Extensive Analysis of Inuit Dialects


The foundational Inuit grammar, by the Jesuit scholar and missionary, Father Francis Barnum (1849-1921). Barnum's work analyses the Inuit dialect spoken along the coast of Alaska, “from Nushagak up by the mouth of the Kuskokwim River, and through the great interfluvial tract between that river and the Yukon; also throughout the Yukon delta, and finally around the coast to St. Michael's Island in Norton Sound.” The work also contains native stories, ethnological remarks, and definitions of certain Inuit terms.

$450.
A Long Run of the Great Atuagagdluut,
Including a Presentation Volume from the Editor to the Founder

2. Berthelsen, Rasmus, and Lars Møller: Atuagagdluut. Nalinginarnik Tusaruminasassunik Unikåt. [Nuuk, Greenland: Hinrich Rink, 1862-1946, lacking the years 1884-91, 1894-95, 1901-03]. Eighty-five volumes. Replete with illustrations, many in color. Some issues loose. First volume in original limp patterned cloth. Second volume in cloth-backed printed boards, spine repaired. Third volume in cloth-backed boards, spine worn. Fourth volume with lower half of spine and titlepage lacking. Of the remaining volumes, sixteen are in cloth-backed boards and sixty-five are in original wrappers, spines generally worn. Second volume with contemporary manuscript index, possibly by Møller. Overall very good.

A tremendous run of this landmark Greenland newspaper, equally celebrated for its remarkable quality, range of content, and longevity. The fourth volume of this set is enhanced by a presentation inscription from Lars Møller, the longtime editor and noted native lithographer, to
Hinrich Rink, proprietor of Greenland’s first regular press and founder of the paper. Further, the plates in the fourth volume have been hand-colored, presumably by Møller in Rink’s honor.

_Atuagagdliutt_, translated literally as “distributed reading matter,” stands alone when evaluating the impact of a single printed periodical on a native culture. The catholic editorial taste of Berthelsen and Møller not only brought the world’s great literature to the doors of native Greenlanders, but did so in a manner that accomplished dual milestones in Greenlandic cultural history. First, by printing entirely in the native language, they transmitted the worldly canon, much of it for the first time, in a manner readily understandable by their readership. This resulted in a near instant removal of substantive cultural gaps between Greenland and Europe. Second, foreign epics and tales were often set alongside traditional native legends, equating their value with those of the outside world. In result, the success of _Atuagagdliutt_ was a point of national pride. Avidly consumed by its readership, its pages were shared, clipped, and culled to the point of near extinction. To date, five (at most) complete runs exist, entirely in public institutions in Denmark and Greenland. One additional set resides in private hands. Only nine institutions in the United States possess comparable runs, to varying degrees of completeness.

The founders of _Atuagagdliutt_ include some of the most prominent men in the history of Greenlandic printing. The prime mover behind its creation, Hinrich Rink, first came to Greenland from Denmark in 1848, quickly rising to the position of royal inspector for South Greenland. In 1855 he began printing small pamphlets from a late 18th-century press left behind by Greenland’s “first” printer, Jesper Brodersen, whose total known output is one small pamphlet done in 1793. In 1857 he installed a new press imported from Copenhagen, in effect becoming Greenland’s first regular printer. Rink was soon joined by Rasmus Berthelsen, a native Greenlander who proved a quick study talented enough to become the paper’s first editor when it was launched in 1861. Apprenticed to Berthelsen was Lars Møller, the son of a carpenter who, under the tutelage of Berthelsen and Rink, learned nearly every facet of the printing trade, including lithography. It was Møller who printed the _Atuagagdliutt_ from its earliest days, and he was responsible for a majority of the numerous lithographs. Accomplished as he was, the success of Møller’s lithographs...
was due entirely to the instinctual talent of the original artist, the legendary Aron of Kangeq. While bedridden with tuberculosis, Aron received a visit from Rink, who had heard of Aron’s considerable talent from other natives. According to Oldendow, “Rink...sent him paper, coloured pencils, and the necessary tools for woodcutting and with no instruction what so ever Aron produced over two hundred woodcuts and watercolors.” His ability to illustrate both foreign and native legend alike secured his reputation, and his contributions were an invaluable addition to the paper. Berthelsen continued as editor for twelve years until 1874, when Møller succeeded him.

The combined talents of the paper’s staff notwithstanding, success, let alone survival, was far from assured. Working in the forbidding Greenland climate, Rink and his assistants were faced with numerous shortages and hurdles that make their considerable accomplishment all the more remarkable. Ink was often wanting, substituted frequently with a homemade variety made from boiling varnish and soot. Paper needed to be moistened to accept the ink, but often it would freeze before it could be put to use. Most serious of all was the large language barrier between Møller and Rink which, fortunately, was overcome thanks to Møller’s diligent study and a well-timed training trip to Denmark. Despite disadvantageous circumstances, the small crew was determined, and when they found themselves without, they improvised.

This steadfast dedication was due, above all, to Rink’s abounding love of his adopted home and its people. From the moment of his arrival, Rink sought to learn as much as possible about native culture. He undertook countless overland and boat journeys throughout the land, staying with local families whenever possible. He began to develop an idea of what a Greenland periodical could be, and tried to convey this notion in the advertising leaflets he issued prior to publication. When publication began in January 1861, it was clear Rink had imbued the young Berthelsen with the same enthusiasm, and after Møller assumed editorship, this cultural fervor erupted. Year after year the newspaper contained “innumerable articles written both by and for Greenlanders – on hunting conditions and famous lives, on public events and memorable occasions at home and abroad, novels and stories translated into Greenlandic, legends, articles, official decrees...” (Oldendow). Equally important was how Møller stretched the language to fit his needs. When a foreign object or idea lacked a Greenlandic equivalent, Møller invented one.

The cultural consequences of the publication of *Atuagagdiutt* are extreme, as its longevity attests. That this venture, unique among indigenous cultures, took root in a North American language is significant and offers ample opportunity for comparison to other frontier native language presses, such as those at Park Hill and Harbor Springs. What is immediately clear is that *Atuagagdiutt* brought world and native culture to life in vivid detail, free of religious constraints and with no overt didactic purpose. This circumstance alone makes *Atuagagdiutt* a North American language production of the greatest interest.

“The results were slow in coming, but come they did, and *Atuagagdiutt*’s finest achievement would seem to be that quietly and gradually it caused the Greenlanders to grow as a people; it welded them together into a whole, until little by little they learned to notice things outside their immediate daily life and the narrow boundaries of their isolated land. Throughout its many years of publication it helped the Greenlanders to develop from an Esquimo community into a people” – Oldendow.


Third edition, after editions of 1844 and 1856. “The A.B.S. Report for 1844 states that this version was made by S. Hall and other missionaries of the A.B.C.F.M. near Lake Superior. J.C. Pilling, however, in his bibliography of the Algonquian Languages ascribes it to Henry Blatchford.”

BANKS, p.133. EVANS 580. PILLING, ALGONQUIAN, p.52. DARLOW & MOULE 3040. AYER, INDIAN LINGUISTICS (CHIPPEWA) 35. PILLING, PROOF-SHEETS 396. 

$950.
Primary Source

for Early French Settlement in the Caribbean


One of the primary sources for the French ventures in Guiana. Biet was a French priest who went to the West Indies in 1652 as chaplain to an ultimately unsuccessful expedition of 700 emigrants seeking to found a new colony. The work is divided into three sections. The first part describes his transatlantic voyage; the second part describes events at the colony for the next fifteen months; and the third part provides a description of the country, its resources, and its inhabitants, including a considerable glossary of the Galibi language. The author also travelled to Barbados, Martinique, and Guadeloupe, and offers some useful information about those regions. His account of Barbados is particularly valuable, as it provides a rare window into life on that island in the early days of the “Sugar Revolution.”


$4750.
Three Important Works on the Language of the Carib People

5. Breton, Raymond: DICTIONNAIRE CARAIBE FRANCOIS MÊLÉ DE QUANTITÉ DE REMARQUES HISTORIQUES POUR L’ESCLAIRCISSEMENT DE LA LANGUE. [bound with:] DICTIO-NNAIRE FRANCOIS-CARAIBE. [bound with:] PETIT CAT-ECHISME OU SOMMAIRE DES TROIS PREMIERES PARTIES DE LA DOCTRINE CHRISTIENNE. TRADUIT DU FRANÇOIS, EN LA LANGUE DES CARAIBES INSULAIRES.... Auxerre, [France]: Gilles Bouquet, 1665/1666/1664. Three titles bound in one volume. [16],480; 415 (without the inserted signature a4 found in some copies; 70pp, including full-page woodcut. Text in double columns in French and Carib. Small octavo. Contemporary French mottled calf, spine richly gilt, raised bands. Boards rubbed and edge worn, bands rubbed, some wear to the joints. Contemporary manuscript inscription on front free endpaper, slightly later manuscript note on front fly leaf. Modest tanning. Very good.

Three scarce, important, and early works, all in first edition, on the language of the Carib people of the West Indies. All three were prepared by the French Dominican missionary, Raymond Breton, and were issued in close succession. Breton (1609-79) was one of the earliest French missionaries to the Antilles, arriving on Guadeloupe in 1635 and spending nearly two decades in the Antilles. He was one of four of his order who helped establish the mission of the Frères Pêcheurs in the French West Indies, and seven years after his arrival he was allowed to establish a mission on the island of Domenica, which put him in close contact with the Carib people. Breton also issued a fourth work in 1667, the Grammaire Carabé, which is not present here (likely this group was bound before its publication). Each work stands on its own and they are sometimes found separately, though preferably bound together, as here.

Breton’s works are not simply dictionaries or catalogues of the Carib language. It is clear that he had attained a remarkably sympathetic understanding of the culture of the Indians, as well as a comprehensive grasp of their language. He translated spoken Carib into spoken French in order to teach future Dominican missionaries how to communicate with the tribe, and, as Gaetano DeLeonibus writes, his entries “offer diligent commentaries on native life and culture and attempt to dispel myths about Caribs. DeLeonibus discusses at considerable length the historic and ethnographic value of the present works:
“Breton’s dictionaries are an astounding work....For the Caribbean [they] still serve as the most complete record of any of the indigenous languages spoken by the Amerindian peoples of the area....One should not be misled by the word ‘dictionary’ in the title of this work into supposing that it closely resembles dictionaries of his time. Instead Breton seems to have used the dictionary format to catalogue much about the Carib and to reveal the differences between European and Carib societies as he experienced them and could articulate them in a description of Carib language and society....Breton’s entries offer diligent commentaries on native life and culture and attempt to dispel myths about Caribs....He provides a careful orthographic transliteration of words of Carib, with notes on the categories and semantics of the language, at a period when Europeans were neither recording such distinctions, nor allowing native cultures more than a marginal space in official documents and reports.”

The language Breton recorded is now essentially extinct, largely displaced by Arawak, so these comprehensive lexicons are important historical documents. “His works...are among the rare relics of the Carib language as it was spoken when the Europeans first began to make contact with the natives of that linguistic group” – JCB.

Another issue of the second text here, the *Dictionaire Francois-Caraibe*, contains an inserted gathering à(4) containing two letters which begin “A Monsieur Claude André Lecler” and “Aux Révérends Pères Missionaire.” That gathering is not in the present copy, but those letters do appear at the start of the third text here, the *Petit Catechisme*.

All of these publications are of considerable scarcity in commerce, and are of significant historical importance.

Second Edition of the Classic Narrative, Complete with Both Maps and "Tobacco Plant" Plate


The uncommon second edition of this classic American travel narrative, complete with both maps and five plates. "Carver penetrated farther into the West than any other English explorer before the Revolution. Like his French predecessor – Verendrye – he was seeking a transcontinental waterway, but aside from exploring some tributaries of the Mississippi, he made no substantial contributions to geographical knowledge; his book, however, stimulated curiosity concerning routes to the Pacific, later satisfied by Mackenzie and Lewis and Clark" – Howes. "Carver, one of the English soldiers wounded and captured at the massacre of Fort William Henry...in 1757, gives a vivid though short eye-witness account of the battle...his is one of the most spirited accounts of the famous massacre. His later frontier experiences in Minnesota and Wisconsin...have been accepted as one of the earliest and best accounts of pioneer days in that region" – Vail. The author, the first to make mention of the word “Oregon,” describes in detail the dress and customs of various indigenous peoples, and offers observations on natural history. The Chippewa (Ojibwa) and Nadowessie (Dakota) vocabularies included with Carver’s work were also published separately several times. The “tobacco plant” plate, not actually issued with the book until the third edition but included with some copies of this second edition, is present and bound in with this copy.

Carver’s folding maps promote two popular misconceptions about American geography at the time: first, that the Mississippi would “head in a central region or ‘height of land,’ from which all the major continental rivers flowed,” as well as the belief in a great Western river that would lead out to the Pacific. According to Wheat, Carver “was the prime exponent of the first delusion, in which Zebulon Montgomery Pike and many other explorers and cartographers later put much credence” (Wheat Transmississippi, p.140). Wheat also notes that although it does not extend west of the upper Mississippi, the second folding map (“A plan of Captain Carver’s travels”) “is one of the earliest to show actual results of British exploration in the interior.”

During the American Revolution, Carver would also use what he learned on this journey to write A Treatise on the Culture of the Tobacco Plant, in which he describes in detail the uses and growing of tobacco with a particular aim to legalizing and encouraging its cultivation at home in England, “Owing to the present unhappy dissentions...between Great Britain and America.”


A prayer book in the Chippewa language, printed by Chippewa and Ottawa mission children at the Franciscan mission at Harbor Springs. The children of this mission produced a large quantity of printed material, ranging from other prayer books and pamphlets, to an extensive run of at least two monthly periodicals. $450.

Printed by the Students of the Holy Childhood Indian School
Well-Illustrated Bible Extracts in Chippewa


Daily selections from the Epistles and Gospels, with accompanying sermon or instruction, all in Chippewa and illustrated by numerous attractive wood engravings. Father Chrysostom Verwyst (1841-1925), a priest who became a Chippewa linguist, wrote the preface. $375.

Styled the “sixth edition” on the titlepage. Hargrett credits this work to Alfred Wright and Cyrus Byington, first published in Boston in 1830. Missionaries among the Choctaw for decades, they are responsible for a number of works in the Choctaw language. The hymns, with translator's initials at the end of each, take up the first two hundred pages, followed by the Articles of Faith, the baptism and marriage rituals, twenty-five pages of hymns in English, and an index of first lines.

Travels Among Western Tribes, with a Vocabulary of the Skalzi


The famed missionary's account of his travels as U.S. army chaplain during the Mormon hostilities of 1858-59, traversing the region from Fort Leavenworth to Fort Kearny and back, to the Pacific via Panama, Fort Vancouver and the northern Rockies, then east to St. Louis. Includes a partial vocabulary of the Skalzi tribe and a catechism as used by the Flatheads, Kalispels, and Pend d'Oreilles with the English equivalent. HOWES D285, “aa.” STREETER SALE 3071. SABIN 82267. FIELD 1427 (later ed). WAGNER-CAMP 395. GRAFF 3828. PILLING, PROOF-SHEETS 3631. PILLING, SALISHAN, p.64. PILLING, SIOUAN, p.71. AYER, INDIAN LINGUISTICS (FLATHEAD) 1, (KALISPEL) 9, (KUTENAI) 18. REESE, BEST OF THE WEST 80 (note). $750.
A Leaf of the 1663 First Edition of the Eliot Bible


A leaf from the first edition of the Eliot Indian Bible, Mamusse Wun-neetupanatamwe Up-Biblium God..., published in Cambridge, Massachusetts in 1663. This was the first Bible printed in North America and the first Bible in an American Indian language. The printing of this Bible was a monumental undertaking, and it took more than two and a half years to set the type and print the work.

This leaf contains verses seventeen to eighty of chapter I and verses one to twelve of chapter II of the Gospel of Luke. A keen artifact from the “first Bible printed in the New World, and the first example in history of the translation and printing of the entire Bible in a new language (Massachusetts) as a means of evangelism” – Pilling.


$1500.

Supposedly issued in an edition of 100 copies, though the same work was also issued as a more common Smithsonian publication in the same year. Includes Chinook-English and English-Chinook sections, as well as a translation of the Lord’s Prayer. Gibbs moved to the Pacific Northwest in 1848, at the age of thirty-three, and spent years studying the indigenous languages. He also served on the United States Boundary Commission. A fascinating hybrid language, combining Chinook, French, and English, and derived from the usage of Indians and traders.

AYER, INDIAN LINGUISTICS (CHINOOK) 28. PILLING, PROOF-SHEETS 1497. PILLING, CHINOOKAN, p.33. $600.
Examination of Greenland’s Local Councils


An apparent continuation of Møller’s four-part series on regional Greenland local councils. The fourth part discusses the northern councils from 1863 to 1867, and this pamphlet resumes where that installment leaves off. Each was produced separately, though intended to form a complete work. The large folding lithographic plate includes various local statistics pertinent to the councils. An early Greenland imprint and quite rare. Not mentioned by Oldendow.

In an Attractive Hawaiian Binding


The third printing of the New Testament in Hawaiian, following editions in 1835 and 1837 (noted on the verso of the titlepage by the declaration “Ke kolu o ka pai ana”). This copy is bound in an attractive contemporary Hawaiian binding. The titlepage states, in Hawaiian, that this edition of the New Testament is translated from the Greek, and “printed for the American people who distribute the Bible,” i.e. the American Bible Society. Though a total of 10,000 copies were printed, this Hawaiian New Testament is scarce on the market. Forbes locates five copies, and OCLC adds only four more.

JUDD 221. FORBES 1292. OCLC 16338369, 156469526, 81286383. $2000.
Early Description of the British Columbia Gold Rush


Tiny closed tear in map near mounting stub. Otherwise a very good, clean copy.

Includes descriptions of the Gold Rush, which had begun the same year as the publication of this work and radically changed the character of the region, which had until that time been mainly a source of furs for the Hudson's Bay Company. Reprinted in the appendix is the act of Parliament dated Aug. 2, 1858, which called for a separate government for British Columbia. Hazlitt also treats the natives of the region and includes a brief Chinook vocabulary. He “[d]rew on primary sources – letters, and reports from the London Times correspondent – for his description of the gold fever” (Streeter).

TPL 3818 (lacking map). GAGNON I:1635. LANDE 1219. SABIN 31126. WAGNER-CAMP 300b. SMITH 4272. LOWTHER 73. STREETER 3411. $1750.
The Catholic catechism, with prayers, psalms, and hymns rendered entirely in Micmac ideograms. This is a facsimile reprint of the original edition published in Vienna in 1866. However, this is the first in which English language front matter has been added, and the preface and chapter headings are printed in English and French. The characters were invented by missionary Father Christian Leclercq in the mid-17th century, and improved upon by Abbe Pierre Maillard. This book was the result of some ten years of work by the Rev. Christian Kauder among the Micmac peoples of Nova Scotia and eastern Canada. 5703 types were cut and cast for the book, and the characters each represent words rather than sounds. Pilling says of the first edition, “So far as I know, these are the only books printed in these characters,” and the preface to this book, written in 1921, makes the same claim.

PILLING, ALGONQUIAN, p.275 (ref).
Life of Jesus in Algonquin Dialect


An early state of the second edition of this work, with “Montreal” misspelled on the titlepage. The life of Jesus rendered in the Nipissing dialect, a derivative of Algonquin. Originally published in 1861 as Ka Tite T ebeniminang Jezos, Ondaje Aking, this work had been attributed to the missionary and accomplished linguist, Jean-Andre Cuoq, who wrote the preface to this edition. Cuoq, however, informed Pilling that Mathevet was the actual author. Jean Claude Mathevet (1717-81) was a missionary at the Lake of Two Mountains, now Oka, on the Ottawa River near Montreal. His Algonquin name was “Wakwi,” and along with his work in that language he composed prayers, sermons, and grammars in the Iroquois language.

Important Spanish to Quechua Dictionary

18. Mossi, Honorio: DICCIONARIO CASTELLANO-QUICHUA.

The second part of Fray Honorio Mossi’s monumental Quechua-Spanish / Spanish-Quechua dictionary, this part being the latter (translating Spanish words into Quechua), issued with a separate titlepage, which is present here. The author, Fray Honorio Mossi, was an Italian linguist working in Bolivia, who has been noted for calling the Quechua language “more perfect than Latin and Greek” (Marr, p.207). Palau records a similar title published the same year in Sucre, but containing a different pagination. PALAU 183510 (variant). Tim Marr, “Language ideology, ownership and maintenance: the discourse of the Academia Mayor de la Lengua Quechua” in Opportunities and Challenges of Bilingualism (Berlin & New York: Mouton de Gruyter, 2002), pp.199-219.

$1000.

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

CANE COYVTE.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO
JOHN,
TRANSLATED
FROM THE ORIGINAL GREEK
INTO THE MUSKOKEE LANGUAGE.

NEW YORK:
AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY,
INSTITUTED IN THE YEAR MCCCCLXVI.

1875.

CHICAGO
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

The Ayer Copy


A scarce translation of the Gospel of John into Muskogee, published by the American Bible Society. This is the second edition of the work translated by the Reverend W.S. Robertson and his wife. This copy was given by Edward Ayer to the Chicago Historical Society in 1901, and was subsequently released as a duplicate.

AYER, INDIAN LINGUISTICS (MUSKOKI) 12. PILLING, PROOF-SHEETS 2335. $500.
New Testament Epistles in Muskogee


A scarce translation of three New Testament epistles, published by the American Bible Society. This is the first edition of the work translated by principally by Ann Eliza Worcester Robertson. This copy was given by Edward Ayer to the Chicago Historical Society in 1901, and was subsequently released as a duplicate.

AYER, INDIAN LINGUISTICS (MUSKOKI) 18. PILLING, PROOF-SHEETS 3322. $500.
The Only Stand-Alone Edition, the Ayer Copy


A scarce translation of the Gospel of Luke into Muskogee, and the only stand-alone edition of Luke produced in the language according to Ayer, published by the American Bible Society. “A small portion [of this work] was translated originally by Rev. Mr. Ramsay, with the help of an incompetent interpreter. It was retranslated by Mrs. [A.E.W.] Robertson, with the assistance, in correcting, of Rev. Thos. W. Perryman and N.B. Sullivan” – Pilling. This copy was given by Edward Ayer to the Chicago Historical Society in 1901, and was subsequently released as a duplicate. AYER, INDIAN LINGUISTICS (MUSKOKI) 10. PILLING, PROOF-SHEETS 3325. $500.

Second edition, revised and enlarged. Produced by Rev. T.A. Desautels, a Jesuit in Nipigon, Ontario, this revised edition of an Ojibwa prayer and hymn book contains new translations, hitherto unpublished prayers and hymns, and also brings together previously published material. Included are prayers for vespers, communion, prayers for the dead, for saints, and for various holy days, such as Christmas and Lent. The second part includes more than two hundred fifty hymns, with musical notation.

$225.
Classic Overland Narrative


First edition, second issue, with corrections made on pages 31 and 121 and without the errata slip tipped in at page 189. The tide of overland immigration which engulfed Oregon in 1843 was followed by even larger waves in subsequent years. The overland migration of 1845 was one of the largest, and it produced one of the most complete accounts of wagon trail life, this work by Joel Palmer. His journal is the only contemporary account by a participant in the 1845 migration, which numbered some three thousand persons and more than doubled the white population of Oregon. “Most reliable of the early guides to Oregon; in addition, the best narrative by a participant in the overland migration of 1845...” – Howes, who affords this issue a “c.” Also included in the work is a letter from Rev. Spalding about his missionary work among the Nez Perce, a vocabulary of the Chinook Jargon and the Nez Perce language, a description of Mount Hood, and what Streeter describes as one of the earliest printings of the Organic Laws of Oregon Territory. HOWES P47, “c.” WAGNER-CAMP 136:2. STREETER SALE 3146 (1st issue). GRAFF 3172. HILL 1287. FIELD 1165. SMITH 7886. PILLING, PROOF-SHEETS 2286. PILLING, CHINOOKAN, p.57. AYER, INDIAN LINGUISTICS (CHINOOK) 48. REESE, BEST OF THE WEST 98. $10,000.
Study of a Native Language of the Canadian Maritimes


Micmac dictionary compiled by the self-educated Baptist minister and Missionary, Silas Tertius Rand. Rand (1810-89) was a Canadian brick-layer with minimal formal schooling but a penchant for grammar and languages. In 1834 he was ordained a Baptist minister and undertook to evangelize the local Micmac Indians in the Maritime provinces. After many years of unsuccessfully attempting to convert the Indians from their Catholicism, Rand focused instead on his linguistic activities. “... Rand devoted more and more time to his study of Micmac culture as the years passed, a study which won him recognition abroad and honorary degrees at home as he produced his scriptural translations in Micmac and Malecite, compiled his Micmac dictionary, and collected scores of legends including the time-honoured tales of Glooscap, the mythological hero of the Micmacs” – DCB.

DCB (online). $950.
A Primary Work on the Fur Trade


A book of the greatest importance to the history of the Astoria venture and the early Anglo-American struggle for control of the Oregon country. Ross was an officer of the Astoria company, and this is one of the fullest accounts of the entire venture, later supplemented by his Fur Hunters of the Far West. He also includes accounts of Robert Stuart and Wilson Price Hunt. Elliott Coues called this one of the three “synoptical gospels” of the Astoria enterprise. Howes notes that very few copies are found with a colored frontispiece; this is not one of them. The “Map of the Columbia” illustrates Oregon Territory. Contains a section devoted to Chinook vocabulary and jargon.


A fundamental Arctic narrative, offered with the rare illustrated appendix. Despite the failure of his trip in 1818, Ross set out in 1829 in the small ship Victory to find a northwest passage, but the vessel had to be abandoned in 1832. Ross and his party were rescued in the summer of 1833 in Lancaster Sound. In the meantime Capt. George Back had set out in search of Ross. Back’s account of his explorations was published the year after this volume appeared. The greatest scientific yield of the trip was the discovery of the Magnetic Pole. The many attractive plates are listed in detail in Abbey. A number of them depict the natives and events during the voyage. The lengthy appendix adds significantly to the work and includes additional color plates of Eskimos, a vocabulary of the Eskimo language, and a report about the natural history of the Arctic.

This set is remarkable for having both the rare Supplement to Captain Sir John Ross’s Narrative... by John Braithwaite (an engineer who supplied the steam boilers for Ross’ ship) and Explanation and Answer to Mr. Braithwaite’s Supplement, Ross’ incredulous rebuttal to Braithwaite’s accusations regarding the ship’s failure. The second pamphlet is of the greatest rarity, and to find the set with both supplements is notable.

ABBEY 636. ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 14866. LANDE 1462. HILL 1490. SMITH 8792. TPL 1808. SABIN 73381. PILLING, PROOF-SHEETS 3388, 3391. $7000.
Illustrated Work on the Yakama Language


Edward Ayer’s copy of the first edition of this scarce Yakama language primer. The author, Louis Napoléon St. Onge, re-established the St. Joseph Mission to the Yakama tribe in 1867 after it had been destroyed by American soldiers, who believed the Jesuits to be aiding Indian rebellions, and also published an Old Testament epitome in Chinook. While recovering from an illness in France for a period of eighteen months, St. Onge composed the present work. With a frontispiece photograph of the author.

AYER, INDIAN LINGUISTICS (YAKAMA) 2. PILLING, PROOF-SHEETS 3456.

$2500.
A SHORT COMPENDIUM
OF THE
CATECHISM
FOR THE
INDIANS,
with the approbation of the
Rt. Rev. FREDERIC BARAGA,
Bishop of Saut Sainte Marie,
1864.

Rev. N. L. SIFFERATH,
Missionary of the Ottawa and Otchipwe Indians.

BUFFALO, N. Y.
C. WIECKMANN, (Aurora Printing House.)
1869.

*Catechism in the Ottawa Dialect*

28. Sifferath, N.L., Rev.: A SHORT COMPENDIUM OF THE CAT-
ECHISM FOR THE INDIANS, WITH THE APPROBATION OF
THE RT. REV. FREDERIC BARAGA, BISHOP OF SAUT SAINTE
plain blue wrappers. Fine.

Written in the Ottawa dialect. A rare and surprisingly well-printed lin-
guistic work.
PILLING, PROOF-SHEETS 3601a. $500.
Including a Vocabulary of the Catawba Language


A collection of documents relating to the colonial, Revolutionary, and post-Revolutionary history of South Carolina. Included are items on the capture and imprisonment of South Carolina patriot Henry Laurens, and a list and abstract of documents in the State Paper Office in London regarding the colonial history of the state. Also of great interest is a vocabulary of the Catawba language, with remarks on their grammar and punctuation.

PILLING, PROOF-SHEETS 2287. $500.
Native Americans of the Northwest


A scarce volume with valuable information on Vancouver Island Indians, including an alphabetical list of words from the Aht language used by Indians on the west coast of the island. The author, a Scotsman, trained for the Civil Service but arrived in British Columbia in 1860 with two shiploads of sawmill equipment. After holding various official posts, he retired to Victoria. “Add[s] largely to our sources of knowledge of aboriginal manners” – Field. “An interesting account of Indian life on the west coast of Vancouver Island, where Malcolm Sproat was a justice of the peace and magistrate from 1863 to 1865” – Lowther. “...Includes account of the massacre of the crew of the ‘Boston’ at Nootka, in 1803” – Howes. FIELD 1477. GRAFF 3936. HOWES S858, “aa.” PILLING, PROOF-SHEETS 3716. LOWTHER 313. SABIN 89910. $600.
NOTICIA
DE LA
LENGUA HUASTECA,
QUE EN BENEFICIO DE SUS NACIONALES,
DE ORDEN
DEL IL.MO. SR. ARZOBISPO
DE ELE SANTA IGLESIA METROPOLITANA,
Y A SUS EXPENSAS,
D A CARLOS DE TAPIA ZENTENO,
Cura, que sirve de la Iglesia Parrochial de Tampamolon,
Junz. Eclesiástico de la Villa de los Valles, Comisario
Del Santo Oficio de la Inquisicion, Catedrático de Primera
De Lengua Mexicana en este Real Universidad, y el
primer en el Real, y Pontificio Colegio Seminario,
Examinador Synodal de este Arzobispado, y Capellan
Mayor del Monasterio de Santa Inés.

CON CATHECISMO,
Y DOCTRINA CHRISTIANA
para su instruccion, segun lo que ordena el Santo
Concilio Mexicano, Enchurdiénd sacramental
para su administracion, con todo lo que parece
necesario hablar en ella los Neomístrnos, y
copião Diccionario para facilitar
su inteligencia.

CON LICENCIA DE LOS SUPERIORES:
En Mexico, en la Imprenta de la Bibliotheca Mexicana.
En el Puente del Espíritu Santo, año de 1767.

First Grammar and Dictionary of the Huastec Language

31. Tapia Zenteno, Carlos de: NOTICIA DE LA LENGUA HUASTECA,
QUE EN BENEFICIO DE SUS NACIONALES...CON CATHECISMO,
Y DOCTRINA CHRISTIANA PARA SU INSTRUCCION, SEGÚN
LO QUE ORDENA EL SANTO CONCILIO MEXICANO.... Mexico:
Imprenta de la Bibliotheca Mexicana, 1767. [10],128pp. Titlepage with
ornamental border, engraved arms on the dedication leaf, and woodcut
head- and tail-pieces, and initials. Small quarto. Slightly later mottled calf,
boards with gilt borders, spine gilt with burgundy and brown morocco
gilt labels (likely a remboîtage). Some wear and soiling to boards, head
of spine frayed, front hinge starting to separate from text block. Interior
quite clean. Very good overall.

First edition of the first grammar and dictionary printed in Huastec
(Wasteko), or Téenek, a northern dialect of the Mayan language spoken
in the 17th and 18th centuries by the people of the La Huasteca region,
which spans parts of the states of Hidalgo, Veracruz, San Luis Potosí, and
Tamaulipas, particularly along the route of the Pánuco River and along
the coast of the Gulf of Mexico. Tapia Zenteno’s first post was in the
the diocese of Tampamolón de Huasteca, where he learned Nahua and
Huastec. He created this manual specifically for the use of subsequent
Catholic missionaries to the region, and included catechetical material
in translation, along with a Spanish-Huastec dictionary and information
on Huastecan festivals, rites, and ceremonies.

Carlos de Tapia Zenteno (1698-ca. 1767) was not only an important
Mexican linguist and professor of Mexican languages at the Royal Uni-
versity (especially Nahua and Huastec), but was also a Comisario of
the Inquisition and prominent canon lawyer. He published his first work,
Arte Novissima De Lengua Mexicana... in 1753. Although he had already
finished the present work in 1745, it was not until 1767, with funding
from Archbishop Francisco Antonio Lorenzana, that he was able to finally
publish it. Lorenzana was deeply interested in the indigenous culture
of Mexico as well as the conquest of it; he also produced an elegant il-
lustrated edition of Cortés’ letters in 1770.

Works of any kind in Huastec are rare, and this title, the first grammar
and dictionary printed, is now rarely found complete as here. This volume
was previously in the collection of Gaspar Mayagoitia Barragán.

GARCIA ICAZBALCETA, LENGUAS 73. MEDINA, MEXICO 5187.
PALAU 327486. PILLING, PROOF-SHEETS 3801. SABIN 94355.
VIÑAZA 355. OCLC 6257648.

$6500.
kitiganing, anjeniwan dash o gi-assan ima ishkwanedning ga-takonaminidjin ishkote-ajaweshk ondji tehi gashkitossigwa minawa tehi pindicgewad.


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