential candidate for the election of 1824.

Thornton writes in full: Under the Title of Revolutionary Anecdotes in your Paper of yesterday, I read with pleasure, and with sympathetic feelings, the farewell scene, when the General [George Washington] parted with the officers whom he had so long commanded, and with whom he had been so honorably engaged in the revolutionary struggle. It is so exactly like the conduct of that estimable character, that I doubt not its perfect truth. He was a man of great sensibility — amiable — kind — benevolent. But there was so much native dignity in his deportment, that no man could approach him without being impressed with a sensation that he accorded a superior Being: yet there was a small mixture of timidity in his general demeanour, lest he might commit an error, & this modesty was exceedingly prepossessing. It gave a mildness and kindness to his manner, and when, by being much with him the sensation of awe abated; it was converted into a warm attachment to a Person in whom was found every amiable quality; for he was a generous, kind-hearted, and most sincere Friend; - as capable of giving attention as of expecting them, & never failing to reciprocate a kindness.

I have lived for weeks together with the General at Mount Vernon, at different times, during many years, & the more I knew of him the more I sincerely regarded him. When he died he was the best friend I had on Earth, & his loss I shall never cease to regret. It was to me irreparable.

In the Anecdotes above alluded to, the General is represented as of so grave a character, that he was scarcely ever seen to laugh. I have seen him enjoy good Tales, & laugh as heartily as most men of elevated character. He was occasionally grave, when other men laughed, for he had much to think of, that required his attention: his correspondence was so extensive, that he was seldom long unoccupied; and he never left for the morrow what the Day required. He was punctual, and in all things regulated by the most perfect order, & the utmost propriety. But he was of so amiable a disposition, that he never failed to express pleasure, where he found a desire to please. Though he enjoyed refined and polished wit, it was not requisite to show that he enjoyed a happy sally; even a pun has made the General laugh in high glee; & I have heard him make observations with a good deal of quaintness and archness, suppressing a smile, and leaving the Company in full enjoyment of the effect. He was a man of genius, & wrote some beautiful little pieces of poetry. But above all he was a man of piety, a real Christian, and in the language of Scripture, walked humbly before God. In speaking with the General, or the characters of our Countrymen, who were sent on foreign missions, he gave me the following character of John Quincy Adams.
He observed that we had many estimable characters abroad, but that Mr. Adams, then our Minister at the Court of Prussia, who was still very young, gave him more real and satisfactory information of the general politics of Europe, and of all the affairs and diplomatic concerns relative thereto, than all our other Ministers together. The General expressed the satisfaction which Mr. Adams gave him, in terms the most flattering. I mentioned this, in a large company, and the venerable William Bayly, who was present, & who I know used often to visit the General, declared that he also heard the General say he thought Mr. John Quincy Adams the most promising young man in the United States, & that the General spoke of him in the very highest terms.

Though from Mr. Adams I have not had the honor of experiencing those Civilities which every other Secretary of State condescendingly tendered to me (for I have been above twenty years at the head of a branch of the Department of State [the Patent Office]); though I neither expect, nor shall ever solicit any favor from him, on my own account, and believe it might be to my individual advantage were any other candidate to be elected. I think it my duty to inform the Public of the opinion of the great Washington; & I may add, that having for years lived the next door neighbour to Mr Adams, I know him to be a truly upright & strictly honest man, indefatigable in his public Duties, an excellent parent, beloved in his Family, religious, and of the highest moral character. When individuals are filling the Papers with the most violent abuse of this Gentleman, the minds of many good men may be erroneously impressed; and it is sometimes difficult to divest the mind of injurious impressions, though the result only of malevolent sarcasms, devoid of truth; or intended merely to operate to his political disadvantage; and though what I have stated may offend some, yet I know that good men will duly appreciate whatever may tend to the removal of error: and I have now merely performed a duty to the Public.

I lament that some of the newspapers have become the vehicles of abuse. I have the honor of knowing well every Gentleman who has been proposed for President & I can say, with truth, that each of them is worthy of the high honor to which their Friends have thought it proper to solicit the public favor, in their behalf.

A fine letter with great historic content. $6,000 - $8,000
90. Tyler, John. Fine autograph letter signed, 2 pages (10 x 7 ¾ in.; 254 x 197 mm.), “Sherwood Forest” [Tyler’s 1,200 acre Virginia plantation], 19 November 1855. Written to his son, Robert Tyler, who served as Private Secretary to his father during his Presidency, then later, during the Civil War, served as Registrar of the Confederate States Treasury; on blue stationery; docketed on the verso of the blank overleaf: “Ex: President Tyler, Sherwood, Va., Nov: 9. 1855. Important - political”; verso of third page with mounting remnants.

One year before the Presidential election of 1856, former President John Tyler, confesses that he is almost in despair in worry about the nation’s future and hopes that the country might be saved.

Tyler writes: The course which you suggest for my political conduct, is precisely that which I have adopted. I am in all sincerity for Mr. [Henry Alexander] Wise, and shall truly rejoice if one correct in opinion and so honorable in action can be elevated to the Presidency. If he surrounded himself by Councillors of the same high order with himself, the country might be saved. But I confess that I am almost in despair, although I bear constantly in mind the roman maxim ‘never to despair of the Republic’.

Have you read in the Herald of last week the article from the London news under the hand of the Pacific News. It is a direct appeal to the North to break up the Union, accompanied with a long and bitter tirade against the South. If there is not Patriotism enough in New England to revolt against that, or if the scales over their eyes is not remov’d by it, then treason is spread broadcast and there is required no ghost from his grave to tell us that the end is nigh. Rely upon it that the next four years will prove to be the turning point of our destiny, and that it requires no ordinary man at the head of affairs to weather the storm. I even doubt whether the Presidency would be desirable [sic]. He would be but a wreck in history, whose administration should witness a destruction of the government. But I must here end my gloomy reflections as I have to avail myself of the passing boat for this letter.

In 1854, Wise was nominated by a combination of Tidewater and Trans-Allegheny delegates as Democratic candidate for Governor of Virginia. Former President John Tyler supported the gubernatorial aspirations in Virginia of his old friend, Henry A. Wise. Wise’s victory was a sweep, enough so to bring his name prominently before the South as a possible candidate for the Democratic nomination in 1856. The Presidential election of 1856 loomed as one of the most unpredictable in American political history. The task ahead was not enviable for Wise or any other political candidate.

In this superb letter, Tyler proves to be quite the clairvoyant. As it turned out, President James Buchanan proved to be a very ordinary President and his administration a wreck in history. He did little more than preside over the rapidly disintegrating Union.

$4,000 - $6,000

91. Tyler, John. Fine autograph manuscript signed, 2 pages (8 ¾ x 7 in.; 222 x 178 mm.), “Sherwood Forest,” 18 August 1856; inlaid.

On the subject of envy, John Tyler quotes Shakespeare and delves back to Ancient Greece.

Tyler writes in full: There was wisdom and profound philosophy in the saying which Shakespeare in his Henry VIII puts into the mouth of Cardinal Wolsey in his last words to Cromwell, “Still in your right hand carry gentle peace, to silence envious tongues.” It has been from the first, the fate of merit to excite envy. So was it in the primitive days, when Cain envied his brother Abel for his greater acceptability in the eyes of the creator, and so it will continue to be “to the last syllable of recorded time.” The envious are never more gratified, than in exciting anger and bitter controversy. It is the food o which they live—deprive them of it, and they perish for the want of necessary aliment. If one has liv’d worthily, he may well content himself to let the envious find ther own graves as they assuredly will if not swollen into the consequences by injudicious retort. History furnishes innumerable examples of this amongst the most remarkable of which is that of the distinguished Athenian who was followed to his lodgings by one who heap’d upon him all manner of abuse. Upon reaching his door, he calmly directed his torch-bearers to accompany the man safely to his own home; thus giving a reproof incalculably greater than blows would have inflicted, causing all Athens to applaud him for his forbearance and moderation. The shell in which Aristeded wrote his own name for ostracism constitutes the most enduring monument to his memory . . .

With great facility, Tyler quotes Shakespeare and recounts Ancient Greek history revealing his aristocratic roots and erudite manner.

$4,000 - $6,000
92. [U.S.S. Constitution]. Manuscript Medical Log Book for the United States Frigate Constitution, 163 pages (18 ¾ x 11 ½ in.; 476 x 292 mm.), various locales, 18 July 1799 to 31 July 1800; original marbled paper boards, later calf spine; quite worn; missing first leaf, first leaf present with paper loss at lower right, marginal browning, fraying and wear, marginal repair to first five leaves.

The medical log for the U.S.S. Constitution kept shortly following her maiden launch.

A remarkable record of quotidian realities aboard the most beloved shipping vessels in America, the present medical log of the U.S.S. Constitution is of great historical significance. The log begins with fourteen pages of itemized expenditures for medicines and hospital stores. This section is followed by a full page headed, List of Venereal Cases, containing no less than thirty-three names and specifying the type of venereal disease (gonorrhea being the most prevalent), treatment and date of discharge. The log continues with a lengthy section headed: The Daily Journal of sick kept on board . . . Silas Talbot Esquire as Commander. The daily journal beginning on 18 July 1799 contains vital information in columns including name, station, disease, symptoms, prescriptions, when discharged, when and where removed, death, diet and daily expenditures. Besides venereal diseases, maladies on board the great frigate included pleurisy, foul stomach, scurvy, ulcers, fractures, diarrhea, headaches, pain and fever. Only twelve deaths are listed for 18 July 1799 to 31 July 1800. Interesting to note is the varied array of foods and beverages in the Diet column of the log: cocoa, chocolate, tea, wine, prunes, raisins, limes, rice, barley, Indian pudding, goat soup gruel, yams and onions being the most repeated in the log.

Constitution is a wooden-hulled, three masted heavy frigate of the United States Navy named by George Washington after the Constitution of the United States of America. She is the world’s oldest commissioned naval vessel afloat. Launched on 10 October 1797, Constitution was one of the six original frigates authorized for construction by the Naval Act of 1794. Joshua Humphreys designed the frigates to be the Navy’s capital ships and thus, Constitution and her sisters were larger and more heavily armed than standard frigates of the period. Constitution was put to sea on 22 July 1798 with orders to patrol the eastern seaboard between New Hampshire and New York to provide protection for American merchant shipping amid the great unrest with France at the time.

Under the command of Captain Silas Talbot, Constitution departed Boston on 23 July 1799, just days after the log herewith begins. Bound for Saint-Domingue via Norfolk she was on a mission to interrupt French shipping. She took the prize Amelia from a French prize crew on 15 September. Constitution arrived at Saint-Domingue on 15 October and rendezvoused with frigates Boston, General Greene and Norfolk. No further incidents occurred over the following six months. It was not until April 1800 that Talbot investigated increased traffic near Puerto Plata and discovered the French privateer Sandwich. On 8 May the squadron captured the sloop Sally. Talbot captured Sandwich by utilizing the familiarity of Sally to access the harbor and captured Sandwich on 11 May. It was later determined Sandwich had been captured from a neutral port and she was returned to the French.

Routine patrols continued for Constitution until 13 May when problems arose with the mainmast and she returned to Boston for repair—just about when the present log ends. $15,000 - $25,000

Mexican bandit Pancho Villa continues to extort “protection” money from the Alvarado Mining and Milling Company.

Villa writes in full: You will remember that working under the best possible faith I told Mr. McQuatters the sum of $20,000.00 (twenty-thousand dollars). Last month I sent him a letter in El Paso charging him that and he hasn’t paid. You Sir have the influence to see to it that this money is put into the hands of Mr. Frederick Jacoby sometime during this month or otherwise our agreement is broken, proving to Mr. McQuatters that the functioning of his mines depends upon the protection I have given him.

An extremely rare and seldom-encountered autograph letter with Villa’s large and bold signature. $4,000 - $6,000
We are not to see the Operation of the New Constitution with all its splendid advantages.

Warren writes in full: Neither the stationing of Centuries or the malicious wishes & obliquity of the federals will ever prevent my visiting my friend at Cambridge when it is in my power. No Man, or at least very few, can at this day profess that invaluable Treasure Mons Consilia Recti as I firmly believe you do without being marked by detraction & ill nature. I have myself a large share of malicious Slander which I never deserved from this Country. I heartily despise it. My spirits shall never be affected by it, & among the numerous resources of Consolation it certainly is no inconsiderable one to be associated with a man who is so much Esteem & with whom I have been associated in the most Zealous & faithful services to this Country. They now wish us to be Bankrupt, & despondent, or they would not spread such ill-founded rumours. They gratify their Malice instead of exercising those feelings which pity, if not gratitude should excite on such an occasion if true. No Man was ever persecuted with such inveterate Malice as I am. It follows me in every step I take. An Instance has lately occurred in which the public certainly had no concern, but more Noise has been made about my taking of a few Locks from Milton House, than would have been made if another Man had burned it. It is so in every thing, & I suppose will be so, for the same reason it has been so. I will quit this subject after giving you one anecdote, which I think sufficient to silence Malevolence itself. I went to his agent & informed him that there were a variety of articles which would be very Convenient to Mr. Lee, that he should have the preference at a moderate price if he inclined to have them, & afterwards received this surly answer, that he would not lay out a shilling there, & now complaining that they are taken away.

We are not to see the Operation of the New Constitution with all its splendid advantages. You must prepare yourself for taking a part in the Execution in one House or the other. Policy will prevail over Malevolence, & make your Election certain, and your acceptance I think must be as certain as your Election, & will be a Choice only of the least evil. I have much to say to you on this & other subjects, which I design to do ere long. Viva voce in the mean time. Give my great regards to the federal Lady.

James Warren 28 September 1726 – 28 November 1808 was the President of the Massachusetts Provincial Congress and a Paymaster General of the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War, among other positions.

A letter of great historical content from a beloved major general in the American Revolution. $3,000 - $5,000
95. Washington, George, Revolutionary War-date letter signed (“Go Washington”), 1 page (12 ¾ x 9 ¾ in.; 327 x 235 mm.), Head Quarters Morris Town, 26 April 1777 to Brigadier General John Glover, in the hand of an unidentified aide-de-camp; with free frank On Public Service; skillfully repaired.

Faced with a dire need of able commanders, Washington makes an eloquent appeal to a fellow officer to remain with the “great cause” that can now only be decided “by the Sword.”

Washington’s letter is a powerful combination of gentle rebuke, subtle praise, and an appeal to patriotism to secure the consent of a valuable fighter for independence.

Washington writes in full: After the conversations, I had with you, before you left the army, last Winter, I was not a little surprised at the contents of yours of the first instant. As I had not the least doubt, but you would accept

the commission of Brigadier, if conferred upon you by Congress, I put your name down in the list of those whom I thought proper for the command, and whom I wished to see preferred. Diffidence in an officer is a good mark because he will always endeavour to bring himself up to what he conceives to be the full line of his duty; but I think, I may tell you, without flattery, that I know of no man better qualified than you to conduct a Brigade. You have activity and industry, and as you very well know the duty of a colonel, you know how to exact that duty from others.

I have with great concern observed the almost universal listlessness that prevails throughout the continent and I believe that nothing has contributed to it more, than the resignation of officers who stepped early forward and led the people into the great cause, in which we are too deeply embarked to look back, or to hope for any other terms than those we can gain by the Sword. Can any Resistance be expected from the People when deserted by their leaders? Our Enemies count upon the Resignation of every Officer of Rank at this time, as a distrust of and desertion from the cause and rejoice accordingly. When you consider these matters I hope you will think no more of private inconveniences, but that you will, with all expedition, come forward and take that command which has been assigned to you. As I fully depend upon seeing you, I shall not mention any thing that has passed between us, upon this Subject, to the Congress.

In spring of 1777, Washington found himself in sore need of able commanders with proven battlefield skills. Glover was the ideal candidate: An ardent patriot and a fine leader of men, who had served Washington well in previous campaigns. Congress duly approved the appointment of ten men for commissions, including Anthony Wayne and Glover; but when the commission reached him, dated 21 February, Glover declined it.

Washington’s eloquence, though, prevailed. Glover took up his command and participated in the defense of Newport, Rhode Island, served as a member of the court which passed sentence on the British spy, Major John Andre, helped defend the forts in the Hudson Highlands and finally retired in 1782 due to failing health and his ill wife. After the war, Glover served as a member of the Massachusetts delegation which ratified the Federal Constitution.

A heartfelt and eloquent appeal from the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army to a dutiful officer.

Provenance: Christie’s New York, 22 November 1985, lot 211. $30,000 – $50,000
Washington reports the destruction of the Somerset, the British flagship that sent Paul Revere on his midnight ride.

Washington writes in full: *Dear Sir, I have your favour of the 9th and 13th. I think it will be on every account better for the Officers of the Connecticut line, to take their places as they were posted by the new arrangement, and I desire that Generals Huntington and Parson may do it. I have received advices from Boston that the Somerset of 64 guns, one of Admiral Byron’s Fleet, went on shore on Cape Cod in a gale of wind the 31st last month. The Officers & Crew (except 40 or 50 drowned) are prisoners. It is said that three or four more ships were seen in extremity distress. If the Fleet had not made a port before the Storm of the 11th and that of last night we may conclude that they cannot be in a very agreeable situation. They had not got into Newport on the 10th Count d’Estaing put to sea with his whole Fleet on the 4th of this month.*

Washington first gives his instructions regarding the reassembly of the Connecticut line, then goes on to naval matters. The Somerset was one of Britain’s star fighting ships, with 64 guns and a well-trained and experienced crew, which was on hand at the outset of hostilities between the British and the colonists at Concord and Lexington.

No doubt, the Somerset is best known through its mention in Henry Wadsworth Longfellow’s famed poem, “Midnight Ride of Paul Revere”:

*And I on the opposite shore will be, Ready to ride and spread the alarm, Through every Middlesex village and farm, For the country folks to be up and arm. Then he said, Good-night with a muffled oar, silently rowed to the Charlestown shore, Just as the Moon rose over the bay, There swinging wide as her moorings lay, The Somerset, British man-of-war, A phantom Ship with each mast and spar, Across the moon like a prison bar, And the Huge black hulk, that was magnified, By its own reflection in the tide . . .*

In the present letter, Washington gives details of the Somerset’s destruction and the capture of her crew. He closes his letter making mention of Count d’Estaing, the French naval officer who sailed to America on 13 April 1778, to aid the American cause. Early in July, d’Estaing reached Delaware Bay, then sailed for New York in hopes of engaging the British fleet, anchoring near the Jersey shore. D’Estaing appeared at Newport in late July and on 5 August 1778, the British burned six frigates in order to prevent their falling into the hands of the French.

Events seemed favorable for the capture of the entire British force at Newport, but delays and lack of proper understanding between the two commanders prevented united action. The appearance of the British fleet and a subsequent storm, in which several of the French vessels were seriously injured, led to their withdrawal to Boston for repairs, and the campaign terminated without success.

A remarkable letter with highly important Revolutionary War content. Washington’s signature is large and bold as his frank on the integral address leaf. **$30,000 - $50,000**
In the final stages of the war and with limited military intelligence, Washington gambles that the British will refrain from advancing on the New York frontier, concentrating the bulk of his force on the lower Hudson in an attempt to take Manhattan.

At the time of the present letter, Clinton was in command of the Northern Department, headquartered at Albany. Answering a pair of anxious requests from Clinton for reinforcements in the north.

Washington replies in full: Upon my return from Wethersfield the evening of the 26th [the historic Wethersfield Conference between Washington and Rochambeau, May 22, 1781, where the grand invasion of Manhattan was conceived] I was favored with your two Letters of the 17th and 22nd Inst.

General St Clair had previously given some directions respecting the Military Stores which were wanted at the Northward. I have since referred the application to General Knox, who has made such farther arrangements for a supply, as our present circumstances would permit. In consequence of the determination to abandon Fort Schuyler, I have also thought it advisable to send an Engineer to have the superintendance and direction of the Fortifications which are to be erected, General Du Portail has been requested to order one accordingly.

The Six Companies of Col Van Schaicks Regiment, now at West Point, are put under marching Orders, that if occasion should require they might be transported to Albany immediately. But I am very unwilling to suffer any Troops to be removed from this quarter, unless there is a real necessity for it. And indeed it would be useless to send them, unless there is also a probability of their being supplied with Provisions.

Altho I am apprehensive the Enemy will attempt to make incursions on the frontier in the course of the Campaign, the accounts as yet have been so vague and contradictory, that I know not what to believe respecting the present strength, disposition, and designs, of the British and Savages in Canada. As soon, and as frequently as you can obtain any intelligence that may be relied upon, I wish you to advise me of it. And also of everything of moment, which appertains to the Troops under your Command, particularly of the state of your Supplies.

The month of May was a busy one for Washington, for it brought the prospect of a new, decisive campaign against the British. Previously, his ragged troops just 3,500 strong, had effected a hollow siege of New York, then occupied by the British under Henry Clinton. Lacking provisions and ammunition, they were relegated to a watchful poise across the Hudson while the confident British troops, 14,500 in number and professionally trained, reinforced their works on Manhattan.

On 22 May, just six days before the date of the present letter, Washington received encouraging news: the French West Indian fleet had been ordered to send a major detachment northward to America, scheduled to arrive in July. In addition, the French government had appropriated 6 million livres to the United States for sorely needed military supplies, chiefly food and clothing. All this was an enormous vote of confidence in Washington, and enabled him to plan for an offensive move against New York instead of remaining in a defensive siege throughout the summer.

A hasty meeting with Rochambeau was arranged [the Wethersfield Conference], the fruits of which were an elaborate plan to wrest control of New York from the British with a combined force of French and American troops, involving General James Clinton's Newport-based troop [near present-day Elmira, New York], which would be moved to the south. This proved a dangerous endeavor: by concentrating his forces for an attack on well-defended New York, Washington left the frontier of upstate New York frighteningly exposed to invasion. Yet, with the bulk of the British military presence firmly ensconced in New York City, it was a gamble he had to take if he had any chance of winning the war.

By the end of July, Washington had mustered a combined force of over 9,000 men, ready and in position to sweep over Manhattan Island. But weeks of reconnaissance during July and August revealed Washington’s worst fears: the British works were virtually impregnable. Furthermore, De Grasse, the French admiral who had triumphantly sailed north to aid the Continentals, announced that he would withdraw from New York by October at the latest. Washington, who had been so focused on the capture of New York, was initially incensed at this setback; but after careful consideration he devised an alternate plan to leave a garrison of 2,500 men on the Hudson while secretly moving the majority of his bolstered army southward in an attempt to bottle up Cornwallis at Yorktown. This would prove to be the final crushing blow to the British war effort in America, ensuring the freedom and independence for America he had fought so long to achieve.

A fine letter with important military content, written at a climactic juncture during the Revolutionary War. The removal of troops from the northern theater was the very first step in what would become the last campaign of the war: the siege and ultimate surrender of the British at Yorktown. $30,000 – $50,000
Upon my return from
Wethersfield the evening of the 26
I was pleased with your two letters of the 17th and 22d Instant.
General St. Clair under my instructions, which were vacuous,
gave you some directions relative to the movement of the troops,
which were made at the solicitation of the Board of War, and might be
my scheme of the application to General St. Clair, who has made such
further arrangements for a supply, as our instructions from the
present circumstances will permit.
In consequence of the determination to abandon Fort Schuyler I have also
proceeded to process intelligence that may be supplied

To whom it may concern

Genl. St. Clair
Fort Schuyler
98. Washington, George. Fine Revolutionary War-date autograph letter signed, (“Go. Washington”), 2 pages (8 ¾ x 7 in.; 222 x 178 mm.), “Valley Forge,” 11 January 1778 to his nephew, Captain George Lewis; discoloration to page fold repairs.

During his bitterly cold sojourn with the Continental Army at Valley Forge during the winter of 1777-78, George Washington requests his nephew to bring him his household supplies to make it through the long winter campaign.

Washington writes in full: *I am sorry to find by your Letter to Mr. Harrison that you still continue indisposed - If the state of your health requires leave of absence, I shall not object to your visiting your friends in Virginia to recover it. - You will take this in your way as I shall want to see you before you go.*

*I wish you to have every part, & parcel of my Baggage removed from New Town to this place. - I do not know in whose care, & possession it is; but am satisfied I ought to have a good deal there. - among other things a Bed.*

- end Irons - Plates - Dishes - & Kitchen Utensils - however, be it what it will let the whole come - pay, or bring an Act. of the expenses attending the Storage & c; and hire or Express proper wagons for bringing these things.

Washington’s nephew, George Lewis, who had served as his uncle’s aide, was apparently on furlough due to illness. Washington does not object to his absence, but asks that he undertake a mission for him: to bring together and transport to him his household items from New Town. Washington remained camped at Valley Forge throughout the bitter winter of 1777-78. The British controlled the Delaware River, and had firm possession of Philadelphia. He did not break camp until June 19, 1778, the day after the British evacuated Philadelphia and set out for New York City. As this letter illustrates, throughout the Revolutionary War, it was Washington, who held his troops and generals together during extreme physical hardships and overwhelming aggravation and despair. An extremely rare and important letter completely in the hand of George Washington. $30,000 – $50,000
Philadelphia, Nov. 7, 1791.

The letter with which you were pleased to honor me, dated the 29th of last month, was presented to me by Lord Washington. Permit me to thank your lordship for introducing so worthy and intelligent a young brother of my acquaintance, and to assure you that his stay in this country is so short, as not to have allowed him time to investigate so much.

This country has a grateful recognition of the honor of your lordship's aid in settling the dispute between Great Britain and it; and between the boundary between it and her. This is to be praised that the same liberal policy was pursued, and every cause of discontent removed that they might be reciprocally beneficial to each other; their laws, language, and customs being much assimilated.
99. Washington, George. Important autograph letter signed ("Go: Washington") as President, 2 pages (9 ½ x 7 ½ in.; 241 x 194 mm.), “Philadelphia,” 7 November 1791 to the 1st Marquis of Lansdowne; integral blank; skillful repair to folds.

Washington pays tribute to the man, who, while leading the administration of Great Britain was responsible for the recognition of American Independence.

Washington writes in full: The letter with which you were please to honor me – dated the 4th of July was presented to me by Lord Wycombe. Permit me to thank your Lordship for introducing so worthy and intelligent a young Nobleman to my acquaintance, and to regret that his stay in this Country is so short as not to have allowed him to investigate it more. We flatter ourselves however that the impression it has made on him is not unfavorable and we should have hoped a better knowledge of it would not have weakened the first impressions. This Country has a grateful recollection of the agency your Lordship had in settling the dispute between Great Britain and it; and in fixing the boundary between them: It is to be wished that the same liberal policy was pursued, and every germe of disconnect removed that they might be reciprocally beneficial to each other; their laws, language and customs being much assimilated…

A fine letter in which the First President of the United States compliments Lansdowne on his work at bringing peace between Great Britain and America. Washington also compliments him on the attainments displayed by Lord Wycombe, Lansdowne’s son. He notes his regret that Lord Wycombe’s stay in America was so short as not to have allowed him time to investigate it more. He closes his letter subscribing himself with elaborate courtesy: I pray your Lordship to be assured of the great respect and consideration with which I have the honor to be Your Lordship’s most obedient and most humble Servant.

A letter of great historical significance in which Washington commends the 1st Marquis of Lansdowne for his instrumental role in America’s independence from Great Britain.


Provenance: Christie’s London, Boxwood House Archive 12 October 1994, lot 86. $40,000 - $60,000
100. Washington, George. Extraordinary autograph letter signed twice ("G. Washington" and "G. Wn.") as President, 2 pages (9 ¾ x 7 ¾ in.; 235 x 197 mm.), "Philadelphia," 6 May 1792 to Thomas Paine; integral blank; marginal split to horizontal fold.

President George Washington politely but resolutely snubs radical author Thomas Paine, refusing even to comment on his great work, Rights of Man, in which Paine advocates revolution against aristocratic governments.

Washington writes in full: To my friends, and those who know my occupations, I am sure no apology is necessary for keeping their letters so much longer unanswered than my inclination would lead me to do. I shall therefore offer no excuse for not having sooner acknowledged the receipt of your letter of the 21st of July. My thanks, however, for the token of your remembrance, in the fifty copies of the Rights of Man are offered with no less cordiality than they would have been had I answered your letter in the first moment of receiving it.

The duties of my Office, which at all times (especially during the sitting of Congress) require an unremitting attention naturally become more pressing towards the close of it; and as that body have resolved to rise tomorrow, and as I have determined in case they should, to set out for Mount Vernon on the next day, you will readily conclude that the present is a busy moment with me - and to that I am persuaded your goodness will impute my not entering into the several points touched upon in your letter. Let it suffice, therefore, at this time to say, that I rejoice in the information of your personal prosperity - and as no one can feel a greater interest in the happiness of mankind than I do, that it is the first wish of my heart that the enlightened policy of the present age may diffuse to all men those blessings to which they are entitled - and lay the foundation of happiness for future generations - With great esteem I am Dear Sir Your most Obedt Servt G. Washington. P.S. Since writing the foregoing I have received your letter of the 13th of February with twelve copies of your new book which accompanied it - and for which you must accept my additional thanks. G.Wn.

Paine had sent Washington 50 copies of the first part of his Rights of Man in July, 1791, and followed up with 12 copies of the second part in February, 1792. Allowing time for Paine's two parcels to reach Washington from England, it is nonetheless clear from this cold impersonal letter that President Washington has no real interest in responding to the man who, during the American revolution, had been responsible for inspiring the morale of the dispirited Continental Army, of which Washington was Commander-in-Chief. Lamely, Washington begs forgiveness for his pre-occupation with the duties of office, and even suggests that his possible upcoming travel to Mount Vernon prevents a response. It has taken him months, however, to respond to Paine and his response is mere perfunctory and polite thanks.
The deliberate snub comes in Washington’s blatant refusal to comment on Paine’s work. In the controversial two-part pamphlet Rights of Man, Paine responded to Edmund Burke’s critical view of the French Revolution. Paine argued that civil government exists only through a contract with the majority of the people for the safe-guarding of the individual, and if man’s “natural rights” are interfered with by the government, revolution is permissible. In agreement with the French Revolution, Paine opposed aristocratic government, and contended that freedom of action and thought were natural rights and should not be interfered with by civil authority. In the pamphlet, he called upon the English people to overthrow their monarchy and set up a republic. Viewed in this light, Paine’s tract may have been viewed by Washington as an assault upon his own authority as President. Washington’s cold response is understandable.

Thomas Jefferson, who at the time was serving as Washington’s Secretary of State, was involved in the arrangements for the U.S. publication of Paine’s work - as a means of combating the “Federalist heresy.” Often pitted against Washington’s trusted advisor, Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton, Jefferson was often at odds with Washington. Indeed, Jefferson and other anti-Federalists such as Monroe, were critical of the office of President, observing that a president who could be re-elected indefinitely and commanded the armed forces “seems a bad edition of a Polish king.” Jefferson also came in disagreement with Washington for his proposed foreign policy, recommending aid to France in the war between France and England. Washington rejected Jefferson’s counsel, and maintained strict neutrality between Britain and France despite the 1778 treaty of alliance with France. Soon, the rift between the Federalists (Washington, Hamilton, John Adams) and the anti-Federalist forces led to the creation of the Democratic - Republican party, with Jefferson as its leader. No doubt Paine’s book served to widen the rift between Jefferson (and the anti-Federalists) and Washington (and the Federalists).

Due to the book’s “seditious” content (coupled with its exceptional popularity), Paine was indicted for treason. He was forced to flee England, and seek refuge in France, where he was safe until the new French government revoked his citizenship and he was put in prison (1793-94). Finally, he was released at the request of Minister to France James Madison, who claimed Paine was an American citizen. According to Paine, Washington refused to help him.

A superb historical letter linking two of America’s great patriots, though they are clearly not of one mind on the subject of revolution. $80,000 - $120,000
Presidential George Washington prepares for the final exchange of treaty ratifications with Great Britain (Jay's Treaty) and awaits final confirmation of a treaty with the Northwest Territory Indian tribes (Treaty of Greenville).

Washington writes in full: Monday’s mail brought me both your letters of the 11th instant. The one containing an extract from Maj. [Isaac] Craig’s letter, relative to the conclusion of the treaty with the North Western Tribes of Indians, was very acceptable—and I pray you to dispatch [James] Seagrove [U.S. Agent of Southern Indian Affairs], and impress strongly upon him the necessity, and the earnest wish of the government, that we would, without delay, effect, if it can be done, a peace between the Creeks and Chicasaws [Chickasaws]. It would be a pleasing circumstance not only to be enabled to say at the meeting of congress—that we were at Peace with all the Indian nations, but by the mediation of the U. States we had settled the differences between the tribes above mentioned; the latter of whom having been always our friends, and engaged according to their own accord in a war partly on our behalf.

My letter from Baltimore by Express (the expence of which I preferred to the delay of waiting three days for the next mail) and my other letter from Elkton, will evince my anxiety to get the several dispatches for our public characters abroad—namely—the former Minister to Great Britain/Special Commissioner and Envoy Extraordinary to Spain Thomas Pinckney, [Minister to France James] Monroe and [Minister to The Hague John Quincy] Adams to hand as soon as possible; I request therefore to know (if they are gone)—when, by whom, and for what Ports they were sent:—and I request moreover, that several copies may be sent to all of them to insure the arrival of one.

I am sorry I had not sounded Mr. [Elias] Boudinot on the appointment to the Mint [as Director—nominated December 10, 1795; confirmed December 11] before he left the vicinity of Philad; as Mr. [Henry William] de Dissausure [Director of the U.S. Mint] cannot, or will not, remain at his Post beyond the early part of October.

Mr. Marshall (from some peculiar circumstances) declines the offer of Attorney General; and I have been enquiring into the abilities and other qualifications for the Law characters in Maryland—but not much to my satisfaction as yet.

I perceive by the Gazettes, that the [His Majesty’s cruiser] Africa [under the command of Captain Rodman Home] was disappointed of her expected prize [the capture of the Medusa with French Minister Joseph Fauchet aboard], and had returned to her former station at New Port. Have you heard whether the order for quitting it, has been communicated to Capt. Holmes [sic]?—and if so, what has been the result?—and the sentiments it has excited in persons of different descriptions.

The exchange with Great Britain of final ratifications of Jay’s Treaty. On 19 November 1794, Jay’s Treaty with Great Britain was signed to settle terms of peace, amity, commerce, navigation, boundaries and extradition. The terms of the treaty were not made known until March of 1795. The Senate ratified the treaty on 24 June 1795 after long debate; President Washington signed the treaty on 14 August 1795. On 20 August 1795, Secretary of War, Timothy Pickering, agreed to take on the duties of the office of Secretary of State—after it was revealed (through the interceptions of communications from Joseph Fauchet, the Minister of the French Republic, to his own government) that Secretary of State Edmund Randolph was implicated in improper, near-treasonous activities. Randolph resigned when called in question by Washington; Fauchet denied that he meant any reflections on his honor. Randolph himself wrote an elaborate vindication of his actions. Pickering’s immediate task was to prepare definitive instructions for the American diplomat who was to execute the exchange of treaty ratifications with Great Britain. The task was assigned to the most available diplomat of rant, John Quincy Adams, the American minister resident at The Hague, who was immediately ordered to London. At the same time, the former Minister to Great Britain, Thomas Pinckney, appointed Special Commissioner and Envoy Extraordinary to Spain (effective April of 1795) was negotiating with Spain. Through his diligent efforts, the Treaty of San Lorenzo [Pinckney’s Treaty] (27 October 1795) was signed at Madrid, in which Spain recognized the boundary claims of the U.S. under the Treaty of 1783 [in accordance with the treaty of peace between the U.S. and Great Britain] and gave to the Americans free navigation of the Mississippi River.

The Treaty of Greenville (9 August 1795). In the years following the American Revolution, American officials sought to force the Indians to submit to the victorious colonials. However, the Indians still regarded themselves as independent and continued to negotiate from a position of insistent pride. Due to the Indians’ obstinacy, the government was forced to enforce its claims by sending in the
military. In October 1791, General Arthur St. Clair, the governor of the Northwest Territory (served 1787–1802), was sent into the wilderness with a 2,000-man force. In a bloody confrontation with Little Turtle on the upper Wabash River (4 November 1791), St. Clair suffered a disastrous defeat, the worst disaster in the long history of the Indian Wars. President George Washington—not acknowledging defeat—appointed Revolutionary War hero General “Mad Anthony” Wayne to lead the next assault. Realizing that Wayne’s superior forces would surely defeat his warriors, Little Turtle advised the Indians to seek peace. The other chiefs overthrew him and gave his command to Turkey Foot. At the Battle of Fallen Timbers (20 August 1794), Wayne was victorious, losing only 33 of his own men in the process. On 3 August 1795, the Treaty of Greenville resulted in the Indians’ ceding the southeastern corner of the Northwest Territory together with enclaves beyond (Detroit and the future site of Chicago) in exchange for annuities amounting to $10,000. President Washington first learned of the treaty in a communication from Anthony tribes, though he, as of that date, still did not have a text of the pact. So, Washington instructed a cessation of hostilities between the Creeks and the Chickasaws. It was Washington’s hope to be able to report to Congress in November that the U.S. enjoyed peace with every Indian nation and had been instrumental in negotiating a truce between the two warring tribes. At the end of September, Pickering finally forwarded a certified text of the accord Wayne had signed with the Ohio tribes at Greenville. The way was finally clear for the advance of the American farmer and entrepreneur into the frontier of the rich continent.

John Marshall declines the Attorney Generalship. In the fall of 1795, President Washington offered the Attorney Generalship to John Marshall of Richmond, Virginia. The Supreme Court Justice declined. The offer next went to Thomas Johnson of Maryland, who pleaded failing health; next an invitation was forwarded to Charles Cotesworth Pinckney of Charleston. Eventually, Charles Lee of Virginia took the cabinet post (19 December 1795).

His Majesty’s cruiser Africa off Newport. In the summer of 1795, the British cruiser Africa, under the command of Captain Rodman Home, had hovered just off Newport in the hope of intercepting the French frigate Medusa when that vessel put to sea. Several seamen from America merchant ships had been impressed into service by the British commander. On 1 August 1795, the cruiser entered American territorial waters to stop and search the coastal packet Peggy, during which time the baggage of Joseph Fauchet, the Minister of the French Republic, was ransacked. Secretary of War Pickering, who served from 2 January to 10 December 1795, filed a formal protest. In early September, President Washington, determined that the sovereignty of the United States should not be affronted without redress, approved a detailed indictment of Home. The result: All intercourse was henceforth prohibited between the people of Newport and the Africa. The Medusa—with French Minister Joseph Fauchet aboard—slipped to sea from anchorage in Newport the night of 31 August 1795. It was pursued at once by Captain Home in the Africa. Washington directed Pickering to inform James Monroe, the Minister to France, of all the facts in the case.

An important letter with rich historical content.

Provenance: From the family of Timothy Pickering. $30,000 - $50,000
102. Washington, George. Autograph letter signed (“Go: Washington”), 2 pages (9 ¾ x 7 ¾ in.; 244 x 200 mm.), “Mount Vernon,” 10 April 1797 to Colonel Timothy Pickering serving as Secretary of State with address overleaf addressed in Washington's hand: Colo. Pickering, Secretary of State, Philadelphia and marked Free; splits to fold (one repaired), light soiling, address overleaf with seal tears.

President George Washington leaves office as relations continue to deteriorate with France, soon leading to the XYZ Affair, after France refuses to recognize the U.S. Minister to France, Charles Cotesworth Pinckney: The conduct of the French Directory towards General Pinckney is, I believe, unexampled; of course it has baffled all calculation.

Just one month after leaving office, Washington writes in full: Your favor of the 5th instt. with its enclosures, and also one of prior date forwarding (at the request of Doctr. Edwards) a Pamphlet from Sir John Sinclair, have come duly to hand. For your kindness in sending these, and particularly for the information given in your letter of the 5th., I feel myself very much obliged.

The conduct of the French Directory towards General [Charles Cotesworth] Pinckney [Minister to France] is, I believe, unexampled; of course it has baffled all calculation. How far it has come up to, or exceeded the expectation of their partisans among us, remains to be developed, and the approaching Session of Congress will make the disclosure.

The good humour, and present friendly disposition of the Dey of Algiers, are pleasing circumstances; and if of duration, would be very fortunate ones for the Commerce of the U. States. My compliments, in which Mr. Washington unites, are offered to Mr. Pickering & the family; and with sincerity and truth I am always Your affectionate Go: Washington.”

Relations with France steadily deteriorated after Jay’s Treaty, signed 19 November 1794, which, among other provisions, placed British trade with the U.S. in a more favored position. The French began to interfere with American shipping and then refused to receive Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, the U.S. Minister to France, when he arrived in December, 1796. It was President Washington who had urged him to take the post, succeeding Monroe, in July, 1796. The French Directory, as Washington mentions, declined to recognize his official status. He remained in Paris until February, 1797, when he was informed by the police that unless he secured a permit, he was liable to be arrested. In a rage, he departed Paris for Amsterdam. It was there that President John Adams, Washington’s successor, nominated Pinckney on 31 May 1797 to serve on a special mission to France with John Marshall and Elbridge Gerry. Their collective mission was to secure a treaty of commerce and amity with France after the declaration by the French Directory that all Americans serving on British vessels were to be considered pirates. Soon thereafter, the XYZ Affair erupted - the revelations that three unofficial agents of the French foreign minister, Talleyrand, had demanded the following terms upon which negotiations would be undertaken by the French government: a sizable “loan” to France, a $250,000 “gratitude” for Talleyrand, and an apology for President Adams’ 16 May 1797 address to Congress. The undeclared naval war with France was just around the corner.

Provenance: From the family of Timothy Pickering. $20,000 - $30,000
103. Washington, George. Highly important autograph letter signed, (“Go:Washington”), 2 pages (8 ¾ x 7 ¼ in.; 225 x 184 mm.), Mount Vernon, 27 March 1798 to James McHenry, serving as Secretary of War under President John Adams.

With the new nation on the brink of war with France, former President George Washington informs the Secretary of War of a treasonable plot—soon to be known as the XYZ Affair: . . . if founded, what punishment can be too great for the Actors in so diabolical a Drama. The period is big with events. . . . It has always been my belief that Providence has not led us so in the path of Independence of one Nation to throw us into the arms of another.

Washington writes in full: Your favour of_ came safe, and in due time, for the information contained in it, I thank you; your request was immediately complied with, as every one of a similar nature shall be.

A Report is circulated in Alexandria and its vicinity, transmitted (it is said) in private letters from Philadelphia, that a correspondence has been discovered, or more properly, letters have been intercepted from some M_rs. of C_g_s to the D_ct_y of F__ of a treasonable nature—Containing, among other matters, advice not to receive our Envoys; on the contrary, to menace us with hostile appearances, and they might rely upon bringing the U. States to her terms. The name of one person has been mentioned to me.

Cruel must these Reports be if unfounded;—and if founded, what punishment can be too great for the Actors in so diabolical a Drama. The period is big with events, but what it will produce is beyond the reach of humankind. On this, and upon all other occasions, I hope the best. It has always been my belief that Providence has not led us so in the path of Independence of one Nation to throw us into the arms of another. And that the machinations of those who are attempting it, will, sooner or later, recoil upon their own heads. Heaven grant it may happen soon, upon all those whose conduct deserve it.

After his Presidency, George Washington, maintaining a keen interest in the course of the country, kept up a regular correspondence with Secretary of War James McHenry, who briefed him on affairs of state. In this extraordinary letter, Washington informs McHenry that he has learned the identity of one participant in a treasonable plot, the infamous “XYZ Affair,” not yet fully exposed to the public. According to Washington’s understanding of the plot, members of Congress advised the Directory of France not to receive the United States’ envoys and to maintain a “hostile appearance” so that the United States would accede to France’s terms.

Relations with France at the time of this letter were already strained. One year earlier, on 15 May 1797, a special session of Congress had been called, but before it could be assembled, the
news arrived that the French Directory had declared all Americans serving on British vessels to be pirates. On 16 May, President John Adams delivered his first war message to Congress, but did not ask for a formal declaration of war. Instead, he recommended the arming of merchant vessels, the enlargement of the naval force, and the reorganization of the militia. Two weeks later he appointed commissioners to secure a treaty of commerce and amity with France.

By March of 1798, it was clear that the mission to France was a failure. On 19 March, President Adams reiterated the recommendations he had made in his earlier war message, and issued an executive order that authorized the arming of merchant vessels. Meanwhile, the Republicans hoped to embarrass the administration by calling for the publication of dispatches from the commission to France to the House of Representatives, the very same correspondence Washington describes in the present letter to McHenry. Though the Republicans reversed their position once they read the correspondence, the dispatches were printed and distributed on 3 April 1798. In this famous “XYZ Affair”, it was revealed that three unofficial agents of the French foreign minister, Tallyrand, identified as X, Y, and Z, had asked for a sizable “loan” to France, a $250,000 “gratuity” for Tallyrand, and an apology for President Adams’ 16 May 1797 address. The American nation was poised for war.

Without officially declaring war, however, Congress declared the treaties with France null and void, increased the army, ordered the construction or purchase of new ships, and created a navy department. On 28 May 1798, Congress authorized Adams to order the commanders of American naval warships to seize any French armed ships interfering with American commercial shipping. Congress also authorized Adams to raise a 10,000 man volunteer army for a period of three years. On 13 June 1798, Congress passed legislation suspending commerce with France and her dependencies. In addition, President Adams signed four acts that came to be known as the Alien and Sedition Acts: the period of residence for full citizenship was lengthened from 5 to 14 years; all aliens regarded as dangerous to public peace and safety could be deported; enemy aliens in a time of war could be arrested, imprisoned, or banished; and fines and imprisonment were authorized for citizens or aliens who entered into combinations to oppose execution of national laws, foment insurrection, or to write, publish, or utter false or malicious statements about the chief executive, the legislature, or the government. Though Adams had brilliantly master-minded a plan that effectively prevented war with France, and had preserved the neutrality of the United States, it was the beginning of the end of the Federalist Party and his Presidential career.

A remarkable autograph letter with superb content. $30,000 - $50,000
Mount Vernon, 15 Aug. 1798.

Rev. Sir,

I know not how it has happened, but the fact is, that your favor of the 8th of Nov. last year is but just received, and at a time when both public and private business pressed so hard upon me, as to afford no leisure to give the "View of the Causes and Consequences of the American Revolution" written by you, and which you had been pleased to send me, a perusal.

For the honor of its Dedication, and for the friendly and favorable tenor which are here expressed, I pray you to accept my acknowledgment of the same, and attempt no farther. Not having read the work, it is not in my power to express an opinion with respect to its political content, but I can venture to a part, beforehand, from our and with confidence, that there is a maxim which I believe is received, to peace and a good understanding between these two nations.

Upon your request for my opinion, that Providence, the protector of mankind, is the rule of all things, alone casts the shadow of a doubt upon the necessity of taking up arms for her defense. I am, with great respect, your obedient servant.

Washington
104. Washington, George. Extraordinary autograph letter signed (“G. Washington”), 2 pages (10 x 8 in.; 254 x 203 mm.), “Mount Vernon,” 15 August 1798 to the Reverend Jonathan Boucher; integral blank; a small section of the bottom portion of the letter has been replaced and a few words & letters on each side have been expertly added including the “G” and the “W” of Washington’s signature, the area affected is approximately 1 x 2 inches.

Even amid the undeclared naval war with France (after the XYZ Affair), Commander-in-Chief & former President George Washington can declare: Peace, with all the world is my sincere wish. I am sure it is our true policy - and am persuaded it is the ardent desire of the Government.

Washington writes in full: I know not how it has happened, but the fact is, that your favour of the 8th of Nov. last year, is but just received; and at a time when both public & private business pressed so hard upon me, as to afford no leisure to give the “View of the causes & consequences of the American Revolution” written by you, and which you had been pleased to send me, a perusal. For the honor of its Dedication, and for the friendly & favourable sentiments which are therein expressed, I pray you to accept my acknowledgment of thanks.

Not having read the Book, it follows of course that I can express no opinion with respect to its Political contents; but I can venture to assert, beforehand, and with confidence, that there is no man in either country, more zealously devoted to Peace and a good understanding between the two Nations that I am - nor one who is more disposed to bury in oblivion all animosities which have subsisted between them & the Individuals of each.

Peace, with all the world is my sincere wish. I am sure it is our true policy.- and am persuaded it is the ardent desire of the Government.- But there is a nation whose inter-medling, & restless disposition, and attempts to divide, distract & influence the measures of other countries, that will not suffer us, I fear, to enjoy this blessing long, unless we will yield to them our rights, & submit to greater injuries and insults than we have already sustained, to avoid the calamities resulting from War”

What will be the consequences of our Arming, for self defense, that Providence, who permits these doings in the Disturbers of Mankind; & who rules and Governs all things, alone can tell. To its all powerful decrees we must submit, whilst we hope that the justice of our Cause if War must ensue will entitle us to its Protection.

The present letter is undoubtedly one of the finest autograph letters by George Washington letters in existence. The former President declares, Peace, with all the world is my sincere wish. I am sure it is our true policy.- and am persuaded it is the ardent desire of the Government. Washington’s letter is his response to correspondence from an Anglican clergyman, The Reverend Jonathan Boucher, who had written View of the Causes & Consequences of the American Revolution (1797), containing thirteen of his discourses preached in America. The book was dedicated to George Washington, a family acquaintance dating back to the days when Boucher had tutored Washington's stepson John Parke “Jacky” Curtis in the early 1770s. Jacky was one of Martha’s four children by her first husband, Daniel Parke Custis, who died in 1757. The letter and book were delayed in reaching Washington, and though he did not have the time to examine the volume, Washington nonetheless thanks Boucher for the dedication, and states, “There is no man in either country, more zealously devoted to Peace and a good understanding between the two Nations than I am - nor one who is more disposed to bury in oblivion all animosities which have subsisted between them & the Individuals of each.”

The first President left office after serving two terms, declining a third term. He attended the inauguration of the second President, John Adams, on 4 March 1797, then departed from Philadelphia for Mount Vernon - to retire. However, his pro-British policy during his term in office led to a gradual breakdown of relations with France; by 1797, relations with France had severely deteriorated. Jay’s Treaty (19 November 1794) had already angered the French, as it placed Britain in a more favored position with America. As a result, the French interfered with American shipping and refused to receive the U.S. Minister to France, Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, when he arrived in December, 1796. An attempt was made to secure a treaty of commerce and amity with France. But the American peace commissioners failed. During the negotiations, three agents of the French Foreign Minister, Talleyrand, suggested a large U.S. loan to France - and a bribe to Talleyrand. Termed the XYZ Affair, the Americans responded by refusing to make concessions. When the news of the affair was made public in April, 1798, American public opinion was greatly aroused. On 2 July 1798, the former President, George Washington, was asked to return to the service of his country. He was nominated Lieutenant General and Commander-in-Chief of the armies by Adams and he promptly accepted the commission on 13 July. The reason for his appointment is clear: in the aftermath of the XYZ Affair, an undeclared naval war with France had resulted, which lasted from 1798-1800 and had to be closely monitored. Adams favored a peaceful course of action, and sought to strengthen the nation’s defenses (the Department of the Navy was created at this time). If war was to come, France would have to take the initiative. Despite the international tensions, Washington, too, favored peace, as his heartfelt letter proclaims. In fact, he has written the word Peace in lettering that is twice as large as any other word in his lengthy letter. The legendary handwriting expert Charles Hamilton, upon examining this magnificent handwritten letter, was quick to assess its value, declaring it “. . . probably the most important Washington letter still in private hands.” $200,000 - $300,000

Alcott on copyright and women’s rights.

In an attempt to guide her correspondent, Alcott shares her experiences with publishers and securing rights.

Alcott writes: As I have not seen the article you mention & know nothing about the new start the old question has taken I cannot reply as you wish me to at present. I certainly think something should be done to secure our rights as I know by sad experience what a helpless victim authors are when publishers fall a fighting over them & their books. Mr Reade is of such a peppery temper that much as I admire his stories I should be slow to follow him as a leader in any cause however righteous, for the dear man manages to keep in hot water all the time. I hope to be in New York next month, if on knowing more of the matter I find I can help I shall be happy to do so.

On the subject of women’s rights, Alcott counters Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and explains:

I don’t agree with Longfellow or believe that women will get anything this century, though their efforts will clear the way for those happier souls who come after them . . . .

A fine letter with important content. $3,000 - $5,000

106. Baum, L. Frank. Fine autograph letter signed (“Dad”), 3 pages (11 x 8 ½ in.; 279 x 216 mm.), “2322 Toberman St., Los Angeles,” 1 August 1910 to his son Robert S. Baum; with autograph envelope, in fine condition.

The great author of the “Oz” books, provides some sage advice for his son after completing his latest book, The Emerald City of Oz: My private opinion, evolved through considerable experience, is that the world is the theatre for various comedies, and whoever makes a tragedy of his play is looking at life crosseyed... The trouble is that some folks take the world too seriously. It looks big and black and dangerous to them and gives them heart throbs. Really the world is a hard nut to crack under such circumstances. The wise ones won’t be bluff... The new book “The Emerald City of Oz” is just out and is a beauty.

Baum writes in full: My dear Boy: I have been very much interested in your start in business life, as evidenced and exploited in your letters to your mother, which she has forwarded to me. I doubt if any young fellow fully realizes what it means to be thrown upon his own resources ’til the time comes; but then, if he can look at things with your cheery philosophy, the future can have no terrors for him.

My private opinion, evolved through considerable experience, is that the world is the theatre for various comedies, and whoever makes a tragedy of his play is looking at life crosseyed. You’ll notice the tragedies don’t draw, while the comedies do. You can make yourself and others very unhappy over tragedies, but the crowd will move away and you’ll hate yourself in your loneliness. But if you take a knockdown with a laugh and jump up smiling a thousand will laugh with you and pat you on the back. The trouble is that some folks take the world too seriously. It looks big and black and dangerous to them and gives them heart throbs. Really the world is a hard nut to crack under such circumstances. The wise ones won’t be bluff; they see that the millionaire, the sod-carrier and the engineer are all the same clay, and no one has a corner on prosperity. The other fellow, whether he rides in an automobile or a street car, has no advantage over me nor I over him, unless it be in mental calibre. If I excell in this I can beat him to the goal, for my outlook is more calm, more comprehensive, more intelligent. The world may leave the rich man poor and the poor man rich; as old Bill of Avon says: ‘Each man in life plays many parts’, and they’re not all star parts, either. The good actor takes what comes and smiles. Did you ever see a ballet-dancer whirl on her toes till they must hurt her like the deuce, but face the audience with a dreamy (if set) smile? She knows the smile is essential and perhaps saves her from hoots of derision. I don’t care how much a fellow is down on his luck; if he is a cheerful cuss and good company, I like him. If he’s gloomy, I shy.

All of which means that I consider you well fitted to succeed in life. You have three tools to work with: 1. - A keen sense of humor. 2. - An education as an engineer. 3. - A knack for winning friends. No one with these openers can fail to get at the devilled ham. Take your time. If all the good things came at once they’d swamp you. The bitter and sweet will alternate, of course, but gradually the bitter will eliminate itself.

A fine letter with important content. $3,000 - $5,000
The job at La Porte sounds good to me. I'm a believer in Rumley and if you can become identified with his future there's a plum in the pie for you. Then I think Secor [?] is a big man in his prospect, and by rubbing shins with him you may catch some of his microbes. Of course that $40 a month deal was a bad start, but I'm quite sure that misunderstanding will be fixed up to your satisfaction. Anyhow, old man, I wish you luck.

Some day perhaps you'll gravitate this way. California is on for a big boost during the next fifty years. They're putting some important engineering feats through here now, and the ball has only just started rolling. With a few years Eastern experience you'll be ripe for a broad field out here.

I'm sorry I couldn't see you this summer, but next fall or spring I shall surely go East, and if we locate here, as we want to, we shall always make one trip a year back there - your mother and I - and so keep in touch with you.

I'm almost myself again, being only slightly bothered with a fistula and feeling quite strong and well. But it's the loneliest doggone place without your mother you ever heard of. Ken eats breakfast with me, goes to work, comes home to dinner, reads an hour and goes to bed. Frank doesn't always come home but stays with his fraternity boys, in which case I see him in a couple of days. Meanwhile I'm all alone in the house and write and typewrite till I hate it. My wildest dissipation has been taking streetcar rides and working in the flower garden.

Ken is crazy to buy a motorcycle. He's saved over 50.00 and wants to pay the balance $20 a month for 10 months. He's working very steadily and now getting $9 a week. Frank J. is in a rut and can't get more than $15 a week until he gets into some other business - then it's a? if he can make the $15. Write me once in awhile and tell me how you get on. I'm very much interested, as you know, and don't want to get too far away from you. I suppose your mother has supplied all the small gossip concerning our burlesque mishaps, so I needn't write them. Always your affectionate, Dad.

The new book “The Emerald City of Oz” is just out and is a beauty. Two other books - the one for boys and the new “Aunt June” - are now on the press and were written since I got here and during my sickness.

The first “Oz” book by L. Frank Baum (illustrated by W.W. Denslow; published originally by George M. Hill Co.) was The Wonderful Wizard of Oz (1900), which was later titled The New Wizard of Oz and The Wizard of Oz. The book’s publication was followed by a hugely successful play production, produced in Chicago in 1901. Baum went abroad for a few months - to write in Italy and Sicily - then returned and settled in Pasadena, California, where he built a home with a flower garden and became a grower of dahlias. Later “Oz” books by L. Frank Baum (illustrated by John R. Neill; published originally by Reilly & Britton/Reilly & Lee) included: The Marvelous Land of Oz (1904), later known as The Land of Oz; Ozma of Oz (1907); Dorothy and the Wizard of Oz (1908); The Road to Oz (1909); The Emerald City of Oz (1910); The Patchwork Girl of Oz (1913); Tik-Tok of Oz (1914); The Scarecrow of Oz (1915); Rinkitink in Oz (1916); The Lost Princess of Oz (1917); The Tin Woodman of Oz (1918); The Magic of Oz (1919); and Glinda of Oz (1920).

Letters by Baum are rare and the content of the present letter is exceptional.

$15,000 - $25,000

Rare, personal Ray Bradbury letters written to Ross Rocklynne (Ross Louis Rocklin) before beginning his successful career as a science fiction writer.

A collection of highly informative letters written by Bradbury, an American fantasy and science fiction writer well known for his classic dystopian novels, Fahrenheit 451 (1953) and The Martian Chronicles (1950), in 1939, the very beginning of his extraordinary writing career.

Bradbury writes, in part: But, to put it frankly, I’m stymied. I want to come back East this summer so bad it’s like taking a dose of Ex-LAX and running down Times Square trying to find an unoccupied out-house. You, with your years of experience can help me in one of two ways. You can give me ideas to inject in the yarn [story] and tell me how to rearrange it to be more saleable, or else you can take a hand in it yourself and split the income. The result of a sale from such a story would be the deciding factor in my coming East and, boy howdy, do I wanna come bad…It must be able, with revisions, to sell somewhere, somehow. I would like to sell my first story very much. It would be swell…

Got a rejection from Esquire the other week. I sent the rejection back with the following notice: “Dear Mr. Arnold Gingrich: Thank you for allowing me to read your interesting rejection slip, but at the present time my stock is full. Your plot was dull and threadbare and your theme was scanty. Sorry. Try again. Bradbury”…

Well here we are, the world in another mess. Know what the cause of it all is? Half a dozen reasons, all of them political. Know why we’ll get in, don’t you, to get rid of surplus food and iron and kill a million men so’s commodity sellers can profit. No other reason, pure and simple business, using Hitler as a hateful symbol…The war will come. Men will die. Employment will decrease When the war ends we’ll have all the machinery left and no room for men…

Writing to his dear friend, Ross Rocklynne (Ross Louis Rocklin), a fellow science fiction author, Bradbury’s correspondence is warm and candid. Struggling to have his first works published, Bradbury only receives rejections. Truman Capote would soon pick Bradbury’s story, submitted to Mademoiselle magazine, where he worked as an editorial assistant. Bradbury’s “Homecoming” was published in the magazine and won the O. Henry Prize Stories of 1947. The letters are a fascinating perspective into the mind of a brilliant writer, written in Bradbury’s witty and often bawdy pen. The letters chronicle Bradbury’s young adult life and span into the beginning of World War II, in which he vocalizes his political views that will eventually be integrated into his novels. Bradbury died on 5 June 2012. $6,000 - $8,000
Chandler scorns the Senator McCarthy hearings that attempted to discover Communists in America and prosecute them.

Chandler writes in full: The statement by Mr. Woodrow Wyatt M.P. on the subject of the Hollywood Ten seemed to me at the time something less than crystal clear on the very important point that Communism was not an issue in the trial and conviction of these men. The letters you print in your winter issue would seem to confirm the impression. I agree with much in these letters, not all, but what troubles me is that your correspondents seem to take it for granted that the Hollywood Ten were convicted of an offense with which they were not charged, with which they could not be changed, because it was not a crime. They were indicted for contempt of a lawfully-constituted Congressional committee, in that before a hearing of that committee they in effect, although not categorically, refused to state whether they were or ever had been members of the Communist Party. They were charged with, tried for, and convicted of nothing else.

It is quite true that after each of these recalcitrant witnesses was ejected from the witness chair on the orders of the Chairman of the Committee, certain evidence was read into the record which purported to show that the Ten had at one time been card-carrying Communists. This evidence has not been subjected to the kind of scrutiny it would get in a court of law. It may be erroneous, it may even be faked. We are at liberty to disregard it. We should disregard it. The right of cross-examination is fundamental to our legal system. A Congressional committee is not a court of law and is not compelled to give that right. Therefore the evidence it addsuces can be no more than presumptive.

Certain of the Ten may have been regular partly line Communists at the time of the hearings. Certain others may have been Communists in the past and have ceased to be Communists. So why did they not say so? That of course is the heart of the matter. The simple fact is that they were afraid to answer categorically or to refuse to answer categorically. So they tried to make speeches, to read prepared statements, to talk about the films they had worked on, to declare that they were ready and willing and even anxious to answer the questions of the committee, if allowed to do so in their own way. But they would not say yes or no, and they would not refuse to say yes or no. In the public mind there was only one conclusion, which was that they could have made only one answer. Obviously they acted on legal advice and in concert, because they all acted in the same way. I think they had bad legal advice, and that they made a very bad mistake at a very bad time and in a very bad place. But we should do them the justice of remembering that they were in a very tough spot. Not only were they ‘hostile witnesses’ before a committee which was investigating, or purporting to investigate, ‘subversive influences’ in Hollywood, but they were on trial before the motion picture industry which gave them their livelihood. If they admitted to being or to have once been Communists, then they convicted the motion picture industry of employing Communists and ex-Communists to write and direct its pictures. And this was exactly the sort of thing that the committee was after; its purpose, at least insofar as its Chairman controlled it (an ignorant mountebank who afterwards went to jail as a crook, in case you forget), was to smear the motion picture industry; that is, and always has been sure-fire publicity in this country. There were headlines in this activity, lots of headlines. Does anyone suppose that the motion picture industry would be friendly to any group of men who helped to promote those headlines—even in spite of themselves—even if they could not do otherwise? And does anyone really suppose that the crucifixion of ten writers and directors chosen at random from a long list was a blow struck in the defense of this Republic against Stalinism?

What then could the Hollywood Ten have done? You may say that they could have denied being Communists or ex-Communists and let the committee prove it against them. But perhaps some of them were not even sure; the theory of guilt by association has gone pretty far in this country. This is not an age of reason or tolerance. And Hollywood would have discarded them in any case, because they would have been smeared, and Hollywood would have been smeared through them. I think they had only one chance, and they lacked the courage or the understanding to take it. It is easy to be wise now, but at the time I personally felt exactly the same: they could have refused categorically, and not by evasion, to answer the committee’s questions on the ground that the committee had no legal right to force them to answer such questions, They might still have lost -- granted; but they would have stated a case on which the courts had not then given a decision, a case which deserved honorable trial, which would have received honorable trial. More important to them personally, they would have taken some of the heat off Hollywood, and the American Civil Liberties Union might well have felt such a cause merited their intervention and assistance. And when the American Civil Liberties Union takes a case they fight it to the last ditch, and they fight it with consummate skill.

In a certain grim sense let us admit that the Hollywood Ten got what was coming to them. In a critical moment they lacked the courage to stand up and be counted. Would the rest of us, faced with the problem, have a clearer courage? Let us have a little justice. These ten men were not convicted of being Communists; they were convicted, essentially, of not being heroes. But in Hollywood you don’t learn to be a hero. You learn to be expedient -- or you get the hell out. And the dilemma of the expedient man is that he can never be sure whose throat he is cutting. It may be his own.

When he wrote this letter, Raymond Chandler had been living in La Jolla for four years. His life there with his wife, Cissy, was extremely isolated. He entertained few visitors and he rarely went out, choosing instead to maintain his contact with the outside world through his correspondence. Chandler’s letters touched upon a wide range of subjects, including politics, education, sports and international affairs. His opinions are blunt, skeptical and often a bit prejudiced. Politics especially puzzled him, for he could not understand why people were interested in the nonentities who governed them. He couldn’t imagine why American intellectuals tended to be left wing or Communist. Chandler lived through the era of Senator McCarthy and the House Committee on Un-American Activities, and he ridiculed them both. $2,000 – $3,000
109. Chandler, Raymond. Typed letter signed, 1 page (9 x 7 in.; 229 x 178 mm.), “London,” 23 June 1958 to Julian Symons on Chandler’s imprinted stationery, with a carbon typescript by Chandler being a list of some of his favorite mystery novels, headed: (“For Julian Symons”) and annotated (some in shorthand) by Symons and with the verso of the second sheet filled with notes by Symons, possibly for a book.

An extraordinary letter discussing detective stories and thrillers.

Chandler provides a list of suggestions for a collection of detective stories at the request of Julian Symons, a detective fiction author, editor and critic.

Chandler writes: Attached is a list of suggestions for your projected collection of detective stories or thrillers. Many of these you will already know, some you may not think worthwhile. I have deliberately omitted the very well known names and also books which I myself did not care for, although they might appeal very greatly to other people. There are two names with queries opposite them and no; that is because I can’t remember the titles, but Ben Benson has written a number of very well constructed detective stories, and Richard Wormser a long time ago—wrote the only successful stream of consciousness detective story I have come across. Dorn Babad wrote an early book, about a man who decided to kill someone, but had no particular individual in mind. I forget the title of that also—I thought it much better than The Time of the Fire. I have also omitted numerous gentlemen who have paid me the compliment of imitation.

$2,000 - $3,000
110. Clemens, Samuel Langhorne. Autograph manuscript of chapter 46 of A Tramp Abroad, 23 pages written in black ink on the rectos only of sheets of machine-laid writing paper, (8 x 4 ¾ in.; 203 x 124 mm.), [no place] ca. 1879; last two sheets laid down, the final one with marginal loss. Each leaf hinged to a larger sheet and bound, with a photogravure portrait of Clemens, in red morocco case, chemise.

A manuscript portion of A Tramp Abroad.

Published in 1880, A Tramp Abroad recounts Clemens’s European tour with the Reverend Joseph H. Twichell (named Harris in the book) and describes their adventures in Germany, Italy, and Switzerland, chiefly during a walking tour through the Black Forest and the Alps. The present chapter, originally numbered 57, is irregularly paginated 1964-1998, and is heavily emended with authorial corrections, additions and deletions. Most of the narrative details the visit of Clemens and Harris to Chamonix and their climb up an Alpine glacier. The chapter also contains a lengthy digression on the death rates of European and American cities, with Clemens blaming the higher rates of the former on the poison water, which he finds in Europe everywhere except in the mountains . . . flat & insipid beyond the power of words to describe.

Provenance: Alfred Nathan (morocco label; AAA-Anderson, 27 November 1934, lot 73)—Estelle Doheny (Christie’s New York, 21 February 1989, lot 1779). $30,000 - $50,000
111. **Clemens, Samuel Langhorne.** Autograph letter signed ("Saml."), 26 pages, (8 ¼ x 5 ½ in.; 210 x 140 mm.), “The Players,” New York “Xmas,” 25 December 1893 to his wife Livy in Paris; in ink on both sides of 13 sheets, with a few revisions; with original envelope addressed by Clemens; torn.

**The art of the deal.**

Clemens enthusiastically describes his experiences negotiating a contract with one James W. Paige, inventor of a typesetting machine for which Clemens had formed a company to manufacture and market.

An extraordinary letter, written on Christmas Day upon Clemens’s return from Chicago; he had travelled there with his new friend and financial benefactor, Henry Huttleston Rogers, to negotiate a new contract with James W. Paige, inventor of the typesetting machine for which Clemens had formed a company to manufacture and market. Rogers, a chief architect of the Standard Oil trust and one of the most rapacious businessmen of his day, had taken over the supervision of Clemens’s troubled business affairs. Clemens would later say of him: “He is not only the best friend I ever had, but is the best man I have ever known” (quoted in Justin Kaplan, *Mr. Clemens and Mark Twain*, page 321). To make up for “the 3 letterless days” on his Chicago trip during which he had not written to Livy, Clemens divides this 26-page letter into four “Letters” (sections really). In “Letter No. 1” (pages 1-4) Clemens is mainly concerned with Christmas and family news; in “Letters No. 2 and 3” (pages 5-23) he gives a detailed narration—with extensive dialogue—of the business meetings in Chicago; in “Letter No. 4” (pages 24-26) he mostly writes of the train journeys (in a private car with lavish accommodations) to and from Chicago.

Clemens writes in part: *Merry Xmas, my darling, & all my darlings!*
I arrived from Chicago close upon midnight last night, & wrote & sent down my Xmas cablegram before undressing: ‘Merry Xmas! Promising progress made in Chicago! . . . I was vaguely hoping, all the past week that my Xmas电缆gram would be definite, & make you all jump with jubilation; but the thought always intrusted itself, ‘You are not going out there to negotiate with a man, but with a louse. This makes results uncertain (it would be more than a month before Paige would agree to the new terms and sign the final contract).

I tell you it was interesting! The Chicago campaign, I mean. On the way out Mr. Rogers would plan-out the campaign while I walked the floor & smoked and assented. Then he would close it up with a snap & drop it & we would totally change the subject & take up the scenery, etc. Then a couple of hours before entering Chicago, he said: “Now we will review, & see if we exactly understand what we will do & will not do-that is to say, we will clarify our minds, & make them up finally. Because in important negotiations a body has got to change his mind; & how can he do that if he hasn’t got it made up, & doesn’t know what it is.” A good idea, & sound. Result-two or three details were selected & labeled (as one might say), “These are not to be yielded or modified, under any stress of argument, barter, or persuasion.”

There were a lot of other requirements - all perfectly fair ones, but not absolute requisites. “These we will reluctantly abandon & trade off, one by one, concession by concession, in the interest of & for the preservation of those others - those essentials.” That was clear & nice & easy to remember. One could dally with minor matters in safety-one would always know where to draw the line...

Clemens and Rogers met with Paige’s lawyer on the night they reached Chicago and convinced him of the fairness of their terms [Clemens narrates this, reporting key dialogue]. The next day Rogers would meet with Paige and his lawyer, Clemens not attending. The Conference was for 9.30 a.m. [Clemens begins “Letter No. 3”]. We ordered ourselves called at 7.45, which gave us chance for leisurely bath & leisurely breakfast-that is, I had the leisurely bath, but it was so leisurely that Mr. Rogers didn’t get any; which caused him to observe that the Kingdom of heaven is for those who “look out for the details of life,” & he judged I would get there … Clemens writes of this full-day meeting from Rogers’ report, again with dialogue, ending “Letter No. 3”: The waiting game has been my pet notion from the beginning. I want it played till it breaks Paige’s heart. As I reason: You [Clemens] can afford to wait 3 months… Mr. Rogers can wait indefinitely. As far as I can see, Paige is the only one who can’t wait; to him Time is shod with lead, every day now adds to his gray hairs, & spoils his sleep. I am full of pity & compassion for him & it is sincere. If he were drowning I would throw him an anvil…

Despite Paige’s final agreement to the new contract, Clemens’s involvement in the typesetting machine was to be totally ill-fated. At the end of 1894, after Paige’s machine did disastrously in a long test run with other typesetting machines, Clemens was advised by Rogers to give up any hopes for its commercial success. The eventual winner in the typesetting derby was to be the Linotype; Clemens simply backed the wrong horse (at a cost of $200,000 and fifteen years of effort).

$20,000 – $30,000

References: BAL 3369; Grolier American 79; Johnson page 27; Peter Parley to Penrod 43; Clemens Letters to His Publishers 159-160.
$12,000 – $18,000
113. Conrad, Joseph. Typed letter signed, with several corrections and the concluding half-page paragraph and postscript in his hand, 10 pages, (9 x 7 in.; 229 x 178 mm.), “Bishopsbourne, Kentshire,” 22 January 1923, on his imprinted stationery, to his friend and biographer, Elbridge L. Adams. Together with: the typescript of the article entitled “Joseph Conrad—The Man,” extensively annotated and corrected in pencil by Conrad himself; mounting remnants at margin of second page of letter.

Conrad corrects and annotates an article on himself by biographer and friend, Elbridge L. Adams, before its publication in The Outlook.

Conrad writes in full: Your registered article arrived this morning and I put everything aside to welcome it with all the regard and care due to this proof of your solid friendship for us. I have just read it carefully once and am writing this to (first of all) give you my warm thanks for the pervading sympathy of this sketch of our personal relations. The man who would not be satisfied with it would have to be a very cantankerous, conceited, crooked-minded and objectionable brute. Seriously...I am touched by the genuineness of sentiment which informs this survey of our intercourse. I am not alluding here to facts, which are correct but which might have been expressed accurately in many other forms of words, but to that something intangible proceeding from the spirit which makes your form specially welcome to me.

I have not yet touched the text so I can not allude here precisely to certain corrections which I am going to make. Some of them will bear mainly on the minor details of matters of fact; just a few words changed. One will deal with a whole paragraph. It is very short and relates to the remarks I made to you about Wells, Belloc and Chesterton. I think it could very well come out, as it is a very general statement, dealing mainly with Wells from a critical point of view, and certainly not expressing all my views of Wells, which, in many respects is quite appreciative. There is also the passage dealing more or less with my material position, which I should like to tone down, as what one says to a friend for whom one has a particular regard need not be repeated quite so openly to the world at large. You may think that I am too particular in that respect. It is, no doubt, a weakness of mine to cling to my prejudices in favour of privacy. If, in a sense, it may be a weakness, it is a harmless one.

I assure you, I was extremely annoyed at this beginning of publicity started by Mr. Doubleday. On the other hand Morley’s article is perfectly charming and I can not but be grateful to him for striking the right note. What is most vexing is to think that after all the thing may not come off, as you know my health is very uncertain, and the month of March and April are a critical time for me in that respect. So the least said about it the better. I am hard at work at a novel and am feeling fairly well, but the uncertainty of which I have spoken prevents me indulging in hopes. Even my ‘good’ health is a very poor and precocious thing. What frightens me most is the fact that people on your side won’t be able to understand how the commonest social exertion may on any given day be too much for me, and take my shrinking for ungraciousness, or laziness, or lack of appreciation, or any other repulsive trait of character.

I have just finished to annotate and modify -- as you have permitted me to do. You may think I have been too meticulous in the alterations suggested. My view is that this first personal sketch by a friend of mine will become an authority. People will refer to it in the future. This accounts for my care to get the shades of my meaning established in your recollections which are wonderfully accurate in the main. As to alterations on pp 20 & 21 I tried to tone down all references to my age. Must give no opportunity to seize on what may have been a pessimistic moment in our talk. The world is very stupid and one must be careful. I must finish here to catch the mail -- with and united love to you both and the chicks....” In a postscript, Conrad has added: Thanks for the press cuttings. The incident on board that ship was an extraordinary one. I have had a 50 foot spar on deck getting adrift in a gale and it was terrifying enough to tackle it in the dark.

An extraordinary letter and typescript from Conrad all about Conrad. $15,000 - $25,000
114. Cooper, James Fenimore. Autograph manuscript, being a portion of The Headsman, 3 pages various sizes, [1832]; some soiling and spotting, one leaf completely split at horizontal fold.

This portion of the manuscript of The Headsman is a rare characteristic specimen of the great American novelist's style and literary method.

The present manuscript constitutes approximately 3000 words of Chapters IX and XXIX of his 1832, work The Headsman.

Cooper writes in part: Signior, it matters not-continued El Maladetto, with a cool perseverance of manner and intention, that would seem to incite[ed] the desolation-that had just been given his spirit - that of passing a hellish taint – “she loved him with a woman’s confidence and [she] with a woman’s ingenuity she ascribed his fall to [her] despair for her loss--

Oh Melchior - Melchior - This is fearfully true!” groaned the Doge. It is so true Signior, that it should be written on my mother’s tomb We are children of a fiery church [hot sun], and the passions blaze in our Italy, like the sun that glows upon us. When despair drove the disappointed lover to act, that rendered him an outlaw. The passage of revenge in the heart of a Genoese was short, your child was stolen, hid from your view, and cast upon the world, under circumstances, that left little doubt of his living in bitterness and dying under the contempt if not the curses of his fellows. All this Signor Grimaldi is the fruit of your own wrong, for had you respected the affection of an innocent girl, the sad consequences to yourself might have been avoided.

Is this man’s history to be believed Gaetano? demanded the baron when Nacro of his own accord ceased to speak.

I do not, I cannot deny its though I never saw my own conduct in this criminal light.

Maladetto laughed, and those around him thought this untimely merriment resembled the mockery of a demon.

A rare manuscript fragment from Cooper, replete with his emendations. $4,000 - $6,000
115. Cooper, James Fenimore. Autograph letter signed ("J. Fenimore Cooper"), 1 page (10 x 8 in.; 254 x 203 mm.), "Cooper Hall, Cooperstown," 29 April 1847 to James K. Polk, President of the United States. Included is an addressed envelope, endorsed and signed by President Polk with his initials ("J.K.P. May 6, 1847").

Cooper writes to President James K. Polk regarding the appointment of a distant relative of Cooper’s to a lieutenancy.

Cooper writes in full: The late Dr. Lyman Fort, U.S. Army, who died last, at Port Laveque, Texas, while on duty in that country, was married to one of my nieces. Dr. Fort lost his life as much on service as if he had been killed in battle, leaving but little fortune, a widow and seven children; the youngest yet an infant. His character was excellent, and his rank hat of the fifth surgeon in the army.

Cooper spent his youth in Cooperstown, New York, a settlement founded by his father who was a wealthy landowner and Federalist politician. Young Cooper was expelled from Yale for a college prank and was sent to sea as a common sailor in 1806 in preparation for a career in the Navy. Appointed a midshipman in 1808, he resigned in 1811 to marry Susan De Lancey, whose prominent New York family had been loyal to George III during the revolution. While reading aloud to his wife Cooper declared, “I could write you a better book than that myself,” and did. It was a terrible novel in the style of Jane Austen. His second book proved his skill in writing. It was The Spy (1821) and was translated into many languages launching Cooper’s career as America’s first internationally known author. The Pioneers (1823) introduced Cooper’s greatest fictional character “Natty Bumppo”, “Leather Stocking” and the five “Leather Stocking Tales” are Cooper’s best-known and on the whole his best works, the “Tales” include The Pioneers (1823), The Prairie (1827), The Deerslayer (1841), The Last of the Mohicans (1826) and The Pathfinder (1840).

Cooper turned to sea tales and while on visit to Europe, wrote three European historical novels and a “descriptive eulogy of American life.” His excellent travel books were coolly received. A bitter quarrel with his Cooperstown neighbor led to a scathing satire on American manners and a precursor of Main Street and Babbitt, which was called Home as Found (1838).

Later in life (1838–1851), Cooper was unfavorably reviewed and unpopular. In all, he wrote 32 novels and a dozen other books. Cooper was a slovenly writer and his plot construction is usually weak, but he did provide a shrewd, if eccentric and crotchety, observation of life in the newly formed republic. $3,000 - $5,000
116. Dickinson, Emily. Rare and important autograph letter signed (“Emily”), in pencil, 3 pages (8 x 5 in.; 203 x 127 mm.), [Amherst, Autumn 1884] to Mrs. Samuel E. Mack; in fine condition.

Expressing joy over the visit of a friend, Dickinson quotes Emily Bronte.

Mrs. Mack’s efforts to visit Dickinson proved successful, and the poet expresses her pleasure in the visit, quoting a poem of Emily Bronte, “Last Lines”, no doubt from memory.

Dickinson writes in full: *It was very dear to see Mrs. Mack. A friend is a solemnity and after the great intrusion of Death, each one that remains has a special pricelessness besides the mortal worth---I hope you may live while we live, and then with loving selfishness consent that you should go---*

_Said the Marvellous Emily Bronte_

_Though Earth and Man were gone And suns and Universe ceased to be And thou wert left alone, Every Existence would Exist in thee--_

_Tenderly, Emily_

Letters by Dickinson are extremely rare.

References: Published in letters, ed. T.H. Johnson, 940, noting that Dickinson quoted the same poem of Emily Bronte in a letter to another friend, Maria Whitney.

Provenance: Christie’s New York, 15 December 1995, lot 16. **$20,000 - $30,000**
117. Emerson, Ralph Waldo. Autograph letter signed (“R.W. Emerson”), 4 pages, (9 ¾ x 7 ⅝ in.; 248 x 194 mm.), “Concord, [Massachusetts],” 1 October 1841 to Christopher P. Cranch, Boston artist and poet, then at Fishkill Landing, New York.

Emerson writes of his many literary endeavors with eloquence and warmly encourages his correspondent with his own literary and artistic travails.

Emerson writes in full: With my hearty thanks for your wise wistful verses which I read with great pleasure not only for their tunefulness & particular merits but for what I admire still more their continuity of thought & unity of plan. I hasten to write that an apology may reach you before the knowledge of the offence. I sent them very soon to Miss Fuller who seizing them as editors seize such godsends found them a succor of Apollo for her closing pages. The printer took them & Miss Fuller left town. It now appears that there was not space enough in the number left to print the whole, &, Apollo & all gods having left the printer to his own madness, be printed the first half, the In-word, & left the Out-word out. The proof which had been directed to be sent to me, only arrived this morning (Miss Fuller’s here,) with Mr. Metcalf’s compliments, explaining that he could not wait for correction, as he had been foiled in opportunities of sending, & the Dial would appear today. Our only amends now possible in this great wrath of the muses & their diabolical coadjutors, is to declare to you that the piece shall appear whole in the next number with apology for the divorce in the last.

Let me now take breath to congratulate you on what is grateful to me in your letter; that you dwell in a beautiful country, that the beauty of natural forms will not let you rest, but you must serve & celebrate them with your pencil, and that at all hazards you must quit the pulpit as a profession, with each other, so much so that with great novelty of position & theory a considerable company of intelligent persons now seem quite transparent & monotonous to each other. I have no doubt that whilst great sacrifices will need to be made by some to truth & freedom -- by some at first, by all sooner or later, great compensations will overpay their integrity, and fidelity to their own heart. Indeed, each of these beautiful talents which add such splendor & grace to the most polished societies, have their basis at last in private & personal magnanimities, in untold honesty & inviolable delicacy. The multitude when they hear the song or see the picture do not suspect its profound origin. But the great will know it, not by anecdote but by sympathy & divination. May the richest success attend your pencil & your pen.

I wish I had any good news to tell you. You will like to know that Miss Fuller transfers the publications of the Dial, now that Mr. Ripley withdraws from all interest in the direction, from Jordan to Miss Peabody, an arrangement that promises to be greatly more satisfactory to Miss F. & so to all of us, than the former one. Do not, I entreat you, cease to give us good will & good verses. We shall need them more than ever in the time to come; and yet I hope the journal which seems to grow in grace with men, will by & by be able to make its acknowledgments at least to its younger contributors. I remain your debtor for your kind & quite extravagant estimate of my poor pages. I have a pamphlet in press which I call The Method of Nature, or oration delivered lately at Waterville, Maine which I shall take the liberty to send to you as soon as it appears If I can learn in town that you are to remain at Fishkill. I have heard lately from Harriet Martineau & Carlyle. The former writes about the latter, that he is - fault of his nervous constitution -- the most miserable man she knows; but that lately he seems greatly better, & was happy at her house at Tynemouth for two whole days. C. writes that he has left London & removed to Nevington Lodge, Arran, Scotland, but of his works or projects saith no word…

A beautifully written letter in the hand of one of America’s most beloved poets. $4,000 - $6,000
118. Fitzgerald, Scott F. Autograph letter signed, 1 page (11 x 8 ⅝ in.; 279 x 216 mm.), “Lausanne, Switzerland,” 15 June 1931 to Paul Eldridge, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma on imprinted Grand Hotel De La Paix stationery; with envelope.

Fitzgerald jokes that his wife wrote *The Millionaire’s Girl* and he simply used his name for its fame and makes mention of William Faulkner.

Fitzgerald writes in full: Thank you for the open, pleasant tone of your letter. Frankly the English have long been on my nerves (those were real people & the Post cut the best scene when they kept feeding hashish to the pekenese.) I didn’t write *The Millionaire’s Girl*—not a line of it. My wife did it. We used my name for the gold involved. Glad you liked *The Jellybean* & *The Swimmers*. I’ve got a pretty good one in July 4th Post called *A New Leaf*. However, I’m rather discouraged about not finishing my long novel. However-. Your section has certainly produced a Big Boy in this man Faulkner. He’s fine! Thanks for your kindness in writing me.

A wonderful letter with fine literary content. Fitzgerald letters from this period in the author’s career are most desirable. 

$6,000 - $8,000


Fitzgerald gives advice on the root of all success to inspire a child whose aspirations are to publish his works.

Fitzgerald writes in full: A confidence in your own supreme ability in some one field, however limited, and an always untiring and always experimental interest in that field -- this, it seems to me, lies at the root of all success. If you use this please don’t add to it or change anything in it. Glad to be of any assistance.

F. Scott Fitzgerald wrote inspiring letters to Horace Wade, a mere child, looking to write his own novels. By the age of eleven, Wade wrote and published his first novel, *In The Shadow of the Great Peril.* 

$4,000 - $6,000
120. Hemingway, Ernest. Autograph letter signed, 3 pages (7 x 5 ½ in.; 178 x 140 mm.), “Havana, Cuba,” 29 October 1934 to Alfred H. Barr, Jr., Director of the Museum of Modern Art, on imprinted stationery of the Hotel Ambos Mundos, with the original envelope marked Personal; marginal splits to horizontal folds.

**Hemingway on the art market and the Spanish Civil War.**

In this fascinating letter begins with art and ends with war.

Hemingway writes in full: Thank you very much for your letter and for the advice you gave Mr. Sheiser about arranging the Quintanilla show. He has gotten it fixed up for Pierre Matisse’s gallery end of Nov. 1st week of December. You were quite right about the prices. The Miro (The Farm), really, stands up marvellously. It has gained rather than lost. I went to see his last stuff and it did not mean a damned thing to me except that it was pleasant. But have often found that what I dont understand at the time gets too clear finally. I think it is a wonderful thing for modern painting that the bottom has dropped out of it financially. Hard on the boys but there will be better pictures. The good pictures will be worth just as much and much more in the end (we’ll all be dead but the pictures wont be).

Between ourselves Poor old Quintanilla is in jail now in Madrid since 2 weeks waiting a court martial trial. The army beat the revolution this last time. It was very badly managed and too many people talked about it before it started. I will hear by cable as soon as he is tried. You would like him, has one of the finest intelligences we [have] ever known and the etchings are very good. These little bastards around N.Y. that talk about revolution now do not know very much about the practice of it. They should have had to urinate on their hands sometime trying to wash the smear from the back-fire of a Thompson gun out of the fork between your thumb and forefinger, on a roof with troops coming up the stairs-That’s what the[...] look at peoples hands. In N.Y. you are a revolutionist if you picket the Macaulay company and then go on to a Literary Tea (the event of the season). Had an invitation to do both. If you dont answer they put you down as a Fascist. Think I’ll write a story putting down the exact events of a day on which one receives in the mail in Havana an invitation to picket the Macaulay Co. and go on afterwards to a Literary Tea announced as The Event of the Season...In a postscript, Hemingway has added, Am going across tonight to KW and will mail this there.

The painting, The Farm, was a masterpiece by Miro, which Hemingway had purchased in Paris in 1925, as a present for his wife, Hadley, for her thirty-fourth birthday. The American poet, Evan Shipman, who had also coveted the picture, magnanimously offered to shoot dice for the right to buy it. Although Ernest won, the price of 5,000 francs, it was far more than he could afford. They all scurried around borrowing the money and triumphantly brought home the picture in a cab. Miro came to see it where it hung above the bed, content that it had fallen into such good hands. Hemingway was ecstatic with his purchase. According to Carlos Baker in his biography of Hemingway, the author found Miro to be “the only painter who had ever been able to combine in one picture all that you felt about Spain when you were there and all that you felt when you were away and could not go there.” The Farm was later bequeathed to the National Gallery of Art in Washington by his widow, Mary.

Hemingway also collaborated in promoting a one-man show of the etchings of Luis Quintanilla at the Pierre Matisse Gallery in New York. Quintanilla was being held without bail in Madrid on charges of conspiracy against the Spanish government. The New York show opened on 21 November and attracted wide attention. The following day Pierre Matisse asked Hemingway to sign and circulate a petition to help get Quintanilla out of jail. Hemingway responded with enthusiasm: “Luis, was not only a damned fine artist but also one of the ‘best guys’ he had ever known.”

Hemingway’s own support for the Spanish Civil War was considerable, raising money for the Loyalists who supported the government of the republic against the uprising of General Franco, and writing about the war as a correspondent. Although the war was not fought, in earnest, until 1936, there were, by 1934, general strikes in Valencia and Zaragoza, fighting in Madrid and Barcelona, and a bloody rising by miners in Asturias that was suppressed by troops led by Franco.

**References:** Carlos Baker. Ernest Hemingway, (1969). $6,000 - $8,000
Hemingway writes in full; his handwriting in bold: If it looks like anybody is beating you (a lucky punch by a prick. Remember Al McCoy knocking out George Chip) you can say, with my backing, ‘No matter what you hear about the Hemingway rift there will be no action until his book is finished. White people (meaning Pauline) [Pfeiffer Hemingway, his second wife—separated in the fall of 1939 and were divorced in November 1940] don’t try to put good writers out of business.’

You can leave out the good writer part if you think it’s a publicity gag. But I’ve worked on this novel [For Whom the Bell Tolls—he began writing it on 1 March 1939] every day for one year and thirteen days and got up this morning at 3:30 and worked till seven so as to have the day for income tax. For your information book is (I mean because I’m not trying to write you publicity for me but because you have always been a pal and I don’t want you to think I lied to you there one time) the book is; now about 130,000 [pages]. I’ve tried to write the best one I ever could and have done nothing else; no articles; no nothing no doubt all this time Am in the stretch now and win.

Charles Scribner [Hemingway’s publisher] has read what I have of it and thinks it has F. to A. [Farewell to Arms] beat. But hell, he’s my publisher.

You remember we told you, Tom Smith and I, about a phony who went around impersonating me and staying at the Explorers Club? [In 1935, an imposter identifying himself as Ernest Hemingway had turned up in Chicago, and proceeded to follow the ladies’ club public-speaking circuit from coast to coast, autographing copies of Ernest’s books, and even spending some time at the Explorers’ Club in New York, where he made a practice of taking young men to breakfast.] This Pietro Di Donato is worse. I met him in a café (Florida Bar) never saw him again. I was with party of six. He crashed it. I was nice to him because he was a punk and can’t write except in orgasms and was trying to tell him how to slow up that emotion a little so people would believe all of it. He was a nice like a wop. So when he found out where [Martha] Gellhorn lives and then gave an interview in Miami to the Herald, I think, that he had had a wonderful time visiting me there. He’s still full of it. Like the juice of the Poppy. I would not lie to you and I tell you I saw him once in Florida Bar and for maybe thirty minuets. Gellhorn was there. That’s all.

Hemingway adds a lengthy postscript:

P.S. One of the funniest things ever happened to me was out in Wyoming driving south from Sun Valley and listening to one of your Sunday nights in the car. All of a sudden it came “Attention E.H. Attention E.H. Nobody is trying to double cross you. Nobody is trying to double cross you. Stand by for a further message.” Well I thought who isn’t trying to double cross me. Good old Walter. Who do you suppose it is that isn’t trying to double cross me? Howard Hawks? Howard Hughes? Shipwreck Kelly? Barney Glazer? Pretty soon I’ll get the message. Then it came, “Attention E.H. Attention E.H. the boxer.”

That’s subtle of Walter I thought. That’s me. Like when I hit that guy in the Stork with that invisible punch. Then it came, ‘The New York police are looking for you in connection with the death—’ I thought somebody’s been...
This letter from author Ernest Hemingway to journalist/radio commentator, Walter Winchell, is dated 11 March 1940, after Hemingway labored for over a year on his longest novel, *For Whom the Bell Tolls*, published on 21 October 1940. Hemingway’s comments in the first paragraph make it clear that he doesn’t want to make public his separation from Pauline Pfeiffer Hemingway, his second wife, until his book is finished. She departed his life in fall 1939; they were divorced in November 1940. Ernest and Pauline’s marriage had lasted 13 years, during which time he had produced seven books. The uncontested decree was based on charges of desertion; Pauline was given custody of their sons. In Pauline’s place had come Martha Gellhorn, whom he met in December 1936, in Sloppy Joe’s, the Key West bar Hemingway frequented. She joined him the next year in Spain where he was helping prepare the documentary film, “The Spanish Earth.” The two married in Cheyenne, Wyoming on 21 November 1940.

Hemingway’s book *For Whom the Bell Tolls* was based on an incident in the Spanish Civil War (1936-39). It tells the story of Robert Jordan, an idealistic American college professor, who has come to Spain to fight with the Republican army. He is assigned to a band of guerrillas led by Pablo and his wife, Pilar, a powerful peasant woman. Jordan’s task is to blow up a bridge of strategic importance. He falls in love with Maria, a young Spanish girl who had been raped by the Fascists. During the three days Maria and Jordan are together, they try to forget the impending event as the passion mounts between them. However, there is jealousy and distrust among the peasant members of the group, but Jordan is able to complete his mission, though he is wounded and left to die on the hillside. Many of Hemingway’s friends appeared in the book, sometimes under their actual names, sometimes in thin disguises. For instance, Maria, the heroine, bore the name of the nurse whom Ernest had met at Mataro in the spring of 1938, though she did not have blond hair as did the heroine. Apparently, the blond hair was a secret tribute to his new love, Martha Gellhorn. Robert Jordan, the hero, bore a resemblance to Major Robert Merriman of the 15th International Brigade, the one-time professor of economics from California. $10,000 - $15,000

Enroute to the Far East, Ernest Hemingway writes of his stopover in Los Angeles/San Francisco to approve casting for the film version of *For Whom The Bell Tolls*.

Hemingway recounts his trip to California and his cruise to Hawaii in his inimitable style.

Hemingway writes in full: *We had an OK trip to Los Angeles. Went OK there. Stayed with Coopers who met us with the big new Cadillac double funeral hearse he bought his wife for Xmas and they had a dinner that night with one swell broad (Carole Landis) that all the married or uglies jumped all over because she got a little drunko. But she was only 22 and I said to them they should have seen what guys like me or Cooper were like when we were drunk at 22. Coopers wife (Rocky) and I beat Cooper and Marty [Hemingway’s wife Martha] 5 set of tennis to win 11 dollars in 2 days. But no money changes hands that way on acct of husband and wife. I think Marty and I could beat them but Mrs C. likes*
to win very much. More even than giggy. She has very extensive taught [i.e., taut] ground strokes but she has a high bouncing serve that I could set myself and murder so it is better for her happiness that we are partners.

Marty was much prettier than the hollywood shes and looked like a human being instead of a kernel entry but I shudder to think what would pass with the Colonel faced by them blondes altho lots of them were 22-23 years old which is aged in the Colonels book.

With a cold my ears gave me hell on the plane. Never had that before.

With the Wind

and his wife and San Francisco was fine. We ate very well and saw Mike Ward, an old pal, and his wife and [David O.] Selznick [Hollywood producer of Gone With the Wind and would produce For Whom the Bell Tolls] shipped up Ingrid Bergman to look her over for Maria for the picture. She is perfect. Really swell. Not like those Hollywooders.

On this boat it has been rough as a bastard all the time. The gym guy wouldn’t box. He rubs too and he says he is afraid it would hurt his hands altho he says he teaches boxing. (he comes from Hollywood too where I guess hands hurt easy. Probably his thumbs swell up). It was a shame because I was going to left hook him in the profile like Barney Gimbel ruining a bum. But I worked on the big bag instead but couldn’t rouse no really dirty feeling against it on such short acquaintance and when you get close to it the fucking thing seems sort of dead and helpless and not like ones fellow man. I practiced hitting it in the balls a little.

Tomorrow we get into Honolulu. It sounds more like a ½ jig Concy Island or Polynesian Miami Beach all the time. The food on this boat is swell tho. Marty sends her love. We got a bang out of the wire. I miss

London writes in full: Please pardon my long delay in answering. I have been away and have only just now returned. I guess you & I are heartily in sympathy in this matter of police judges. The trouble is that they are very small and insignificant cogs in a large and powerful machine. As for me, I dare not fight the whole machine. If I had a million dollars I would fight the whole machine. As it is, I can confine myself only to the one insignificant cog that treated me vilely. If I could enlist the capital, I’d shake the rotten graft organization of Alameda County to its foundations. Just the same, I’ll like to see the letter you mention. Of course, it will be strictly confidential. Thanking you for your kind letter.

The event that Jack London discusses in this letter occurred in 1894, when he was eighteen years of age. His youth had been spent in lawlessness and adventure. After he quit school at age 14 to escape poverty, he “looted orchards and oyster beds, and he had run away from furious owners and patrolmen . . . .He himself met with random violence in New York City, when a policeman bloodied his head just because he looked shabby and was holding a book. He learned to avoid the law, because it carried a club. Finally, he suffered from the injustice of the law. He was arrested for vagrancy in Buffalo after visiting Niagara Falls. He knew the reason for it. When John London had been a special constable in Oakland, he had lived on the fees paid him for arresting tramps the rotten graft organization. Now Jack was given thirty days in jail, and was cut off by the judge in mid-sentence as he tried to speak up for his rights as an American citizen the one insignificant cog that treated me vilely. Once in jail, he found himself in a nightmare more terrible than any of his dreams” (Andrew Sinclair, Jack: A Biography of Jack London). $1,000 – $2,000
Profiles in History
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124. Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth. Autograph letter signed (with initials), 4 pages, (6 x 4 in.; 152 x 102 mm.), “Cambridge,” 30 January 1855 to Nathaniel Hawthorne; mounting remnants at left margin of first page with tear at foot of left margin not affecting text.

Longfellow to Nathaniel Hawthorne on all things literary.

In this exceptional literary letter Longfellow writes to his friend Hawthorne in Liverpool on the aspects of their correspondence and on James Russell Lowell and Edgar Allan Poe. Examining Hawthorne’s offer to act as conduit for Longfellow’s English correspondence, Longfellow objects: I want to know if it costs you anything; for if it does, you must not think of it, unless you will open a mercantile account with me. If I pay pence and you pay shillings, this new Ocean Penny Postage of mine is a failure.

Longfellow goes on to comment on the scarcity of Edgar Allan Poe autographs, writing, please tell Mr. Bright that I cannot furnish him with an autograph of Poe. Written only a few years after Poe’s death, this letter is a very early report of the now notorious rarity of Poe autographs. Longfellow goes on to state that; Lowell is delivering some delightful Lectures in Boston on English Poets. I think he will be my successor. What do you think of it? Longfellow was correct in his prediction. In his journal the following day, he noted that James Russell Lowell had been chosen to succeed him as Professor of Modern Languages at Harvard. Longfellow had resigned professorship to pursue the writing of his greatest work, The Song of Hiawatha, published later in 1855. Longfellow closed his letter apologizing to Hawthorne for not visiting him in England: I have not the courage to move with so many children.

A superb, long letter with unusually fine literary content. It is a wonderful specimen of American literary history, tying together four of the most important figures of American letters, Longfellow, Hawthorne, Poe, and Lowell. $4,000 - $6,000

125. Mitchell, Margaret. Typed letter signed (“Margaret”), with two handwritten corrections, 1 page, (10 ¾ x 7 ½ in.; 276 x 181 mm.), “Atlanta, Georgia,” 22 September 1936 on her name-imprinted stationery, to her friend, Edwin; some soiling, rust stain from paper clip.

Annoyed with foolish and absurd rumors circulating about her, Mitchell writes with resignation: Anyone who is fool enough to publish a book deserves anything that lands on them.

The author of Gone With the Wind writes in full: Your letter was something to treasure forever. Thank you for it, for the affection expressed in it, for your belief in me and all the fine things you said about the book and about me. I was going to write to you at the same time I wrote to Herschel about the blasted newspaper story -- but my heart failed me. I just get so mad that I get sick every time I thought of it. And the doctor had told me to avoid every thing that would upset me and so give my eyes a chance to get well. Then, too, I was afraid you might think I thought you had spread such a story. And I didn’t think that about either you or Herschel. I wrote Herschel in the hope that he might have heard the story and could give me its source or that he might throw some light on the matter, tell me if anything I said while in Blowing Rock could possibly have given foundation to such a story I am enclosing the clipping. I believe from the attitude of the story that it might have originated at Blowing Rock. Please return the clipping.

I can and have taken with some grace a lot of foolish and absurd rumors that have gotten around about me. I can even bear to read that I was born the year after Lee surrendered-- and not burst an artery. Naturally, I’ve had to bear a lot of them. And I can do it. But I just can’t stand any lies about John or my father or brother or any other member of my family. It isn’t their fault that I wrote a best seller. They are just the innocent bystanders. I figure that I was asking for trouble when I published a book. Anybody who is fool enough to publish a book deserves anything that lands on them. But not their kin. I’ll have to stop writing about it because I’m getting mad all over again.

About coming to Florida -- we are both looking forward to the trip -- but God knows when. The situation is this. First, my eyes. I can’t plant anything until they are well again. And I don’t know when that will be. Next, there hangs over me the trip to N.Y. to the Macmillan brawl-- otherwise known as the literary tea. Formerly, I was supposed to go there in the middle of October. Then, my real vacation depends on when John can get his vacation. God knows when that will be. He has lost his first lieutenant and is having to reorganize his whole office. So he can’t get away any time soon. Probably around Christmas will be the nearest time he can get away. By the way, do Herschel and Norma intend to come South? I’d like to come when they come if possible for I’d so like for John to meet them.

…you and Mabel were sweet to want us to stay at your house and I appreciate it but we aren’t going to do it. In the first place I wouldn’t wish on my mortal enemy the worry of having us, with our queer hours of sleeping, eating and bath taking. In the second place, as I think I told you, John’s idea of Heaven -- and a proper vacation, consists of sleeping till one or two in the afternoon and on James Russell Lowell and Edgar Allan Poe. Examining Hawthorne’s offer to act as conduit for Longfellow’s English correspondence, Longfellow objects: I want to know if it costs you anything: for if it does, you must not think of it, unless you will open a mercantile account with me.  If I pay pence and you pay shillings, this new Ocean Penny Postage of mine is a failure.

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A wonderful letter revealing Mitchell’s reaction to publicity following the publication of Gone With the Wind. $2,000 - $3,000
126. [Poe, Edgar Allan]. Collection of Poe memorabilia including his fiancée's engagement ring, a lock of his hair, family correspondence, photographic portraits, including one of Poe, and a silver spoon; all enclosed in a half morocco clamshell box with elaborately tooled spine, raised bands, red morocco labels, inset red morocco label on front cover. The letters and photographs are in an album within the box, inside the box there are three recesses housing the gold ring, the lock of hair and the spoon.

A rare collection of Poe memorabilia direct from descendants of Edgar Allan Poe, includes a lock of his hair.

The collection consists of: family correspondence; a small gold engagement ring inscribed inside “Edgar”; a small lock of Poe’s hair; five Poe family carte de visite portraits including one of the poet, his aunt and mother-in-law, Maria Poe Clemm, his cousin Elizabeth Herring Smith, and his first cousin once removed Eliza Poe Chapman Haydon; and a small daguerreotype portrait of Poe’s sister Rosalie Mackenzie Poe. The correspondence and other documents are from the family of Poe’s aunt Eliza Poe Herring and include letters by Maria Poe Clemm and Rosalie Poe. There is also a silver spoon which had some sentimental significance for the Poe family. This is explained in an accompanying document by a member of the Poe family. All of these pieces come directly through the family of Poe’s aunt Eliza Poe Herring (1792-1822) and her daughter Emily V. Herring Chapman Beacham (1822-1908). The ring is accompanied by a statement signed by Mrs. Beacham’s four great grandchildren after the death of their mother, Mrs. Beacham’s daughter Eliza. “The Poe ring was given to Mrs. Emily Virginia Beacham by Edgar Allan Poe’s sister Rosalie Mackenzie Poe [who received it directly from Poe’s fiancée Elmira Royster Shelton] in 1865 at Baltimore Maryland...Mrs. Beacham gave the ring to her only child, a daughter by her first husband, Nathan Chapman. This daughter, Eliza Poe Chapman, married in 1858 at Baltimore, John Henry Nathan Chapman. The rest of the statement traces the family Haydon’s history and brings the provenance of the ring up to date.

The actual history of the ring is interesting and significant as well as sad. Poe and Elmira Royster Sheldon were childhood sweethearts before his enrollment at the University of Virginia. According to Mrs. Shelton, her father intercepted Poe’s letters to her, in effect terminating their romance. Meeting again after many years, during which she had been married and widowed (and a series of tragic relationships for Poe complicated by his alcoholism) their romance began again in the summer of 1849 and thus they became engaged. Poe presented her with this ring. Though Poe had sworn off drinking and had even joined the Richmond Sons of Temperance, he was to die later that year after being found semi-conscious on the streets of Baltimore.

Memorabilia relating to Poe is excessively rare and the present collection is of great sentimental significance. $30,000 – $50,000

Rand thanks Lorine Pruette of the New York Times for a positive review of The Fountainhead.

Rand writes in full: You have said that I am a writer of great power. Yet I feel completely helpless to express my gratitude to you for your review of my novel. You are the only reviewer who had the courage and honesty to state the theme of ‘THE FOUNTAINHEAD’. Four other reviews of it have appeared so far, in the daily papers — and not one of them mentioned the theme nor gave a single hint about the issue of the Individual against the Collective. They spoke of the book as a novel about architecture. Such an omission could not be accidental. You have said that one cannot read the book ‘without thinking through some of the basic concepts of our time’. That is in every line. It was actually overstated in my novel, that it’s in every line. If one reviewer has missed the theme, it could be ascribed to stupidity. Four of them can be explained only by dishonesty and cowardice. And 18第三届 of us know that a state of depravity that one was no longer permitted to speak in defence of the Individual, that the mere mention of such an issue was to be evaded and hushed up as too dangerous.

That is why I am grateful to you in a way much beyond literary matters and for much more than the beautiful things you said about me and the book, although they did make me very happy. I am grateful for your great integrity as a person, which saved me from the horror of believing that this country is lost, that people are more rotten than I presented them in the book and that there is no intellectual decency left anywhere. If it is not considered unethical for an author to want to meet a reviewer, I would like very much to meet you. I have not met so many Ellsworth Toohey’s that it would be a relief to see a person of a different order. THANKYOU!

Rand is an American writer who espoused her philosophy of objectivism and “rational selfishness” in novels. The Fountainhead was Rand’s first wildly successful novel with over 6.5 million copies sold. She later wrote her magnum opus Atlas Shrugged, which is popular to this day and has recently been made into a movie.

$2,000 - $3,000


Harriet Beecher Stowe writes to Mrs. Nathaniel Hawthorne.

Stowe writes in full: Mr. Stowe & I have long desired to renew our acquaintance with you, but Concord is rather too far off for a card-case call & this leads me to say that on Saturday next we shall pass your house on our way to a friend’s with whom we pass Sunday, & we propose to ourselves then the pleasure of calling & seeing you & Mr. Hawthorne & your family once more--

Only, should there chance to be a driving snow storm we should perhaps not undertake the visit – & of course must lose the call. Your whole region is to me terra incognita known only in your husband’s descriptions, so I ardently hope the sun may shine & the skies prove propitious. In such a case we hope to look in upon you, about two or three o clock – Remember me kindly to your daughter & Mr. Hawthorne & believe me ever faithfully yours H B Stowe

This letter by Stowe was written just one year before Nathaniel Hawthorne’s death. At the time, he lived in Concord, Massachusetts with his family – his wife, Sophia (married In 1843) and his son, Julian (who entered Harvard in the fall of 1863). The letter intimates that the Stowes and Hawthornes had previously been acquainted, though at present they haven’t seen each other for some time. Perhaps that previous meeting took place on foreign soil – in England. Hawthorne traveled there in 1853 (with his wife and son), staying for four years; Stowe went to England twice in 1853 (for her health), and 3 years later, in 1856, for an extended tour of the continent. Obviously, Stowe is exhibiting her literary way with words when she admits it will take a driving snow storm to keep her from visiting (note the date of the letter is 22 June).

An extraordinary literary association. $2,000 – $3,000
129. Thoreau, Henry David. Autograph manuscript, 3 pages, (9 ¾ x 7 ¾ in.; 248 x 197 mm.), 18 July 1839, The Assabet; marginal water staining and fraying repaired.

Henry Thoreau pens all 12 stanzas of his poem The Assabet for Ellen Sewall.

Up this pleasant stream let’s row
For the livelong summer’s day,
Sprinkling foam where’er we go,
In weather as white as driven snow;
Ply the oars, away! away!

Now we glide along the shore,
Plucking lilies as we go,
While the yellow sanded floor
Doggedly resists the oar,
Like some turtle, dull and slow.

Now we stem the middle tide,
Ploughing through the deepest soil,
Ridges pile on either side,
While we through the furrow glide,
Reaping bubbles for our toil.

Dew before and drought behind,
Onward all doth seem to fly,
Naught contents the eager mind,
Only rapids now are kind,
Forward are the earth and sky.

Sudden music strikes the ear
Leaking out from yonder bank
Pit such voyageurs to cheer -
Sure there must be fairies [naiads]¹ here,
Who have kindly played this prank.

There I know the cunning pack,
When you self sufficient will
All its telltale hath kept back,
Through the meadows held its clack
And now babbleth its fill.

Silent flows the parent stream,
And if rocks do lie below;
Smothers with her waves the din.
As it were a youthful sin,
Just as still and just as slow.

But this gleeful little rill,
Purling round its storied pebble,
Tinkles to the self some tune
From December till June,
Nor doth any drought enfeeble.

¹ In his Journal, Henry used the word “naiads” rather than “fairies”.

July 18, 1839

Thoreau writes all 12 stanzas of his poem The Assabet, which he also entered in his Journal (and dated 18 July 1839). Composed two days before Ellen Sewall’s arrival, The Assabet was probably written with Ellen’s brother Edmund in mind, though it seems to be entirely appropriate for Thoreau’s time with Ellen during her visit, with its images of a boat trip. [The images are also an early working of Thoreau’s 31 August -13 September 1839 Concord-Merrimack boat trip with his brother John, which he described in A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers.] This is the actual poem Thoreau sent to Ellen Sewall in Scituate in the late summer of 1839. Interesting to note, the present poem constitutes the first poem Henry David Thoreau gave to Ellen Sewall. In 1840, Thoreau proposed to Ellen Sewall. Sewell’s father, a Unitarian minister, found Thoreau to be a rabble-rouser with his antislavery and freethinking ideas. He instructed his daughter to reject the offer. Thoreau never married. $8,000 - $12,000
130. Thoreau, Henry David. *Walden; or Life in the Woods*. Boston Ticknor and Fields, 1854; with seven line fragment tipped in. Octavo, (7 ¾ x 4 ½ in.; 187 x 114 mm.). Vignette on title showing Thoreau’s hut, lithographed plan of Walden Pond, 8 page publisher’s catalogue dated April 1854 inserted between rear endpapers; some wear, original brown cloth covers decorated in blind spine lettered in gilt; minor discoloration to covers.

**First edition.** A fine copy of Thoreau’s celebrated account of transcendentalist self-sufficiency. The title vignette shows the author’s hut, as drawn by his sister Sophia.

*References: Allen 8; BAL 20106; Borst A2.1.a; Grolier, American 63.*

$10,000 – $15,000

131. Whitman, Walt. Autograph letter signed, 1 page (10 ½ x 7 ¾ in.; 267 x 197 mm.), “328 Mickle St. Camden,” 25 May 1889 to a friend named Herbert; some creasing, marginal splits to folds.

Walt Whitman provides text for a friend’s speech on the subject of *Leaves of Grass* and his poetic and patriotic mission.

Whitman sends along a paragraph herewith to work into his correspondence speech or toast: *I think a great deal of that point of my “mission.” I hope you will weave it in.* Whitman’s paragraph reads in full: Your Washington, Jefferson and Monroe have given you emphatic warnings against “entangling alliances” with any European people, or any foreign people. But there is a power and faculty in the race—adhesiveness is the phrenological term—the magnetic friendship and good will of the common humanity of all nations—that they would have certainly encouraged and all the good publicists would ever encourage. This faculty *Leaves of Grass* is the book, and Walt Whitman is the poet, beyond any other known; he scatters it not only through all this immense and variform Union, but all the lands and races of the globe. America, to him, stands really greater in that, than in all its wealth products and even intellect. By him poetry is to be its main exemplar and teacher.

A profound paragraph from one of America’s most beloved poets.

$8,000 – $12,000
Audubon writes in part: "Whilst at the City of Natchez on the 31st Inst[ant] of Dec[em]ber 1820, my kind friend and relative N[icholas] Berthoud Esqr. proposed to me to accompany him in his Keel Boat to New Orleans, and I gladly accepted his offer. At one o’clock the steam boat Columbus hauled off from the Landing and took our bark in tow being secured to her by two ropes attached to our bows. The steamer was soon under full head way and little else than the thought of soon reaching the Mississippi’s Emporium of Commerce filled our minds. Toward evening however several enquiries were made respecting particular portions of the Luggage amongst which was to have been, one of my Portfolios, which contained a number of Drawings made whilst gliding down on the Rivers Ohio and Mississippi from Cincinnati, to Natchez, and some of which were very valuable to my collection as being very rare, and some indeed hitherto unfigured and perhaps undescribed species. The Port Folio was not found on board, and I recollect, sadly too late, that I had brought it under my arm to the margin of the stream and there had left it to the care of one of my Friend’s servants, who in the hurry of our departure had neglected to take it on Board. Besides the Drawings of Birds there was a sketch in black chalk in this collection to which I always felt greatly attached whilst absent from home, but alas now I was set to the mere recollection of the features of the objects from whence my Life’s happiness as a man has been rendered interestingly happy. When I thought during the following night of the loss I had now met with through my own want of attention and Care, for I blamed not the servant but myself, and half dreamt of the book having been picked up by some of the numerous Boatmen lounging along the Shores - of the pleasures they would feel in pasting the Drawings around their Cabins or nailing them on the steering oars of their…[flat boats], or perhaps displaying the whole by a distribution of them amongst their congenious gangs, I felt scarcely better off[!] than I had done some Years previous to this when the Norway rats, as you well know devoured a much Larger collection . . .

On the 16th of March 1821 I had the gratification of receiving a letter from Mr. A. P. Bodley of Natchez informing me my Portfolio had been found and afterward had been deposited at the office of the Mississippi Republican and that by sending an order for it, the whole would be forwarded to me through Mr. Garnier. So very kind had been the finder of it, that when I opened the contents and carefully examined each one of the Drawings the whole were in as good as when left on the shore of the Lower Town of Natchez save one, which was missing and probably kept by way of commission by the he who had first picked it up . . . .

A comparison between this manuscript and the printed text reveals that the integrity of Audubon’s writings was to a large extent maintained by his editor and scientific advisor, William MacGillivray. When Audubon wrote the Ornithological Biographies, it underwent intense competition with three other bird books being produced at the same time. The ornithologist expected his “Episodes” would make the difference and mark his success: “I have studied the character of Englishmen as carefully as I studied the birds of America. And I know full well that in England novelty is always in demand [A.B. Adams, John James Audubon].” And in his published address to his readers, Audubon appeals, “To render more pleasant the task which you have imposed upon yourself, of following an author through the mazes of descriptive ornithology, permit me, kind reader, to relieve the tedium which may be apt now and then to come upon you, by presenting you with occasional descriptions of the scenery and manners of the land which had furnished the objects that engage your attention. The natural features of the land are not less remarkable than the moral character of her inhabitants…”

Provenance: Christie’s New York 26 May 1977, lot 91, sold to John F. Fleming—Christie’s New York, 18 November 1988, lot 20, sold to the present owner. $4,000 - $6,000
133. Calder, Alexander. Autograph letter signed (“Sandy & Louisa”), with a large pen and ink drawing, colored with red and blue pencils, in French and English, 1 page (10 ½ x 8 ¾ in.; 267 x 210 mm.), “Paris,” 29 March 1933 to James Reggie; light soiling.

American sculptor, Alexander Calder, writes a charming letter to James Reggie about returning to America after Calder’s wife gives birth to their child which incorporates a whimsical detailed drawing.

Calder’s drawing is a figural nude portrayal of his wife from her knees to her chest, expectant with their toothed son, still in her womb, waving an American flag in his right hand and a French flag in his left. His letter is written primarily to the right and below the illustration.

Calder begins: My wife she has one, and, then, we will soon return to America [in French], in May, late, or June, early, and we thought we’d stop off at C.S.H. and make Harbor Harris Hoopie for a day or 2. Do let us know if you [are] to be home by that time. This thing is due to explode about August, so you needn’t be worried about any indiscretions on your premises. From N[ew] Y[ork] we expect to go to Richmond to stay until we hear the fuse sizzling. Our love to the Fleishies, and yo’ mama & papa, an’ yo’selfe.

Calder is best known for his original constructions of bent wire, metal, and other materials of two types termed by him stabiles (‘static abstract sculptures’) and mobiles (‘plastic forms in motion’). $3,000 – $5,000

134. Catlin, George. Autograph letter signed twice with initials (“G. C.”), 8 pages (8 ⅜ x 5 ¼ in.; 213 x 133 mm.), “Dieppe, France,” 17 September 1857 to John Solomon Rarey, horse tamer and author of The Modern Art of Taming Wild Horses (1856), who gave instruction to Queen Victoria and her family in England in 1857; in fine condition.

Having just returned from South America, where he spent four years amongst the savage Tribes of Brazil, famed Indian artist, George Catlin, offers some of his works for sale to horse trainer J.S. Rarey.

Catlin informs Rarey that he is laboring very hard on my numerous notes and sketches, preparing them for publication, then provides vivid descriptions of the capture and breaking of wild horses by N. American Indians and by S. American gauchos and Indians.

Catlin writes, in full: Just returning from a toilsome and hazardous Tour of 4 years amongst the savage Tribes of Brazil, and other parts of South America. I feel as if no form or ceremony was necessary in communicating with you, though a stranger to me.

Your noble discovery has made you a ‘man of the world,’ and a benefactor of mankind: And the untiring labours of my life, (the first half of which you are probably acquainted with) will furnish to history and science, that which will secure me a name, but nothing to my Banker’s account.

In a comfortable atelier [workshop], and at a very light expense, I am laboring very hard on my numerous notes and sketches, preparing them for publication. And having seen the announcement of your Lecture and illustrations to be given in Brighton on Tuesday, I was strongly tempted to run over, to witness your beautiful method; but the dread of two passages across the channel, at this windy season, has decided me the other way.

Every American will be proud of your noble achievement, and all (except the envious) will exult in your complete success.

I have through the whole of my life, looked with sympathy upon that noble animal, kicked & starved, & dragged and beaten about, by brutes, far more wicked, and scarcely more intelligent, and, like yourself, I always have thought that more would be accomplished by kindness and gentleness than by wanton cruelty.

You probably have read some account I gave in my work on the N. Am. Indians, of the cruel mode practiced by those people, in taking and breaking the wild horse.

I took pains (as I have said in my word) to witness many of those exciting scenes, which necessarily involve great cruelty and fear & exhaustion, in overtaking and choking the animal down by main force: but I always observed that when this was accomplished, and man, by his arts, had gained the mastery, the gentlest and kindest treatment was applied, such as patting on the nose—stroking the hand over the eyes and ears, and down the mane and neck, and exchanging at the same time, the breath from their nostrils, when the animal seemed to recognize a friend instead of an enemy, into whose hands it had fallen, and to whose will, as far as the creature could understand it, it was always obedient and its fear being annulled, attachment and fidelity, like those of the dog, were the consequences. I have made several oil paintings with great care & study, (and which I hope in London or N.York to be able to show to you) of the Gauchos and...
Indians taking wild horses on the plains of the Oronoko, in Venezuela, with the lasso and the deadly Bolas. For capturing horses, the lasso is used altogether—and the manner of taking and breaking is much the same as amongst the N. Am. Indians. The Bolas is used for 'killing horses,' which is done to a great extent in that country for hides & hair. The Bolas with its deadly coil, wraps the horses neck & legs so instantly, while it is at its fullest speed, that the fall is all but sure destruction to the animal, and the knife instantly does the rest. These scenes were exceedingly cruel and pitiable, but spirited and exciting in the extreme, and the beholder is astonished at the quickness & certainty of the death.

From my long and wearisome wanderings I have returned in an impoverished state of my funds, and until I can 'get upon my legs' again, am anxious to dispose of some of the works of my own hands, as the legitimate means of paying expenses: and with this view, have taken the liberty of sending you the album in which this letter is enclosed, believing that you might feel disposed to possess and perpetuate this Record of those abused & fast vanishing Races, whose looks and customs I have devoted the best part of my life and means, in rescuing from oblivion.

This selection of 100 of the most notable portrait of my collection was made with great care, by my own hand, with the view of publishing, in the same form, but which plan I have long since abandoned, and if it should please you, I know of no one into whose hands I should feel more satisfied to place it, and for the moderate price of £ 50.

There are many persons in England who would give £ 100 for it, if they could see it. And I could not afford to repeat such labour for a less sum than £ 150. I know you will be able to appreciate the drawings, and I believe at all events, the examination of them will afford you amusement.

Messrs. Pickford & Co. Bond St. Brighton, to whom I forward the album, have the means of daily forwarding anything to me with safety. If you should keep the album, the price may be paid to them for me, or in the other event, the album left with them to be transmitted to me. The enclosed fac-simile letters by my old friend the Baron de Humboldt will show you the manner in which he estimated my labours, & his friendship for me.

In a postscript, Catlin asks that his correspondent not let anyone know he has returned from his lengthy stay in South America as he is not quite ready as yet to announce myself to my friends or the public . . . ” Then, the artist makes one more sales pitch: If you should keep this work you will have what no other person on Earth can possess as there is no duplicate of it in existence. Interesting to note is a notation at the bottom of the last page, in an unidentified hand: G. Catlin, Indian Traveller about Album Rarey bought of him for £40. $3,000 - $5,000
135. David, Jacques Louis. Important autograph letter signed (“David”), in French, 2 pages, (9 ¾ x 7 in.; 238 x 178 mm.), 14 June 1806 to Monsieur Darn, Director-General of the House of the Emperor, State Councillor and Commander of the Legion of Honor; in pristine condition.

Napoleon and Josephine each request a portrait of Pope Pius VII from Jacques Louis David and anxiously await his coronation paintings.

Appointed court painter by Napoleon, David herewith writes to Monsieur Darn, Director-General of the House of the Emperor.

David writes in full: I have received the letter you did me the honor of writing me on the 9th of this month in response to the request I made of you to designate the place where I should deposit the portrait on foot of His Majesty for the city of Genoa as well as the three portraits of the Pope. You tell me that it is customary that the paintings which are made for His Majesty are deposited in the Musée Napoléon, which is the sole depot of the objects of art belonging to the Emperor. Permit me to remark to you...that this custom may be justified for works ordered by the director of the museum, but that for mine the case should be different, as it was you yourself and not the director of the museum who ordered the portrait of the Holy Father, that it was the Emperor himself who asked me for a repetition of the portrait of the Pope for himself, as the former had to leave for Rome, and that the Empress also demanded one for herself. I will have the honor of presenting myself to you on Monday morning. I will have the honor of making my observations to you, and if you persist, I will always consider it my duty to submit to your orders.

I am engaged in the response to be made to your two letters of April 9 and June 16 of last year on the four questions you put to me, i.e., what I think would be fair to grant me as a price for each of the coronation pictures, their dimensions, when they will be finished, and to add a note on their composition. I would have already finished it [the response] long since, if I hadn’t been distracted by the immense amount of work. However, I am counting on having the honor of giving it to you on Monday morning…

In the left margin of the letter are the following notations: This letter was placed on my table; I have already answered it & sent it to M. Duroz. M. Darn has kept the draft of his answer.

An extraordinary letter recording with great detail David’s artistic output as court painter for Napoleon. $4,000 - $6,000
Paul Gauguin writes to impressionist painter Camille Pissarro about becoming a “full time” painter.

Gauguin laments that he is now working in finance and is just an “amateur” painter.

Gauguin writes in part: The Masters or the Great, as you call them, painted pictures; in that statement there are two things to be examined: the first depends on what one understands by pictures – exactly like beauty it is relative, the second, which is what I want to discuss, is how did the Masters paint pictures. They began their education young for the most part – I mean by that that they learned all the ways of varying a formula (a formula which at certain periods tends to transform itself) - so they reach a certain age with a sure hand, a precise memory, ready to paint pictures. Some, like Delacroix, carried out a lot of research for themselves, but you should be aware nonetheless that, apart from methods, colour, etc., Delacroix at the end of the day remained the painter as before (i.e. in the grand tradition) in his compositions. He undoubtedly has a certain style of his own (he is a man of genius) which makes itself felt, but there remains always the same manner of composing. Certain things, like the decorations for the Chambre de Députés, can be found in some of Rubens’ pictures. In sum the picture belongs to painting in the grand manner, which is literary in form. Our own times are becoming very difficult for us: painting in the grand manner is no longer justified, or else it becomes episodic, as in battle-pieces. There remains for us genre or landscape; and indeed it is in this latter direction that all the paintings of the most recent masters has been moving – look at Courbet, Corot, Millet.

As for what concerns you, I think the time has come (always provided that it accords with your temperament) to do more in the studio – but with ideas matured in advance from the point of view of the composition and of the subject. According to this way of thinking, you have only to devote all you have learned before to what you are going to do now and not to look for a new vision of nature – and you will improve at once. If not, continue to look for other things; but in that case you will need a dose of youth and determination which might weary you, particularly through dissatisfaction. Do not concern yourself with what Renoir & Co. may say. I know why they talk like that (we will chat about it next time)…

In closing, Gauguin reveals to Pissarro his burning desire to become a full time painter: I cannot resign myself to remain all my life in finance and as an amateur painter. I have got it into my head that I shall become a painter as soon as I can discern a less obscured horizon and that I shall be able to earn my living by it . . . .

An extraordinary letter from one painter to another with highly important content. $20,000 – $30,000
137. Gauguin, Paul. Autograph letter signed, in French, 3 pages, (9 ¾ x 5 ⅞ in.; 244 x 149 mm.), French Establishments in Oceania, Public Works and Land Registry, Office of the Chief of Service, Papeete 12 January 1899, to Daniel de Monfried; corner chipped.

An exceptionally fine letter written during Gauguin’s difficult final years in Tahiti.

Gauguin writes in full: I cannot thank you too much for what you just sent me: this money comes just in time to let me return to my domain. For a month I did not seem to work more than a fortnight a month, my foot made me suffer that much. When will I get well? You did the right thing in letting Delius have “Nevermore”: he will pay more for it then Volland. Another time, this Volland bought pictures of Brittany by me at Bernard’s at a higher price than now. Oh, well, better to sell cheaply than not at all. You remember that you reproached me for having given this picture a title don’t you think that this title Nevermore is the reason for this purchase? Perhaps!

Whatever the reason, I am pleased that Delius is its owner, as it is thus not a speculative purchase so as to resell it, but so as to love it; then he will later want all the more people to visit him and compliment him on it, or even better, they will make him discuss this subject. You don’t say anything appreciative about what I sent you last; was it a bad impression or rather a result of your business at the moment? It seems to me that the Credit Lyonnaise has Chaudet paid at 1%, where you pay 2; in any case I profit by it, because commerce in Tahiti gives me 3%. As of now, I think that my situation is clearing up; I have no more debts, a small advance, some hope; as soon as my foot leaves me in peace a little, I shall resume working. Until then it is useless to touch a paintbrush, I wouldn’t do anything good; [it would be] without consistency, and [with] large interruptions; well, when I am in ordinary circumstances and have enthusiasm, I’ll very quickly plunge to work. Well, at this moment, stretched out on the bed. I work mentally and [have] arrived at a certain propitious moment, everything is concentrated, and the execution will be rapid. And you, my dear Daniel, plagued by business, you are going to quit painting for a whole year and suffer from it; write me as in the past, if not about business, then at least about everything that interests and occupies you. Paris isn’t necessary to art, as youth seems to suppose (keeping up with current events, as Pissarro says). Dangerous enough for ½ personalities. For 50 years, the gardeners do double dahlias, then one fine day they return to simple dahlias. Many friendly regards to my friends and all best wishes to you . . . .

Gauguin’s final years in the South Pacific were difficult ones. Snubbed in Papeete by those who disapproved of his moral character, he lived a lonely life with only Pahura, a native woman, as his companion. His money problems were chronic. “In addition to his extravagances and regular expenses, he now had to pay for expensive drugs, mostly of the pain-killing variety; not only were his skin problems worse, but his unhealed leg [broken in 1894 during a brawl with some fishermen in Brittany] began to hurt intensely, forcing him to abandon his work for his bed. In frustration he wrote a stream of anguished letters to friends, cursing fate and begging for financial help” [Andersen, Gauguin’s Paradise Lost]. Eventually his bandaged legs drove away his few remaining friends, who believed he was a leper. In 1896 Gauguin suffered a series of heart attacks; since he was too poor to seek help at the hospital he decided to kill himself with arsenic. The attempt failed and the painter recovered sufficiently to take a job as a draftsman in the Public Works Department at six francs a day. He was forced to move closer to Papeete in order to work; but the money sent by de Monfried in early 1899 allowed him to return to Pahura and painting. Nevermore, the work mentioned in this letter, had been completed in 1897. It shows a nude girl reclining on a bed in a flowered room; she is listening to the gossip of two hooded old women, while a strange bird [“the bird of the devil biding his time,” as Gauguin explained in a letter to de Monfried] perches on the window sill.

$20,000 – $30,000
A despondent Millet writes about his reaction to the fall of Paris at the end of the Franco-Prussian War.

Millet writes in full: At last, my dear Sensier, it is all over! We are delivered up to all the insults & all the devastations. Disgrace & ruin! Is that where this France is? I hear the derision of the nations regarding it. I had lost my head over it, I am annihilated. These horrible conquerors are going to be a broom of destruction for Paris. They are going to be carrying off all the good testimonials of human intelligence with them, of which we have so many of all kinds, and what they can’t take off with them they will destroy. Oh, who could cry enough tears at all that! What a disgrace! What a disgrace! To see the conquering general have his crown of haughtiness put on his head & parade around with it among us.

Tell us what has happened to you and yours. You told us that Mme Sensier had recovered well enough & that your children were very well. May they continue to be so! Yesterday Marie received a letter from Felix dated the 19th. He was well, but he is very despondent. His grandmother Fenardent has died & his Aunt Pauline has been bedridden for a long time. He has engaged an attendant for her. We embrace all of you.

Millet had just cause to moan over the horrible conquerors. Over the past year the French endured many military defeats and much upheaval. Napoleon III was captured with his whole army 2 September 1870. When the news reached Paris two days later the French Second Empire was overthrown in a bloodless coup d’état launched by General Trochu, Jules Favre, and Léon Gambetta. They removed the second Bonapartist monarchy and proclaimed a republic led by a Government of National Defense, leading to the Third Republic. Rejecting Bismarck’s conditions for an Armistice the fighting continued for another four months with defeats for the French at Metz, Orléans, Amiens, Bapaume, St. Quentin and Le Mans before the final siege of Paris was to end the war.

Monet discusses the progress of his series of paintings of Rouen Cathedral.

Monet writes in part: When I got here the weather was superb [and] I started to work at my new window, where I am quite comfortably settled. The cathedral is just amazing in the sun. I have started two paintings but I experienced some disappointment this morning; I went to my former spot, but I could not settle there because of the painters who are cleaning the wooden floor of the apartment. The fine weather is going on, I am pleased, but damn, this cathedral is so much work, it’s dreadful, and I hope the weather won’t change too much.

Monet concludes his letter by stating he intends to return to Giverny on Saturday. He had dinner with Mr. Depeaux (a coal merchant and a collector from Rouen) and went to the theater. His health is as good as can be; besides, I am very careful and I watch my diet. He is going to have dinner at his brother’s and notes; I hope there won’t be too much butter.

One of the two paintings referred to in this letter is in the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. The other is in a private collection. The house referred to here belonged to the architect Louvet, who was refurbishing it. Monet would ultimately begin another eight paintings from this location. These paintings, as well as those from a second location, all begun in 1892, are now in museums and private collections around the world, including the Musee d’Orsay in Paris, the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., the Sterling and Francine Clark Institute in Williamstown, Massachusetts, and the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston.
140. **Monet, Claude.** Autograph letter signed, ("Claude"), in French, 4 pages, (8 ½ x 5 ¼ in.; 216 x 133 mm.), Saturday evening [March 9, 1893] to his wife, Alice née Hoschedé; small splits to horizontal fold.

Monet writes his wife about feeling depressed and doubting his abilities as a painter.

Monet writes in full: *I was hoping for a wee little word from you, but nothing came; oh yes, a letter from Blanche, for which I am grateful. I am not answering her this evening, as I am feeling worse and very blue. I hope your trip went well and that you have managed to find a maid for Suzanne. Well, tomorrow I’ll be up to date on that. I am slaving like a madman, but alas, you can say all you want, I have emptied my bag and am not good at anything anymore. Everything leaves at once, the weather isn’t very constant: yesterday splendid sun, this morning fog, in the afternoon sun, which went into hiding just when I needed it. Tomorrow it will be gray-black or water, and I am very afraid I’ll once again give up and suddenly return. I worked well, I didn’t overdo anything. This evening I wanted to compare what I have done all these days with the old canvases, which I avoided seeing too much, so as not to fall back into the old habits, and the result is that I was right last year for being unsatisfied. It is horrible, and what I am doing this time is also bad, bad in another way, that’s all. It will be necessary not to want to do it quickly, to try and try again to do it over once and for all. But I feel the laxness coming. I am finished and this is good proof that I have absolutely emptied my bag. Blast it, those who think I am a master cannot see far, well intended, yes, but that’s all. Happy the young, those that think it is easy: I was, that’s over, and meanwhile, I will be there at 7 tomorrow. Pardon me, I am going to cause you pain, but to whom should I speak of my pain if not to you? I was to dine this evening with Mme Depeaux, but fortunately she has let me know that as her son is ill, she cannot visit her; it would be another time. You can certainly imagine that in my state of mind I was relieved. I send you all my thoughts in a kiss and am going to try to sleep. Until tomorrow. I am hoping for a long letter from you.*

Monet wrote this letter during the second year that he painted twenty of the thirty canvases that would eventually constitute the series on Rouen Cathedral. His mention of the weather reflects on a fundamental concern of his visual work. “Though all these pictures are dated 1894, they were in fact done in two separate batches, in 1892 and 1893 (in both cases between February and mid-April), painted from three different angles, and then completed at Monet’s Giverny studio” [Sylvie Patin, Monet: The Ultimate Impressionist]. Monet’s work on the Rouen Cathedral began at a time of religious revival in France. It was also a time when France, as a country, was expressing self-doubt. Patriotic themes were popular and the Gothic cathedral was considered very French. But while most artists tended to paint cathedrals as awe-inspiring structures, Monet preferred to stress their humbler, more communal qualities. The cathedral series suggested Monet’s ties to his country’s past, but it also demonstrated a faith that went beyond dogmas and priests. Monet himself never entered the cathedral until 1893, a year after he started painting it, and only then to listen to a choir perform in a special ceremony. Monet meant for his cathedrals to be seen as a group and refused to exhibit any of them until all were finished. They were so exhibited just once – “twenty versions of the Cathedrals were displayed at the exhibition of Monet’s recent works at Durand-Ruel’s gallery in May 1895. Their importance was not missed by contemporary painters and writers” [Patin]. Fellow artists were stunned by the technical complexity and visual excitement of the cathedrals. It was said that seen together, they took on a life of their own.

After a decade of growing attachment to Alice Hoschedé, and a year after the death of Alice’s husband Ernest, Monet ended the ambiguity that had surrounded his domestic life by marrying her on July 16, 1892. $6,000 – $8,000
141. Monet, Claude. Autograph letter signed, in French, in pencil, 5 pages, (8 ⅛ x 5 ¼ in.; 206 x 133 mm.), “Giverny,” 14 June 1918 to Dear Madame and Friend, [Julie Manet], the daughter of painter, Berthe Morisot and Edouard Manet’s brother, Eugene.

Monet advises a family friend on how to safeguard her collection against the advancing Germans (the Boches).

Shortly before the Battle of the Marne and while United States Marines and the French Army were locked in fierce fighting in the Battle of Belleau Wood, Monet provides guidance to Julie Manet to hide the works which are so dear to you.

Monet writes in full: I do not wish to waste an instant in replying to your letter and in telling you that, in my opinion, you are doing the best thing. I do not think that the Boches will get to Paris, but it is best to be forewarned. You are in the best place, out of all danger, and you can, I think, easily find a place where you can put the works which are so dear to you; you must not think of the cost. So, the only possible thing (and it is well worth the trouble) is to find an ordinary moving service, or a truck, and transport the things to the specified location. If you have no one in Paris who could do this for you, would you like me to get in touch with M. Durand-Ruel or M. Bernheim? These two could easily sort it all out, in fact they would be absolutely delighted to be involved in the safekeeping of the beautiful things which you possess. A word of hope as fast as possible, and it will be done as you wish.

Here, as you can imagine, we are living in anguish, but with lots of hope. Business is good; Madame Salera and her children are with us. Fortunately, the news from those who are away [at war] is good, and as for my eyes, I am still missing a lot of colors and also a lot of work. I ask myself why sometimes, but this has happened, and up to now I have taken no precautions, and I do not know what I would do if-but in any case, it won’t happen, and I will only decide at the chosen moment. I hope you are all well, the little ones and the grown-ups, and that we will have the great pleasure of seeing you if you are having guests at Mesnil. Madame Jean Monet and Madame Salera join with me in sending out very best wishes and friendship.

Claude Monet was an old and dear friend of Julie Manet’s family and was her guardian following the 1895 death of her mother. Julie, herself a talented painter who studied under Renoir, inherited her mother’s art collection, which included works by Manet, Monet and Degas. In 1900, she married Ernest Rouart, also an artist and the son of a wealthy industrialist-art collector. This letter was written shortly before the World War I Battle of The Marne, in which the Germans advanced to within forty miles of the outskirts of Paris. Fearful of Paris coming under attack, Manet asks Monet’s advice on how to safeguard her extraordinary personal art collection.

$4,000 – $6,000
Parrish, Frederick Maxfield. Highly important early archive of eighteen autograph letters signed (“Fred”), 55 pages, various sizes, various locations including Annisquam, Massachusetts where he shared a seaside studio with his father; “Northcote” in Cornish, New Hampshire, his father's home and onboard the steamer Providence, 1892-1894. Written to My Dear Daisy, a young artist at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts with whom Parrish felt an intimate and artistic bond; in fine condition.

Superb early archive of 18 beautifully handwritten letters in Parrish's elegant & artistic hand, including his self-doubts and misgivings about his first exhibited oil painting Moonrise (1893).

A charming group of early letters portraying Parrish as a young, self-doubting art student seeking to learn his chosen path as an artist.

In an undated letter Parrish writes: …for this summer (I) have not gone in to turn out a raft of sketches—but have endeavored, irrespective of results, to buckle down and learn something...if I have learned nothing else, I know that art is no picnic.

Having received a “mad angry” note from Daisy, probably related to Parrish's lack of artistic output and his inability to supply any works for an exhibition, Parrish, himself despondent about his artistic progress, replies in his letter of 22 October 1893: So all I ask is—not mercy, for I don't deserve that—but that you and your fellow hangers will not think that these are the way that I intend to represent nature at some future date, for I assume you they are not. I send them to Mr. Whipple and he will turn them over to your hanging committee—and you can hang them or electroplate them, which ever you think will be the least painful. If you promise not to tell a soul, you can share with me the dark double-dyed secret that as my beloved parent advised me to send a couple to the Academy's exhibition in December, I have keep (kept) the two best here.

After requesting that Daisy send him a list of the compositions required at the Academy for the month of November, Parrish writes on November 1893: I don't know just how good friends we are, for I heard mention of some of my things in the exhibition which leads me to conclude that you must have hung several of them: and even if hung away high up it is a low down trick. But I suppose it serves me right in having the brazen audacity to send them. I wish you would tell me about it—who is there, and all. But I hope I may be mistaken and you didn't hang more than a couple…

In his letter of 6 November 1893, Parrish writes of his first exhibited oil painting, Moonrise, at the Philadelphia Art Club: You know I told you in secret confidence that I sent a little thing to the Art Club—and I can be very sure it will not be accepted, for it is very characteristic of me, flat and an attempt at the decorative, etc., but if you go to the exhibition when it is opened you might let a fellow know; you know, if you saw it anywhere. Look high! You may understand when I ask if one, even at our stage in the art, is justified in liking a thing he has done. But sometimes you may, I think. The one I sent is supposed to be a moonlight. One glorious night last summer I walked across Cape Ann at one o’clock in the morning. It was moonlight and not a trace of breath of air. The impression that night made upon me I shall never forget. The next morning I painted what I felt, and the result I sent to the art club. I was painting for a while simply living in it, and imagined I saw before me something of what I did feel, & resisting hosts...

I wish I could have been there the night of the auction, it must have been fun. And how they realized so much. Such tremendous prices too?: $6.50 for my poppy field! Why that pays better than serious work. I wonder who bought the flagellants, daddy nearly died over it, & Lille and I couldn’t get him away from it.

Parrish talks about his busy schedule, and then remarks about an upcoming teaching appointment: Did you know I am going to teach next winter? Oh, my yes. They have been at me for quite a while, & finally persuaded me to criticize a decorative class 3 evenings in the week at the School of Industrial Art. I shall have a salary with which by economic handling I shall be able to ride there & back & get weighed once a week & come out square.

The letters end just as Maxfield Parrish's artistic career begins to take off. His first major commission was undertaken in 1894, when he was just concluding his studies at the Pennsylvania Academy. He was asked by architect Wilson Eyre to assist in the renovation of the Mask & Wig Club. It was there that Parrish designed and executed the Old King Cole mural as well as other wall decorations. He established a studio in Philadelphia, and remained there to do book and magazine illustrations and advertisements designs until 1898, when he moved to New Hampshire.

Parrish's magazine illustrations career began in early 1895, when several of his watercolor studies for wall decorations at the Mask & Wig Club—after their exhibition at the Philadelphia Academy in December, 1894—were sent to a New York exhibition, where they came to the attention of a member of the Harper & Brothers' Art Department—Thomas W. Ball. Ball asked Parrish to submit a design for a special 1895 Easter cover for Harper's Bazaar. Between 1895-1900, Parrish designed covers for at least 5 different Harper & Brothers' periodicals. His first illustrated book was Mother Goose in Prose, the first book written by L. Frank Baum published in December 1897.

A rich correspondence revealing Parrish's very beginnings as an artist. $20,000 - $30,000
143. Pissarro, Camille. Autograph letter signed, ("C. Pissarro"), in French, 4 pages, (8 ¼ x 5 ¼ in.; 206 x 133 mm.), Eragny-sur-Epte, [December 12, 1885] to his niece, Esther.

Pissarro provides lengthy commentary on the current market for his work, the recent English elections, and family news.

Pissarro writes in full: At last I am at Eragny, where I am going to have to slog at some fans, for times are hard and for the moment that is the only thing for which there is a market. Pictures—it's no good counting on them—no one understands what a picture is. The longer I go on the more I despair of current ideas, not only on art but on everything—from time to time one is surprised to find an oddity (un Hiroquois) who dares to believe and to see differently from what is customary. Let us move on to other ideas, newer and above all less tearful—I wanted to reply exactly to your letter. It was a firm determination—but there you are, at the moment of writing impossible to put my hand on that delightful letter in which, so kindly, you speak to me of many things, of Frederic, of pink colors for your frame etc. etc. Happily I have been able to preserve the piece of silk not 'pink' but definitely faded Grenadine. I am going to try to obtain this color with vermilion, light chrome yellow and perhaps veronese green or cobalt blue, I really don’t know, for it is not orangey and it is not pink, it is by trying that we shall arrive at the same.

As to politics you are astonished by the English elections—if you read Kropotkin’s book the chapter ‘representative government’ p. 169, you would be quite indifferent whether Mr professor Beesley were elected or anybody else, whether it be Chamberlain, the so-called radical or the Grand Turk, it comes to the same thing for the people who work hard and who die of hunger. Know therefore my little Esther that the best way to be free is not to delegate powers to anyone whatever!—to who else to the intriguing lawyers, one must do one’s business oneself if one wants it to be well done. As in your frame, one would only have one’s self to blame. England is absolutely at the same degree of cretinism as we are, except that as a result of her idiotic and Protestant education she is blinded by a semblance of false respects, of false morality and of false liberty. France or at least the Latin race is certainly freer of this hodge-podge, she will obviously be more apt to advance along the new way! So the elections a load of rubbish!!!—after having been in a shocking blue funk over them only the bourgeois still attach any importance to them, the tegiversations of the elections are logical, from a social point of view - but I am just thinking - Frederick finds himself as a direct result of his naive indifference, an Anarchist without knowing it, Horrors mother would say!!!

Lucien has transcribed your letter to Nini, she has just got a place in Paris to keep the lions, I don’t know what she thinks she will decide, it’s probable that you will have word of her directly. We are overjoyed to know that you are going to visit us, I do hope that this time Alice will not miss her portrait—I am keen to do it, we await you impatiently. Punch has arrived at this instant. The Keen drawings, extraordinary, splendid, what an artist—do tell Alfred that we have not got last year’s Almanac in our collection, so tell him to try and get it for us, it would be very kind of him, as always, moreover Our compliments to you all…

In a lengthy postscript, Pissarro has added, I am sending you by post a small parcel containing the orangey color ready prepared. I am putting in with it a little peau de gant which you will put in a glass of water. Put it on the fire to boil until it has melted, strain it and then use it to dilute. Spread on the frame with a brush while it is still moist, flatten it down with the palette knife. When it is dry, if necessary you could pour more. I don’t understand why you are using orangey tint, there is hardly any blue in the picture, pure pink is more what it needs.

An informative letter on Pissarro’s views on the art market and politics. His remarks on the English elections refer to the first time a majority of adult males could vote and yet the balance of power in Parliament changed little. $4,000 - $6,000
144. Van Gogh, Vincent. Extraordinary autograph letter signed (“Vincent”), in French, 4 pages (8 x 5 ¾ in.; 203 x 133 mm.), on grid paper, “Saint-Remy de Provence,” 20 January 1890 to “M. & Mme. Ginoux” (Joseph Ginoux and Marie Ginoux-Julien); with envelope addressed in Van Gogh’s hand to: Monsieur Ginoux, Café de la gare, Place Lamartine, Arles; spotting, repair to page fold.

Less than seven months before his death, Van Gogh shares his thoughts with an ailing friend: Illnesses are there to make us remember again that we are not made of wood.

With great poignancy and introspection, Van Gogh writes to his friends, the proprietors of the Café de la Gare in Arles, after learning Madame Ginoux has taken ill again. Madame Ginoux had suffered from a bout of the flu and was then suffering from nervousness and anxiety most likely related to menopause. Finding parallels with the timing of the bouts of their respective illnesses, Van Gogh offers words of encouragement and extends his friendship. Less than seven months before his tragic death, Van Gogh could not be more lucid and reflective on the subject of illness.

Van Gogh writes in full: I do not know whether you remember— I think it quite strange that about a year ago since Mrs. Ginoux was ill at the same time as I was; and now it has been so again since— just around Christmas— for a few days I was taken quite badly this year, however it was over very quickly; I have not it less than a week. Since, therefore, my dear friends, we sometimes suffer together, it makes me think of what Mrs. Ginoux said — ‘When people are friends, they’re that way for a long time.’

I myself believe that the annoyances one experiences in the ordinary routine of life do us as much good as bad. The thing that makes one fall ill, overcome by discouragement, today, that same thing gives us the energy, once the illness is over, to get up and want to discover the next day.
I can assure you that the other year it almost vexed me to recover my health — to be better for a longer or shorter time — continuing always to fear relapses — almost vexed — I tell you — so little desire did I have to begin again. I've very often told myself that I'd prefer that there be nothing more and that it was over. Well yes — we're not the masters of that — of our existence and it's a matter, seemingly of learning to want to live on, even when suffering. Ah, I feel so cowardly in that respect, even when my health returns. I still fear. So who am I to encourage others, you'll rightly say to me, it hardly suits me. Anyway, it's only to tell you, my dear friends, that I hope so ardently, and that moreover I dare hope, that Mrs. Ginoux's illness will be of very fleeting, and that she'll recover from it entirely enlivened. But she isn't unaware how fond we all are of her, and wish to see her well.

As for me, illness has done me good — it would be ungrateful not to acknowledge that; it has calmed me, and I have had more luck this year than I dared hope for, quite unlike what I had imagined.

But if I hadn't been so well cared for, if people hadn't been as kind to me as they have been, I think I would have dropped dead or completely lost my reason.

Business is business, then duty too is duty, so it's only right that I soon return for awhile see my brother. But it will be hard for me to leave the south, I can assure all of you who have become friends to me — friends for a long time.

I've forgotten again to thank you for the olives you sent me the other time and which were excellent; I'll bring you back the boxes soon.

I'm therefore writing to you, dear friends, to try to distract for a moment our dear patient so that she resume her habitual smile, to please all of us who know her. As I've told you, in a fortnight I hope to come and see you again, quite cured.

Illnesses are there to make us remember again that we are not made of wood. That's what seems the good side of all this to me. Then afterwards one goes back to one's everyday work less fearful of the annoyances, with a new store of serenity. And even if we part, it will be while yet saying to oneself again: ‘and when people are friends, they're that way for a long time—for that is the means to be able to leave one other.’

Well, more soon, and my best wishes for Mrs. Ginoux's speedy recovery.
Van Gogh suffered from acute anxiety and frequent bouts with mental illness for much of his adult life. In February 1888, Van Gogh moved to Arles after living two years in Paris. He arrived ill from alcohol abuse and smoker’s cough and soon found himself at the Café de la Gare, where he became friends with the proprietors, Joseph and Marie Ginoux. The interior of the establishment was made famous in Van Gogh’s painting *The Night Café*. In February 1890, just weeks after writing the present letter, Madame Ginoux became Van Gogh’s subject of five paintings entitled *L’Arlésienne*. The version intended for Madame Ginoux is lost; it has been theorized that it was Van Gogh’s attempt to deliver this painting to Mrs. Ginoux that precipitated a crisis that was “the starting point for one of the saddest episodes in a life already rife with sad events” which began on 22 February. This spell of depression lasted until the end of April, during which time Vincent was unable to bring himself to write though he did continue to draw and paint. On 27 July 1890 Van Gogh, at the age of 37, shot himself in the chest. The bullet was deflected by a rib bone and passed through his chest without doing apparent damage to internal organs, probably stopped by the spine. He was able to walk back to the Auberge Ravoux where he was attended to by two physicians. Neither had the capability to perform surgery to remove the bullet, so they left Van Gogh alone in his room smoking his pipe. The following morning, his brother, Theo, rushed to be with Vincent and within hours he died due to an untreated infection to his wound. Theo reported his brother’s last words were: “The sadness will last forever.”

An astonishing letter clearly revealing Van Gogh’s awareness of his own illness as he attempts to console another. Letters by Van Gogh are extremely rare at auction and the present letter is arguably the finest Van Gogh letter in private hands.

145. Wright, Frank Lloyd. Autograph manuscript, 2 pages (10 ½ x 7 ¾ in.; 267 x 200 mm.), Undated [ca. 1926] with a few revisions; first page devoid of 3 inches of paper, marginal fraying and chipping, the two pages affixed together at head.

Ramblings from a man who has loved and lost with the blame firmly placed upon his own shoulders.

I am regarded as though I had stolen myself, gone off with what was not my own. And I am traduced, derided, despised, held up to public contempt and loathing. My character is remorselessly assassinated: no means however vile are spared to injure my property or my work. It is a falsity that men respect and honor independent of thought and action.

Tolerance in anything or anywhere is plainly a gentle lie. It is in no man's heart.

The perception of Beauty is a moral test.
The body is the first proselyte the soul makes.
Our life is but the soul made known by its fruits,—the body. The whole duty of man is expressed in one line. Make to yourself a perfect body!
To be a man is to do a man's work!
The true laborer is recompensed by his labor not by his employer.

Laws are a matter of lawyers and judges. Lawyers and judges, as such, are not men of sense or principle but creatures of law: In any high moral sense they are not men at all!
Earth song. Universal [in pencil].
I who have shown that I can behave particularly well am put under bonds for good behaviour!

Every man should see that his influence is on the side of justice—-and let the courts make their own characters.

Men talk about Bible miracles because there is no miracle in their lives. Cease to gnaw that crust, there is a ripe fruit overhead!

Woe to him who wants a companion, for he is unfit even to be the companion even of himself!

We inspire friendship in men when we have contracted friendship with the gods. Any reverence, even [if] a material thing proceeds from an elevation of character?

A vexing manuscript from Wright clearly revealing the effects of his personal upheavals. $3,000 - $5,000

146. Wright, Frank Lloyd. Autograph letter signed (“Frank”), 1 page (10 ½ x 7 ½ in.; 267 x 191 mm.), “Tokyo, Imperial Hotel” stationery, 9 June, no year, to Madame Kryuska; split to horizontal fold.

A letter to Madame Kryuska divulging his wife’s misery.

Wright writes in part: I want to say to you that I realize now as for some time past that I need look no further for a cause for Miriam’s wretchedness than my own crooked self. I have seen through the self-deception that puts a good face in a dirty deed when the dirty deed is mine. I ought not to have told you my feeling about M[iriam] and I am glad that what I said came out, only it didn’t come out just as I said it. But no matter. I might as well swallow the whole. It is near enough mine and it is false. I regret the hurt it gave Miriam first of all and after that the break between you and her. I hope to see that repaired. I thought more of saving my own face the other night than of saving her reputation. I have given her so much misery in return for her love that the real love I feel for her is perversely presented and belied by my own self. She is nearly mad with the misery of it. I know you will protect her in this. I don’t ask it for myself. I guess you know my failings any way. You have seen us together more than anyone else. You, no doubt remember what she said the other night in her terrible distress. Well it is all true every word of it. If ever I can help you in any way I shall be glad to…

A short time after this letter was written, the Wrights divorced and Miriam, who may have suffered from mental illness, had a particularly difficult time of it and died at a young age. $4,000 - $6,000
147. Wright, Frank Lloyd. Autograph letter signed (“Frank”), 2 pages (11 x 8 ½ in.; 279 x 216 mm.), “Miyako Hotel,” Kyoto stationery, 11 June, no year. To the woman by my side, his estranged wife, Miriam; with original envelope.

A personal letter from Wright to his estranged wife explaining special gold boxes he bought for her.

Wright writes in full: A few little presents instead of words -- they are less treacherous and ambiguous. Two little gold lacquer boxes -- one of which will hold the ‘face paper’ -- the other something else. One larger gold box for ‘something else’. All three, treasures of the first order. Antiques. A couple of pieces of rare old brocade, [Keio] period -- accompanied by illustrated plate made from it for a work on brocade now being published -- to be used for a turban for ‘the woman’ in such manner as to yield its beauty to enhance hers without injury. I imagine it crowning her bronze hair and glorifying her lovely face. There was never, nor will [there] be another like it. A box of 41 pcs of old hair pins -- a new discovery in collecting -- old Tokugawa period silver and gold -- to make stick pins, or hat pins or hair pins -- the points can be sharpened you see. To interest her a little. She will say she would rather have the money but I came here to pay my bills and Hayashi told me to pick out something for about 100 yen, to show his appreciation of my visit. I picked the boxes for you. At Nomuros I remembered your longing for this piece and bought it at a bargain for 40 yen -- It will make a better hat than the sable and a rare one so do not say anything derogatory. The hair pins I selected from Nomuros collection at 1 yen each - they were so astonishingly cheap I fell at once. I remember the taunt that I had been careful not to give you cash. I will give you that too.

It is hot, hot, hot here--but the Miyako is so much more attractive in summer. There is to be a celebration, a great one here on the 16th of July--I wish we might come. I feel that no words of mine can show my regret for what I am and shame for what I do. I guess my talent has screened me from myself all along. It is well that I have come face to face with myself unequivocally at last. And when my need is greatest I am alone. When my money is gone I need it most.

In a postscript, Wright has added, Going back to night to the deserted room!

When Wright wrote this letter, he and Miriam had recently become estranged, and they lived separately in different hotels in different cities. $4,000 - $6,000
148. Boswell, James. Autograph letter in the third person with three integral signatures (“Mr. Boswell”), 2 pages, (8 ¾ x 5 ¾ in.; 225 x 137 mm.), [no place], 30 November 1785, to the publisher, Alderman John Boydell; horizontal fold skillfully repaired.

Boswell sends John Boydell an inscription for a print as written by Dr. Samuel Johnson.

Boswell writes in full: Mr. Boswell presents his best compliments to Mr. Alderman Boydell, and sends him the Inscription for the Print of Mary Queen of Scots as written by Dr. Johnson both in Latin and English, and that it may have its due respect the name of Dr. Johnson is subjoined to the inscription in each language.

Mr. Boswell thinks it better not to refer to any particular Historian for the subject of the Print but to let people consult the various writers to have a full illustration.

The inscription may be arranged in any way that it will appear to the best advantage. Mr. Boswell should be glad to see a proof of it.

At the time of Boswell’s letter, John Boydell was working on A Collection of Prints, Engraved after the Most Capital Paintings, an ambitious undertaking he began in 1769 and completed in 1792. Contained in nine volumes, the publication was an enormous critical and financial success. The connection of James Boswell and Samuel Johnson to the work is historically important. Indeed, as Boydell was working away on his opus, so, too, was Boswell toiling away on his own. Boswell’s Life of Johnson, published in 1791, claimed to be the greatest biography ever written in the English language, was well underway at the time of this letter. $4,000 - $6,000

First edition, first issue, with “gve” on line 10, page 35 in volume one and the initial blank in volume two; Mm4, Nn1 (volume 1), E3, Oo4, Qq3, Zz1 and Ee2 (volume two) are cancels.

A very fine copy in the original boards and entirely uncut.

Boswell’s great work was published 16 May 1791 and achieved immediate critical acclaim. It has been out of print since. Only 1,750 copies of the first edition were printed.

References: Grolier English 65; Rothschild 463; Tinker 338. $20,000 - $30,000
150. Coryate, Thomas. [Engraved title:]
Coryates Crudities: Hastily gobled up in five Moneths travels in France, Savoy, Italy . . .
[Letterpress title:]
Three Crude Veines are Presented in this Booke . . .
Small quarto, (8 ¼ x 6 ½ in.; 206 x 165 mm.), [472] leaves (collation as in Pforzheimer) including
engraved title with contemporary hand coloring heightened with gold, four engraved plates (three folding), engraved text illustrations, woodcut initials and headpieces; three leaves (Ff4–6) spotted, leaf a3 with a slightly short outer blank margin, gathering b4 bound between a3 and a4, leaves Ff2–3 genuine but most likely supplied; the plates completely unshaved and intact although two have short closed tears, and the “Clock of Strasbourg” has been neatly mended with blank paper on verso to keep a closed tear from spreading. A fine, fresh and large copy in eighteenth century style antique calf, spine richly gilt; morocco backed slipcase.

First edition. Coryate’s eccentric account of his peregrinations on foot though Europe in 1608. A “there and back again” to Venice, Coryate ended his journey by literally hanging up his shoes in the parish church at Odcombe. The book is renowned for its series of faux-heroic elegies on the author’s achievements by Jonson, Campion and others of the Mermaid Tavern set.

References: STC 5808; Pforzheimer 218; Keynes Donne, 70.

Provenance: H. Bradley Martin (Sotheby’s New York, 30 April 1990, lot 2731). $10,000 – $15,000
151. Dickens, Charles. Autograph letter signed, 3 pages, (7 ½ x 4 ½ in.; 181 x 114 mm.), “1 Devonshire Terrace York Gate Regents Park, [London],” 6 December 1841 to the Scottish author David Macbeth Moir.

Charles Dickens looks forward to meeting Washington Irving.

Dickens sets off on his first visit to America a month after writing his farewell letter to the writer and physician David Moir.

Dickens writes in part: For your hearty and cordial wishes, I thank you no less. I reciprocate them, I assure you, with unaffected sincerity and warmth of heart; and shake the hand you autographically extend to me, with a most emphatic squeeze.

I am exceedingly sorry to leave home, for my household Gods, like Charles Lamb’s, ‘take a terrible deep root.’ But I look forward with a pleasure it would be hard to express, to seeing Washington Irving. So would you if you were going, I am sure. As I write his name and Lamb’s, a crowd of passages from your works come flocking upon me, very much akin to both; and I feel directly that you love them as well as I do.

I shall only be six months gone, please God, My other half years of rest I mean to pass in England. There may be some railroad then—Heaven knows—which will tempt you to London. If I hear of it, I will subscribe my mite, that I may see you here. A very pleasant recollection of a very unpleasant night when we rode from Blackwood’s to Edinburgh inclines me to believe that we could be quite happy together for a whole day, even though it were the Twenty First of June…

A significant letter linking Dickens to Moir and Washington Irving.

References: Published in Letters, ed. M. House and G. Storey (Oxford, 1965-81), volume 2, pages. 440-441. $6,000 - $8,000

152. Dickens, Charles. Autograph Letter Signed, 1 page, (9 x 7 ¾ in.; 229 x 187 mm.), “London,” 1 September 1842 to Thomas C. Grattan, the Irish novelist and British Consul at Boston; address leaf on verso of integral blank.

Dickens writes to Thomas Grattan “cursing” income taxes in America.

Dickens writes in full: As I had a kind note from you before leaving America (which is still unanswered) let me report that we are all well and happy, as I shall hope to hear you are—that everybody is cursing the Income Tax, except the men to whom it gives places—and that there is nothing else new in this hemisphere. You will have seen that I followed up the International copyright question, and that they have forged a letter under my hand in the American Papers—which does not surprise me in the least. Nothing but Honesty or common sense would startle me from such a quarter. If you should foregather any of these odd days with Braham, commend me to him heartily, and pray do the like with with all manner of remembrance from Mrs. Dickens to Mrs. Grattan—and to your sons and daughter. The older Longman is just dead. He fell from his horse and never recovered. I have not heard to whom he has bequeathed his valuable collection of authors’ skulls.…

His remarkable first trip to America was a disappointment for both guest and hosts. The adored English novelist fell from grace almost immediately upon his arrival in Boston when, at a dinner given in his honor, he pleaded for an International AngloAmerican copyright law. For Sketches by Boz, The Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club, and Oliver Twist, all American best sellers, Dickens had not received a penny. To the Americans, the writer had disgraced his hosts and himself by raising the subject of money. For Dickens, the constant harassment by the press, crowds and politicians, made his stay, and even a visit to the White House, unbearable. He happily returned to England in June, in time to find that Peel had instituted a tax on income over £150 a year.

John Braham was the great English tenor who, in the twilight of his career, made a largely unsuccessful trip through America from 1840-1842. The publisher Thomas Longman had died just three days prior to Dickens’s letter, and the sardonic comment on “authors’ skulls” is a reference to the large number of writers, whom Longman published, including Scott, Coleridge, Wordsworth, and Southey.

The integral address leaf is unusual in that Dickens has noted that the letter is to be sent, By the Great Western (the first regularly scheduled transatlantic steamship) Second September 1842. In addition, there are two British postmarks, one of which states, “Ship Letter,” and the other is a cancellation stamp—“New-York Ship, Sept. 18”.

$3,000 - $5,000

An admiring letter from Dickens to Trollope.

In 1859, Trollope’s A Decade of Italian Women was published. He then submitted works for publication in Dickens’s All the Year Round.

Dickens writes in part: I beg to enclose a cheque . . . for the articles I have had the pleasure of publishing on these pages. Circumstances rendered it necessary to shorten the Revolution paper; but I hope you will do me the favour to understand that its condensation was an unavoidable necessity, not in the least agreeable to me. It will give me the greatest pleasure to receive any other contributions from you. They cannot well be too numerous, and they are most acceptable . . . I cannot close this short without thanking you for the Decade of Italian Women. I have just now been reading it with attention in the country, and I have bee charmed with it. It strikes me a very remarkable work, in its combination of knowledge, picturesquesness, plain speaking about that wicked old Babylonian woman of ill fame, and union of a genuine spirit of romance with real philosophical wisdom . . .

A wonderful letter between two of the most prominent English authors of the nineteenth century. $4,000 - $6,000

154. Dickens, Charles. Highly important autograph manuscript, marked as printer’s copy, of “In Memoriam,” being his obituary of William Makepeace Thackeray for the Cornhill Magazine, 12 pages in slips of various sizes, cut from 5 sheets of paper, and numbered by the printers “1” to “11” (the slip between “6” and “7” is present but skipped in the numbering); written in blue ink on one side only, authorial corrections and alterations throughout. Together with: a short covering autograph letter signed to the publisher, George Smith, returning the corrected proofs, Gad’s Hill Place, Higham by Rochester, Kent, 15 January 1864, on mourning stationery.

The evocative and important autograph manuscript of “In Memoriam,” Dickens’s obituary tribute to Thackeray, his old comrade and brother in arms.

After Thackeray’s death on 23 December 1863, George Smith approached Dickens with the request that he might contribute an obituary of Thackeray to the Cornhill Magazine, of which Thackeray had been the first editor (1860-62). Dickens agreed on the condition that he receive no payment, and his article was completed three weeks after Thackeray’s death. In the letter which accompanies the manuscript, Dickens writes, I send you my proof, corrected. You will see that I have made it no longer, and that the tail-piece will come in as you originally purposed.
The “tail-piece” Dickens alludes to is the last paragraph, describing Thackeray’s funeral. In the manuscript and in the proof itself it had ended with a startlingly captious final reflection on Thackeray’s snobbery, a side of him least sympathetic to Dickens: *His funeral will always be as memorable to me in that wise, as for its shabby representation of that order usually called “the Great”: upon which he, a man of genius, perhaps had sometimes condescended to bestow too much of his attention.* This is cancelled entirely in the Cornhill text, and in all other texts subsequently printed; this most significant of deletions was made as well to the proof, which is described in The Free Library of Philadelphia exhibition catalogue of Dickens, June, 1946, item 151. In the main text Dickens relates that Thackeray and he had known each other nearly twenty-eight years, since Thackeray proposed to become the illustrator of my earliest book. I saw him last, shortly before Christmas, at the Athenaeum Club... Although Dickens is generous here in his praise of Thackeray’s character, the course of their friendship had not been a smooth one they had barely spoken from 1858 until three months from the end. Dickens alludes only briefly to their quarrel, *We had our differences of opinion,* which was in fact one of the most celebrated literary fallings-out of the nineteenth century, to which ‘In Memoriam’ may be one of the handsomest, if saddest, resolutions. The cause of the rift between them had been Dickens’s support of Edmund Yates in the Garrick Club Affair. Yates had written a severe attack on Thackeray in *Town Talk,* for which Thackeray demanded a public apology; when this was not forthcoming, Yates was expelled from the Garrick Club at Thackeray’s instigation. Dickens took Yates’s side against Thackeray in the bitter dispute which ensued. They were not to be on friendly terms again until their last meetings just months before Thackeray’s death.

Dickens devotes considerable space to the fiction which Thackeray was at work upon at the time of his death, his unfinished novel Denis Duval. He writes herewith in glowing terms of this last story: *I believe it to be much the best of all his works and refers to the last line he wrote, and the last proof he corrected . . . the condition of the little pages of manuscript where Death stopped his hand shows that he had carried them about, and often taken them out of his pocket here and there, for patient revision and interlineation. The last words he corrected in print, were, “And my heart throbbed with an exquisite bliss.”*

The obituary, by the great Victorian novelist appeared in the February, 1864, issue of the *Cornhill Magazine.*

An extraordinary tribute from one great writer to another.

$40,000 - $60,000

Dodgson (Lewis Carroll) writes to a friend thanking her for assistance and questions her about an upcoming visit to a family.

Dodgson shows his understanding of children as he prepares for a visit to a family and the questions he asks Miss Webb to assist him with before the visit.

Dodgson writes in full: Thank you very much, for your kind help in the matter of the Martins. I find that I sent books to Rose & Georgina, & that I got a joint letter of thanks, in which they told me Edith’s name was down also for a book, Alice. I then sent her it, & also a copy (though Rose had it already) of the facsimile Alice, because I happened to have written her name in it by mistake, but no acknowledgement reached me. Would you ascertain if she got them, & also the year & day of her birth? Thanks for kindly offering to go with me to the house: but I think I’d better go alone. Where children are concerned, the more the number of visitors the more formal the visit. What hours in the day are the children most likely to be at home? Is the father alive? What trade? (I hope you won’t mind my bothering you with so many questions!) I’ll call, & tell you about my visit, if I may.

$3,000 - $5,000
156. Hume, David. Autograph letter signed, 1 page (9 ¾ x 7 ¼ in.; 232 x 184 mm.), Saturday, [1746] to Sir James Johnstone, regarding his tutorship of the Marquess of Annandale, with crossings out and corrections; with integral address panel, sealed and franked for posting; repair to right margin and seal tear on integral address leaf.

A difficult engagement as tutor to the Marquess of Annandale.

Hume was engaged to become tutor to the Marquess of Annandale in 1745. He accepted the post, knowing the Marquess was renowned for his eccentricity, and for some time, all went well. “By September, however, difficulties began to arise, both foreseen and unforeseen. The Marquess, as had been anticipated, became more violent and more intractable. He developed the habit of deliberately vomiting after meals and had to be constantly watched. His companion, consequently, was forced to become more a keeper than a tutor” (Mossner, pp. 165-166). Even then, Hume would have possibly found the situation tolerable, had it not been for the strange behaviour of Captain Philip Vincent, a cousin of the family, who had been instrumental in hiring Hume, and whom, it appeared, was trying to wrest the running of the estate from Sir James Johnstone. “In the course of time, David Hume became convinced that these ‘dark intricate designs’, included the ousting of Johnstone as family adviser and eventually the lifting of the estate, or some part of it, from the Dowager Marchioness herself. Whether this was actually true to the extent that Hume imagined it or not cannot now be determined, but there was unmistakable evil in the house” (ibid., p. 167).

Hume articulates his disquiet:

I did write you the very first occasion after I came out hither. But I find my letters have great difficulty to reach you: for which reason, I shall put this into the post myself, to prevent such Practices, as I suspect are us’d, in this Family. I have some reason also to think that spies are plac’d upon my most indifferent actions...

What a scene is this for a man nourished in Philosophy & polite letters to enter into all of a sudden, & unprepared! But I can laugh; whatever happens; & the newness of such practices rather diverts me. At first they cause’d Indignation & Hatred; & even (tho’ I am ashamed to confess it) Melancholy & Sorrow”

Hume was dismissed in mid-April, 1746; but later brought a successful lawsuit against the family for non-payment of £75.00, stated in his contract as being payable for a quarter, even if he left before. The dispute was eventually resolved in 1761 when presumably matters, “were then settled out of court to Hume’s satisfaction, for he would never have let the matter drop, no matter how well-off he had become in the meantime...The accumulated funds of the Annandale estate, tied up in litigation, ultimately rose to the staggering sum of £415,000! There seems to be no good reason why a philosopher should not be permitted to collect his debts as well as a businessman” (ibid., p. 172).

Letters in Hume’s hand are extremely rare.

References: Published in Murray, Letters of David Hume, Edinburgh, 1841 and in Greig, The Letters of David Hume, 1932; see Mossner, The Life of David Hume, pp.163-176. $15,000 - $25,000
157. **Johnson, Samuel.** *A Dictionary of the English Language: in which the words are deduced from their originals and illustrated in their different significations by examples from the best writers.*


A fine copy in contemporary bindings.

*References:* Courtney and Smith page 54; Chapman & Hazen page 137; Fleeman 55.4D/1a; PMM 201; Rothschild 1237. (2).

*Provenance:* Earl of Dartmouth (bookplate). **$8,000 – $12,000**
158. Lawrence, Thomas Edward. Autograph letter signed (“T E Shaw”), 1 page, (13 ¼ x 8 ¾ in.; 337 x 210 mm.), “Drigh Road, Karachi, India,” 5 January 1927, to an unidentified correspondent; repair to tears at foot of page.

T.E. Lawrence (Lawrence of Arabia) explains to another writer that he will never again use the name of Lawrence in public or private.

Lawrence, using his pseudonym T E Shaw, writes in full: I have sworn a great oath never to use or countenance the use of the name ‘Lawrence’, as referring to me, again, in public or private. So that would settle the question of my introducing your book, I’m afraid. Of course I write, or rather I try to write, occasionally: unsigned articles, or articles signed by virgin names. They are worth two guineas a thousand words, which I am told is a better rate than usual. They cost me more than that, in trouble, even at my R.A.F. rate of 3/6 a day! And no publisher would be moved to publish your work, because it had an unknown man’s introduction before it.

But why should you think an introduction necessary? You used to read always Leopardi, and Simonides, and they are good people. Probably the right man will take what you have written on its merits, and that should be much more gratifying than to be helped. I did twice, in the old days, help people by introducing their books: but one, Richard Garnett, was dead, and that pardoned the offence. The other, Doughty, was a special case: I had been trying to persuade all London to reprint him, and at last one beginning publisher said ‘I will, if you preface if: – and what could I do? Doughty was very nice about it: but it felt like scratching one’s name on Westminster Abby.

Introductions to publishers I will (and do) willingly give. Several people with good stuff have been helped by me into print. It’s a matter of knowing the proper tradesmen. Have you tried Cape? He is enterprising, and the best producer of commercial books in London (for format). If you will send me a sample of your stuff I’ll see that it reaches his reader (Edward Garnett, a critic of genius) with my opinion. I have no doubt that it’s the right stuff; and it should be exactly right for the particular public. If Cape says ‘NO’, I’d suggest Faber and Gwyer for second string: but Cape an easy first. Seeker is too difficult: and the big men too staid. Do send me a copied chapter (not registered: by ordinary post) and I’m sure we can pull it off easily.

An extraordinarily long letter with important content. $6,000 - $8,000

**First edition, first issue.** A fine copy of the most renowned treatise of its time. Locke worked for nearly two decades on his investigation of “the certainty and the adequacy of human knowledge,” concluding that “though knowledge must necessarily fall short of complete comprehension, it can at least be ‘sufficient’; enough to convince us that we are not at the mercy of pure chance, and can to some extent control our own destiny” (*PMM*). The significance of his *Essay* was immediately recognized; it quickly ran to several editions and was popularized on the Continent by French translations. “Few books in the literature of philosophy have so widely represented the spirit of the age and country in which they appeared, or have so influence opinion afterwards” (Fraser).

References: Attig228; Garrison-Morton 4967; Wing L-2738; Grolier *One Hundred* 72; Grolier *English* 36; Pforzheimer 599; *PMM* 164; Norman 1380. $20,000 - $30,000
160. More, Thomas. [Utopia:] De optimo reip. statu, deque nova insula Utopia . . . Epigrammata . . . Thomae Mori . . . Epigrammata Desiderii Erasmi Rotterodami. Basel: Johann Froben, March 1518. Quarto, (8 ⅜ x 6 ¼ in.; 213 x 159 mm.), Three parts in one volume. Roman and Greek types, Utopian alphabet. Three woodcut architectural title borders by Hans Holbein on a1 recto, c1 recto and L1 recto, one by Urs Graf on x1 recto, full-page woodcut map of Utopia by Ambrosius Holbein, half-page woodcut scene depicting John Clement Thomas More, Raphael Hythlodae and Pieter Gillis by Ambrosius Holbein, title to More’s epigrams within fool and satyr border by Urs Graf and the Holbeins, one of three printer’s devices at the end of each section; a few leaves very lightly soiled or damp-stained, several early manuscript annotations by Anthony Rous and others, eighteenth century English tree calf gilt; joints worn, yellow edges, modern quarto morocco box.

The December 1518 edition of Utopia.

The present Froben edition represents the fourth edition of Utopia and the second of Epigrammata of More. The Epigrammata of Erasmus, who had dedicated Moriae Encomium with its punning title to More, were first printed in 1506. The three parts were issued together by Froben but are often found separately. More is said to have revised this fourth edition of the Utopia, the second to be printed by Froben, yet further after the revisions of the first and third editions of 1516 and 1518.

References: Gibson, More, 4; Fairfax Murray, German, 304.

Provenance: Possibly Anthony Rous (d. 1620), friend of Sir Francis Drake and one of his original executors with contemporary inscription on title Possessor Antho. Rous 2°; Lord Dacre, with his bookplate and inscribed to him This Book formerly Mr Capels given me by the Revd. Mr. Collins of Ledbury his Executor D.; Albert Ehrman, Broxbourne Library, with bookplate (sold Sotheby’s London 14 December 1977, lot 63)—George Abrams, with bookplate (sold Sotheby’s London 17 November 1989, lot 194). $15,000 - $25,000

First Folio edition of Hamlet. Half blue morocco with marbled boards and endpapers. Recto of first leaf backed, covering page[151], the text of the play beginning on verso. Two additional facsimile leaves at the front: Ben Jonson's verse "To the Reader," and the title-page to the First Folio, with text altered by pasted slips to read: "Mr. William Shakespeare's Tragedie of Hamlet, Prince of Denmarke. Published according to the True Originnall Copies." The leaves of the text, although trimmed, provide ample margin outside the printer's rules and are in good condition throughout; final leaf extended at inner margin. In a quarter morocco folding case.

The First Folio Hamlet.

The publication in 1623 of the 36 plays of Shakespeare, known today as the First Folio, was a monumental event in the history of world literature, collecting the theatrical works of an author who is universally recognized today as one of the greatest minds and poets who ever wrote. Of all of the plays of Shakespeare, moreover, none has provoked more discussion and instilled itself in the mind of modern man, than his dark and brooding drama Hamlet. Indeed, the character of Hamlet has become the very symbol of modern consciousness and generation after generation of new readers have responded to the Prince of Denmark and to his predicament more intensely than to any other of Shakespeare's creations.

References: STC 22273; Grolier Hundred 19; Jaggard, page 495; Pforzheimer 905; PMM: 122.

Provenance: Florence and Edward Kaye (bookplate). $15,000 - $25,000
162. Stevenson, Robert Louis. Autograph letter signed, 1 page, (7 ⅞ x 4 ⅜ in.; 200 x 111 mm.), “Vailima Samoa,” 18 August 1894 to “Rev. S. R. Crockett” - Samuel Rutherford Crockett (1860-1914), a Scottish novelist who abandoned his Free Church ministry for novel writing (1895); mounting remnants verso.

Stevenson’s attitude towards the ticklish gentry.

Stevenson writes in full: Do not bother yourself any more about the matter. It is of no moment one way or the other. On the subject of the Cameronians [followers of Covenanter Richard Cameron] I had no idea you were so far advanced and can only wish you well out of that difficult business which you may be sure I do sincerely. I fear you misunderstand my attitude about these ticklish gentry. I have but little use for them except in so far as they were sincere and are picturesque. Excuse this very brief note, as we are in the midst of war here and I am leaving tomorrow for the front. Yours truly R. L. Stevenson. $2,000 - $3,000


Memorandum of agreement between Thackeray and his publisher Bradbury & Evans, regarding the publication of Vanity Fair.

The first part of Thackeray’s masterpiece, which he had begun writing before May, 1845, appeared in the same month as this document. The manuscript had been turned down by Henry Colburn, but was accepted by Bradbury & Evans on the terms outlined in this document.

The document states in part: The said William Makepeace Thackeray hereby agrees with the said William Bradbury and Frederick Mullet Evans, to publish a work in Monthly Parts to be called Vanity Fair, Pen & Pencil Sketches of English Society . . . undertakes to furnish by the 15th of every month sufficient matter for at least Two printed Sheets, with two Etchings on steel, and as many drawings on Wood as may be thought necessary--The said William Bradbury and Frederick Mullet Evans agree to pay to the said William Makepeace Thackeray the sum of Sixty Pounds every month on the Publication of the Number...

The rest of the contract deals with profits, with the publishers receiving the first £60 and further earnings to be divided between them and the author, and the copyright, which was to be jointly owned. The agreement is witnessed by A Owen, the Word “Witness” being in Thackeray’s hand.

The first edition in book form appeared in 1848 under the title Vanity Fair: A Novel without a Hero, but the parts were issued under the title given above. Bradbury & Evans apparently had some misgivings about the work when it was first proposed to them in 1846, but the success of Thackeray’s Snobs of England in Punch seems to have reassured them.

In fact, both Thackeray and the publishers expected more profit from Vanity Fair than they received. “In October 1847 he complained that ‘it does everything but sell . . . The publishers are at this minute several hundred pounds out of pocket by me.’ Years later, in 1859, he estimated his total profits from the novel at £2000”.

References: John D. Gordon, William Makepeace Thackeray: An Exhibition in Celebration of the One Hundredth Anniversary of Vanity Fair, NYPL. 1947, page 18. $10,000 - $15,000
164. Thackeray, William Makepeace. Thirteen (13) pen and ink illustrations, signed ("JDC") for The Newcomes, the author’s novel which was published serially in 1853-1855; 13 pages, (7 x 10 ¾ in.; 178 x 264 mm.), Undated.

Nine of the illustrations bear titles which are descriptive of the scenes they depict: The Infant, The Schoolboy!, The lean and slippered Pantaloon, The last stage of all[i.e.death], The Town Crier!, The Babes in the Wood -- The Cruel Uncle & the two Villains!, Bristol Theatre 1877, An Eligible partner! and The Legend of Magery Dawe Virgin and Martyr who sold herbf[s] for the benefit of the poor and Magery Dawe reclining upon straw.

The untitled illustrations depict two horses pulling an open carriage with two men in it, a man leading a workhorse and cart, and a woman serving refreshments in a farmyard to three gentlemen, one of whom is on a horse. There is also a composite drawing of a horse, two riders on two horses, a dog, two figures of men, and five other portrait sketches.

A charming collection of illustrations by Thackeray. **$10,000 - $15,000**

Third edition, sixth impression, signed by the author.

The present copy was signed by Tolkien for Fred Archer who moved the author from Bournemouth to Merton Street in March 1972.

References: Hammond A3i (sixth impression). $2,000 - $3,000

166. Churchill, Winston S. Typed letter signed, 2 pages (9 ½ x 7 ½ in.; 241 x 191 mm.), [London], 19 October 1925 to Lord Beaverbrook; light rust stains from two paper clips.

Churchill voices his discontent over the way in which Lord Beaverbrook described his attitude the night Germany declared war on Russia.

Churchill comments on passages relating to him in Lord Beaverbrook’s present and upcoming writings.

Churchill writes in full: I am very much obliged to you for sending me through Freddie the passages in your Book which relate to me. You will not expect me to agree with all of them, but I have no complaint to make about any. I do not think you are accurate in saying that I proposed a consultation with you before the Budget. It was on the morrow of that event. Otherwise, I have no comments.

You once told me that you had written some account of our talk together with F.E. at the Admiralty the night Germany declared war upon Russia, and I was a little alarmed at the description you gave of my attitude. I gather that you are not dealing with this episode in the present volume, but if you should do so perhaps you would let me see the reference.

My view was that if war was inevitable this was by far the most favourable opportunity and the only one that would bring France, Russia and ourselves together. But I should not like that put in a way that would suggest I wished for war and was glad when the decisive steps were taken. I was only glad that they were taken in circumstances so favourable. A very little alteration of the emphasis would make my true position clear. I gather however you are holding the earlier and more fateful volume of your Memoirs in suspense.

A fine letter revealing Churchill’s attempts to be portrayed fairly and accurately in writing. $3,000 - $5,000
167. George III. Highly important series of nearly 140 autograph letters, mostly signed ("G. R."), some 146 pages, nearly all quarto, Kew Windsor and elsewhere, 1766-68 and 1782-83, to the 2nd Earl of Shelburne with the majority written to Lord Shelburne as leader of the government negotiating peace with America after the War of Independence one written in pencil, nearly all with integral blanks, a few with address leaves, some written on paper with the distinctive ribbed watermark of the Montgolfier Brothers’ factory (also favored by Marie Antoinette), the second letter with traces of formerly have been bound, one or two other early letters slightly browned, but overall in fine and fresh condition.

An extraordinary archive of George III letters of exceptional historical importance regarding peace negotiations with America after the War of Independence. I cannot conclude without mentioning how sensibly I feel the dismemberment of America from this Empire and that I should be miserable indeed if I did not feel that no blame on that Account can be paid at my Door and did I not also know that knavery seems to be so much the striking feature of its Inhabitants that it may not in the end be an evil that they will become Aliens to this Kingdom.

The first eighteen letters written to Shelburne while serving as Secretary of State for the Southern Department in Chatham’s second administration, between 2 September 1766 and 17 September 1768; the remainder written between 24 March 1782 and 22 March 1783: of these 58 (including one memorandum) are written to Shelburne when Secretary of State of the Home Department under Rockingham (but effectively leader of the government [see note below], Shelburne was First Lord of the Treasury the remaining eleven written after Shelburne’s resignation but before the formation of the North–Fox coalition that replaced him; eleven letters signed by the King in full ("George R."), over 80 signed with initials ("G. R."), the remainder – as was more usually his custom – left unsigned. The bulk of the letters are addressed by George III to Lord Shelburne while leader of the administration that replaced Lord North’s after the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown, and which was charged with negotiating peace with America: Shelburne serving firstly as Home Secretary under Rockingham, having refused to serve as premier (although the King persisted in treating him as such), and secondly as First Lord of the Treasury (the post occupied by the King’s First Minister, now known as Prime Minister). Among the series is the letter written on the evening of Rockingham’s death in which the King offers Shelburne the premiership: Lord Shelburne must remember that when in March I was obliged to change my Ministry, I called upon Him to form a new one and proposed His taking the Employment of first Lord of the Treasury which He declined to accommodate Ld. Rockingham; the Vacancy of that Office makes me return to my original idea and offer it to Him on the present occasion… (6:09pm 1 July 1782).

These letters bear on many subjects – the state of Ireland, victories as sea (especially Rodney’s Battle of the Saints), the Spitalfield riots, party politics, parliamentary procedure, the emerging figures of Charles James Fox and the Younger Pitt – and are full of the minutiae of government at the highest level. But coloring all is
the dreadful price exacted from the King by his American colonies after twelve years of personal rule through Lord North.

The letters tell their own story. The dramatis personae include Lord North, the outgoing First Minister; Sir Guy Carleton, last British Commander-in-Chief in America; Henry Laurens, American diplomat captured by the British, later Peace Commissioner; John Adams, American Peace Commissioner, later second President; Richard Oswald, Shelburne’s official agent and later British Peace Commissioner; Benjamin Vaughan, Shelburne’s unofficial agent and friend of Franklin; Charles James Fox, Foreign Secretary under Rockingham and Shelburne’s rival; Thomas Grenville, Fox’s agent; Sir George Saville, Fox’s supporter; Thomas Townsend, Shelburne’s Home Secretary; Lord Camden, President of the Council; Lord Grantham, Shelburne’s Foreign Secretary; William Pitt the Younger, Shelburne’s Chancellor of the Exchequer; Alleyne Fitzherbert, negotiator with America’s allies France and Spain; and, of course, Dr. Benjamin Franklin himself.

The final act of the drama begins with the resignation of Lord North and the accession of Shelburne to effective power: I have wrote to Ld. North that He is to give notice to the Cabinet to attend at St James’s and resign before the Levee that the ground may be clear before the presentations take effect… (8:22am 27 March 1782).

The writer of the paper that accompanies this has not afforded new matter but a melancholy confirmation of the American dependency on France. Undoubtedly the sooner Sir Guy Carleton can be dispatched to America the better…(2:40pm[?] 29 March 1782).

The Account of the Conversation with M Laurens is very curious and I should from thence suppose him not improper to be sent to M Adams; the getting M Oswald at the same time to sound M Franklin cannot be improper. I was thoroughly resolved not to open my mouth on any Negotiation with America, but as if falls to the share of Ld. Shelburne, the very handsome part He has acted in the whole Negotiations for forming the present Administration, obliges Me now and then to give an hint…(6:30pm 5 April 1782)

The Letter to Dr Franklin seems very proper and certainly there does not occur to Me the smallest doubt of its being perfectly safe for Ld. Shelburne to send it without any alteration; I am glad Ld. Shelburne’s Zeal for my Service has so far exceeded his natural aversion to being mixed in the transactions of Peace at the present hour; to make him intend to keep M Oswald at Paris, which cannot fail of being an useful check on that part of the Negotiation that is in other hands; would there be any impropriety in Ld. Shelburne’s having at least some general Conversation with M Grenville previous to his departure…(27 April 1782).

I own I begin to think that there is a plan of throwing things if possible into confusion, the ill success all their hasty Negotiations have as yet met with, the inutility of so openly avowing American Independence, which is repeated in every dispatch now fabricated in the Foreign Department [i.e. by Fox]…(7:55am 7 May 1782)

M Oswald’s correspondence carries the marks of coming from a Man of Sense, as Dr Franklin wishes He should remain at Paris and as M de Vergennes has intimated as much I should think it best not to let him at least at present come home. By the letter M Grenville has wrote, certainly appearance are not favourable, the peace of Paris is refuse to be the basis of a new one… (7:40pm 14 May 1782).

I am glad to find Ld. Shelburne has fought off the idea of Commissioners who could only be the cause of farther concessions, or of some private negociations by which the Public could not be a gainer…(9:02am 16 May 1782).

The letter to Dr Franklin seems very proper. I am glad Lord Ashburton was present at Ld. Shelburne’s interview this day with M Oswald, as it is of the greatest importance that that Gentleman should be fully apprized of what must be obtained at the dreadful price now offered to America, and that it is very material Ld. Shelburne should have a witness to prove if necessary the exact extent of the proposition now sent…(6:10pm 25 May 1782).

Ld. Shelburne will certainly act very proper in directing M Oswald not to hazard opinions on parts of the Peace to which He cannot have had any ministerial information, but being employed He may be supposed not to speak without foundation. I desire Ld. Shelburne will have a very clear opinion previous to my seeing Him on Wednesday as to the New Commission that may be prepared in consequence of the American Peace Bill. I cannot help adding that I greatly dislike the opinion now thrown out for the first time by Dr Franklin that though the Separate Peaces [sic] may be negociated apart that they must in the end be consolidated n one General One; this idea can only add difficulties… (7:15pm 17 June 1782)

It is well that the omission of Mr Grenville in the American Commission will create no more words. certainly it is every way highly proper He should not be mixed in that business…(4:15pm 22 June 1782).
I am apprised Ld. Shelburne though He has gone great lengths at the expense of His opinion in giving way as to American Independence if it can effect Peace, would think He received advise in which his character was not attended to if it tended to give up that without the price set on it which alone could make this Kingdom consent to it. Besides He must see that the great success of Ld. Rodney’s Engagement has again roused the Nation so far that the Peace which would have been acquiesced in three Months ago would now be matter of complaint…(7:21am 1 July 1782).

The Dispatches from Mr. Oswald which Mr. Townshend has sent to Me through the channel of Mr. Jay allows that Independence cannot be admitted as sufficient reason for France to make Peace that the Dutch and Spaniard must also be satisfied before America can conclude, that American dislikes G. Britain and loves France, yet that in this strange view we must decidedly grant independence and retire all Troops prior to any Treaty consequently give every thing without any return and then receive Peace if America will grant it besides an hint that America I to Guarantee the General Peace. I think this must be the machination of some of those who were lately in Employment; I do not possibly see how the present Ministers can consent to Indepedency but as the price of a certain Peace…(6:05pm 21 August 1782).

I am glad Mr. Fox is to try a question on American unconditional Independence; I do not believe the Nation at large willing to come into it and great discredit will therefore attend the Party that proposes it; the conduct of Ld. Shelburne and those who have acted particularly with Him have held uniformly, is known by the Public who will rejoice at seeing this question decided against the leaders of sedition…(7:58am 9 July 1782). The enclosed are the papers Ld. Shelburne left Yesterday in my hands, the one from Sir Geo. Saville may be fine metaphysical Reasoning, I am the avowed Enemy of that ingenious nonsense therefore no judge of its supposed Merit; but common Sense tells Me that if unconditional Independence is granted we cannot ever expect any understanding with America; for then we have given up the whole and have nothing to give for what we want from them. Independence is certainly an unpleasant gift at best, but then it must be for such conditions of Peace as may justify it. Ld. Camden yesterday said to Me that under the present Act He thought any Minister would risk His head that advised granting Independence but as the boon for Peace…(7:10am 11 July 1782).

I have read the two letters Lord Shelburne received Yesterday from France and shall fairly owne that by what I have seen from the Correspondence of Mr. Vaughan I have but little opinion of his talents, yet it confirms my opinion that Dr. Franklin only plays with us and has no intentions fairly to treat, which the Negotiation with Spain at this hour too strongly shews… I agree with Ld. Shelburne that Mr. Fox’s precipitation on the head of Independency has certainly greatly added to our difficulties; I am sorry to have just reason to say that from the beginning of the American troubles to the retreat of Mr. Fox this Country has not taken any but precipitate Steps whilst Caution and System have been used by the Americans which is enough ground to explain the causes of the present difference of Situations…(9:20am 12 August 1782).

As to the general question on Peace I am too much agitated with a fear of sacrificing the interests of my Country by hurrying it on too fast which indeed has been uppermost in my thoughts since the beginning of the War that I am unable to add anything on that subject by the most frequent Prayers to Heaven to guide me so to act that Posterity may not lay the downfall of this once respectable Empire at my door; and that if ruin should attend the measures that may be adopted, I may not long survive them…(10:02am 16 September 1782).

Lord Shelburne does not I am clear admire the style of Mr. Vaughan’s letters more than I do; He seems to look alone to our placing implicit trust in the Americans, whilst Ld. Shelburne’s ideas coincide with mine in thinking it safer to confide in France that in Spain or America… (3 November 1782).

The letters Lord Shelburne has received this day from Paris certainly bear much stronger marks of Peace being wished there than had as yet appeared…(6:45pm 8 October [November] 1782).

Having read the letters Lord Shelburne has received from Paris as well as the Official Dispatches to Lord Gantham and M. Townshend; I entirely coincide with the opinion that as all the terms of France and America are now arrived, the Cabinet cannot be too soon assemble that these may without delay be considered of. Lord Gantham’s dispatches being still on my Table, I will write a few lines to Him that the business may be without delay be considered of.  Lord Gratham’s dispatches being still on my Table, I will write a few lines to Him that the business may be

Having read the letters Lord Shelburne has received from Paris as well as the Official Dispatches to Lord Gantham and M. Townshend; I entirely coincide with the opinion that as all the terms of France and America are now arrived, the Cabinet cannot be too soon assemble that these may without delay be considered of. Lord Gantham’s dispatches being still on my Table, I will write a few lines to Him that the business may be

Nothing can be more proper than the manly manner in which Lord Shelburne has brought the Decision on Peace or War to a fixed point.
Three o’clock will be a very proper hour for holding the Privy Council this Day for proroguing the Parliament as it will prevent gambling in the Alley this day, and if the Lord Mayor received the letter by Eleven this Night there will be sufficient time to prevent it tomorrow; might it not be proper for one of the Secretaries of the Treasury to write the same information to the Bank. East India, and South Sea Companies, by way of spreading the Account still faster…(9:26am 22 November 1782).

By Lord Shelburne’s Account it very clearly appears that Mr Pitt on Friday stated the Article of Independence as irrevocable though the Treaty should prove abortive; this undoubtedly was a mistake for the Independancy is alone granted for Peace. I have always thought it best and wisest if a mistake is made openly to avow it, and therefore Mr Pitt ought if his words have been understood to bear so strong a meaning to say it is no wonder that so Young a Man should have made a slip; this would do him honour. I think at all events it is highly material that Ld. Shelburne should not by any language in the House of Lords appear to change his conduct, let the blame fall where it may, I do not wish He should appear but in that dignified light which His Station in my Service requires and which can only be maintained by his conduct in the whole Negotiation of Peace having been neat which would not be the case if Mr Fox could prove that Independence was granted otherwise than as the price of Peace; besides Mr Vaughan’s letter shews farther demands to come from Franklin, which must the more makes us stiff on this Article…(10:02am 8 December 1782).

M Fitzherbert continues to deserve the highest commendations, and had not his hands been tyed by Mr Grenville under the direction of Mr Fox the Treaty would have been more expeditiously concluded…(9:02pm 22 December 1782).

By M Fitzherbert’s letter I find new demands are to be made by Dr Franklin; but I trust if the other Treaties are signed they will meet with the treatment they deserve…(3:45pm 21 January 1783).

Approximately 100 of the letters have been published by J.W. Fortescue, The Correspondence of King George III 1760-1783 (1927-28), but only from retained drafts at Windsor; the others are unpublished. $100,000 - $150,000
168. Henry VII. Fine autograph endorsement signed, with his sign manual, 2 pages, (14 x 11 in.; 356 x 279 mm.), [1506-1507]; dampstaining, marginal repairs.

Henry VII, King of England, approves an account of lands for rent and sets a price for payment.

The king approves an account of lands in his hands “formerly of Lord Lovell and afterwards of Sir John Cheyny,” by noting, in his hand, computatur hoc anno [it is accounted for this year]. The document was written for the King’s inspection and lists “arrears of immediately preceding year” as well as “rents and farms this year with…fixed rents, perquisites of court this year” and “payments to various persons this year.” The final accounting reveals that the King received £ 181.19s. 11 ½ d revenue from the lands.

Extremely rare with both the signature of Henry VII and a notation in his hand. $4,000 – $6,000


A lengthy letter in which Livingstone comments on conditions in Africa, his missionary work and his hopes for the future.

Livingstone’s letter encompasses a proposal to establish a Universities Mission station (i.e. a colony) on the upper Shire River in Central Africa, his journeys to the Highland Lake region, the rampant slave trade which he condemned and tried to put down, relations with the Portuguese, development of cotton growing, mention of Richard Burton & John Speke, navigation of Lake Nyassa, freedom of trade on the Zambesi, the condition of the country, prospects for missionary work, and his hopes for the future.

Livingstone writes in full: Only a few days ago I took the liberty of addressing to you a letter of cordial sympathy in your projected Institution for African youths. I had just then become aware of the plan by [pouring] over some old newspapers while waiting for a Man of War on the coast. As it did not appear we left and came up to this point in order to communicate with Quelimane by the Mutu. Here we received the fragments of a mail lost on the bar off Kongone in December last, and among the scraps of letters picked up on the beach seven miles from the scene of the upsetting of the boat I fortunately found your letter of 31st March 1859. I knew nothing of the encouraging movement in the Universities except that there was a likelihood of something being done, and I need scarcely add that I am exceedingly glad and thankful to hear of the intention to send out a company of missionaries with their Bishop to the Interior of this country.

Cautious reverence is required in ascribing human movements to the influence of Divine Providence. But having been prevented ascending to the Makololo country and led very much against our will into a region we never contemplated exploring, and there found a field exactly suited for your mission, I really think that the prayerful movement of so many pious hearts at the Universities has had something to do with the direction of our steps. In going up the Shire our steamer though a wretched one made splashing enough to take us past the border tribes respectfully, and when we visited the magnificent Lake country beyond we could go anywhere. We had pierced the barrier of unfriendly tribes which the Church Missionary society has been trying to do for years. I need not enter into any details respecting the physical features of the Highland Lake region as you probably have seen notices of the discoveries of Nyassa and Shire. It is preeminently a cotton country and also a slave producing country. In every village spinning and weaving are going on, and in every village we meet with slave traders or evidence, in the forked sticks for taming newly made slaves, that the traffic prevails. Cotton is cultivated so extensively even now that a very short time only would be necessary to develop a trade in that article, and the region is so extensive, as witness the confirmation of my statements respecting the form and fertility of the country, as well as the general disposition of the inhabitants by Burton and Speke, that there is a really feasible prospect of a counterpoise to the slave states of America. We may not see it, but Africa will ultimately be its own remedy. We will cure the enslavement of its people.
Then we have by different altitudes changes of climate neither a few miles of each other Europeans could not only live but flourish. There are few complaints except the fever and one result of our detention has been ample experience in the cure of that disease. Dr. Kirk and I consider it as generally not a whit more dangerous than a common cold. We have just been 23 days among the Mangrove swamps, which we believed to be the very hotbeds of Fever, and during the most unhealthy month in the year. We had touches of it but our method of cure entails no loss of strength. Two Frenchmen came about the same time to Quelimane, and both are in their graves. It was a dread of the danger of taking Europeans into this fever that induced me to recommend the brethren of the London society to go overland, and the same thing made us hasten out of the Delta. Now however that course is unnecessary. [(We make a pill of equal parts of Resin of jalap & Calomel; Rhubarb & Quinine. Say for a powerful man eight grains of Resin of Jalap, eight grains of Calomel, four or six grains of Rhubarb and four or six grains of Quinine and make it whole into pills with Tincture of Cardamoms. This relieves the very worst cases in a few hours. We then give quinine till the system is affected with cinchonism. The Calomel is removed at once from the system, and curiously enough decreasing doses serve. In some of us 1/2 a grain of the mass produces as much effect as 24 grains did at first. When we have done with Africa, wont we drive Holloway out of the market?)]

But we require a proper steamer to M. Government gave me one called the Bann which would have suited us admirably. She drew only three feet and with a convoy could have come out here safely. She could have ascended from the sea to the falls on the shire at all times of the year and been a home to us, but having no knowledge of engines or steamers I was glad to trust to a pious naval officer and by his advice rejected her. This mistake I should never cease to regret but for the results to which it has led, and now I feel the importance of having another that in the event of it being impossible for the Government to give what I once refused, I mean to have another though at my own cost. I am not yet without hopes of getting the Bann or another steamer for the river. You will think me ambitious, when I add, that one will not suffice, and I now send Mr. Rae our engineer home in order to superintend the construction of a small one for Lake Nyassa. This is to be capable of being unscrewed and carried past the cataracts, and we are (Dr. Kirk, Mr. C[harles] Livingstone and Mr. Rae) all of one opinion as to the beneficial effect of such a vessel in that region. It would give complete security to missionaries & settlers, and do more in drying up the sources of the slave trade for several ports on the East coast than several steamers on the ocean. The prospects of lawful trade are very good, and for the sake of the benefits it will confer, my brother proposes to enter into it for a time (But we have a great difficulty in the presence of the
Portuguese as claimants to the lordships of the entire country. They are few in number, and chiefly of the convict class, the immorality is frightful, and no one would be popular unless he made a beast of himself. So help is to be expected from them, hence the desirableness of having a vessel which may serve for a time as a home. We have received kindness from individuals, but by the majority of the Portuguese we are hated. We refrain from saying much about them, but, I have been urging on our Government for some time the necessity of securing freedom of trade on the Zambesi. Without it nothing can well be done."

It does our heart good to read of the labours of the Roman catholic clergy under bishop Dupuch in Algeria but here nothing is done by that church, and nothing will be done till you begin. I believe it was Miss Coutts that made them send a bishop to Angola, & he has retired already from his see. There are many difficulties in the way of your mission, but your young men headed by an energetic bishop would overcome them all. Your church came last into the field in South Africa but in Eastern Africa she will, as she ought to be, the first and foremost.

This idea glanced across my mind as I first gazed on the blue waters of Shireva: and I immediately wrote to the Church Missionary Society, and to my friend the Bishop of Oxford. No information was received from either, and now that your letter has come I am really delighted and thank the Lord with all my heart for the good news it brings. [It is not the heathen alone that will be benefited. I believe our own overcrowded poor will here find elbow room, and not only benefit themselves but work out freedom to the slave[s] all over the world.]

The missionaries will require to reduce the language. It is not difficult, but it must be learned through Portuguese. I can only make out what the people are talking about. The most prominent superstition is the belief in the ordeal called Muaue, but they are not a blood thirsty race. The Portuguese gave them a very bad name, and as they use poisoned arrows, and make their attacks by night, they predicted our being plundered and worse, but we saw nothing that patience and a Christian deportment would not soon overcome. The chief difficulties arose in the first visits. In the second we felt as safe as in the Makololo country. We got abundance of fine maize meal, fowls, sometimes a goat, sweet potatoes, bananas, beans at a cheap rate, but all my experience proves that English men cannot live without wheaten bread, and there is none in the country except at Zette and you cannot depend on getting it. Course calico is the circulating medium. After that beads & brass wire. Money is of no value whatever except among Portuguese. For a time at least the missionaries must be self dependant for everything. If I get a steamer from Government it will be at their service. It would not be advisable to come without a home of the sort - better remain with you at the Cape till matters are arranged.

[I would not live among the Portuguese on no consideration whatever, had I known them in 1856 as I do now I would not have left the Makololo with them. I left our artist among them in order to spare him exposure to the malaria of the lower shire, and they very soon made a beast of him, and he became dishonest to us besides. I write to you in all confidence but we have to keep our Nyassa plans out of sight, for from the Governor General to the lowest half caste all are eager to reap gain by the slave trade and they would be up in arms against our having any establishment if they knew our plans. Here we meet with Major Secard going down to erect a fort and custom house at Kongone harbour and but for us he would not know where to go. It is our discovery...]

In a postscript written vertically along the left margins of pages one, two and three, Livingstone has added, We intend proceeding up to the Makololo country at once and will return through Moshekate’s and the gold country S.W. of Zette in October or November next or so as to be down here by next rise of the river in December or January. It would be necessary to visit the influential chiefs in the Highland region on foot if horses or mules are not brought and when we have taught the bishop to care for he will without doubt go on prosperously.

In 1858, David Livingstone was appointed consul at Quelimane for the eastern coast and the independent districts in the interior, as well as commander of an expedition to explore eastern and central Africa. His party included Dr. (afterwards Sir) John Kirk, his brother Charles, and the engineer George Rae (all of whom are mentioned in this letter), and with their leaking steamer, the Ma-Robert, they explored the river Shire and Lake Nyassa, which was discovered in September 1859. Aside from his explorations, Livingstone’s dream was to establish an English colony in the cotton-producing districts of Africa — it was a desire that had been stimulated by the real fear that without one the Shire Highlands would descend into a state of anarchy and chaos.... During the first months of 1859 he heard that, due to his appeal [for young men to dedicate themselves to a life of service in Africa], a combined Oxford and Cambridge Universities Mission had been formed.... In March 1859 Robert Gray, the Bishop of Cape Town, had written to Livingstone telling him about the determination of the Universities Mission to begin work in central Africa. Gray went on to ask what area Dr. Livingstone would recommend as a suitable field for these men. The decision was a difficult one for Livingstone. In his view the Shire Highlands needed colonists and not just an isolated group of missionaries, who would be able to do little about the serious problems which would face them there. On the other hand if Livingstone told the Bishop of Cape Town that the Shire Highlands was not a suitable area for missionaries, this news would get back to London and the Foreign Office, and would probably [scotch] any plans for a colony. So on October 1859 Livingstone wrote to the Bishop telling him that the Shire Highlands would prove an ideal location for a mission.... (Jim Teal, Livingstone).” When the Universities Mission arrived in 1861, it marked the beginning of a new and crucial phase in the history of the Zambezi Expedition. However, before that event, at the time this letter was written, Livingstone endured bouts of depression while the morale of his colleagues diminished. All were affected by their struggles against repeated attacks of tropical fevers, their work to keep the Ma-Robert afloat, and serious disagreements amongst themselves. “Yet Livingstone’s great strength was his ability to ignore present difficulties even when they seemed quite overwhelming (Teal).” In late December he told his colleagues that instead of sitting around for most of 1860, they would fulfill his promise to Chief Sekeletu and take such of the Makololo home as cared to go.

An informative letter from one of the great explorers of the nineteenth century. $8,000 - $12,000
170. Medieval Tally Sticks. A collection of 21 original wooden tally sticks. [Westminster, c. 1250-60].

An extraordinary collection of excessively rare medieval tally sticks.

A collection of twenty-one medieval tally sticks, each stick about 190 mm. long, the larger end cut diagonally, edges roughly squared off, often leaving traces of bark, each inscribed along one side with the name of the payer, and the upper and lower edges cut with notches (‘v’-shaped for pounds, broad grooves for shillings, sharp cuts for pence); each piece then split with a knife by cutting diagonally across the thicker reverse side and pulling away a length which would be retained separately by the payer as proof of payment; all written in thirteenth-century charter hands; in a fitted velvet-lined tray contained in a cloth box.

Representing perhaps the rarest and most unusual class of English medieval manuscript, tallies are medieval royal receipts written on sticks of wood said to have been cut from trees on the banks of the Thames at Westminster. The modern word “stock” meaning a financial certificate derives from this use of the Middle English for a stick. Tally sticks were used principally in the Royal Exchequer from the twelfth century onwards, and there is a contemporary account of how to make them in the Dialogue of the Exchequer. It would have to be able to produce the corresponding stock which matched the split-away counterfoil retained at Westminster. Since the notches for the sums were cut right through both pieces and since no stick naturally splits in an even manner the method was virtually foolproof against forgery. According to M. T. Clanchy in his From Memory to Written Record, England 1066-1307, 1979, page 96: Tally were not a primitive survival from the preliterate past, but a sophisticated and practical record of numbers. They were more convenient to keep and store than parchments, less complex to make, and no easier to forge. They were the foundation and origin of the royal financial system of the twelfth century… Of the millions of medieval tallies made, only a few hundred survive.

Tally sticks once survived in vast numbers, with both stocks and counterfoils, in the Exchequer in Westminster; however, with the Reform Acts and the abolition of the office of the Receipt of the Exchequer in 1834, an enormous bonfire of the then-obsolete sticks was held at Westminster; the fire went out of control and burned down the Palace of Westminster and the Houses of Parliament.

In 1925 Sir Hilary Jenkinson knew of only three Exchequer tally sticks in private hands (Archaeologia, LXXIV, 1925, pp. 292-3, 330, and 350). Six were sold at Sotheby’s, 26 November 1985, lot 31 (afterwards H. P. Kraus, cat. 180, 1988, no. 23), and one more was sold at Sotheby’s, 1 December 1987, lot 20. $60,000 - $80,000
Nelson reveals his political philosophy, expounding on his hate for France's Republic at the very moment of Napoleon's coup d'état of 18th Brumaire (9 November 1799).

In this historically important letter, Nelson writes in full: My Dear Lord I rejoice on any occasion which can give me the pleasure of a letter from you, and I fear you will think me neglectful when I see the date of your letter of July 29th. Which has not been 10 minutes in my possession. Any person who you recommend will always be favourably received, be he high or be he low. I never shall forget your truly kind and friendly attentions to me. I cannot find the young man which I regret but I hope he will be forthcoming. Wrote to my Dear friend Lloyd by [Rear Admiral] Sir Edwar[d] Berry but all the letters were thrown overboard. I sent another thro’ Mr. [Evan] Nepean the first Secretary of the Admiralty Board (served 1795-1804) for I wish to be kept alive in his remembrance and that he will ever believe me the same A. Nelson who he knew as CapT. Of the Badger Brig, that to relieve distress is my pleasure, and I never ask who is the Object King or Peasants [sic] both have amply received my help and both have acknowledged the benefit to the utmost stretch of their power. I believe note dare call your Lordship any thing but a most loyal Subject who fears not to tell His King & Country plain truths. I know well from experience that the good monarchs of this country never have heard truths till lately, and the nobles of this country have generally speaking neither honor or honesty and would destroy one of their own to get his place or if the King happened to be out of humour.

This morning affords me the strangest Instance of it. A nobleman of Sicily 68 years of Age was left at Naples and staid there not having the power to come away. His Estate was sequestered ’till his conduct was examined. It has been exemplary in the highest degree, but some devil has poisoned the mind of the King and on his arrival from Naples a few days ago he was first ordered not to have his house where I have been this morneg, to pay him a visit, & from him to the minister pledging myself to the King that some villain had falsely represented an old & faithful servant. I hate rebels, I hate traitors, I hate Tyranny come from where it will. I have seen much of the world, and I have learnt from experience to hate and detest republics, there is nothing but Tyranny & oppression. I have never known a good act done by a Republican, it is contrary to his character. Under the mask of Liberty he is a Tyrant, a many headed monster that devours your happiness & prosperity. Nothing is free from this monster’s grasp. A Republic has no affection for its subjects. A King maybe ill advised and act wrong. A Republic never acts right, for, a Knot of Villains supports its. Each other, and together they do what no single person dare attempt. A Kingly Government with good Ministers is the finest in the World. I pray God this War was over and a Monarch placed on the throne of France, not that I like any Frenchman be he Loyalist or be he Republican, but the French Republicans have shewn themselves such Villains, that the worst wretch that ever was hanged is an angel compared to the best of them. I form not my opinion my Dear Lord from others so it is from what I have seen. They are thieves, murderers, oppressors & Infidels, therefore what faith can we hold with these people. I declare solemnly before God that I can prove every little [? – word missing] I have said. May I beg my kindest & most affectionate regards to Lloyd and Believe me my Dear LordYour Obliged Bronte Nelson

Sire William & Lady Hamilton desire me to present their best compliments to you & Lord Wycombe. I do not write to my Dear Lord St. Vincent as I am told he may be hourly expected here. I have just received from the Grand Signor a Magnificent Diamond Star in the center is a Crescent & Small Star, and I am called Knight of the Imperial Order of the Crescent.

Note: Lord Nelson was the first member of the Imperial Order of the Crescent, bestowed on him by the Sultan of Turkey. All the existing Ottoman orders could not be awarded to non-Muslims, and so Selim specially created the Order of the Crescent as a one-off for Nelson, making him its first Knight and sending him the insignia in August 1799.

At the time of this letter, most of Britain’s Mediterranean operations were at a standstill. There were only two areas of active operation against the French; Alexander Ball’s blockade of Malta and Sir Sidney Smith’s of Alexandria. It was also exactly when Napoléon was back in Paris, assuming power as First Consul and instituting a military dictatorship. One year after the destruction of the French fleet at the Battle of the Nile (August 1-2, 1798), Napoléon – on August 18, 1799 – secretly set sail for France, having learnt of French reverses in Europe. Oblivious to the turmoil he left behind in Egypt, Napoléon deserted his 30,000 troops and began planning his next moves against the Directory. He landed in France on October 9th, while Nelson was sailing from Palermo to Minorca. One month later, Napoléon’s coup d’état of 18th Brumaire followed (November 9,1799) – just two days after Nelson’s letter. On December 12th, Napoléon became First Consul of France. He had escaped across nearly 2,000 miles of sea supposedly under Nelson’s command. It was perhaps the greatest single misfortune of Nelson’s “distraction” in Palermo – where he dallied with Lady Emma Hamilton while scandalous gossip about his private life was already circulating in the newspapers.

An exceptional letter with important content. $6,000 - $8,000

Nelson sues his superior over the division of prize money.

Nelson writes in part: It was only this evening that I received your letter of the 20th February. I have no doubt but that every thing was regular on your part but as I never have received such a list as could look like an account, I ventured to ask for it. I observe what you say about Mr. Tyson having received flag prize money, yes for the whole of the flag prize money I believe, but not one farthing of that or a farthing for freight were ever placed to my credit. That would have made my accounts so complicated that I should not have understood them and I should have thought myself next to a Robber. The only Prize Money I ever received from Mr. Tyson as my Secretary was the sum of 1266 I mean crowns & 8 pounds -- paid by Littledale & Broderick on my directing Mr. Tyson to commence prosecutions on all those who held back the 1/16 of all prizes in cases where there were more than 2 flag officers. This money was for prizes taken on Sept. 6th, 1799 by the Seaborn & Petrarch when I had the command devolve on me by the absence of Lord St. Vincent, Lord Keith & all other [of] my superior officers. My right I consider so clear from the King's proclamation the custom of the service & decisions by laws that I owe my extreme surprise at its ever being doubted, but a legal decision being about to take place with My Dearest friend on this subject & would not be right for me to say all my thoughts on that subject. I can only say that justice is all I want...

The opportunity for prize money was a compelling one for officers and seamen alike. The spoils from a major victory could and did give a captain and his officers an income for life; ordinary seamen could increase their annual earnings by a tremendous amount. Nelson’s own finances were based largely on such spoils of battle. $6,000 – $8,000
173. Nelson, Horatio. Autograph manuscript draft, 4 pages, (9 ¼ x 7 ¼ in.; 235 x 184 mm.), [April or May 1803] to the Prime Minister, the first section was drafted for Nelson by his friend, Sir George Rose, with the final one and a quarter pages written by Nelson himself; some browning; splits to vertical fold.

Nelson compares the financial rewards he has received from the King to those of St. Vincent and Duncan, comparing his victories to theirs as he prepares to petition the King for a larger pension, citing his service to England.

The manuscript draft reads in full: [Sir George Rose:] I feel very great Reluctance in troubling you with any personal Concern of mine; but I am really compelled to cite Circumstances which, when explained, will I think convince you that I cannot do otherwise; and knowing the value of your Time I will do it as shortly as I can. His Majesty was graciously pleased, on account of my Services in the Battle of the Nile, to bestow on me the high Honor of a Peerage of Great Britain; and to recommend it to Parliament to enable Him to grant a Pension of £2000 a Year to me, & eventually for two Lives after mine. In the formal Part of the Message for the Purpose, His Majesty expresses a Desire to bestow on me the Pension...to the two next succeeding Heirs Male of my Body; but in the recommendatory Part of the Message the Words are ‘to consider of a proper Method of enabling His Majesty to grant the same and of extending, securing & settling such Amenity to the said Rear Admiral Lord Nelson and to the two next Persons on whom the Title of Baron Nelson & shall descend, in such Manner as Shall be thought most effectual for the Benefit of the said L[or]d Nelson & his Family. The Grant was made to me of the two next succeeding Heirs Male of my Body, which was probably done without an attentive Consideration of the whole of the Message, but it was then of no Importance to me as the Grant followed the Title. But as His Majesty has since been previously pleased to confer upon me the Title of a Viscount with Remainder to my Brother’s Children (failing Issue of my own), I must entreat that you will lay me at His Majesty’s Feet, & that you will have the Goodness to express to him in the most dutiful Manner my humble Hope that as I have no good Fortune to acquire sufficient Wealth to put it in my Power to enable my Nephew to support in any Degree the Rank of a Peer, to which he may eventually succeed, His Majesty will be graciously pleased to take such Measures as he shall think necessary for continuing the Pension in the Manner it appears to have been His Majesty’s gracious Intention it should have been originally granted. In making this application to you Sir it is but fair I should apprise you that L[or]d Saint Vincent is in the same situation I believe with myself, but I know of no other Case at all similar; as L[or]d Duncan has made Issue

[Nelson:]

and I also beg leave to state that both Lord St.V[ince]nt & L[or]d D[uncia]n had a grant from the Irish Parliament of 1000£ p[er] annum which from not having been recommended by Governm[en]t here was not bestowed upon me. I presume to make only one remark: was it the intention or not of His Majesty’s Governm[en]t to place my rewards for services lower than L[or]d St. V[ince]nt or L[or]d D[uncia]n. I had the happiness to be a sharer of the glory of the 14th febr[uary]. I had the honor to command the fleet who gained the victory of the Nile & was, I believe, the most compleat one ever obtain[ed], which till that of Copenhagen.

An extraordinary manuscript clearly revealing Nelson’s hubris as he asks the King of England for a raise. $10,000 - $15,000
174. Nelson, Horatio. Important autograph letter signed, ("Nelson & Bronte"), 4 pages (9 ½ x 7 ½ in.; 241 x 191 mm.), "Victory, Madalena Islands," 7 November 1803 to Major William A. Villetes, commanding at Malta; browned, repair to page folds and minute paper losses at intersecting folds.

After being given command of the Mediterranean following Britain’s renewal of hostilities with France after the treaty of Amiens, Nelson contemplates the thought and motives of Napoleon as well as foretells of the coming war with Spain and the effect that the rumors of Napoleon’s impending invasion of England is having on recruits.

Nelson writes in part: The enemy are now eight sail of the line perfectly ready and they are pressing every man to complete the frigates… I trust they will not escape us. I agree with you that unless Buonaparte is absolutely mad and that the people about him are likewise so that he will not wish to throw Sicily into our hands in order to revenge himself of the King of Naples much less force Spain into a war which must so much injure the French cause. It matters not being at war with Spain. We may be forced to go to war with her for her compliance to the French but I can never believe that Buonapartes councilors are such fools as to force Spain to begin… the war would not cost us one farthing more at that present. Until the idea of the invasion is a little blown over I fear we shall see no recruits. Lord St. Vincent to me says (in my line) we can give you neither ships nor men at present, and the folks at home take care not to overload us with dispatches… I intend to leave this anchorage on Wednesday and get home again…

When England reopened hostilities with France in the Spring of 1803 after a brief peace (of Amiens), one of her first acts was to seize Malta contrary to the treaty of Amiens. Nelson was given command of the entire Mediterranean, superseding Villetes, who was placed in command of Malta. Since July, Nelson had been blockading the French port of Toulon which lasted until 1805 when the French fleet escaped. They were pursued to the West Indies and back to Europe where the campaign climaxed with Nelson’s great victory at Trafalgar, which also ended his life aboard the Victory.

At the time, France was receiving subsidies from Spain and almost a year after this letter Britain began to take ships bound for Spain with bullion, thus provoking war with Spain.

Napoleon had also assembled his “Army of England” in the Boulogne area and was planning for an invasion of Britain. Rumors of the invasion caused competition among the Militia, Army and Navy for recruits.

A stirring letter in which Nelson talks of Napoleon’s motives, foretells of the future war with Spain, and alludes to the impending invasion of Britain as only a rumor. $6,000 - $8,000
175. Smith, Adam. Autograph letter signed, 4 pages (9 x 7 ¼ in.; 229 x 184 mm.), “Glasgow,” 29 October 1759 to the 1st Earl of Shelburne; in fine condition.

Interesting details on expenditures.

In his informative letter to the 1st Earl of Shelburne, Smith discusses in some detail the expenses incurred by his son: I have marked every receipt with a letter of the Alphabet. Your Lordship will find the same letter upon the back of the Account or accounts which correspond to it. Your Lordship will observe several receipts that have no accounts corresponding to them. It is always mentioned in the body of the receipt what the money was given for, but there is not always any discharged account from a third person vouching that it was actually so expended. He describes two trips made with him, one to Edinburgh: I was often obliged either to sup or dine at places where it was improper to carry him. When this happened to be the case, that I might be sure what company he was in in a very dissolute town, I ordered a small entertainment at our lodgings & invited two or three young lawyers to keep him company in my absence… the other to the Duke of Argyll at Inverary: we happened to be misinformed with regard to Dukes [sic] motions & came there two days before him during which time we stayed at a very expensive Inn.

Smith also gives Shelburne a meticulous account of Fitzmaurice’s pocket money: Your Lordship will observe the first Article for Pocket to be four Pounds. he asked for it & as it was the beginning of my government I gave it. It was spent in less than a month, not upon any vicious pleasure, but upon prints & baubles of no great utility & a considerable portion of it upon nuts, apples and oranges. After that I capitulated with him for a guinea a month & he has kept to this pretty nearly.

Smith devotes the last paragraph of his letter to an analysis of Fitzmaurice’s conduct and prospects in general; His regularity is tempered by a great desire of distinguishing himself by doing actions of eclat that will draw upon him the Attention of the world. He is even animated by this passion to a degree that is a little hazardous & is capable of venturing to expose his talents, which are naturally excellent, before they are perfectly matured. If he lives to a man, he will, I imagine be firm, steady & resolute in an uncommon degree, & by the time he comes to the meridian of Life, will be a man of severe & even of rigid moral.

Among payments without voucher listed by Smith are those for some books which we bought for ready money…, for a set of Silver buckles, for a case of mathematical instruments and for some other smaller articles of a few shillings value…It is likely that the case of mathematical instruments would have been supplied by the young James Watt, then Mathematical Instrument Maker to the College of Glasgow, who five years later was to begin his researches into steam power when asked to repair the College’s Newcomen Engine.

References: Messner & Ross, Correspondence of Adam Smith, no. 42. $20,000 - $30,000
176. Smith, Adam. Autograph letter signed, 3 pages (9 x 7 ¼ in.; 229 x 184 mm.), “Glasgow,” 3 December 1759 to the 1st Earl of Shelburne; docketed, some very minor splitting at folds.

Reconnoitering finances and waxing profound on his correspondent’s son barring his poor grasp of English grammar.

Smith explains how he has taken advantage of exchange rate differences, and thanks his correspondent for sending funds: Your Lordship has remitted the money in the manner that is most advantageous to me. As the balance of Exchange is almost always against Glasgow & in favour of London all London bills commonly sell above Par, & I this day received ½ per cent advanced price for the two draughts you sent me. I should abuse your Lordships Generosity very grossly if I took advantage of what you are so good as to put in my Power or did not declare that I think the sum you have remitted me full compensation for all the trouble I have been at with Mr. Fitzmaurice. That trouble, indeed, is very Little. I have never known anybody more easily governed, or who more readily adopted any advice when the propriety of it is fairly explained to him…

Smith then goes on to recount an anecdote illustrating his son’s impeccable behavior: I cannot give your Lordship a stronger instance how much he takes it a point of honour to observe the most frivolous parts of his duty as a student with exact regularity. He gives good application and has a very great ambition to distinguish himself as a man of Learning. He seems to have a particular turn for and delight in Mechanics and Mathematics which make the principal part of his business this year continuing, however, all his last year’s studies except Logic. What he is most defective in is Grammar, especially English Grammar, in which he is apt some times to blunder to a degree that I am some times at a loss to account for. This, however, I expect will soon be mended.

He concludes his letter with discussion of four sheets of Anecdotes relating to the King of Prussia which Fitzmaurice’s elder brother has received from Germany.

References: Mossner & Ross, Correspondence of Adam Smith, no. 43. $30,000 - $40,000

First edition of the “first and greatest classic of modern economic thought”

(Printing and the Mind of man). A clean, fine copy.

*References:* Goldsmith’s 11392; Kress 7621; PMM 221; Rothschild 1897; Sabin 82303

*Provenance:* Cholmondelly Library (bookplates)—Thomas Moffat MD 1776 (inscribed on title page). $80,000 - $120,000
Stanley criticizes his correspondent's remarks about the French, Germans, Americans and the English.

Stanley writes in full: It is impossible to read your article without coming to the conclusion that you are an accomplished writer, & I feel immensely flattered at being asked to endorse what has been so ably & eloquently argued. I am sorry however to say that my rude common sense prevents me from approving your suggestion. I am neither pro-German, or pro-French and I distinctly see that the ideas you broach will not please Frenchmen nor indeed any American or Englishman who is of clean unbiased mind, & I doubt, whether the higher class of Germans will regard them as wise. I cannot divest my mind quite from the suspicion that there is some irony concealed in your proposals, & if I were a Frenchman I feel I should be furiously angry. You may be innocent of all intention to provoke Frenchmen, but it is too evident your exaggerated ideas of German might border perilously near being offensive. If America talked of American projects with such exaggerated insinuation of her power, & her wealth &c, she would be simply insufferable, & no lover of Germany would care to put ideas in her mouth which would estrange the good will of every nation.

Germany is too rich & powerful to need such language to impress her greatness & her value as one of the foremost among the nations. As yet she feels the need of more land, but if out of inordinate conceit she proclaims her greedy love of it & wantonly promotes discord to indulge it, she will end in making herself as detested as the French did previous to 1870-71.

A sharp letter revealing Stanley's sensitivity to cultures other than his own and his desire to impart this on others. $3,000 - $5,000
179. **Wesley, John.** Autograph letter signed ("J Wesley"), 1 page, (8 x 6⅜ in.; 203 x 162 mm.), "Sheffield," 15 August 1781 to Miss Loxdale.

**Wesley, the English founder of Methodism advises: You are not to conform to the Judgment of others, but to follow your own light.**

In the body of his heartfelt letter Wesley writes: Your Letter gave me much satisfaction. Whereunto you have attended, hold fast! And press on toward the mark, the prize of your high calling of God in Christ Jesus! I do not see any reason to doubt, but that you have tasted of the pure Love of God. But you seem to be only a babe in that State, that we grow up into Him, that is our Head and if you diligently hearken to his voice, He will shew you the way whereto you should go. But you have need to be exceeding faith, full to the light he gives you. While you have the light, walk in the light, and it will continually increase. Do not regard the Judgment of the world, even of those that called 'The Religious World.' You are not to conform to the Judgment of others, but to follow your own light, that which ye Blessed Spirit, gives you from time to time 'which is truth, & is no lie.' That He may guide you & your Sister into all Truth & all Holiness, is the Prayer of, My Dear Miss Loxdale.

A fine letter by Wesley with meaningful content. $4,000 - $6,000
180. [South Sea Company.] A full set of playing cards printed with satires concerning the “South Sea Bubble.” (3 ½ x 2 ¼ in.; 89 x 57 mm.), London. Thomas Bowles, 1720.

Extraordinary full set of “South Sea Bubble” playing cards.

52 cards complete, printed in black, with contemporary colour for the diamonds and hearts; remains of duty stamp to corner of the ace of clubs; slight surface damage to corner of jack of hearts, affecting figure but not satire; clear impressions of a very scarce and desirable item; preserved in a custom made box.

Each card bears a satire on the fortunes and misfortunes, predominantly the latter, of people who had invested in one of the many joint-stock companies that had been floated in 1719 and 1720. This set of cards was printed by Thomas Bowles, of 69 St Paul’s Churchyard, for 3s. in 1720. They demonstrate the enormous range of people affected by this financial crash, from cobblers to peers, and their varying reactions to it. Parallels in Scotland and France for this diversity are the Darien Scheme and the Mississippi Company.

Sylvia Mann comments that the Bowles family issued in 1720 Stock jobbing cards or the “Humours of Change Alley,” a pack commenting satirically upon the behaviour of the inhabitants of London during the period of intense speculation. This pack is known generally as The South Sea Bubble. Satire on cards seems to have departed with the Bowles; it was perhaps replaced by caricature (Collecting English Playing Cards, 1978, p. 19). Two different packs are known by Bowles; the other set depicts genuine or bogus companies at the time of the Bubble. References: Not in Sperling. $20,000 - $30,000
R.M.S. "TITANIC"

Sailed April 10th, 1912.
From SOUTHAMPTON to NEW YORK,
Via CHESSINGHAM and QUEENSLAND.

FIRST CLASS PASSENGERS.

Revised 3/11/12

List of Third Class Scandinavian and Continental Passengers embarked at Southampton.
181. [Titanic, R.M.S.] Original passenger log with autograph emendations in an unidentified hand, 66 pages, (12 ¾ x 8 ¼ in.; 327 x 210 mm). [no place] 31 May 1912, with printed title page: R.M.S. ‘TITANIC,’ Sailed APRIL 10TH, 1912, From SOUTHHAMPTON to NEW YORK, Via CHERBOURG and QUEENSTOWN FIRST CLASS PASSENGERS. REVISED MAY 31St, 1912 on the lower left corner and at upper left corner marked Corrected in red ink; some wear, more severe condition issues in the first three pages with internal tears, stains and creasing but otherwise in sound condition.

**Haunting hand-annotated original passenger log of the R.M.S. Titanic.**

The log lists the names and known addresses of survivors, deceased and missing of First, Second and Third Class passengers. Each page is divided into six columns headed: NAME, Saved, Missing, Body Recovered, European Address, and American Address. If a body was found, there is a verification number and both location and name of the person to whom the remains were delivered. Throughout the log are manuscript corrections accomplished in red and black ink inserted when further details were unearthed. The first page for the Second Class passengers is printed “Revised November 20, 1912.” The Third Class passengers section is printed “Revised 20/11/12.” The European style of date notation, with day preceding month, indicates this was the White Star Lines’ up-to-date retained passenger log, noted as new information was discovered.

After leaving Southampton on 10 April 1912, White Star Lines’ R.M.S. Titanic called at Cherbourg, France and Queenstown, Ireland before heading westwards towards New York. On 14 April 1912, four days into the crossing and about 375 miles (600 km) south of Newfoundland, she hit an iceberg at 11:40 pm ship’s time. The glancing collision caused Titanic’s hull plates to buckle inwards along her starboard side and opened five of her sixteen watertight compartments to the sea; the ship gradually filled with water and foundered around 2:20 AM. Passengers and some crew members were evacuated in lifeboats, many of which were launched only partly filled. A disproportionate number of men—over 90% of those in Second Class—were left aboard because of a “women and children first” protocol followed by the officers loading the lifeboats. By 2:10 AM the Titanic’s upper decks were underwater, and less than ten minutes later, she broke apart and foundered, with well over one thousand people still aboard. Those still aboard who did not go down with her were cast into the frigid waters of the North Atlantic. Many of those in the water died within minutes from hypothermia. The only people to survive the foundering itself were those who managed to reach two of the collapsible lifeboats which had not been launched in time, they being the waterlogged Collapsible A and the overturned Collapsible B. A handful of survivors were also pulled from the water after the ship went down. Just under two hours after the Titanic foundered, the Cunard liner R.M.S. Carpathia arrived on the scene of the sinking, where she brought aboard an estimated 705 survivors.

Even before the survivors arrived in New York, investigations were being planned to discover what had happened, and what could be done to prevent a recurrence. The U.S. Senate initiated an inquiry into the disaster on 19 April, a day after Carpathia arrived in New York. The chairman of the inquiry, Senator William Alden Smith, wanted to gather accounts from passengers and crew while the events were still fresh in their minds. Smith also needed to subpoena all surviving British passengers and crew while they were still on American soil, which prevented them from returning to the UK before the American inquiry was completed on 25 May.

Lord Mersey was appointed to head the British Board of Trade’s inquiry into the disaster, which took place between 2 May and 3 July. Each inquiry took testimony from both passengers and crew of Titanic, crew members of Leyland Line’s Californian, Captain Arthur Rostron of Carpathia and other experts. The two inquiries reached broadly similar conclusions; the regulations on the number of lifeboats that ships had to carry were out of date and inadequate, Captain Smith had failed to take proper heed of ice warnings, the lifeboats had not been properly filled or crewed, and the collision was the direct result of steaming into a dangerous area at too high a speed.

The recommendations included major changes in maritime regulations to implement new safety measures, such as ensuring that more lifeboats were provided, that lifeboat drills were properly carried out and that wireless equipment on passenger ships was manned around the clock. An International Ice Patrol was set up to monitor the presence of icebergs in the North Atlantic, and maritime safety regulations were harmonised internationally through the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea; both measures are still in force today.

A remarkable historic record of the dreadful loss of life in the most famous maritime disaster in history. $60,000 - $80,000
182. Disney, Walt. Typed letter signed ("Walt"), 1 page, (11 x 8 ½ in.; 279 x 216 mm.), “Hollywood, California,” 10 September 1934, on imprinted stationery of Walt Disney Productions with Mickey Mouse illustrated on the letterhead, to an unidentified employee named “Dick”.

Walt Disney spells out his office policy for his creative staff.

Disney writes in full: If I didn’t have a secretary to answer my phone calls I’m sure I wouldn’t get much work done. We can’t provide each animator, writer, musician, etc. with a secretary so therefore I wish you would let the girls in this building act as your secretary in taking care of any incidental matters, particularly telephone calls both incoming and outgoing. I am instructing them to take care of all messages for you, see that they are delivered, etc. They will make outgoing calls for you, as well. If you should be expecting an important call, which cannot be taken care of by them, then you will be called to the phone - otherwise the procedure indicated above will leave you free to concentrate on your work throughout the entire day, without any unnecessary interruptions. Your cooperation in the above matter will be very much appreciated by me. Thanks.

$3,000 - $5,000

183. Disney, Walt. Typed letter signed, 1 page, (11 x 8 ½ in.; 279 x 216 mm.), “Hollywood, California,” 21 March 1940, on color imprinted stationery of Walt Disney’s Pinocchio, with the characters Pinocchio and Jiminy Cricket in the upper left, to Congressman Fred A. Hartley, Jr.; light soiling.

Walt Disney weighs in against congressional interference in the movie industry.

Disney writes in full: I address you with reference to the “Neely Bill”, which pertains to the questions of block booking and blind selling of motion pictures. My duties in connection with the production of our motion pictures occupy my time to such an extent that I have been unable to carefully read and analyze this proposed legislation. Therefore, I will not presume to impose my opinion as to its technical merits. Our company is an “independent”, as that term is generally understood. We produce cartoon short subjects such as the Mickey Mouse series, and an occasional feature like “Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs”, and like our current feature, “Pinocchio”. Therefore, our position differs in many respects from that of the ‘live action’ studios. It may be that the “Neely Bill” might affect us much less than it would many of the other motion picture companies. Indeed, our market is such that some of the Neely Bill’s provisions conceivably might react in our favor. On the other hand, as a matter of general principle, I am constrained to believe that legislative interference in an industry such as motion pictures might be harmful, and would be more likely to impede rather than further production and distribution. It is my opinion that the motion picture industry is qualified and capable of regulating itself from within, and such regulation, free from legislative pressure, would be more normal and would avoid undue disturbance and economic burdens.

A prescient letter from Disney regarding legislative interference and the harm it could cause to the motion picture industry.

$3,000 - $5,000
Disney writes of “Peter Pan,” “Uncle Remus” and “Fantasia.”

Writing to one of his teachers in Kansas City, Daisy Beck, Disney writes in part: With all my planning for a fine visit with you in Kansas City, I had to forgo this stop-over on my return trip home from New York. What with FANTASIA opening there and production activities here at the studio, they had me practically flying.

I originally intended to show our version of PETER PAN to Maude Adams, who as you may know teaches dramatics at Stephens College, but things didn’t work out so we had to abandon all our plans for Kansas City. We went East via the South and had a most interesting trip. We are planning to do the old Negro classic, UNCLE REMUS, so we took advantage of the opportunity to acquaint ourselves with the locale of this famous old character. We spent several days in Atlanta visiting historical spots as well as the home of the late Joel Chandler Harris, the author of UNCLE REMUS. From there, we went on East.

We spent a hectic ten days in New York making final arrangements for the opening of the picture, which was a gala premiere attended by socialites, including Mr. Kermit Roosevelt, Mrs. Andrew Carnegie and many others. It was a very successful affair with seats selling at $10.00. It is running at the Broadway Theatre, which we are operating as our own house, and it’s doing a very good business. The seating capacity is 1800 and the picture is now in its fifteenth week.

We opened FANTASIA in Los Angeles the end of January and it is doing very well here, as it is in Boston where it opened about the same time as another top-hat affair with everybody prominence turning out. I am anxious to get the picture started in Kansas City, but no date has been set for it yet. I want very much to have you see it because it’s such a complete departure from anything we have ever done . . . .

I am going to send you one of our FANTASIA books after Deems Taylor and Mr. Stokowski have autographed it. We are very proud of this book as it’s one of the finest jobs we’ve ever done. It was written by Mr. Taylor, and other than the printing, it was made here at the studio. In the same package, I shall also send you a few books that are being used in the public schools which are meeting with the approval of the Board of Education. I thought you would be interested in seeing how Mickey and the rest of our gang are playing their part. Frankly, though, I don’t think they quite take the place of the old McGuffy Readers that I used when I first started going to Benton . . . .

A wonderfully informative letter to one of his most beloved teachers in Kansas City. $3,000 - $5,000
185. Flynn, Errol. Extremely rare autograph letter signed, 3 pages (7 ½ x 5 ¾ in.; 191 x 146 mm.), “Rome, Italy,” 22 June 1949 (postmark), on Hotel Excelsior, Roma, letterhead stationery, to Burt Lancaster, Los Angeles, California; some smudging with envelope.

Errol Flynn warns burgeoning star, Burt Lancaster, about the big wigs at Warner Brothers and comments on his own out-of-control lifestyle.

Flynn writes in full: Dear Burt—(know you won’t mind this informality—always figured ‘Mister’ should be reserved especially for people like Mr. Mayer or Mr. Warner—or even Mister Hakim.) However—many thanks indeed for your notes which I know full well as well-disposed & meant & now I want to thank you for it—The fact is tho’, I’m not here to work or even try to; on the contrary—have been trying only to see if I couldn’t slow down a tempo of living not only much too furious but one which seems to have somehow got out of control.

Be sure that if Senors Bigazzi or Ferrara do me the favour of a phone call I’ll most certainly want to tilt a glass with these gentlemen—and at the same time mention your high regard for them. Incidentally, chum, and very sincerely, hope you won’t mind if I say this writer holds your work in high esteem too? Thanks again—and watch those fucking Warner Bros with the wary eye of an Egyptian surrounded in mid-desert by vengeful Israelites; certainly, tho’, you must have the Fréres figured—just stare at ‘em—they wilt! Best luck—Burt. Errol Flynn

American film actor, Errol Flynn was the handsome and dashing swashbuckling hero of many adventure film classics including: “Captain Blood” (1935), “The Adventures of Robin Hood” (1938), and “Sea Hawk” (1940). He writes this informal and candid letter to budding film star Burt Lancaster. By the late 40s, Flynn’s lifestyle had begun to catch up with him. He had already been tried (and acquitted) on charges of statutory rape of two teenage girls in 1942. Now, his heavy drinking and heavy smoking, as well as experimentation with drugs, was beginning to show in both his personal appearance and on-screen performances. In this revealing letter, the star of numerous Warner Brothers classic films mentions that he is trying to “…slow down a tempo of living not only much too furious but one which seems to have somehow got out of control.” The late 40s also witnessed the rising career of young star Burt Lancaster, whose first film The Killers (1946), adapted from a Hemingway short story, brought him instant stardom. Flynn kids with Lancaster about major studio heads Louis B. Mayer (MGM) and Jack Warner (Warner Brothers) and also about French producers Robert and Raymond Hakim, using an off-color metaphor for his caution, while he acknowledges Lancaster already seems to have them all figured out.

An extremely rare letter with extraordinary content. $4,000 - $6,000
186. Hilton, James. The original typescript with corrections of Good-Bye, Mr. Chips: together with: the second, corrected typescript. London: [November, 1933]. There are 46 pages of the original draft, representing about two-thirds of the book, with extensive corrections by Hilton in ink; the balance, the author has stated, (see below), has been destroyed. There are 71 pages of the corrected draft, as sent to the printer, and is complete. Both drafts are typed in blue on sturdy lightweight typing paper, (10 x 8 in.; 254 x 203 mm.); some marginal fraying, the second draft has been four-hole punched and bears the printer’s pencilled galley numbers. Two original mailing envelopes, dated 1935, and used to mail the typescript, are included, as is an autograph letter signed from the author. From the library of the actor Robert Montgomery, contained in a blue morocco backed slipcase with inner folding wrapper, with Mr. Montgomery’s name in gold on the front of the case.

The original typescript together with the second, corrected typescript of Good-Bye, Mr. Chips’ one of the most beloved stories of all time.

There are few twentieth century stories that have so captured the imagination and stirred the nostalgia of generations of readers on both sides of the Atlantic as James Hilton’s classic tale Good-bye, Mr. Chips. Movies have been made of it (the first starred Robert Donat and Greer Garson), countless editions have been illustrated and printed, and although Hilton’s other novels include Lost Horizon, and Random Harvest, this shorter tale has become the work for which he is best remembered. Dealing with the life and career of the English schoolmaster Chipping, of Brookfield School, it may also be read as an allegory of England as the nation passes through the decades of war and peace. It is, however the superbly drawn portrait of “Chips”, which remains with the reader, even the reader to whom the life of a British public school is strange and unfamiliar. It doesn’t stay unfamiliar very long, and then in character of the wise and kindly teacher, the reader finds a lifelong, beloved friend.

Included with the typescripts is a letter to Robert Montgomery from Hilton, written at Hollywood, California, dated 25 May 1937: My dear Montgomery. This is to say how pleased I am that the original “Chipsiana” are in your possession. You have part of the first draft (the rest, I’m afraid, must have perished in my own London fireplace) & the whole of the second draft that went to the printers. As I never handwrite my work, you really have all the “Chips” relics that still exist Yours sincerely, James Hilton. Hilton has stated that he went out on his bicycle to clear his brain, and returned home to write Good-bye, Mr. Chips in four days.

An extraordinary group being all that remains of the original typescripts of Good-Bye Mr. Chips as confirmed by Hilton himself. Provenance: The Collection of Robert Montgomery. $15,000 - $25,000
Harry Kellar was the first great magician native to the United States—called the “dean of magic” and “the most beloved magician in history,” he was unquestionably the most popular magician from 1896 until 1908. Houdini idolized Kellar, and his admiration for the king of American magic was demonstrated by his tribute made at the Hippodrome, which Houdini mentions in this eulogy. The Illustrated History of Magic describes the memorable event: “Houdini persuaded Kellar to return to New York on October 17, 1917, to star in a mammoth benefit show staged by the Society of American Magicians for the families of the first American casualties in World War I—the men who lost their lives when the U.S. transport Antilles was sunk by a German U-boat. Kellar levitated a table and escaped from ropes, after bells had rung and tambourines had played in the cabinet where he had been tied. There was a roar of applause as the tall, tanned magician bowed and started to walk toward the wings. Houdini ran out and brought him back to the center of the stage. America’s greatest magician should be carried off in triumph after his final public performance, Houdini said. Members of the society helped Kellar up into the upholstered seat of a sedan chair. Twenty-four men and women hurried on stage with baskets of red roses and yellow chrysanthemums and showered the old magician with flowers as the sedan chair was raised. The 125-piece Hippodrome orchestra played ‘Auld Lang Syne’ and the six thousand spectators rose to their feet and sang the nostalgic words as Kellar was slowly borne away. The greatest traveler among magicians [he performed on five continents] died five years later on 10 March 1922.

When Houdini died in 1926, Joseph Dunninger, generally regarded as the world’s premiere mentalist and mind reader, acquired this eulogy from his estate. $4,000 - $6,000
Mata-Hari discusses her dealings with the great ballet impresario Diaghilev.

Mata-Hari writes in part; translated from French: I have been back for a few days and expected to hear from you by now, but since I haven’t, I’m sending you this letter so as not to unnecessarily disturb you by my visit. What does this Mr. Diaghilev want of me? He can’t really suppose that I will rehearse a creation for a whole night without a contract or assurance that it will be me who will dance it on stage. Exactly the same thing would happen to me as had happened with the Opera Comique and Aphrodite but I’m not going to fall for it this time. I completely undressed for Bakst at my place. Which in itself was enough and I’m not going to do it again on stage at the Beau Soleil where the stage crew is free to roam. Diaghilev doesn’t know what he wants and I don’t know why he came. If he’s not thinking of hiring me then I’m happy not to have taken the pose of a goddess...

The notorious dancer Mata Hari’s many intimate connections with members of the French military provided a perfect cover for her suspected spying for the Germans during World War I. Although the full details have never been revealed, the French executed her for espionage in 1917. $4,000 – $6,000

Marilyn Monroe writes to a close friend discussing her depression and describing her desire of only wanting a son (over a daughter) as being “Freudian.”

Marilyn pens in full: “Dear Norman, It feels a little funny to be writing the name Norman since my own name is Norma and it feels like I’m writing my own name almost, However—

First, thanks for letting Sam and me visit you and Hedda last Saturday. It was nice. I enjoyed meeting your wife – she seemed so warm to me. Thanks the most for your book of poetry—with which I spent all Sunday morning in bed with. It touched me— I use to think if I had ever had a child I would have wanted only a son, but after reading - Songs for Patricia – I know I would have loved a little girl just as much but maybe the former feeling was only Freudian for something…anyway Fried [sic]

I use to write poetry sometimes but usually I was very depressed at those times and the few (about two) people said that it depressed them, in fact one cried but it was an old friend I’d known for years. So anyway thanks. And my best to Hedda & Patricia and you— Marilyn M.”

In 1954, Monroe had already become a famous Hollywood star, but left California to sublease an apartment at The Waldorf-Astoria in New York. She enrolled in the Actor’s Studio where she was reintroduced to Arthur Miller, famous American playwright and poet notorious for “The Crucible” and Death of a Salesman” (they had met previously in California in 1950). They began dating and eventually married after Miller’s divorce to his first wife, Mary Slattery, in 1956. Rosten, a neighbor and friend of Miller’s, was introduced to Marilyn after she became involved with Miller.

During the 1950s, Monroe’s drug and alcohol abuse worsened and so did her depression. Monroe mentions in the letter of having a child, an unfulfilled dream of Monroe’s. She suffered a miscarriage with Miller’s child and an ectopic pregnancy followed shortly after, while living in a farmhouse in Amagansett, New York. It was at this time, in 1957, that she began to abuse drugs and alcohol more. Rosten even received a call that year from Monroe’s maid in the middle of the night. When Rosten rushed over, Monroe had overdosed and her stomach was being pumped. Judging by the sloppy, inconsistent handwriting in this letter, it is not out of the realm of possibility that she was intoxicated. While married to Miller, Monroe’s life took a turn for the worst. Miller encouraged her to continue acting and she completed work on Some Like It Hot, but she was growing more difficult to work with. By 1960, Monroe’s behavior became more erratic and a divorce ensued. Drug abuse eventually took their toll and Monroe died 5 August 1962. Her will named Norman and Hedda Rosten’s daughter, Patricia, as a beneficiary of $5,000 for her education.

An intriguing and insightful letter peeking into the troubled soul of the most enduring and legendary sex symbol. $30,000 – $50,000
190. Valentino, Rudolph. Very rare autograph letter signed, in Italian on his personal imprinted Falcon Lair stationery, 4 pages, (7 ¾ x 7 ¾ in.; 187 x 181 mm.), “Bella Drive, Beverly Hills, California,” 25 March 1926 to Bertelli; in pristine condition.

Valentino writes to an Italian friend apologizing for his lack of communication due to a busy schedule.

Valentino writes in part: My long silence is not indicative of negligence or unwillingness. To the contrary, quite often with Reachi, we remember dearly the genial and cordial attention shown to us by you and your gracious wife. The real reason was lack of time due to settling in the new home and the starting of a new film. Fortunately all is in order now and I am dedicating my first moment of relief to bring you news of myself. We have already started, as I mentioned before, The Son of the Sheik, and it promises to be a magnificent production under the able hand of George Fitzmaurice and the collaboration of the lovely Vilma Banky. Yesterday Manual received a lovely gift of an eight pound baby girl who strangely resembles Pola Negri. Although it’s a girl and not a boy, as Reachi was hoping, he is so proud that he popped his vest buttons resisting the extreme pressure. I plan returning to Paris towards the end of May or the beginning of June but this time for reasons which I will better explain in person. I desire to come absolutely incognito. I hope we can spend a few days with you and your wife in Danville together with Letellier and friends…An affectionate hand shake from your friend. Rodolfo Valentino.

Italian born American film actor, Valentino is fondly remembered as “The Great Lover.” He was the greatest romantic male star during the silent film era and a symbol of mysterious, forbidden eroticism representing the vicarious fulfillment of dreams of illicit love and uninhibited passion. He is best remembered for his films “The Sheik” (1921), “The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse” (1921), and “Blood and Sand” (1922). This personal, handwritten letter was written shortly after Valentino moved into his new home the “Falcon Lair” and at the start of the filming of his final film, “The Son of the Sheik.” Just five months after this letter, Valentino died on 23 August 1926, at the age of 31, due to complications from a perforated ulcer.

Letters in Valentino’s hand are extremely rare. $3,000 - $5,000

310-859-7701
191. Catherine II. Letter signed ("Ekaterina") in Russian Cyrillic, 1 page, (14 ¾ x 9 ¾ in.; 362 x 235 mm.), St. Petersburg, 17 October 1794 to Francis II, the last Holy Roman emperor; repair to right bottom corner.

Catherine the Great congratulates the Holy Roman Emperor on the birth of his daughter.

Catherine congratulates Francis on the birth of a daughter, wishing the princess a long life and every happiness, and adding, I take a sincere interest in all matters pertaining to the flourishing fortunes of Your Imperial and Royal Majesty, and it is therefore with considerable pleasure that I will always assure you of my true and diligent friendship which is required for the welfare of our Empires, and which unites us in a close alliance...

Catherine likely sent this letter of congratulations in the normal diplomatic course of affairs. Catherine had long ago converted to the Orthodox religion (being born a Lutheran in Germany). Francis II ascended the throne as Holy Roman emperor in 1792 upon the death of his father. The letter refers to the birth of his daughter Marie Caroline, who was to die less then a year later. $3,000 – $5,000


Catherine de’ Medici, the Queen Mother of ruling sixteen-year-old Francis II signs a contract exchanging her castle at Chaumont for Diane de Poitiers’ castle at Chenonceaux.

After the death of her husband, King Henry II, Catherine de Medici, now the effective ruler of France dismisses her lifelong rival Diane de Poitiers, Henry II’s mistress, allowing her to keep all her properties except for the Crown jewels and her castle at Chenonceaux.

The letter reads in full: Catherine by the grace of God Queen of France Mother of the King. To all those who shall see these presents, greeting.

As regarding a certain contract of exchange made and passed between us on the one hand and Lady Diane de Poitiers, Duchess of Valentinois [Henry II’s mistress] on the other before Martin Huguet and Anthoine Aubert loyal notaries at Blois the fourth day of January of last year. For reason of our domain and castle of Chenonceaux and Chaumont on the Loire, their appurtenances and dependencies, we, having had satisfaction on our part of the contents of the said contract, make accession and transport to the said Duchess of Valentinois by our agents [who have been] sufficiently granted the power of attorney concerning our said domain and castle of Chaumont, its appurtenances and dependencies, as it continues and behaves as, present, stipulating and accepting for her our very dear friend, Cousin Duke d’Aumale peer of France her son-in-law [Francois de Lorraine (1519-1563)], inasmuch as everything is amply contained and declared in the contract of the said accession made and passed before Franfois Goussart and Louis Bethone, loyal notaries at Amboise, the 25th day of March, following also that of last month, here attached under our counterseal.

Of which contract and accession, after having well at length heard the contents through the reading which we had made of it, we have as it is agreeable to us praised, ratified, approved and authorized it. Let us give and ratify approve and authorize, desire, and it pleases us to realize its full and entire effect. All thus and in the same form and manner as if it had been passed and granted by us. Promising in good faith and word of a queen to have Jallny agree able, firm, honest and stable. Without contravening this in any possible way that might be. Thus we give into the care of our friends and vassals the [serving] people of our accounts. And to all our other officials and officers and to each of them just as will be appropriate. That from the contents of said contract and accession here, as it is said in the attached under the counterseal, together with the whole of the present contents. Let them make, suffer and leave to the said Duchess of Valentinois gift and usage, fully and peaceably. Ceasing and making cease all difficulties and other obstacles to the contract. For such is our pleasure. In witness of which we have signed with our hand to these presents and then have had placed our seal. Done at Chinon on the 7th day of May in the year one thousand five hundred sixty. Caterine

Within a year after his accession to the throne, King Henry II bestowed on his mistress, Diane de Poitiers, a woman almost twenty years his senior, the duchy of Valentinois – along with the royal chateau at Chenonceaux. She was even given possession of The Crown Jewels. She lived at court, supported the king, nursed Queen
Catherine when she was ill and devoted herself to the care of the royal children. However, after Henry II’s death, all that changed. Catherine, the Queen Mother, dismissed Diane from Court and forced her to relinquish the Crown jewels. However, Diane was allowed to retain all her properties, with the single exception of the chateau at Chenonceaux.

An important historic letter. $4,000 - $6,000

193. Clement VII (Giulio de’ Medici). Autograph letter signed, 1 page, (9 ¾ x 7 ¼ in.; 235 x 197 mm., “Rome, at the Apostolic Palace,” 9 April, 1519, as Archbishop of Florence, To the noble sir, Nicholas Victor; address panel on verso with red wax seal remnants.

Clement VII gives instructions to cease actions against an Italian nobleman concerning taxes owed to the Church.

Clement pens in full: I have let Count Troylo Rossos know that he should not be molested about the taxes on his lands for the period of the Holiness of Our Lord which he possessed in Parma. And because the Count alleges to have paid us for that period, we cede in it the name of His Holiness. And although there is nothing whatever here to show for it I don’t want him to be molested further in this matter. And so farewell.

As Clement VII wrote this letter from the Apostolic Palace, he was very likely visiting his cousin, Leo X (then the Pope). Clement VII would later cement his name in history as the Pope who denied Henry VIII a divorce from Catherine of Aragon leading to the creation of the Protestant Church of England.

Letters entirely in the hand of Clement VII are excessively rare. $10,000 - $15,000
The Renaissance King of France regulates trade.

The present ordinance to the King’s Privy Council was written in response to remonstrances by royal officers and merchants who cannot import wheat, cereal, and other merchandise from outside the kingdom without his leave and payment to the treasurer and receiver general of extraordinary finances. The ordinance regulates the bushels/barrels and diverse weights according to region. The bushel of wheat and other cereals will be estimated at 6 [sestiers], Paris measure. The cask of wine will be estimated at 4 [bodkins], which is 2 pipes or 2 tails, according to the palace, amounting to 3 [muids] of Paris. The other merchandise will be estimated by the officers.

At the time of the reign of Francis I, four-fifths of the population of France was agricultural and exported such commodities as grain, wine, wool, and wood in the years with good harvests. This ordinance is a supplementary mark of royal power, of a centralized state that watched over the economy of the kingdom. It was drawn up several months before the celebrated Ordinance of Villiers Cotterets of August 1539, whose 192 articles contain, for example, the order to the officers of justice to register every week the value and communal estimate of all kinds of produce such as grain, wine, hay, and the like.

Gilbert Bayard was the notary and secretary of the King, who, as secretary to Louise of Savoy, had played a discreet and important role at the moment of the Treaty of Cambrai on 3 August 1529. $4,000 – $6,000

King Ferdinand V laments the death of the Duke of Milan and reflects upon the Duke’s support in Spain’s war with Portugal.

Translated from Spanish, in full: We, Don Fernando, by the grace of God King of Castille, Leon, Toledo, of Sicily, Portugal, Galacia, and Prince of the Kingdoms of Aragon, send you, Very Illustrious Galeazzo [Sforza], Duke of Milan, Our very dear and well-loved nephew as well as to you, Most Serene Lady, Good Duchess of Milan, our emphatic greetings to you both, whom we love tenderly and cherish, and to whom we wish long life and honor. Very dear relatives, since We received your news and learned of the death of the invincible Duke of Milan, Our well-loved cousin, as well as the circumstances and the way of this death, We are at the mercy of a great sorrow and regret which have their source in the circumstances of this death. In thinking about such a dastardly and unusual act, so horrible an event, so abominable a murder, one refuses even to imagine it. We are in great sorrow, convinced that the death and disappearance of such a noble prince can present a considerable danger, contribute to the instability of the state and kingdoms, and can be neither useful nor profitable to the kings and princes who were on a footing of close friendship and frequent contact with him. But on reflection and after meditating on the secrets of God, and imagining how He disposes of kingdoms in accordance with His profound and sacred resolutions, that He gives and takes away as He pleases, and gives and takes away the lives of princes as He pleases, We derived some consolation. We remember how meritorious and certain it is, when Fortune befalls Us, to conform to God’s will, which is always just and equitable. And that is why We beseech you and appeal to your judgment to similarly take command of yourself and cast all sorrow and pain far from you, which needlessly affect the living and which cannot be of any profit to the dead, which means, very noble Duke and Duchess, that you should act in an edifying way conforming to the will of God.

It is from the mouth of Juan Antonio de Corbeta, your gentleman of the chamber, that We learned, very noble Duke and Duchess, in what favorable light the late Duke Galeazzo, Our well-loved cousin, considered what We are doing. Although the distance which separates Our two states prevented him from sending soldiers and auxiliary troops to defend Our two kingdoms in the wars against Our Portuguese enemy and the other peoples who came to his assistance, thanks to his well-known courage, recognizing Our obviously just cause and moved by the great love he had for Us, he nonetheless showed a special satisfaction every time he heard that Our cause prospered. He also was pleased with Our success and the battles which had been turned in Our favor and was satisfied every time he heard it said that We had repulsed the enemy and conquered friends for Our person and territories for Our kingdom.

The very illustrious Duke was not content to make Our progress, glory and name known in all the states where he had them disseminated, but showed himself to be a brother and sincere friend to Us in not authorizing Our enemies to procure arms or anything else useful in his territories and in refusing to lend an ear or receive his emissaries or
messengers. He also did other things in Our favor which it would take too long to recount, and whose reciting would plunge Us into pain and sorrow. For this reason, most beloved and very illustrious Duke and Duchess, believe, I beg you, that Our Royal Person, Our Kingdoms, Our states and the seas which wash them have a sentiment very acute to the debt which they have incurred towards you, and We thus exhort you and beseech you affectionately that if ever the necessity makes itself felt, God willing, you would lay claim to Our assistance by means of your accredited envoys, and it would be a great pleasure and great joy to Us to lend you aid and assistance in all possible ways in loyal brotherhood. We thus spoke for a very long time with the above-mentioned Juan Antonio de Corbeta, your servant, and discussed certain topics with him, and We also beseech you to believe absolutely the message he will bring you on Our part, We also beseech you to write Us to give Us detailed information on the state you are in, and the policies you plan to follow, and in which may God assist you.

In his letter, Ferdinand discusses the Castilian victory in the war of succession. The circumstances leading to the war had much to do with royal succession and marriage. As heiress of Castile, the question of Isabella’s future marriage became a matter of increasing diplomatic activity at home and abroad. Portugal, Aragon, and France each put forward a marriage candidate. Isabella’s half brother, Henry seems to have wanted Isabella to marry Afonso V, King of Portugal. Between the Portuguese and Aragonese candidates, she herself, no doubt assisted in her decision by her small group of councilors, favored Ferdinand of Aragon. A third suitor, the French Duc de Guisene, was sidestepped, and without Henry’s approval she married Ferdinand in October 1469. The prospect of an Aragonese consort led to the development of an anti-Aragonese party that put forward the claims of a rival heiress, Henry’s daughter Joan. The King encouraged this group by going back on the accord of 1468 on the grounds that Isabella had shown disobedience to the crown in marrying Ferdinand without the royal consent. He now rejected Isabella’s claim to the throne and preferred that of Joan, for whom he sought the hand of the Duc de Guisene. Though Isabella and Henry were to some extent reconciled the long-threatened war of succession at once broke out when the King died on 11 December 1474. Isabella, proclaimed herself Queen of Spain on 13 December. Ferdinand became king consort, and a marginal figure, until Isabella’s war of succession against Afonso V gained his acceptance in 1479. Afonso, a widower at the time, married Joan, assumed the title of King of Castile, and espoused her cause against Isabella and Ferdinand, with the support of a faction opposed to Isabella which included the Archbishop of Toledo, the master of Calatrava (an influential military order), and the powerful young marques de Villena. After a lengthy struggle in the region of Zamora and Toro, Afonzo V met with defeat in 1476. $6,000 - $8,000
King Henry II of France informs his ambassador in Spain of the death of Edward VI of England.

Henry II provides details of the current composition of power in England and the ongoing struggle for power between Protestants and Catholics is sent to the King’s Ambassador to Spain, M. le Fourquevaux. He also brings the ambassador up to date on France’s on going war with Charles V (The Holy Roman Emperor) at the Castle of Hesdin in the north of France.

The letter reads in part, translated from French: The reason for this despatch by special messenger is to inform you that my good son and brother, the King of England, has passed away on the sixth of this month to the great and extreme regret and sorrow of all the states of his kingdom, as he was a young Prince of great hopes and expectations. As to myself, I must tell you that I am much pained and grieved on account of the perfect good friendship which he plainly showed me and of which I think I could have made good use in the future to the benefit and advantage of my affairs. However God has granted me that much that the Crown and Scepter of the said kingdom have fallen into such good hands that I consider to have been compensated for what I have lost by this death.

For the Duke of Suffolk’s daughter [Lady Jane Grey] who is married to the second son of the Duke of Northumberland has been declared Queen in the life-time and during the last days of the late King and since his recent death been proclaimed as such. She has already taken possession of the Great Tower of London and the other principal fortresses of the kingdom, and a law is being made to prepare and to begin the coronation ceremonies for herself and her husband. About all this the Emperor [Charles V] is desperate and in my opinion more vexed than ever because the great intrigues and secret practices which he has had transacted on behalf of his cousin Madame Mary, the eldest daughter of the late King Henry, have been quite useless as she remains deprived of the succession to the crown of England.

The Ambassadors of the said Emperor have put before the Duke of Northumberland who is the Leader of the Council of England—a proposal of a marriage between Madame Mary and the eldest son of the said Duke who would then have to give up the wife he has taken in marriage, a daughter of the late Duke of Somerset who was Protector of England. By such means they hope to break and to stop things which have long been concluded and agreed upon and consequently to mar and to destroy the good relations which exist between the principal Lords of the Council of England and myself. However their new Queen and her husband, the King, are entirely well disposed towards my devotedness, knowing full well that I shall never lack in friendship for them nor in anything which is in my power should they need it. Seeing all these troubles the said dame Mary has gone away and will pass through Flanders, if she can, to see her cousin the said Emperor.

These are all the news I have to give you just now. I am busy all these days training my army which will soon be assembled and near the enemy who has not yet brought any batteries to the castle of Hesdin but is preparing trenches. In the meantime my men from inside have already much reduced and damaged him by gun-fire and by sallies which they make. Will you communicate the contents of this letter to my cousin the Duke of Parma to whom I am only writing a word to this effect…

Below the king’s signature, Duthier writes, We have news that the enemy is bettering against the castle of Hesdin since two days and that he is about to explode some mines from which he is prevented more often than he likes by the sallies our men are making from inside and in which they are not sparing of cannon shots, for they are provided with all they need.

In January 1553, Edward VI showed the first signs of tuberculosis, and by May it was evident that the disease would be fatal. Working with the unscrupulous John Dudley, the duke of Northumberland who controlled the government, he determined to exclude his two half-sisters, Mary and Elizabeth from the succession and to put Northumberland’s fourth son’s wife, Lady Jane Grey, and her male heirs in direct line for the throne. Edward’s death on July 6 was not made public till two days later. A power struggle thus erupted when Lady Jane Grey was taken before the Council and informed that she was Edward’s successor on July 9. On that same day, Mary, whose supporters were in arms, wrote to the Council, declaring herself the lawful successor. Although the bishop of London, Nicholas Ridley, preached in Lady Jane’s favor, after nine days of rule, from 10 to 19 July, she was confined to the Tower and arraigned for high treason on November 14. She was sentenced to death and executed on Tower Hill February 12, 1554.

A letter of great historic content. $6,000 – $8,000
197. Louis XVI. Important autograph letter signed (“Louis”), in French, 1 page, (6 ⅞ x 4 ⅜ in.; 175 x 111 mm.), [Paris], the 15th in the evening 15 September 1791 to an unnamed correspondent but most likely Jacques G. Thouret, a member of the Constituent Assembly; in pristine condition.

Louis XVI accepts the final version of the new Constitution and transmits it to the Constituent Assembly.

Louis XVI writes in full: I am sending you the proclamation. I only made a few small changes in the style. Have it printed tonight, so that it can be released early tomorrow. You shall also date it yesterday the 14th when I read it to the Council. It should not be subsequent to what was said today at the Assembly.

Louis XVI wrote this letter the day after he accepted the revised Constitution. Earlier, on 21 June 1791, he had fled the country but was quickly arrested at Varennes and returned to Paris on 25 June. This attempted getaway destroyed the experiment with the constitutional monarchy, but the Constituent Assembly maintained its composure. Creating the fiction that the King had been kidnapped, it quelled popular disturbances by using the National Guard and set about revising the Constitution. The new Constitution of 1791 was declared complete on 3 September and at the same time a provision was made for its presentation to the King by a delegation from the Assembly. John Hall Stewart in his Documentary Survey of the French Revolution (1951) further explains: “the historic document derives its name from the year in which it was brought to fulfillment. It represents the result of the arduous and assiduous application of the members of the National Constituent Assembly, over a period of more than two years and in the face of numerous and serious difficulties . . . . Outstanding among [its enactments] were decrees on the administration of forests, on the police of security and criminal justice, on patentes, on colonies, on the Penal Code, on the Rural Code, on the freedom and equality of men irrespective of their color, on criminal procedure, on restricting the activities of political clubs, and on a military code.” No provision was made for submitting the Constitution to a popular referendum, all that was necessary was the acceptance of the King. This was forthcoming, on 13 September, in the form of letter brought to the Assembly. On the following day the King agreed to the new constitution as evidenced by the content of the present letter. The remaining few days of the Assembly were occupied with all the miscellanies which inevitably characterize the closing of any organization. On 28 September Louis proclaimed the Constitution as law and announced that the Revolution was over. Two days later, the deputies having declared their mission completed and the sessions of the National Constituent Assembly at an end, the first of the revolutionary assemblies passed into history. The Revolution, however, was not over. In spite of Louis’s oath of loyalty to the nation in his acceptance of the revised Constitution, his attempted flight had destroyed his credibility and the split between the King and the nation became irremediable. By 10 August 1792, a popular insurrection overthrew the monarchy and the Constitution of 1791, and on 21 January 1793, Louis was executed.

An important letter marking an historic moment in French history. $8,000 - $12,000

An important letter from the British Governor of St. Helena defending his actions as Napoleon’s custodian and replying to charges against him in a book by Barry O’Meara, Napoleon’s physician.

Lowe writes in full: HAVING OBSERVED THAT IN A WORK RECENTLY PUBLISHED UNDER THE TITLE OF NAPOLEON IN EXILE, I AM STATED TO HAVE EXPRESSED MYSELF IN TERMS HIGHLY UNBECOMING RESPECTING THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE ALLIED SOVEREIGNS RESIDING AT ST. HELENA PARTICULARLY ON ONE OCCASION TO MR. O’MEARA, THE WRITER OF THE WORK, THAT I HAD NO SCRUPLE IN INFORMING HIM THAT THE COMMISSIONERS WERE TO BE LOOKED UPON WITH GREAT SUSPICION THAT THEY WERE IN FACT SPIES UPON EVERY BODY & EVERY THING &C.-- I FEEL IT SIR, AN ACT OF PROPER ATTENTION TO YOURSELF, AS WELL AS TO THE SOVEREIGN UPON WHOSE SERVICE YOU WERE EMPLOYED TO DISTINCTLY & FORMALLY DISAVOW HAVING MADE USE OF THE EXPRESSIONS THUS IMPUTED TO ME, OR IN ANY INSTANCE, WHERE I MAY HAVE FELT MYSELF CALLED UPON FROM THE NATURE OF MY PUBLIC DUTIES AT ST. HELENA, TO ADVERTISE TO THE COMMISSIONERS, TO HAVE EVER EXPRESSED MYSELF TO MR. O’MEARA OR TO ANY OTHER PERSON THERE IN A MANNER INCONSISTENT WITH THE PROPER REGARD & CONSIDERATION DUE TO THEM, TO THE MISSION ON WHICH THEY WERE EMPLOYED, & TO THE SOVEREIGNS WHOM THEY REPRESENTED.

In another part speaking of the formalities under which Napoleon Bonaparte required that the Bulletins of his health should be drawn out, Mr. O’Meara asserts that when he mentioned the matter to me, I observed, ‘that it was some deep laid scheme of the Commissioners’. I may have possibly said that the anxiety which Bonaparte showed to have the Bulletins drawn out in so particular a manner covered probably some design with regard to the Commissioners, to whom it was known, copies of the Bulletins were transmitted, but it is utterly untrue that I said ‘it was a deep laid scheme of the Commissioners themselves,’ who were in fact uninformed of the circumstances which Mr. O’Meara, who was relating what had passed between Napoleon Bonaparte & himself, was then communicating to me.

I avail myself of the present occasion also to acquaint you, that the frequent gross and abusive language which the writer of the work states to have been used to him by Napoleon Bonaparte in speaking of the Allied Sovereigns was never repeated to me, & it is only since this late publication by Mr. O’Meara, I ever heard it asserted that such language had been used by Napoleon Bonaparte to him. Should there be any other points in the publication where our relative duties are spoken of upon which explanation may be desired, I beg to express my perfect willingness as well as desire to afford it in the fullest manner, not doubting SIR to meet with a reciprocal disposition on your part, should circumstances at any time so require.

The exiled Napoleon, with no more military campaigns to plan and wage, began a game of psychological warfare with Lowe. Despite being the captive, Napoleon was able to exert considerable control over Lowe’s decisions and actions, and his plotting against Lowe dominated his activities until his death.

A fascinating letter by Lowe countering accusations made by Napoleon’s physician in his book on Napoleon in exile.

$3,000 – $5,000
199. Mazarin, Jules. Autograph letter signed, (“Cardinal Mazzarini”) in Italian, 2 pages, (10 ¾ x 8 in.; 264 x 203 mm.), “From the forest at Vincennes,” 6 March 1661 to Pope Alexander VII; scattered spotting; minute paper losses not affecting text.

The rich and powerful French Cardinal Mazarin writes to Pope Alexander VII three days before his (the Cardinal’s) death.

Realizing that his end was near Cardinal Jules Mazarin, the Minister to King Louis XIV of France (the “Sun King”) informs the Pope of his intention to send Alexander VII six hundred thousand lire.

Mazarin writes in full: The Nuntius of Y[our] H[oly]ness has had me informed of the commissions he has received from you to invite the King to come to the aid of Christianity against the forces that the Turk is preparing to its detriment and to urge me to join in contributing on my part with H[is] M[ajesty] in this great and glorious action. I regret extremely, Most Blessed F[ather], that a long and grave indisposition which has been oppressing me for many months has deprived me of the means of hearing the Nuntius and of conferring with him on the Paternal and Most Holy thoughts of Y[our] H[oly]ness, of which I have nonetheless spoken to the King with that force which the zeal of Y[our] H[oly]ness has inspired my frailty with. I do not at all doubt that H[is] M[ajesty] has those greater intentions that one can wish on so important an occasion and that they will be feasible after such a long and expensive war in a realm which needs repose and solemnity, but as regards my own person, I am so animated by the Pastoral efforts of Y[our] H[oly]ness in this expedition against the common enemy that, unable to keep myself even within the bounds that you prescribe for me, as I, as a Minister of the King, prescribes for myself more exacting obligations, and as a Cardinal, on whom Divine Goodness has rained down an Infinity of graces, and I am writing to offer most reverently to Y[our] H[oly]ness the sum of 600 thousand lire that am gladly withdrawing from the savings I have gathered from the Salaries which the Royal Munificence of H[is] Most X[ian] M[ajesty] has heaped upon me and which I have been reserving precisely for such a purpose. I humbly beseech Y[our] H[oly]ness to agree to receive the little tribute benignly, which I render to Y[our] Beatitude, who will command where and to whom said money should be paid out, which order I will execute immediately, if God wills to preserve my life, but if it should please the Divine M[ajesty] to dispose of me otherwise, to which I am disposed and prepared, this Legate will find it in my testamen[t], and the money will be ready just the same after my death, and meanwhile, prostrated at the feet of Y[our] H[oly]ness, I ask you with all humility, be it for this or the other life, for your Most H[oly] Benediction...

The Cardinal was mentored by the infamous Cardinal Richelieu and continued Richelieu’s anti-Hapsburg work. He laid the groundwork for Louis XIV’s expansionist policies. A noted collector of art and jewels, Mazarin amassed a large fortune and was clearly very wealthy at the time of his death.

Letters completely in Mazarin’s hand are rare and the content of the present letter is extraordinary as the Cardinal sends a large sum of money to Pope Alexander VII to absolve himself just before his death. $4,000 - $6,000
200. **Napoleon I.** Letter signed ("Bonaparte"), in French, 1 ¼ pages, (11 ¾ x 7 ¾ in.; 289 x 194 mm.), “Carrù,” 24 April 1796 to the Commander-in-Chief of the Sardinian Army, General Colly, on his ornate stationery.

General Bonaparte writes to the Commander of the Sardinian Army in answer to the latter’s request on the 23rd of April for an armistice.

After defeating the Sardinian Army at the Battle of Mondovi the previous day the French had the Alps behind them and the plains of the Piedmont lay before them. Napoleon informs the Sardinian General that only the French Government can declare peace and explains why he (Napoleon) must continue his march.

Napoleon writes in part; translated from French: The military and moral positions of the two armies makes it impossible to simply suspend fighting, although personally I am convinced that the government will offer reasonable peace terms to your King. I can’t stop my march on the basis of vague assumptions; there is though a way to reach your goal -- in keeping with the interests of your court, and which will spare a lot of needlessly bloodshed, which would be contrary to the rules of war and reason -- and that is to turn over to me two or three fortresses of your choice in Alessandria, Tortona and Coni.

Only four days later on 28 April the Sardinian government signed the Armistice of Cherasco, which effectively ended their participation in the “First Coalition,” an alliance of European monarchies trying to contain Revolutionary France. **$4,000 - $6,000**
One month after Napoleon’s near defeat by Russians at the Battle of Eylau (7–8 February 1807), and a few months before the capitulation of the city of Danzig (26 May 1807) and the victory at the Battle of Friedland (14 June 1807), the climax of his spring campaign of 1807, Napoleon communicates with one of his leading aide-de-camps, General Jean Rapp, about the importance of maintaining a state of defense.

A timely letter written during Napoleon’s ultimately victorious spring campaign of 1807, after which he became the Master of Europe.

$4,000 - $6,000
202. Napoleon I and Empress Josephine. Document signed (“Nap” and “Josephine”) in French, 3 pages (11 ½ x 8 ¾ in.; 288 x 208 mm.), “Paris,” December 1812, being a marriage contract between Monsieur Casimir-Victor Guyon de Monttivault and Mademoiselle Elisa Marie Madelaine Guyon de Monttivault witnessed by Napoleon and Josephine, with the signature of Monsieur de Monttivault in addition to several notarial signatures; marginal spotting, remnants of mounting on verso of third page.

Napoleon and Josephine sign as witnesses to a marriage contract.

Casimir-Victor Guyon de Monttivault was employed as an administrative officer at Malmaison by Empress Josephine for many years. His loyal service allowed him the opportunity to have his marriage contract endorsed by both Josephine and Napoleon. The signatures of both Napoleon and Josephine together in one document is rare. $8,000 - $12,000
203. Peter I (Peter the Great). Letter signed, in Russian, 2 pages, (7 ¾ x 6 ¾ in.; 197 x 159 mm.), “Elbing,” 6 November 1711 to General Field Marshal Count Sheremetiev; numerals in red ink at foot of second page; browning, margin reinforced, some spotting.

Peter the Great issues orders for troop movements to one of his Field Marshals.

In the present letter Peter I shows the extent to which he involved himself in military affairs. Here he is giving both tactical and strategic orders. One order was for a small unit action and the other garrisoning of larger bodies. Both were to be tied to international events to provide ‘disinformation’ to the enemy. This demonstrates Peter the Great is able to think both tactically and strategically at the same time.

Peter I orders Sheremetiev to move the Cossack troops to the opposite bank of the Dnieper and to destroy their dwellings. He instructs that seized troops should be garrisoned at the fortress, but in order to misinform the Turks, rumors should be set abroad that it is the Menshikov’s hired men who are settled there. The Polish senators should be told that the troops are garrisoned at the fortress provisionally until the King of Sweden is at Turkey. The Field Marshal is also asked not to stay too long in Poland. And as to his request to be sent troops stationed at Riga for the winter, he advises that it cannot be done.

At the time this letter was written, Russia was at war with two countries—Sweden, since 1700, over Baltic territories, and Turkey, since 1710. Peter I directed most of the wars himself, and also took part in some of the battles. Russia was victorious over the Turks in 1713, and over Sweden in 1721.

Letters signed by Peter the Great are extremely rare. $8,000 - $12,000
204. Rommel, Erwin. Fine autograph letter signed (“Erwin”), in German, 4 pages, (6 ⅞ x 4 ½ in.; 175 x 114 mm.), “Munsingen,” 20 May 1913 to Dearest Mollinchen—Lucia Mollin, Rommel’s future wife; dampstaining.

21-year-old Erwin Rommel pens a wonderful handwritten love letter to his future wife, Lucia Mollin.

Rommel writes in part; translated from German: My impatience for your picture, that is so long coming, you will understand...it is not already more than half a year, that my eyes saw you, but in my mind I see you a lot. I am anxiously waiting to find out if we’re going to see each other again this year. But we are going to have to see it to, that we both have a few days’ time for each other. I hope you’re in favor of that...You know, actually I’m still the same man I was in Danzig. Bodily in any case, totally innocent. Maybe you don’t believe me, but I am speaking the whole truth. Of course 90% of the people, male as well as female, are innocent today. I don’t reproach anybody, quite the contrary, if I see two people free loving who have found what they’re looking for. But I am different. Only if you approach a girl with a lecherous motive, feign love to achieve your purpose, I find vile, I find bestial. Totally different is my point of view; in a cause where sincere, true love brings two people together. The act is then natural, is then noble. Unfortunately the last case is a little rare. The bestial induces one to take steps that one often bitterly regrets. However, it takes energy to wait until one finds her, respectively him; one that he really loves, and one who doesn’t resent a union.... Presently I release my surplus strength in doing sports. After eight hours of drills I still ride my bicycle to the Bodensee and row another two hours. Due to those passions I’m being denounced as an oddball. But I have, especially among the mature comrades a lot of friends...I don’t care about letters containing news of superficial things or just day to day questions, that show no feelings. You just get unfamiliar with such correspondence, instead of getting closer...Be affectionately greeted and kissed. From your Erwin”

Rommel had begun his lifelong military career by enlisting as an army cadet in 1910, so perhaps his military service took him to Danzig from time to time. World War I was soon to begin, and in 1915 Rommel received the Iron Cross (First Class).

A remarkable letter of courtship in which Rommel discusses his philosophy regarding romantic relationships, as well as his current separation from the object of his affections. $3,000 - $5,000
205. Sade, Donatien Alphonse Francois, Marquis de. Fine autograph letter signed, (“de Sade”), in French, 4 pages, (7 ⅛ x 6 in.; 200 x 152 mm.), [no place] June 1797 to Gaufridy, a lawyer and notary public in Apt; in fine condition.

The Marquis de Sade describes the attacks on him during the French Revolution.

Sade writes in full, translated from French: *We have done the impossible, my dear attorney, to spare you the trip to Avignon, Messrs. Mestre and Bonefoi conducted themselves according to your views and have absolutely nothing to show for it. Perrin, no doubt on orders, is of a stubbornness without example, he absolutely won't listen to anything. We acted, following the documents of M. Mezard to the letter, to whom you had the kindness to direct me. Here is a letter from him which I haven’t read and by which he no doubt sketches the conduct he has advised us to take and which we are following. The enclosed document will tell you what’s what and save me the trouble of repeating it to you; it is therefore absolutely essential that you have the kindness to go to Avignon to deliver this document yourself to the court or to Perrin on Saturday morning; I implore you to come back to Saumane on Sunday for dinner, in view of the fact that I am leaving Monday on a journey of three weeks and I absolutely want to see you and speak with you before leaving, it is of greatest urgency, so I’m expecting you Sunday for dinner without fail. Then it’s good-bye until August 6, the date we will be reunited in Saumane, for your sake and that of Ripert and L----.

You have precisely cut off my arms and legs, you have precisely made me lose my affair in Arles by not sending me Charles immediately as I had beseeched you; everything will be lost, the man in question was perhaps in Arles, now here I am tied down like the devil by Lombard, to whom the farm has been awarded as of August 1, if it isn’t finished before. Oh, just heaven, what misfortune this delay is for me. So as soon as he arrives, by tomorrow at least, I implore you without fail to be there on Saturday; if he doesn’t arrive until Saturday, there you have two more days lost, for on Sunday nothing can be done. It is on bended knee, exactly on bended knee, that I beseech you not to make the slightest delay in the departure of Charles, I am expecting him for dinner tomorrow, Friday, without fail.

These gentlemen arrived discontent, from Mazan the man in question was not content just to make publicly known everything he could say in opposition, he even had the audacity to spread the infamous slander that my affairs are very baldly off in Paris, where it is a fact that I have no other debts but two thousand ecus, of which one thousand were borrowed to make my journey and a thousand to effect payment on one of my newly purchased estates. Isn’t that my duty? These are bad affairs? Oh, what a droll villain, that M. deS. The Younger. I’ll tell you what a villain B... is, but patience, he who laughs last laughs best, and I thank him for putting me in the position of not having any kind of Consideration for him whatsoever anymore. Meanwhile these gentlemen have with their words destroyed several prejudices; we shall see.

The...affixed separately on your advice will be delivered on Tuesday the 18th while offering more. That is why I am leaving Monday and want to see you Sunday. Your Voux is more harm than good, he is a very inept gentleman. Courbin doesn’t get along with him at all, nor does he with Courbin, and in this way everything was awry for Courbin, who conducts himself well enough, sent people to see the meadows at Mazan, and nobody was able to show these meadows, they had to notify Voux. Your Serrurier has been to inspect the harvest, the [messenger] was up, the receiver from Mazan conducted himself well, he was given a down payment, and he promised that if such a thing...
happened again he would give notification at once. If you were notified of it by express as a notary, it doesn’t mean anything; but it seemed pleasant to him to send it by mail, so that the messenger would eat off me for 5 or 6 days. That Voux is a bad man.

“The result: I expect your son Charles tomorrow, Friday, for dinner. You on Sunday on your return from Avignon, where I will have something very essential and very singular to tell you. A thousand and thousands of pardons, my dear attorney. It’s a terrible summer for you, I sense it, but it has been 19 years since I have inconvenienced you, and when all this is finished maybe I’ll be all right without coming back to trouble your repose and your tranquillity. This remark is of some significance. Liotard from l’Isle is going to arrive to... and I think this turn of events is either for new reflections if there are any to be made or to embrace you. At this very moment I receive a letter from my son who tells me that he is leaving at this very minute for Pris. What do you say to all these extravagances? So don’t forget to bring us that...which you promised so much of Saumane; we can’t order anything regarding this estate without it don’t forget to bring the chocolate, I beg you.

The beginning of my letter announced a document which was to be enclosed, and I explain to you that we had completely forgotten, in announcing it to you, the necessary formality of having this document presented to Perrin. That is what the journey of Thursday is for. By which I ask you to leave Friday morning, pass through l’Isle, at M. Liotard’s you will find the document which will have just been presented and which you will take with you to Avignon. You will make use of it on Saturday and will pass through Saumane without fail on Sunday in returning to Apt. Don’t forget this circumstance, I implore you, it being very essential, and I’ll see you Sunday before my departure of Monday morning. I should be absent three weeks and I absolutely cannot pass through to see you beforehand. In view of all this don’t forget that Charles is coming to dinner Friday at Saumane. This condition is of the most extreme importance for me. I heap my gratitude on you and embrace you with all my heart

When Sade wrote this letter, he was living in abject poverty with the widow Quesnet. He had escaped the guillotine by chance the day before the Revolutionary leader Robespierre was overthrown, but his wealth and property was whittled away in the name of the French Revolution. In the spring of 1797, Sade spent some time going around his dilapidated properties and dealing with matters connected with them. From Saumane, he wrote to the local authorities saying that he had come south to recover money due him from the estate but had found, to his astonishment, that the revolutionaries had confiscated much of it. In order to recapture a share of the rents due him, Sade was forced to make a legal declaration that in fact he was a decent and upright citizen. It is in this letter, that he discusses that declaration. The property at Arles, over which he expresses anger at its loss, refers to the efforts of his long-suffering lawyer to complete the sale of the property which Sade himself had instigated during a recent visit. To add to his woes, Sade was under constant attack by his detractors, one of whom he also mentions in this letter, noting, “the best laugh is his who laughs last....” Sade, however, was a touch too optimistic. By January of 1798 he moved to Versailles where the living was a bit less expensive. There, he made his abode in an attic and fed on carrots and beans, finally obtaining work at the local theater where he received four pence per day as payment.

A fine letter with significant content. $4,000 - $6,000
206. Andersen, Hans Christian. Autograph letter signed, in English, 1 page (7 7/8 x 10 5/8 in.; 181 x 257 mm.), “Copenhagen,” November 1867 to an unnamed correspondent; marginal soiling, the leaf appears to have been removed from an autograph album as there is text about another manuscript on verso.


Andersen writes in full: England and Scotland. I knew and loved those countries before my feet trod them. With [Captain Frederick] Marryat’s ‘Jacob Faithful,’ [1834] I had long before sailed up the Thames; by [Charles] Dickens I was led into London’s narrow lane and I listened to the throbbing hearts there; and in ‘Night and Morning’ [Edward George Bulwer [first Baron Lytton] opened to my gaze the rich landscapes, with its towns, its churches, and its villages.”

I was intimate with [William] Shakespeare’s land and [Robert] Burns’ [Burns’] mountains before my corporal eye beheld them; and when at length I visited them, I was not received as a stranger. Kind eyes regarded me, friends extended the hand to me. Elevated and humbled at the same time by so much happiness, my heart swelled with gratitude to God.

$4,000 - $6,000
It took Flaubert five long years of hard work to write *Madame Bovary*, his “grinding millstone.” Maxime Du Camp, who had founded the periodical *Revue de Paris*, urged him to make haste, but he would not. When Flaubert wrote this letter, he had already been working on chapter 8 for months, and as he reveals, he has just “resolved on a plan of the middle of my agricultural fair.” In the completed novel, the author describes the event and intermingles in a masterful, unforgettable way the dialogue between Emma and Rodolphe, which seals their intention to begin an affair together, with the pompous speeches and animal auctions. *Madame Bovary* eventually appeared in installments in the *Revue* from October 1 to December 15, 1856. The French government then brought Flaubert to trial on grounds of the novel’s alleged immorality, but he narrowly escaped conviction.

Louise Colet was the only woman with whom Flaubert is known to have a passionate relationship. She was his mistress over two periods of almost three years each—from 1846 to 1848 and from 1851 to 1854. The final affair ended in utter disaster.

An extraordinary letter by Flaubert lamenting over his greatest work, *Madame Bovary*. $10,000 – $15,000

Mahatma Gandhi campaigns on behalf of the Harijans or “untouchables” --the lowest caste in India-- 50-60 million outcasts, the victims of Hindu discrimination.

Gandhi writes in full: I don’t think it w[oul]d do to have a helper who believes in untouchability. The matron sh[oul]d be free from ceremonial untouchability. The foundation must be well laid. Only you sh[oul]d be the matron, mother & everything till you get a good substitute.

I think it w[oul]d be well for you both brother & sister to live under separate roofs. If the Ashram comes into being, that is the fittest opportunity for separation.

You should daily practise Hindi writing. Never mind if you cannot write me in Hindi just yet. You must come again some other time to Wardha [a village] to polish your Hindi. We are all well, though the cold is somewhat trying.

After Gandhi’s release from prison, August 1939, he began a country-wide tour to promote the Harijan cause, covering 12,500 miles in 10 months. During his tour, he called on caste Hindus to purge themselves of prejudice against the Harijans, and urged the Harijans to shake off their vice (drugs and drink), which hindered their absorption into Hindu society. Upon the conclusion of the tour, Gandhi was given a house at Magnwadi, near Wardha, by Sheth Jhamnalal Bajaj, the financial sponsor of Wardha Ashram. Gandhi made it the headquarters of his new society, the All-India Village Industries Association, which was launched on 26 October 1934 with Gandhi as patron and Gandhi’s millionaire industrialist friends as backers. Then on 16 June 1936, Gandhi moved to a small village east of Wardha called Segaon. Its inhabitants were 600 Harijans. There, Bapu, hoping to create a model village, remained for three years, his home virtually becoming another Ashram.

The present unpublished letter is not included in The Collected Works of MG containing Gandhi’s teachings regarding untouchability. $6,000 - $8,000
209. Gandhi, Mohandas Karmachand. 1869–1948. Autograph letter signed (“M. K. Gandhi”), in English, at the head, 4 pages, (8 ¼ x 5 ¼ in.; 206 x 133 mm.), “Ahmedabad,” 18 September [no year], to an unidentified “Dear friend”; tape reinforcement to folds.

In a letter to a dear friend, Gandhi imparts a wonderful morsel of wisdom—a personal creed that he quietly exemplified over his entire life: you have but to affect your surroundings instead of being affected by them.

Gandhi writes in full: I am surprised at your not receiving the draft orders. Send a copy again herewith. I shall anxiously await your criticism. Many have sent me theirs and I remain unmoved by it. There is little or nothing to alter. Miss [Sonja] Schlesin [his secretary] has lost her brother. You will recall the youngster’s features. I have in my hands a case of serious fever. It is mostly the Tamil inmates. The case taxes all my energy and ability. I think it will yield to the testament that is practically starvation. She is suffering from over eating. He knows it’s bad. Today is the 12th day. Then there is Ramdas [Gandhi’s son] just slowly recovering from a severe attack of dysentery. The third case is Midn [?] a friend suffering from incipient consumption [?]. You can well imagine my state. However I am fairly calm.

I have given this picture to show you that there are many men whom you know and who are suffering more perhaps than you are; for physical ailments are often far more principal than reformation of one’s liberty when it carries no stigma with it. As I have said, you can turn your attention to many aggrandize [?]; you have but to affect your surroundings instead of being affected by them. With love ever your Old friend.

One of the most influential figures of the twentieth century Gandhi was known as “Mahatma” (in Sanskrit: great; atman: soul) a title conferred on him by writer Rabindranath Tagore. Gandhi’s familiar dress was merely a loincloth and a homespun blanket & cape. Born into a wealthy Gujarati family Gandhi was raised as a Hindu. Passing the bar in 1891 Gandhi went to South Africa where he remained for 20 years. While in South Africa he became celibate, abstained from meat, tobacco, and alcohol and lived in voluntary poverty. He dedicated his life to the betterment of his people, renouncing threats, violence and weapons. Convinced that firmness in the truth or soul force (Satyagraha) was the strongest power in the world, he returned to India in January 1915, and campaigned on behalf of the “untouchables” in the caste system. Calling for non-violent non-cooperation with government agencies, he also led a campaign for self-rule (Swaraj) after Britain’s refusal to grant substantial self-government after the war. His campaigns—which included protest marches, strikes, boycotts, non-violent civil disobedience, and hartal (strikes with prayer and fasting)—were often successful, though he was sometimes unable to control his supporters who resorted to violence. Gandhi was often jailed for the actions of his supporters. In March 1930, Gandhi and hundreds of followers marched to the sea at Dandi to protest against the imposition of a tax on salt (the “Salt March”); eventually the Salt Law was relaxed. Gandhi played an active part behind the scenes in the negotiations that led to the independence of India (1947) and the appointment of a Congressional government under Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru (1889–1964). Preaching a policy of unity between Hindus and Moslems, Gandhi was assassinated by a Hindu fanatic at a prayer meeting on 30 January 1948.

$4,000 - $6,000
210. Gandhi, Mohandas Karamchand. Autograph letter signed ("your old friend"), in English, 2 pages, (8 ¼ x 5 ¼ in.; 210 x 133 mm.), “Ahmedabad,” 28 May [no year], to a dear friend; crude repair to marginal tears.

In a stunning revelation of his innermost thoughts, Mohandas Gandhi gives a harsh criticism of his own teaching skills — a talent which would, ironically, be one of his greatest legacies.

Gandhi writes in full: At the time of writing this I am not in my usual optimistic mood. The sense of responsibility has weighed me down. So many boys under my care & I a poor teacher at best. This is positive recognition of my defects & not mock modesty. I should know much more than I do. And I know so little. However I cannot avoid must not avoid other work & yet this teaching absorbs as it ought to all my time. But there am I. I want to give you everything and so you have this bit of news too. Please however don’t be alarmed. I shall have my usual mood in the course of a day or two. The boys have returned from Honduras with many sick ones among them. Inagandal himself had a very severe attack. Coopoo is suffering & so are Shaup & Chadalal. Mrs Gandhi is down. She strayed. Here she could not resist her palate so you see I have a fair number of patients in my hands. More I do not feel like giving you this week. I will close by saying that the down will soon pass.

$4,000 - $6,000
211. Hesse, Hermann. Autograph manuscript and drawing signed (“H. Hesse”), in German, 2 pages, (8 x 6 ½ in.; 203 x 165 mm.), August 1929; in pristine condition.

A poem and a drawing all in the hand of Hermann Hesse.

Hesse’s poem in full:

Lampions in der Sommernacht

Warm in dunkler Gartenkühle
Schweben bunte Ampelreihen,
Senden aus dem Laubgewühle
Zart geheimnisvollen Schein.

Eine lächelt hell zitronen,
Rot und weiße lachen feist,
Eine blau scheint zu wohnen
Im Geist wie Mond und Geist.

Eine plötzlich steht in Flammen,
Zuckt empor, ist rasch verloht…
Schwestern schauern still zusammen,
Lächeln, warten auf den Tod:
Mondblau, Weingelb, Sammetrot.

The title of the poem, Paper Lanterns in a Nocturnal Garden, is written on the first page, above which Hesse drew an illustration, in pen and ink and watercolors, of trees in a terraced garden decorated with circular lanterns in red, yellow, orange, blue and white, and with mountains in the background. The poem, in trochaic tetrameter, is written on the integral leaf: Warm in the dark garden coolness…Bright rows of light float…Giving off through the confusion of leaves…A soft mysterious shine…One smiles in bright lemon,…I Red and white ones plumply laugh…A blue one seems to live in the branches like moon and spirit…One is suddenly ablaze…Flashes up, is quickly out…Her sisters quiver quietly…Smiling they await death…Moon blue, wine yellow, velvet red.

A charming manuscript and drawing by the renown German author. $3,000 - $5,000

212. Hugo, Victor. Important autograph letter signed, in French, 2 pages, (9 ⅝ x 7 ¼ in.; 244 x 184 mm.), “Paris,” 16 October 1830 to Baron Fain; integral address leaf with seal tear; Max Thorex stamp on recto of integral address leaf.

Still a strong supporter of the Bonapartes, Hugo writes to Baron Fain, Private secretary to Napoleon I concerning critical words spoken and misdeeds committed against the deceased Emperor.

Hugo writes in full; translated from French: It is my duty to thank you. Your letter touches me more than I can say. Your works which are so eloquent in their simplicity are among those that will associate them with that master, Napoleon. It is you who have erected a monument to him. I have not done more than to bark at the foot of it, at the small and mediocre men who insult him. Envy and hatred have always persecuted genius. What is small seeks to belittle that which is great. That is the order of things. Napoleon proved it in his lifetime. Ordinarily, those miserable pesterings against renowned people stop at the grave. Yet, the Emperor is dead and those wretched tactics still continue on his account. For the sake of the great man let us be proud of them. This is one more exception that can be added to the exceptions of his destiny.

An extraordinary autograph letter by Hugo proclaiming his complete loyalty to Napoleon long after his death. $3,000 - $5,000
213. Marx, Karl (Heinrich). Remarkable autograph letter, in English, 2 pages (8 x 6 ¼ in.; 203 x 159 mm.), Edinburgh, Scotland, 1847 to Archibald Alison; chipped at corners; mounting remnant at right margin on verso.

Karl Marx discusses the effect of monetary policy on agricultural economics and foreign trade.

In this extraordinary letter Marx writes in part: Free Trade and a Fettered Currency. The experience of every age has demonstrated that so great is the effect of capital and civilization applied to manufactures, and so considerable, comparatively speaking, the influence upon agriculture, that the old state can undersell the new one in the industry of towns, and the new one undersell the old one in the industry of the country. The proof of this idea is in England, by the aid of the slavery we can undersell the... of Hindostan in the manufacture of muslin from cotton grown on the banks of the Ganges. But with all the advantages of chemical manure and tile draining, it is undersold in the supply of food by the cultivators on the freetrade. The ultimate universal state would fall into the degrading dependence of ancient Rome on the harvests of Egypt and Libya. Nearly all the manufactures in Lancashire and Lanarkshire are put on short hire. Here then were all the sounds and marks of prosperity, so far as they depend on a state of unexampled vigour and efficiency was then attended, as we were constantly told it would be, by a corresponding repulse given to our manufactures. The increased activity of our manufacturing compensated for the sterility of so large a part of our field. The fact is just the reverse...have exceeded 6 million qrs... total manufactured produce of the island is certainly not under £200,000,000 for the foreign markets of the world. In free trade it has caused fifteen millions worth of domestic agricultural produce to be exchanged for fifteen millions worth of foreign agricultural produce... Distress also certainly to be ascribed to the supplanting of the natural substance, of a large part of home produce, by an equally large part of foreign produce. A powers of absorption goes on or the occurrence of... but not the absorption of labour by capital by pauperism for their hundreds, while holders of notes though more numerous there for their pounds. In 1846 £6,000,000 in postoffice orders were written. It may seem pardonable to enumerate the easy pound of anything as equivalent to actual possession as influencing if not constituting a circulation; but of 2 well known to be so, and to have a corresponding effect on difficult times. In commercial and manufacturing industry with the world, cheap capital was one of our chief advantages, but had our honest industry prosper or live when the interest of capital which was at 2½% is now at 8 to 10% and even during several days all quotations of it had ceased, and the best orders to our manufacturers were unexecuted owing to the entire paralysis of credit. The... consequently on the withholding the accommodation, profusely awarded at one time and abruptly withdrawn at another, are innumerable. The theory is the adverse state of foreign exchange, from whatever cause arising, and whether temporary or otherwise. To be corrected by making money scarce, and thereby lowering the value of all merchandise. Do these reasons comprehend the losses occasioned by the depreciation of all monies when this is applied to correct every occasional fluctuation of exchanges? How can it be supposed that you can suddenly create by cheapness new markets for goods rather than of necessity? The absorption of capital for railroads though greatly desirable for those who require that capital for the ordinary purposes of trade, does not necessarily affect the operations of the bank to the integrity of the rates... The great German political philosopher writes to Archibald Alison, a Scottish historian and author of the History of Europe during the French Revolution. A fascinating letter with quintessential content from Marx. $20,000 - $30,000

A stormy life has made me sigh for repose.

Rousseau writes in full; translated from French: Far from forgetting you, Madame, one of my pleasures in this retreat is to recall the happy times of my life; they have been rare and short-lived, but the memory of them increases them and it is the past which makes the present bearable for me, and I have too great a need of you to forget you. However, I will not write to you, Madame; a stormy life has made me sigh for repose and I feel that I can have none of that except by giving up all correspondence outside the place I am inhabiting. So I am taking up my position, too late no doubt, but soon enough to enjoy those days of peace which may be left to me. Farewell, Madame; the friendship you have honored me with will always be with me and dear to me; may I pray also that you remember it sometimes.

Written at the height of his infamous quarrel with David Hume, Rousseau’s letter seems to convey a desperate desire to escape the public attention that had dogged him from Paris to London to the remote town in the Derbyshire Peaks where he made his retreat. Yet at the same time, its bold sense of resolution does not ring true. Lodging at the home of Richard Davenport, a sympathetic gentleman whom he had met while posing at the painter Ramsay’s, Rousseau in fact continued to write letters throughout the summer, complaining of the treatment he received at the hands of Hume, who had escorted him from France, helped him look for a place to live in England, and made efforts to secure him a pension. His paranoia was aroused in April upon the publication of a spurious and sarcastic letter from Frederick II to Rousseau, in which the philosopher was attacked for his eccentricities, his lack of common sense, and his abiding sense of persecution. Rousseau held Hume responsible for this epistle, and — despite the pleas of his friends — prepared his own letter in answer to the “hold” which he felt Hume now had over him (while travelling, he had heard Hume exclaim in his sleep, “I hold Jean Jacques Rousseau!”). This eighteen-page diatribe of 10 July 1766 became a ‘cause célèbre’ on both sides of the Channel and prompted Hume’s own “Concise Account.” The friendship between the two men, if it had ever truly existed, had now come to an end. $4,000 - $6,000

215. Voltaire, Francois Marie Arouet. Autograph letter, in French, 4 pages, (9 ⅛ x 7 ⅜ in.; 232 x 184 mm.), At d’elices, 6 December [no year.], to the philosopher, mathematician, physicist and music theorist, Jean le Rond d’Alembert; in pristine condition.

A personal letter to the philosopher d’Alembert discussing political issues and the King of Prussia with mention of Hume and Diderot.

Voltaire writes in full; translated from French: I have just received your letter dated October 1. I am not sure if I have thanked you enough for the excellent work you wrote in honor of the memory of du Marsay, who might have not been remembered without it. But I know that I will never be able to tell you how grateful I am to you for using your eloquence and reasoning to support me as I have heard you did regarding the loathsome murder of Servet [Michel Servet was burned alive in 1553 at Calvin’s instigation because of his unorthodox beliefs and publications] and also for what you wrote about the virtue of tolerance in the Geneva article. I look forward to receiving a copy of it. Some wretches feel so close to the [spirit of the] sixteenth century that they have dared to justify the murder of Servet in this century. These contemptible people are priests. I can assure you that I have not read a word of what they wrote. It was enough for me to know that they are a source of shame to all honest people. One of these rascals has asked the Council of the 25 in Geneva for the files of this trial that will make Calvin execrable forever. The Council has regarded this request an insult. Magistrates despise the crime their ancestors were led into by fanaticism and some priest would like to canonize it! You can be sure that this last despicable act will bring upon them as much hate as they deserve. I have received only compliments from all honest local people.

Who on earth is this young priest who wants to make you out to be a usurer? Did you, by any chance, borrow some money at usurious rates when your Prussian, during the battle of Kolín, did not seem willing to pay the pensions? But I am sure that at the battle of the 5th, everyone must have lent you money. Here is more bad news about the pensions. The Austrians, who arrived before Breslaw on the 22nd, avenged and humiliated us terribly. They attacked the Prussian entrenchments thirteen times for six hours. No victory before has ever been so bloody and horribly beautiful. We funny Frenchmen are quicker and we are all done in five minutes.

The King of Prussia keeps writing me verses, sometimes as a man in despair, sometimes as a hero. As for me, I try to live as a philosopher in my retreat. He has obtained what he had always longed for, that is to
defeat the French, to make them like him and to make fun of them. But the Austrians are really making fun of him too. He has won glory from our disgrace on the 5th, but he will have to content himself with this passing glory that he has won too easily. He will lose his territories along with the ones that he has gained, unless the French manage to lose their army again as they did during the 1741 war. Tell me about writing his story. He will never leave this to anyone. He makes a point of doing it himself. Yes, you are right; he is unique. Let us get back to you, who are as famous in your field as he is in his. I knew nothing about the silly thing you tell me. I will get some information about it and you will have me read the Mercure.

I do as Cato, I always finish my harangue saying deleatur Catago. I must say that there are some lines in the eulogy of du Marsais that are really comforting. Five or six philosophers working together would be enough to knock down the colossus. The point is not so much to prevent our lackeys from going to church; we have to shield family men from the tyrannical powers wielded over them by impostors, and to inspire people with a spirit of tolerance. This important mission has already succeeded. Sometimes. The vine of truth is cultivated by people like d’Alembert, Diderot, Bolinbroke, Hume, etc. Had this King of Prussia of yours decided to limit himself to this Holy Mission, he would have lived happily and blessed by all European learned societies. Truth is making so much progress that I have seen in my retreat some Spaniards and Portuguese who hated the Inquisition as much as the French do. Macte animo generose puer sic itur ad astrae. In the past, one would have said sic itur ad ignem. I do not like all the fuss du Marsais made before his death. I have read that this small-townish man from the Landes region who had written about the history of philosophy in such a provincial style, asked before he died that his book, Of the Great Men Who Died Laughing, be burned. But who on earth knew that he had written that book? Talking about burning, please burn my letter. Mrs. D sends you her best regards. The chatterbox gives you a big hug. Do you still see the clear-sighted blind Mrs. Du Deffant? If you happen to see her, please tell her that I still think of her affectionately!

The relationship between Voltaire and Frederick the Great began in 1736, when the Crown Prince was twenty-four years old and the philosopher some eighteen years his senior. Throughout the rest of Voltaire’s life this relationship rode through the tides—its vicissitudes, asperities and periods of calm, even silence—and was accompanied by correspondence, visits, gifts and exchanges of verses and other writings. The relationship began with a young man, heir to the powerful throne of Prussia, spontaneously approaching Voltaire out of respect and admiration. This early phase is mainly filled with literature and, above all, philosophy. On literature too there is much to exchange. Frederick transmits some of his own compositions. In return, Voltaire dispatches numerous works, which Frederick is avid to obtain. Eventually, Frederick receives Voltaire’s major works which not only elicit passionate admiration but provoke differences in opinions, objections, discontent and cynical conduct, causing vacillations in their relationship from the bitterest quarrels to great intimacy. Haydn Mason in his biography, Voltaire, concludes that “The quarrels between Voltaire and Frederick have a heroic quality, as befits two personalities so vigorous, so complex and so enterprising. Each recognised in the other a great man, for all their faults. Frederick’s energy inspired the philosophe to work; Voltaire had never, he said, seen a man so industrious. Frederick for his part was to continue to see Voltaire not merely as a rascal, but also as a god. Beneath the rancour, contempt, jealousies, lay an enduring reciprocal esteem . . . no place could house them together for long, the more so because the one was born to command and the other to seek his independence.

An important letter with significant content from one philosopher to another. $6,000 - $8,000
216. Armstrong, Louis. Autograph letter signed ("Louis Satchmo Armstrong"), 5 pages, (11 x 8 ½ in.; 279 x 216 mm.), "Chicago," 5 April 1933 to an unidentified friend "Gate"; soiled, small splits at folds.

**Louis Armstrong writes a letter while listening to Duke Ellington’s orchestra on the radio:**

The Great Satchmo writes while listening to the radio giving his praises to the Duke and reminiscing a little to his friend.

Armstrong writes in part: "I've just gotten back home from my Tour down South - we had a lovely time. Everybody was so glad to see me and- you know? - all the 'Buh lony' that goes along with it. Ha. Ha. But sho 'nuff Gate I am having a grand time on my tours.

I am now sitting home in my dining room with some of the folks at home and we are listening to the Radio. A swell program is now in session. The Three Keys are now getting away 'righteously'. Late that Cats are after the Mills Brothers own hearts. But I am still Crazy over those Boswell Sisters. Bless their hearts. They are from my home town, you know? Fine Girls. They think I am the Last word. They played here at the Chicago Theatre the same week we played the Palace Theatre. Ol Amos 'N Andy's just comin in on the radio. They are still funny. They 'l soon be making another movie so you all'l get another chance to see the funny boys again. Like Em? I bet your little boy does.

Boy, you're right, when you said we broke all records for doubling from the Trocadero - to the Hobborn Empire Theatres. Some quick connections I really mean. Ha. Ha. We was known to make time, Eh? Gizzard? Ha. Ha.

So by now it's the wee hours in the morning - And we're now listening to Duke Ellington's Orchestra whom has just return 'd to the Famous Cotton Club in NewYork. Boy they are raising H--- no foolin' My. My. My. What a band. Ol Duke has a new trombone player from California that's really too tight. His name is Lawrence Brown. He was in my orchestra when I was in Hollywood the year of 1930. He's a trombone hound...

A great informal and rambling letter from Armstrong to a good friend, written from his home in Chicago when he was there briefly between tours. He mentions the great Duke Ellington, and makes some flattering comments about the Duke's new trombone player, Lawrence Brown, who joined Ellington in the spring of 1932 and stayed with him until March, 1951, and then rejoined with him in May, 1960, staying throughout the sixties.

$3,000 - $5,000
217. Beethoven, Ludwig von. Autograph letter signed (“Beethoven”) in pencil, in German, 3 pages, (5 ½ x 8 ½ in.; 140 x 216 mm.), [no place, no date], to Tobias Haslinger (a friend and business partner of Beethoven’s publisher, Sigmund A. Steiner); browning and some marginal chipping.

A disgruntled Beethoven writes of the second performance of his 9th Symphony and his Missa Solemnis.

Beethoven writes in full; translated from German: Dear Friend You would really do me great injustice were you to suppose that negligence prevented my sending you the tickets. I assure you that it was my intention to do so, but forget it like many other things. I hope that some other opportunity will may occur to enable me to prove my sentiments with regard to you. I am, I assure you, entirely innocent of all that [Louis-Antoine] Duport has done, in the same way that it was he who thought fit to represent the Terzett [OP. 116] as new, not I. You know too well my love of the truth; but it is better to be silent now on that subject, as it is not everyone who is aware of the true state of the case, and I though innocent, might incur blame. I do not at all care for the other proposals Duport makes, as by this concert I have lost both time and money. In the greatest haste, your friend Beethoven.

After a symphonic silence of nearly twelve years, the aging German composer Ludwig van Beethoven began work on a new grand symphony in D minor, based on a choral setting of Schiller’s An die Freunde (“Ode to Joy”) which was to be, according to the master, “a pious song in a symphony in the ancient modes.” The nature of this work combined several diverse elements that had been stirring in his imagination for many years, as he remarked, “For some time I have been thinking about three other great works. Much is already planned; in my head, that is. I must first get them out of the way; two great symphonies, each one different the ideas of which he fused into one, the 9th and an oratorio which became the Missa Solemnis. But it will take a long time; you see, it’s not easy for me to bring myself to do any writing for some time now. I sit and think; I’ve had the ideas for quite a long time; but they refuse to be committed to paper. I’m terrified of starting such great works. Once I’m inside them, all will be well…” Much of the work on this new symphony was completed in 1823, and finishing touches were added in February of 1824.

On May 7, 1824, the premiere of this seminal work (and the one for which Beethoven is best remembered), the Symphony No. 9 in D minor, Op. 125, took place at the Karntnertor-Theatre in Vienna, as arranged by Duport (who Beethoven derisively referred to as an “ex-dancer”). In addition, the concert showcased parts of his Missa Solemnis, Op. 123- the Kyrie, Credo, and Agnus Dei- as well as another overture, that of The Consecration of the House. [A note: Beethoven himself considered the Missa Solemnis his greatest work, intending it to be his legacy and the crowning achievement of his life-long musical output, much in the same way that Mozart left his
Requiem and Haydn, The Creation. Beethoven labored over it for three years, and signed the score “Bitte für inneren und ausseren Freiden” or “prayer for inner and outer peace” - a fitting epitaph, and a summation of his troubled life.

The first performance of the 9th Symphony must have been a remarkable sight. According to violinist Joseph Michael Bohm, “Beethoven himself conducted, that is, he stood in front of a conductor’s stand and threw himself back and forth like a mad-man. At one moment he stretched to his full height, at the next he crouched down to the floor, he flailed about with his hands and feet as though he wanted to play all the instruments and sing all the chorus parts. The actual direction was in Duport’s hands; we musicians followed his baton only.” The symphony was met with great enthusiasm by the breathless Viennese. Many years later, the pianist Thalberg, who was among those present, recalled that after the scherzo had ended Beethoven stood turning over the leaves of the score, quite unaware of the thunderous applause (he was by this time almost completely deaf), until one of the singers pulled him by the sleeve and pointed to the audience behind him, to whom he then turned and bowed.

Two weeks later (May 23), Beethoven gave a second performance, the one for which, in the present letter, he has expressed regret in not procuring complimentary tickets for Haslinger. Duport was not only the conductor of the orchestra for this and the first performance, but also played a vital part in their organization. At the second performance, Duport scheduled the Kyrie from the Missa Solemnis, and also a vocal trio for soprano, tenor and bass, Tremate, empi, tremate (Op. 116), that was announced by Duport as a “new” work, which it was not: it had been written over twenty years before, and was purchased by Haslinger but not yet published. Thus, Duport managed to enrage both the composer (whose mercurial temper was legendary) and the owner of the music. It is interesting to note that Beethoven mentions in this type of concert, I have lost only time and money. Indeed, these first two performances of the 9th Symphony did not result in the windfall that would justify the time and effort the great composer had given to these two works; he had made a paltry 420 florins on the first concert, and 500 at the second, due primarily to the pleasant weather and the many “open air” patrons those who did not pay to enter the theatre but remained outside to enjoy the music. Yet, despite this original disappointment in receipts, over 150 years later his great symphony remains one of the most beloved and often performed of any in the entire repertoire of classical music.

An extremely rare and significant letter concerning the second performance of the 9th Symphony and the Missa Solemnis—his two greatest works—with the disgruntled tone that so perfectly embodies this musical icon.

References: Published in The Letters of Beethoven ed. Emily Anderson, volume 3, number 1294, page 1130 (London: Macmillan, 1961), where the autograph manuscript is noted as not traced, but lists the letter as appearing in the sale catalog of G. Charavay in May, 1890. Translation herewith by Lady Grace Wallace from Dr. Ludwig Nohl’s Beethoven’s Letters (ca.1866). $40,000 - $60,000
218. Berlioz, Hector. Autograph letter signed, in French, 3 pages (9 ½ x 7 ½ in.; 241 x 191 mm.), “Montmartre,” 16 December 1835 to his lifelong friend Humbert Ferrand at Belley; scattered spotting, address panel on verso of third page with seal tears.

Berlioz experiences great success in Germany thanks to Franz Liszt.

Berlioz writes in full; translated from French: I am not to blame for having kept you waiting so long for a letter; you can have no idea of what I have to do day after day, and how very little leisure I have, even when I have any. But it is useless to expatiate on that subject; I am sure you do not doubt the pleasure I experience in writing to you. I met A. Coste, the publisher of Italie pittoresque, yesterday; he told me that it is too late to send in any article for that work, as it is approaching a conclusion, but that if you like to send him any biographies of illustrious men and women for his publication, Galerie des Hommes Illustres de l’Italie, which is to come out as a continuation of Italie pittoresque, he will be delighted. Send him the names of the subjects you chose, so as to avoid any chance of their being done twice over, or given to somebody else. As nobody has paid any attention to the women, Coste would be glad if you would devote your self especially to them. Your articles will be paid for at the rate of from a hundred to a hundred and twenty-five francs; I will do my best to get the hundred and twenty-five for you. Thank you for your verses; if I can find time, I will try to hit upon a tune to match them.

I should very much like to send you the score of Harold, which is dedicated to you. It has been twice as successful this year as last, and it decidedly surpasses the Symphie fantastique. I am glad I offered you the dedication before I made you acquainted with the work; to introduce it to you will be a fresh delight. Frankly, I have written nothing which will suit you better. An opera of mine has been accepted at the Opera; Duponchel is in a good humor; the libretto which, this time, will be a poem, is by Alfred de Vigny and August Barbier. It is deliciously vivacious, and full of color. I cannot set to work upon the music yet; metal fails me as it did my hero (you know, perhaps, that he is Benvenuto Cellini). In a day or two I will try to find time to send you a few notes for the article you want to write, and especially about Harold. I am most successful in Germany, thanks to the pianoforte arrangement of my Symphie fantastique by Liszt; I have received a bundle of newspapers from Leipzig and Berlin, in which Fetis shines brilliantly with light reflected from me. Liszt is not here. Besides, we are so intimately connected that his name would do the article more harm than good.

Thank you for all you say about my wife and my son; I love them more and more every day. Henrietta is deeply sensible of all the interest you take in her, but your allusions to our little Louis delight her most. In a postscript, Berlioz has added; The two extracts from Harold cannot be taken apart from the remainder without making nonsense of them. It would be just like sending you the second act of an opera.

Berlioz composed his second symphony, Harold en Italie, in the summer of 1834, in response to a request from Paganini for a work in which he might display a fine Stradivari viola. Berlioz used the opportunity to devise an unusual symphony with concerto elements in which echoes of his Italian journey are presented in the cloak of Byron’s Childe Harold. It was first performed that winter.

Ferrand was Berlioz’s closest friend; a lawyer by profession, he was also a poet and novelist. They were students together, and from 1827, when Ferrand left Paris for Belley (90 km east of Lyon), they rarely met but corresponded frequently and devotedly. Of all his correspondents it was Ferrand to whom Berlioz truly opened his heart. His letters to him, spanning 43 years, provide the most expansive and vital autobiographical record — comparable to his Memoires, but written for private rather than public consumption. $3,000 - $5,000
220. Brahms, Johannes. Autograph letter signed (“J. Brahms”), in German, 2 pages (5 ¼ x 3 ¾ in.; 149 x 98 mm.), “Karlsgasse 4, Vienna,” [no date], to an unidentified singer; light, scattered spotting.

Brahms anxiously asks a singer about performing the smaller solos in the Passion.

Brahms writes in full; translated from German: I was always apprehensive about asking you to do the smaller solos in the Passion. Now I see that you sang next to Hill earlier, too. Couldn’t you let me know whether you could take part in that way this time, too, and what you sang at the time (under Hellmesberger), I mean everything!? I hope this note will be forwarded to Graz or wherever and that you will immediately write a note. $3,000 – $5,000

219. Blake, Eubie. Autograph musical manuscript signed, 7 pages in pencil - pre-printed each with 12 staves, (12 ½ x 9 ½ in.; 318 x 241 mm.), being the 1921 song, “I’m Just Wild About Harry,” the new arrangement for Miss Swann—with words by Noble Sissle and music by Eubie Blake; some soiling.

*I’m Just Wild About Harry* musical manuscript entirely in Eubie Blake’s hand.

The song’s familiar lyrics, in part:

“I’m just wild a-bout Har-ry
And Har-ry’s wild a-bout me
The hea’n-ly bliss-es
Of his kiss-es fills me with ec-sta-sy
He’s sweet as choc-late can-dy
As just like hon-cy from the bee”

Stamped on each page with Eubie Blake’s 1959 registration with Local 802. The manuscript was Blake’s personal gift to his close friend and protégé, Jim Hession. In the 1970’s, Hession, a jazz performer, met Blake, his musical mentor, and the two worked on and off together until Blake’s death in 1983. Blake passed on to Hession his knowledge of ragtime music. Hession’s first record was aptly titled “Eubie Blake Introducing Jim Hession.” A great association, lending superb provenance to the manuscript.

$8,000 – $12,000
221. Donizetti, Gaetano. Autograph letter signed, 3 pages, in Italian, (9 ⅞ x 8 ⅛ in.; 251 x 206 mm.), [no place, no date], to the music publisher Pacini, in Paris; light browning and spotting.

Donizetti discusses the trials and tribulations of training young composers and students researching manuscripts.

Donizetti writes, in part; translated from Italian: Have you seen M. de Couriz? Have you asked him if he has had my letters yet? If you haven’t done so, may I beg you to see him about this, and write to me from his place, at least so that I get a line from you telling me whether or not he has received them. Most important of all, have you had my letter asking about his through the post yet? I will tell Mr. Cherubini once more that however much I search Rome and Naples, they are unlikely to come up with the Palestrina originals; and if this does not let him up in the Sistine Chapel, I will begin to despair of carrying out his wishes. I am not asking to do so, however, and who knows, one day this may be possible. Do me the favor of giving it to Master Farole, and allow me to send you on a walk as far as the Madeleine, or if not, put it in the local post. Greet M. Bordese from me, and ask him to pay my respects to the Thayer household, and not to forget this, even though Mr. Theodore has not written. Does your good and clever son still write? Greet him; God only knows when we shall meet. Oh! Patience! Don’t forget the many things you must tell all my acquaintances. Tell my friend and lawyer that he must write to me. And give my best wishes to your wife, your sons and your present and future daughters. In a lengthy postscript he adds; We have here an influx of French gentlemen who study and do research on manuscripts. Among them is a M. Briance, a great friend of Ivanoff, who on account of studying and falling off a horse has smashed his feet and wrenched his knee, his nose etc. etc. Through studying music he already wants to start composing, before going in for the theater. He began by studying three times a day, then twice and eventually only once. Finally he gave up altogether and went on the stage, and it is a pity that he didn’t pursue this with his original enthusiasm, as he might have made something of it. Barbara was disgusted and was quite wrong to make sinister voices go from him. Perhaps he will be very honest; but it is easy to talk from here. M. Vénose, the other Frenchman, is leaving for Milan, where he hopes to find manuscripts. Mme Bourgeois is still here. She doesn’t seem to have studied music much, but is doing so with me and M. Vorzet, and both of them are researching manuscripts. Mlle. Bernard made her début at St. Carlo with Mme Serimode; if she had been as docile as that with me, things would have gone much better. She is now promising to study with Comane; she ought to have listened to people who know about the theater and not made a fool of herself, but there is still hope.

A lengthy letter with wonderful content. $3,000 – $5,000

222. Dvorak, Anton. Autograph letter signed (“Antonin Dvorak”) in English, 2 pages (6 ⅞ x 4 ½ in.; 175 x 114 mm.), “Prague,” 4 November 1890 to an unnamed publisher; light browning, repair to page folds.

Dvorak writes a publisher concerning the sale of copyrights for two of his compositions.

Dvorak writes in full: Responding to your last letter from 26 October 1890, I should be very glad to give you the copyright of the Sinfonie as well as that of my Requiem, and I only beg to ask you how much you will offer me A) if you will get the copyright of the Sinfonie and Requiem for Great Brit. only B) if you will get the copyright of the Sinfonie (without to be limited) and for the Requiem, only for Great Brit. C) if you will get the copyright as well for the Sinfonie and the Requiem without to be limited. The Requiem is finished (vocal score and Full score) and if you will please to look at it, I shall send it to you in a few days, when I get home from Frankfurt a.m. [am Main], for which place I leave to day.

The two works Dvorak discusses in this letter are his Requiem Mass for chorus and orchestra, published in London in 1891, and his Symphony no. 8 in G. published in 1892 in London.

$3,000 – $5,000
223. Gershwin, George. Printed musical score signed (“George Gershwin May 8, 1930”), 42 pages (plus cover), (11 3/4 x 9 3/8 in.; 302 x 232 mm.), Harms Inc., New York, New York, 1925; cover is separated from the rest of the score at the left margin, some wear, corners chipped.

Piano solo musical score for George Gershwin’s Rhapsody in Blue signed on the cover by Gershwin as well as by Paul Whiteman and members of his orchestra who premiered the composition—with Gershwin as soloist.

The complete score for piano solo (with second piano included) of Gershwin’s popular Rhapsody in Blue boldly signed on the cover by George Gershwin. In 1924, Gershwin appeared as piano soloist with Paul Whiteman’s Orchestra in the premiere of his Rhapsody in Blue. The composition created a new musical form—symphonic jazz and proved to be a stimulating influence on both jazz and classical music. The score is also signed by many musicians (some unidentified), most of whom were members of “King of Jazz” bandleader Paul Whiteman’s Orchestra in the 20’s and early 30’s, including: the “King of Jazz”, himself, bandleader Paul Whiteman (to whom the score is dedicated); guitarist Eddie Lang; trumpeter Andy Secrest; saxophonist Frank Trumbauer (“F. Trumbauer”); pianist/arranger Leonard G. Hayton; violinist Joe Venuti; clarinetist/saxophonist Izzy Friedman; trumpeter Frank Siegrist; bass saxophonist/tuba player “Min” Leibrook; trombonist William Rank (“Wm. Rank”); drummer George Marsh; Roy Maier; Roy Bargy; Kurt Dieterle; Matt Makeder; Michael Pingitore; Wilbur F. Hall; Mischa Russell; John Bonnan; Charles Strickfield; Jack Fulton Jr.; Chester H. Hazlett; “Goldie”; Bernie Daley; Mike Trafficante. $4,000 – $6,000


Composer George Gershwin is asked to compare Rhapsody in Blue (1924) to An American in Paris (1928).

Gershwin writes in full: To clear up the situation about which you write, this is the fact—Rhapsody in Blue was written in three weeks of actual work. You also ask, in my opinion, is it outranked by An American in Paris. It is very difficult for me to compare my compositions, as they both have such different qualities.

On 12 February 1924, Paul Whiteman and his Palais Royal Orchestra offered An Experiment in Modern Music which included Gershwin’s debut of Rhapsody in Blue. The historic jazz concert, with Gershwin at the piano, took place at New York’s Aeolian Hall. The concert, the occasion for Gershwin’s historic debut of his new symphonic work Rhapsody in Blue, solidified Gershwin’s place in music history. Ferde Grofé orchestrated the composition.

Gershwin claimed that the overall outline of the Rhapsody took shape in his mind while he was traveling by train to Boston for the out-of-town tryout of Sweet Little Devil; he began the main draft of the work on 7 January 1924. He finished the sketch of the composition about three weeks after he started on January 25th. Grofé’s scoring of the work took ten days and was completed on 4 February 1924.

Rehearsals lasted five days. Whiteman called his concert An Experiment in Modern Music insisting, “The experiment is to be purely educational. Rhapsody in Blue was the next-to-last piece on the program. Gershwin appeared on stage, strode quickly and confidently to the piano, sat down, exchanged glances with Whiteman—and then came clarinet soloist Gorman’s opening wail; an exuberant, unexpected beginning that had the audience transfixed. Gershwin’s hands flew over the keyboard. After the Rhapsody ended, there were several seconds of silence followed by a crescendo of tumultuous applause and enthusiastic cries. The Whiteman concert deserves credit for introducing what Rudy Vallee aptly called a kind of “symphonized syncopation” to the musical cognoscenti—by presenting it in a concert hall; Gershwin’s Rhapsody succeeded in bestowing “respectability” to jazz.

Gershwin’s An American in Paris premiered at Carnegie Hall on 13 December 1928. Described as “a tone poem for orchestra” the New York Philharmonic Orchestra played the piece with enormous élan and obvious relish. An American in Paris shows a greater diversity of musical texture than Gershwin’s earlier works, mainly achieved by contrapuntally combining important thematic elements with figurations of one kind or another and with commensurate emphasis on detail.

Indeed, comparing Rhapsody in Blue to An American in Paris would be like comparing apples to oranges. $3,000 – 5,000
225. Hammerstein, Oscar, II. Autograph lyrics to “Oh What a Beautiful Morning!” from “Oklahoma!”; accompanied by a typed note signed (“Oscar”) regarding the lyrics, (12 ⅝ x 8 in.; 327 x 203 mm.), The lyrics are written in pencil on a yellow sheet of blue-lined legal folio, no place or date; rust stains from paper clip, marginal splits to horizontal folds.

Oscar Hammerstein’s most memorable verse from Oklahoma!, Oh What a Beautiful Morning!

Hammerstein writes in full:

There’s a bright golden haze on the meadow,
There’s a bright golden haze on the meadow,
The corn is as high as an elephant’s eye
And it looks like it’s climbin’ clear up to the sky!

Oh, what a beautiful mornin’,
Oh, what a beautiful day!
I got a beautiful feelin’
Everythin’s goin’ my way!

The accompanying typed note signed is approximately (8 ¼ in. x 5 in.; 209 x 127 mm.), on pink-toned “Oscar Hammerstein II” letterhead, dated March 3, 1958, to Lynn Farnol. In full: “Dear Lynn: Here are the ‘pencilled lines’. Sincerely, Oscar”

Oklahoma! is one of a long line of popular scores Hammerstein produced in his long and successful career. His other great musicals include: Carousel (1945), South Pacific (1949), The King and I (1951) and The Sound of Music (1959). In collaboration with Jerome Kern, the two were known for a number of well-known musicals in the 1920s and 1930s, including Sunny (1925), Show Boat (1927), Sweet Adeline (1929), Music in the Air (1932) and Very Warm for May (1939) as well as the songs I Won’t Dance (1935) and The Last Time I Saw Paris (1940). Hammerstein wrote no less than 35 musicals in New York and 2 in London, of which there was a record number of 26 screen adaptations. $6,000 - $8,000
226. Holiday, Billie (Eleanora Fagan). Poignant autograph letter signed (“Lady Billie Holiday”), in pencil, 2 pages (10 ¼ x 8 in.; 260 x 203 mm.), Box No. PMB A, “Alderson, West Virginia,” 12 July 1947 to her husband, Joseph Guy, 10 Reed St., County Prison, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; the letter is stamped “CENSORED BY:” (and initialed) at the top of page one.

An emotional letter from Billie Holiday incarcerated on narcotics charges, to her husband, also in prison.

Holiday writes, in full with misspellings uncorrected: Joe Darling. Your letter just arrived and it just makes me sick the way people set there [their selves] up to be so true blue. Bama has told everybody on the street he gave you money a darlor [dollar] indeed could he spare it. As for Bobby I am sure he will send you some when he can. He said he had to wait until pay day and as you know sweetheart he has got a wife and two kids. But hasn’t he wrote to you yet. He owes me a letter also. Well hes [he] working on 52nd st and has to travel way over to Jersey. But I don’t think he will let us down. We are going to the Movies tonight so I will finish this when I get back.

Well baby I am back from the Movies it was called Sister Kennedy [Sister Kenny, 1946] with Rosland Russel [Rosalind Russell]. It was a very good picture but it made me kind of sad thinking about the last show we seen together odd man out [“Odd Man Out”, 1947] remember [remember] I shall never forget darling its lights out now so I will finish this in the morning. I am going to try so hard to dream of you. Don’t laugh. Sometimes I am lucky and can there goes the lights Well Darling its night again. After I got thru [through my work today I just couldn’t write. I cried for the first time. Oh darling I love you so much I am so sorry you have to stay there in Phila. It must be awful hot. Yes baby I gained nine pounds and I am getting biger all the time gee wont love me fat [smile] But you must look wonderful, Youer [you are] so tall and you needed some weight. So thank heavens for that and what ever happens at your trial sweetheart keep your chin up don’t let nothing get you down. It won’t be long before were together again [again]. My lights has been out every [ever] since I last saw you. But they will go on again for us all over the world. Write to me Joe as soon as you can. Ill always love you as ever your Lady Billie Holiday.

American jazz vocalist, known as “The First Lady of the Blues,” Billie Holiday exhibited highly individual phrasing and intonation, and was known for her dramatic intensity and impeccable timing. She first sang professionally in Harlem nightclubs in 1930 and made her first record in 1933. Touring as a vocalist with some of the more popular big bands of the 1930s (Benny Goodman, Artie Shaw, Count Basie, Duke Ellington), she came to fame as a major jazz artist, with her popular songs _Strange Fruit_, _Fine and Mellow_, and _Them There Eyes_. This poignant heart-wrenching handwritten letter from Lady Billie Holiday to her husband, incarcerated in a Philadelphia prison came at a time when Holiday was incarcerated herself. She was arrested in Philadelphia in May 1947 for possession of narcotics and sentenced in June by the Philadelphia Federal Court to a year and one day. Lady Day’s successful solo career was marked by personal tragedies including the heroin addiction that led to her death. Her autobiography, _Lady Sings The Blues_ was written in 1956. $6,000 – $8,000

Superb score for the song Ol’ Man River signed by its lyricist, Hammerstein and composer, Kern.

Boldly inscribed on the cover by Kern: This copy of the first edition is inscribed To The Drake Memorial Museum by its well-wishers who then signs his name beneath Hammerstein’s signature. The cover contains a colorful printed drawing of a scene from the musical. $2,000 - $3,000

228. Lehar, Franz. Autograph letter signed, in German, 3 pages (8 ¾ x 7 ⅞ in.; 222 x 200 mm.), “Vienna,” 18 June 1939 to Most Honored Reichminister!; in pristine condition.

Lehar hopes the overture he is writing for the Berlin performance of The Merry Widow will please Hitler.

Lehar writes: Allow me today to send a song which I have composed at the suggestion of Herr Staatskommissar Gauklerl Biirkel. On the 28th of June I am to conduct a great concert in the Wartburg in Saarbrücken. It will begin at 10:15 pm, and will be carried by radio to Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Switzerland, Belgium and England. Hamburg, Cologne, Stuttgart and Leipzig are likewise broadcasting the concert. It would make me exceedingly happy if the Herrn Reichminister found the opportunity and time to hear the concert. I am writing an overture for the Berlin performance of The Merry Widow and I hope that it will meet with the approval of the Fuhrer. The outline is already finished, and has proven to be a success. My revision of The Merry Widow for the German Opera House was a bit too operatic. The Munich performance of The Merry Widow had a great success, but the plot suffered from being divided into 33 acts. You received the essence of a review. I believe that I have now found the right way and form, so that The Merry Widow will equally delight the eye and ear, and the special problem requires that on special occasions it will be performed as a festival.

As I was, due to your obligingness, able to remain longer in Paris, it was possible for me to renew contracts from earlier times, and the first result was that I had the opportunity to direct in Paris’ Empire Theatre the 1,000th performance of Land of Laughter. What the dear emigrants did to disturb this festive performance, I will tell you personally. I hope that I will soon be able to advise you of further successes. I have wanted so very much to send to the Fuhrer a copy of my Saar song, but I don’t know how one would take this. At the time, I sent a little Jubilee sheet from the 50th performance of The Merry Widow in Theater on the Oder, and somewhat unknowingly allowed myself to begin a mistake.

An important letter with significant content. $2,000 - $3,000
229. Lennon, John. Autograph letter signed (“John and Yoko”), 8 pages, (11 x 8 ½ in.; 279 x 216 mm.), 29 September 1971 to Eric Clapton, being a handwritten draft copy. The content of the final version sent to Clapton is unknown. In this draft Lennon writes unequivocally of his respect and admiration for Clapton and how their minds could transform music and the world. In pristine condition.

John Lennon writes to Eric Clapton about forming a group together.

Lennon pens in full: I've been meaning to write or call you for a few weeks now. I think maybe writing will give you and yours more time to think.

You must know by now that Yoko and I rate your music and yourself very highly, always have. You also know the kind of music we've been making and hope to make. Anyway, the point is, after missing the Bangla-Desh concert, we began to feel more and more like going on the road, but not the way I used to with the Beatles—night after night of torture. We mean to enjoy ourselves, take it easy, and maybe even see some of the places we go to! We have many 'revolutionary' ideas for presenting shows that completely involve the audience—not just 'Superstars' up there—blessing the people—but that's another letter really.

I’ll get more to the point. We’ve asked Klaus, Jim Keltner, Nicky Hopkins—Phil Spector even! To form a ‘nucleus’ group (Plastic Ono Band)—and between us all we'd decide what—if any—augmentation to the group we'd like—e.g. sax, vocal group, they all agreed so far—and of course we had YOU!!! In mind as soon as we decided.

In the past when Nicky was working around (Stones, etc.) bringing your girl/woman/wife was frowned on—with us it's the opposite, Nicky's missus—will also come with us—on stage if she wants (Yoko has ideas for her!)—or backstage. Our uppermost concern is to have a happy group in body and mind. Nobody will be asked to do anything that they don't want to, no-one will be held to any contract of any sort—(unless they wanted to, of course!)
Back to music. I’ve/we’ve long admired your music—and always kept an eye open to see what you’ve been up to lately. I really feel I/we can bring out the best in you—(same kind of security, financial or otherwise will help) but the main thing is the music. I consider Klaus, Jim, Nicky, Phil, Yoko and you could make the kind of sound that could bring back the Beatles in rock ‘n’ roll.

Both of us have been thru the same kind of shit/pain that I know you’ve had—and I know we could help each other in that area—but mainly Eric—I know I can bring out something great—in fact greater in you that had been so far evident in your music, I hope to bring out the same kind of greatness in all of us—which I know will happen if/when we get together. I’m not trying to pressure you in any way and would quite understand if you decide against joining us, we would still love and respect you. We’re not asking you for your ‘name,’ I’m sure you know this—it’s your mind we want!

Yoko and I are not interested in earning bread from public appearances, but neither do we expect the rest of the band (who mostly have families) to work for free—they/you must all be happy money wise as well—otherwise what’s the use for them to join us. We don’t ask you/them to ratify everything we believe politically—but we’re certainly interested in “revolutionizing” the world thru music, we’d love to “do” Russia, China, Hungary, Poland, etc.

A friend of our just get back from Moscow, and the kids over there are really hip—they have all the latest sounds on tape from giant radios they have. “Don’t come without your guitar” was the message they sent there are millions of people in the East—who needed to be exposed to our kind of freedom/music. We can change the world—and have a ball at the same time.

We don’t want to work under such pressure we feel dead on stage or have to pep ourselves up to live, maybe we could do 2 shows a week even, tentatively (nothing definite) goes like this:

I know we have to rehearse sometimes or other, I’m sick of going on and jamming every live session. I’ve always wanted to go across the Pacific from the U.S thru all those beautiful islands—across to Australia, New Zealand, Japan, wherever you know—Tahiti—Tonga—etc, so I came up with this:

How about a kind of “Easy Rider” at sea. I mean we get EMI or some film co., to finance a big ship with 30 people aboard (including crew)—we take 8 track recording equipment with us (mine probably) movie equipment—and we rehearse on the way over—record if we want, play anywhere we fancy—say we film from L.A. to Tahiti, we stop there if we want—maybe the film developed there—stay a week or as long as we want—collect the film (of course) we’ll probably film wherever we stop (if we want) and edit it on board etc. Having just finished a movie we made around our albums ‘Imagine’ & ‘Fly’—it’s a beautiful surreal film, very surreal, all music, only about two words spoken in the whole thing! We know we are ready to make a major movie. Anyway it’s just a thought, we’d always stay as near to land as possible, and of course, we’d take doctors etc, in case of any kind of bother. We’d always be able to get to a place where someone could fly off if they’ve had enough. The whole trip could take 3-4-5-6 months, depending how we all felt—all families, children whatever are welcome etc. Please don’t think you have to go alone with the boat trip, to be in the band. I just wanted to let you know everything we’ve been talking about. (I thought we’d really be ready to hit the road after such a healthy restful rehearsal.)

Anyway, there it is, if you want to talk more please call us, or even come over here to N.York. We’re at the St. Regis, here til Nov. 30 at least (753-4500-cxt/room 1701) all expenses paid of course! Or write. At least think about it—please don’t be frightened, I understand paranoia only too well, I think it could only do good for you, to work with people who love and respect you, and that’s from all of us.

Lots of love to you both from, John & Yoko.

Progressive Beatles artist, John Lennon, created the Plastic Ono Band in 1968, which propelled his break from The Beatles. He was tired of the menial work with the band and searched for music that was more profound and would “revolutionize music and the world.” Eric Clapton joined Lennon and others in the Plastic Ono Band’s Live Peace in Toronto 1969 performance on 15 December 1969, where Clapton, Lennon, George Harrison and other famous rock stars performed Give Peace a Chance, a politically charged tune. At the time of the letter, Clapton’s band CREAM already broke up and Derek and the Dominos dissolved. Clapton was preparing for a solo career when Lennon attempted to grab him for his “super group”. Lennon refers to missing the “Bangladesh” concert, which was the only live concert Clapton appeared in after going on a one year hiatus to manage personal problems including a broken heart and a heroin addiction. This concert proved to be a disaster for Clapton as he passed out on stage only to be revived to finish the show.

Lennon continued his solo career and moved to New York in August of 1971, a month before this letter was written. During this time, he worked on his legendary song, Happy Xmas (War is Over), which was released in December. Due to Lennon’s aggressive anti-war message, he was on the deportation list and was denied permanent residency in the U.S. until 1976. He continued to create music until his life was cut abruptly short when Mark David Chapman shot and killed Lennon on 8 December 1980.

An extraordinary letter from one legendary musician to another. $20,000 - $30,000
230. Liszt, Franz. Autograph letter signed, in French, 3 pages (11 ¾ x 8 ½ in.; 286 x 222 mm.), “Weimar,” 5 May 1851 to a member of the royal family to whom he refers as Your Royal Highness; light soiling, internal tear to third page not affecting text.

Liszt writes to the Royal Family fiercely urging support for the Goethe Foundation at the time of the 100th anniversary of Goethe’s birth.

Liszt writes; translated from French: As Her Imperial Highness the Grand Duchess deigned to send me the lines which Your Royal Highness did me the grace of addressing me, I dare to express the very respectful homage of my sincere gratitude to you. The cause of the Goethe Foundation has entirely to do with Weimar’s Past and Future, in involving a superbly intelligent and effective protection of the development of Thought and Art, across the vicissitudes of the one generation to the other. How could I be permitted to doubt the sympathies which the Princess of Prussia had the kindness to show for this cause? How could I believe that Your Royal Highness would deprive it of her powerful support, as it is founded in the name of her glorious memories and her glorious hopes?

His Grace the Hereditary Grand Duke felt from the beginning that in this grave and high occurrence it was not a matter of simply granting the citizens of Weimar the right to remember Goethe, but rather to make Weimar, Germany, and consequently Europe participants in the productive luster, in the comprehensive benefits of Goethe’s genius. To realize this grand idea, to detach it from the vagueness of words, the morass of equivocalities, and finally to fix it in indelible characters, i.e., in notable, regular, and imposing deeds, His Grace will need all the laborious perseverance, all the indefatigable active courage, resolute and resigned at once, which are the supreme privilege of grand devotions.

May I be permitted to hope that at her next visit to Weimar, Your Royal Highness will authorize me to speak more explicitly with her about the Goethe Foundation and the most suitable means of ensuring its active vitality, on which I dare say I have reflected thoroughly; and if then Your Royal Highness deigns not to disapprove of the views of intentions which make up in some way a part of my debt of gratitude toward her august house, my hope to see the tradition of the past powerfully verified by the work of the present, will change to certainty.

During the weeks leading up to the Goethe celebrations to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Goethe’s birth Liszt became engrossed with the idea of establishing a Goethe Foundation for the distribution of prizes in the arts. The idea eventually came to nothing despite the immense amount of effort Liszt invested in the project. Still, it is notable because it reveals Liszt’s grasp of administrative detail and his flair for organizing artistic matters on a national level. Whatever its flaws, the Goethe Foundation would at least succeed in drawing national attention to Weimar.

$2,000 - $3,000

231. Liszt, Franz. Autograph letter signed, (“F Liszt”), in German, 3 pages (8 ¾ x 5 ½ in.; 222 x 140 mm.), “Weimar,” 18 June 1884 to an unnamed Baron.

Liszt proclaims his admiration for the work of Richard Wagner.

Liszt writes, in part: My boundless admiration persists for Wagner’s lofty genius. What fruitful creativity and effect did he achieve, consistently progressing from Tannhäuser to the Ring of the Nibelung and the wonderful Parsifal! - The art of our century finds its edification and its glory in it. The modest measure of what I wrote about Wagner in letters is at the service of publication. In a postscript, Liszt has added; Until we meet as friends in mid-July in Bayreuth. $2,000 – $3,000
232. Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, Felix. Letter Signed (“F MB”), in German, 4 pages (10 ¼ x 8 ¾ in.; 260 x 222 mm.), Berlin, 9 April 1830 to Carl Klingemann...London to be forwarded to Dr. [Friedrich] Rosen; scattered spotting, marginal fraying, seal tear.

While staying in Berlin, Mendelssohn shares his observations on the cold and malicious nature of the Berliners.

The composer laments about the way the denizens seem to make it a point to treat the artists poorly during performances.

Mendelssohn writes in part: On the Festival you already know the details from Klingemann; it has become one of our dearest recollections, and I think it is my best composition. A few weeks later the surgeon declared my knee to be completely cured, and I thought I would be leaving shortly, but then the bitter cold came and I postponed the journey and began a large work (a symphony for orchestra, on which I worked a lot every day; it isn't quite finished, but I hope I can finish it before my departure, as I have already begun the last movement. My illness surprised me a few days before my departure, I had already taken my leave and had started to pack; now I'll have to postpone that at least a fortnight longer, but then I think I can leave; my plan is to go from here via Weimar to Munich, then through the Tyrol to Vienna; from Vienna I intend to go to Venice and Upper Italy in the middle or toward the end of summer, and then I think I'll spend next winter in Rome and Naples, then in the spring, if it is permitted to spend so much time on a plan, to go to Paris and then to London from time to time, where there may be much smoke and fog and great crowds and poverty, but where pretty nice people live, too, and where I wasn't so bad off for a year. But will I find the same people there then? On this, as on your whole Let (that is Sanscrit for the future) I ask you to let me know a lot, also about everything which is dear and precious to me in London, and about our friends at some length. For you have a sharp eye, professor, and when you are sitting on the blue sofa, or silently making tea, or modestly gliding to and fro in the halls of the university with a light red folder and a long black robe, you will still make your accurate remarks and comments, and I expect more from you than from many a Berlin lady.

Friedrich Rosen became Professor of Sanskrit at the University of London (later University College) in 1827, at the age of twenty-two. Carl Klingemann was Mendelssohn's close friend and collaborator who wrote the words for many of the composer's songs. Karl Wilhelm Ludwig Heyse had been Mendelssohn's tutor until 1827. The Festival is possibly the Grosse Festmusik zum Dareifest (Grand Festive Music for the Durer Celebration) of 1828. The Symphony may be the Fingal's Cave Overture written in 1830. One of the Liechtenstein songs is doubtless Frühlingslied (Song of Spring), op. 19, no. 1. $2,000 - $3,000
Mendelssohn in part: I hasten to answer, as the time is indeed approaching and is beginning to press. Against the march and chorus from the Ruins of Athens, which you are adding to the second day, it is only natural that I have nothing to object; I would suggest putting the piece right after the Eroica Symphony, where it would certainly have a good effect. But I wouldn’t know what cantata by Bach to suggest for the second day as now programmed; I don’t know any which would fit in as regards the time it needs and even more as regards style; if another piece needs to be selected, I would perhaps suggest the chorus by Haydn ‘Vain Cares;’ but it seems enough to me, anyway. In 1833 with you and 1834 in Aachen, the program of the 2nd day was shorter than this; last year in Cologne it was at least no longer, and so I think: 1) Eroica Symphony, march and chorus by Beethoven, new hymn by Spohr. 2) Overture and Psalm -would be quite a sufficient program. To be sure, if Herr Rietz doesn’t keep his promise, quite a substantial overture would have to be selected, to make the second part as interesting as possible.

But this time the main thing for me would be if you could manage to have Alceste performed in the theater. You write of the difficulties with the chorus; they are indeed the biggest ones that can place themselves in its way, to my knowledge, but even if they couldn’t be removed, I would prefer seeing Alceste performed with a very bad chorus a hundred times more than giving up the idea completely. First, in Alceste the main thing is Alceste herself, then Admet, then Hercules, and then only the chorus, and with a performance to be expected from Frl. von Fassmann and Tichatschek or Eichberger or some other outstanding Admet, the chorus recedes in any case into the background. Then there is the second question if it is impossible to improve the chorus? Couldn’t 12-20 of the best chorus singers be brought in from Cologne and Aachen? I would with pleasure come a week earlier myself for this and hold separate rehearsals for the chorus every day to make this performance possible. Finally, several passages could and in such a case would have to be deleted, such as the ball in the second act and similar passages in which the chorus plays too much of a main part, and as I said, that would be that much more feasible as Alceste herself and her and Admet’s suffering are definitely the main thing in the opera.

As several of your members know, I already felt the urgent wish for something new in the course and sequence of the music festival last year, and I said so. My suggestions on this were perhaps not practical, but now, through this coincidence, the opportunity arises this time in Dusseldorf, at least, of giving the festival a new attraction of the kind I had in mind. If this music festival performs the Messiah on the first day, then the Beethoven symphony with a miscellaneous program, and finally a Gluck opera (and even if it is most inferior in execution and even if it has the worst chorus, but beautifully sung in the main roles and beautifully played by the orchestra), this would indeed be something new, as I wished, and because of that this music festival would be outstanding as compared to all the earlier ones. I would therefore very much wish that this plan, even if it be only the hope of it, be mentioned already in your first tentative announcements - how differently would the music festival appear because of it! In the interest of the public, too; in regard to the box office it would also make a palpable difference. Of course I assume that the performance would have to be considered in conjunction with both the others, and only those who receive tickets to the opera who had attended the music festival on the preceding days or had been participants in it. And even if the prices were not raised, the proceeds would be significant. Not to mention the enjoyment all friends of music would derive from it. I ask you to let me know your answer as soon as possible, as I would, as I said, to this end make my departure earlier, if necessary. In any case your speedy answer is now very much desired, as the time is now fast approaching...

In a postscript, Mendelssohn has written, The fine tenor here, Schmidt, just came to ask if he couldn’t take part in the music festival; he would try to arrange things so that he could come there at that time and take a solo part. I told him you had written Tichatschek, but he claims that he is giving guest performances in Berlin at Pentecost and would thus not be able to come to the Rhine. Also, the things that Schmoezer and Eichberger, whom I mentioned to him, are also detained. So I don’t hesitate to let you know about his wish. In a second postscript written in the left margin of the first page Mendelssohn has added; Please have the kindness to hand the enclosed letter over to Director Schadow.

The Lower Rhenish Music Festival (Das Niederrheinische Musikfest) was one of the most important festivals of classical music, which happened every year with few exceptions between 1818 and 1958 at Pentecost for 112 times. The Festival was held in various German cities over time and the directors included Robert Schuman, Richard Strauss, Franz Liszt, Otto Goldschmidt, Anton Rubinstein, Hans Richter & Richard Strauss. $4,000 - $6,000

233. Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, Felix. Autograph letter signed (“Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy”) at the conclusion and with initials after the first page, in German, 4 pages (9 x 7 ¾ in.; 229 x 187 mm.), “Leipzig,” 18 March 1839 to the Committee for this year’s Lower Rhenish Music Festival in Dusseldorf; light browning.
234. Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, Felix. Autograph letter signed (“Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdi”), in English, 2 pages (10 x 7 ⅝ in.; 254 x 194 mm.), “Leipzig,” 25 February 1841 to Charles Neate, Director of the Philharmonic Society in London; with the integral address leaf attached; address panel on fourth page with seal tear and red wax seal.

Mendelssohn voices his discontent over his Symphony No. 3 in A minor and, indeed, almost all his other compositions.

In the body of his letter, the composer writes, in part: I have to acknowledge the receipt of your friendly letter of the 18th of Jan., for which I beg to say my best thanks. I do not know Moscheles’ communication to which you refer in the beginning of it, but cannot deny that I felt rather surprised to receive an invitation from the Philharmonic Society to write a new movement to my Symphony in A, while I thought I had never acquainted the Society of my intention of doing so. I even confess that your letter does not alter my ideas on that subject; for although I am perfectly aware that I had once such a plan and spoke of it to you, as I did to many of my musical friends at that time, I very much doubt I have spoken the words which you mention in your letter; indeed I cannot have done so, or at least you cannot have considered that conversation as intended for the Philharmonic Directors, because I find the year after it had taken place the Symphony was performed at that Society, which circumstance you seem to have forgotten. Accordingly as you had not communicated to the Philharmonic up to June 1838 what your impression is of the words I said to you in September 1837 they must either not have been intended as a communication to that Society, or you will give me credit for being surprised when I found a fact mentioned after so many years of which I thought I never gave the Society a direct notice.

But all this merely refers to the invitation to write a new movement to an old composition of mine. It is quite erroneous and far from what my true feelings are if you suppose in your letter, that I required the least explanation, why this Symphony has not been performed.” Of such a thing I shall never complain or express any regret, because I always consider it as a natural consequence of the real value of a composition, and you recollect that I often mentioned to you and to other friends how far from satisfied I feel with this, and indeed with almost all my other Compositions. I need hardly add that my personal feelings of high regard and esteem towards the Philharmonic Directors individually are and shall always be the same; that I am well aware that I have amongst them some of my kindest and best friends in your country, friends to whom I am indebted for the benevolent reception which I so often meet with in England which will ever remain a source of pleasure and pride to me; and that my gratitude to those friends will and can not be diminished as long as I live...

It was almost a year later, on January 20, 1942, before Mendelssohn finished writing his Symphony No.3 in A minor, the “Scottish” Symphony. It was dedicated to Queen Victoria who regarded Mendelssohn as her favorite composer, and indeed, he was the most popular of nineteenth century composers in England where his main reputation was made. The English pianist and violoncellist, Charles Neate, was one of the original members of the Philharmonic Society, of which he was for many years a director and often a performer, and occasionally conductor, at its concerts. $4,000 – $6,000

Cole Porter sends his best wishes to Peggy Wood shortly before the opening of Jerome Kern’s The Cat and the Fiddle.

Porter writes in full: I saw by the papers, & last night, hear[se]d from Cockie, that you were rehearsing in The Cat & the Fiddle. I cant tell you how happy I am. Its a great show & I’m sure, even better for London than for New York. And you will make a great person of that part. I have been so worried about you. And this is the reason I write you. For no one ever behaved as beautifully as you did during the long delays of our dead Star Dust. If I can, I shall be there to cheer you on your opening night...

Less than a month after Cole Porter wrote this letter, on March 4, 1932, the London production of Jerome Kern’s The Cat and the Fiddle opened, with Peggy Wood playing the role of Shirley Sheridan. The production was a pioneer effort in its adaptation of the operetta tradition to a more intimate, contemporary setting, with great pains having been taken by Kern and lyricist Otto Harbach to integrate the music as an important part of the story. Peggy Wood was a veteran of the operetta, having made her debut in 1910 in Naughty Marietta. Among her operetta roles, she was most memorable in Maytime, in which she sang “Will You Remember?” and “The Road to Paradise.” Peggy Wood eventually became a star on stage and screen appearing on television and screen. Her final role was as the wise Reverend Mother in The Sound of Music opposite Julie Andrews.

At the time this letter was written, Porter was working both as composer and lyricist on The Gay Divorce which would open November 29, 1932 on Broadway. The musical, which starred Fred Astaire, introduced the beloved song, “Night and Day.”

$2,000 - $3,000

236. Puccini, Giacomo. Autograph letter signed, in Italian, 4 pages (7 x 5 ½ in.; 178 x 143 mm.), “Torre del Lago, Tuscany,” 11 November [1913], on his imprinted stationery, to his close friend Claudio Clausetti in Milan; with envelope.

The theaters are full . . . it is Fanciula, Bohéme, Butterfly.

In his news-filled letter, Puccini writes of his successes, his concerns about the staging of Manon Lescant in Berlin and his anxiety over his next great project.

Puccini writes in part; translated from Italian: Thanks for your letter. I will give Houppelande to Adami for a trial translation, but I think that he will succeed. You will see that Manon will not be on in Berlin even on the 29th. I am glad at the delay. This way I can go to the Maremma a bit. As soon as you’re there write me how things are going. In the meantime I wish you a good trip. Tito Ricordi’s letter is getting to be a comical matter! What is being born in the mountains? Whatever he may say, I already have an answer ready, short and to the point. From Vienna concrete and serious offers of 200,000 kroners have arrived for a comic opera with prose (not an operetta). I’m procrastinating, taking a breath, but I’m not saying no. There the theaters are full for the Fanciulla [del West] as in Schwerin, as well, as Serra writes me, in sending me the suggestion of engaging Holzhausen, who is too expensive. So in the week in Vienna, it is Fanciulla, Bohéme, Butterfly—that’s what Victor Mangiagalli writes me. With Adami we are trying and trying but for now in pain [presumably relating to Tabarro], and indeed already the lost telegrams are a true pain, and the ukases [official decree] to you (and to me). Have a good time in Berlin [with Manon] and try to manage something more orderly and with less full chorus in the first act. And I recommend the scenery in the 2nd be elegant, with everybody in gloves and with …of the 1700s. In the 3rd, full scenery in the background, and big ships with pows of the period as in certain etchings I saw in Paris. And the desolation of the 4th act: it begins with a late, red sunset, and afterwards, blue night, poetically tragic, principally in the progressively red sundown and poetically tragic after nightfall, I can’t see Holzmann much and especially the tenor. Work on [mollifying] Maestro Fatuo for me, and so long...

At the time of this letter Puccini was going through a difficult time in his personal and professional life. After the death in June 1912 of Giulio Ricordi (Puccini’s paternal figure and music publisher who had first recognized his talent and sustained him through adversity), the composer experienced “a period of confusion…. Always, when one opera was launched, he floundered for a while before really getting down to another. But this time it was worse. He seemed to grope in all directions, including several already tried and discarded…. And his own gloom deepened. From Milan, early in 1913, he wrote Elvira [his mistress whom he later married], ‘I have no libretto. I have no work. My publisher is my enemy’” (William Weaver, Puccini: The Man and His Music).

Puccini’s Manon Lescant was his third opera and his first great success. It premiered in Turin in 1893. $3,000 - $5,000
Puccini declares D’Annunzio’s poetry does not translate to lyric theater.

Puccini writes in full; translated from Italian: Thank you for your letter. Everything that you say I foresaw and expected. The Poet [D’Annunzio] does not transfer well to lyric theater: review him, and you will see that I am right. The true, unadorned, simple sense of humanity is lacking: everything is paroxysm and exaggeration, and with a very overdone expression. Beautiful and varied words which are not heard in music leave the stage open to the drama and this is what must not happen. I have written to [Emma] Carelli about substituting for the missing [Carmen] Melis. Where can I look next? The woman she suggests has not got the form nor the dramatic presence needed for Tabarro. I wrote to you about Labia. What do you think? What does Tito think about it? If Carelli had exhibited her in another opera, earlier, I should accept her. Could you send me some copies of the score for p [piano] and c [voice].

In a few days Sadun will be coming, and I shall have to give her the three parts and give her a copy for the studio. And the sketches for S.A.? Are you sure that the score have been well done? Have you been doing anything about it? Look at them, please....” In a postscript, Puccini has written, “Carignani is rather in the dumps: could I ask you to send him some work? You would perform an act of real kindness. I do ask you to think about it. Our Italy is from the top of the Brenner to the sea! $3,000 - $5,000

238. Puccini, Giacomo. Autograph letter signed (“Giacomo”), in Italian, 4 pages (7 ⅝ x 5 ⅝ in.; 194 x 143 mm.), “Torre del Lago,” 23 May 1921 to Rose [Ader in Hamburg]; with original envelope.

Puccini writes an impassioned letter to the soprano Rose Ader, with whom the composer had fallen in love after seeing her singing the title role in his Suor Angelica just a few months before.

Puccini writes in full; translated from Italian: You are my only joy, and I dedicate every instant of my life to you. I try to give vent to my feelings by putting as much poetry into Turandot as I can, and now I am working with much zest. I am in the 1st act, but make progress every day. Just now I had to set cruel things to music. Now I am beginning a moonrise—there is poetry in it, but at bottom it is tragic. But here and there, there is no lack of oases where I can do my melody. All of this is conceived and done in your name, in your love for me, for which I am so grateful to you and so reciprocated. How happy you make me when you write me! When your letters arrive they give me an intonation of joy all day. And when I think of the trouble you go to writing in German and then translating, I feel moved how good you are, what an angelic creature you are! You are my whole consolation, and if I didn’t have you any longer, I would be a poor man like anybody, and instead, with your love, I am the prince of the world! You inspire sweet sentiments in me, an aesthetic made up entirely of thoughts of tenderness and beauty and goodness! Dear, admirable creature, sent me by God to give joy to this poor artist, far away and sad. Thanks, dear, thanks from the depths of my heart. Adieu, my joy, treasure, unspeakable comfort of my soul, I adore you as my goddess!

In March 1920, Puccini had read a copy of Carlo Gozzi’s play, Turandot, and decided then that it would be the subject of his new opera. He set his librettists to work at once, and by January 1921, after much development of and alterations to the draft of the first act of the libretto, he was satisfied with the revisions, stating it was unusually beautiful and strikingly original. In late March Puccini was happier and more certain of the opera than ever. He was anxiously awaiting the second act and urged his poets to begin work at once on the third. He wrote...that he had never cared so much for a work as he did for Turandot...Such was his excitement and his passion for work that even a slight delay in the arrival of the libretto upset him...Nonetheless, by the beginning of May
Puccini had started on the composition of the first act. As usual, he complained...of the difficulties involved and of the infirmities of old age (Puccini was then 62 years of age). The composer was enjoying and was stimulated by his work, and his only problem at the time was loneliness and a need to discuss his problems... (but) in spite of his feelings of isolation, Puccini finished his work on the first act during the summer of 1921; the librettists, too, went ahead, and completed the libretto for Act Two. They were all pleased with the results (Howard Greenfeld, Puccini). Puccini continued to labor over Turandot for three more years until it was almost finished, when his heart gave out on 29 November 1924, following an operation for throat cancer. The score was completed by Franco Alfano, and the opera premiered under the direction of Arturo Toscanini at La Scala on 25 April 1926.

Puccini had met the young opera singer, Rose Ader, when she was singing the role of Mimi in the composer's opera, La Boheme. William Ashbrook, in his study of The Operas of Puccini, notes that “All this time he worked on the orchestration of Act I, there were other things...that occupied Puccini's attention. One was Rose Ader, a soprano in whom Puccini became interested...She had been singing in Vienna, but Puccini persuaded her that she would have more of a career if she learned her roles — Violetta, Gilda, etc. - in Italian, and he tried to use his influence to get her engagements...” $3,000 - $5,000

239. Schumann, Robert. Autograph letter signed (“R. Schumann”), in German, 2 pages (8 ¾ x 5 in.; 213 x 127 mm.), 10 May 1839 to My dear Herr [Beiker]; light browning.

Schumann calls Schubert a miserable man and requests an essay on the doctrine of Karl Marx.

Schuman writes in full; translated from German: Since you mention Sch. in N., it occurs to me that we really ought to mention his [Logiken] in the journal as, in effect, the most important recent literary undertaking (at least in quantity). Would you like to write such an article? There must be a superfluity of material for [finishing...]
Otherwise, as you say, Schubert is a most miserable man, to whom we should really pay no attention, but he knows how to look the public directly in the eye, and that really has to be said, briefly and clearly. Think about it. Another thing: I have asked some supporters of our journal to fetch Herr Erich for a weekly walk, on Sundays (at 11 a.m.), to have a mutual discussion about the journal, its weal and woe, to suggest and adopt alterations, where desirable, etc. etc. Would you like to take part in the walk? Please let me know soon. In a postscript, Schumann has added; I have already asked you for an essay on Marx's doctrine; do you remembering that? [Merz] wrote to me some time ago and asked for you. $4,000 - $6,000
Tchaikovsky, Peter Ilyich. Autograph letter signed ("Tch"), in pencil, in Cyrillic, 4 pages (6 ¼ x 5 ¼ in.; 162 x 130 mm.), "Mannia," [undated]; with envelope.

**Tchaikovsky gives final guidance on an overture soon to be performed.**

Tchaikovsky writes in part; translated from Russian: The overture is finished and Gilotti will give it to you. Now 1. See to it that it is transcribed according to Erdmannsdörffer's markings; 2. Write to [him] telling him that you and I would like and request it to be performed at the first concert, so that he can learn it perfectly, so that the faults in the parts can be corrected, and explaining that this will greatly facilitate my performance of the overture at my Petersburg concert. My own opinion is that it has come off remarkably well, and as long as the lips of the wind section and the fingers of the string players are not too weary at the end, then the effect will be colossal. Do not make any corrections now as I would hate that. If something unexpected crops up, we will correct it during rehearsal. I think the instrumentation is colorful and brilliant and there is only one thing I am afraid of: from the beginning of the repeat of the 2nd theme up to the end, the difficulty of the music is perhaps beyond the limits of what is possible. But I can't be responsible for this; it's impossible to imagine anything easy. Once more...if on examination you find something not to your taste, do not correct it without me...Take care of the title page...

The instructions refer to notes from Max Erdmannsdörffer, a German conductor and pianist who was the principal conductor of the Russian Musical Society concerts in Moscow from 1882 to 1889. Tchaikovsky had a high opinion of the conductor and even let him conduct several premiere performances of his works in Moscow. The letter appears to indicate that Erdmannsdörffer was to conduct the overture in another venue (Moscow?) before it was to be performed in St. Petersburg. Letters in Tchaikovsky's hand are excessively rare. **$10,000 - $15,000**
**241. Verdi, Giuseppe.** Autograph letter signed (“G. Verdi”), in Italian, 2 pages (7 ¾ x 5 in.; 194 x 127 mm.), “London,” 26 May 1875 to an unnamed gentleman; light, scattered spotting.

Verdi reveals his distaste of cantatas responding to a request for such a composition for the 1876 Birmingham Festival.

Verdi writes in full, translated from Italian: *I have just received your letter and the book which contains the programme of your music festival. As I have had the honor to tell you viva voce, I could not tell you at the moment whether I will have time to compose for the 1876 Birmingham Festival. But in any case it would not be a cantata that I will write, still less a secular cantata, as you describe it. I do not like this genre of composition, which for me has no artistic significance. Please therefore accept my apologies if I am not responding as you would like me to.*

An interesting letter revealing that Verdi in no way minced his words when it came to his opinion on music. **$3,000 - $5,000**

By 1854, Wagner had completed the text of *The Ring of the Nibelung* and was at work on the music of *Das Rheingold*. The argument with Liszt may have arisen over the pianist's agreement to conduct *Die Nibelungen* (the opera of Heinrich Dorn, Wagner's bitter opponent), first performed at Weimar on 22 January 1854, the date of Wagner's letter to Princess Sayn-Wittgenstein. Alternatively, the dispute may have been connected with Liszt's arrangements for the performance of Wagner's works in Berlin. Though the composer's letter to the Princess is couched in terms of respect and affection, she did not reciprocate these feelings and she did much in later years to provoke disagreement between Liszt and Wagner. **$6,000 – $8,000**

**242. Wagner, Richard.** Autograph letter signed, in German, 3 pages (8 x 5 ¾ in.; 203 x 137 mm.), Z[urich, Switzerland], 22 January 1854 To the Lady Conductor (“An Die Kapellmeisterin”), [Princess Carolyne Sayn-Wittgenstein], the mistress of Franz Liszt; with integral blank.

Wagner writes an impassioned apology to Princess Carolyne Sayn-Wittgenstein & Franz Liszt.

Wagner writes in full; translated from German: *I can say nothing to the long and good letter which I just received from you but one short word: I am ashamed! Just blame it on a raging urge to live that I try to combat my situation -- which reason would dictate that I accept it in complete passiveness -- often with passionate ardor. The most painful thing for me then is the impossibility of taking action for myself: if I then cause others trouble and grief, I only rage against myself. I certainly did torment Franz cruelly; may he forgive me for it! It is really cowardly of me that I get upset about such trifles: there you see how childish I am actually. Pardon me! One thing in your letter gave me a real shock of pleasure: you mention the possibility that Liszt's piano would have to support you (I mean the two of you!). Well, then I would have to go along. I'll travel around with you. I have already written you too much, for you were only supposed to hear about my chagrin, nothing else. Farewell! Keep your faith and courage. And see to it that Franz isn't angry with me!*
243. Wagner, Richard.  Autograph letter signed, in German, 4 pages (5 ¾ x 4 ¼ in.; 143 x 105 mm.), “Zurich, [Switzerland],” 9 February 1857 to [Joseph Tichatscheck], the celebrated tenor; with original envelope; repair to horizontal folds.

After discussions with Franz Liszt, Wagner writes to the celebrated tenor, Joseph Tichatscheck on the performance of Rheingold and Walküre.

Wagner writes in full; translated from German: Today I am sending off to you the manuscript of the piano score of Rheingold. Be so kind as to provide for the copy. Shortly, I will also send you the last act of Walküre. I take great pleasure in knowing that those things are in your hands and I am certain that they will be safe from indiscretion there. Should you perform them at some time, don’t forget to invite Old Fischer in my name. I owe this mark of consideration to that faithful soul. Let me also hear, at some point, if you like the things. They are difficult, no doubt, and especially in Rheingold there is perhaps the most difficult task of its kind ever set upon a tenor. I am talking about the part of Loge. When I went over it recently with Liszt, it suddenly came to his mind that he could think of no one else than you who had this characteristic accent that is so necessary here. I told him I had already engaged you for the part of Sigmund. But it is possible that I will have to demand from you the Loge as well. In any case, I am counting on you with all my might. So do not dare commit yourself as of Spring 1859, because then you are under an engagement to me!

Once more, I thank you with all my heart for your valuable presents so dear to me. In this sense the score, as your present, has a doubly nice meaning to me. Unfortunately, I feel very worn out again due to the effects of the winter climate and after having finished the first act of Siegfried, I must have already taken a break to recover. At Easter, however, I will be moving into a nice country house near Zurich with a pretty garden, in a most wonderful location like I have always wanted. I owe this to the sympathy of a friend who is concerned about my artistic development and who lets me have it at a very low rent. So I will recuperate and work diligently. Don’t you forget to visit us there. Also let me hear from you soon, and give my kindest regards to the few friends I have. The best from my wife, and be assured of my everlasting friendship...

A letter of exceptional content discussing two of his great works and mentioning his collaboration with Franz Liszt.

$6,000 - $8,000

244. Wagner, Richard.  Autograph letter signed, in German, 2 pages, (8 ¾ x 5 ¾ in.; 213 x 137 mm.), “Munich,” 14 June 1865; light browning.

Wagner writes to a friend on the success of the premiere of Tristan und Isolde on 10 June 1865.

Wagner writes in full; translated from German: I still cannot get over it that I permitted you to depart so unceremoniously and in such a bad mood and entirely without having received the slightest compensation for the thwarted purpose of your visit. I am sticking to the enclosed note. It was written on the eve of your departure; with it I had hoped to stall you. But unfortunately my manservant was not able to reach you in time. This has hurt me very, very much! Now I wonder whether you will be at all pleased when you hear that on the tenth and the thirteenth instant two excellent performances of Tristan finally did take place? Next Sunday we perform it for the third and last time. The applause grew; especially during the second performance, till it reached the character of a furioso, which is remarkable indeed if one keeps in mind that this happened with a normal and rather ordinary audience. Everything went just splendidly; I am sure that you too would have been satisfied. How would I have wished you could have witnessed this! Please be so good and forward this news...to all my good friends in Pesth. They who have had such a bad time of it have become very close and very dear to me.

Tristan und Isolde is an opera, or music drama, in three acts by Richard Wagner to a German libretto by the composer. It was composed between 1857 and 1859 and premiered in Munich on 10 June 1865 with Hans von Bülow conducting.

$6,000 - $8,000

Wagner writes to his publisher on issues with the printing of The Ring of the Nibelung and of his working as a conductor.

Wagner writes in part; translated from German: God knows where you could have sent that other correction-sheet! I only received something in Schwerin. I shall stay here a while longer, for the present, so send everything to me here, until further notice -- Thiergarten Hotel -- where you even visited me at one time. If you want me to kill myself conducting concerts, then my baton is also at your disposal in Leipzig. I shan’t do it under a guarantee of 5000 Thalers. I refused Dresden and Prague because they could not give me such a guarantee. This may make me appear in a very disgusting light, that is, if one does not consider, that if I wanted to undertake the Bayreuth concerts at 1000 Thalers, I should have to give about 200 performances-- which Mr. Reinecke might be able to stand, but not I. One more thing! Your weekly is not having a good enough sale in Hamburg. Fritz Schuberth promised me to look into that, and you must therefore send him about 25 trial numbers. Find out, if you can, how things stand with the problematic second edition of The Ring of the Nibelungen at J.J. Weber’s. That strange gentleman does not seem to have any desire to make use of the rights he wrested from me. Since he agreed in writing, that his claims ended next year, I firmly believe that he wants to make things difficult for me, inasmuch as no copies have been available from the public in such a long time. Couldn’t you bring some light and order into this matter? If he gives up the edition, then we could publish a separate edition of the work.

A fascinating letter in which Wagner deals with the practical side of his extraordinary career: tending to the scheduling and compensation rates for my baton and getting his great work Der Ring des Nibelungen published. $6,000 - $8,000
246. **Weill, Kurt.** Autograph musical manuscript signed, 6 pages, (12 ¾ x 9 ½ in.; 314 x 241 mm). New City 30 May 1942, on Chappell No. 2 and Rayner, Dalheim & Co. lined music paper; light soiling.

**A complete musical manuscript by Kurt Weill of his Song of the Free.**

The entire manuscript, lyrics, and music are beautifully penned in jet black ink. The musical portion of the manuscript is six pages in length.

On page one of the manuscript, Weill has written; *Song of the Free by Archibald MacLeish, Music by Kurt Weill* On the cover (music lined paper), Weill has written; *The manuscript of The Song of the Free (The United Nations Anthem) for Gertrude Lawrence as a token of my undying affection. Kurt Weill. New City May 30, 1942.*

German composer Kurt Weill immigrated to the United States in 1936, and his interest in American music and literature became a vital part of his music. Weill set the poetry of many American poets and writers to music, including Walt Whitman, Robert Frost, Archibald MacLeish and Maxwell Anderson. According to the Kurt Weill Foundation for Music, *Song of the Free* was composed for the war effort between February and April, 1942. Titled by Weill *Song of the Free (The United Nations Anthem)*, the song may have been used as part of a radio broadcast celebrating “United Nations Day,” which was June 14, 1942. At that time, the “United Nations” referred to U.S. Allies in World War II (the United Nations, as we know it today, had not yet formed). An important musical manuscript, with an important association between Weill and the three-time Pulitzer Prize-winning Modernist poet, Archibald MacLeish. Musical manuscript material in Weill’s hand is extremely rare. **$15,000 - $25,000**
247. Bell, Alexander Graham. Autograph letter signed, 1 page (9 ½ x 6 in.; 241 x 152 mm.), “Cambridge, Massachusetts,” 21 September 1883 to F. B. Sanborn; written on stationery imprinted with “Editor’s Office, Science: An Illustrated Weekly Journal”; some smudging.

Remarkable Alexander Graham Bell autograph letter signed requesting information on heredity and deafness for his research.

Bell writes in full: *I am collecting statistics concerning the causes of deafness—and concerning cases of hereditary deafness caused by the inter-marriage of deaf mutes. I should feel very much obliged if you could let me have a copy of the list of deaf mutes of Mass prepared by you a few years ago—or tell me where I can find a copy. My address is ‘Scott Circle—Washington, D.C.’*

Franklin Benjamin Sanborn was an author and philanthropist, secretary of the state board of charities, and a founder and officer of many institutions, including the Clarke School for the Deaf. It was through his association with the school for the deaf that Bell wrote to him, gathering statistical information for his researches in deafness, heredity, and eugenics. “Bell had a lifelong interest in teaching the deaf to speak, an interest intensified because his mother and his wife were deaf…His interest in the deaf led Bell to publish several articles on hereditary deafness…” DSB II: 582-3. The information he requested from Sanborn was most likely used in his work on *The Formation of a Deaf Variety of the Human Race*, a study of the results of the marriage of the deaf, published in 1884. Through his study of marriage among the deaf, Bell was led to give attention to the whole field of longevity and eugenics, the culmination of which was his *Duration of Life and Condition Associated with Longevity*, published in 1918.

The letter is written on the stationery of the *Journal Science*, which Bell created and began publication in 1883. $3,000 – $5,000

248. Boyle, Robert. Letter Signed (“Ro Boyle”), 3 pages (7 ¾ x 5 ¾ in.; 187 x 149 mm.), 23 May 1657 to the English Royalist and diarist, John Evelyn; scattered spotting, skillful repair to second leaf.

The only known letter of Boyle to Evelyn.

In an ornate style, Boyle discusses his pioneer experiments regarding air.

Boyle writes in full: *I should not have so long restrain’d the just Presentments I had of your late Favours, had I not been daily in Expectation to be able to snatch some time from my Occasions to pay you my Acknowledgements at your own House: But now the Uncertainty of some Affaires that detain me here, beginning to make me fear least my Silence might be imputed to a wrong Cause. I think myself engag’d to delay no longer to returne You my humble Thanks for the favour of yr. obliging Letter & to assure you that tho’ the Excellency of what you write cannot but make me thinke yr. silence an Unhappines, Yet I was lesse troubled at yr. not writing, than to find Yr. Indisposition has been the Cause of it, For it cannot but be unwellcome News to a Person addicted to experimentall Learning, to be inform’d th’t. soe great a Mr. in it & Patron of it as M. Evelyn is honour’d by the Unkindneses of Nature to prosecute his skillfull Enquiries into the Secrets of it; But as Yr. Indisposition may well passe for the general Calamitys of the Commonwealth of Learning, soe I hope you will make the returne of yr. health an Universal Advantage to it, by imparting (at least to natures Votaries) those curious & useful Arts with whose Knowledge you had design’d to oblige & enrich them, For though You but too justly complain th’t. the Age & Country we live in, doe not*
value real Learning as highly as it merits, yet I confess I am apt to think that the surest & most obliging way to make men value it, is to let them see by its real & useful productions how vast a disparity there is betwixt experimental & notionall Learning, which makes me become an earnest Suitor to you that you will be pleas’d to vouchsafe, at least to some Friends to Philosophic & to Mr Evelyn a sight of those very desirable particulars which you mention in Yr. Letter & I despair not when I shall next have the Happines to exchange a few Words with You but that some Expedient may be found to reconcile the disclosure of many Secrets, with the keeping up & securing the Reputation of Learning.

In the mean time I must returne you my merited Thanks for the Receipt of the Varnish, which though I do not yet thoroughly apprehend (by reason of Yr. Friends obscurity in some expression) I am endeavoring by tryall to understand better, & to their acknowledgements I must add others as due as they, for the wellsome Favour you were pleas’d to doe me in allowing me to obey Yr. Command, by presenting you the way of preserving some sorts of Flowers w’t. I enclose verbatim as I found it in a Paper wherein I set it down for my own Remembrance. And as for Yr. other Commands concerning Dr. Wilkins I have lately had an Opportunity to obey them, & find him as I expected very sensible of yr. Civility’s to him, & soe much your servant, that he is almost as much soe, as he that is most Ambitious to deserve the Title of Sr.

Boyle, British physicist and chemist, is one of the most important scientists of the seventeenth century. He invented the compressed-air pump and discovered the importance of air in propagation of sound. He is one of the first members of the group that became the Royal Society. In 1656, Boyle moved to Oxford where he met and naturally befriended John Evelyn, a gentlemanly amateur of science. It was during his Oxford period, from 1656 to 1668, that he conducted pioneering experiments in which he demonstrated the physical characteristics of air and that air is necessary for combustion, respiration, and the transmission of sounds. Boyle’s views on varnishes were communicated to the English reformer, Samuel Hartlib, and were mentioned in his diary for the year 1657 (R.E.W. Maddison, The Life of the Honourable Robert Boyle) as well as in the present letter to Evelyn.

The flowery style of Boyle’s letter is very much in keeping with the self-conscious learnedness of other mid-seventeenth century men of science, a minority in England at any time but the more so during Cromwell’s Protectorate, before the flood of experimentation and exchanges of information which coincided with the early years of Charles II’s reign. $20,000 - $30,000

First American edition, in English, preceding the French edition, inscribed and signed on front flyleaf: to Mrs. Arthur Woods/with the best wishes of/M. Curie

Curie, a Polish born physical chemist, investigated radioactivity leading to the discovery of polonium and radium. Madame Curie’s biography of her husband and collaborator, Pierre, also contains a lengthy autobiographical section recording the principal events of her own life. This first American edition, in English, preceded the French edition, which appeared in 1924. **$3,000 - $5,000**

250. Curie, Pierre. Autograph letter signed (“P Curie”), in French, 1 page (8 ¾ x 5 ¼ in.; 210 x 133 mm) and drawing (6 ¾ x 4 in.; 155 x 100 mm.), “12 Rue Cuvier, Paris,” 11 April 1906 to an unidentified “Monsieur”; crude repair to horizontal fold, marginal fraying, soiled.

Curie requests magnets and draws a diagram of exactly what he needs.

Curie writes in full; translated from French: *If you will have the kindness to have made various magnets for my laboratory. I would very much like to receive these magnets as I need them for my studies/inquiries/investigations. Please I pray of you to request that one not forget this small request.*

A significant letter relating to the magnets Curie needed for his research. **$3,000 - $5,000**
Charles Darwin, mortified, returns John Gould’s first volume of his Birds of Australia citing he cannot afford such a luxury.

In this extraordinary letter, Darwin painfully declines the first volume of a subscription to Gould’s magnificent Birds of Australia. The work consisted of 600 plates in 7 folio volumes published between 1840 and 1848.

Darwin writes in full: I have looked through the first number with great interest. I can truly say I never saw anything half so beautiful. I feel mortified at being compelled to return your volume, but my circumstances, now that I am a married man, will not really justify me in indulging myself in such a luxury as the possession of your unrivalled and magnificent work. I cannot, of course, think of keeping this number and returning the two I possess, (which are now at my father’s at Shrewsbury) as you so very kindly offered, and I sincerely regret that I am precluded from showing, in the smaller way of being a subscriber, my warm respect for your zeal and talents in the pursuit of Science.

An extraordinary exchange between Darwin and John Gould, the greatest figure in bird illustration after Audubon. Darwin and Gould worked together extensively after Darwin’s second voyage on HMS Beagle and returned bird specimens which were relayed to Gould for identification. Darwin married on 29 January 1839 and fretted terribly about finances in expectation of a burgeoning family.

$10,000 - $15,000
252. Darwin, Charles. Autograph letter signed, 4 pages (7 x 4 ¾ in.; 178 x 111 mm.), “Down House,” 15 March [1870], to Sir Edwin Ray Lankester; some soiling, mounting remnant at left margin of first page.

**Darwin writes to Sir Edwin Ray Lankester complimenting him on his book On Comparative Longevity in Man and the Lower Animals.**

Darwin states that he was unable to resist telling him how much he enjoyed his book and that he finds all his views *Highly suggestive, and to my mind that is high praise, expressing his pleasure at Lankester’s references to my much despised child ‘Pangenesis’ as well as his mutual appreciation of Herbert Spencer—by far the greatest philosopher in England.*

Sir Edwin Ray Lankester (1847-1929) had known Darwin since his childhood. His career culminated in his appointment as director of Natural History and keeper of Zoology in the British Museum. His numerous publications included books of a general nature, of which *Comparative Longevity* was the first. Scientific imagination and penetrating insight distinguished all his work: for speculation remote from facts he had no liking.

Regarding *Comparative Longevity* Darwin says *I was all the more interested, as I am now writing on closely allied although not quite identical points—a reference to his The Descent of Man.*

*Pangenesis* was a term coined by Darwin in *The Variation of Animals and Plants under Domestication*, 1868, but his notion found little support. The term “gene” however is descended from Darwin’s *pangenesis*. Hugo de Vries called his material units pangenes to honour Charles Darwin. The name gene, given to the hereditary unit by Johannsen, was derived from de Vries’s pangene.

Darwin’s unbridled enthusiasm for Herbert Spencer is remarkable *(by far the greatest philosopher in England; perhaps equal to any that lived)*, and at odds with his usual wariness of Spencer’s metaphysics.

Published in *The Life and Letters*, 1887, Volume III, page 120. $6,000 - $8,000
253. Darwin, Charles. Autograph manuscripts, 2 pages (12 ¾ x 8 in.; 321 x 203 mm.), [1870s]. The first side contains Darwin’s notes for his work, Insectivorous Plants, and the reverse, a discussion of an operation apparently concerned with regeneration; scattered spotting.

Darwin’s notes on insectivorous plants and regeneration.

Darwin’s notes for his 1875 work: Several atoms of meat were placed on several glands. In the course of 13m+ all the sub-marginal tentacles on a leaf became completely inflected but those with the atoms of meat not in the least degree more than the others. On a second...leaf the tentacles with meat, as well as a few others, were moderately inflected. On a third leaf all the tentacles were closely inflected, though meat had not been placed on any of their glands. I presume that this movement was due to the excitement from the absence of oxygen. After 24th the third leaf was fully re-expanded, whereas the two other leaves, on which atoms of meat had been placed now had all their tentacles closely inflected in a normal manner. We thus see that these leaves had probably recovered from the effects of the gas after an interval of 24 hours. On another occasion some five plants were left for 2 h. in carbonic acid, and immediately on being removed atoms of meat were placed on some glands, and within 12+m after being exposed to the open air, the tentacles on almost all the leaves moved and became vertical or sub-vertical. But these were affected in an extremely singular manner.... They remained for several hours in this position without becoming more curved and thus touching the centre. The tentacles . . .

Darwin explains in the first chapter of Insectivorous Plants: “During the summer of 1860, I was surprised by finding how large a number of insects were caught by the leaves of the common sundew (Drosera rotundifolia) on a heath in Sussex. I had heard that insects were thus caught, but knew nothing further on the subject.”

At first Darwin spent time on Drosera when he “had nothing to do,” but as he became more and more intrigued with the habits of insectivorous plants he began ‘working like a madman’ and told Lyell that he cared “more about Drosera than the origin of all the species in the world.” Forced to turn his attention to other matters, however, Darwin was not able to take the subject up again until 1872, when he began preparing his “pile of experiments” for publication in 1875.

Darwin’s notes for an operation apparently involving regeneration: Mrs. Darwin explained that Lyne made a cutting at the first operation on Dec. 5 which makes clear an expression in the diary for Jan. 9th. She then says that Lyne fully agreed with her father that the stump had grown between the operation on Dec. 5th, 1850 and that on May 9th, 1851. The stump which was removed on May 9th included a bone, but bore no nail.” She adds, We thought that Prof. Lyne felt a little annoyed about the business, as he had tried to cut as close as he could the first time (ie. on Dec. 5) when he made first one cutting and then another. After the second operation on May 9th, 1851, she goes on to say: We could see and feel how much it grew afterwards. It is now (for no attempt has been made to remove it again) a rather large ugly excrescence, certainly containing a bone, but without any nail. (Mrs. D. has written to Prof. Lyne’s nephew and executor to hear of any notes.)

A fascinating manuscript on two different subjects of great interest to Darwin. $10,000 - $15,000
254. **Darwin, Charles** *On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection, or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life.* London: [W Clowes and Sons for] John Murray, 1859. Octavo (7 ⅞ x 4 ⅞ in.; 200 x 124 mm.), Half-title verso with quotations by Whewell and Bacon, folding lithographed diagram by W. West, 32-page publisher’s catalogue dated June 1859 at the end (Freeman’s form 3); a few light spots in first leaves. Publisher’s blind panelled green grained cloth (with Edmonds & Remnants ticket), spine gilt (Freeman’s variant 1), brown-coated endpapers, in a green-cloth drop-box; slight rubbing on joints with a bit of color restoration at top of upper joint, ⅛ inch tear in top edge of upper cover.

A handsome copy of “The most important single work in science” (Dibner, *Heralds of Science*), which still remains a foundational pillar of modern scientific endeavor alongside relativity and quantum mechanics. Darwin’s theory of natural selection, which has been called “design without a designer” (Francisco J. Ayala) displaced humans as the epicenter of the natural world, just as Copernicus had cast out the earth from the center of the universe before him.

The entire text is essentially an introduction to, and amplification of the iconoclastic thesis that Darwin abstracts at the beginning of chapter 4: *many more individuals are born than can possibly survive [individuals having any advantage, however slight, over others, would have the best chance of surviving and procreating their kind ... [A]ny variation in the least degree injurious would be rigidly destroyed. This preservation of favourable variations and the rejection of injurious variations, I call Natural Selection.*

The book, stripped of references and academic paraphernalia, was aimed not at the specialists but directly at the reading public ... John Murray agreed to publish it sight unseen. Darwin arranged with Murray to send out a large number of complimentary copies, fearing the publication would be a catastrophe. In the event the 1,250 print-run was oversubscribed and caused an immediate sensation, requiring Murray to initiate a reprint almost immediately after publication.
Together with: Autograph manuscript unsigned 11 pages (7 ¾ x 6 ¾ in.; 200 x 159 mm.), [Down House, ca. 1846] being an extensive list of trees and plants for his orchards, walks and gardens at Down House; marginal browning and spotting, pinholes at top left corner of first page.

**Trees and plants for the orchards, walks and gardens at Down House.**

Down House stands south of Downe, a village 14.25 miles southeast of London’s Charing Cross. Darwin moved into Down House in 1842 and proceeded to make extensive alterations to the house and the grounds. In 1846, Darwin rented, and later purchased, a narrow strip of land of 1.5 acres adjoining the Down House grounds to the southwest. He named it Sandwalk Wood and had a wide variety of trees planted and ordered a gravel path known as the “sandwalk” to be created around the perimeter. Darwin’s daily walk of several circuits of his path served both for exercise and quiet contemplation. The present manuscript contains lengthy lists of a wide array of trees and plants for his expanding grounds. He begins with a large selection of trees for his orchard including apple, pear, apricot and cherry trees. Subsequent pages include a list of vines, shrubs and flowering plants to be situated against house beginning cast side. The last two pages contain a list of plants, many flowering for the front of house garden and right or west side going along walk to garden.

An extraordinary manuscript revealing Darwin’s great interest in his lush grounds at Down House.

**References:** Dibner 199; Freeman 373; Grolier/Horblit 23b; Grolier/Medicine 70b; Norman 593; PMM 344b

**Provenance:** Sarah B. Wheatland (embossed ownership stamp on front endpaper). $60,000 - $80,000
255. **Darwin, Charles.** Letter signed (“Ch. R. Darwin”), 1 page (8 ¼ x 7 ¾ in.; 210 x 197 mm.), “50a Albemarle Street,” 23 February 1871, receipt with endorsement; horizontal fold reinforced.

**The receipt signed by Darwin for payment by the publisher for the first edition of The Descent of Man.**

*Received of Mr. John Murray the sum of Six Hundred and thirty pounds for the first edition, consisting of 2500 copies, of my work on the “Descent of Man”, the text in the hand of a publishing-house clerk, signed by Darwin (with rare form of signature; “Ch. R. Darwin”) over an Inland Revenue one-penny stamp*

According to Darwin’s son (The Life and Letters of Darwin, 1887, III, page 131), the last revision of *The Descent of Man* was corrected on 15 January 1871. The book had occupied him for three years. He wrote to Sir J. Hooker: “I finished the last proofs of my book a few days ago; the work half-killed me, and I have not the most remote idea whether the book is worth publishing.” It was published on the day after the signing of the present receipt, the first issue running 2,500 copies, with a further 5,000 copies produced before the end of the year. Darwin is recorded as receiving altogether £1,470 for the work.

The present receipt is a vividly evocative memento of one of the great milestones of scientific publishing. **$12,000 – $18,000**
256. **Darwin, Charles.** *The Descent of Man, and Selection in Relation to Sex.* London: John Murray, 1871. Two volumes, octavo, (7 ¾ x 5 ¼ in.; 197 x 133 mm.), With errata on verso of title in volume II, verso of half title in volume II bearing printer’s note, tipped in leaf (pp. ix-x), and on page 297 in volume I, first word “transmitted.” Original green cloth, gilt-stamped, custom box. 

*First edition, first issue of Darwin’s Descent of Man.* Extremely bright copy, bindings clean and sound with only slight wear to extremities, interiors bright.

*Descent of Man* grew out of the book on Variation. It was Darwin’s original intention to give a chapter on Man, as the most domesticated of animals. But it soon became evident that a separate treatise must be given to the subject. His matured store of facts and thoughts could now be fully expanded. Darwin wrote, in the preface to the second edition, of ‘*the fiery ordeal through which this book has passed.*’ He had avoided the logical outcome of the general theory of evolution, bringing man into the scheme, for twelve years. The book, in its first edition, contains two parts: The descent of man itself, and a selection in relation to sex. The word ‘evolution’ occurs, for the first time in any of Darwin’s works.

*References:* Freeman, *Bibliographical Handlist*, 128-129. **$2,000 - $3,000**
Yet you & I have very much to feel deeply thankful for—each a queen of a wife—at last—& you with 2 fine sons; & lots of grit & courage, & philosophy to look upon the sunny side of life, to see its good points, its humor, & some of its fineness which doesn’t cost much in money if one has acquired the character to appreciate it all.

How I relish reading your fine, flowing ‘fist’ again, Mac. Don’t be so sparing of it henceforth. The bright spot of that trip east in 1932 was the half day or so I spent with you, reliving the brave old days at the start of this century, when we were young & full of ideas & courage—& foolishness. We started big things then, Boy, in a small way, warily & determinedly; But we were too honest, too trusting, to go on with the fine start we made when the wolves & the Hebrews of Wall St. got a scent of our blood. Many a time have I looked back & thought how different would have been the history of American Wireless had I had sense enough to sell a few hundred thousand dollars worth of my Am. De F.W. stock in 1905, & laid by a ‘war-chest,’ to buy in the Co’s assets after the collapse of White & Wilson. Any wise boy could have foreseen what was bound to befall the enterprise under their brigand management. But I was not wise."

In the letter from Pensacola, July 31 [ca. 1905], DeForest writes in part: Is it absolutely impossible for you to get power say 4 a.m. for a few tests? We will send at any old time to you when we get fixed up. Found some of these wires 216 ft. some 193 ft. long—and the skyline sagging a good 25 ft. in middle. Am putting in a light steel cable in place of this [?] skyline; will make all lines same length, & split the four a la Buffalo. Found Iredell using 3 osc. & 22 antenna—not much chance to get us on such a tune, I figure ¼ & 12, or 1 ¼ & 14 are in tune (by hot-wire ammeter, which I bought) & think you will have a better chance on such tunes. (“George Barbour”) Our height is 20 ft. less than it should be, even with horizontal skyline & if all these tricks don’t get us in, will holler to Manney to raise top masts, as per original specs. But you must get us with 180 ft. masts – 450 miles – sure thing – easy. 2000 ft. antenna coming from New Orleans, & new pan-cake timer—V.C.’s, etc. complete from K.C. Expect to have all these changes made by Wed. or Thursday—then “watch out nigger.”

In the letter from Pensacola [Pensacola]/ “Hotel Batinsky” Mon. night [ca. 1905], DeForest writes in part: Splendid work – like shot falling into a tin pan. You ought to step up your frequency a bit. Could hardly hear you till 4:30 tho we thought we heard you. Then I got in tune. From 4:30 to 4:38 I lost you, then I happened to put my hand on the tuner slide connected with the receiver wire, I got you well. Then you must have made some change, for I got you loud again, without hand on. 4:43—better yet. Timing on confidence by close, as you found. Now had about ¼ of that coil in which I brought back from Cleveland. 4:44 “how is it now?” “how is it now?” 4:45 You made a change. I had cut down imped. to 1/5 the spool in which I brought back from Cleveland. 4:44 “how is it now?” “how is it now?” 4:45 You made a change. I had cut down imped. to 1/5 the coil—and didn’t get you then so loud as previously. 4:50 Got you louder when I did not touch receiver wire slider… This is very interesting—what was your combination before when putting hand on this slider brought you up greatly? It appears that when your wave is such that putting hand on slide decreases sound that then you can tune quite closely on the tuner; but for another wave-length, where putting hand on slide increases the sound, that tuning on tuner is not so close. Still this may not be the rule. Anyway, for certain wave-lengths putting hand on slide will increase, & for other wave-lengths this will decrease sound. I think it has to do with the location of one of the nodes in the closed circuit. When the node should fall near the slide, then putting a hand, or a capacity there aids in forcing a node there, & this brings the receiver nearer the loop of the wave & aids the sound whereas...
for another wave length the node should not be located near the slide because if so it throws the loop to a point in the circuit far from the receiver, and this hurts the sound. Keep full notes, especially about this noise business, & how to kill static. There's lots to learn about this loop circuit of mine.

His letter to Sally Mack Horton of 10 December 1940 reveals the depth of DeForest's relationship with his chief technician after hearing of Harry Mack Horton's death, DeForest writes: We had no idea that your dear Husband had been sick so many months. He must have suffered so severely, yet so bravely, all the time. . . . Dear Sally, you were a wonderful & devoted wife to the best friend my profession ever revealed. You have the comforting assurance that you made Mac's life a blessing, after all the sorrow and tragedy he had passed through before you entered his life.

Poor Harry Mac—I knew him and loved him like a Brother. Through those early years of our struggle against overwhelming odds and opposition we stood side by side, shoulder to shoulder and we showed the world what American Wireless, and with it licked creation! We did. I am proud, have always been proud, to have found, so early, so faithful and staunch a helper and support. The History of American Wireless Telegraphy would not be what it is today, had it not been for the fine, undaunted, undiscouraged, determined efforts, in face of every form of obstacle, delay and set-back—which Mac, and a few loyal fighters like him waged by my side from 1901 to 1910. My memory is filled with comforting recollections, some of them grim, many light and humorous, of the days we worked together; at Washington, Toronto, Key West, Ireland, New York—long days of toil and dark nights of watching, side by side—determined, the two of us, like two brother soldiers, to win the battle, never mind the hardship, nor the lack of proper support from those for who we loyally struggled. Some of our labors, our adventures, would well form a Saga of Wireless.

Following DeForest's sensational exhibition of his wireless technology at the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair, the U.S. government contracted DeForest to erect five high-powered wireless stations in the south to provide communication over a distance of one thousand miles. The stations were to be built at Pensacola and Key West, Florida, Guantanamo, Cuba, San Juan Puerto Rico and Colon, Panama. This southern trip began in 1905 and lasted close to two years and DeForest and crew encountered grueling difficulties from the start. DeForest's assistant, Frank E. Butler remarked, “It was a battle from the very start. All nature seemed in revolt at our intrusion. She fought us with fierce, relentless static such as never heard before with the crude tuning devices at hand.” DeForest's experiments to overcome this static are presented in his lengthy 8-page letter from Bay View.

An extraordinary group of letters, including material from DeForest's early days at American DeForest Wireless Telegraph Company, a company that later fell into bankruptcy and was taken over by Guglielmo Marconi interests in 1912. In addition, remarkable scientific content from one of the great American inventors of the twentieth century, showcasing his inseparable relationship with his friend and colleague. $15,000 - $20,000
258. Edison, Thomas Alva. “Speaking telegraph.” Autograph manuscript and drawings signed (“TA Edison” and “Chas Batchelor”), 1 page (11 ½ x 8 ½ in.; 292 x 216 mm), “[Menlo Park],” 30 September 1877; faint staining, fraying, a few small tears.

Laboratory notes in Edison’s hand of his final stages of perfecting the telephone.

Shortly after assembling his laboratory in Menlo Park, Thomas Edison (1847–1931) was working on the acoustic telegraph. After viewing the demonstration of Alexander Graham Bell’s telephone at the Centennial Exposition in 1876, Edison began focusing on possible improvements for the device, called the “speaking telegraph” in these laboratory notes in Edison’s hand. Charles Batchelor assisted him in these experiments; Edison was nearly deaf and required assistance in any acoustic tests.

Although Edison succeeded in recording telegraph transmissions by 1876, the human voice had eluded his best efforts. Batchelor noted in his own notebook in February of 1877 that Edison considered Bell’s invention very imperfect because it could be used only on short lines. Between March and September of that year, Edison installed various devices and substances that might alter resistance of the circuit. He was encouraged greatly in his research by a report from New York City that Bell’s telephone was not transmitting the voice distinctly. By late September of 1877, the Edison laboratory made tremendous strides by improving the diaphragm and mouth piece, and in November Western Union established the American Speaking Telephone Company.

The present manuscript, illustrating and describing the new rubber diaphragm, documents a milestone in the history of communications in America. Edison noted near the bottom: Have tried it ok.


$20,000 – $30,000
259. Einstein, Albert. Autograph letter signed ("A. Einstein"), in German, 2 pages (5 ¼ x 8 3/8 in.; 133 x 213 mm.), 21 March 1917 to “Dear Colleague” Moritz Schlick, German physicist, philosopher and the founding father of logical positivism and the Vienna Circle. Within, Einstein praises Schlick’s scientific essay published in “Naturwissenschaften” and expands upon a “small inaccuracy” within the work.

Albert Einstein critiques fellow physicist Moritz Schlick’s scientific essay citing Galileo’s Law of Inertia and Einstein’s own Special Theory of Relativity as reasons for an inaccuracy found in the work.

In dark ink, Einstein pens in full; translated from German: When rereading your beautiful essay in “Naturwissenschaften”, I found a small inaccuracy. I would like to share it with you just in case your article may get printed elsewhere.

The derivation indicated on page 184 from the law of the motion of point assumes that in the local coordinate system, the point motion is a straight line. But we cannot deduct anything from this. The local coordinate system is generally only significant in the infinite-small, and in the infinite small, every continuous line is a straight line. The correct derivation is as follows: as a matter of principle, there can be finite matter-free parts of the world to which the following equation applies, if the corresponding reference system is selected

$$D s^2 = dx^a_1 + . + . - dx^a_i.$$ 

(If this weren’t the case, Galileo’s law of inertia and the special relativity theory could not have stood the test). In such a part of the world, Galileo’s law of inertia applies if selecting this reference system, and the world line is a straight line, i.e. a geodetic line in any coordinate system. The notion that the world line of the point is otherwise a geodetic line as well (if no other but gravity forces are acting) is a hypothesis, although one that makes a lot of sense.

You are right with your criticism on page 178 (note). The demand for causality for specific purposes is not a clearly defined demand. There are different levels of fulfilling the causality demand. You can only say that the general relativity theory in higher mass succeeded [better] at this fulfillment than the classic mechanism. The careful analysis of this notion might be a worthwhile task for an epistemologist.

Best regards,
A. Einstein

PS I am sending you a new work dealing with one of the focal points of the general relativity theory.

As leader of the European school of positivist philosophers known as the Vienna Circle, Moritz Schlick surrounded himself with philosophers including Rudolf Carnap and Otto Neurath and the mathematicians and scientists Kurt Godel, Philipp Frank and Hans Hahn. Influenced by Schlick’s predecessors in the chair of philosophy in Vienna, Ernst Mach and Ludwig Boltzmann, the Circle also drew on the work of the philosophers Bertrand Russell and Ludwig Wittgenstein. The members of the Circle were united in their hostility to the abstractions of metaphysics, by the grounding of philosophical statements on empirical evidence, by faith in the techniques of modern symbolic logic and by belief that the future of philosophy lay in becoming the handmaiden of science.

Between 1918 and 1925 Schlick worked on his Allgemeine Erkenntnislehre (General Theory of Knowledge), and, though later developments in his philosophy were to make various contentions of his epistemology untenable, the General Theory is perhaps his greatest work in its acute reasoning against synthetic a priori knowledge. This critique of synthetic a priori knowledge argues that the only truths which are self-evident to reason are statements which are true as a matter of definition, such as the statements of formal logic and mathematics. The truth of all other statements must be evaluated with reference to empirical evidence. If a statement is proposed which is not a matter of definition, and not capable of being confirmed or falsified by evidence, that statement is “metaphysical”, which is synonymous with “meaningless”, or “nonsense”. This is the principle upon which members of the Vienna Circle were most clearly in agreement.

A remarkable letter between two great minds with scientific content and excellent references to Galileo’s Law of Inertia and Einstein’s own Special Theory of Relativity and General Theory of Relativity. $15,000 - $20,000
Albert Einstein reviews a scientific essay of fellow physicist Moritz Schlick discussing Euclidian geometry and clarifying the definition of reality, contrasting Schlick's view with that of physicist Ernst Mach.

In dark ink, Einstein pens in full; translated from German: I keep reviewing your [work] and am very happy about your clear and concise explanations. The last paragraph “Relations to philosophy” is excellent as well. If there is something that I am noting while rehashing the papers, I will let you know so you can correct it in any new editions.

The paragraph pertaining to the non-validity of the Euclidian geometry on top of page 33 is misleading. We cannot say that Euclid geometry does not apply in two systems rotating relatively to each other. The following is to be deducted: Assuming system K is a Galilean system, for instance there is a system K′, for which (at least in certain areas) the possibilities of storing practically rigid (resting relatively to K), solid bodies are controlled by Euclidian geometry, then this is surely not the case for a system K′ rotating relatively to K. (In this proof, the systems K and K′ play a very different role). Initially, we deduct here that the existence of a gravity field excludes the validity of the Euclidian geometry (there is a field relatively to K′). Finally, we deduct from the circumstances that if we look closely, gravitational fields are never missing, and further, that a Galilean coordination system for finite areas does not even exist, but that the Euclidian geometry never applies in finite spaces.

The second item that I would like to point out is the definition of reality. Your opinion opposes the point of view of Mach as follows:

Mach: Only sensations are real

Schlick: Sensations and events (of physical nature) are real.

It appears that the word “real” is understood differently, depending if it is expressed by sensations or events/facts as defined in physics. If two different peoples pursue physics independent of each other, they will create systems that will certainly match up with regard to sensations (“elements” as defined by Mach). The concepts that each of them think up to connect these “elements”, however, may be very different. Likewise, the two constructions don’t need to agree on the “events”, because these are part of the conceptual constructions.

What is real in the sense of “irrefutably existing in experience” are most certainly only the “elements” but not the “events.” But if we designate as “real” what we categorize within time and space, as you have done in the epistemology, then primarily the “events” are real.

So what would we designate as “real” in physics, is doubtlessly the “categorized within time and space” and not the “imminently existing”. The imminently existing may be an illusion, the categorized within time and space may be a sterile term that adds nothing to clarify the context between the imminently existing. I would like to suggest that you clearly differentiate the terms.

Best regards,
A. Einstein

As leader of the European school of positivist philosophers known as the Vienna Circle, Moritz Schlick surrounded himself with philosophers including Rudolf Carnap and Otto Neurath and the mathematicians and scientists Kurt Godel, Philipp Frank and Hans Hahn. Influenced by Schlick’s predecessors in the chair of philosophy in Vienna, Ernst Mach and Ludwig Boltzmann, the Circle also drew on the work of the philosophers Bertrand Russell and Ludwig Wittgenstein. The members of the Circle were united in their hostility to the abstractions of metaphysics, by the grounding of philosophical statements on empirical evidence; by faith in the techniques of modern symbolic logic and by belief that the future of philosophy lay in becoming the handmaiden of science.

Austrian physicist and philosopher Ernst Mach is noted for his contributions to physics such as the Mach number (the ratio of the speed of a projectile to the speed of sound) and the study of shock waves. As a philosopher of science, he was a major influence on logical positivism and through his criticism of Isaac Newton, a forerunner of Einstein’s relativity. From 1895 to 1901, Mach held a newly created chair for “the history and philosophy of the inductive sciences” at the University of Vienna. In his historico-philosophical studies, Mach developed a phenomenalistic philosophy of science which became influential in the 19th and 20th centuries. He originally saw scientific laws as summaries of experimental events, constructed for the purpose of making complex data comprehensible, but later emphasized mathematical functions as a more useful way to describe sensory appearances. Thus scientific laws while somewhat idealized have more to do with describing sensations than with reality as it exists beyond sensations.

Excellent scientific content with extraordinary associations between Moritz Schlick and Ernst Mach and their differing views of reality.

$15,000 - $20,000
261. **Einstein, Albert.** Autograph letter signed twice ("A. Einstein"), in German, 1 ½ pages on two separate sheets (8 ¾ x 11 in.; 219 x 280 mm.), 22 January 1926 to “Dear Mr. Schlick” Moritz Schlick, German physicist, philosopher and the founding father of logical positivism and the Vienna Circle. Einstein writes a letter to Schlick mentioning founder of Quantum Theory Max Planck and includes a handwritten signed introduction for the impending memorial for physicist Ernst Mach. First page exhibits six small tape stains well below the text.

**Albert Einstein writes the introduction of a memorial being created for visionary physicist Ernst Mach ten years following his death.**

In dark ink, Einstein pens in full; translated from German: Despite being overloaded with all kinds of duties and obligations, I just had to dedicate a few words to Mach for this occasion, which you will find enclosed. If you feel that the contribution is unsuitable due to its brevity or criticism, please send it back. Hopefully, things will work out with Reichenbach, if not, I will try it in North America. It is touching of Planck, who develops so much objectivity, even though his heart is not in it.

**Best regards,**

_A. Einstein_

**Regarding the creation of Ernst Mach’s memorial**

The significance of a thinker is much better understood by the following generation than by his own. You have to look at a mountain from a certain distance in order to recognize it as part of a greater mountain range; from a distance, the small ones disappear and the great ones grow.

Ernst Mach’s strongest impetus was his philosophical drive: The dignity of all scientific terms and phrases lies solely within the singular events to which the terms refer. This principle led him in all his research and gave him the power to oppose the traditional terminology of physics (space, time, inertia) with a notion of independence unheard of until then. Mach’s beautiful accomplishments in the area of physics and physiology-psychology become secondary next to the powerful impulse that physics owes his critique of the basic terminology, which was deemed unproductive by his contemporaries and which became later one of the strongest driving forces in the development of the relativity theory.

Philosophers and scientists rightfully criticized Mach for blurring the logical independence of the terms in relation to the “sensations”, because he wanted to merge the reality of being, without the postulating of which physics would not be possible, with the event-reality, and because he wanted to discard productive physical theories (atom theory, kinetic gas theory) due to this one-sidedness of his point of view. But on the other hand, it was this grandiose one-sidedness that gave him the power to provide such a productive critique that cleared the path for evolvement in other areas. For this reason, his work represents a major contribution to the development of the last half century.

_A. Einstein_

As leader of the European school of positivist philosophers known as the Vienna Circle, Moritz Schlick surrounded himself with philosophers including Rudolf Carnap and Otto Neurath and the mathematicians and scientists Kurt Godel, Philipp Frank and Hans Hahn. Influenced by Schlick’s predecessors in the chair of philosophy in Vienna, Ernst Mach and Ludwig Boltzmann, the Circle also drew on the work of the philosophers Bertrand Russell and Ludwig Wittgenstein. The members of the Circle were united in their hostility to the abstractions of metaphysics, by the grounding of philosophical statements on empirical evidence, by faith in the techniques of modern symbolic logic and by belief that the future of philosophy lay in becoming the handmaiden of science.

Einstein’s mention of Max Planck, the father of Quantum Theory, is noteworthy. This theory revolutionized human understanding of atomic and subatomic processes, just as Einstein’s Theory of Relativity revolutionized the understanding of space and time. Together they constitute the fundamental theories of 20th century physics. Both have led humanity to revise some of its most cherished philosophical beliefs and have brought about industrial and military applications that affect many aspects of modern life.

Remarkable commentary by Einstein on Ernst Mach’s contribution to physics and how he “cleared the path for evolvement in other areas” of the field. **$10,000 - $15,000**
262. **Einstein, Albert.** Autograph letter signed (“A. Einstein”), in German, 2 pages (8 ¾ x 5 ½ in.; 213 x 140 mm.), [no place, no date but ca. 1927-29], to Hermann Müntz; traces of previous mounting on versos of each page, loss of a few characters of one word from tape removal.

**Albert Einstein begins work on Unified Field Theory and Distant Parallelism.**

In a letter to Hermann Müntz, a prominent mathematician, Einstein lays out a formulaic (i.e., mathematical) hypothesis to aid him in understanding distant parallelism.

Einstein writes in part, translated from German: *I have set myself the task of finding what the simplest manifolds are with distant parallelism, and if in fact without any consideration of physical application [physics]. Thus I went back to the earlier method which is based only on identities, but not on the Hamiltonian principle. I begin from the transformation-relation ....*

Einstein closes his mathematical explanation with: *Whether this has a physical significance is for me at present a mystery. But formally [i.e., mathematically] this is certainly highly remarkable...the result may also be generalized somewhat...What do you think about this?*

Einstein mentions Müntz in two important early published papers on Unified Field Theory: (1) “Hamiltonian Principle and the Unified Field Theory” – published in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* (March 21, 1929); and (2) “Toward a Unified Field Theory” (10 January 1929).

Hermann Müntz was one of Einstein’s major collaborators on his Unified Field Theory. Einstein corresponded with Müntz as early as 1927 on the subject of “distant parallelism” and the present letter is from that period. Müntz was born in Poland, but later became a German citizen. In 1929, he became Professor of Mathematics at the University of Leningrad, from which he received an honorary doctorate in 1935. Declining Soviet citizenship, Müntz, a Jew, had to leave the Soviet Union in 1937. In 1938, he arrived in Sweden.

This significant letter is part of Einstein’s first work on Unified Field Theory and Distant Parallelism. The two pages contain equations and notes. **$10,000 - $15,000**
Einstein informs his son: Science is a difficult profession.

The Nobel Laureate writes to his namesake, in full; translated from German: My work in recent years is altogether unsuitable for a popular lecture, and then I really dread that kind of public appearance. I must therefore unfortunately yet again decline the lecture. I have designated the 45,000 Francs as a down payment for your house and I have set aside another 45,000 Francs that should belong to you, that is, to Mama. Hopefully you will soon find an appropriate little house.

I will gladly stop on the return from Naples for a little while in Zurich, but on the way out only very shortly. There’s no question of anything official; it’s just important for me to spend a little time with you. I don’t have much time, because I must go to Kiel in May.

In any case I am very happy to see you again soon. I work very hard, but I am not accomplishing anything much. Science is a difficult profession. I’m sometimes happy that you have chosen a practical career where you don’t have to look for four-leaf clovers. Until our happy reunion. Best greeting to the three of you from Your Papa

A revealing statement from this giant of science. Einstein was very concerned about his first-born’s career path; at this time, Hans Albert was studying at the Polytechnic in Zurich, his father’s alma mater. In 1937 he immigrated to the United States, and was later to become a professor of hydraulics at the prestigious University of California at Berkeley.

A wonderful letter from Einstein to his son. $6,000 - $8,000
265. Einstein, Albert. Autograph manuscript signed (“A. Einstein”), in German, 1 page (11 ⅛ x 8 ⅞ in.; 283 x 225 mm.), [no place, no date]; marginal spotting, marginal split to horizontal fold.

Albert Einstein summarizes his Unified Field Theory, which attempted to explain gravitation and electromagnetism with one set of laws.

Einstein writes in full, translated from German: Short summary: A uniform theory of the gravitational and the electromagnetic field is established. Of the previously existing theories the one by Kaluza which views the world as five-dimensionality by introducing quintuple vectors (vectors with five components) in a four-dimensional manifoldness, in which case the quintuple vectors are (linearly) related to the four-dimensional manifoldness. Use is being made of an infinitesimal transplantation law of the quintuple vectors which gives occasion to the formation of a “quintuple curvature”. The latter is to the unified field equations in analogous relation as the Riemann-curvature to the field equations of the pure gravitational field. To the infinitesimal transplantation of a quintuple vector in the direction which is coordinated with it in the four-dimensional continuum, corresponds in the latter one a line which represents the motion of the electrically charged mass point.

In his general theory of relativity, Einstein had treated the force of gravity as due to a gravitational field. Matter gave rise to a gravitational field, which in turn acted on other material bodies to cause forces to act. Einstein had taken this force into account by means of curvature in space. A similar situation existed for electrically charged particles. Forces act between them, and they could be taken into account by considering the electric charges to give rise to an electromagnetic field, which in turn produced forces on other charged particles. Thus matter and gravitational field were exactly analogous to electric charge and electromagnetic field. Consequently, Einstein sought to build a theory of “unified field” which would be a generalization of his gravitational theory and would include all electromagnetic phenomena.

In 1917, Albert Einstein began his search for the unification of gravitation and electromagnetism – his unified field theory; he completed his first paper on the subject in January 1922. The two pioneers of unified field theory were both mathematicians. The first unification, based on a generalization of Riemannian geometry in the usual four space-time dimensions, was proposed by Hermann Weyl. With the same aim in mind, and inspired by Weyl’s paper, the mathematician Theodor Kaluza became the first to suggest that unification might be achieved by extending space-time to a five-dimensional manifold. His one paper on the subject, which contained nearly all of the main points of the five-dimensional approach, was published in 1921.

Einstein remained silent on the subject of five dimensions until 1931, when he and Walter Mayer presented a new formalism, which was “psychologically connected” with the known theory of Kaluza but in which an extension of the physical continuum to five dimensions was avoided. Einstein, in a different work environment, finally made one last try at a five-dimensional theory late in the 1930s though he spent more time on a second category of unification attempts in which the four-dimensional manifold was retained but endowed with a geometry more general than Riemann’s.

The last period of Einstein’s scientific activities was dominated throughout by unified field theory. For twenty years, he had tried the five-dimensional way about once every five years. In between as well as thereafter he sought to reach his goal by means of four-dimensional connections. He also spent time on problems in general relativity and pondered the foundations of quantum theory. Throughout his life, Einstein sought to join gravitation to electromagnetism in such a way that the new field theory would yield particle-like singularity-free solutions, and to lay the foundations of quantum physics, to unify relativity and quantum theory. Even today, the unification of forces is widely recognized as one of the most important tasks in physics. $20,000 - $30,000
266. Fermi, Enrico. Printed galley proofs of Enrico Fermi’s analysis of Einstein’s Theory of Relativity signed (“Dott. E. Fermi”), with emendations in pencil and ink in Fermi’s hand, in Italian, 2 pages (11 x 7 ½ in.; 279 x 205 mm.), [Rome, October, 1922]; marginal very light spotting.

Highly important printed galley proofs of Enrico Fermi’s analysis of Einstein’s Theory of Relativity, formally signed by Fermi and containing his numerous emendations in pencil and ink.

The printed galley proofs in Italian, are from Fermi’s fifth published work and his first in book form, of his essay, “Mass in the Theory of Relativity” published in 1923. Fermi formally signs the proofs at the foot of the second page. It appears Fermi made his emendations in pencil and then again in ink to ensure the corrections appeared bold and clear for his editor. On the verso of the second page, Fermi writes in a strikingly large hand on the verso of the second page: “Relatività – giudizio.” In his essay, Fermi postulates about the possible explosive release of nuclear energy. A partial translation of Fermi’s text confirm the great importance of his essay: “The mass of a body according to the theory of relativity is equal to the total energy divided by the square of the velocity of light. Even a superficial examination reveals to us . . . the importance of the relationship between mass and energy . . . It will be said with reason, that for the foreseeable future, it does not seem possible that a way will be found to set free this frightening quantity of energy.”

Einstein’s General Theory of Relativity was first presented in 1916, and his seminal work on relativity, The Meaning of Relativity, first appeared in 1922. Fermi’s essay, herewith, responds to this all-important book, which led to Einstein’s Nobel Prize in Physics in 1922. Though Fermi wrote other essays the present essay was his first work in book form. Fermi’s essay was one of several published in an appendix in the Italian translation of A. Kopff’s German work, The Fundamentals of Einstein’s Relativity, published in 1923.

Early Fermi relating to his work in physics is extremely rare as most of his early notes and papers were lost aboard the Andrea Doria. Fermi’s prophetic warning of the “frightening” explosive power that would be unleashed if the energy in matter is released is of extraordinary significance for the scientific world, past, present and future. $40,000 - $60,000
267. **Freud, Sigmund.** Autograph letter signed (“S. Freud”), in German, on Freud’s stationery imprinted (“Prof. Dr. Freud”), 3 pages (6 ¾ x 5 ¾ in.; 171 x 133 mm.), Vienna, 25 August 1905 to Otto Rank; light soiling.

Perhaps Freud’s first letter to his future apprentice, Otto Rank, who was still a promising 21-year-old student who had not yet made Freud’s acquaintance.

Freud writes in full, translated from German: If under different circumstances a younger writer has sent a manuscript to an older one and the latter has not answered for a while, then usually a bourgeois tragedy develops between the two which usually ends with a discord. Such is probably not the case between Mr. O. Rank and myself. The nature of my preconditions implies that there cannot be any doubt about my interest in his work and other qualities of his work can only increase this interest. If nevertheless I have not written, but waited for your foreseeable inquiry, then the reason for my behavior is the vacation mood on my part and by the not simple nature of the object to be judged on the other hand. I would like to make the following suggestion to you. I will return the manuscript to you tomorrow which during my trip in September I would like to see in your care anyway, and I would like to ask you to let me have the latter again at the end of September (I will return to Vienna during the last week of September). For better receptivity and equipped with a convex glass which now I cannot miss any more I will then study it and ask you after wards to grant me a few evenings to discuss it with you. I have gained a sufficiently high opinion of your capabilities in order to wish to make your personal acquaintance and it will be much easier to communicate to you my mixture of recognition and misgivings. If you agree with that, then please let me know on a postcard which confirms receipt of the manuscript.

An Austrian psychologist dissatisfied with hypnosis as a treatment for hysterical patients, Freud developed a treatment based upon “free association” and dream analysis, better known as Psychoanalysis. His revolutionary and controversial theories of human behavior, emphasizing subconscious mental processes and the enduring influence of infantile sexuality, marked him as one of the greatest innovators in the field of psychiatry.

After graduating from the University of Vienna in 1912, Otto Rank served as Freud’s secretary and protégé for twenty years. Freud considered Rank’s theory of the genesis of neurosis unorthodox and the two parted company in 1924. Eventually moving to the United States, Rank resided in Philadelphia after 1936. He is best known for his suggestion that the psychological trauma of birth is the basis of later anxiety neurosis, and for his application of psychoanalysis to artistic creativity. In this letter, Freud apologizes for not having responded sooner to Rank’s submission of a manuscript, and welcomes the opportunity to meet him in the near future. The first portion of the letter is written in the third person, though it is quite clear from the letter’s full content that indeed the correspondent is Rank himself. $3,000 - $5,000

268. **Freud, Sigmund.** Fine autograph letter signed (“Freud”), in German, 2 pages (8 ¾ x 5 ¾ in.; 210 x 133 mm.), “Vienna,” 21 April 1921 to an unidentified colleague; minor marginal fraying.

Freud declares he does not have an hour free for appointments or sessions.

Freud writes in full; translated from German: I have till the end of this season (14 July) not one hour free. I could consider only the first of October, only if one of those registered for that term cancels. Even then, I would advise you not to come to me but to Dr. Otto Rank or Dr. Th[eodor] Reik here. Or, if you prefer a medical man, Dr. [Paul] Federn, if this should be your choice, you would utilize part of the vacation because many colleagues are not as long absent from Vienna. I am, unfortunately, due to private circumstances, forced to sell the balance of my scanty working hours very highly. I would have to charge a German 250 marks, therefore, I prefer an Englishman or an American who pays according to their national schedule. I mean, I don’t “prefer” them, I am forced to accept them as “customers.”

A fascinating letter revealing Freud’s shrewd business sense at the height of his career. $4,000 - $6,000
Freud outlines conditions and prices for patients, specifying that if a man is homosexual and wants to be changed, he would not accept him as a patient.

Freud writes in full: I see you provide me not only with dollars but also with patients. Now the matter stands as follows. I intend to leave the town the middle of July not to return before Oct 1st. On this date I expect to find more people claiming my hours than I could accept, most of them doctors from England and America, that is to say: pupils not patients. I will have to make my choice. Your colleague should bring me some advantage if I take him instead of another man. He should pay $20, while doctors only pay $10. If he agrees to these conditions (Oct 1st and $20), the further decision will depend on the nature of his case. He ought to write me and state what it is. For example, I would not take him if he be a homosexual and desired to be changed, etc. I will answer him without delay. We all rejoice in the presence of dear Lucy, who behaves so nicely towards all of us and from whom we hear so much about our life and conditions in New York.

Freud's brother-in-law, Eli married Freud's sister Anna. Around the turn of the century Anna and Eli immigrated to America where they raised their children, including Freud's nephew, Edward Bernays and his sisters Judith and Lucy (referred to in the last paragraph). By the time he was thirty, Edward Bernays had developed a new business discipline, public relations, which has had almost as far-reaching an effect on the world as his uncle's discovery of psychoanalysis. At the time of this letter, Bernays began his career as the world's first public relations man. His pioneering research into the psychology of advertising and mass communications resulted in startling new theories of merchandising, which were put to the test soon after he opened an office in New York City. Bernays had been eager to assist his uncle, and had proved useful to Freud in earlier years by arranging for the translation and American publication of A General Introduction to Psychoanalysis, and forwarding royalty payments from publishers. Uncle Sigmund was not entirely enthusiastic about Bernays's ideas to publish his books in America; Freud had (as we know from many of his letters) a dislike of America and Americans. Almost immediately after opening the first public relations firm, Bernays's business theories proved correct, and he succeeded in not only promoting Freud and psychoanalysis, but later wrote several volumes, which have become the standard textbooks on public relations. $4,000 - $6,000

Extremely rare first edition, first issue in English of Galileo’s *Dialogo*, the major work to be included in volume I, and the first vernacular translation in any language. *The System of the World*, followed by the short but important *Letter to Christina*, was only the second work of Galileo’s to be published in England. It preceded the Latin edition, published in London by Thomas Dicas, by two years and remained the only vernacular translation for two centuries. Apart from the two works by Galileo, Salusbury included seven other translations from Italian in volume I of his *Collections*. The second volume, including an extensive life of Galileo in part two, was published in 1665 but almost totally destroyed in the great fire of London in 1666.

References: wing S-517; not in Norman. $20,000 - $30,000

*Second edition in English* of Galileo’s *Two New Sciences*. It was first translated by Thomas Salusbury in 1655 (see previous lot). A fresh crisp copy. $6,000 - $8,000

272. Herschel, John Frederick William. Autograph letter signed (“JFW Herschel”), 4 pages (9 ¾ x 7 ¾ in.; 251 x 200 mm.), “Austria,” 24 July 1828 to Herr Henn together with five related letters, notes, and a drawing; seal tear repaired.

An extraordinary letter discussing Henn’s paper on object glasses and the planetary ephemerides.

The great astronomer writes in part: *It is so long since I wrote to you, you will think I have forgotten you. It is not so, but I have been so overwhelmed with business that I have been obliged to neglect my correspondence -much to my regret. Let me first acknowledge your communication on object glasses and on the planetary ephemerides, if I have not already done so, with the tables and the letters accompanying them. They are printed (not the letters) in the forthcoming volume of the Astron. society’s transactions. I have now the proof sheets of the former before me, on which allow me some remarks. 1. The second value off as it stands in your MS. is incorrect the factor 1/r + 1/s being accidentally omitted. I have rectified this in the printed copy. 2. You say...[a quote in German, followed by an equation]. Now this is not true of the Spherical aberration itself but (if instead of l/n2 p we write x2 /2n2 p the x2 /2 having been inadvertently or perhaps for brevity omitted by you) it is true [symbol] the function which in my paper on object glasses referred to by you, is called Δƒ is equal to your [symbol] multiplied by [an equation]. In order to rectify this with as little alteration of your words as possible I have substituted for [a German phrase], in the English translation (by Dr. Tiarks) the words ‘the coefficient of spherical aberration’ and explained in a note that this ‘coefficient’ means the function above mentioned.*
3. When you say 'a German phrase' &c you seem to say it [doubles] as a theorem that The Spherical aberration of a double lens is Equal to the Sum of the Spherical aberration of its component lenses. Not only no such theorem can be taken for granted, but it is not correct in fact. It is true that the 'coefficient' of Spherical aberration in a double lens is the Sum of the 'coefficient of S.A.' of its component ones, but this is by no means self evident, but requires all the proof (a pretty complicated one) which is given in my paper—to which I have therefore annexed a reference. 4. In deriving my Equations (A) and (z) you have made $W = \frac{dn}{dn_1}$, $p = 1 - W$, $p_1 = \frac{1}{W}$, and throughout your paper you have regarded the ratio of the dispersion powers (which I have called $W$ in my Equations) as the same with that of $dn: dn_1$ whereas it is in reality $\frac{dn}{n - 1} = \frac{dn_1}{n_1 - 1}$ and the value of $W$ which satisfies my equations (A) (z) is not $W = \frac{dn}{dn_1}$, but $W = \frac{dn}{dn_1} \times \frac{n_1 - 1}{n - 1}$. I have therefore made this correction, and in the remainder of your paper have represented the fraction $\frac{dn}{dn_1}$ not by $W$ but by another letter [symbol] to avoid confusion.

5. You have remarked 'that the terms + [equation] and - [equation]' [it should be [equation]] 'followed by a quote in German'. If this remark be well founded, all my theory of aberrations falls to the ground I am convinced, if you will consider the matter again, you will coincide with me that this paragraph ought not to stand, and admit that I have done right in striking it out of the printed copy. At all events, as you deduce no conclusion from it in what follows, its omission no way vititates any part of what you have said. 6. In the first example of your very real and useful practical formulae, you have given, you have taken $n = 1.53$, $n_1 = 1.60$ and you say 'zeros Xeing $dn = 0.0, dn_1 = 0.04$ also $W = 0.25$. Since the values of $dn$ and $dn_1$ are 0.01 and 0.04 the true ratio of dispersive powers or of focal lengths of the glasses is not 0.25 but 0.25 $\times$ 60/53. I have therefore struck out 'W = ' and left $\frac{dn}{dn_1} = 0.25$, after which, the numerical calculations, in which $W$ is not involved, are (I suppose) correct I cannot but remark however that no crown x flint glass hitherto met with will give $\frac{dn}{dn_1} = 0.01/0.04$. The lowest value of [equation] I know of is 0.425 for glasses. So that this example though good is a numerical illustration has no practical meaning. I cannot imagine by what mode of experimenting you have got such very small values as 0.004 and 0.008 in the specimens of glass you tried, for $dn$ and $dn_1$. I presume they do not relate to extreme rays, but I wish you had mentioned what rays they were determined for, and by what [means].

I hope you will now not think me a very severe critic when I tell you that I think very highly of your paper, as a most useful practical work, and which promises to be of the greatest service. A gentleman named Rogers of Lieth has made a considerable improvement (as promises) in the construction of large telescopes—he corrects a large disc of crown by a compound lens of crown x flint of much smaller aperture [followed by a sketch] thus. Vide the Völ. III of the Trans. Ast. Soc. I am sorry you should have thought it necessary to send the money for Dr. Pearson's book as I never intended you to pay for it at all events the (2$\frac{1}{2}$, 13 shill) mention you have sent by Perth...has never come to hand. I am delighted to see that you are not contented to observe but deduce results. Your catalogues of stars whose proper motions come out from your obns so well, are excellent examples. I wish all astronomers would go & do likewise work much dispute little-use their eyes & draw conclusions the best they can, and trust the next sensation with their fame. I shall shortly find a way to send you my 3d Catalogue of new double stars- this completes my first thousand. What a wonderful work Struve's Catalogue is? My nebulae get on slowly but steadily. Within the last few days I have been examining the Satellites of Uranus. About two there remains no doubt—and I am almost sure there are more, but the planet is most unfavorably situated.

An important letter with significant content. $2,000 - $3,000

273. Jung, Carl. G. Autograph letter signed (“C.G. Jung”), in English, 3 pages (10 ¾ x 8 ¼ in.; 273 x 210 mm.), “Zürich, [Switzerland].” 5 September 1927 to Miss Morrison on his name-imprinted stationery; scattered spotting.

Jung writes to Miss Morrison regarding the psychological problems of a hermaphrodite with whom Morrison is in contact. With no shame, Jung asks for payment for his advice upon receipt of the present letter.

Jung writes in full: I am sorry for the delay of my answer. I am flooded with letters, which I cannot answer in time. Please forgive me. You request is unusual, and my answer will hardly be satisfactory. I should see the woman personally, because the solution of her problem can be only individual. There are no general prescriptions or established laws along which she would find an easy path through life. However I will try to answer your questions as honestly as possible, hoping, that you will be as discrete with reference to my opinions as you are with reference to the case and to yourself. The woman in question should decidedly not wall herself up in the line of affections. She must apply them as much as possible. But you gave me incomplete information: is she anatomically a hermaphrodite i.e. are her external genitals male and female? is there a vagina, that would allow a normal sex intercourse? or is there a penis or testicles that would force her to function like a man? Could you not send me a careful medical statement about this most important question? Practically all the symptoms you describe are symptoms of accumulated psychic energy that has not found a proper way in applying itself. It is therefore of utmost importance, that she sees free way ahead of her. She must give herself the chance of loving somebody. She
ought to have a friend. If she is homosexual, let her love a woman. There are many women quite ready to answer a homosexual penchant. Under almost all conditions it is more moral to live than to suffocate oneself. Only in an intimate friendship she is able to reveal her conditions without too great a shock. She ought to do it notwithstanding disappointments. In case of sex intercourse pregnancy ought to be avoided, because there is a chance of anomalies in the child. By all means she should try to squeeze herself into human community. Isolation would mean neurosis.

The question, how she is going to reconcile her unbalanced emotional nature, is a question of psychological development. In other words, she should undergo a psychological treatment. It is unfortunately quite impossible to deal with such a question by letter. Since the case seems to live in California I suggest, she should have a serious talk with Mrs. E. Whitney (she is a doctor and the wife of Dr. Whitney in San Francisco.) She knows my method and she could give you valuable information. Generally your case needs a great deal of courage and she should not be afraid to risk herself. Of course she should not foolishly trust herself to anybody, but she should make it a task to herself to find somebody that would love her sufficiently. Love is the only thing, that makes even an abnormal life bearable and even useful. Please send me 15$ for this letter.

Very truly yours,

C. J. Jung

An extraordinary letter with exceptional content. $15,000 - $20,000
274. Linnaeus, Carolus. Autograph manuscript unsigned, 2 pages (1 x 8 ½ in.; 25 x 206 mm.), [no place, no date], being a portion of a botanical study; some soiling.

A rare fragment of a botanical manuscript.

Linnaeus writes a listing of various plants, giving characteristics of each in the present manuscript fragment. Five lines appear on the recto and three lines on the verso. Often called the Father of Taxonomy, Linnaeus’s system for naming ranking and classifying organisms is still in wide use today. His ideas on classification have influenced generations of biologists, even those opposed to the philosophical and theological roots of his work.

Manuscript material in the hand of Linnaeus in any form is excessively rare. $3,000 - $5,000

275. Morland, Samuel. Fine illustrated autograph manuscript describing his invention of the speaking trumpet, unsigned, 3 pages and integral blank, (13 ¾ x 9 ¼ in.; 340 x 235 mm.), [London, ca. 1670], written in a fine clear hand (but with several erasures and additions), with 5 neatly drawn illustrations in pen and ruled in red; corroded by the ink in places and paper slightly frayed but generally in good condition.

Morland’s only surviving unpublished autograph manuscript description of the speaking trumpet.

The present manuscript is the only autograph account of Morland’s invention of the speaking trumpet, a different, but complementary text to his printed account published a year later. The use of trumpets for giving signals is of great antiquity but Morland’s invention of a trumpet, which could be spoken into is generally thought to be original. It was quickly adopted by Charles II for naval use and has proved of enormous value ever since. The manuscript is unpublished and was unknown to Dickinson who relied almost entirely on Morland’s printed account. None of the other surviving Morland manuscripts mention this invention (the other manuscripts are documents for his history of the Waldenses; the manuscript of Elevation des eaux; an autobiography, and a couple of letters recently acquired by the British Library).

Samuel Morland (1625-1695) made his first career as a diplomat in Cromwell’s service and distinguished himself in Cromwell’s crusade against the oppression of the protestant Waldenses of Piedmont. At the same time commissioned to write a history of their church, his first published book (1658). His allegiance to the protector ended when he discovered the plot to lure Charles back to England for his assassination. This was too much for Morland and he contrived to warn Charles and on his restoration sought the King’s patronage. Morland affected a flamboyant lifestyle but was not given the means, which he thought he deserved, to support it. He therefore embarked on a new career as an inventor: “Now finding myself disappoynted of all preferment and of any real estate, I betook myself to the Mathematicks and Experiments such as I found pleased the King’s Favour” (MSS. Lambeth, 931, transcribed by Dickinson). In an age of inventors Morland stands out as one of the most remarkable. He first designed several important calculating devices before turning his attention to the
speaking trumpet, still, as this document shows, on the lookout for new sponsors whilst not neglecting Charles II. After improvements to capstans, stoves and barometers Morland invented a new water pump and became known as the leading hydraulic engineer of his time (and to modern historians as one of the inventors of the steam engine), at last achieving the status and wealth that, he always thought were his due.

An extremely rare and attractive manuscript.

276. Morse, Samuel Finley Breese. Autograph letter signed (“Sam. F. B. Morse”), 3 pages (10 x 8 in.; 254 x 203 mm.), “New York,” 18 April 1843 to John C. Spencer, Secretary of the Treasury; marginal fraying, light soiling, address panel on verso of third page.

Morse discusses with the Secretary of the Treasury his contract for building the first telegraph line in America.

Morse writes in full: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst[ant] requesting an explanation of the reasons for commencing the salaries of my Assistants and my own salary from the 10th of March. The date from which to commence these salaries is not named in my instructions from the Department. Not knowing the rule of the Government in such cases and being at a loss to determine from what point of time compensation should date, I called at the Department in company with Mr. F.O.J. Smith of Maine on the morning of the 28th or 29th of March, for the express purpose of seeing the Honorable Secretary and having this point resolved. Not finding the Secretary within, I made known my business to the chief clerk Mr. Young who will doubtless recollect that I presented the following written questions, viz.: 1. Mr. Morse desires to be instructed whether the pay of himself and of his assistants shall be computed from the date of the Act; or the date of their appointment; or the date of the Secretary’s approval? To this his reply was “date of appointment”. 2. Mr. Morse desires to know whether the contracts he is about to make for materials, labor, &c., shall be made in his own name; or as agents of the U. States under the Act of Congress; or in the name of the United States alone? To this he replied in the name of the U. States; and sent for a form of contract which was copied at the time for my use by Mr. Smith. If compensation then commences from the date of appointment, the Honorable Secretary will see by reference to my letter of the 10th of March that I say “I desire to have two Assistants to aid me in my labors Professor Fisher and Professor Gale of New York who have been for a long time associated with me in my experiments.”

From the fact of these gentlemen having been so long associated with me in my experiments, I contemplated almost as a matter of course that they would be my approved assistants. The bill was no sooner passed than I notified both of them that they would receive the appointment from me subject to the Honorable Secretary’s approval, and on the strength of this assurance they immediately commenced their labors. By reference to my letter of the 8th of March you will perceive that I there notify the Department of my entering at once upon the duties required by the Act of Congress and in my letter of March 13th repeating the same notice I say, “I will only add that I presume the time spent in gathering this information will be deemed as services rendered under the Act making the appropriation for this object.” Professors Gale and Fisher have both been engaged in services for the Government since the 6th of March, and my own services I considered more especially as commencing on the 8th of March, but as my letter giving my general plan of operations, was dated and sent in to the Department on the 10th of March, I fixed the latter period in concurrence with Professors Gale & Fisher as a convenient one to date from although we should by this arrangement forego, they Four days compensation, and I two days compensation. If I have misconceived in this matter I beg to be set right, and shall most cheerfully acquiesce in such date for commencement of compensation for me and my assistants as the Honorable Secretary shall deem proper.

Morse made his great invention workable in 1836 and filed his patent in 1837. However, he was unable to secure patents in Europe or monetary backing, and almost despaired. On March 3, 1843, during the confusion of the final minutes of the closing session of Congress, $30,000 was voted for an experimental line from Washington to Baltimore. This letter was written six weeks after the appropriation for the line which he completed in 1844. On May 24 of that year, Morse sent his famous message across the wires: “What hath God wrought!” F.O.J. Smith, whom Morse mentions in this letter and who championed Morse in Congress and became one of his partners proved later to be one of the most unscrupulous and implacable of his enemies. $6,000 - $8,000
277. Morse, Samuel Finley Breese. Autograph letter signed (“Saml. F. B. Morse”), 2 pages (9⅞ × 7⅞ in.; 251 × 200 mm.), “Washington,” 1 June 1844 to Interim Secretary of the Treasury McClintock Young; marginal splits to horizontal folds, integral blank.

A week after the first telegraphic transmission, Morse requests a raise for his principal associate.

Morse writes in full: *I have the honor to state that in the original arrangement for salaries to my various assistants in the construction of the Telegraph I reported in my estimates ‘Services of three Assistants at $1500.00 each per ann.’ I had for some time Dr. L.D. Gale at a salary of $1500.00, Dr. James C. Fisher at $1500.00 and W. Alfred Vail at $1000.00. W. Vail has been one of my most efficient assistants from the beginning and I may say that his services are now essential to the maintenance of the Telegraphic intercourse; he alone with myself being at present able to teach the modus operandi. His salary considering he has a family to support is small, and considering also the services he has performed, and the confining duties, and responsibilities of his present situation, I would recommend for your approval that his salary be increased for the six months commencing from 10 June, 1844 and ending Dec. 20 1844 to Fifteen hundred pr. ann. after which-latter time it shall be reduced to $1250.00 dollars pr. ann.*

Alfred Vail, inventor of telegraphy, had been trained as a mechanic in his fathers degree from the University of the City of New York and begun studying for the Presbyterian ministry, when he attended an exhibit of Morse’s new telegraph at the university, in September 1837. Immediately grasping the significance of the invention, he offered Morse his assistance in developing and exploiting it. A contract was drawn up three weeks later and Vail’s father agreed to finance Morse’s experiments, which were moved to the Speedwell Iron Works, Vail’s father’s plant. The mechanical perfection of the instruments used in Morse’s subsequent demonstrations was largely due to Vail’s skill. Five years later, in 1843, Congress voted Morse $30,000 to establish and experimental telegraph between Washington and Baltimore, and Vail returned to become Morse’s chief assistant. It was Vail who on 24 May 1844 received in Baltimore the famous message “What hath God Wrought!” transmitted telegraphically by Morse from the Supreme Court room in the Capitol. $4,000 - $6,000
278. Morse, Samuel Finley Breese. Autograph letter, unsigned, 5 pages (12 ½ x 7 ¾ in.; 318 x 200 mm.), “New York,” 5 March 1861; marginal fraying pages 4 and 5 with paper extensions affixed to pages.

A lengthy discussion of the pros and cons of slavery.

Morse writes in part: I have no objection to give you the views I have so often expressed to you in conversation…. Whether the prescription I propose is considered a good one, may be a question with some northern minds, and if accepted, the patient may have expired before the remedy can be applied. I consider the divisions on the subject of slavery as the principle cause of our troubles, but back of this subject…there are false views on conditions of man in society which have taken deep hold of the public mind, growing out of fundamental errors proceeding from the generalities of the Declaration of Independence as construed by the opponents of slavery…. As [these errors] are in that document side by side with real and important truths, they exist like the embryo worm in the fair blossom, silently, and for that reason more surely affecting destruction of the flavor, the wholesomeness, and eventually the life of the ripening fruit… Scarcely a newspaper in the land can be read without finding evidence of the constant recurrence to the Declaration of Independence, by writers and orators for support of this ultra opinion. Our Declaration…is even quoted in high political quarters as the Bible of our political faith, with apparently not a thought, that it is not the Rule. It is a document that might be wholly ignored without weakening the true and established Rule of political duty, the Constitution of the United States… The errors are there; a new generation has given them life; they have gathered strength in the glare of our prosperity, and an activity has been imparted to them, which marks the imprint of ‘decay’s defacing fingers’ upon the promising fruit of our fathers’ careful culture.

Slavery as presented for national action is either wholly a political question, wholly a religious question, or compounded partly of the one and partly of the other. As a political question…what is slavery? It is emphatically a system of labor, and nothing more. In its economy, there are two parties: the employer and employed. The latter are regulated by the former on certain terms of mutuality…. Whether these relations…are justly or unjustly regulated affects not the case. They alone who have adopted this system…have entire political control and responsibility for the manner of its regulation. They are the sole judges of its economy, its expediency or inexpediency. A counterpart to this system of labor is adopted throughout the northern states…. Not a factory, nor business concern, nor domestic establishment, but employs this system of labor…. The South would be deemed most offensively impertinent, should they force the regulation of this eminently local matter before Congress, and importantly insist on laws to forbid its introduction into any part of the national domain. Why should it not be equally impertinent for us at the North to insist on Congressional interference to regulate the Southern system of labor?

Both systems are equally entitled to the protection of the Federal government. It is a protection to be extended equally to all the interests surrendered by the parties…. To make this clear look a moment at some of the various interests which form the business of society. The Federal government has a certain class of these interests to control and protect…. The State government protects and controls another class of interests not so general…. The city or town protects and controls other interests, the family other interests, and the individual still other interests. The mutual relations of these various systems…are the subject of arrangement between the various divisions of power. To allow of the greatest possible liberty, and yet to subject that liberty to those restraints necessary to prevent collisions, is the standing problem for perpetual adjustment…. Now in which category are the two systems of labor…? They are neither of them legitimately regulated by the Federal government, except in the most limited manner, to wit: the general government shall see to it that the laborers shall not be imported into the original thirteen states, and that those held to service escaping from the legal control of their employers shall be returned to them…. All else respecting laborers, whether they shall be hired or purchased, whether they shall be compensated by money…or not compensated at all is no concern of the Federal government…. Now the condition of service and labor…is reserved by the states severally for their own regulation. If a state at any time chooses to abolish, or to establish either system, it can do so irrespective of any power in Congress to forbid the act. No states assembled in Congress can overlap the limits which the Constitution has set and I certainly do not find in that instrument any authority…to prohibit or establish any system of labor in the territories…

During the Civil War, Morse, American inventor of the telegraph, served as President of the American Society for the Promotion of National Unity. Later he served for the Diffusionists, a group of powerful Northerners, who blamed abolitionists for the continuance of the war. Morse personally felt “it was the abolitionists who had urged the administration into unconstitutional measures,” namely, the Emancipation Proclamation, the Confiscation Acts, and the suspension of the writ of Habeas Corpus. While Morse upheld slavery, his primary aim as the leader of the Diffusionists was to restore the Union, if necessary by war, then by conciliation. As a Democrat, Morse’s judgment of Lincoln was especially harsh; and although a peaceful man at heart, he was an active supporter of McClellan in 1864.

$3,000 - $5,000
279. Newton, Sir Isaac. *Opticks: or, a Treatise of the Reflexions, Refractions, Inflexions and Colours of Light. Also Two Treatises of the Species and Magnitude of Curvilinear Figures*. London: Samuel Smith and Benjamin Walford, 1704. Quarto, (9 ½ x 7 ½ in.; 241 x 191 mm.), Title printed in red and black. 19 engraved folding plates. Woodcut diagrams and letterpress tables in the text; divisional title leaf following leaf Tt is present in old facsimile, clean and crisp. Contemporary blind-tooled paneled calf; rebacked.

Rare first edition, first issue, with the title printed in red and black within a border and with the imprint, but without the author's name, and with two treatises at the end of the work. Newton's study of light and optics began while an undergraduate at Cambridge and continued at his home in Lincolnshire during the plague years of 1665-1666. He investigated the behavior of light both experimentally and mathematically, concentrating on the spectrum of colors. *Opticks* contains Newton's summary of his discoveries and theories concerning light and color, from his first published paper onward, and include his work on the spectrum of sunlight, the degrees of refraction associated with different colors, the color circle, the rainbow, “Newton rings,” and the invention of the reflecting telescope. Newton demonstrated that natural white light is a compound of many pure elementary colors which could be separated and recombined at will. The book ends with two mathematical papers in Latin, published to establish Newton's prior claim over Leibniz to the discovery of calculus.

References: Babson 132; Dibner *Heralds* 148; Grolier *Science* 79b; PMM 172; Norman 1588. $30,000 – $50,000
280. Nobel, Alfred. Autograph letter signed, in German, 2 pages (8 ¼ x 5 ¾ in.; 210 x 133 mm.), “Paris,” 14 October 1881 to Herr Eschenbacher; in pristine condition.

Alfred Nobel's letter to Herr Eschenbacher concerning the sale of dynamite, in German.

Nobel writes in part; translated from German: I find as you do—an opinion that I already expressed in Vienna—that abnormal levels are being reached in the determination of prices for the different varieties of gelatin. When I met with Mr. Hupfer in Cologne, this matter too came up for discussion. But Mr. Hupfer thought that the present prices in Austria (compared with the current prices for glycerin) are much too low and that a settlement could only be reached by raising the prices of the weaker varieties. He is right: the selling prices in Germany are much higher than in Austria and we have presently little prospect of cheaper glycerin.

Concerning the sale of Dynamite to Hecht, I would do my best to impede such an undertaking. Unfortunately, my participation at Isleten [Nobel's explosives factory near Lucerne, Switzerland] is not very significant, and my influence consequently also not predominant. I nevertheless hope to clear this obstacle from your path.

Nobel, a Swedish manufacturer, inventor of dynamite and philanthropist, was inspired by his father who manufactured explosives in St. Petersburg (Leningrad). Nobel engaged in the development of explosives, studying the subject in Stockholm from 1859. While seeking an effective method from making nitroglycerine safe to handle, he invented dynamite in 1867. The nitroglycerine was dispersed in a material called Kieselguhr. He also invented blasting gelatin, the most powerful of explosives, in 1867, and ballistine, a smokeless nitroglycerine powder in 1888. Nobel bequeathed most of his large fortune (about 2,000,000 pounds) for the establishment of The Nobel Prize, to be awarded in five fields (literature, medicine, physics, chemistry, and the promotion of peace), first awarded annually in 1901. A scarce reference by Nobel. 

$6,000 - $8,000
281. Nobel Prize Collection. A fine collection of thirty-eight (38) letters from Nobel Laureates and Scientists of the twentieth century primarily in the fields of physics, chemistry and medicine; contained in a cloth folding case. Varied condition, from fine to slight toning with minor soiling.

An in-depth collection of letters from Nobel Laureates and Scientists.

An important collection of letters signed from award-winning figures in the fields of physics, chemistry and medicine of the twentieth century, including Nobel Laureates. All but one are written to Bernard Jaffe (1896-1986), a high school physics teacher who later authored a number of scientific books and articles. Jaffe wrote letters to these scientific luminaries from the late 20s through the 60s as research for his books and publications.

Some selected examples with direct mention of science:
• Carl Anderson (2 letters), one letter discusses his latest work on positrons.
• Francis Aston (2 letters), one letter mentions his mass spectograph.
• George Beadle (3 letters), two letters mention genetics, including a mention of Watson & Crick.
• Arthur Compton (2 letters), both discuss radiation; one being in depth notes on cosmic and gamma rays.
• Edward Doisy (2 letters), one letter discusses Theelin, the first isolated crystalline estrogen, and Vitamin K.
• James Franck, a signed 11-page pamphlet, “Remarks on the Photochemistry of Polyatomic Molecules.”
• R.L. M. Synge discusses liquid to liquid extraction using chromatography.
• Michael I. Pupin mentions Clinton Davison’s discovery of moving electrons, when reflected by metallic surfaces, behave like sources of radiation.
• Ernest O. Lawrence (3 letters), one letter mentions experiments yielding discoveries on the atomic nucleus.
• John J. Abel discusses the use of iodine in the treatment of thyroid gland diseases.
• Isador I. Rabi mentions his Nobel Prize and states has many British physicist friends but has never collaborated with them or worked in English laboratories.

Other scientist represented:

Awarded by the Royal Swedish Academy of Science, the Swedish Academy, The Karolinska Institute, and the Norwegian Nobel Committee, the Nobel Prizes are awarded annually to individuals and organizations who make outstanding contributions in the fields of chemistry, physics, medicine literature and peace. The prizes were established in Alfred Nobel’s will of 1895 which dictated the awards should be administered by the Nobel Foundation.

A comprehensive listing of the letters contained in this collection is available upon request. $10,000 - $15,000
282. Pasteur, Louis. Autograph manuscript, in French, 8 pages (8 ¼ x 5 ¾ in.; 206 x 133 mm.), [c. 1855], draft of a speech delivered before the council of the Academy of Lille; some smudging.

Unique eight-page Pasteur autograph manuscript discussing his ideas on the reformation of teaching and the educational system.

An important Pasteur autograph manuscript on education, with his own corrections and interlineations. Pasteur was Dean and Professor of Chemistry at Lille from 1854-1857, and this manuscript is a draft of a speech given there. Pasteur discusses at great length educational reforms; translated from French: I fear that, in effect, one has…taken too much account of the rules and the methods and not enough of the men who apply them…Everyone would understand that the value of the system of teaching depends on the professor more than his methods, and that at the start of a new system of education there is a necessity of having an excellent teaching staff. It is his conclusion that Pasteur states it is the quality of a teacher which is the most important element in education, but he laments the fact that the quality of teaching has declined in the lycees, and enumerates several reasons why this is so, the foremost of which is inexperience: …And in what circumstances, when teaching is changing, and new subjects are being introduced, mechanics, cosmography, botany, zoology, etc …Programs are planned to the minutest detail, but what is the purpose of such indications, without a profound knowledge of the scientific material… I believe that the real reforms that should be made should be applied to the teaching staff…

A fascinating manuscript in the hand of Pasteur on the subject of education. The great scientist’s concerns in the middle of the nineteenth century strike a chord in the present. $8,000 - $12,000
Pasteur writes to a vineyard owner with regard to his important work on removing bacteria from wine.

Pasteur writes in reference to his studies on the heating of wine, suggesting that the relation between the level of acid determines the level of heat necessary to remove bacteria.

Pasteur writes in part; translated from French: You asked for my opinion on two things: the action of oxygen and the temperature on the must. As for the oxygen question, please take note that I have shown in my Studies on Wine that a careful distinction must be drawn between a quick oxidation and a very gradual one. There is an enormous difference between these two processes. The former is nearly always harmful, as I said recently in my letter dated from Arbois; but you mentioned the latter process in your last letter to me. As for the heating of the must and the highly sweetened wines, here is a complete theoretical guide which you must absorb into your soul so that you will be enabled to put it into practice.

(1) The presence of alcohol and acids in the wine greatly affects the minimum level of temperature which it is necessary to achieve so that the wine will keep after being heated, that is in order that the bacteria can be killed. The more acid and alcohol present in a wine, the less you will have to heat it to kill off the bacteria. The more nearly you approach the state of a must... the higher you will have to raise the temperature. If you have had difficulties in ensuring the keeping qualities of a must when bringing it up to a certain temperature, may I urge you to carry out experiments either in raising the temperature higher or in previously adding a little extra alcohol to the must. So that you will understand me completely, I would urge you to look at my works on spontaneous generation. You will see from these that it depends entirely on the state of acidity, neutrality or very weak alkalinity of the surroundings to decide the necessary level of temperature for killing bacteria. I have shown, for example, that weakly alkaline milk requires a temperature of between 100 and 110. On the other hand, urine, which is slightly acid and requires only a temperature below 100, will immediately require a level of temperature at least the same as this and probably higher if neutralized. In 1861 I carried out experiments on the very sweet white wines of Bergerac to stop them from fermenting and needed a temperature of 75 for this. I would [undoubtedly] have had to push the temperature higher if the alcoholic fermentation which had already taken place had been less marked, that is to say if it had introduced less alcohol into the wine. I hope that you will find these principles helpful in practice.

The fermentation and pasteurization of wine was a major study area for Pasteur whose work on fermentation established that it was a biological process caused by specific living micro-organisms. This finding implied a biological or germ theory of disease and led naturally to Pasteur’s work in medicine. In the course of investigating fermentation, Pasteur also developed and patented the process called Pasteurization, of heating wine in closed vessels to destroy germs that could adulterate it. $3,000 - $5,000

284. Pasteur, Louis. Highly important autograph letter signed, in French, 2 pages (6 ¾ x 4 ¾ in.; 168 x 108 mm.), Arbois [Jura], 2 September 1885 to M. Sarradon, a wine merchant at Gray; integral blank, scattered spotting, repair to horizontal folds.

The cure for rabies.

In this superb letter, Pasteur discusses his successful inoculation of a dog bitten by a rabid animal, but apologizes that he must nevertheless kill the dog, because of stringent statutes instituted to protect humans from the deadly disease.

Pasteur writes in part; translated from French: There is no denying that you and I have broken the law on sanitary regulations of July 21, 1881. Any dog bitten or only suspected of having been bitten by a rabid dog must be destroyed. I was indeed able to treat your dog to make it resistant to rabies... but in terms of law, when your dog entered my laboratory, it was legally dead, and I didn’t have the right to return it to you alive. I hope that a new amendment can be made to the law; but a new law would be necessary...

Early in his career Pasteur had success in treating diseases of animals, and he wished to turn his attention to human diseases. Rabies, which affects both man and animals, afforded a prime opportunity for applying animal experiments to human problems. In 1882, Pasteur undertook research that led to the discovery of the preventative treatment of rabies. Finding that the virus was present not just in the saliva but in the nerve centers, Pasteur was able to produce symptoms of rabies in a healthy dog. Pasteur then obtained a weakened form of the virus to be used for inoculation. Finally, on 6 July 1885, Pasteur saved the life of a nine-year-old boy who had been bitten by a rabid dog, ushering in a new era in the prevention and treatment of this widespread, dreaded disease. $10,000 - $15,000
Szilard, Leo. Highly important typed letter signed, 2 pages (11 x 8 ½ in.; 279 x 216 mm.), “New York,” 25 January 1939 to Lewis L. Strauss, a partner in the international banking firm Kuhn, Loeb and Company who played a pivotal role in shaping nuclear policy in the United States; date of letter boldly circled in red pencil with arrow, received stamp dated 26 January 1939 at top right corner of first page; slight marginal browning.

Szilard reports on a very sensational new development—nuclear fission—the key discovery in opening the door to the creation of the atomic bomb.

In 1935, Lisa Meitner, Otto Hahn and Fritz Strassman began work to sort out all of the substances into which the heaviest of natural elements transmuted under neutron bombardment. By early 1938, they had identified no fewer than ten different half-life activities. At the same time, Irene Curie began looking into uranium and came up with results which contradicted those of Hahn and Meitner. The debate raged on.

Not long after, Hahn and Strassman succeeded in identifying no fewer than 16 different radioactive substances with varying half-lives.
Three of these substances were previously unknown isotopes, and were felt to be isotopes of radium. After several more weeks of tedious work, it seemed that these “radium” isotopes must be barium, element 56, slightly more than half as heavy as uranium. At first they could not believe the results they were seeing and cabled Lisa Meitner in Stockholm for some sort of confirmation. Her reply seemed to suggest that although it appeared to be impossible, they should keep an open mind. Hahn and Strassman continued with further refinements and again cabled Meitner: “Our radium proofs convince us that as chemists we must come to the conclusion that the three carefully-studied isotopes are not radium, but, in fact, barium.”

On January 3rd of 1939, Otto Frisch returned to Copenhagen from visiting his aunt, Lisa Meitner, and informed Niels Bohr of Hahn’s “barium” hypothesis. Niels Bohr was immediately gleeful as if he had been expecting such results. That same day, Lisa Meitner cabled Hahn again: “I am fairly certain now that you really have a splitting towards barium and I consider it a wonderful result for which I congratulate you and Strassman very warmly . . . you now have a wide, and beautiful field of work ahead of you.” What they had succeeded in doing, for the first time, was “splitting” an atom.

As a final step, these results need further interpretation. Lisa Meitner in Stockholm and her nephew in Copenhagen did so by long-distance telephone. Frisch carried out some further confirming experiments in his own lab using a simple ionization chamber. Over the following weekend, aunt and nephew conferred by phone to prepare two papers for Nature: a joint explanation of the reaction and Frisch’s report of the confirming evidence of his experiment. Both reports—“Disintegration of uranium by neutrons: a new type of nuclear reaction” and “Physical evidence for the division of heavy nucleii under neutron bombardment”—used the new term “fission” for the first time. The discovery spread like wildfire. After reading the Hahn-Strassman paper, Leo Szilard, wrote the present letter to Lewis Strauss.

Szilard writes in full: I feel that I ought to let you know of a very sensational new development in nuclear physics. In a paper in the “Naturwissenschaften” Hahn reports that he finds when bombarding uranium with neutrons the uranium breaking up into two halves giving elements of about half the atomic weight of uranium. This is entirely unexpected and exciting news for the average physicist. The Department of Physics at Princeton, where I have spent the last few days, was like a stirred-up ant heap.

Apart from the purely scientific interest there may be another aspect of this discovery, which so far does not seem to have caught the attention of those to whom I spoke. First of all it is obvious that the energy released in this new reaction must be very much higher than all previously known cases. It may be 200 million volt instead of the usual 3-10 million volt. This in itself might make it possible to produce power by means of nuclear energy, but I do not think that this possibility is very exciting, for if the energy output is only two or three times the energy input, the cost of investment would probably be too high to make the process worthwhile. Unfortunately, most of the energy is released in the form of heat and not in the form of radioactivity.

I see, however, in connection with this new discovery potential possibilities in another direction. These might lead to large-scale production of energy and radioactive elements, unfortunately also perhaps to atomic bombs. This new discovery revives all the hopes and fears in this respect which I had in 1934 and 1935, and which I have as good as abandoned in the course of the past two years. At present I am running a high temperature and I am therefore confined to my four walls, but perhaps I can tell you more about these developments some other time. Meanwhile you may look out for a paper in “Nature” by Frisch and Meitner which will soon appear and which might give you some information about this new discovery.

Leo Szilard is best known for his pioneering work in nuclear physics, his participation in the Manhattan Project during World War II, and his fervent opposition to the nuclear arms race in the postwar era. His letter to Lewis Strauss is an extraordinary record of arguably the most important discovery in modern science.

The draft letter Szilard wrote for Albert Einstein to be sent to Franklin Delano Roosevelt regarding the use of the bomb ushering in the atomic age from Szilard’s personal papers sold for $1,900,000 at Christie’s New York, 27 March 2002, lot 161. The letter offered here is of enormous scientific importance in the development of nuclear warfare. $200,000 – $300,000
286. Whitney, Eli. Autograph letter signed, 2 pages (9 ¾ x 8 in.; 251 x 203 mm.), “New Haven,” 13 October 1815 to J. Stebbins; browning and scattered spotting.

The great inventor on a practical note: ordering a large quantity of first quality shingles for his business.

Whitney writes in full: I regret that it has not been in my power to write to you more frequently & that I now can write you only a few lines on business. It is in your power, & will it be convenient for you to procure for me, in the course of the ensuing winter, one Hundred thousand of the first quality of fine Shingles, of the best timber, good thickness, well dressed & full 18 inches long - receivable at some convenient sea-port-- to be paid for by Draft on Boston? If your reply is in the affirmative, then at what price can such Shingles so delivered be procured? I need not tell you that almost every thing which is done about Shingles is cheat & that an honest good Shingle maker is a very rare sort of animal; but your knowledge of men & things in that country must enable you procure good shingles, if any body can. I want the Shingles all for my own use. Excellent Spruce Scantling are sometimes Brought here, from some part of Maine. Do such come from your part of that Country and at what price per feet board measure, can they be delivered on board ship? Can such be procured to be sawed, accurately, to a Bill, say, including all the timber &c necessary for the frame of a Building? If you can make it convenient to answer the foregoing enquiries within 10 or 12 days you will much oblige me.

Our Legislature met yesterday but I have been so much occupied that I have not been in see them. Charles Denison, Speaker, Thos. Williams, (Hartford), & Seth P. Staples, Clerks -- Proportion of Democrats, alias friends of Bonaparte, as heretofore. Remember me to Laura…

At the time of the present letter, Whitney had achieved great renown. In building his arms business he took full advantage of his connections as an alumnus from Yale University. He also became more involved in Connecticut politics and the ruling elite therein as evidenced in the latter portion of his letter. Surely, with a business dependent on government contracts, Whitney’s involvement in politics was essential to his success. $4,000 - $6,000
287. Wright, Wilbur. Autograph letter signed ("Wilbur Wright"), 2 pages (10 ¾ x 8 ½ in.; 273 x 216 mm.), “Berlin Germany,” 26 September 1907 to E.W. Ellis, Secretary of the Annual Club of Ten Dayton Boys, Dayton, Ohio; on “Conrad Ubi’s Hotel Bristol”; with original handwritten transmittal envelope.

Spurned by the U.S. Government, Wilbur Wright tours Europe in hopes of finding financial backing for the Wright Flyer.

Wright pens in full: It came to my mind today that I would soon be owing the club 4 shillings “tuppence”, or five francs fifteen centimes, or four marks, 14 pfennings, and as I feared I might not have the right change in either currency, I thought I would write you a letter as an I.O.U. and settle later. It is more than four months since I left home in such a hurry and it has been a rather exciting time, in some parts more exciting than I can safely describe on paper. It is too soon yet to say just how far we will get this year with our negotiations. At one time we had practically sold a half interest in our European Business for $300,000 cash, when a fool spoiled everything for the time, and forced us to take a different course. We have been “warm”, as the children say in some of their games, on other occasions, but we have not yet settled anything. We are working both the governments and the private financial interests and feel certain that matters will turn out all right in the end, though there may be delay till next year. We are in communication with and have the confidence of some of the most powerful business men in North France and Germany and are in good position to form a company and deal with governments through it, in case we find it takes too long to reach agreements on our present plans. Of course all this is very confidential at present. I am sorry not to be at the meeting this year especially as it is the 2dh anniversary of the founding of the club, I believe. But I send my best wishes and hope you have a jolly goodtime.

After their historic flight in 1903, the Wright brothers began constructing and testing their 1904 and 1905 Flyers II and III. The War Department resisted their offers to furnish an aircraft for scouting purposes, so they looked to Europe for the sale of their aircraft. In May, 1907, Wilbur made the first of many subsequent trips to France to build and test airplanes, making many new flight records in the process. While Orville, back in the U.S., met with little enthusiasm about the future of air flight, Wilbur, on the other hand, was successful in arousing the admiration of the French, and concluded an agreement with a French syndicate to train pilots and market their planes in France. Wright established the world’s first flying school in Pau, France, in 1909. Further business transactions were made in England, Germany, Italy and eventually, America. Wilbur never lived to see the modern development of the airplane; he died of typhoid fever on May 30, 1912.

An extremely rare Wilbur Wright autograph letter signed with precious few ever seen at auction. $10,000 - $15,000
288. American All-Stars. Print Signed, (20 x 27 ½ in.; 508 x 699 mm.), Japan, 1934; marginal browning and fraying.

An extraordinary Japanese lithograph honoring the visit of the 1934 American All-Star baseball team signed by all of the members.

An extraordinary and possibly unique lithographed broadside celebrating the first and only pre-war visit of the American All-Star baseball team to Japan, signed by sixteen American players including Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Lefty Gomez, Jimmy Foxx and Connie Mack.

The American All-Star team, coached by Babe Ruth, made its historic trip to Japan in the fall of 1934. Although undefeated in its first and only pre-World War II tour of Japan, the American players were overwhelmed by the Japanese interest in their games and by the intensity of the Japanese players. Team members included Babe Ruth, Connie Mack, Earl Averill, Bing Miller, Jimmy Foxx, Earl Whitehill, Lefty Gomez, Lou Gehrig, Frank “Lefty” O’Doul, Joe Cascarella, Eric McWain, Clint Brown, Frank Hayes, Charles Gehringer, Robert Warstler, and Moe Berg. They were accompanied by umpire John Quinn and their trainer Doc Ebling. All have signed the broadside very prominently, with Babe Ruth’s enormous signature across the American flag and Connie Mack’s across the Japanese flag.

In the upper left, in very fine script, is written “To Mr. Frank O’Doull” and in the lower right “From Shigehiro J. Gotoh, Nagoya, November 1934.” Gotoh was the lithographer. The lithograph is headed in large script “All American/All Nippon Baseball Match” with the American and Japanese flags below. The American flag contains only eleven stars and is reversed.

The visit of the American All-Star baseball team to Japan in 1934 was of great historic importance, both in terms of baseball history and international relations. It was also an historic visit for a reason unknown to the Japanese at the time; one of the American baseball players was, in fact, a spy and his movie films provided the information used on the first bombing raid of Tokyo.

Moe Berg, a catcher for the Cleveland Indians, had visited Tokyo several times in the past, was a devotee of Japanese culture and fluent in the language. He was highly thought of by the Japanese and met with Emperor Hirohito during the All-Star team’s visit. On November 29, wearing a black kimono he went to St. Luke’s International Hospital, one of the tallest buildings in Tokyo, pretending to visit a patient. He managed to get to the roof of the hospital where he brought out a motion picture camera, which he had hidden under his clothing. He concentrated on filming industrial complexes and armament plants, oil refineries and railroad lines, the Imperial Palace, the suburbs, and warships in Tokyo Bay. Seven and a half years later, on April 18, 1942, General Jimmy Doolittle led a surprise attack on Tokyo and this attack as well as subsequent ones relied upon Moe Berg’s films for information. Moe Berg served during World War II as a nuclear espionage agent, specializing in tracking down atomic scientists who might be working with Germany on an atomic bomb.

$20,000 - $30,000

Legendary baseball player Ty Cobb plots to make a killing on a lucrative exhibition golf match against another baseball legend — Babe Ruth.

Cobb writes in full: I am very happy to have heard from you. It’s been a long time and have wondered how you were. I am going on a fishing trip and must make this letter brief- and will write more fully later. The golf proposition I believe might click with proper handling and advertising and the proper admission, I of course can’t accept your 50000 people statement. I can play in low 80’s on any real course and of course out to you I think I could still get Babe’s goat and beat him twice more than he beats me.

I give my consent to go ahead for January but it to be a 50 percent split between you & I. They are to get no edge you and I are to get no edge you and I can arrange ours later. I am anxious to do anything I can for your interest. You get all the cards on the table and tell Christy I can be depended upon to come & play, but don’t give up anything on terms. Make out I might be hard to satisfy and when you are sure you know all the deal as to terms then get the half for ourselves. I am very much pleased with living here and really hate to go back east for trips. It gets in your blood. Everything perfect. You must come to see me some day. I can play in low 80’s on any real course and of course out to you I think I could still get Babe’s goat and beat him twice more than he beats me.

Cobb’s postscript indicates he has done well with his stock market investments: PS. Boy I have done a little mopping [up] in [the] market, better off than I was in 1929. Tj: Coca Cola 240, Genl Motors 46, & many others.

Babe Ruth and Ty Cobb were two of the five original players elected to the Cooperstown Hall of Fame in 1936 along with Honus Wagner, Christy Mathewson and Walter Johnson.

A wonderful letter with great content clearly revealing Cobb’s competitive streak. $6,000 - $8,000
290. Cobb, Tyrus Raymond “Ty.” Autograph letter signed (“Ty Cobb”), 3 pages (10 ½ x 7 ¼ in.; 267 x 184 mm.), “Menlo Park, California,” Friday, 8 May 1958, on his imprinted personal letterhead stationery, to Mr. Frank Gilbert; photograph creased at head and foot.

A Ty Cobb letter in which he reveals the true details of “The Baker Spiking” of 24 August 1909.

Cobb writes to Gilbert, in part: I receive a great amount of mail and its a task trying to answer etc. Also many ‘remember’ time & incidents, details and they can be so wrong. For instance, I have had letters that stated they were in stands when I went after a fan who was blaspheming me, this happened one time, N.Y. Highlanders grounds 168th & Broadway and yet have had letters they saw me in every stand in the league and several clubs in National League and I never played in that league. Also the Baker spiking thing, a drunken newspaper writer started that, as it happened in Detroit so he could write anything back to Philadelphia to arouse them and create a gate, he did, and I have had it tacked on me ever since. Baker never lost an innings play, was the merest nick in his forearm...

I know what you mean as to the game and players of today not the same as the boys of yesteryear. For your collection I am sending you a picture of the’ Baker spiking’. There are few of these out, you have been and are a real fan, I have never volunteered a picture before in my life.

In this picture you will see Baker in the base line, you get the angle, noting that infield graduating towards 2nd base, Baker in line. One doesn’t jump into or high at a baseman he tries to evade or give just the tow to touch. My slide is well away from 3rd base towards home plate, trying to evade Baker who is on the offensive. I must try to catch bag with my tow. He had a slight nick on forearm and very conclusive, my food had passed over his arm and he was contacted so lightly that his arm was not knocked aside even. Also where is my eyes centered, not at baker but the bag. I had been well away from Baker. I was even out of the baseline had passed his body, only his stretch of his arm and much on the offensive, caused this slight nick, and yet in reading about this ‘terrible’ spiking of Baker one would think I raked him from throat to foot. This play wounded me much by the writers. I send this will my compliments for your collection. I am Sincerely Ty Cobb.

P.S. I only tried to spike but two men in my career.
Accompanied with an oblong black and white 8 x 10 in. printed photograph signed of the notorious “spiking” incident, with Cobb sliding into the bag as third baseman Frank Baker, on the left, tries to tag him out. Boldly inscribed, on the image: To Frank Gilbert From Ty Cobb The “terrible” spiking of Baker. The Baker spiking occurred during the first game of a three-game set against the Philadelphia Athletics in Detroit on 24 August 1909. The Tigers swept the series. In a later meeting in Philadelphia, local fans threatened Cobb’s life. $15,000 - $25,000
Hall of Famer Ty Cobb, who had the highest career batting average in professional baseball, compares himself to Babe Ruth, crediting much of his rival's incredible batting power stats to the advent of the lively ball era.

Cobb writes in full: Yours received. The better way to settle arguments over records is to secure one of the many record books and you have them all to refer to. Best one is by Frank Menke, All Sports Record Book. You can secure it by addressing American News Co., 131 Varick St. N.Y. and enclose one dollar. You get the history and records of all sports.

Trying to answer your question. Most of my career in American League was with the original ball or so called dead ball. The lively ball went in during season of 1919. I came in league in 1905 so I had 13 years of the old ball and the home run leaders in American League from 1905 to 1918 inclusive hit 1905 - 8 - next year - 12 - 8 - 7 - 9 - 10 - 9 - 10 - 8 - 7 - 12 - 9 - 11 and Ruth tied with [Tilly] Walker this last year with 11 but 1919 it jumped to 29 and 1920 to 54 etc. I led league in 1909 with 9 home runs, also in 1915 Ruth had 4, 1916 - 3 and 1917 - 2. Ruth played 22 years 1915 to 1935 inclusive so he had 18 years of lively ball. I played 24 years and 10 yrs with lively ball. Quoting hits I had 4191 Ruth 2873 - 2 base hits [doubles] I had 724 Ruth 506 - 3 base hits [triples] I had 297 Ruth 136 - home runs I had 118 Ruth 714. So there you are. Judge for yourselves if I was just a short hitter. I have no claims to make my age was 33 when lively ball came in. I was no longer young. I was classed as a vet etc.

Hope this takes care of your request.

Before 1919, baseball teams employed the deadball style of play. New baseballs were seldom introduced into the games, the result being that pitchers often took command, delivering a variety of pitches (including spitballs) and defacing balls with various foreign substances. The decline of the deadball style was foreshadowed in 1910 by the introduction of the cord-centered baseball; within time, technology was to provide livelier balls, which were more frequently changed during games and fans were allowed to keep balls hit into the stands. The true end of the era of deadball came in 1919, when Babe Ruth of the Red Sox hit 29 homers to set a new seasonal homer mark. As well, rule changes in 1920-21 also barred the use of spitters and other doctored balls by all pitchers (except for a few specified veterans). The conservative style of offensive play was over.

Cobb credits the advent of the lively ball era with providing a boost to Ruth's batting power; Ruth had 18 years of lively ball, while Cobb had only 10. Also a factor, Cobb comments, was their age difference; Ruth was 24 in 1919, while Cobb was already 33. However, Cobb points out that the stats still indicate that even though Ruth hit an incredible number of home runs during his career (714), far more than Cobb did (118), Cobb out-gunned Ruth in number of hits (4191 to Ruth's 2873), doubles (724 to Ruth's 506) and triples (297 to Ruth's 136).

It has been said that the rivalry between Ruth and Cobb was between two players who represented radically contrasting approaches to the game. The two became bitter enemies, with Cobb's stature as the greatest baseball player ever continually threatened by Ruth. $10,000 - $15,000

Joe DiMaggio, courting his future wife, Marilyn Monroe, begs forgiveness for an outburst in which he badly hurt her feelings, just four months after their first meeting.

DiMaggio pens in full: DeMarilyn, I just got through talking with you—and I don’t know what else to say than I have already said. However, it bothers me (call it guilt or what have you) to think about what happened the day I left for New York. I definitely [sic] am punishing myself. I have always felt that I’ve been able to ‘take’ it, but in this particular instance, I find myself rather cold. It annoys me no end to think that I have ‘bit’ your feelings: you of all people, would be the last one I’d hurt! It has never been my nature to do that to anyone, and I’m certainly not going to start now. I’d rather take an ‘airship’—bow out gracefully is what I mean—rather than give you any misieres [sic; i.e., plural of misery], and please don’t get the idea I am saying these things because I want things to change—on the contrary, I have among other things great respect for you. For the time that I know you—you have done nothing but good—for me and some of your acquaintances—you have done nothing but take the worse of things when other people are involved in rough spots, and in our mild mannered way, people have taken advantage of you. I know all these things about you, and a lot more. I guess I could also mention how much you try in everything that you do. Especially when you were here and went shopping just to please me. So you see Marilyn, I appreciate you as a real, solid, human soul, with tremendous inner feelings.

What you have already read has been put mildly and very brief.

I am handing you the ‘deck’ of cards now—you shuffle [sic] them and deal; all I ask is you forgive me. Love Joe.

DiMaggio, one of the greatest center fielders of all time, retired from baseball in 1951. In 13 seasons with the New York Yankees, DiMaggio compiled a .325 batting average, hit 361 home runs, led the American League twice in batting and was the league’s Most Valuable Player three times (1939, 1941, 1947). At 37, “Joltin Joe”, the famed Yankee Clipper, had his first date with twenty-five-year-old Marilyn Monroe in early 1952. A double date was set up at the Villa Nova restaurant in Hollywood. Marilyn, who was on the verge of becoming the most famous star in Hollywood history, was to say about their first meeting: “I had thought I was going to meet a loud sporty fellow. Instead I found myself smiling at a reserved gentleman in a gray suit, with a gray tie and a sprinkle of gray in his hair. There were a few blue polka dots in his tie. If I hadn’t been told he was some sort of ball player, I would have guessed he was either a steel magnate or a congresswoman.”

Despite their mutual indifference to each other (she to baseball, he to movie making), they soon became mysteriously attracted to each other, though Marilyn was to admit: “I was surprised to be so crazy about Joe. I expected a flashy New York sports type, and instead I met this reserved guy who didn’t make a pass at me right away. I had dinner with him almost every night for two weeks. He treated me like something special. Joe is a very decent man, and he makes other people feel decent, too.” Soon, the two became a “hot item” in Hollywood over the next year, though their courtship was filled with problems. When they first met, DiMaggio was the more popular celebrity of the two. However, by the end of 1953, Marilyn had become a very popular public personality and craved the glitz, glamour and public spectacle that she made of herself. In contrast, Joe craved privacy and hated cameras and publicity.
This very early letter sums up the stormy relationship between Joe and Marilyn, one prone to outbursts, followed by lengthy and emotional pleas for forgiveness and brief reconciliations. He was proud of Marilyn’s beauty, but became instantly jealous if she was admired by strange men or if she wore revealing dresses that embarrassed him in public. And Marilyn was just at the beginning of her meteoric rise to stardom on a career path that did not jive well with his hope, as a retired ballplayer, that she would settle down and become the most glamorous “housewife” in the world. They were both personalities whose careers depended upon their “sex” appeal—their physical charms and abilities—and they both hated phonies and fakes. Yet, they were ultimately an inappropriate couple doomed in an ongoing, deeply troubled relationship, which ended 27 October 1954, nine months after they wed. 

$10,000 - $15,000
293. Fischer, Bobby (Robert James Fischer). Printed chess scorecard boldly signed on page two: (“Fischer”), with chess scores entered in Fischer’s hand of his match with opponent Rossetto at the II Torneo Internacional de Ajedrez-Ciudad de Buenos Aires, 2 pages (8 ¼ x 6 ¾ in.; 218 x 171 mm.), Buenos Aires [3 August 1970], also initialed by his opponent. Also includes; a Russian chess bulletin signed (“Robert Fischer”) on the inside title page, 30 pages (8 ¾ x 11 ¼ in.; 222 x 286 mm.), 28 February 1964.

Rare Bobby Fischer signed chess scorecard and Russian chess bulletin.

Fischer is considered by many to be the greatest chess player in history. Learning the game at age 6, Fischer became the youngest national junior champion at age 13 and the youngest international grand master at age 15. At age 16, he left school to devote himself to the game, and won the United States championship seven times. In the summer of 1972, in Reykjavic, Iceland, he came to worldwide attention by beating Russian Boris Spassky in the world championship, the first American to ever win it. Known for his innovative strategy and his brilliant end game, Fischer is also known as an extremely temperament player. He often protested ground rules and official rulings with officials, delaying play. He refused to defend his title and forfeited his world title in April 1975 to Anatoly Karpov after a dispute with the International Chess Federation. $2,000 – $3,000

294. Gehrig, Lou. Autograph letter signed, in pencil. 1 page (6 ¾ x 5 in.; 162 x 127 mm.), Written in entirely in Gehrig’s hand on one of the blank pages of a two-page letter from high school student/aspiring baseball player, Tom Templeton, in response to his questions about a vocation as a professional ball player. Gehrig’s letter is undated, Templeton dates his letter 8 May 1938, written from Hawthorn, New Jersey.

A young boy asks Gehrig of the profession of baseball: “Are there any special dangers or health problems connected with this work?”

The shining star, Lou Gehrig responds to the following questions the young Templeton poses in a numbered list:

1. What sort of people will I meet and work with in this profession?
2. What are the hours of work?
3. How much leisure time do you have?
4. What is the income at the start, at the average point and at the peak of this vocation?
5. Are there any special dangers or health problems connected with this work?
6. Is there a pension or compensation insurance connected with this work?
7. Is the work interesting most of the time?
8. How expensive is the training?
9. Where are some of the best places to go for training in this field?
10. What drawbacks are there?
In response to Templeton’s ten questions, Gehrig responds, in full:

“Dear Tom--
Briefly--

1- The finest people
2- From noon till games are over
3- Entirely up to yourself-
4- Start at 250 average per month and pd. according to your ability
5- This work requires best of health at all times
6- No-
7- Most interesting
8- Ball clubs pay for it
9- Practise wherever you can- some scout will pick you up
10- I can’t think of any
Best Wishes  Lou Gehrig.”

Already in 1938, the powerful slugger had begun losing his power, and it became clear the following spring that his presence in the lineup was not helping his team. He played only 8 games in his last year, 1939. Gehrig was given an emotional “day” by the Yankees on 4 July 1939. On that day, he called himself “the luckiest man on the face of the earth.” He had just two years to live. Gehrig died on 2 July 1941 after being forced to retire from the game he loved due to his failing health. $10,000 - $15,000
With excruciating detail, Lou Gehrig writes to his doctor on the effects of his current injections on his rare and fatal disease.

Gehrig cheerfully writes, in part: As for a report on my condition (and I hope it is not my imagination), I definitely feel that the Thiamin injections are working nothing short of miracles. Please understand I have taken approximately only eighteen or nineteen to date, and the results almost make me dread the day when I shall have to stop them. (If Dr. Gehrig were prescribing for Lou Gehrig he would urge the continuation of these injections.) But please be assured I am, and shall continue following your instructions to the letter. My walking is about the same except that I feel slightly stronger. This is not only true about walking, but also of the arms and hands and generally. The reasons which I feel warrant this statement are in little characteristics which I will attempt to enumerate.

Where I used to get exceptionally tired in the morning (especially the right hand) from brushing my teeth, shaving, combing my hair, buttoning up tight buttons on my clothes, I would then feel like relaxing and resting, whereas now that tiredness is somewhat lessened, and I still have pep to go on. Another instance, at night I used to be exceptionally clumsy and get tired from shaking my Agarol bottle, invariably having to shift it from right hand to left, and now I am not quite so awkward, and can give it a good shake with my right hand. Also, when driving the car, my right hand used to get tired when I used to keep it on the top side of the steering wheel at shoulder level, but tonight I drove almost all the way home with my right hand on the top of the wheel with practically no notice of fatigue. Up until the last few days I felt drab at intervals with the desire to nap and now I feel like chasing Jun. and Pat all over Grandma’s lawn. The big thing I believe you will be interested in is the exceptional decline of fibrillations. While under examination by Dr. Woltman and Dr. Moersch I was in a sitting position and you at that time noticed a decline. But during that period they would be quite active upon rising or retiring or when I reclined on the bed. Tonight as I reclined with the papers there was absolutely no fibrillation in the legs at all, practically none in the arms and shoulders, and a very few minor ones in the back. Incidentally at night when I retire I notice more in the back than anywhere else. I hope these indications are as encouraging as I feel they are (still no beer). I also feel my sense of balance on my left foot when removing my right trouser leg is a little better than it was three weeks ago. I also notice that when I do not eat at the dinner table I feel much better and have much more pep. Not being over optimistic, I cannot help but feel that since you last saw me these injections have not only checked, but have given me in a very small degree of course, definite indications of very slight improvement. Even as I sit here now with my legs resting on the window sill there are no fibrillations in the legs, and very slight ones in the back. So you can readily appreciate, Paul, why I hate to stop these Thiamin injections….

Please be assured again how anxious Eleanor [Eleanor Grace Twitchell Gehrig, his wife] and I are to have you take in the Series with us. I know there will be trouble for I have planned to take you down with me in the clubhouse to watch the boys while they dress and the general goings on and excitement on the bench up to game time, and that Ruth [Paul’s wife] is going to shoot us or want a pair of baseball britches to be down there with us. However, I am afraid Ruth will have to be content with meeting the boys on the train or in the diner.

Lou Gehrig, the “Iron Horse,” played his last big-league game on 30 April 1939, against the Washington Senators. Then, on 2 May 1939, Lou Gehrig took himself out of the lineup. He was hitting just .143, and his fielding was clumsy. In June, he entered the Mayo Clinic (Rochester, Minnesota) for tests, which showed that he was suffering from a rare incurable disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (forever after known as Lou Gehrig’s disease) - a progressive hardening of the spinal cord producing symptoms similar to those of infantile paralysis.

The last two years of his life, Gehrig worked on the municipal Parole Commission, a job tendered him by New York City Mayor Fiorello H. La Guardia. Although his health continued to deteriorate, Gehrig carried out his duties conscientiously, working with boys’ clubs and combatting juvenile delinquency until one month before his death. $20,000 - $30,000
296. Johnson, Walter. Exceptional group of nine (9) autograph letters signed (“Walter Johnson”, “Walter J.” and “Walter”), total of 11 pages of various sizes, Germantown, Maryland, 3 January to September 1940 to Eleanor Fleitman; with envelopes; slight soiling in 3 letters.

Walter Johnson writes nine letters to a woman sharing his philosophy about baseball, politics and life on his farm.

Some excerpts from the letters:

Jan. 3, 1940; in part:
You really have asked me some interesting questions and I wish it were possible this cold night to sit in front of the fireplace and talk a little baseball. I guess it’s cold in Kansas City tonight more so than here I guess… I was born down on a farm about one hundred miles from K.C. A great many pitchers care little about their batting and usually get fooled regardless of what comes up a curve or fast one. I used to hit one once-in-a-while and most of the time I would do as you say ‘let’er come’ then hit or try to hit what I saw. Again some times when an experienced pitcher was out there I would try to figure out what I would throw if I were in his place. Then again some hitters knowing that the catchers give the signs try to think with the catcher. Some catchers wanted curves at a certain stage and some fast ones and were no score to call for their favorite pitcher that the batter could do a pretty good job questioning what was coming. Baseball like every thing else has changed and it’s a little hard to compare the old time player with the present day one. For my part I like the game with close scores like we used to have. 1 to 0 and 2 to 1. I have always believed that broadcasting helped baseball by keeping people interested, the ones who couldn’t get to the game. I enjoyed broadcasting the ball games here last year and I am once I didn’t keep any one away from the game. Was a little hard starting as I am not much of a talker. When I pitched and found myself in trouble I had to pitch my way out so when I got in trouble on the mike it was bad. I have done a lot of talking here and paid very little. I hope next time I can do a better job announcing.

April 24, 1940; in part:
I have been away from home so much lately seems like I am back in baseball. The spring games were good weren’t they? But all the pitchers who did so well the first day have been batted out since.

July 16, 1940; in part:
You know if I hadn’t seen your picture and you came walking down the road I would just have gone up to you put my arms around you and kissed you a couple of times. I would have known you any place. Try me out on that. I see your K.C. club will be sold to Jim Farley. I have an idea. You buy the club they, you and I will go out and scout for young ball players up in the mountains in the summer time and down south in winter. I expect the Yanks will be in front this time next month.

In the present correspondence Johnson writes nine autograph
letters to Eleanor Fleitman of Kansas City between 3 January and September 1940. It appears that Johnson and Fleitman had been introduced either by friends or chance, but it doesn’t appear that they had actually met in person. Regardless, the tone of the letters is warm and occasionally playful as Johnson describes his post baseball Hall of Fame career working on his Germantown farm and as a politician. He writes about his cattle and fox hounds, as well as the weather and teases Ms. Fleitman that they should hitchhike across the country towards one another, except that she would get all rides and he would be walking and never get out of Montgomery County before he reached him. He also discusses traveling and meeting her in St. Louis in September, having answered her questions about him and discussing what he knows about her: 28, never been married, brown hair, weight about 135.

Johnson occasionally mentions baseball, largely in the context of how he approached hitting; his love of low, close scoring games; how he likes the games being broadcast but that was not much good at broadcasting himself. He mentions the impending war in just one letter, that the Germans are too much for the countries over there. Oddly, he makes no mention of his five children. His wife, Hazel, died in 1930. Johnson died from a brain tumor at the young age of 59 on 10 December 1946, and it is not known if he and Eleanor were ever able to meet before his death. It appears from records found that Eleanor did marry a gent by the name of Bronstein and passed away in 2006 at the age of 88.

One of the greatest pitchers of all time, Walter Johnson won 417 games (including 110 shutouts) and one World Series championship in his career for the Washington Senators (a perennial second division team), still, second on the all-time career wins list. He was one of the first five players to ever be elected to the Hall of Fame in 1936, with Babe Ruth, Ty Cobb, Honus Wagner and Christy Mathewson.

A lifelong Republican and friend of President Calvin Coolidge, Johnson was elected as a Montgomery County commissioner in 1938. His father-in-law was Representative Edwin Roberts, a Republican member of the U.S. House of Representatives. In 1940 Johnson ran for a congressional seat in Maryland’s 6th district, but came up short against the incumbent Democrat, William D. Byron, by a total of 60,037 (53%) to 52,258 (47%).

A rare and informative group of autograph letters from the beloved Hall of Famer. **$12,000 - $15,000**

297. Ruth, George Herman (“Babe”). Typed letter signed (“Babe’ Ruth”), 1 page (8 ¼ x 5 ¼ in.; 210 x 133 mm.), “New York,” 20 November 1926 to Harold Place, editor of The News Bee; integral blank, light soiling.

Babe Ruth on friends: *as I go along this homerun trail, I find that real friends are just as important in my business as my bat and other equipment.*

Ruth writes in full: *This is just a note of appreciation to yourself and the entire Sporting Department. You have all been my friends, and as I go along this homerun trail, I find that real friends are just as important as my bat and other equipment.*

*Judging by telegrams and letters I have quite a few friends at the present moment, but away last Spring my friends were limited to a few personal pals that always stick—and papers like your own that stayed with me in the “pinch.” I want you to know that I appreciated your loyalty when I really needed it so bad, and the best part of 1926 to me was that I did not disappoint you and my other newspaper friends.*

The Babe astounded everyone by hitting 47 home runs and making 1926 one of his finest seasons. In the limelight constantly, any of his mishaps were inflated and reported on with gusto. From nonpayment of tax arrears to a parking ticket to a fine for fishing out of season to a speeding ticket, every episode turned into a story in the news. Ruth was eternally grateful to those papers and their respective staffs for solely focusing on his home run trail.

A fine letter with wonderful content. **$6,000 - $8,000**

Babe Ruth clears up a misunderstanding concerning gifts from the Emperor of Japan.

Ruth writes in part: I do not recall ever receiving any red cups and saucers from the Emperor of Japan so I cannot imagine how anyone could have told your wife they belonged to me. However when I was in Japan playing ball I was royally treated and did receive some very beautiful gifts which I still have in my possession. This is a funny world after all and I guess there is nothing one can do about things of this sort. Send me your son’s name and I will send him an autographed picture and maybe that will make up for the cups and saucers . . . .

In this charming letter, Ruth makes mention of his trip to Japan. He and thirteen other players traveled to Japan in the fall of 1934 for a two-month tour of Asia. Exhibition games were played in Honolulu, various locales in Japan, Shanghai and Manila. Ruth was “field manager” of the team, while Connie Mack, manager of the Philadelphia Athletics, was the “boss” of the tour. The players received a warm welcome in Japan—a private railway car was sent by the Emperor for the trip to Yokohama to Tokyo, and they enjoyed a motorcade down the Ginza. The Americans played seventeen games against Japanese teams. By far, Ruth was the great attraction. All tickets to Tokyo’s 60,000 capacity Meiji Stadium and 80,000 capacity Osaka’s Koshien Stadium were sold out. Ruth played every inning and hit thirteen home runs. $6,000 – $8,000

299. Ruth, George Herman (“Babe”). Fine photograph signed and inscribed: To My Pal Servander From Babe Ruth, (9 ¾ x 8 in.; 251 x 203 mm.), [no place, no date], slight marginal browning.

A thoughtful, pensive head and shoulders pose boldly inscribed and signed. $2,000-3,000
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The Property of a Distinguished American Private Collector Part II

Auction

May 2013

Profiles in History