Audubon’s Journals, Early and Late in His Career


An attractive selection of Audubon’s journals in a limited edition of 225 sets designed by William Dana Orcutt and printed at the Plimpton Press for the Club of Odd Volumes. Both journals are of the greatest importance to students of Audubon, describing one of his most productive periods, in 1820-21, and his final travels, in the early 1840s.

CLARK II:180. HOWES A386. $450.
A Basic Reference, Beautifully Illustrated


Number 80 from an edition limited to 400 copies. The most comprehensive work in its field, carefully describing over 600 books, panoramas, periodicals, and the like, depicting British life in aquatint and lithography. Beautifully illustrated.

$750.
3. [Boston Architectural Club]: SKETCH BOOK OF THE BOSTON ARCHITECTURAL CLUB...ISSUE OF 1890.... [Boston. 1891]. One page of letterpress and thirty albertype plates. Folio. Thirty-one leaves in original green cloth portfolio with title stamped in gilt. Light spotting on front cover, else near fine. Number twenty of the limited edition of 500 copies. Similar in appearance and presentation to the 1883 Sketch Book of the Architectural Association of Boston, perhaps intended to be a continuation of it. Most of the plates in the present set are charming sketches, reproduced in albertype, of late Gothic buildings of France and Spain drawn by several Boston architects. Presumably HITCHCOCK 197 (under different title). $400.
Brebeuf first arrived in Canada with Samuel de Champlain in 1625. He returned in 1633, living and working there for the remainder of his life. His missionary work with the Hurons was considered successful due to his study of their culture and language, easily adapting to the local way of life. He and several other members of the community were captured by the Iroquois in 1649, undergoing lengthy torture before death.

Printed in an edition limited to 100 copies, sold by subscription to members of the Society of First Steamship Pioneers. An outstanding early example of fine printing in California, published to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the arrival of the California, the first steamer to enter San Francisco Bay, on February 28, 1849. It includes a short history of steam navigation on the Pacific, a narrative of the voyage, biographies of some of the passengers, a sketch of San Francisco in 1849 and anecdotes of the period. There is an anonymous diary of an 1849 voyage from New York to Chagres aboard the steamer Falcon, and a description of the journey from Chagres to Panama. One chapter consists of the diary and narrative of A.B. Stout, the surgeon of the California, and his journal is the only known record of the inaugural voyage. Eberstadt notes that at the time of its publication this book was “considered one of the finest specimens of printing that had appeared in California.” This copy does not include the eleven photographic illustrations by Bradley & Rulofson, found in only a very few copies, though the blank pages for the mounting of the illustrations are present. Not in the catalogue of the Hill collection, though there is a copy at the University of California at San Diego.

One of Seventy-five Deluxe Copies on Handmade Paper, the Plates Printed on Vellum

6. Catlin, George: NORTH AMERICAN INDIANS BEING LETTERS AND NOTES ON THEIR MANNERS, CUSTOMS, AND CONDITIONS, WRITTEN DURING EIGHT YEARS' TRAVEL AMONGST THE WILDEST TRIBES OF INDIANS IN NORTH AMERICA, 1832 – 1839. Philadelphia: Leary, Stuart, and Company, 1913. Two volumes. xi,298; xii,303pp., plus 178 colored plates and three maps (one folding). Half title in both volumes. Tall, thick octavo. Original red and tan cloth, printed paper labels, t.e.g. Minor shelf wear, spines lightly sunned, labels soiled and chipped at edges. Closed tear in front free endpaper of first volume neatly mended, hinges of second volume expertly mended. Text and plates clean and bright. A very good set. Untrimmed. The rare deluxe edition of Catlin's classic work, limited to seventy-five numbered copies on handmade paper; this is number seventy-three. Although published by Leary, Stuart, and Company, this special edition was printed by Oliver and Boyd in Edinburgh, using the same plates as the 1903 Edinburgh edition. The plates are printed on vellum and are beautifully colored. The text, first published as Letters and Notes on the Manners, Customs, and Condition of the North American Indians, describes Catlin's travels in the West from 1830 to 1837. Catlin's classic work was first published in London in 1841 and did not appear in color until 1876; the present edition is certainly the handsomest 20th-century printing of Catlin's book. This special limited edition is quite scarce and is not mentioned by any of the usual bibliographies. HOWES C241. WAGNER-CAMP 84. REESE, BEST OF THE WEST 77. (all refs) $3750.
7. Davis, William Heath: **SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS IN CALIFORNIA**.... San Francisco: John Howell, 1929. xxii,422pp. including numerous in-text decorations and illustrations, plus thirty-six plates, color frontispiece, and two two-page color plates printed on thick card stock, one bound in at the beginning of the text, the other at the rear. Royal octavo. Red levant, elaborately gilt, spine gilt extra with raised bands, gilt blue levant pastedowns with gilt dentelle turn-ins, silk endpapers, t.e.g. Contemporary bookplate of Frederick W. Skiff on front free endpaper (see below). Lower edge of front board scuffed, else a fine copy.

A very handsomely bound copy of these valuable reminiscences of early California, printed in a limited edition on thick, watermarked paper. This is the second, expanded edition of a work originally published in 1889, then titled **Sixty Years in California**. Published by John Howell Books in San Francisco in a total edition of 2250 copies (though printed by The Lakeside Press in Chicago) in 1929, it is enhanced by numerous plates of facsimile letters and illustrations as well as another fifteen years of Davis’ recollections. The old pioneer was actually born in Hawaii to a Boston merchant and spent his formative years at sea. He visited California as early as 1831, and permanently settled in Yerba Buena (later San Francisco) in 1838 after several years as a trader between Boston and the Pacific Coast. He knew just about everyone of importance in the area, and his stories are some of the most interesting, valuable, and trusted accounts of pre-Gold Rush California.

This copy bears the bookplate of Frederick Woodward Skiff, an author, bibliophile, and renowned collector of Americana. Skiff wrote two books about his experiences as a collector of Americana, and is remembered for founding Hartford’s Acorn Club, an organization dedicated to printing and preserving Connecticut history. After his death in 1947 his collection was sold at auction, much of which found its way from there into the legendary collection of Estelle Doheny.

“Most valuable Californian reminiscences” – Howes. “This work [**Sixty Years**] and its later edition, **Seventy-five Years in California**, are important primary sources for the history of California before 1850” – Hill. “William H. Davis, a noted California pioneer, claimed to have brought the first gold dust to San Francisco from the mines in June 1848...he wrote important descriptions of pioneers and San Francisco at the time of the Gold Rush even though they represented only a fraction of the total narrative” – Kurutz. A beautiful copy of this important piece of Californiana, with notable provenance.

Great Georgia Bibliography


Copy number 52 from an edition limited to 300 numbered copies. A sumptuously printed library catalogue, with useful annotations. The standard reference for Georgia books through 1929. This copy contains a four-page prospectus for the bibliography, printed on a bifolium, laid into the front endpapers of volume one.

$500.

A checklist of titles worth collecting, with an accompanying essay by the author. From an edition limited to 535 copies, with thirty-five reserved by the printer, signed by Dykes. $20.
Limited Edition in Dust Jacket, with Supplement


Uncommon “Limited First Edition” of this early work on stock market formula plans by a pioneering investor, still regularly cited by investment advisors. As Genstein explains in the preface, this book began as his M.B.A. thesis at Seton Hall University and evolved into a manual for amateur investors. Positioning himself as an “outsider from the point of view of the financial fraternity,” Genstein urges the reader to stay away from forecasting altogether: “the story is frequently repeated that when the elder J.P. Morgan was asked his opinion about stock prices, the best forecast he could make was, ‘I think they will fluctuate’” (p.1). Instead, Genstein touts the wisdom of his variable-ratio formula plans, in which one “uses a median obtained by capitalizing current dividends, multiplying them by the normal price-dividend ratio of the latest ten years to determine the present normal value of stocks” (p.27). Once the normal value is established, “[p]urchases may be made on a scale down, below 80% of normal value. Sales may be made on a scale up, above 125% of normal value” (p.28). Laid into this copy are investment reports providing updated “Normal Values of the Dow-Jones Industrials,” are addressed to “Mr. A.D. Deutschman” of Queens, N.Y. and dated “3/11/55” and “4/20/55” as well as a supplement to the book dated January 1956 and other material related to Genstein’s theories. Get-rich-quick schemes were certainly not new to Americans in the 1950s, but investment advice books were still a relatively new frontier. Whether Genstein’s advice is sound may be debatable, but there were subsequent editions of this book issued in 1956 and 1961. $175.
Important Guide
to the Early European Diplomacy of the Americas


From an edition limited to 172 copies, 150 of which were offered for sale. A very important guide for understanding the early diplomacy and exploration of the Americas. The four Bulls issued by Pope Alexander VI in 1493, as well as the Treaty of Tordesillas between Spain and Portugal of 1494, set the course for the early division of exploration of the New World and Asia. As a result of the “lines of demarcation” drawn between the two nations, Portugal was given rights to most of Asia but was confined to Brazil in the Americas, while Spain was given free rein in nearly all of North and South America. Gottschalk provides historical introductions to each of the documents, and reproduces the four Bulls and the Treaty in full-size facsimiles. Also included are facsimiles of three early maps showing the line of demarcation with regard to New World exploration. Gottschalk differs with the estimable Frances Davenport, who identifies pre-Columbian papal bulls of 1455, 1456, and 1481, as having a theoretical relationship to the future discovery and exploration in the Americas. Despite that disagreement this work, giving full facsimiles and historical context for the four earliest diplomatic documents relating directly to the Americas, is a very valuable source.
DAVENPORT 5,6,7,8,9 (ref). $1750.
Large Paper Set

12. Hakluyt, Richard: THE PRINCIPAL NAVIGATIONS, VOYAGES, TRAFFIQUES, AND DISCOVERIES OF THE ENGLISH NATION. Edinburgh: E. & G. Goldsmid, 1885-1890. Sixteen volumes in 124 [of 126] original parts as issued. This set lacks volume 10, part 4, and volume 14, part 2, both of which have been replaced with duplicates of volume 9, part 4 (for a total of three copies of that part in this set). Titlepages printed in red and black. Several facsimiles and plates on india paper and mounted. Quarto. Each part bound in stiff vellum as issued to original subscribers. A few parts with spotting and discoloration, but mostly fine. A fine edition of Hakluyt limited to 100 copies on sumptuous large paper. The greatest assemblage of travel accounts and navigation to all parts of the world collected up to its time, and a primary source for early New World exploration. Includes accounts of Hariot, Frobisher, Gilbert, the Zenos brothers, Cartier, Raleigh, Laudonnière, Coronado, Drake, and many, many others. $2500.
One of Seven Bound in Leather

13. Holley, Mary Austin: **TEXAS. OBSERVATIONS, HISTORICAL, GEOGRAPHICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE, IN A SERIES OF LETTERS.** Austin: Overland Press, 1981. xii,2,92pp. plus folding map. Folio. Crimson morocco, gilt. Fine. In slipcase. This is copy “L” and is signed on the colophon by Ron Tyler and the book’s designer, Tom Whitridge.

A special limited edition reprint of this classic work, of which Thomas W. Streeter wrote, “For a long time I have regarded it as one of the Texas classics.” Handsomely designed by Thomas Whitridge on a folio format, this is one of only seven copies bound in full leather (notwithstanding the colophon notice that fifteen were so bound), from a complete edition limited to 300 copies. It is printed in Monotype Bell on Arches Musee paper. The map, on lighter paper, is tipped in. Ron Tyler has contributed an introduction. Published by our Overland Press, a youthful imprint of this firm.

CLARK III:56 (ref). HOWES H593 (ref). REESE, BEST OF THE WEST 60 (ref).

$600.
14. Holley, Mary Austin: TEXAS. OBSERVATIONS, HISTORICAL, GEOGRAPHICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE, IN A SERIES OF LETTERS. Austin: Overland Press, 1981. Folio. Three-quarter calf and cloth, t.e.g. Fine, signed and numbered by Ron Tyler on the colophon. A handsome reprint of this classic work, of which Thomas W. Streeter said, “For a long time I have regarded it as one of the Texas classics.” Beautifully designed by Thomas Whitridge on a folio format, this edition is limited to 340 copies. It is printed in Monotype Bell on Arches mold-made paper. The map, on lighter paper, is tipped in. Ron Tyler has contributed an introduction as well as his signature. Published by our Overland Press. CLARK III:56 (ref). HOWES H593 (ref). REESE, BEST OF THE WEST 60 (ref).
Memoir of a Texas Rancher, One of 100 Copies


A presentation copy of this privately printed book, inscribed by the author on the front free endpaper dated 1912, limited to an edition of 100 copies. Hughes gives an account of years he spent as a cowboy, ranchman, soldier, and stagecoach driver in the West. He served in the Confederate army during the Civil War under McCulloch, and settled in Young County, Texas. He provides a detailed description of his experiences in the cattle business, as well as a long appraisal of the cattle industry of the late 1800s in Texas; with material on a number of famous cattlemen and ranches, such as Goodnight, Kennedy, and King; and a chapter on Indian depredations, especially those committed by the Kiowas. A trove of Western Americana material.


From an edition limited to 950 copies. A classic account of the Missouri fur trade, edited by Elliott Coues.
HOWES C800, “aa.” GRAFF 2404. RADER 2204. SMITH 5700. HUBACH, p.77. $675.

Clicking on any item – text or image – will take you to our website for easy ordering and to view any additional images.

One of 800 sets on “fine book paper” from an edition limited to 1,000 sets. The first “modern” edited scholarly edition of the Lewis and Clark account and manuscripts, reprinting the official text of 1814, but with extensive

notes by Coues based on his examination of the surviving manuscripts and maps of the expedition. This was also the first of a series of landmark publications by Harper on western exploration, and the first editing project of the prolific Elliot Coues. “[Coues’] edition of 1893 ranks second in importance only to the original journals. His lengthy annotations, based on first-hand knowledge of the territory, are highly informative, and his bibliographical essay is a major contribution” – Wagner-Camp. A landmark work in the history of western historiography, ushering in modern scholarship the same year as the Turner thesis.

Important Work on the Cartography of the West


A vital reference on the impact of the great fur trade leader and explorer on the cartography of the West, by the two foremost experts. Printed by Lawton Kennedy in an edition limited to 530 copies. REESE, BEST OF THE WEST 245 (note). $750.
Limited Edition, Signed by Morgan


Copy number 108, from an edition limited to 250 copies signed by Dale Morgan, without slipcase. Ashley was an early American fur trader in the region, and his explorations beyond the Continental Divide helped establish the fur trade in the Rockies. Using much previously unreleased material, Morgan tells Ashley’s story from the early days with the Missouri Fur Company to his conclusion as an important politician in Missouri. He also publishes a number of obscure early Wagner-Camp items herein. The illustrations include watercolors and lithographs by Bodmer, Seymour, and Catlin. The excellent map depicts the area of his travels. Designed and printed by Lawton Kennedy.

WAGNER-CAMP 22b (note). $750.

From an edition limited to 501 copies, of which 450 were for sale. “A Chronicle of the Firm, and of the Artists and their Work, with Notes on Collection; Reproductions of 142 of the Prints and Originals, Forming a Pictorial Record of American Life and Manners in the Last Century; and a Checklist of All Known Prints Published by N. Currier and Currier & Ives” (subtitle). The definitive reference. HOWES P259. $500.

From an edition limited to 300 copies, printed “for private circulation.” This is a rare, substantial, and interesting Confederate imprint, describing Pettigrew's travels in Spain and his impressions of the land and its people two years before the outbreak of the American Civil War, one of the very few travel narratives published in the Confederacy.

James Johnston Pettigrew is best known for his service in the Confederate army, where he eventually reached the rank of brigadier general. Born in North Carolina in 1828, he entered the University of North Carolina at age fifteen, eventually studied law, and settled in Charleston, South Carolina to practice. At the outbreak of the war he was elected colonel of the 12th South Carolina and was commissioned a brigadier general in early 1862. He is most famous for his prominent part in the attack on the third day of Gettysburg (Pickett's Charge), in which he commanded one of the divisions that unsuccessfully assaulted the Union center. Having survived that charge, he was fatally wounded in a rear guard skirmish during Lee's retreat from Pennsylvania, and died on July 17, 1863. In his pre-war travels through Spain, Pettigrew was much impressed by the beauty of the country and by the sophistication of Spanish culture. On returning to America he felt the need to rectify the prevalent notion that the Spanish were ignorant, slothful, and filled with prejudice against non-Catholics. He privately published these extensive Notes... for friends who had not had the opportunity to visit Spain.

Rare on the market: we are unable to locate any copies having appeared at auction in at least the past thirty-five years. One of the most interesting books published in the Confederacy.

PARRISH & WILLINGHAM 5713. THORNTON 10685. SMITH P65. $6000.
Limited Edition Copy of the “Best Edition” of Pike


From the special edition limited to 150 copies in boards and printed on handmade paper (this being number 117), from of a total edition of 1150. The first government expedition of the Southwest. This is the first edited edition of the Pike narrative, with notes by historian Elliot Coues, and is distinguished both for the quality of his work and the excellent production of the volume by the publisher, Francis Harper. Noted by Howes as the “best edition.”

HOWES P373, “aa.” BASIC TEXAS BOOKS 163. RITTENHOUSE 467 (note).

$1750.
VOYAGES
OF
PETER ESPRIT RADISSON,
BEING AN ACCOUNT OF HIS TRAVELS AND EXPERIENCES AMONG THE NORTH AMERICAN INDIANS, FROM 1652 TO 1684.

TRANSCRIBED FROM ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPTS IN THE BODLEIAN LIBRARY AND THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

WITH HISTORICAL ILLUSTRATIONS

AND AN
INTRODUCTION,
BY GIDEON D. SCULL,
LONDON, ENGLAND.

Boston:
PUBLISHED BY THE PRINCE SOCIETY.
1885.

First Printing of This Important Account of Travels and Trading Among Native Tribes in Canada and the Far West


The journals from Radisson’s travels, printed from the manuscripts in the Bodleian Library and the British Museum. From an edition limited to 250 copies. Radisson and his brother-in-law, Des Groseilliers, spent more than ten years trading with the Indians of Canada and the Far West. The journals contain much information on the Iroquois, Hurons, and other tribes. “First printing of these famous journals. Radisson and the Groseilliers were the first Europeans to see the upper reaches of the Mississippi. ‘They probably got to the Missouri’ – Howes.

The pamphlet by Campbell bound at the rear was taken from the Proceedings of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin At Its Forty-third Annual Meeting Held December 12, 1895. The pamphlet contains a critical discussion of Radisson’s travels, but Campbell ultimately concludes that Radisson and Groseilliers are “two of the most daring explorers that have ever penetrated our North American wilderness. They were the first explorers of Lake Superior, of Northern Wisconsin, and of Northern Minnesota. Their names must ever remain inseparably connected with the history of Wisconsin, of the old Northwest, and of much more of the North American continent.” HOWES R6. LARNED 673. $750.

First English language edition, translated from the German edition issued in 1905, by Margaret and Erich Zimmerman. Privately printed in an edition limited to fifty copies. This copy is signed on the frontispiece by Scharmann’s son, also named Hermann B. Scharmann, who was age eleven when he accompanied his family on their overland journey to California.

“Scharmann started his overland odyssey on March 20, 1849, from New York as the president of a German company. By November 1, the company arrived at Lassen’s Ranch, where Scharmann encountered Peter Lassen, who imparted little aid to Scharmann’s sick wife and infant daughter. Shortly thereafter, both died. The next portion of the book consists of his experiences looking for gold and the difficulties of trying to survive high prices, hard work, illness, and little success. The German narrates a detailed description of Marysville, Sacramento City, Negro Bar, and various mining methods” – Kurutz. Scharmann describes their arduous overland journey in detail, including stops at forts Kearny and Laramie and encounters with Indians. Their journey turned into a nightmare when they took the Lassen cutoff, “a grisly detour of exhaustion and despair. Many others took this same false cutoff and suffered misfortune. None equal Scharmann’s tale of woe, which he concludes by saying ‘California is a land of vice and gruesomeness’” (Mattes). Dissatisfied with his experiences in California, Scharmann left in late October 1850 and returned to New York with his two surviving children.

Streeter Copy


The Thomas W. Streeter copy, with his pencil notes on the front free endpaper, though it was not included in the Parke Bernet sale of the Streeter collection. Streeter’s note refers to the portrait, presumably issued with some copies: “Smith’s introduction mentions a portrait of Ferdinand, husband of Isabella, but Roland Tree [of Henry Stevens Son & Stiles] tell me he has never seen a copy with it.” Of the two copies we have handled previously, one of them did have the portrait. From an edition limited to 500 copies. “Among the 33 documents assembled are many of the highest importance on De Soto, Coronado, Cabrillo and other early explorers in the southern portions of the present Republic, from the Atlantic to the Pacific” – Howes. “This important collection contains thirty-three documents relating to the discovery and exploration of Florida, New Mexico, etc., dating from 1516 to 1794, and mostly taken from the archives of Simancas” – Sabin. Early explorations of California are covered as well. “Although bearing a London imprint the volume was published in Madrid by José Rodriguez” – Cowan.


Large paper edition, limited to fifty copies. The Spelman manuscript was owned by James Hunnewell, and in the introduction he provides an interesting account of the discovery of the manuscript and its sale at auction in London in 1859. Henry Stevens of Vermont, apparently napping when the lot came up, missed it, and it was sold to the dealer Joseph Lilly for £5. It then languished with a printer for a dozen years, during which Lilly died, and then appeared in the dispersal sale of Lilly’s inventory, where Stevens bought it for Hunnewell.

This is the first printing of Henry Spelman’s original manuscript account of Virginia, one of the most important individual accounts of the first years of the Jamestown Colony and of the Virginia Indians. Spelman was sent as a hostage to live with the Virginia Indians, and thus had the single greatest opportunity to observe the Indians in the first years of contact. He became the primary interpreter for the English settlers until his violent death in 1623.

Spelman begins his narrative by describing his voyage to Virginia and arrival at Jamestown in the fall of 1609. He had been there only a few weeks when Smith sold him to Parahunt, or “little Powhatan” as Spelman calls him. Spelman was treated very kindly by the Indians, and he soon came to prefer living with them, if only because “ye vitals were scarce with us,” this being the “starving time” at Jamestown. He and another boy, Thomas Savage, were soon playing an active role as messengers and interpreters.

Spelman describes his movements over the next year and a half, but most of his manuscript is devoted to his observations of different aspects of Indian life. He begins by describing native religion, including instances of human sacrifice (possibly a misunderstood part of an initiation rite). He briefly describes the country and some of the fruits and foods of the Indians, and gives a detailed account of the natives’ houses, how they furnish them, and how large-scale deer hunts are organized. He describes the system of purchasing wives from their families and other aspects of indigenous marriage customs. The Indians who could afford it were polygamous, and Spelman gives a long and detailed account of
his relationship with the wives and children of Iopassus. He then gives a detailed description of how the sick were treated, and the rituals which took place upon death.

Spelman then discusses justice, saying that at first he thought the Indians were lawless, but then realized that there were specific laws. Before he left he saw natives executed for murder, robbery, and adultery. Spelman then describes native agriculture at length; how corn and other crops were cultivated, how the crops were stored, and how meals and feasts were prepared and served. He also describes how different persons have different hairstyles (priests have beards, and so forth). Finally, he gives a long account of Indian warfare and weapons, and describes dances and games.

Spelman's original manuscript, previously owned by James Hunnewell and now in a prestigious private collection, was published by Hunnewell in an edition of 100 regular copies and fifty large paper copies (as here). The difference between the two editions is not just one of paper size, however – the two are in fact different settings of type, the large paper numbering nineteen pages, and the “regular” paper fifty-eight. Henry Stevens supervised the printing at his favored Chiswick Press in London.

HOWES S829. PARKER, HENRY STEVENS OF VERMONT 37. $375.
THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF
SIR HENRY MORTON
STANLEY, G.C.B.,

D.C.L., (Oxford and Durham), LL.D., (Cambridge and Edinburgh),
DCL, Doctor of Philosophy of the University of Wales; Honorary
Member of the Royal Geographical Society, and the Geographical
Societies of the Royal Scottish, Manchester, etc.; Gold Medallist
of the Royal Geographical Society of London; Gold Medallist of
Paris, Italy, Sweden, and Antwerp Geographical Societies, etc.; Grand
Commander of the Medjidieh; Grand Commander of the Ottoman
Grand Cordon of the Order of the Congo; Grand Commander of the Order
of Leopold; Star of Zanzibar; Star of Service on the Congo; etc., etc.

EDITED BY HIS WIFE,
DOROTHY STANLEY.

WITH SIXTEEN PHOTOGRAVURES AND A MAP.

LONDON:
SAMPSON LOW, MARSTON AND CO. LTD.,
100, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.
1909.

The Elusive Limited Edition


Deluxe issue of the first edition, limited to 250 copies signed by Dorothy Stanley, this copy numbered 22. Containing a finely detailed, folding two-color map of central Africa, with Stanley’s routes outlined in three colors and an accompanying outline of England and Wales drawn in the same scale for land size comparison.

Henry Morton Stanley, the most accomplished and celebrated 19th-century African explorer, was also one of his era’s greatest self-inventors, a feat both chronicled and extended in his posthumously published Autobiography. Stanley was born John Rowlands in 1841, the illegitimate son of a housemaid in Wales. As a child, Rowlands suffered years of cruelty at the hands of his family and in the workhouse where he was raised from the age of six. In 1859, Rowlands fled to America and came under the care of a New Orleans cotton merchant named Henry Morton Stanley, who informally adopted Rowlands and gave him his name. At the outbreak of the Civil War, the younger Stanley enlisted in the Confederate Army. In 1862 he fought and was taken prisoner at Shiloh, where, to obtain his release, he enlisted in the Union Army. Soon thereafter, he became a ship’s clerk in the Union Navy and would become one of the few people to see battle from both sides of the Civil War (Hochschild, p.25). Following the war, Stanley was hired as a newspaper correspondent for the St. Louis Missouri Democrat. He was assigned to Gen. Hancock’s army in the Indian campaigns and distinguished himself with dramatic dispatches to both the Democrat and various publications on the East Coast. The entire first half of the book is devoted to Stanley’s adventures in the Civil War and the Plains Indian Wars.
In 1868 the *New York Herald* hired Stanley to cover war in Abyssinia and in 1869 sent him to find Dr. Livingstone. For the next twenty years Stanley explored and charted much of the African interior, wrote several best-selling books, and helped establish the Congo Free State of Belgian King Leopold II, setting the stage for one of the darkest chapters in the history of European imperialism. In the final years of his life, Stanley lectured widely on his adventures and defended Leopold’s massive project against international charges of mass murder and de facto slavery. During this time he also worked on his *Autobiography*, “as he indicates, out of a desire to make his nature and character comprehensible to the world which knew him in the day of his fame” (*DAB*). The book, which Stanley did not live to complete, was edited and prepared for publication by his wife, Dorothy. Nearly half the work is devoted to Stanley’s early life in Wales and America, the formative years that molded the conquering figure of international renown. “It was the American Stanley,” according to Constance Lindsay Skinner in the *DAB*, “the man who had seen the wheel-ruts of pioneer wagons on the western prairie and young sturdy towns on recent Indian battle-grounds, who looked at the Congo region and saw nothing there to daunt determined men thoroughly equipped with the means and methods of civilization.” Contemporary scholars write of Stanley and his *Autobiography* with a less celebratory tone, noting the excesses of his career as a Congo taskmaster and the various contradictory and probably fanciful elements in his memoirs (Hochschild, pp.23-25, 235). Nevertheless, Stanley’s life and his final book, here in its finest edition, stand as monuments to his era’s boldest notions of personal resolve and self-creation.

Magnificent Color Plates of Rocky Mountain Flowers

28. [Thayer, Frank S.]: LA GRANDE FLORA DE COLORADO DE MONTAÑA Y LLANOS. Denver: Frank S. Thayer, [1901]. Series I (all published). Text printed in brown, one leaf with title with integral introduction on recto, and a list of contents and note of limitation on verso. Twelve chromolithographs by Percy W. Franklin after Oscar Achleitner, each within an original oval mount with a blindstamped border, and an accompanying tissue guard printed with the botanical and/or common name of the flower, a note of when it is in flower, three or four lines of appropriate poetry, and a short descriptive text. Large folio. Publisher's khaki-green morocco-grained cloth portfolio with wallet-style flap, cover stamped in gilt, red moiré restraining bands. Extremities worn, slight separations starting at portfolio folds. Some light wear and soiling to text, first tissue guard torn and lightly chipped. Colors bright and sharp. Overall, very good.

Rare “Edition de Luxe,” limited to 1000 copies, this being number 299. A high quality series of very fine images, beautifully presented. It is very likely that far fewer than 1000 copies of this beautiful collection of twelve chromolithographic studies of the flowers of the mountains and plains of Colorado were ever produced. The subjects are: the Wild Rose; Rocky Mountain Aster; Fairy’s Torch; Tiger Lily; Gaillardia; Pentstemon; Gilia; Sand Lily; Rocky-Mountain Thimble Berry; Rocky Mountain Columbine; Fringed Gentian; and Evening Primrose.

Thayer explains in the introduction that the work was begun in May 1900 by Oscar Achleitner of Denver who “commenced the task of painting the most popular of varied species from mountain and plain... [and] transcribed in water colors the studies comprising this collection.” The paintings were then transferred to lithographic stones by Percy W. Franklin of Montclair, Colorado. The text accompanying each plate is by Mrs. Sarah Bennett Walker of Sedalia, Colorado. Thayer concludes by promising a “second series” in 1902, but this never appeared.

A scarce and beautiful work. $4000.
NEW LIGHT ON THE EARLY HISTORY OF
THE GREATER NORTHWEST

THE MANUSCRIPT JOURNALS OF
ALEXANDER HENRY
Fur Trader of the Northwest Company
AND OF
DAVID THOMPSON
Official Geographer and Explorer of the same Company

1799-1814

Exploration and Adventure among the Indians on the Red, Saskatchewan, Missouri, and Columbia Rivers

EDITED WITH COPIOUS CRITICAL COMMENTARY BY
ELLIOTT COUES
Editor of "Lewis and Clark," "Bibs," etc., 416.

IN THREE VOLUMES
Vol. 1
The Red River of the North

NEW YORK
FRANCIS P. HARPER
1897

One of the Rarest Harper Editions, Edited by Coues


From the special edition limited to 100 copies in boards and printed on handmade paper (this being number 73), from of a total edition of 1100 copies. Published by F.P. Harper, and probably the most difficult to obtain of the excellent series issued by that firm. Describes the travels and adventures of both men, mainly in the Canadian Northwest. “Considered by historians to be the most important contribution to Western history and exploration published in the twentieth century” – Tweney. Edited by Elliott Coues.

Elaborate, Extensively Illustrated Edition


A major work documenting the history and costume of the American military through most of the 19th century. Bennett describes this Imperial Japan edition as the finest version of this rare book, and Howes accords it a “b” rating. Limitation leaves at the beginning of each volume identify this set as copy number 348 of the Imperial Japan edition, which was limited to 500 sets. “The pictorial value is the display of U.S. uniforms from 1776 to 1891. The text has a little-known but very genuine importance. It contains a roster of all commissioned army and navy officers of the U.S. from the beginning up to and including the Civil War” – Bennett.


From an edition limited to 500 copies. An impressive tour of Boston municipal architecture, divided into two parts. The first part features “schoolhouse architecture” almost entirely, while the second part features hospitals, institutions, and miscellaneous buildings. The text accompanying each portfolio offers a detailed description of the buildings illustrated in the large plates. In the plates, the buildings are usually shown from the front; but these views are often supplemented by side, detail, or interior shots. Some of the plates are photographic reproductions of relevant architectural plans.

“Wheelwright’s architectural imagination was wide; he sought the monumental, the classic solution. Stylistically he was catholic, even erratic. Some of his schools are Italianate, some Georgian, some rather nondescript; the half-timber of the hospitals and the Marine Park Bath House [illustrated here] is blatant....Yet in all the work there is counter-trend apparent, based on strict practicality and basic simplicity; and some of the municipal work, like the Hook and Ladder House No. 1 and the Eustic School [both also shown here], has a colonial style remarkably pure and charming for its date” – DAB.

An unparalleled visual exhibition of Boston civic infrastructure at the close of the 19th century, and an important American architectural work. Wheelwright is perhaps best known for being a founding member of the Harvard Lampoon. He later designed the publication’s enigmatic Lampoon Castle in 1909.

DAB XX, pp.61-62. $1000.
The Very Rare Quarto Edition of Wilkes

32. Wilkes, Charles: NARRATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES EXPLORING EXPEDITION. DURING THE YEARS 1838, 1839, 1840, 1841, 1842. Philadelphia: Printed by C. Sherman, 1844-1845. Philadelphia: Lea & Blanchard, 1845 (last two volumes). Five text volumes, with the five folding maps (two colored) called for in the atlas volume bound into the fourth text volume. Engraved portraits, plates, and maps, with original tissue guards intact. Thick quarto. Contemporary green morocco stamped in gilt, expertly re-backed with original richly gilt backstrips preserved (except second volume, which is re-backed in matching style), gilt inner dentelles, a.e.g. Slight offsetting on the large folding maps, several neatly repaired along folds. Very good set.

One of the great rarities of Pacific voyages, here in a mixed set of the true first edition and the first quarto edition of the narrative of the first great scientific expedition sponsored by the government of the United States. The first three volumes of the present set consist of the special Sherman edition of 100 copies, which is the true first edition and was issued for private distribution. The final two volumes are of the Lea and Blanchard printing, which was limited to 150 copies and was preceded only by the Sherman edition. The Lea and Blanchard edition is on the same format as the Sherman edition, and differs only in the preliminary material.

The United States Exploring Expedition circumnavigated the globe under the command of Charles Wilkes between the summer of 1838 and the summer of 1842 (for a detailed account of the voyage, see the sources cited below). In July 1842, almost immediately upon his return, Wilkes began work on the narrative, drawing on all of the data and logs assembled by the members of the expedition. This took two years, but by August 1844 the first volume was in the press, and the whole set was ready for binding by the end of the year. The first “Sherman edition,”
in large quarto format, consisted of only 100 copies for the use of the government, and is easily distinguished by the Sherman imprint of 1844. The “Lea and Blanchard” quarto edition soon followed, and was probably off the presses before the end of 1844 (even though the volumes carry an imprint dated 1845). In fact, the verso of the titlepage of the two Lea and Blanchard volumes notes that the text was in fact printed by Sherman. Both the Sherman and the Lea and Blanchard editions present the text in five volumes, accompanied by an atlas volume of five maps. Those maps are here bound into the front of the fourth text volume.

Of the 100 copies printed of the Sherman edition, twenty-five were later destroyed in the Lea and Blanchard fire, sixty-three copies were distributed to foreign governments and federal or state libraries in the United States, and only three were distributed to private individuals. Haskell, in preparing his bibliography of the publications of the expedition, was able to locate over thirty sets in libraries in the United States, but the Sherman edition virtually never appears on the market. The only sets we know of on the market since the 1980s are one from the Carlsmith collection, acquired from Howell, sold in 1985, and now in an Australian library, and two other sets sold by our firm. Of the 150 copies printed of the Lea and Blanchard edition, twenty-five were reserved for private distribution by Wilkes, and the remaining copies were offered for sale to individuals at sixty dollars per set. Haskell was able to locate only seven sets in libraries in the United States. A prime opportunity to obtain a set consisting of the two rarest printings of the most important American naval expedition of the 19th century.

From an Edition of 150 Signed Copies


From the “Fort Stockton” edition limited to 150 copies, signed by the editor (S.D. Myres), the author of the introduction (C.L. Sonnichsen), the artist (Jose Cisneros), the researcher (Clayton W. Williams), and the designer-producer (Carl Hertzog). “Williams came to Texas for health and adventure at the age of twenty-four. Possessed of a boundless curiosity, he was not only surveyor and lawyer, but folklorist, historian and naturalist as well” – Lowman. An important book on early West Texas. LOWMAN, THE WORK OF CARL HERTZOG 210. $500.
The Limited Edition of The Virginian

34. Wister, Owen: THE VIRGINIAN. A HORSEMAN OF THE PLAINS. New York. 1911. xvi, 506pp. Publisher’s binding of quarter vellum and paper boards, stamped in gilt, t.e.g. Publisher’s prospectus tipped onto front endpaper recto. Near fine.

The limited edition of The Virginian..., one of the most famous western novels, and the model for many later films and works of fiction in the western genre. This edition was limited to 100 copies, of which this is number eighteen, signed by Wister, and printed on Japan vellum, with illustrations by Charles M. Russell and Frederic Remington. Curiously, this limited edition was issued by the publishers nine years after the first, which had by then achieved great fame. One of the most difficult to obtain of significant titles of the cattle industry in the American West. REESE, SIX SCORE 116. DYKES, REMINGTON 1128. YOST & RENNER 26a.

$7500.

Clicking on any item – text or image – will take you to our website for easy ordering and to view any additional images.