OCCASIONAL LIST (Aug. ’24)

Palinurus Antiquarian Books
(215) 884 2297
jh@palinurusbooks.com

[28 items]

1. Say, Thomas.
American Entomology, or Descriptions of the Insects of North America .... 3 vols.

Palinurus Antiquarian Books • jh@palinurusbooks.com
Philadelphia: Samuel Augustus Mitchell, 1824-1828. First Edition. 8vo, I - Engraved title, viii (including printed title), [9 - 116], [3 - index], [1 - blank] pp. + 18 color lithographic plates; II - [2], [3 - 135], [1 - blank], [3 - index], [1 - blank] pp. + 18 color lithographic plates; III - [2], [3 - 134], [3 - index], [1 - blank] pp. + 18 color lithographic plates. There are 54 plates total and the engraved title. Printed on a heavy, milled paper without a watermark. All plates are inserted and printed on thick stock. The binding boards are exceptionally heavy and rigid.

Very good bright copy; some sporadic modest foxing; bindings broken with front covers separated; spine of volume 3 with substantial abrasion; paper labels in tact on volumes 2 & 3; untrimmed; vol. 3 unopened and both covers separated.

Original publisher's pink glazed paper over boards with a paper label on the front cover of volume 1; pale green paper backstrips with mounted paper labels.

Say, the zoologist for the Long Expedition to the Rockies and "father" of American entomology, had planned to write this book from 1815 (the rare 10 page Prospectus was issued in 1816). He was appointed curator at the newly founded APS and professor of natural history at the Univ. of PA. The work was finally completed in 1828. It is taxonomic with descriptions. The plates are exceptional renderings and must be counted as among the earliest wholly American color plate natural history books produced. Nissen ZBI #3612; Sabin #77370; DAB XVI, pp. 401-402; not in Reese; see Blum, Picturing Nature …., pp. 54-59. $3,250


This work is a translation loosely based upon a report issued by the School of Mines in Freiburg in 1769. According to Monnet's statements in the introduction the book is modelled on the Freiburg report and only includes material that he was able to confirm by visiting the sites mentioned. It covers exploration for minerals, development, ventilation, drainage (there is a short note in the text concerning the use of a steam engine in Belgium to pump out water), and the concentration of ores. Monnet eventually became France's first inspector of mines and appears to have been adept at maintaining his position through the tumultuous political changes in the country during the late 18th century. He was also identified as being a gifted chemist (Macquer) but did not leave his mark in that field. The associated field of mineralogy is where his presence was most recognized. He published widely and for a time was in the business of supplying collections of mineral samples accompanied by a printed catalogue (the cost of these cabinet collections was 150 livres). A superb mining treatise beautifully illustrated with 24 engravings of machinery and plans that
represent the latest in mining technology of the period. DSB IX, 478 - 9; see Hoover Coll.; Poggendorff II, 187-188. $2,000

3. Whelpley, J D & Storer, J J - METALLURGY.
Whelpley & Storer's New Method of Separating Metals from Sulphurous and Other Ores ....

Boston: Herald Job Office, 1866. First Edition. 8vo, 12 pp. + 4 color lithographic folding plates of the furnaces, crushers, and mechanical devices. Printed on a thick paper Good; institutional stamp on the front wrapper, blank portion of one plate, and one text leaf; rear wrapper separated. Original grey printed wrappers. An ingenious idea for the separation of non-ferrous metals from their ore compounds. It envisaged the use of massive crushing devices to render the ore a fine powder. This was then fed into a furnace by blowers and mixed with a combustible medium (coal dust) and ignited. Once fired the furnace was meant to be a self-sustaining reaction fueled by the burning sulphur. The heat would then melt the small bits of ore and reduce them to metal and waste products. The bed of the furnace was a mechanically driven current of water that would precipitate both pure metal and place by-products in solution. This was an ambitious methodology for refining non-ferrous metals that may have had a chance to succeed were it not for problems of control and the invention of electrolytic methods later in the century. The lithographs of the furnaces and ancillary machinery are very impressive. $1,200

4. Anon. - AMERICAN PAPER MAKING.

Brownsville [PA]: Redstone Paper Mill, 1825/1826. Folio, appx. 280pp. Good; first 60 pages have been utilized as a scrap book in 1880s. Original reverse calf. A detailed and valuable account ledger for the Redstone Paper Mill that was founded on Redstone Creek in Fayette City (4 miles from Brownsville) appx. 50 miles outside of Pittsburgh in western Pennsylvania in 1796 by Jonathan Sharpless and Samuel Jackson. This paper mill was the first in Pennsylvania west of the Alleghenies and supplied newsprint for the Pittsburgh Gazette and newspapers as far away as Cincinnati. It was also a manufacturer of all kinds of printing and special purpose papers. At the time of inception the paper mill consisted of paper mill, grist mill, and tenements for the work staff. By 1797 the mill employed appx. 25 people. By 1823, the only year of an extant ledger for the mill, there were 13 women employed (primarily at making paper). The
business was finally destroyed by fire in the 1840s at which time its inventory of paper was valued at nearly $20,000. Ownership had descended directly to members of the Sharpless family and one Job Harvey. The ledger offered here is 280 pages in length. The first 60 pages have been used as a scrapbook and will require the removal of all kinds of paper advertising to be legible. This should not be a great nuisance and once accomplished will reveal another two months of activities. The narrative, however, is unencumbered between Aug. 30, 1825 and the end of the journal Oct. 31, 1826. The record is a day-to-day narrative of shipments and purchases at the mill site. It includes all shipments of paper (by type) and transport into Pittsburgh, purchases of rags, books for a local school, binding charges, blank book production, the order and evolution of the manufacture of book binding boards (including the purchase of machinery), occasional statements on the employment of women, payments to the Sharpless family etc. It is a full and unusually detailed accounting of income and expenditures relating directly to the manufacture and sale of paper and the book arts in frontier America. By the 1820s the Redstone Mill had also grown to include a small local store and undertaken many of the commercial tasks associated with mill work, e.g., carding, grinding fees. These records are also present in the daily accounts. By reading through the ledger one is given the impression of substantial commercial activity and community centered on the paper mill. There is also the record of a drought in 1825 that brought production to a close for a short time. A magnificent resource.

5. [Banks, William Mitchell] . A Narrative of the Voyage of the Argonauts in 1880; Compiled by the Bard from the Most Authentic Records, Illustrated by the Photographer, and Intended for the Amusement, Edification, and Everlasting Glorification of the Argonauts Themselves. [Edinburgh]: [Privately Printed] Printed for the Argonauts, 1881. First (only) Edition. 8vo, [8], [1] - 134 pp. + 16 mounted full page albumen photographic prints. Good with use; hinges weak; some spotting; photographs somewhat yellowed or unevenly faded; one signature loose. Original red, gilt stamped cloth; a.e.g.

William Mitchell Banks was a successful surgeon who introduced the radical mastectomy (the subject of his Lettsomian lectures) into practice. He helped found the Univ. of Liverpool, and was a book collector in the history of medicine. A wonderful jaunty narrative of his voyage
aboard the Argo with 14 companions going to Iceland, Faroe Islands, and Norway. It contains a number of surprises, e.g., "A beautiful schooner yacht glided into the bay with the setting sun and lay beside us. It belonged to Sir William Thomson [Lord Kelvin] ...." Banks sketches a picture of slow-moving life aboard, with no purpose other than "going" with good conversation, food, and drink. His reports of the local life when landing, the villages, harbors, the people he and his companions encounter, and natural environment are informative, short, and to the point. The "next thing" seemingly implicit with each comment. An enjoyable narrative and trip to be envied. The photographs are by Richard Caton, a physician and fellow traveller. DNB, 20th Century, 91-92; absent from Toy; Bibliotheca Norvegica II, #6916; World Cat. 2 copies. $1,500

6. Anon. - MISSION PRESS. [Anatomy, Physiology, and Hygiene].

Madras: Printed and Published at the American Mission Press, For the American Missions in Ceylon and South India, 1857. Unknown edition. 12mo, 206 [4] pp. The text is illustrated throughout. There is one leaf [2 pp.] of errata loosely inserted that is included in the page count. The text is in Sinhalese throughout. Fine; trifle sunned. Original blindstamped, horizontally ribbed, pale pink cloth. $1,500

The Preface is signed in type S.F.G. - being S F Green who identifies himself through his location in Jaffna, Ceylon [Sri Lanka]. The book is based on a free translation of an earlier work by Dr. Calvin Cutter. It is meant to provide basic medical knowledge and a clear idea of the structures of the human body and how the body functions. Portions of the text on individual organs and subjects were reprinted as individual pamphlets in 1877 at the mission press in Jaffna. $900

und Mercadentern an sich losen, kauffen und partiren.

Leipzig: J Luderwaldt, 1687 / 1686. Fourth Edition. 8vo, I - [30], 744 (correct 734), [40 - index] pp. + engraved title; II - [2 - title], 102 pp. The bookplate of C F Eberhard. Very good; overall toning; small snag to the outer marginal edge in the gutter of the engraved title (inoffensive); blank endpapers excised. Full stiff contemporary vellum with an incorrect date (the date of printing was mis-read by the binder) artfully stamped on to the front cover.

"Passionate indignation drove his pen, compelling him to describe the atrocities of the Thirty Years' War in all their horror. Moscherosch's 'Soldatenleben' is foreshadowed here, and thus the form which leads to the 'Simplizissimus' of Grimmelshausen. The old 'Teufelsliteratur' is surpassed in intensity to culminate in a gigantic picture of the century of wars" - Faber du Faur II, #82a & b. Mengering was a Lutheran theologian (1596-1647). The second treatise concerns the issue of property theft during the war years. $1,000

Archive of 50 autograph letters concerning early French activities in West Africa. 1887-1892.

ALs on 8vo & 4to size sheets; appx. 125+ pp. Very good. Not bound.

Lieutenant Pierre Legrand's (son of Frédéric Legrand) correspondence from towns and villages in Senegal, Mali, Benin, and Niger. Many of the places are no longer on the map. The letters contain comments on local conditions, recruiting black soldiers, trekking across the interior. A scarce chronicle of first-hand experience during the colonial years of the French empire in West Africa (it began with the first voyages of the Compagnie du Sénégal in the late 17th century). See J Bureau, Voulet: A Chronicle .... for an account of the horrific "expeditions" led by Paul Voulet in this area, whom Legrand preceded. $1,500
9. Lewis, Sinclair.  
*Cheap and Contented Labor: The Picture of a Southern Mill Town in 1929.*

New York: [UTW ... Woman's Trade Union League], 1929.  
First Edition. First Issue. 8vo, 32 pp. There are half-tone text illustrations.

Near fine.  
Original publisher's blue/green, card stock printed wrappers.

*Lewis' history of the 1929 labor strikes at the Marion Manufacturing Company and the Clinchfield Mills in Marion, North Carolina. One of 300 copies printed. Pastore, pp. 181-183 - conforming to all the points noted.*  
$600

10. Hoffmann, Christian A S (Breithaupt, August) - *WERNER’S MINERALOGY.*  
*Handbuch der Mineralogie,* 4 vols. in 8.
Freiberg: Craz und Gerlach, 1811-1818. First Edition. 8vo. Volumes 2, 3, and 4 were published in 2 parts each; volume 1 is here bound as two volumes, this was a convenience introduced by the binder because of the length of the second section of text in the first volume. This is not designated on the title page of the first volume (later volumes are clearly printed with a part number subordinate to the volume number). The binder, in this instance, inserted the fly-title before the text of the second section that constitutes this additional volume. The following Roman numerals designate the volume numbers in conformity with the printed title pages. I - xxiv, [1] - 349, [1 - blank], [2 - fly-title], [353] - 685, [1 - errata], [2 - adverts] pp. + folding table; II1 - [4], [1] - 382 pp.; II2 - x, [1] - 322, [2 - adverts] pp.; III1 - iv, [1] - 339, [1 - errata] pp.; III2 - [2], [3] - 311, [1 - blank] pp.; IV1 - [2], [3] - 288 pp.; IV2 - x, [2], [3] - 208, xiv, [1] - 58, [209] - 245 (index), [1 - errata] pp. There are also two sheets of detailed contemporary notes that are bound in. One dealing with gold and another with a peculiar mineral formation found as a nodule (accompanied by a hand drawn illustration) in the Italian Alps. There is also a 13 line note on the verso of the front free endpaper of volume one that faces the title page and runs on to it below the imprint. The note discusses the "bequem" format of the 8 volume binding of the book; it is signed: E. v. Uechtritz. Very good; front joint of vol.1 & 4 (part one) and rear joint of the second section of vol. 1 & vol. 4 (part two) are beginning to split; small gouge to the backstrip of the seventh volume.

Contemporary three-quarter leather.

Inspector of precious stones, Hoffmann studied at the Freiberg Bergakademie under A.G. Werner, "... the great oracle of the sciences of the earth" (Hoover catalog quoting Cuvier). "Very scarce" (Schuh). This work is one of the great encyclopedias of Werner's mineral theories ever published. It was the only authorized publication of Werner's mineral system. It was begun by Hoffmann who died after the first two volumes were published, and continued by August Breithaupt, who completed the third and fourth volumes. In this monumental treatise the Wernerian doctrine of mineralogy is propounded in its most detailed presentation. The authors accept all of Werner's theories concerning mineral formation and classification, and include numerous illustrative examples. The text is generous in its treatment of the subject, sometimes devoting long detailed sections to minute points. Werner did not publish much on his theories but his students and followers insured that his ideas would reach a larger audience by their own works following his guidelines. The first volume provides a short history of mineralogy, definitions, descriptions of physical properties, including color, optics, streak, hardness, specific weight, transparency, luster, and crystal form, chemical characteristics, the use of the blow-pipe, nomenclature, and a synopsis of the classification system. Later volumes contain essentially a descriptive mineralogy; all that was known was included in the descriptions. See Schuh; Freilich sale catalog #251; see Dibner, Heralds ...., #91 for Werner; see Hoover, #878 for Werner; Ward & Carozzi, #1094; see DSB II, p. 440. $4,850
11. Higgins, William - TRADITIONAL TEXTILE BLEACHING BEFORE CHLORINE. 
An Essay on the Theory and Practice of Bleaching ....

London: Printed for the Author, 1799. 
Contents page is misbound after page viii of the Preface. 
Very good; some overall modest toning and dustiness. 
There is a library stamp of the UK Linen Trade Board on 
the verso of the title page. 
Recent half-calf and marbled boards in period style.

Higgins says this is a practical book for bleachers, written 
as simply as possible with no chemistry. The Irish Linen 
Board employed Higgins to find a substitute for potash in 
the fabric bleaching process, one that was at least as 
effective and both cheaper, and in more reliable supply. 
Potash was mined in several countries and imported to 
Europe by Dutch merchants, making it difficult for 
bleachers to control price and supply. The traditional way 
of bleaching cloth had long been an iterative process of 
soaking (bowking) the cloth in an alkaline lye derived 
from potash, spreading out the cloth in a field (crofting) 
exposed to the sun often for several weeks, bringing in 
the cloth and soaking it in an acidic solution such as 
buttermilk, bowking it again and so on. It could take many 
months to achieve the required whiteness. In 1785 
Berthollet pioneered the use of chlorine as a bleaching 
agent to avoid the need to expose the cloth to air and 
light. This gave the potential for shortening the process 
significantly and freeing up land for agriculture. However, 
he left the bowking process relatively unchanged. Higgins 
conducted experiments to find alternatives to potash and 
finally recommended sulphet of lime. This was made by 
boiling up ground, locally mined brimstone with lime to 
produce a soluble mixture of several compounds 
containing both calcium and sulphur. The cloth was 
soaked in this, washed and dried, and then soaked in a 
solution of oxymuriate of lime (calcium chloride), this 
process being repeated about six times before bleaching 
by chlorine or crofting. He concluded that this new 
process was as effective as potash in the bowking 
process while being cheaper and controllable within 
Ireland. He also described a process for detecting the 
fraudulent additions of common salt and potassium 
sulphate to potash. He published two editions of his 
"Comparative View of Phlogistic and Antiphlogistic 
Theories" and described many elements of the atomic 
theory that Dalton introduced in 1803. Cole #650; 
Partington III, 737; Poggendorf I, 1102; see Nieto 
65 & 69. 

$1,450

12. More, Hannah - MISSION PRESS. 
The Shepherd of Salisbury Plain.

Manippay [Sri Lanka]: Jaffna Religious Tract Society, 
1881. 
First Edition. 12mo, 42 pp. + publisher's color paper 
printed wrappers. There is one half page woodcut 
illustration in the text. Signed by S D Green - founder of 
the Mission - and with a note in his hand on the front
wrapper on how two separate translations were "blended" in order to make up the text of the booklet. It meas. appx. 150 x 104 mm. Very good; unequal fading to the wrappers. Original publisher's purple paper wrappers.

A unique copy, it being S D Green's personal copy with a note concerning the text of the translation. 2000 copies (!) - noted on the front wrapper - were supposedly printed. Absent from OCLC. $575


**Wood Hornbook.**

[American?]: First half of the 18th century. The overall dimensions are: 134 x 75 x 9 mm. An end-grain, vertical "slice" (vertical grain) of oak (appx. 9mm thick) as backing. Leather bezel with 21 tacks securing translucent horn cover. Handwritten alphabet in capitals (minus letters J and U - as usual); numbers 1, 2, 3, ... - 0. Very good; paper text in good condition; horn is translucent; leather bezel securing the horn is still securely sealed. As made.

A rare surviving example of an early 18th century hornbook. This looking remarkably similar (the tacking is of the same kind) to one in the Library of Congress Juvenile Collection that is described as "possibly American" (http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.rbc/juvenile.00160). The hornbook is accompanied by a letter presenting it as a gift in April, 1944:

"Dearest Jane ... the little Hornbook should appeal to your school-teaching as well as your "antiquing" side, ... no I did not lift it from a museum! ... Love, Dick". $14,000

New York: [LJ Anspacher], 1933. First Edition. 12mo, [6] printed recto only] + [2] pp. Printed in red ink on handmade paper. A very limited edition ("... limited to the Credulity of our Creditors.") of which this is numbered #1. The Announcement is a folded folio sheet (438 x 280 mm) of laid paper with printing recto and verso and mounted paper label. Near fine with some sunning to the edges of the wrapper; front wrapper has an ink inscription "limited edition". Artful batiked paper wrappers; Announcement is a folded folio sheet, as issued.

Two handsome printed pieces relating to Ansbacher's design skills accompanied by bookplates designed for Paul Bennett the dedicatee.. The first, a promotion piece demonstrating Ansbacher's abilities, is a playful, self-aware work that follows the conventions of a book including a dedication to Paul A. Bennett "Who will never know the sudden panic of joy upon encountering an idea"; the first chapter purporting to contain the made up title, "Designing a Book is like Baking a Cake, by Evelyn Harter"; followed by a few pages of content to the apparent audience for the work: trade publishers to whom Ansbacher suggests good design and typography should be sought. All printed in brick red on a fine laid paper. Accompanied by four finely designed bookplates - for Paul Bennett - that offer a range of styles. Accompanied by four-page announcement issued by William E. Rudge's Sons when Ansbacher arrived as Director of Design and Printing. "One of America's most distinguished designers and typographers, Mr. Ansbacher will take complete charge of all production operations of the combined Geffen, Dunn & Company and William E. Rudge's Sons organization." The undated announcement is aimed at sales and "business literature".

$325

16. Wolff, C F - EMBRYOLOGY. ... über die Bildung des Darmkanals im bebrüteten Hühnchen ... mit einer einleitenden Abhandlung und Anmerkungen von Johann Friedrich Meckel.
Halle: Renger, 1812.  
First Edition in German after the Latin original. 8vo, 263, [1 - blank] pp + 2 engraved folding plates.  
Very good, crisp copy; rebacked in amateurish fashion.  
Somewhat later binder's cloth.  

One of the acknowledged classics of modern genetics and embryology. It is Wolff who provided the first description of the development of an individual organ from its early stages through completion. He was responsible for introducing the idea of epigensis, i.e., that components of an organism are not pre-formed but arise during the course of development. In conjunction with this discovery Wolff developed three basic principles of cell theory. The third, that morphological formations are attributable to modifications of cells, was of especial importance in the history of science and biology.  

B E Raikhov’s work on Wolff and his research provides a great deal of material that shows how important this idea was to Lamarck and Darwin. Wolff was a subtle thinker and realized early in his research that modifications were not necessarily hereditary. But much of Wolff’s original and insightful observations were lost to the scientific world at end of the 18th century. Meckel re-discovered Wolff’s most important work (offered here) on the development of the alimentary canal in the chick embryo. It was originally published in a periodical in 1768 (!). Meckel translated the text into German and published it with his notes in 1812. The book provided Wolff with the recognition he deserved as a pioneer of modern embryological studies. Pander, and Baer acknowledged their debt to his discoveries and observations.  

G-M #471; Stubbe, Genetics, pp. 86-88; see Kolliker’s History.  

$3,500  

17. Thackeray, Lance - DRAWINGS. Bound volume of 21 signed, pen & ink drawings.
lower right (on the illus.). The mounts, all on linen hinges, measure 340 x 390 mm. Each mount has autograph lines of pencil verse. This is replicated in a fine, two color, calligraphic hand on the verso of each previous mount so that the original verse passage is facing its paired drawing. Each of the drawings and verse express a wry, understated humorous vignette of Edwardian England. The bookplate of the author H H Harrod mounted on the front pastedown. Gilt stamped on the front cover lower left in large type: Mr. M W O'Brien / "RULES"

Very good. Some modest, occasional, offset. The binding exhibits wear - the joints are cracked and covers just holding; some chafing to the edges and backstrip. This was a well-executed binding (gilt dentelles, raised bands etc.) and would benefit from a careful rebacking. Full contemporary gilt stamped leather.

Lance Thackeray, artist and illustrator, died of illness in 1916 after having volunteered, at age 40, for the Artists Rifles - a volunteer light infantry regiment - during WWI. He seems to have been constantly employed for his illustration skills and "cartoons" on social life in Edwardian England. Celebrity, however, eluded him. What is known about his life is found in his biography by Askey. The drawings are charming moments presented in subdued renderings. An exceptional assemblage.

$1,450

18. Güntz, Eduard Wilhelm - INFANTS - POST MORTEM.

Der Leichnam des Neugebornen in seinen physischen Verwandlungen .... Erster Theil; [series title] Der Leichnam des Menschen .... [no more published].

Leipzig: Johann Ambrosius Barth, 1827. First Edition. 8vo, xvi, [1] - 278, [2 - adverts] pp. + two hand-color folding copper engraved plates with multiple figures. Each plate on an extended tab to facilitate viewing with the appropriate text. On the free front endpaper is a signed presentation from the author to a friend in the year of publication. Very good; some chafing to the boards. Original paste paper boards.
A rare book in trade and one of a small group of pre-1850 printed works devoted to post-mortem changes in the body; especially of infants. The structure of the human body at this early stage of development, mechanical principles, chemical, time, cause of death, etc. are all taken into account. A preliminary physical "inventory" of an infant's body, skeleton, and organs is presented as a precursor to the analysis. The presentation of changes - under differing conditions - is comprehensive and detailed; insect evidence is also presented. The book appeared as the first part of a proposed series of post-mortem examinations of the human body through adulthood (as the series title indicates), however, no additional monographs appeared. A remarkable piece of forensic science. $1,450


Baltimore: F Lucas, Jr ..., 1819.
Good; moderate spotting; toned.
Original half leather over blue paste paper boards.

The copyright was registered by Fielding Lucas Jr., the printer. A scarce book: absent from Am. Imprints and only one copy of the 1822 reprint located in OCLC. An appealing primer with assorted woodcuts and typography in various forms and sizes. $250

Japan: 1947-1950. I - Appx. 10 feet x 24 inches; II - Appx. 6 feet x 20 inches. Deep, vibrant color with highlights; printed/drawn on thin but very tough Japanese paper. Overall in near fine, unused, condition; old - original - folds. Not bound; retaining portions of the color-printed original paper envelopes as issued.
Two strikingly printed fish (carp?) shaped windsocks originally used in Japan where they were meant to be flown on May 5 in celebration of Children’s Day. The color is deep, uniform, and with excellent contrast; occasional appliques (e.g., silvered paper or foil disk to represent the iris of the eye) to enhance the impact and gold color flecks in the paper. A dramatic rendering of a similar windsock is to be seen in Hiroshige’s illustration “Suido Bridge and Surugadai” - #48 from his notable series 100 Famous Views of Edo. There the windsock encompasses the entire print - appearing as an oversize “flying fish” - with the Kanda River and city present behind it. These two survivals are the result of an acquisition by a member of the post WWII American occupation force. $1,450


This is volume 13 (complete in itself) of the first English edition of Cuvier's Le Regne ..... Griffith oversaw the publication of the 16 volume translation between 1827-’35. Each volume is handsomely illustrated and, at the time, expensive to produce. As a result few sets were completed. The text and illustrations are: Annelida pp 1-130 with 8 plates; Crustacea pp 131-382 with 25 plates; Arachnida pp 383-533 with 27 plates; alphabetical listing pp 535-540. Nissen, ZBI #1015. $375
New York - Plan Section and Elevation of a Half Front of a Fortification with Dry Ditches on a Horizontal Site Drawn under the Direction of D H Mahan ....

[West Point Military Academy]: 1850-1854.
Original watercolor and gouache rendering (with vertical orientation) within a thick black border line, on a sheet measuring appx. 590 x 880 mm.; thick, cream colored, watercolor paper stock.
Very good with some feint light spotting (inoffensive). As accomplished.

A large, appealing, and impressive engineering drawing signed by cadet John Radcliff Smead (class of 1854) who upon graduation went to New Mexico. J R Smead was the son of Raphael Smead who was an instructor in mathematics during 1825/26 at the academy. The elder Smead left to take up duties in the regular army and died of yellow fever in 1848 returning from the Mexican War. D H Mahan (DAB XII, 209-210) was appointed prof. of engineering at West Point in 1832. Mahan had studied for years in France and was, at the time, among the pre-eminent engineers in the country. His appointment at West Point allowed him to establish and shape the course of instruction for the next half century. At the time of his employ it was his responsibility to educate the cadets in everything that pertained to the study of engineering. Over the course of his career he wrote about a dozen textbooks that became the "bibles" of engineering studies in America. It is not possible to over estimate his impact on the study of the engineering sciences in United States. The watercolor rendering offered here is no doubt the result of a student assignment; executed in an accomplished fashion to a high standard.

$1,200

23. Michaux, F A.
The North American Sylva, or a Description of the Forest Trees of the United States, Canada and Nova Scotia, 3 vols.
Paris: C D'Hautel, 1819.

Very good; some spotty foxing throughout; slightly shaken; untrimmed; some rubbing; plates are bright and clean in the majority; bindings somewhat chipped and chafed; front free endpapers in each volume are excised. Full contemporary paper covered paste paper boards with mounted leather spine labels.

The first attempt at a comprehensive census of arboreal America. In 1801 he was commissioned by the Minister of the Interior to study the forests of America. He arrived in Charleston, South Carolina in October 1801 on his first trip. From Charleston, he took a packet boat that at that time regularly coasted from Charleston to the cities of the North. From New York, Michaux traveled by coach to Philadelphia, Lancaster and Shippensburg where the coach made its final stop before returning north. The trip from Shippensburg to Pittsburgh was made on horseback.
and on foot. He would return at least three times in the coming years to complete the survey of the eastern forests. Johnston, Cleveland ...., #824; Nissen #1361; Oak Spring Sylva #20 – incomplete copy; Stafleu / Cowan #5962. $1,700

American Ornithology: or, the Natural History of Birds Inhabiting the United States, Not Given in Wilson ...., 4 vols.


Overall very good. Volume I is somewhat shaken with loose stitching and a cracked block resulting in some loose text leaves and plates; some scuffing to the binding; several pages of text in vol. 4 showing heavy foxing - plates unscathed; untrimmed; joints chafed with the front joint of vol 1 strained.

Contemporary three-quarter red morocco over marbled paper.
The book is often viewed as a supplement to Wilson's Ornithology with his name linked to Bonaparte as a result. The plates are mostly by Titian Peale with at least the part of one plate being by Audubon. They were engraved by A Lawson and hand colored. Nissen IVB #116; Sabin #6264; Casey Wood, p. 247; Zimmer, pp. 64-65; see Blum, Picturing Nature .... $3,950


Palinurus Antiquarian Books • jh@palinurusbooks.com
Chicago: Unique., ca1890. Oblong folio. Album 2.5" x 15.5" x 11.5". Photographs 13.75" x 11". Includes 129 albumen or early silver bromide original photographs mounted on to cloth backing and several blueprints; several additional photographs are laid in, in a paper wrap. Most of the images are uncredited, though about six have the photographer's stamps on the back. Album cover stamped in gilt with the name of the firm. Small silver plaque affixed to the center of the cover with the name E F Steck engraved upon it. Steck was the superintendent of the company. The inside front cover is marked #1. Overall very good; some of the photographs are faded to various degrees, otherwise rich, crisp images (most likely contact prints from a view camera negative). Bolted stainless steel clamp (needed to support the weight of the contents).

Exhaustive catalog documenting firefighting equipment used during the waning days of the horse-drawn fire truck era, with photographs of various fire pumps, hook and ladder trucks, fire extinguishers, fire grenades, water nozzles, etc., and two blueprints showing the inner workings of a carbonic acid chemical engine pump and extinguisher. Probably a unique prototype to hold all of the original photographs taken of the company's inventory. Photographs depict an array of trucks and apparatus, including several views of the same product, used by fire companies from across the country including Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, New York, Chicago, Los Angeles and Oregon. While the majority of the images show unmanned trucks and apparatus against a white canvas background, there are some photographs taken on the street in front of fire stations or with firefighters to show scale or in action shots, notably one image depicting nine men on a ladder reaching to the top of a five-story building and firefighters shooting water at smoldering buildings. A few images capture civilians, usually on the periphery or looking out windows. The first 80 photographs in the album have red and white number labels on the reverse. The following 27 photographs are not numbered but are titled and listed by the manufacturer's style type; there are 13 styles and between one and three photographs of each style. The next 20 photographs feature a variety of apparatus and the last two depict fire extinguisher products. $8,800

26. Robertson, J[ohn] - MATHEMATICAL INSTRUMENTS. A Treatise of Such Mathematical Instruments, As Are Usually Put Into a Portable Case: ... Designed for the Benefit of Engineers, Architects, Surveyors ....

An early book explaining the use of the cased instruments. The author also provides a notable, if truncated, history of mathematical instruments of all sorts and a handlist of published works on the subject from the 16th century. Uncommon. See Clifton, p. 131 for Thomas Heath. $450

27. Anon. - PIERCE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN?
Original color ink sketch.

[Baltimore?]: ca1860. Color pen & ink drawing meas. appx. 315 x 445 mm in the original, contemporary frame; on "drawing vellum" or glazed cotton. Very good; some minor spotting to the periphery. Framed.

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An unusual "cartoon" that features what appears to be Franklin Pierce (?) astride a game-cock directing a spear pointed quill at a prostrate figure in the grasp of the animal. The election of 1852 was preceded by a contentious Democratic party convention in Baltimore - the origin of this cartoon when it surfaced at an estate sale in 1995. Until that time it had been folded and kept undisturbed. The result is its retention of the depth of the original color and very good condition. Although the attribution to the Pierce campaign cannot be certain, it appears the most likely - especially with the game-cock. Pierce faced days of votes to secure his candidacy that was not, by any means, popular. Here he is shown subduing one of his opponents for the nomination.

$4,400
Star Atlas of the American Association of Variable Star Observers ... for the Epoch 1900 ... from Revised Harvard Photometry ....

[Cambridge]: Harvard College Observatory, 1936. First Edition. Small folio, meas. appx. 380 x 310 mm; [4] pp + 20 leaves of plates. Printed recto only; entirely printed as "blueprints". Inserted is a black and white rendering of a moonscape - a view looking south from Gassendi by F Chollar and R Porter; meas. appx. 234 x 357 mm. that is printed on cotton. Very good; some wear to the edges. Punched holes with text secured by brass fold-over pins.

A detailed atlas of stars in both northern and southern hemispheres showing variable, binary, clusters, and nebula of magnitudes -3 to 6 (Flamsteed scale). It also incorporates the work of both Schlesinger and Prager. Produced at a time of great change in astronomy: the changeover from observations of the solar system as object to examining the stars for their own sake and understanding their actions. The period also benefits from new instrumentation and sophisticated mathematical processing of recorded images. See Pannekoek, chapters 39 & 40. $575