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1 (Abolitionists)

Thomas P. SMITH

An Address Delivered Before The Colored Citizens of Boston in Opposition to the Abolition of Colored Schools, on Monday Evening, Dec. 24, 1849

Boston: For Sale by Bela Marsh 1850

$5200


In 1846, George Putnam and other “colored citizens of Boston” petitioned the Boston Primary School Committee to abolish segregated public education, and to permit their children to attend the Primary Schools established in their neighborhoods. Black Bostonians attended the segregated Smith School. The Committee rejected their demands. Undeterred, they engaged Charles Sumner as their attorney and went to court. The case anticipated Brown versus Board of Education by more than 100 years.

Sentiment in the black community was divided. “Thomas P. Smith was a leader of the opposition among the colored people themselves to this abolishment. He had himself been educated at the Smith School and for two terms Phillips Academy, Andover.” (Sabin). Smith predicted correctly that the Massachusetts Supreme Court would dismiss their claims. He notes that in Massachusetts “the man of color, outraged and degraded throughout the Union, here enjoys equal rights and equal privileges with the white citizens... I repeat it, the very best public school instruction in the world is ever at his service. Smith called the “school-abolishing party... a motley crew of all complexions, sexes, and sizes, as sorry a set as ever came together... consisting of disappointed office-seekers, brainless enthusiasts, fourth-class lawyers and broken-down clergymen.” He further stated that Sumner’s co-counsel, Robert Morris, the first black lawyer in Massachusetts, was a “conceited, noisy and comical little fourth-class colored lawyer... a man of the smallest natural mind, and most narrow and deficient intellect.”

Sabin 84410, Work 417. OCLC records less than ten copies. [BTC#429845]

2 James I. ALEXANDER

Blue Coats Black Skin: The Black Experience in the New York City Police Department Since 1891


$150

First edition. Foreword by Robert J. Magnum. Octavo. 128pp. Fine in else fine dustwrapper but for a modest crease on the front flap. History by a Tennessee-born African-American who was a 12-year veteran of the NYPD. Published by a vanity press publisher. [BTC#418088]
(Advertising)

[Calendar]: Nick’s Cleaners & Dyers
Oakland, California [3]: 1948
$150
Commercial calendar. Approximately 9½” x 15½”. Color lithographic illustration of a young African-American girl with a basket of puppies, labeled “Basket of Fun,” which is applied to a printed card, with calendar leaves for 1948 stapled along the bottom edge. Staples a little rusted, light wear, near fine. An attractive commercial calendar with an African-American theme. [BTC#393716]

Maya ANGELOU

[Flyer]: An Evening with Maya Angelou…
McMillan Theater, Columbia University…
Only N.Y. Appearance This Year!
New York: Coalition of Concerned Black Americans [1978]
$300
Measuring 8½” x 11”. Illustrated with a large photographic portrait of Angelou. Fine. [BTC#422681]
5 (Alabama)
Rev. S.N. Reid, D.D.

History of Colored Baptists in Alabama: Including Facts About Men, Women and Events of the Denomination based upon the Careful Study of the Highest Recognized Authority Within Reach
[Birmingham, Alabama]: The Author (Forniss Printing Co.) 1949
$450
First edition. Introduction by Rev. T.D. Bussey. 528pp., illustrated. Modest spotting to the front board, a very good copy of a very uncommon title. OCLC locates 10 copies. [BTC#75970]

6 (Alabama)

The Selma Schools “As the Citizens See Them”: The Report of a Study Made by the Citizens of Selma, Alabama, at the request of the Board of Education. March, 1954
Selma, Alabama: Board of Education 1954
$350

7 Jessie Daniel Ames

Toward Lynchless America
Atlanta: Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching 1940
$1200
First edition. Octavo. One leaf folded to make four pages. Faint dampstain along the topedge else near fine. Pamphlet by a Texas woman who lead a movement to stop lynching. OCLC locates seven copies. [BTC#423830]
Ellen E. ARMSTRONG

[Broadside]: Going Fine Since 1889 / Ellen E. Armstrong / Magician and Cartoonist Extraordinary
[No place: circa early 1940s]

$3500

Broadside poster with portrait photograph. Measuring 21" x 26½" on cardboard mount measuring 22" x 28". Modest toning to the edges of the cardboard mount, near fine. A large broadside advertisement with a halftone letterpress photograph of Armstrong and two silk screened borders printed in red. Ellen Armstrong was the daughter of J. Hartford and Lille Belle Armstrong, one of America's most famous African-American magic acts of the early 20th Century. Ellen began performing with them at the age of six, and eventually developed her own act that included mind reading, sleight of hand, and card tricks. They were lauded by one newspaper reporter “as being the most royal colored entertainers of the century, as magicians, - artists of the highest type.” After her father's death in 1939, Ellen Armstrong took over and continued to perform, making her the first and only African-American woman at the time to run an independent touring magic show.

A scarce, well-preserved broadside poster, most likely dating from the early 1940s. [BTC#423045]
9  (Art)
Humbert HOWARD
Oil painting of [supplied title] Dancers
$8500
Oil painting of dancers. Image size 16½” x 13”; frame 26½” x 24”. Signed “Humbert Howard ‘80.” A lively impressionist assemblage of dancers brightly clothed, whirling in close proximity to each other. Howard was born in 1915 and lived in Philadelphia. Although he spent most of his career there, establishing a firm regional reputation, his fame eventually grew nationwide. He studied at Howard University, the University of Pennsylvania, and the Barnes Foundation. He had a major exhibition of his works at the William Penn Memorial Museum, exhibited at the Library of Congress in 1940, and had a one-man show at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts. His work is prominently featured in the landmark book, American Negro Art by Cedric Dover, and indeed an illustration of his portrait of a showgirl is the first painting to be illustrated in the book. His paintings are in many private and institutional collections and continue to be sought after. [BTC#23452]
10  (Anthology)
Langston HUGHES, Waring CUNEY, Bruce McM. WRIGHT
Lincoln University Poets
$150
First edition. Edited by Waring Cuney, Langston Hughes, and Bruce McM. Wright. Foreword by Dr. Horace Mann Bond. Introduction by J. Saunders Redding. Neat owner name, front hinge starting, else about fine in very good or better dustwrapper with some spine-sunning, tiny tears, and small spots. One of 1000 copies of this Centennial anthology of poems by graduates of the traditionally African-American university with contributions by the three editors, as well as by Melvin B. Tolson, Edward Silvera, George Chester Morse, John M. Williams, and several others. A scarce title. [BTC#424206]

11  (Anthology)
Beatrice M. MURPHY, edited by
$450
First edition. Octavo. 173, [3]pp. Black cloth stamped in white. Corners a little bumped else near fine in very good or better dustwrapper with modest loss at the crown touching one letter and some other very shallow nicks. Scarce anthology published by a vanity press. The editor produced a column called Ebony Rhythm for various newspapers of the Associated Negro Press. Although few of the authors included are well-known, this anthology does include some poetry by Langston Hughes, Frank Marshall Davis, Nick Aaron Ford, and M.B. Tolson. Perhaps more interestingly, it includes verse that was published in black newspapers, periodicals, and student publications by nearly a hundred now obscure African-American poets. Especially scarce in jacket. [BTC#424448]

12  [George BOURNE]
Picture of Slavery in the United States of America
Middletown, Con.: Edwin Hunt 1834
$850
First edition. 12mo. 227, [1]pp., frontispiece and 10 additional woodcut illustrations. Publisher’s cloth. Lacks the printed paper spine label, early penciled owner’s name, a few spots on the boards, very good or better. The Appendix contains the foundation declaration of the American Anti-Slavery Society with Bourne as signatory. [BTC#423523]
13  **J.P. BALL**  
(Mary Matilda Bates Wood Laboiteaux)  
**Half Plate Daguerreotype by James Presley Ball, one of only a few African-American Daguerreotypists**  
Cincinnati: J.P. Ball [circa 1855]  
$4500

Half plate daguerreotype of Mary Matilda Bates Wood Laboiteaux. Approximately 4¾” x 6”. A couple spots of tarnish on the plate around where her bracelet and locket have been hand tinted with gold, otherwise bright and near fine in original near fine embossed leather case lacking the cut velvet plush insert inside the front cover, and where the name of the subject is written in ink at a later date onto the revealed wood: “Matilda Bates. Mrs. Wood, Mother of Julia W. Harbeson[?] and sister of Mrs. Julia Bates Garisseu[?]”.

The name of the daguerreotypist “J. P. Ball” and “Cincinnati” are stamped on the brass mat. Ball was one of only a handful of known African-American photographers (along with Augustus Washington, Jules Lion, Glenalvin Goodridge, and John B. Bailey) who professionally produced daguerreotypes in the 1840s and 1850s.

According to Blackpast.org Ball was born in Virginia in 1825, probably as a freeman, and “As a young man... learned daguerreotyping and opened his first studio in Cincinnati, Ohio at age twenty. The city was a center for anti-slavery activity as well as the photographic arts, and Ball became a leader in both...” and “...he wrote and published a pamphlet depicting the horrors of slavery to accompany a large panorama in his gallery. By the 1850s, his business had achieved tremendous success... Frederick Douglass, Jenny Lind, and the orator Henry H. Garnet, among other notables, sought out his services...”

Ball eventually moved to Minneapolis in the 1870s, ran a photography studio there, and in about 1887, he went to Montana with his son James Presley Ball, Jr., where he opened another photography studio in Helena. Ball’s son edited a newspaper, *The Colored Citizen*, an early source of information on African-American life in territorial Montana. He moved to Seattle around 1900 and eventually moved to Hawaii for his health where he died in 1904.

Daguerreotypes were only commercially produced for about two decades, when images on treated paper largely replaced them. In Ball’s 60 plus year career, he only produced dags for about 15 of them. Not surprisingly, most of Ball’s subjects were white. The subject, Matilda Bartes, died of consumption in Hamilton County, Ohio in 1858 at the age of 32.

Ball’s dags are avidly sought after, with the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Cincinnati Art Museum, Cincinnati Historical Society, George Eastman House, Library of Congress, Montana Historical Society, Ohio State University, and University of Washington all holding examples. Most of his dags were sixth or quarter plates, half plates are exceptionally uncommon. [BTC#426640]
14  James BALDWIN  
*Go Tell It on the Mountain*  
New York: Alfred A. Knopf 1953  
$4000  
First edition. Fine in near fine dustwrapper with light wear at the corners and just a touch of the usually considerable spine fading. The author's first book, an autobiographical novel based on the author's teenage years as a revivalist preacher in Harlem. An African-American highspot that is particularly susceptible to wear; this is a very nice copy. [BTC#424371]

15  James BALDWIN  
*Going to Meet the Man*  
New York: Dial Press 1965  
$200  
First edition, Ahearn's binding B (no priority determined) of quarter yellow cloth and yellow papercovered boards, with topstain yellow. Fine in fine dustwrapper with a tiny crease on the front flap, but none of the usual rubbing. A beautiful copy, and seldom found thus. [BTC#89360]

16  (James BALDWIN)  
Horace A. PORTER  
*Stealing the Fire: The Art and Protest of James Baldwin*  
$250  
17 (Amiri BARAKA)  
[Flyer]: Blackmas: The Gathering of the Black Mass at the Arena  
Festival of Joy - Festival of the Drums - Festival of Love. Ossie Davis - LeRoi Jones - Rosie Wallace  
Philadelphia: Black Community Fund [mid-1960s]  
$400  
Measuring 8½” x 11”. Illustrated with silhouettes of the heads of Davis, Jones, and Wallace. Undated, but Jones changed his name to Amiri Baraka in 1966, so presumably before then. Small chip in lower corner, modest age-toning, else near fine. Held December 19, 20, and 21, as an apparent alternative black Christmas. Several other performers listed, most of whom enjoyed only regional success in the Philadelphia area. [BTC#422678]

18 [Amir BARAKA] LeRoi JONES  
Preface to a Twenty Volume Suicide Note...  
New York: Totem / Corinth (1961)  
$150  
First edition, first issue. Stapled decorated wrappers. A bit of age-toning at the spine, else near fine. Author’s first book. [BTC#89439]

19 (Amir BARAKA)  
Bob BERNOTAS  
Amiri Baraka: Poet and Playwright  
$250  
Possible second printing. Small quarto. Glazed boards, issued without dustwrapper. Slight binding flaw, else fine. Baraka’s own copy, Signed and acquired directly from him. [BTC#64389]
20 J.W.E. BOWEN

Africa and the American Negro... Addresses and Proceedings of the Congress on Africa Held Under the Auspices of the Stewart Missionary Foundation for Africa of Gammon Theological Seminary in Connection with the Cotton States and International Exhibition December 13-15, 1895

Atlanta: Gammon Theological Society 1896

$800

First edition. Tall octavo. 242pp., inserted plates. Green cloth illustrated in black and titled in gilt. Contemporary owner names on front and rear pastedown, cloth worn at bottom of the boards, the title page and p.15 a little loose with tiny tears on the exposed edge of page 15, else a very good copy of an important and uncommon title. A collection of speeches given by both white, African, and African-American missionaries in Africa and other race spokesmen including E.W. Blyden, T. Thomas Fortune, Bishop Turner, and many others. Uncommon in the trade. [BTC#422968]

21 Roscoe C. BROWN

"Little Charlie Browne": Charles F.M. Browne, “Minister Without Portfolio” ("Mr. British Embassy")

(Washington, D.C.: The Author 1957)

$225

First edition, wrappered issue. Photographic wrappers. 38pp. Fine. Laid in is a presentation slip from the author, who was the nephew of the subject. Little Charlie Browne, the son of slaves, graduated with a law degree from Howard, but never practiced, instead serving as a long-term employee at the British Embassy in Washington, DC. Very scarce, there was also a hardcover issue. [BTC#79820]

22 Sterling BROWN

The Collected Poems of Sterling Brown


$400

First edition. Fine in price-clipped, else fine dustwrapper. Nicely Inscribed by the author to fellow poet Daniel Hoffman: "For - with thanks, respect and admiration (Play it again, Dan!), Sterling A. Brown.” May 17, 1982.” [BTC#417882]
John BROWN

Autograph Letter Signed (“Perkins & Brown”)

Springfield, Massachusetts: 1851

$8500

One page third-person Autograph Letter Signed and dated 1 May 1851 from Springfield, Massachusetts to William Beall. Measuring 7½” x 6¼”. Letter entirely in the hand of John Brown and Signed with the name of his business “Perkins & Brown.” Old folds from mailing, two tiny ink spots and a few spots of foxing, else about fine.

Fifteen years before his ill-fated raid on Harper’s Ferry, John Brown operated an Ohio tannery and dealt in cattle, horses, and sheep. His business travels throughout Ohio put him in contact with fervent abolitionists and increased his desire to spearhead the movement. In 1844 he formed a partnership with Simon Perkins, and two years later in 1846 they moved the business to Springfield, Massachusetts, a progressive community deeply interested in abolition and antislavery campaigns. Unfortunately the business failed, leading Brown into his fateful life of abolitionism in Massachusetts, Kansas, and Virginia.

This letter was written just as Perkins & Brown were wrapping up their business:

“In consequence of our discontinuing business here, your letter to us of the 21st March last has been a long time laying unanswered. When our Mr. Brown was in your country he did intend to call on you but forgetting where you was located when he was near you until he passed some miles, he being in a great hurry left your account with James Patterson, Esqr to present Patterson & Miles for us & to receive a small balance in our favour; as that appeared to be true state of accounts between us. If we understand the matter right, you had over drawn your account (by expecting a better sale than was in our power to make) some Thirty Dollars, & a little over. We did suppose untill we got your letter that your account had been handed you, & the balance paid Mr. Patterson. We suppose he must have forgotten it.”

Although not of earthshaking content, this letter was written in the important transitional period when Brown had decided to dedicate himself to the abolition of slavery by any means necessary. [BTC#423261]
First edition (The end of the volume states “End of Volume I” but no subsequent volume was published). Red cloth gilt. 103pp. Contemporary owner's stamp: “Dr. O. Janiger,” top corner a little bumped, else about fine. Bruce was born into slavery, self-educated and after emancipation became a pioneering journalist, founding several newspapers including *The Argus Weekly* (1879), *The Sunday Item* (1880), *The Washington Grit* (1884, from whence he assumed his nickname “Bruce Grit”), *The Chronicle* of New York, and *The Weekly Standard* of Yonkers (1910). He was acerbic, outspoken, favored armed resistance to racism, and was an early Pan-Africanist, favoring the unity of African peoples. While he preferred Du Bois's principles to those of Booker T. Washington, he was suspicious of Du Bois's integration policies. His pursuit of rare African-American books inspired Arthur A. Schomburg, to whom he was both mentor and surrogate father, and he was responsible for introducing the much younger Schomburg into both collecting and to New York intellectual society. It was on Bruce's recommendation that Schomburg was voted into membership of the American Negro Academy. He was also the president of the Negro Historical Society of Research. A very uncommon, cheaply produced, and presumably self-published book, most copies we've seen have been in terrible condition. This is the best copy we've seen. [BTC#422713]

**Kelly Miller’s Copy**

26 Selma BURKE
[Poster]: The Sculpture of Dr. Selma Burke [1990]
$250
Poster advertising an exhibition of her work in Austin, Texas at the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and museum in 1990. Approximately 17” x 23” on medium stiff cardboard. Black and white lettering on a gold background, around a large image of Burke sculpting, and with a faint superimposed image of the front of the Roosevelt dime, for which she sculpted the head of F.D.R. Some slight wear at the corners and a little rubbing, near fine. Boldly Signed by Burke in the lower right corner and dated by her in 1990, as well as with her small black rubberstamped address. The North Carolina-born Burke received a nursing education in her home state and then went to Columbia to study art, and from there to Paris where she studied with Aristide Maillol. Despite her distinguished career and long life (into her eighties), her autograph is uncommon. [BTC#20861]

27 Dennis BRUTUS
Sirens Knuckles Boots
Ibadan, Nigeria: Mbari Publications 1963
$175
First edition. Square quarto. Stapled illustrated wrappers. [36]pp. Staples a bit rusted, light wear to the extremities, a very good copy of the internationally known poet’s first book, a collection of protest verse published while he was in prison. Born in Zimbabwe, Brutus taught in South Africa for many years until his outspoken opposition to apartheid resulted in an 18-month prison term and his being banned from teaching, writing, or participating in any social or political meetings or activities. Scarce. [BTC#28575]
28  **Alpheus BUTLER**  
*Make Way for Happiness*  
Boston: The Christopher Publishing House (1932)  
$950

First edition. Octavo. 133pp. Green cloth titled and decorated in gilt. Light wear at the extremities of the boards, a sound and very good copy. **Inscribed** by the author: “For Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Manigault with cordial good wishes, James Alpheus Butler Dec. 8, 1934.” Uncommon volume of verse written by the Miami, Florida-born African-American poet who was associated with the Harlem Renaissance. Butler was on a fellowship at Fisk University when this book was published. Some of the poems had previously been published in *Opportunity* and *The Crisis* as well as many other periodicals. [BTC#424180]

**Inscribed to T. Thomas Fortune**

29  **“Carpet Bagger” [John Patterson GREEN]**  
*Recollections of the Inhabitants, Localities, Superstitions, and Kuklux Outrages of the Carolinas by a “Carpet Bagger” who was Born and Lived There*  
[Cleveland, Ohio]: 1880  
$2500

First edition. 205pp. Lacking the wrappers with chips and creasing on the first few pages, and first two signatures detached but present thus fair only. **Signed** by the author, crossing out “Carpet Bagger” and writing above: “By John P. Green of the Cleveland Ohio Bar” and additionally **Inscribed**: “To T. Thomas Fortune Esq. From J.P.G.” Fortune was a civil rights leader, editor of the African-American newspaper, *The New York Age*, and the editor and ghostwriter of Booker T. Washington’s *The Story of My Life and Work*. Green was an African-American lawyer and politician, and one of the first African-Americans to hold public office in the state of Ohio. He later became Ohio’s first African-American senator in 1892. A wonderful association between two notable and accomplished men. [BTC#424546]
30  **(Children)**  
*Printed Textile*: “**Pickaninny**”  
North Adams, Mass.: Arnold Print Works 1894  
**$2600**

Cotton lithograph printed in blue, red, black, and brown. Measuring 23½” × 18”. Currently framed and glazed. Small spots, a little age-toning and evidence of an old fold, near fine. Between patent dates in title is a circular manufacturer's device: “Arnold Print Works, North Adams, Mass., Incorporated 1876.” A pattern for making an African-American girl’s doll. The pattern consists of three pieces lithographed on cotton: front, back, and the bottom of her shoes. The doll, dressed in a long blue dress, is holding a pink wide-brimmed hat and wearing brown shoes. “Pickaninny” is racist slang for a small black child but despite the name, the doll itself is not rendered as a caricature. Includes printed directions. *OCLC* locates a single example.  
[BTC#415699]
31 (Children)
Eloise Crosby CULVER (Lois Mailou JONES)
Great American Negroes in Verse 1723-1965
$500
First edition. Illustrated by Lois Mailou Jones. Dampstain at the top corners of the boards and tiny ink price on front fly, thus about very good in modestly rubbed very good or better dustwrapper. A collection of verse about famous African-Americans and abolitionists intended for a younger audience. Scarce in jacket. [BTC#424214]

32 (Children)
Effie Lee NEWSOME (Lois Mailou JONES)
Gladiola Garden: Poems of Outdoors and Indoors for Second Grade Readers
Washington, DC: The Associated Publishers 1944
$2500
First edition. Illustrated by Lois Mailou Jones. Tall octavo. 167pp. Pictorial cloth boards. Tiny owner name on front fly and front flap else fine in near fine dustwrapper with three modest tears (and internal tape marks shadows visible only on the inside). Jacket art is also by Jones. An exceptionally uncommon book of poetry for children written by an African-American woman; only the second copy we've seen in jacket. [BTC#424219]

33 (Children)
Ann PETRY
The Drugstore Cat
New York: Thomas Y. Crowell (1949)
$1000
First edition. Illustrated by Susanne Suba. Light dampstain on rear board else near fine in near fine dustwrapper a light corresponding stain on the rear panel. Inscribed by the author: “For the Koopman and the Schiro Children. Ann Petry. Oct. 15, 1949.” The author’s very scarce first children’s book, most seem to have gone to libraries. We’ve never seen another signed copy. [BTC#424318]
Henry C. CRAWFORD
[Archive]: Photography of African-Americans in Cleveland
Cleveland, Ohio: [circa 1965]

$750

Nine black and white silver gelatin photographs. Each measuring 8” x 10”, without captions. Slight curling with some creasing else very good. A small archive of images taken by noted African-American Cleveland photographer Henry C. Crawford. The photographs depict a few different events, including two wonderful images from a large children’s birthday party, a family gathering, and a few portraits. Some are stamped on the reverse side, it can be presumed that Crawford took all the photos. Crawford became well-known in Cleveland both for his profession, and also for marrying a white woman, making the couple one of the first interracial couples in Cleveland’s elite society. A modest but interesting assemblage of images taken by a noted African-American photographer in the 1960s. [BTC#423728]
35 (Cuisine)
Dick GREGORY
Dick Gregory’s Natural Diet for Folks Who Eat: Cookin’ with Mother Nature
New York: Harper and Row (1973)
$600
First edition, hardcover issue. Edited by James R. McGraw with Alvenia M. Fulton. Octavo. 171pp. Penciled owner’s signature, a few ink notes and underlinings in the text, a little sunning on the boards, thus very good in modestly age-toned very good dustwrapper with a couple of tiny nicks and tears. One of Gregory’s co-authors Alvenia M. Fulton, operated the Fultonia Health Food Center in Chicago and was an ordained minister in the AME church. Signed by the noted activist and comedian: “To you from Dick Gregory.” Very uncommon signed. [BTC#424571]

36 (Cuisine)
Sarah Helen Tolliver MAHAMMITT
Recipes and Domestic Service: The Mahammitt School of Cookery
( Omaha, Nebraska: Mrs. T. P. Mahammitt 1939)
$500
First edition. Small quarto. 160pp. Original blue publisher’s cloth stamped in silver with plastic spiral binding. Ownership signature and old price on pastedown and front free endpaper, most of the plastic spirals are lacking and the rest are brittle, wear at the edges of the boards, some handwritten recipes in the text, good only. Very uncommon cookbook by an African-American cook in an Omaha hotel. [BTC#421722]

37 (Cuisine)
Miss [R. Omosunlola] WILLIAMS
Miss Williams’ Cookery Book
London: Longmans, Green and Co, (1957)
$350
38 **(Dance)**  

*Flyer*: Abalabi! Abalabi! Abalabi! African Dance Festival Celebrating Africa Freedom Day!!... Town Hall... BABATUNDE OLATUNJI and his Dancers, Singers & Drummers  
New York: Perry [1960?]  
$400  

Measuring 8½" x 11". Illustrated from two photographs: one of Olatunji and the other of dancers. Horizontal crease else fine. Babatunde Olatunji was a widely influential Nigerian drummer whose rhythms and techniques inspired many jazz and rock musicians including Cannonball Adderley, Horace Silver, Quincy Jones, Pee Wee Ellis, Stevie Wonder, Randy Weston, Max Roach, Abbey Lincoln, the Grateful Dead, Bob Dylan, and Santana. His close relationship with John Coltrane resulting in them co-founding the Olatunji Center for African Culture in Harlem. [BTC#422679]

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**Inscribed to his only Daughter and Grandchild**

39 **W.E.B DU BOIS**  

*Black Reconstruction in America 1860-1880*  
New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company (1935)  
$6500  


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Yolande Nina Du Bois (1900-1961) was the only surviving child of W.E.B. Du Bois and his first wife Nina Gomer (Yolande had a brother who predeceased her birth in 1899 as an infant). She was a teacher and had a relationship with jazz musician Jimmie Lunceford but her father did not approve. In 1928 she married the poet Countee Cullen to much fanfare in an elaborate Harlem wedding, but they were soon divorced. She married football player Arnette Franklin Williams, producing Du Bois’ only grandchild, Du Bois Williams in 1932, before she divorced Williams in 1936. She predeceased her father and was buried in a grave that remained unmarked until 2014. A significant association copy. [BTC#419642]
40 Paul Laurence DUNBAR  
*Lyrics of Lowly Life*  
New York: Young People’s Missionary Movement of the United States and Canada 1896  
$350  

First edition, variant issue. Introduction by William Dean Howells. Mission Education Movement Library bookplate on the front pastedown, small paper label on the spine, some fraying to the spine ends, hinges neatly repaired. An about good copy. The author’s first commercially published book, this is a scarce variant, probably published simultaneous with, or very soon after, the first edition. The contents of the book seem identical to the first edition, but bound differently, and with “Mission Study Reference Library” stamped on the spine. *BAL* makes no mention of this issue. *OCLC* locates seven copies (erroneously dated 1895). A not lovely copy but a very uncommon variant. [BTC#87577]

41 Paul Laurence DUNBAR  
*The Uncalled*  
New York: Dodd, Mead & Company 1898  
$185  

First edition, binding “B,” with the author’s first name spelled correctly. Decorations by George Wharton Edwards. A bit cocked else a very good or better copy with the lettering and decoration largely unrubbed. Author’s first novel and one of his scarcer titles. [BTC#5280]

42 Paul Laurence DUNBAR  
*Candle-Lightin’ Time*  
New York: Dodd, Mead & Company 1901  
$500  

First edition. Illustrated with photographs by the Hampton Institute Camera Club. Decorative cloth and decorations by Margaret Armstrong. Neat contemporary gift inscription, else a fine and bright copy. A superlative copy. [BTC#406088]
Inscribed by the Author Six Weeks before his Death

43 Ralph ELLISON

_Invisible Man_

$1000

Modern Library edition. Fine in fine dustwrapper. Nicely **Inscribed** (but possibly not signed) by Ellison in a very infirm hand to the daughter of his great friend and fellow author Albert Murray: “For Michele Murray, Who I’ve known and loved over all the long years, thanks to Michie and Al - Sincerely, Ralphie[?] on my 80th birthday party. March 1, 1994!” Ellison’s handwriting is distinctive and this is clearly his, but whether he was operating at full capacity is not clear - almost exactly six weeks later Ellison would be dead. It is possible that instead of “Ralphie” he has written “Michie” again.

Along with _Native Son_ and _Go Tell It On the Mountain_, one of the three mid-century African-American novels that have entered the Western Canon as acknowledged classics. Winner of the National Book Award, as well as a _Burgess 99_ title. *Blockson 101* #86. A wonderful presentation copy, likely among the last that he was to make. [BTC#422743]

44 Lieut. Henry Ossian FLIPPER

_The Colored Cadet at West Point_
New York: Homer Lee & Co. 1878

$4500

First edition. Octavo. 322pp. Engraved frontispiece portrait. Blue cloth (one of several colors, with no known priority) elaborately stamped in gilt. One signature very slightly sprung forward, but holding firm, tiny loss at the foot of the spine, a lovely, near fine copy. The autobiography of the first African-American to graduate from the United States Military Academy, covering primarily those four years. Flipper was born into slavery in Georgia in 1856. Although facing hazing and loneliness, Flipper graduated, but his military career was brief. Joining the famed Tenth U.S. Cavalry Regiment, he was dismissed for conduct unbecoming of an officer in 1882, a finding that may have been exacerbated by his daily habit of horseback riding with the wife of a white officer (the verdict was posthumously overturned in 1976). However his training further qualified him to be civil and mining engineer, and he was the first African-American to gain prominence in that field as well. Greene. *Black Defenders* pg.113, *Moebus* #169, *Negro History: 1553-1903* #143. A much nicer than usual copy of a book now seldom found in the marketplace. [BTC#424345]
45 Marcus GARVEY  
African Fundamentalism  
[No place: no publisher circa 1965?]  
$300

Edition unknown. 12mo. Stapled into printed green textured card wrappers. Slight sunning at extremities. Half of the pamphlet features writing by Garvey pertaining to black self-sufficiency and black self-determination; the other half includes poems by Martin Carter of British Guinea and African-American Edith Schomburg. OCLC locates a single copy at Temple. [BTC#422763]

46 Ruby Berkley GOODWIN  
It’s Good to be Black  
Garden City: Doubleday & Company  
1953

$300


47 Sutton E. GRIGGS

Guide to Racial Greatness or The Science of Collective Efficiency  
Memphis, Tennessee: National Public Welfare League (1923)  
$2000

First edition. Blue cloth gilt. A fine copy with the lettering on the spine and front board bright. Inscribed by the author: “To Miss Virginia P. Moore whose radiant spirit is an encouragement to all who are trying to do the hard but needed things. Sutton E. Griggs.” Griggs was an intrepid Baptist minister and publisher whose fiction was in the early part of the century as popular among African-American readers as the works of Charles W. Chesnutt and Paul Laurence Dunbar. Griggs’s fiction was often militant and foreshadowed sentiments of both the New Negro and the Black Power movements. The recipient, Virginia Pearl Moore, from Gallatin, Tennessee, was one of the first home demonstration agents in the U.S. and was the state’s organizer of School Improvement Work. In June 1937 she was one of only two women invited to speak at the International Housing Congress in Paris. A scarce book, and especially so signed. [BTC#88632]
48  Alex HALEY  
*Roots*  
Garden City: Doubleday 1976  
$350

Early reprint. Fine in a chipped good dustwrapper. **Inscribed** by the author to Adolphus Ealey, the longtime curator of the landmark Barnet-Aden Collection of African-American art, using most of the front fly: “2/22/77 Adolphus Ealey - The very warm best to you and your family from the family of Kunta Kinte - and congratulations on your museum! Alex Haley” At the time of the inscription Ealey was the first director of the Afro-American Cultural and Historical Museum of Philadelphia. A groundbreaking book which pioneered mainstream interest in African-American antecedents and culture. The landmark television dramatization was watched by over 100 million people and remains a highpoint in the medium’s history. *Roots* was awarded a special Pulitzer Prize in 1977 and it remains a key testament to the scope of the African-American experience. [BTC#423586]

49  Melville J. HERSKOVITS  
*The American Negro: A Study in Racial Crossing*  
New York: Alfred A. Knopf 1928  
$650

First edition. 92pp. Fine in a very good plus dustwrapper, with small chips at the spinal extremities and a little fading along the edges of the spine. Explorations in the definition of racial characteristics, by a Northwestern University anthropologist who was a pioneer in the field of African-American studies. Very scarce in jacket. [BTC#71209]

50  [Elizabeth HEYRICK]  
*Immediate, Not Gradual Abolition; or, An Inquiry into the shortest, safest, and most effectual means of getting rid of West Indian Slavery*  
Philadelphia: Joseph Rakestraw 1824  
$3000

Langston HUGHES
The Ways of White Folks
New York: Alfred A. Knopf 1947
$800
Fourth printing. A little bleed-through from the binder's glue on the endpapers, else near fine lacking the dustwrapper. Inscribed by the author using the entire front fly: “Inscribed especially for James Kenneth Keyes, with all good wishes for a poetic future, Sincerely, Langston Hughes, Hanover College, February 12, 1960.” [BTC#423691]

Langston HUGHES
One-Way Ticket
New York: Alfred A. Knopf 1949
$3000
First edition. Slight foxing on the papercovered boards else very near fine in spine-toned, else near fine dustwrapper with a faint stain near the foot. Inscribed by Hughes: “Inscribed especially for Julia Rosenwald, this first copy signed on publication day - Sincerely, Langston Hughes. New York, January 10, 1949.” Julia was the daughter of Julius Rosenwald (who had died in 1932), one of the owners of Sears, Roebuck and Company, and who established the Rosenwald Fund, which supported the education of African-American children in the rural South. In 1941 Hughes received a Rosenwald Fellowship for talented black scholars. A notable copy. [BTC#423692]
53  **Zora Neale Hurston**

*Jonah’s Gourd Vine*
Philadelphia: Lippincott 1934

$9500

First edition. Introduction by Fannie Hurst. The usual fading at the top of the boards else fine in fine dustwrapper that has undergone some expert restoration that is visible only with effort. A very attractive copy of a rare book. This example of the jacket does not display the red “Book of the Month Club” sticker on the front panel, apparently added by the club in its early years when it simply distributed trade copies of a title, and before they printed their own editions using cheaper materials, but which is not a known issue point in any event. The author's rare first book, a novel about a big, lovable Alabama mulatto preacher with a strong appetite for extramarital affection. [BTC#424342]

54  **L. Melendez King**

(T. Thomas Fortune)

Typed Letter Signed from King to Fortune on a Legal Matter

$500

Typed Letter Signed on the stationary of King’s legal office. Measuring 8½” x 11”. Old folds from mailing with very slight toning at the folds, else near fine. King, a respected African-American lawyer in Washington, DC was representing Fortune in his dispute over the number of shares in a newspaper controlled by Fortune. King here informs Fortune, living in Lawrenceville, New Jersey, that he will need to come to Washington for a deposition and the court proceedings. He also was expecting a $10 retainer but apparently Fortune was out of funds and King notes that he’ll take part of the retainer in advertising in Fortune’s newspaper: “I am running one publication in the Washington Sun which pays $5.00 of the retainer fee and would thank you very much to send me the other $5.00.” Fortune was an important African-American journalist, owning *The New York Age*, a ghost-writer for Booker T. Washington, and the editor of Washington’s first autobiography, *The Story of My Life and Work*. [BTC#424086]
55  **William Melvin KELLEY**  
*Dunfords Travels Everywheres*  
Garden City: Doubleday (1970)  
$175  
First edition. Neat owner's name on the front pastedown, else fine in modestly age-toned, near fine dustwrapper. [BTC#424374]

56  **Etheridge KNIGHT** and other Inmates of Indiana State Prison  
*Black Voices from Prison*  
New York: Pathfinder Press 1970  
$400  
First edition. Top corners a little bumped, else about fine in very good dustwrapper with a creased tear on the rear panel and some rubbing and foxing. Uncommon autobiographical accounts by and/or edited by a Mississippi-born black poet who was wounded in Korea and later incarcerated for 20 years. [BTC#422627]

57  **Don L. LEE**  
*Black Words That Say: Don’t Cry, Scream*  
$450  
First edition, hardcover issue. Introduction by Gwendolyn Brooks. Neat owner name on the front pastedown, else fine in red boards and in slightly rubbed else fine pictorial dustwrapper that is a little shorter than the book, as issued. Widely issued in paperback, this is the very scarce hardcover edition, only the second we’ve seen, and in wonderful condition. [BTC#424382]

58  **George W. LEE**  
*River George*  
New York: Macaulay 1937  
$75  
First edition. Small, neat owner name else about fine in very good dustwrapper with some rubbing and modest chips at the spine ends. Author’s second novel, the story of a college-educated Tennessee sharecropper who is involved in a murder and flees to Beale Street in Memphis. Uncommon. [BTC#48252]
(Michigan)

Dorothy

[Photo Album]: African-American Family and Nurse at the Michigan State Sanatorium for Tuberculosis

Flint, Michigan: 1928-1941

$1200

Oblong quarto. Measuring 9” x 7”. String-tied, black leather boards with “Photographs” embossed on the front. Contains 207 gelatin silver black and white or sepia toned photographs measuring between ½” x ½” and 7” x 5”, many with captions on or below the images. Lightly bumped corners and spine ends with small tears, near fine with fine photographs.

An interesting album of an African-American woman packed with images of friends and family that were taken between 1928 and 1941, including her time as a patient and later a volunteer at the Michigan State Sanatorium for Tuberculosis in Flint, Michigan. The woman, identified only as Dorothy, lived with her family and attended Flint Central High School. She is pictured dancing, posing, and clowning around with numerous friends and various members of her family. There are also a number of portraits interspersed throughout the album, some cut into diamond or circle shapes, and a few hand-colored. Most of the images are captioned with names and her relation to the individuals: sister, aunt, brother-in-law, etc.

Towards the end of the album, Dorothy appears to have contracted tuberculosis and is pictured in a hospital bed wearing headphones and with a caption below that reads: “Taken the cure here.” There are more pictures of her sick in bed along with other young woman. Later she is shown working or volunteering at the hospital with photos of patients, fellow nurses, and several doctors.

An interesting photo album of a young African-American woman growing up in Flint, Michigan. [BTC#421850]
60  Clifford L. MILLER
Wings Over Dark Waters: A Poetic Drama
New York: Great-Concord Publishers (1954)
$75
First edition. Gift inscription on the front pastedown, unsigned and presumably non-authorial, else fine in about fine dustwrapper with minimal wear. A wide-ranging lyric drama, by a minister and former Army chaplain, presumably self-published. The drama encompasses much of black history from Africa to the present time. The rear of the jacket contains blurbs about the author's poetry by Langston Hughes, Charles S. Johnson, Jackie Robinson, and others. Very scarce. [BTC#50899]

61  Henry Lee MOON
Balance of Power: The Negro Vote
Garden City: Doubleday 1948
$125
First edition. Lightly bumped at two corners else near fine in a very good dustwrapper with rubbing and wear at the edges. Signed by the author. A study of the Negro vote from Reconstruction to the present times. Moon was an important journalist and author. He was the cousin of Chester Himes, whose novel Pinktoes, about an interracial marriage, was somewhat meanly based on Moon's own marriage. [BTC#46504]

62  Lenard D. MOORE
Poems for Performance
[No place]: The Lenard Company 1989
$350
63  Robert Russa MOTON
What The Negro Thinks
London: Student Christian Movement [1929?]
$250
First English edition. Endpapers a bit toned and bottom corners bumped, very good or better
in very good price-clipped dustwrapper with a very small and faint stain on the spine and a
little age-toning. Moton was successor to Booker T. Washington as principal of the Tuskegee
Institute. The English edition is much scarcer than the American. [BTC#418561]

64  Makwedini Julius
MTSAKA
Not His Pride
Johannesburg: Ravan Press: Ravan
Playscripts 1 (1978)
$250
Stapled illustrated wrappers.
Some rubbing and modest wear,
very good. First three words of an
aborted author’s inscription on
front fly, and then fully Inscribed
by the author on the title page.
Scarce signed. [BTC#424023]

65  (Mystery)
Ed LACY
Room to Swing
New York: Harper and Brothers (1957)
$2500
First edition. About fine in near fine dustwrapper that is trimmed about ¼” shorter than
the book. Suspense novel about black private eye Toussaint Moore in dicey circumstances
as he investigates in Southern Ohio and Kentucky. The 1958 Edgar Award winner for Best
Novel. Ed Lacy was the pseudonym of Leonard S. Zinberg, who was white (but married to
a black woman). Some of his work was published as being by a black man. He is credited
with creating Moore as “the first credible African-American PI” character in fiction. The first
edition is very uncommon. [BTC#424218]
66  (Music)
(Cab CALLOWAY) Jose HERNANDEZ
Martin Fierro
(Buenos Aires): Ediciones Peuser (1958)
$500
Gift edition. Quarto. Wrappers. Illustrated by Alberto Guiraldes. A couple of stains and a crease on the front wrap, else a sound, very good copy of an attractive volume. This copy of the classic Argentine epic poem has a special hand illustrated calligraphic page presenting the book to bandleader Cab Calloway in honor of his visit to the College Club of the Apprenticeship School of Philips in 1959, and signed by perhaps a hundred members of the club over the span of two pages. [BTC#64393]
67 (Music)  
**Count BASIE as told to Albert MURRAY**  
*Good Morning Blues: The Autobiography of Count Basie*  
$450  
First edition. Octavo. 399pp., photographs.  
Slight sunning at the top of the boards else about fine in near fine dustwrapper with a few tiny tears and nicks. Very nicely *Inscribed* by Albert Murray, the prominent African-American author and music critic to his daughter: “Michele’s Copy # 1. Private Stock for family archives. Albert Murray aka Dad. NYC Jan. 1986.”  
[BTC#421510]

68 (Music)  
**W.C. HANDY**  
*Father of the Blues: An Autobiography*  
New York: Macmillan Company 1944  
$1000  
First edition. Edited By Arna Bontemps. Foreword by Abbe Niles. Attractive bookplate on front pastedown, slight rubbing on the boards, near fine in attractive very good dustwrapper with modest chips at and near the spine ends. The first edition in dust jacket is very scarce.  
[BTC#424197]

69 (Music)  
[Flyer]: **Afro American Unity Committee Presents MARVIN GAYE and His Revue**  
*Added attractions include The Generations, Fabulous Five, Third Positions, The Invaders, Young Temptations, Exploitations at the Majestic Theater in Perth Amboy*  
Perth Amboy, New Jersey: [circa 1963]  
$450  
Measuring 8½” x 11”. Illustrated with photographic portrait of Gaye. Old folds, chips in corners, the largest in the upper left-hand corner, very good. Gaye started touring as a headliner for the Motown Review in late 1962 on the chitlin’ circuit, our assumption is that this is from slightly thereafter.  
[BTC#422677]
70 (New Jersey) Zenobia DEVORE
[Photo Album]: New Jersey African-American Family
Metuchen, New Jersey: [mid-1950s]
$600
Quarto. Measuring 9” x 11”. Spiral bound yellow cloth with “Photos” stamped on the front board. Contains 55 black and white photographs measuring between 2½” x 3½” to 8” x 10”, some with captions. Very good with some spotting to the album and about near fine photographs with some creased.

A modest collection of photographs kept by Zenobia Devore of Metuchen, New Jersey during her senior year of high school and the summer following during the mid-1950s. Many of the photos show Devore and her sister Betty Jean with classmates posing near cars and being silly with girlfriends at school. There are a few portrait photos, probably yearbook photos, of Zenobia’s classmates some of which are inscribed to her. Zenobia was involved in the choir and there are a few photos which show her singing and one large photo of the full choir on stage. A few of the photos are from a party announcing her engagement to Marcellus S. Smith, Jr. There are photos of the couple cutting a cake and posing romantically. A page of candid summer photos is captioned “just fooling around,” while another shows the family going to church.

A nice collection of an African-American family in New Jersey in the 1950s. [BTC#400380]
[Photo Album]: Asbury Park Teens Circa 1995-2001
[Asbury Park, New Jersey: mostly 1995-2001]

$2200

Small thick commercial album. Denim over boards with a pocket to resemble blue jeans and featuring an embossed leather patch that reads “Photos.” Approximately 5½” x 6¼”. 128 color images both regular prints and Polaroid photographs. Album and images mostly very good or better, with some modest wear and a few tears in the mylar sleeves. Images of young black people in Asbury Park (only two of Caucasians - a young woman and a policeman), likely kept by one of a few women that make frequent appearances in the album. Subjects confined largely to portraits, both young men and women together or separately, with cars, drinking and smoking weed, throwing signs or flipping the middle finger (seemingly the default gesture in the photos), preparing for nights out, some of women posing in lingerie or scantily clad, dressed in hoodies, basketball jerseys, and low rise jeans, in or outside of clubs or convenience stores., and a few of small children. None of the images have captions, a few are date stamped, mostly in 2001, the Polaroids seem earlier, and at least one is dated in 2007. Interesting insight into young African-Americans at the New Jersey Shore. [BTC#413778]
Two oblong folios. Measuring 14” x 11”. String tied, black leather boards with “Photograph Album” printed in gilt on each cover. Contains 614 black and white or color photographs measuring between 2” x 1” and 10” x 8”, with a few of them captioned. One album has a detached front board with bumped corners thus very good. The other has a short tear on the front joint with lightly bumped corners, near fine; both with fine photographs.

Two photo albums of an African-American family and friends from Brooklyn and the Bronx during the 1950 up until the late-1960s. The albums are mostly focused on celebrations such as birthday parties, weddings, and graduations. The birthday parties of young people dancing, posing together in large groups, playing drums, singing into tape recorders, and cuddling close on couches. Also included are pictures of young people dancing at a bar, The Surf Room Lounge, in New York. Two pictures from the bar show interracial couples from the 1960s. There are several full page pictures of different weddings. Each includes the invitation and “Thank You” card affixed to the album with the couples’ names captioned below the photographs. Some of the pictures are cands, and others are well composed shots of the brides in their gowns. One set of wedding pictures includes newspaper cut outs about the bride’s lavish, Victorian gown and about her and her husband’s work at local hospitals.
The albums feature pictures of young men in military uniforms during the Vietnam War. Some of the men are on base posing in front of their cabins or next to cars, sometimes holding guns. Some pictures are of the men’s partners wearing shorts and military caps. There are also pictures in both albums of African-American police officers. One of the albums has a large section devoted to a Caribbean vacation. There are maps and pictures from Antigua as well as St. Kitts Island. A couple photographs show a festival with children and adults dressed in costume, some of which include a banana, a goat, a “village pump,” a chocolate bar, “nugget black shoe polish,” a boat, a magician, and a queen. Other ephemera includes magazine and newspaper clippings as well as a small card with the words, “Thanks For Taking Two Parking Spaces. I Had To Park 2 Blocks Away You Stupid Inconsiderate Bastard” printed in red.

An interesting collection of African-American family photos showing a multitude of fun party candids and shots of army bases during the Vietnam War from the 1950s through 1960s. [BTC#419859]
Classic Photo Book

73  (Photography)
Julia PETERKIN and Doris ULMANN
Roll, Jordan, Roll
New York: Robert O. Ballou (1933)
$19,500

Deluxe edition. Folio. Quarter white linen and brown papercovered beveled boards in slipcase. 90 hand-pulled gravure photographic plates with tissue guards present. Copy number 81 of 350 numbered copies Signed by both Peterkin and Ulmann. Moderate staining on the spine and the boards, faint stain at the corners of the title page and the following page not affecting any images, else very good in a worn and stained example of the now rare original papercovered cardboard slipcase, with wear and some loss. Internally all of the images are fine. Additionally with the the original photographic print Signed by Ulmann laid in as the book was issued.

Peterkin’s text, about former slaves and their descendants on a plantation in the coastal Gullah region of South Carolina, is accompanied by Ulmann’s spectacular deep and rich, hand-pulled gravure photographs, including 18 that were not included when the trade edition of the book was published. Issued with an additional photographic print present and laid in, which is now rarely found in conjunction with the book itself. Peterkin, a Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist from South Carolina learned Gullah from her black nursemaid, and later married to the heir to the plantation where this book and pictures were set.

An absolutely magnificent book, in our opinion one of the highspots of American book production, and rarely encountered with both the slipcase and the loose print present. Roth. The Book of 1010 Books: Seminal Photographic Books of the Twentieth Century p. 78-79. [BTC#425109]
(Photography)

[Photo Album]: African-American Family Album Compiled as a 70th Wedding Anniversary Present

New York: 1920-1990

$500

Quarto. Modern 2” thick three-ring green binder. A collection of 275 sepia toned and black and white photographs, along with later images in color, measuring between 1½” x 1” to 3½” x 5½”, with occasional captions. A fine album with very good or better photographs with creasing and edgewear on some.

A photo album assembled for the 70th wedding anniversary of an African-American couple from High Falls, New York. The album spans the entirety of their relationship from 1920 to their 70th Anniversary in 1990. It also includes photographs from their youth, showing both of them as children. The photos depict the couple and their friends and family on trips, celebrating holidays, and on the beach. One photo shows Grace in a graduation cap and gown. There are numerous photos of people posing outside in nice outfits, going to church, and standing by new cars in the 1940s. The couple is seen posing at various times together from the 1920s until 1990, dancing, attending events, and growing old together. Additionally taped to the inside of the album is a letter on White House stationary congratulating the couple on their anniversary (almost certainly secretarially) signed by President George H.W. Bush.

An extensive family album depicting over 70 years of an African American couple’s relationship. [BTC#400043]
Charles PAXSON

[Three Carte de visites]: No. 2: Rebecca: A Slave Girl from New Orleans; No. 6: Wilson, Charley, Rebecca & Rosa [and] No. 9: Rosa, Charley, Rebecca

New York: Chas. Paxson / S. Tackaberry 1864

$2800

Three albumen carte de visite photographs. Each measuring approximately 2½” x 4”. Slight foxing, near fine. Printed caption below the image and publication information on the reverse indicating that these were part of a series of photographs of very light-skinned presumably mixed-race freed slave children from Louisiana (and Wilson, an older and much darker slave). Also printed on verso: “The nett proceeds from the sale of these photographs will be devoted exclusively to the education of colored people in the Department of the Gulf, now under the command of Major General Banks.” The National Freedman’s Association, the American Missionary Association, and Union officers launched a publicity campaign to raise money by selling carte de visite photographs of eight former slaves, five children and three adults. They were sold by abolitionists to appeal to those who would be offended by slavery because of its inclusion of very nearly white slave children. Among the more sophisticated and subtle visual propaganda produced by abolitionists. We’ve occasionally found these singly, this the first we’ve found more than one together. Presumably there were at least nine of them, if the numbers on the cards can be credited. [BTC#423413]

Benjamin QUARLES

Black History’s Diversified Clientele: A Lecture at Howard University

(Washington, DC): Department of History Howard University 1971

$150

First edition. Blue cloth boards gilt. Very good, with a few small paint splashes on the binding, and a bookplate from the Howard History Department on the front pastedown (apparently the book was issued with the bookplate, the only other copy we’ve handled had the bookplate laid in), issued without dustwrapper. A lecture delivered by Quarles while he was a professor at Morgan State. Very scarce. [BTC#84394]
77  J. Farley RAGLAND
A Little Slice of Living
(Richmond, Virginia: The Author 1953)
$200
First edition. Stapled wrappers. Introduction by Dr. Robert C. Daniel, President of Virginia State University. Light chipping at the extremities of the wrappers, a very good copy of this fragile pamphlet. Fourth of the five books of poetry by a South Boston, Virginia pharmacist who attended V.S.U., Hampton Institute, and Howard University. Signed by the author. Scarce. [BTC#366444]

78  Ishmael REED
Flight to Canada
New York: Random House (1976)
$125
First edition. A trifle soiled on the topedge, else fine in fine dustwrapper with a tiny tear. Nicely Inscribed by Reed to poet Daniel Hoffman. [BTC#422218]

79  (Religion)
William H. PIPES
Say Amen, Brother! Old-Time Negro Preaching: A Study in American Frustration
New York: William-Frederick Press 1951
$400
First edition. Octavo. 210pp. Faint spots on the front board, else near fine in very good dustwrapper with chips and tears. A very scarce analysis of religious practices and beliefs of African-Americans in the South, particularly around Macon County, Georgia, written by a professor of speech and the Dean of Philander State College. Inscribed by the author to Dr. Horace Mann Bond, important educator and the father of Civil Rights activist Julian Bond. Reprinted in 1992, the first edition is exceptionally uncommon. [BTC#423466]
80 Harold L. ROBERTSON

[Photo Albums]: Two Post-WWII Albums compiled by a Buffalo Soldier who was then a Sergeant First Class in Occupied Germany
Darmstadt, Munich: 1945-1953
$2500

Two albums. First album, measuring 10” x 7½”, has stamped cream wrappers with “Headquarters & Service Company 547th Engr. BN. (Combat) Kelley Barracks Darmstadt, Germany 1953” printed on the front wrapper. Contains five black and white silver gelatin photographs measuring 9” x 7” with captions in the negative. The second album is a commercially produced brad-bound album with tan paper boards measuring 9” x 9” with “Seventh Army NCO-Academy Stetten Kaserne Munich, Germany” stamped on the front board. Contains 55 black and white silver gelatin photographs measuring between 2½” x 2½” and 4¾” x 6½” with captions. Both albums near fine with near fine photographs.

The engineer battalion photographs show members of its headquarters company in posed section photos. The unit was first formed in 1944 as the 1328th Engineer Construction Battalion, an all African-American battalion that built and repaired hospitals, railroads, and roads in France and Germany during the later months of World War II where it was recognized as the best bridge-building unit in the Army. The 1328th was redesignated as the 547th in 1947, and by 1951 it was located at Kelley Barracks in Darmstadt although it spent much of its time deployed, building roads, tank trails, and gunnery training facilities at the Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels training areas. The 547th was one of the last Army units to desegregate, receiving its orders in November 1953.
Robertson used the commercially printed NCO-Academy book as a place to deposit academy photographs. Many of the pages here discuss the goings on at the academy in a manual style and leave space for the cadet to illustrate the book with his own photographs. These images show Robertson in formation, in classrooms, relaxing, marching, and studying at the Munich facility. This academy had only recently been established in old German Army facilities that had previously been used to train the U.S. Army Constabulary, a military gendarmerie force that provided security within the U.S. Occupation Zones in Germany and Austria. The academy was fully-integrated, however many of the photographs focus on Robertson and his African-American friends. Robertson enlisted in the Army as a cavalryman assigned to Tenth Cavalry Regiment, one of the famous Buffalo Soldier units. After he retired from the army as a Master Sergeant, Robertson lived in Teaneck, New Jersey until he passed away in 2012. [BTC#422972]
81  (Revolutionary War)
Cuff LIBERTY and Dick FREEDOM

Partially printed Pay Document to Black Connecticut Revolutionary War Soldier Dick Freedom, received and signed for on his behalf by another Black Soldier, Cuff Liberty

1780
Hartford: May 26th, 1782

$3000

Approximately 7" x 6½". Laid paper. Old folds, near fine. Payment order to Dick Freedom, paid out to and signed for by Cuff Liberty. Liberty's signature is a bit clumsy, perhaps indicating that he was relatively new to literacy, but is easily readable. Revolutionary War pay documents were often paid out to a fellow soldier in the same unit, either out of convenience or because of previous debt. Dick Freedom was one of approximately 300 freeman or slaves from Connecticut who fought for the Continental Army, often for the promise of freedom (and thus they often adopted aspirational names, as was probably the case with both Freedom and Liberty). Freedom, from Wallingford, served in the all-black Second Company of the Fourth Connecticut Regiment with Liberty from Middletown, Connecticut. Both are listed by William Cooper Nell in his book Coloured Patriots of the American Revolution (1855). Moeb. Black Soldiers, Black Sailors, Black Ink: Freedom p.266, etc.; Liberty p.261, etc. [BTC#423391]
The Dedication Copy

82 Eslanda Goode ROBESON
Paul Robeson, Negro
New York: Harper and Brothers 1930
$2500
First edition. Corners worn, and the spine has been professionally and nearly seamlessly rebacked, a fair only copy, lacking the dustwrapper. A biography of Robeson by his wife. The Dedication Copy. The printed dedication reads “For Our Son.” Their only child, Paul Robeson, Jr., was a mere two years old at the time of publication. This is Paul Robeson, Jr.’s copy with his bold ownership Signature on the front fly (obviously written at a later date). It also has the smaller ownership signature of Rev. Benjamin C. Robeson (Paul Robeson, Sr.’s brother). In addition, Paul Robeson, Sr., has noted on the rear fly: “April 25, 1956. Have translated = The Soviet Biography - John. Soldier of Peace.” An exact timeline of ownership is impossible to determine, but we suggest this was one of Paul Robeson, Sr.’s own copies, was then given to his brother, and was later inherited by the dedicatee, to whom his mother probably did not see fit to inscribe a copy while he was still in diapers. [BTC#82669]

83 Sadie Mae ROSEBROUGH
Wasted Travail
New York: Vantage Press 1951
$375
First edition. Octavo. 90pp. Fine in spine-sunned else very near fine dustwrapper. Vanity press novel about a black woman's search for happiness, by an Alabama-born black woman and domestic, who moved north to take factory work during World War II. She later moved to Detroit where she earned a degree at the Detroit Institute of Technology. [BTC#422605]

84 Frank Alexander ROSS and Louise Venable KENNEDY
A Bibliography of the Negro Migration
New York: Columbia University Press 1934
$300
First edition. Small, faint spot on the front board else fine in fine white dustwrapper (we have also seen this title with a green jacket, no known priority). A bibliography of articles and books about the migration of African-Americans from the Rural South to the Industrialized North between 1865 and the Great Depression. A lovely copy, scarce in jacket. [BTC#64143]
85  Sonia SANCHEZ  
_A Blues Book for Blue Black Magical Women_  
$400  
First edition, hardcover issue. Octavo. 62pp. Just about fine, possibly issued without dustwrapper. Also issued in paperback, the hardcover issue is very uncommon. [BTC#424376]

86  (Science-Fiction)  
Octavia E. BUTLER  
_Wild Seed_  
Garden City: Doubleday 1980  
$175  
First edition. Very light remainder spray on bottom of the page edges, some tiny spots on the foredge, very near fine in fine dustwrapper with a little rubbing. _Wild Seed_ is a prequel to her “Patternist Novels.” Butler is the first important African-American female science-fiction author and the winner of multiple Hugo and Nebula Awards. [BTC#423696]

87  Dorothy SCARBOROUGH  
Assisted by Ola Lee GULLEDGE  
_On the Trail of Negro Folk-Songs_  
Cambridge: Harvard University Press 1925  
$200  
First edition. Neat owner name, some offsetting from a clipping on half-title, a couple of small and very faint stains on a couple of leaves, still a handsome and tight near fine copy lacking the uncommon dustwrapper. The Texas-born Scarborough was a musicologist and anthropologist, educated at Baylor, the University of Chicago, and Columbia, where she received a Ph.D. She published _The Wind_, a classic feminist novel, anonymously in 1925. Scarborough also pioneered the field of collecting folk and indigenous American songs and music. The final chapter of this work is on the blues, and she interviewed W.C. Handy in the process of writing the chapter. A nice copy. [BTC#422598]
88  **Gil SCOTT-HERON**  
*The Nigger Factory*  
New York: Dial Press (1972)  
$450  
First edition. Slight sunned spot at the crown else fine in near fine slightly age-toned dustwrapper with tiny nicks and tears at the crown. Advance Review Copy with publisher’s slip, promotional letter, and photo laid in. The second novel by the avant-garde soul-jazz musician and poet. Scarce. [BTC#424452]

89  **Gladys Byram SHEPPERD**  
*Mary Church Terrell - Respectable Person*  
Baltimore: Human Relations Press 1959  
$250  
First edition. Top of the spine slightly bumped, and two very small chips to the edge of one blank leaf, still very near fine in near fine dustwrapper but for a small chip at the crown. *Inscribed* by Gladys Byram Shepperd. [BTC#71846]

90  **Wole SOYINKA**  
*A Dance of the Forests*  
London and Ibadan: Oxford University Press (1963)  
$150  
First edition. Wrappers. Two small owner’s names on the inside front cover else fine in wrappers. A play by the Nigerian Nobel Laureate. [BTC#91301]
91  (Sports)
Edwin Bancroft HENDERSON
The Negro in Sports
Washington, DC: Associated Publishers, Inc. (1939)
$800
Second edition, revised. Tall octavo. 371pp., copiously illustrated with photographs. About fine in modestly chipped very good dustwrapper with a few very faint stains. This copy owned by a Hall of Fame college football coach, Harvey Harman (1900-1969), who played football for the University of Pittsburgh before coaching at Haverford College, the University of Pennsylvania, and Rutgers. Inscribed by the author to Harman with further collegial inscriptions from James Guy Tyson (1899-1970) Howard University football star, lawyer, and director of the American Red Cross; Augustus Oliver Thornton, educator and member of the Improved Benevolent, Protective Order of Elks of the World (IBPOEW); and two others.

The event that appears to have brought Henderson and Harman together was the 1950 meeting of the Pigskin Club of Washington, a largely African-American fraternal organization based upon football and organized by Dr. Charles B. Fisher in 1938. Although white, Harman gave the 1950 principal address, a testament to the organization’s attempt to overcome racial prejudice through democracy in sports. Both Henderson and Tyson served in various capacities in the organization, although it does not appear that Harman was a member. An exceptionally scarce title, an interesting and important work, one of the earliest comprehensive studies of the African-American in sport. The author was the captain of the National Championship basketball team for two years, and was reportedly the first African-American “professionally trained for school work in physical education.” He studied at Harvard and Howard, and held a post graduate degree from Columbia.

92  (Sports)
Jack ORR
The Black Athlete: His Story in American History
New York: The Lion Press (1969)
$150
First edition. Thin quarto. Introduction by Jackie Robinson. Cloth worn away along the top of the front board, and a little on the bottom board as well, boards a bit warped, still a very good or better copy in a price-clipped and a bit rubbed, very good plus dustwrapper. Scarce, most copies went to libraries. [BTC#69156]
**A.S. JACKSON**

*A Sure Foundation & A Sketch of Negro Life in Texas*

Houston, Texas: A.W. Jackson [circa 1940]

**$4000**

First edition. Preface by Sanderson Alexander Pleasants, Jr. Biographical Sketch of the Author by Albert Anderson Lucas. Octavo. Vi, 772, [4]pp. Illustrated from photographs. Green cloth stamped in gilt. Parts of the following leaves are torn away: front fly, p. i-ii (an index page) with some significant loss and p. 5-6 (prefatory matter) with significant loss; a few other pages have tears and/or minor loss, but are otherwise sound and good.

Extensive biographical compilation of perhaps 200 prominent black Texans, most with grainy photographic portraits, interspersed with hints to success and a fair amount of poetry, some or most of it obviously written by African-Americans (although some of it is author unidentified). According to the biography of the author, Andrew Webster Jackson, was born in Booth in Fort Bend County, Texas, completed school and became a teacher and later a school principal. In 1930 he was elected president of the Colored Teachers' State Association, and other important civic positions, and helped form the Fort Bend Fraternal Undertaking Company.

A very cheaply produced and highly eccentric publication, in *OCLC* we could locate copies each with either 644pp. or 960pp., but no copies with anything closer to this pagination. Rare. [BTC#423829]
94  **Valerie M. THOMAS**  
*Accent African: Traditional and Contemporary Hair Styles for the Black Woman*  
New York: Col-Bob Associates (1973)  
$350  

95  **Jean TOOMER**  
*Essentials*  
Chicago: Private Edition 1931  
$2000  
First edition. Staining on the endpapers, else very good in age-toned very good or better dustwrapper with small nicks and tears. One of 1000 numbered copies, this copy is unnumbered and unsigned. However, Toomer has warmly *Inscribed* the book at a later date, apparently incorporating a pet name: “For Linda with love, Jean Toomer. ‘Goopy’. Apr. 3, 62.” This is Toomer’s second book. His first, the novel *Cane*, was the first book of the Harlem Renaissance. Our observation based on copies of this title that we have handled is that few were actually signed and distributed at the time of publication, and that the vast majority of copies were either destroyed, or languished unsigned in a warehouse until after Toomer’s death. [BTC#422600]

96  **James VAN DER ZEE, Owen DODSON and Camille BILLOPS**  
*The Harlem Book of the Dead*  
Dobbs Ferry: Morgan & Morgan (1978)  
$200  
First edition. Quarto. Foreword by Toni Morrison. Fine in a near fine slightly soiled dustwrapper with a small tear. A nice copy. An avidly collected title. Van Der Zee’s photos of Harlem including his famous post mortem images. [BTC#418906]
97  Alice WALKER
*Once: Poems*
New York: Harcourt, Brace & World (1968)
**$500**
First edition. Stamp of a Harlem bookstore on the rear endpaper, else fine in modestly rubbed near fine dustwrapper. A nice copy of the author’s uncommon first book, a volume of poetry. [BTC#424171]

98  Alice WALKER
*Revolutionary Petunias & Other Poems*
**$250**

99  Alice WALKER
*Her Blue Body Everything We Know: Earthling Poems 1965-1990 Complete*
**$200**
First edition. Fine in fine slipcase. Copy number 97 of 111 numbered copies Signed by the author. A notably small limitation. Author’s collected poems. [BTC#351996]
Three volumes. Quartos. Two commercial spiral albums with “Memory of South Viet-Nam” and a map of the country on both front boards. The third album is a green canvas three-ring binder with the hand-stenciled titles: “M.D. Land Vietnam 69-70 Phu Bai.” The albums contain 236 black and white or color photographs measuring between ½” x 2” to 3½” x 3½”, some with captions. Additionally included are three examples of Vietnamese paper money, two U.S. military certificates, four Vietnamese coins, and one postcard. The albums are overall very good with edgewear and rubbing; the photographs are near fine.

The servicemen represented in these photographs appear to be members of the 14th Signal Company, 37th Signal Battalion, part of MARS (Military Auxiliary Radio System), stationed at the Phu Bai Combat Base, a U.S. Army and Marine Corps base south of Hue in the central coast region of Vietnam. The cover text on the three-ring binder reads: “M.D. LAND, SR. VIET-NAM 69 70 PHU BAI.” The other two albums would seem to date from the same period, and were owned by a “Bro. Clint,” fondly described as “a heavy young black brother whom has a lot going for him” in an inscription that appears in one of the albums by one of his fellow soldiers. One photo shows two soldiers standing near a 37th Signal Batallion sign. The 37th was stationed at Phu Bai.

The majority of the photographs consist of candid portraits of servicemen, solo and in groups. Most of the personnel are black; many are pictured shirtless and at their barracks. They appear lounging, drinking, smoking pipes.
and cigarettes, relaxing on the beach, and generally horsing around. Two images of knife-throwing are included, one of them presumably a mock-scene in which a man is spread out against the knife-throwing board with a knife stuck in the board just to the right of his head. In one photo, a white soldier holds a copy of the chart-topping 1968 self-title album by Blood, Sweat & Tears. A number of photos depict U.S. planes and fighter jets and scenes around the base.

Various Vietnamese women are pictured, some in nightclubs, smoking cigarettes, drinking, lounging, etc. In a few photos, a Vietnamese band is shown playing, with three female musicians in go-go boots. Another, scantily clad, woman performs on stage, with musicians and a psychedelic Jimi Hendrix poster in the background. Also included are several professional portraits of Vietnamese women, one of whom appears to have been in the South Vietnamese army.

One of the albums bears numerous inscriptions to Clint on the paste-downs, with a strong Black Power vibe: “Stay cool and always think black”; “Power to the black people right on!”; “Stay black and you'll make it big”; and “One of my brothers who I am quite sure will go back to the world and teach the black brothers and sisters about unity.”

One especially notable photo shows Clint’s Black Power leather jacket, beret, sash, sunglasses, and carved Black Power war club in the form of a clenched fist. Many candid photos depict black soldiers symbolically raising their fists - the Black Power salute that both black privates and officers used to acknowledge one another in public. A number of soldiers are also shown making an ‘X’ with their arms and gesturing fist-bumps, the latter of which was colloquially known as the “dap” - an intricate, ever-changing and ritualized handshake common among black soldiers.

The period of the Vietnam War contemporaneous with the pictures offered here (c. 1968-1970) coincides with the boiling domestic tensions between black and white Americans that were heightened by the widely unpopular war and fueled the ascendancy of Black Power in America. These same tensions were also borne out in the U.S. Army, which witnessed an increase in interracial troubles, prompting an ethos of unity among African-Americans.

A vivid photo archive attesting to the strong embrace among black U.S. soldiers of the emergent culture and symbols of Black Power, offering them a sense of community and strength far away from home, amidst ubiquitous racism and an unpopular war. [BTC#423209]

May the Spirit guard and inspire
May He guide you and direct
To become strong and self-sustained in the work of life.
Seek their affections, and do not let them be divided
But strive for excellence.

Mr. President, Ladies and gentlemen,

After the rendition of the following musical selections by the band of the U.S. Marine Barracks, Hon. H.B.F. Macfarland, President Board of Commissioners, District of Columbia, announced that prayer would be offered by Rev. William V. Tunnell:

2. "What's Lento," "Anthem aze," "Lanville Marches"

INOCATION
by
Rev. William V. Tunnell.

We lift our hearts in thanksgiving, Our Father, for all Thy blessings - for the multitude of the blessings Thou hast bestowed upon us. We pray that Thou wilt make us worthy of life and all its opportunities. We ask Thy special blessing upon the exercises of the evening. We ask Thy blessing upon the Commissioners of the District - upon the public school system of our glorious District of Columbia. We ask Thy blessing, Our Father, upon all the teachers and pupils of the public schools of our country. We pray that Thou wilt make the teachers strong and true and pure, that they may apply the right methods and instill the right sentiments in the hearts of their children; - that the children may go forth in life and, by Thy help, to battle against wrong; to be true and faithful to themselves, their God and their country, dis-

101 Booker T. Washington

Washington, DC: William H. Davis, Stenographer and Principal of Lincoln Temple Business College (1905)

$9500

23 folio sheets, typed rectos only and bradbound into unprinted blue paper wraps. Three horizontal folds, tiny tears to the edges of the wrappers, a near fine example. A verbatim transcription of the commencement ceremony noting Rev. William V. Tunnell’s invocation, and brief addresses by Hon. H.B.F. Macfarland, and Hon. W.S. Montgomery, the bulk of the transcript is dedicated to Washington’s address (complete with notes on the audience’s reaction with applause and laughter) and which appears from page five to midway through page 22. OCLC lists a transcription of the speech in another volume published in 1905 (two copies), but makes no mention of this stenographic record. A possibly unique artifact of a major Washington address. [BTC#83033]
102  Walter F. WHITE
The Fire in the Flint
(New York: Alfred A. Knopf 1924)
$250
First edition. Contemporary owner’s small signature, some spotting and faint staining to the boards, a near very good copy lacking the dustwrapper. The author’s first book, one of the first wave of novels from the Harlem Renaissance, about a black medical doctor who returns to his Georgia home hoping to improve the lot of his fellows, only to be met with prejudice, suspicion, and violence. It deals in part with lynching, a practice against which White, in his capacity as the outspoken and longtime executive secretary of the NAACP, waged a long and ultimately successful campaign. A moderately worn but presentable copy. [BTC#419527]

103  Henry WILLIAMSON
Hustler!
(Garden City: Doubleday 1965)
$250

104  Major R.R. WRIGHT, Sr.
Radio Speeches of
Major R.R. Wright, Sr.
(Philadelphia: Farmer Press 1949)
$450
First edition. Compiled by Wright’s daughter, Harriet Beecher Stowe Wright Lemon. Octavo. 189pp., frontispiece portrait from a photograph. Fine in slightly spine-sunned, else about fine dustwrapper. Very nicely Inscribed by Ms. Lemon to a female journalist. The speeches and remembrance of a prominent African-American businessman from Savannah who was a pillar of the community. [BTC#419515]