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Abbreviations

**A.L.S.**
Autograph Letter Signed

[written and signed by the person described].

**L.S. [T.L.S.]**
Letter Signed

[signed by the person described, but the text or body written by another or typewritten]

**D.S.**
Document Signed

**A.Q.S.**
Autograph Quotation Signed

**A.N.S.**
Autograph Note Signed

Measurements

Vertical measurement given first.

**4to**
Quarto [approximately 11x8B/c inches]

**8vo**
Octavo [approximately 8x5 inches]

**vn.d.**
No date

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No place

**n.y.**
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Booth #A33

2016 New York Antiquarian Book Fair photograph by Todd Strauss-Schulson
AVEDON, RICHARD

“HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE A PHOTOGRAPHER? I’VE ALWAYS WANTED TO KNOW....”

(1923–2004) American fashion and portrait photographer renown for his sense of beauty and style which influenced American culture.


Item ID: 4018
($1,700) save 35%  $1,105

View this listing on our website

BARKS, CARL

“IT MIGHT RILE THE WRONG PEOPLE AT DISNEY.”


“Dear Ed — Here are the Xeroxes of the stuff you picked out. Gare has numbered each piece, which could simplify the identification of the ones you want. The ‘bonus check’ sketch is not included. We are afraid it might rile the wrong people at Disney.” Signed “In a hurry, Carl.”

After retiring, Barks created oil paintings of his cartoon characters. The specific reference here to Disney may relate to issues regarding the sale of these paintings. Barks painted non-Disney characters including some from mythology to avoid further conflict until the Disney company approved Barks’ oil painting for a special collection of his stories of the character he created, “Uncle Scrooge McDuck: His Life and Times.”

Item ID: 305
($500) save 30%  $350

View this listing on our website
BRANDEIS, LOUIS D.


**Early Autograph Letter Signed. 4to, on “Warren and Brandeis” letterhead, Boston, September 18, 1884.**

This is a letter from Brandeis to W.L. Putnam Esq., which reads, “Dear Sir...We supposed the close business rela-
tions...would enable you to verify the figures in Poors Manual, without trouble. The manual is usually so accurate
that we do not feel justified in putting you to the expense and delay of taking a deposition for that alone...if we learn
of any serious error...there would be time to correct it....”-Signed in
the firm’s name, “Warren & Brandeis”.

This is a good early letter of Brandeis written while he was working with his Harvard law school classmate
Samuel Warren with whom he founded the law firm, Warren & Brandeis.

**Item ID: 988 ($650) save 25% $487.50**

View this listing on our website

CHANDLER, RAYMOND THORTON

(1888–1959) Author of crime stories and novels of immense stylistic influence upon modern crime fiction, especially in the style of the writing and the attitudes now characteristic of the genre. His protago-
nist Philip Marlowe is synonymous with “private detective”, along with Dashiell Hammett’s “Sam Spade”.

**Typed Document Signed, 4to, on watermarked “Paramount Pictures” onionskin paper, Hollywood, CA, February 14, 1944.**

This letter contract made out for Raymond Chandler states, “Please take notice that your employment agree-
ment with the undersigned corporation dated November 16, 1943, will terminate on February 26, 1944, at the end of
said day.” Signed by two executives at Paramount Pictures Inc. and accepted: “Raymond Chandler.” Several punch
holes from staples in upper left corner.

Chandler spent nine months at Paramount working with director Billy Wilder on the screenplay of James M.
Cain's novel, “Double Indemnity.”

**Item ID: 573 ($2,200.00) save 25% $1,650**

View this listing on our website
CUMMINGS, E. E.
(Edward Estlin)

(1894–1962) American poet and painter. Recognized as a ground-breaking writer in the field of poetry because of his use and positioning of words, use of syntax and subject matter of his poems.

Original Drawing of titled, “Flamenco Dancer” Signed, pen and ink, 4to, approximately 8 x 11 3/4 inches, titled in another hand on verso, “Flamenco Dancer.”

Cummings draws a full length figure, wearing a fedora styled hat, looking over her shoulder as she moves forward dancing the Flamenco as the title suggests. Drawn in black ink, the poet who was also an artist signs under the figure, “Cummings,” on a diagonal. Professional repairs have been to reinforce the paper which had a vertical crease from fold, and several margin tears including at left edge at the corner of the left hand. In addition to the title in pencil on verso in another hand, “GBM 540” is also written in pencil on verso.

Our drawing is likely from Cummings’ second art phase as described by the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center on line: “Critics have generally divided Cummings’ career as a painter into two stylistic phases. The first phase, about 1915-1928, was represented by his experimental large-scale abstracts and his drawings and caricatures published in The Dial. During the 1920s Cummings started to drop out of the gallery scene, and he came to view the art establishment as anti-intellectual. The second phase of his art was from about 1928 until his death; this phase was characterized by representational works: still lifes, landscapes, nudes, and portraits.”

EDISON, THOMAS ALVA

(1847–1931) Prolific American inventor. Among his many inventions, of which he patented over a thousand, were an automatic telegraph repeater, printing telegraph, electric pen, the phonograph and the incandescent lamp.


The phonograph record is the likely subject Edison writes about to his brother-in-law, John Vincent Miller (1873–1940), (Mina Edison’s brother) Edison refers to his brother-in-law by initials. “JVM - We have had much trouble with wax & phenol Resin since McWilliams had charge. Now we are in a bad way with phenol Resin. We shall have to send Hoffman down to Straighten the Resin production out. Hereafter I shall demand & have made tests at Lab of everything used in making wax & resin. What about McWilliams, I understand he was formally a theatrical man if so he is probably passing the buck over to the foreman who probably has never been properly taught what to do, please investigate.” Edison signs with a large, “E.” Paper is sunned and brittle with chipping to right and lower margins, breaks at two horizontal margin folds.

Our research into the inventions Edison worked on during the World War I years led us to conclude that the topic of our letter was the phonograph record. According to the Edison General File Series for 1915 [TAE Papers] regarding Chemicals, it is noted that Edison expanded his production of organic chemicals after World War I and caused other chemicals from being able to be imported from Europe. During this year he established a “new chemical plant at Silver Lake to convert benzol into phenol (carbolic acid)….” There are notes also stating opening a second phenol plant at Silver Lake to supply the U.S. military with chemicals needed for such things as explosives. A mention on the National Parks Service website (nps.org) notes that in 1915 Edison was asked to “head the Naval Consulting Board. With the United States inching closer towards the involvement in World War One, the Naval Consulting Board was an attempt to organize the talents of the leading scientists and inventors in the United States for the benefit of the American armed forces.” He accepted. The Board ended up primarily serving as a “precedent for future successful cooperation between scientists, inventors and the United States military.” Meanwhile, the correspondence in the TAE Papers regarding J.V. Miller at the Silver

Item ID: 2093
($3,500.00) save 30% $2,450

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Lake plant includes many letters related to iron and nickel mixes used in alkaline storage batteries as well as letters on the Silver Lake plant producing phenol and also mention of the wax department. Phenol resin was mentioned as early as 1907 in a pocket notebook for February of that year [TAE Papers] and also mentioned in experiments for phonograph records in a May 1914 notebook used by an assistant in the chemical lab, probably W.B. Davis, relating to experiments to prevent wave formation on records while varnishing. Most of this work involved the use of phenolic resin. The Belfer Cylinder Collection at Syracuse University Libraries (library.syracuse.edu) notes, in the introduction, that Edison invented the phonograph in 1877, but the foil he used was not very useable. Shortly thereafter he developed wax cylinders for recording and reproducing sound which he marketed in 1880. But, in 1906, a more long lasting medium was developed, phenolic resin, an early relative of Bakelite. Based on the fact that the letter is to J.V. Miller, it is likely that Edison is referring to phenol resin used for the purpose of sound recording and is having difficulty with one of his suppliers, McWilliams. A note on Edison's reference to McWilliams. While no information has been found suggesting that Curtis Q. McWilliams was ever involved in the entertainment industry, his affiliation with Edison went back to 1883 when McWilliams was a director of the firm Kulp, McWilliams & Co. in Shamokin, PA. They were lumber dealers (“oak and white pine lumber, shingles, prop timber...,” according to their letterhead). In 1883, according to TAE Papers, they worked together on the construction of a central station. The folder contains “correspondence and other documents relating to the installation and operation of the central station and electric light system in Sunbury” which became the first commercially installed three-wire system. There are letters in the file from June of 1883 stating that Kulp, McWilliams & Co. were delivering poles and letters from Edison to them stating that the poles were crooked and therefore useless to him. Still, Edison seems to have continued working with this company. The Kulp, McWilliams partnership was dissolved in 1886 and McWilliams and McConnell (a third partner) split off to run the ice and brick part of the business. It seems from this letter that Edison continued to have difficulties dealing with McWilliams, but information gleaned from other genealogical sources, McWilliams was involved in nearly all public enterprises in Shamokin throughout the rest of his life, so in one way or another, he would have had dealings with Edison.

J.V. Miller was the manager of the Edison Chemical Works from 1913 until 1920, after which he became Edison's personal business secretary. Previous to his working at the Edison Chemical Works at Silver Lake, Miller had, in and around 1900, worked for Edison at the Ortiz Mine in Dolores, New Mexico where they were searching for a method to separate gold from base rock [see the Thomas Edison Papers at Rutgers University (Rutgers.edu), TAE Papers].

**Item ID: 4236**  
($2,100.00) save 25%  $1,575

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EHRlich, PaUL

(1854–1915) German physician and researcher who won the 1908 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. He is noted for his work in hematology, immunology, and chemotherapy, which term he coined.

Autograph Letter Signed, in German, 4pp, 8vo, Berlin, March, n.y., but late 1880s.

Ehrlich writes a technical letter to August Bernthsen (1855-1931), German chemist and laboratory chief of the German chemical company, BASF, beginning in 1899.

“First, I would like to express my gratitude for the amiable words and the kind offer to continue to support my efforts. I will attempt a methodical response to your letter and, therefore, begin with Lokao, the ‘Chinese Green’ known to commerce, about which a paper was just recently published in the Reports. The crystalline aniline has been produced by Cassella [a manufacturer of dyestuffs who supplied material for Ehrlich’s work on chemotherapy], and by way of using Schaffer’s acid [a crystalline naphtholsulfonic acid used as an intermediate dye]…producing an isotope of naphthosulfonic acid. The [?] methyl violet was produced by Metke and published in the Safranin [a biological stain] paper and is distinguished by its beautiful fluorescence of the alcoholic solution and its prompt decay when exposed to light. Brieger doesn’t have any Indole or Skatole [crystalline compounds found in intestines and feces left by decomposed proteins], since he has given the remainder to Koch. However, I believe to be able to procure Indolepikrat from another friend of mine, which I will promptly send to you. As far as my own desires are concerned, I would primarily ask for Isothianin [?] and Imido Thiophenyl and would be content and grateful for even the smallest remaining scraps and traces. I really do not need the investigation of Thianolin and would humbly ask you to send me, perhaps, a small sample (3-4 grams) of the Badenese product [i.e., originating from Baden, probably a reference to the location of BASF]. I myself am in active correspondence with the Ludwigshafen house and would be able to procure any desired amount of the hydrochloride, if any has been produced there. At home, things couldn’t be better - thank God ...” He signs, “P. Ehrlich.”

Ehrlich refers to the “Chinese Green,” presumably malachite green, used for biological staining for microscopic analysis of cells and tissues. He also refers to colleague Robert Koch (1843-1910), considered the founder of modern bacteriology and known for identifying the causative agents of tuberculosis, cholera, and anthrax. Koch received the Nobel Prize for physiology and medicine in 1905. Ehrlich also refers to Ludwig Brieger (1849-1919) who was the chair of therapeutics at the University of Berlin. He discovered the organic compound Skatole in 1877, expanded knowledge of hydrotherapy, and was an associate of Ehrlich’s at the Institute of Infectious Diseases. The Ludwigshafen house mentioned in our letter presumably refers to the BASF Chemical Company which supplied Ehrlich with many of the chemicals he needed for his research.

Ehrlich studied microorganisms through the use of dyes made from aniline compounds. After earning a medical degree, he accepted a post at a Berlin clinic where his interest in pathology grew. According to the Dictionary of Scientific Biography, during this time, he, “gained lasting insights into diagnostic and therapeutic problems. His reports on the morphology, physiology and pathology of the blood cells advanced hematology by establishing methods of detecting and differentiating leukemias and anemias. Further, the observations that basic, acidic and neutral dyes reacted specifically with such cellular components... implanted in Ehrlich’s mind the fundamental concept underlying his future work: that chemical affinities govern all biological processes.” In the mid-1880s, Ehrlich discovered that certain tissues such as nerve endings were especially receptive to the stain of methylene blue. This was the beginning of Ehrlich’s pioneering experiments in chemotherapy - the treatment of medical conditions with the application of chemicals.

Item ID: 4108
($6,700.00) save 20% $5,360

View this listing on our website
ENSOR, JAMES

(1860–1949) Belgian painter and printmaker, an important influence on expressionism and surrealism who lived in Ostende, Belgium, for almost his entire life. He was associated with the artistic group Les XX, which consisted of about 20 other painters.

**Etching Signed and dated, “La Chimere”. The image measures about 2 x 3 inches on a deckled edged sheet of what is likely China paper, 4to, signed and dated in pencil, “James Ensor 1888.”**

From the collection of Augusta Bogaerts, life long friend of Ensor.

**Item ID: 4213**
($1,575.00) save 22% $1,228.50

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FISCHER, BOBBY


**Printed and hand-written Chess Score Sheet Signed, 8vo, Nov. 22-25, 1956.**

Early in his championship career, Fischer filled out the score sheet, including his last name, in pencil. The score sheet indicates the match ended in a “DRAW.” In November, Fischer played in the 1956 Eastern States Open Championship in Washington DC, tying for second with three other contenders.

**Item ID: 4167**
($1,900.00) save 20% $1,520

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THE FREUDS IN ENGLAND

Martha and Sigmund Freud were married for 53 years until Sigmund’s death in 1939. With his wife Martha Bernays and daughter Anna, the Freud family was able to leave Vienna for London where they arrived in June 1938. The Freuds left Vienna for safe haven in London at a time when Nazi influence had gained strength across Austria, and Freud himself had become a target of the Gestapo.

FREUD, SIGMUND
(1856–1939) Austrian neurologist, writer and founder of psychoanalysis.

Autograph Letter Signed with uncommon extended signature and in English,, on “Marsfield Gardens” printed stationery card, small 8vo, London stationery, January 5, 1939.

Uncommon for Freud to write in English, he pens this letter to Mr., Stanley. “I would like visiting Edinburgh and if so I would not miss coming to the College you mention. But actually, such a visit is out of the question on account of my health…” He signs with his uncommon extended signature, “Sigm. Freud.” Freud had been suffering from mouth cancer since 1923, with remissions. Freud lived in England for about six months when he wrote this letter. With Nazi influence gaining strength in Austria, he sought refuge in England because he had become a target of the Gestapo. With his wife Martha Bernays and daughter Anna, he was able to leave Vienna for London where he arrived in June 1938. This letter, unusual for its signature and in English, was penned about nine months before Freud died.

Our letter confirms Freud’s ability to work consisted of writing and seeing patients, but no longer traveling to give lectures. As Freud mentions, his health was failing, and he was close to the end of his life. At this time, early 1939, his Austrian doctor, Hans Pichler, traveled to London to operate on Freud’s cancerous jaw because Freud had complained to an Austrian associate about English doctors. Freud viewed this operation as having extended his life [Cohen, “The Escape of Sigmund Freud,” 2009, p. 194]. In his writing, Freud returned to an earlier theme, religion as collective neurosis, and completed a revision of his important essay, “Moses and Monotheism,” published in German in 1938 and in English in 1939, and his final book published posthumously, “Outline of Psychoanalysis.”

Item ID: 2448
($11,500.00) save 21%  $9,085

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FREUD, MARTHA BERNAYS


Freud writes to the long time family housekeeper, Paula Fichtl, well after the Freud’s left Vienna in 1938 to escape the Nazis after the Austrian Anschluss. The Freud family settled in London, in Marsfield Gardens. In full, “My dear, good Paula, Only yesterday I received your letter of the 5th, the first one came much faster. I am sorry that you are freezing so much, but it does not surprise me. One reason is the different climate the other that we are so spoiled in the evenly heated house. Just walk rigorously to warm you. Sure, vacation in the summer would be quite a different story but who knows if it would have worked out. I feel sincerely with you, that your poor father is miserable. Old age altogether is not good, that I know myself. Here winter hasn’t arrived yet. Mr. Green did not come twice, can you imagine? We don’t know whether he is ill or whether his fear of not being as well looked after in your absence causes it. Otherwise, everything goes its regular way. I’ll be glad, however, when you, well rested, will be back in the house fidgeting about. I shall enjoy the thermometer, but don’t spend so much money. We are not that badly off here. Good bye and all the best....” She signs, “from your Old Mother Freud.” Letters of Martha Freud infrequently come on the market.

Martha and Sigmund Freud were married for 53 years. The first biography of Martha Freud was published in 2006, written by Katja Behling who portrays Freud as loyal and steadfast. The author concluded that Martha Freud, “contributed in no small measure to the extraordinary success of psychoanalysis as it went from strength to strength and spread from Vienna to the four corners of the earth.” Behling writes that, Martha Freud changed after her husband’s death. The first Friday after his [Sigmund Freud] death she lit candles, reviving the Jewish tradition he had persuaded her to drop. I think she kept her religion inside her the whole time. She could have chosen a safe professor
to marry and have lived in probably frustrated content-
ment. But she had spirit and chose a far more rocky, but
interesting path, in partnership with the man she loved.”
[See review of Behling’s biography in The Guardian (www.
theguardian.com) by Hannah Cleaver. Clearly Freud was
missing her long time family housekeeper who had started
working for the Freud’s in 1929 and who not only accompa-
nied them from Austria in 1938 to London, she did so out
of loyalty to the family. As a German non-Jewish émigré,
Fichtl was interned in a camp on the Isle of Man at the out-
brake of war in 1939 and remained there for nine months
[see psychologytoday.com article “The Imported Brain,”
by Christopher Badcock, Ph.D.] Still, she stayed with the
Freud’s through the death of Sigmund, Martha and finally
Anna in 1982. She then returned to Salzburg, the place of
her birth, and according to hppt://socialsciences.scielo.org
in an article entitled “Freud’s Nanny and Other Nannies,”
by Mariza Correa, “ended her life in an Austrian asylum.”

Item ID: 2379
($3,200.00) save 25% $2,400

View this listing on our website

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GRIEG, EDVARD H.

“FROM YOUR OLD MOTHER FREUD.”

(1843–1907) Norwegian composer and pianist. He is best known
for his Piano Concerto in A minor, incidental music Peer Gynt, and
for his Lyric Pieces for piano.

Signed Elliott and Fry Cabinet Photograph,
docketed 1899 on verso.

The photograph by Elliott and Fry, London, shows the
famed composer, half length, in coat, suit and bow tie. He
has signed on the lower margin, just below his printed
name, “Edvard Grieg.” One small repair at upper margin,
usual background foxing. The Elliott and Fry emblem,
address and copyright notice are printed on verso along
with docketing which includes the name (?) Thane and
the date.

Item ID: 2302
($3,200.00) save 25% $2,400

View this listing on our website
(1738–1814) French physician who proposed the use of a mechanical device to carry out death penalties in France. While he did not invent the guillotine, his name became synonymous with it, obscuring the actual inventor of the prototype, Antoine Louis.

**Manuscript Document Signed, in French, 4to, Paris, May 8, 1800.**

This medical document from the first period of Napoleon's rule, is a prescription for a female patient and reads in part, “the patient will take every day a couple of cups of light infusion of balm...she will have every morning a shower on the spine from the nape down to the bottom of her neck...After the shower, apply lightly on that part of the neck and up to her ear on the left side the following liniment....” He lists the ingredients which include oil of wormwood and animal oil and continues, “Mixing: make a liniment with all ingredients, according to tradition. Every morning she will drink a bottle of Balm...on an empty stomach....” He signs, “Guillotin.”

Guillotin studied with the Jesuits, became a professor of literature in Bordeaux, but then left for Paris to study medicine. He became a physician in 1768, gaining a diploma from the faculty at Rheims. During this early part of his life he was a medical consultant and influential freemason. He had a flourishing medical practice in the city of Paris when, in 1784, he was appointed by Louis XVI to a newly formed commission to investigate Franz Mesmer's theory of “animal magnetism” along with Benjamin Franklin and others. [“Medicine in 1815,” exhibition at Wellcome Historical Medical Museum, 1965]. Many considered Mesmer’s theory to be an offense to public morals. In 1788, Guillotin drafted a pamphlet entitled “Petition of the Citizens Living in Paris,” concerning the proper constitution of the States General. The French parliament heard his opinion on Mesmer's theory and saw them as favorable. In 1789 he became one of ten Paris deputies in the Estates-General. He led the Health Committee of the National Assembly as secretary and as president until 1791. As a member of the assembly, he directed his attentions to medical reform, specifically relating to capital punishment to which he was actually opposed. “Hektoen International” reports that his work on the National Assembly poverty committee included “surveying hospitals, asylums, orphanages, and homes for the aged, as well as working on bills to regulate the teaching and practice of medicine. He was opposed to capital punishment and sponsored a bill that outlawed torture and inhumane executions, specifying that all criminals were to be treated equally regardless of their social status. The death penalty, when imposed, was to be carried out quickly and painlessly, by decapitation with a device based on a simple mechanism.” And herein lies his eponymous association with the execution device associated with the French Revolution. Guillotin's political life lasted until near the end of the Reign of Terror when he was imprisoned for not revealing information the government wanted but was released in 1794 after Robespierre fell from power. That ended his political career and he then fully resumed his medical practice. Our letter reflects his return to life as a doctor.

Item ID: 2223
($2,200.00) save 25%  $1,650

View this listing on our website
HEMINGWAY, ERNEST

HEMINGWAY TELLS A BOXING STORY, “I HADN’T HAD A GLOVE ON FOR SIX EIGHT MONTHS... I WAS SO PITIFUL....”

(1899–1961) American writer, awarded the Nobel Prize in literature in 1954. He is best remembered for his novels including, “The Sun Also Rises,” “A Farewell to Arms,” and “The Old Man and the Sea.”

Substantial Typed Letter Signed, twice, 2 pages on his personal 4to “Finca Vigia San Francisco de Paula Cuba” imprinted letterhead, Cuba, [June 15, 1943]; undated, but with “June 15” docketed in another hand and based on information in the letter, appears to have been written in 1943.

To George [Brown], Hemingway’s longtime friend, boxing coach, sparring partner, and trainer who was also a tennis partner and friend to Hemingway’s wife, Martha, Hemingway writes relaying family news along with news of mutual friends and telling a story of a boxing match gone awry with John “Shipwreck” Kelly, the All-American halfback football player who later played for the New York Giants and Brooklyn Dodgers. Hemingway was an avid fan of boxing and prided himself on his skill at the sport. Kelly was a friend of Hemingway’s who went on an African safari with him and apparently visited him in Cuba. Hemingway refers to his children Jack (Bumby), Patrick (Mousie) and Gregory (Gigi), his wife Marty (Martha Gellhorn), and friends including Winston Guest, husband of C.Z. Guest. Hemingway was best man at the wedding of Winston and C.Z. Guest which took place at Finca Vigia in 1947. The letter begins with family news. “Mary is almost finished on a novel she is writing... Bumby went into the army... Mousie did good at school... Gigi same... Mousie never got to like that... school... decided by himself last year that he didn't believe in God....” He then talks about mutual friends. “Don Andrews is fine and sends his best... Jai-alai players are fine and two of them Paxchy and Fernando are with me now on this trip... Also Winston sends his best too....” Hemingway then describes the fishing trip he is on, “an island in the ocean where the trade wind blows day and night... iguanas six feet long... flamingoes... by the thousands... the ocean is full of the biggest kind of fish....” He then tells the boxing story about putting on his boxing gloves. “Speaking of the sour science old John (4F) Kelly got himself down to a natty 205 and brought his lovely bride out the Finca... I hadn’t had a glove on for six eight months... I was so pitiful....” He describes the bout at length and then refers to a plan that Kelly will come again the next day at 11 and Hemingway came up with strategies to beat him, fair or unfair. He tells how he drinks as he waits for Kelly to arrive but he never arrives. He recounts that he put “a little scotch in my tea” and considers that he might “try to fall on him and break his bad leg.” His story, he hopes, gets a laugh out of his friend. “I hope you get a laugh... I had one and so did Winston. Mary's only reaction was ‘What did you let... Kelly cut your mouth for in the first place?’ She was right.” He sends his love to Georgette, referring to George Brown’s lover and longtime companion, Georgette Cohan, the daughter of George M. Cohan. And he ends by asking what his correspondent thinks of the film version of “For Whom the Bell Tolls” which came out in 1943, the year of this letter. Hemingway signs twice, “Ernesto,” and in full, “Ernest Hemingway.”

An exceptional letter in every way.

Item ID: 2597
($11,500.00) save 30%  $8,050

View this listing on our website
HILL, DAVID OCTAVIUS & ROBERT ADAMSON

Salt print, unmounted, “Prayer,” 6.25 x 8.5.” This photograph was included in Hill and Adamson’s, “An Early Victorian Album: The Photographic Masterpieces (1843–1847) of David Octavius Hill and Robert Adamson.” We include the reprint from the book. Our salt print is likely trimmed and evenly faded, still very good.

David Brewster taught Adamson the calotype process along with Adamson’s brother John. Trained as a chemist, Adamson established a photography studio which the painter, D. O. Hill joined. Known as Hill & Adamson, the studio was in existence between 1843-47. Adamson’s untimely death ended the successful partnership. In the short life of their studio, they produced close to 3000 images. Regarded as pioneers in photography, they explored the artistic elements of photography, particularly portraiture. The work of Hill and Adamson continues to be admired.

Item ID: 4180 ($3,200.00) save 25% $2,400

View this listing on our website

JACKSON, WILLIAM HENRY

“I HAD INTENDED DELIVERING THIS LITTLE PICTURE PERSONALLY…”

(1843–1942) American photographer and explorer most famous for his photographs of the American West.


Jackson likely writes to Martin S. Garretson, (1866-1955), known for his study of and advocacy for the American bison, also depicted in Garretson’s moving photogravures. Jackson begins the letter to Garretson. “Otherwise a ‘Sinful Maverick’: I had intended delivering this little picture personally...but an urgent request from Wyoming to be out there for some sort of an affair this coming week, will keep me so busy...that I must rely upon the mail to do the work for me...” Jackson then hopes his picture would find, “a place among the other ‘old timers’ ...” He signs, “W. H. Jackson,” and in parentheses adds, “(Pawnee Bill?)” Garretson was called the “Sinful Maverick,” and given the age difference between the two men, Jackson would be the old timer.

From 1870 to 1878 Jackson was the official photographer for the United States Geological and Geographical Survey of the Territories. His photographs of the natural beauty of northwestern Wyoming, taken during the Hayden survey expedition of 1871, were exhibited in the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. and credited with having influenced the U.S. Congress to establish Yellowstone National Park in 1872. After he retired in 1924 from commercial photography, he traveled back to Wyoming for public appearances. In his official retirement, Jackson returned to painting on Western themes. It is possible that our letter was written during this later period and the picture Jackson mentions is a painting for Garretson. Martin Garretson, as a young man, traveled West to work as a rancher at the time the bison population was becoming depleted due to expanding settlements on the American plains. Garretson sought to reverse the decimation of the bison herds and eventually became one of the founders of the American Bison Society. He later served as its Secretary and eventually headed the department of Heads and Horns at the Bronx Zoo. During that time, he conducted the majority of the research for his book “The American Bison” (New York, 1938), which remains a standard reference on the species. Jackson’s self reference as “Pawnee Bill?”, the American showman, suggests association to the showman of the same name as well as to his photographs of the Pawnee tribe.
JACKSON, WILLIAM HENRY
(continued)

KENNEDY, ROBERT F.

Item ID: 4042
($1,100.00) save 22%  $858

View this listing on our website


Bust length Photograph Signed and inscribed, gelatin silver print by photographer Philippe Halsman, 4to, n.p.

This Halsman portrait shows Robert F. Kennedy looking directly at the camera. It is inscribed, “For Marc (?) With Best Wishes, Robert Kennedy.” According to the Library of Congress this image was created and published by “Philippe Halsman between 1960 and 1968. Slight smudging from pen around inscription and half of the signature. Photographer’s stamp visible in lower right portion of image.

Item ID: 4282
($850.00) save 20%  $680

View this listing on our website
LEWIS, CLIVE STAPLES
known as C.S. LEWIS


Autograph Letter Signed, on 12mo lined note paper, Magdalen College, Oxford, Oct. 10, 1942

Written to Mr. Kirkby, Lewis explains that his R. A. F. commitments cause him to decline future invitations.”...I shall then be in the last (and most hectic) week of term... and even in the vacation, I am so heavily committed to the R. A. F. that I can do little else. With much regret....” He signs, “C. S. Lewis.”

Lewis’ brief letter alludes to his tour of R.A.F. bases to give talks on Christianity, an outgrowth of his popular BBC broadcasts between 1941-1944. These broadcasts formed the basis for his book, “Mere Christianity.” The BBC radio occurred in four series, beginning August 6, 1941 and ending April 4, 1944, and prior to the broadcasts, his work with the RAF began on April 9, 1941. The Screwtape Letters” (1942) first appeared in book form in February, of the year of this letter, 1942.

Item ID: 2314
($3,200.00) save 21%  $2,528

View this listing on our website

McCORMICK, CYRUS HALL

(1809–1884) American inventor and industrialist. In 1831 he invented a successful reaping machine.

Manuscript and Printed Document Signed, Oblong 8vo, New York, March 11, 1867.

This is an uncommon bank check drawn on the “The National Park Bank” for $86.00. Signed, “C.H. McCormick”. Condition: Fine condition with typical aging and punch hole at cancellation mark edge.

Item ID: 26
($275.00) save 40%  $165

View this listing on our website
MILLS BROTHERS

Popular and influential singing quartet. The original members of the singing group were: John C. Jr. [replaced by the father of the group John “Skipper” in 1936 after John Jr. died] bass vocalist and guitarist, Herbert tenor, Harry Flood baritone, and Donald lead tenor.

Signed Photograph, 7.5x9 trimmed margin, gelatin silver print.

The publicity photograph shows the singers posed in a group, looking at the camera, and each with a slight smile. An inscription in the upper left reads, “To...Our most sincere wishes to you always Good Luck. Respectfully, Mills Bros.” Each has signed with first name on his image. The signatures of Larry, Herbert and “Skipper” are light. The photographer’s stamp on verso reads, “Rose Joseph Publicity Warner Bros. Sunset Studio...Hollywood, California....”

The Mills Brothers, sometimes billed as The Four Mills Brothers, and originally known as The Four Kings of Harmony, were an American jazz and pop vocal quartet who made more than 2,000 recordings that combined sold more than 50 million copies and garnered at least three dozen gold records. The Mills Brothers were inducted into The Vocal Group Hall of Fame in 1998. Duke Ellington discovered the group in 1928 in Cincinnati and launched them on their long career.

Item ID: 4113
($400.00) save 20%  $320

View this listing on our website

MONDRIAN, PIET

I DON'T LIKE TO COME WITH OLD WORKS AT A SUCH [SIC] IMPORTANT EXHIBIT.

(1872–1944) Dutch artist, contributor to the De Stijl art movement and group, and developed a non-representational art form he termed neoplasticism.

Rare Autograph Letter Signed, in English, 2 pp on one 8vo sheet, accompanying signed envelope postmarked, New York, Feb. 28, 1943.

Mondrian explains his reason not to participate in an American Abstract Artists (AAA) exhibition. To AAA, founding member Gertrude Greene (1904 – 1956), Mondrian writes, “I am glad to hear you and [Balcomb] both are well. I shall send the $4 dues to Mr. Cavallon. I am very sorry about not showing at the A.A.A. but I don't like to come with old works at a such [sic] important exhibit. Harry Holtzman is still in Kansas waiting for the service, I think. I did not hear from them. Hoping to meet you again at the opening A.A.A....”. Gertrude and husband Balcomb Greene (1904-90) were active proponents of Abstract Art working with the AAA committee. Gertrude, an abstract painter and sculptor, worked as a gallery attendant at the AAAs first annual exhibition and was the group’s first paid employee. Balcomb served as the first president of the AAA whose members included Willem De Kooning, Ad Reinhardt, Lee Krasner, Holtzman who like Mondrian emigrated to the US. Signed “Piet Mondrian,” and again.”P. Mondrian,” in the envelope’s return address The letter is slightly trimmed at the bottom edge.

The American Abstract Artists was formed in 1936 in New York City and through its exhibitions, publications, and lectures advanced the understanding of the new art. Harry Holtzman (1912 – 1987) was an American artist and founding member of the AAA. He was executor of Mondrian’s Estate and in 1983 co-edited a volume of Mondrian’s complete essays. During the German Blitz of London in 1940, Holtzman arranged for Mondrian to come to New York, where he arrived that October. Giorgio Cavallon (1904–1989) was a founding member of the AAA and a pioneer Abstract Expressionist.

Item ID: 4140
($9,350.00) save 22%  $7,293

View this listing on our website
MUNCH, EDVARD

(1863–1944) Norwegian artist and precursor to the Expressionist movement. His most well known work is “The Scream.”

Scarce Autograph Letter Signed, in German, on small 8vo stationery card, “Sköien near Kristiania,” n.d. but most likely late 1916.

Munch subscribes to a new art magazine featuring him in its first issue. Munch requests a subscription to “Das Kunstdblatt,” the new art magazine which published an article about him in its first issue. At the end of our art association letter, he signs in full, “Edvard Munch.” Translated in full, “Dear Sir, I would like to subscribe to Kunstdblatt [Art Journal] for one year and would like to start my subscription with the first issue. Respectfully, Edvard Munch Sköien near Kristiania.” “Das Kunstdblatt” is a German art magazine, published in Weimar by Paul Westheim from 1917 until 1933. It was an important and influential periodical on contemporary art. The first issue came out in January of 1917 and in it was an article on Munch written by Gustav Schiefler, with whom Munch had a correspondence over a long period of time, from 1902 to 1935. Schiefler wrote the authoritative catalogue of Munch’s graphic work, “Verzeichnis des Graphischen Werks Edvard Munchs bis 1906” (published in Berlin in 1907). Munch’s request to “start my subscription with the first issue” suggests that he was writing just before the publication of the first issues which was in January of 1917, hence the date of this letter being late 1916 or possibly very early 1917. That, in addition to his having purchased and moved into his home at Ekely at Skoien near Kristiania in 1916. Munch bought the Ekely property at Skoien (or Skoyen) on the outskirts of Oslo which was, at the time, called Kristiana. It was called Kristiana and spelled with the “K” from 1877 until 1925 when it became known as Oslo. He lived at Ekely for the rest of his life. It was also in 1916 that the decorations for the University Aula were completed, at which point Munch began to have large outdoor studios built on his property for his large paintings., Munch built onto Ekely to the point of it being a nearly self-sufficient estate. Munch letters are scarce.

Sehr geehrter Herr Ich möchte gern auf Kunstblatt für ein Jahr abonnieren und möchte auch gern der Abonnement schon erste Monat anfangen. Mit vorzüglicher Hochachtung Edvard Munch Sköien n Kristiania ------ Dear Sir, I would like to subscribe to Kunstblatt [Art Journal] for one year and would like to start my subscription with the first issue. Respectfully, Evard Munch Sköien near Kristiania

Item ID: 4234
($6,900.00) save 20%  $5,520

View this listing on our website
PEALE, REMBRANDT


Peale refers to his painting, “Portrait of a Young Man.” He is likely writing to John Durand, painter and son of artist Asher B. Durand. John Durand co-founded a cultural and art periodical called, “The Crayon,” published from Jan 3, 1855 to July 1861. Peale writes, “After you left me this morning it occurred to me that possibly in your next number you would give a few words on the Exhibition here - In this case you might say that it contained nothing from my pencil, & that I preferred to send a portrait, my last work in my 80th Year, to the New York Academy.... which I have done - That of a Young Man.” Nicely signed, “Rembrandt Peale.” Peale had settled in Philadelphia by the time he wrote this letter, and that city is likely the place to which he refers regarding the Exhibition. Letters of Peale mentioning one of his works are particularly uncommon.

Item ID: 925 ($1,500.00) save 40% $900

PINEL, PHILIPPE

(1745–1826) French physician. A founder of psychiatry who pioneered humane treatment of the insane and considered insanity to be a result of psychological and physiological causes.

Third person Autograph Letter Signed, in French, 8vo, n.p., July 17, n.y.

“Mr. Pinel leaves on Saturday or Sunday for the countryside. He will not be able to have an interview with Mr. Hédouin before next Tuesday at the Salpêtrière Hospital, about eleven in the morning. He is very sorry for the delay of this appointment. This Friday, the 17th of July.” Pinel was a doctor at the Salpetriere Hospital where he formulated his ideas on treating patients who were diagnosed as insane. Autograph material of Pinel has always been scarce and desirable.

Item ID: 232 ($950.00) save 40% $570

View this listing on our website
PORTER, COLE

“I HAVE A COLOSSAL HIT ON MY HANDS CALLED SEVEN LIVELY ARTS.”

(1891–1964) American composer and songwriter. His works include the musicals, “Kiss Me Kate”, and “Anything Goes”, as well as the standards “Night and Day”, “I Get A Kick Out of You”, and “I’ve Got You Under My Skin”.

Typed Letter Signed, 4to, on “The Barclay” hotel stationery, Philadelphia, Nov. 29, 1944.

Porter exclaims to his friend, actor Monty Woolley (1888-1963), that he has “a colossal hit on my hands called Seven Lively Arts.”

Nine days before Porter’s new musical opens, he writes our lizvely letter to stage director, actor and close friend, Monty Woolley (1888-1963). Woolley is best remembered for his Academy Award nominated role in “The Man Who Came to Dinner,” (1942). He also played himself in the Warner Brothers biography of Cole Porter, “Night and Day,” (1946). In friendship, Porter had satirized Woolley earlier in, “Let’s Face It.” In our letter, Porter calls his good friend, “Beard,” Woolley’s nickname. “Beard…Your wire dated November 25th, just arrived. I have studied its contents for hours but I don’t get it. I thought Tennyson said that years ago. I know you will be very bored to hear that I have a colossal hit on my hands called SEVEN LIVELY ARTS. I stuck your name in one of the lyrics last night just to keep your memory alive…” He signs, “Love, Cole.”

The “Seven Lively Arts” musical revue Porter refers to opened on Broadway on December 7, 1944. He was in Philadelphia for tryouts which began Nov. 24. Paper evenly browned.

Item ID: 2452 ($1,400.00) save 22% $1,092

View this listing on our website

ROOSEVELT, FRANKLIN DELANO

(1882–1945) 32nd President of the United States (1933–45), Governor of New York (1929–32).


Written to the Director of the Women’s Division of the Democratic National Committee, Dorothy McAllister, whom Roosevelt addresses as “Mrs. Thomas McAllister,” the President indicates that, “I was much interested in looking over the ‘Rainbow Fliers’, prepared by the Women’s Division,” assures her that her, “statements...will have every consideration when the question of filling the vacancy on the Air Safety Board is taken up...” Signed boldly in full, “Franklin D. Roosevelt.” FDR wrote this letter 4 days before the mid-term elections of 1938 brought more Republicans and anti-New Dealers into Congress. The letter bears the receipt date stamp of the “Democratic National Committee” of Nov. 3, 1938, with hand written correction to Nov. 4. The “Rainbow Fliers” were documents prepared by the Democratic National Committee Women’s Division to promote the Roosevelt’s New Deal policies and programs. The goal was to educate the public directly about issues ranging from tariffs, to home insurance, relief, civil service, farmers. Dorothy McAllister took over as Director of the Women’s Division in the spring of 1937. A fine letter showing the relationship of President Roosevelt to the Women’s Division of the Democratic National Committee.

FDR’s correspondent, Dorothy (Mrs. Thomas) McAllister was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention from Michigan in 1936 (as well as an alternate in 1944). Along with her, as a delegate from the state of Idaho, was Mrs. Frank Johnesse. Mrs. Johnesse, also a Democrat, worked tirelessly to get FDR elected and then reelected to the presidency in her home state of Idaho. She was an active member of the Columbia Club. In the January 1919 issue of The Woman Citizen; The Woman’s Journal; A Journal of Democracy, an article notes that “In Idaho, Mrs. Mary Gray Brewer, of Staten Island, representing the National American Woman Suffrage Association has gotten together a ‘ratification committee’ made up of a group of the most representative women in the state.” Among these women was Mrs. Frank Johnesse, “President of the Columbia Club.” “Western Women (abridged, annotated)” by Mary Osborne Douthit notes that “The Woman’s Columbia Club came into existence in 1892, when some... Boise, Idaho decided to furnish the Idaho building at the Colum-
bia Exposition in Chicago in 1893. After this good work was completed these women decided that the club should continue...establish and maintain a circulating library...take up any line of work which shall be designed to promote the highest interests of the city.” Mrs. Johnesse was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention from Idaho in 1936 along with Dorothy McAllister, and as an alternate in 1940. The former Mayme Patten of Montrose, Iowa, she married Frank Johnesse and had her first child in 1910 [See_politicalgraveyard.com]. Mr. Johnesse was the Manager of Lark Mining Co. in the Wood River District of Southern Idaho. In 1920 he was a Democratic candidate for State Inspector of Mines [See Washington State University Libraries document detail, a piece cut from the Spokane Chronicle, August 3, 1920]. The FDR Library [fdrlibrary.marist.edu] notes papers of the Women's Division of the Democratic National Committee 1933-1944 containing information on Mrs. Frank Johnesse from 1933-35 and under Idaho again, for 1934-36. The Spokane Daily Chronicle for February 7, 1936 has an article headed “Report Idaho Democrats Have Success in Enlisting Women Voters.” Mrs. Johnesse was very active in getting the women's votes for FDR. She organized women to vote as the Democratic State Chairman. Clearly someone who worked to get FDR elected and reelected, and clearly known to Mrs. McAllister, Johnesse must have been known to FDR, spearheading his campaign in Idaho as Democratic State Chairman and delegate to the Convention. The Air Safety Board was established, under Civil Aeronautics Authority oversight, by the Civil Aeronautics Act in June 23, 1938. The Act made rules governing notification and reporting of accidents involving aircraft and the investigation of these accidents the duty of the Air Safety Board. The Board consisted of three members, appointed by the President. By 1940, the Senate had voted to combine the Civil Aeronautics Authority and the Air Safety Board into the Civil Aeronautics Board. So, it would seem that no vacancy actually occurred as there is no record of Mrs. Johnesse being appointed to that board.

President Roosevelt considers the politics of appointing a district attorney. Typed Letter Signed as President with holograph correction, on White House stationery, 1 page 4to folded sheet, Washington, D. C., October 14, 1905.

President Roosevelt writes to Judge George C. Holt (1843-1931), nominated by Roosevelt and confirmed as US District Judge in New York to discuss the politics of a district attorney-ship. The President also makes reference to William Howard Taft (1857-1930) 27th US President and 10th Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, who served at the time as Secretary of War; Elihu Root (1845-1937) who served as Secretary of State at the time of our letter; William Henry Moody (1853-1917) Attorney General when Roosevelt wrote this letter then Associate Justice of the Supreme Court in December 1906. Roosevelt writes, “Whitney has written Secretary Taft a strong protest against Morris. If you are willing, as this district attorney-ship is a very important matter, I shall ask you and Judge Townsend to come on here early in November...when I can have Secretary Root and Attorney General Moody here....” Roosevelt crosses out “here” and hand writes, “to meet you,” above. He wants to find out what Root and Moody think.” Signed in a strong hand, “Theodore Roosevelt.” The reference to Judge Townsend is likely to William Kneeland Townsend whom Roosevelt promoted in 1902 to the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. Horizontal fold.
SEEGER, PETE

"WHEN WILL WE EVER LEARN"


Seeger has penned, “When will we ever learn,” the first two bars with lyrics of the refrain from his well known song, “Where Have All the Flowers Gone.” (1955) He wrote the music on a First Day Cover honoring American Music and the fiftieth anniversary of ASCAP. Attractive for display.

Seeger wrote the original three verses for “Where Have All the Flowers Gone,” in 1955 and Joe Hickerson added the fourth and fifth verses in 1960. Seeger recorded the song in 1964, released as a single by Columbia Records. It has been recorded by many folk singers since and listed as one of the top political songs by the British publication, the “New Statesman,” in 2010. The lines penned here are a classic in folk music.

Item ID: 2514
($1,100.00) save 21%  $869

View this listing on our website

SEUSS, DR.

[THEODOR GEISEL]


Original Drawing Signed, oblong 8vo., n.p., n.d.

On a First Day of Issue envelope, Dr. Seuss has drawn a sketch of a fish outlined in ink and colored in with pink pencil. The envelope honors film maker D. W. Griffith “motion picture pioneer.” The signature appears to the right of the drawing, “Best Wishes...Dr. Seuss.” A charming sketch.

Item ID: 4308
($500.00) save 25%  $375

View this listing on our website
STEIN, GERTRUDE

STEIN SUPPORTS THE “CARMEN – GI VERSION,” A U.S. ARMY TROOP ENTERTAINMENT SHOW PUT ON BY SOLDIERS FOR ARMY SOLDIERS.

(1874–1946) American writer. Resident of Paris from 1905 when her home was a salon for leading writers and artists.


Stein supports the production in Paris of “Carmen – GI version,” a U.S. army troop entertainment show put on by soldiers for army soldiers. The story of this show is revealed by its surviving members. Joe Pollock [the Mr. Pollock of Stein's letter], a retired Philadelphia High School principal and member of the 63rd Infantry Division, along with others in the 63rd, put together a show “right after the military madness of World War II ended in Europe... [when] peace caught them unawares in the south German town of Tuberbischofsheim.” Pollock recalled, “While we were waiting to get shipped to the Pacific to fight the Japanese [which they never did get to], El Stinko and me and a few other malcontents decided to put on a show to entertain the guys.

Stein writes to American Captain Rago at the office of the Military Attaché, American Embassy. She introduces the Captain to the show's writers and stars in order to get the US military to support the show's production in Paris and the US. “This is to introduce Pollack and Carmen of the Carmen show. I saw it the other night and I think they do get the indecency, the gaiety, and the sadness, and I think it is very important that it should be given again in Paris and America, but they have plans but they want a little conversation and suggestion and I am sending them to you because I think you can give them some of both, w/ pleasure.” Signed, “Always, Gertrude Stein.” With holograph envelope that was most probably hand delivered. Tape stains on verso at corners and one small corner tear.

Our letter is paired with a print of the well known photograph by Cecil Beaton of Stein with her life partner Alice B. Toklas taken in 1938, in a wallpapered room, at 5 rue Christine, Stein's second salon in Paris.

The story is told by John Corr in an article titled “A Tough Act To Follow,” for Philly.com ([articles.philly.com/1987-10-23/news/26212560_1_reunion-town-hall-show]. Corr reports what veteran soldiers told him about Gertrude Stein. “Literary salon-keepers Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas caught the show in Paris and invited producer Pollock and a few others for ‘tea and gingerbread’. The Stein-Toklas appraisal of the performance was a rave: ‘Killing, Killing, Killing.’” The soldiers described the Carmen show. “That slapped-together show ran for seven months, and was the big hit of the 1945 European Theater season.” When Pollock met with Corr and a half dozen other survivors in Philadelphia in 1987, Corr reported that it was the “first full-scale reunion of the cast of “Carmen – GI version, circa 1945.” Included in the cast was jazz guitarist Charlie Byrd. The performers said they just wanted to get out of the pup tents and mud, so they started this show. “We were supposed to do just three shows at the town hall in Tuberbischofsheim... then somebody from division saw the act, and, first thing we knew, we were on the road,” one of the performers told Corr. On the road meant 143 shows in seven months in Germany, France and Italy. The performers told Corr the show was mostly burlesque, with hilarious, irreverent acts, and gave them all a cheerful camaraderie. Stein likely wrote our letter in 1945 after she went back to Paris from Culoz. She left Culoz in December of 1944. In a published letter from Stein to Carl Van Vechten (“The Letters of Gertrude Stein and Carl Van Vechten 1913-1946” by Edward Burns) postmarked 3 Jan. 1945, Stein says they had just moved back to Paris. Our research did not reveal additional information about Captain Rago, Stein's correspondent.

**Item ID: 2146**

($4,100.00) save 20% $3,280

View this listing on our website
STEINBECK, JOHN

“MY OWN WORK SAILS ALONG LIKE A TRUCK...
MY NOVEL AND TO A CERTAIN EXTENT, MY LIFE IS OVER”

(1902–68) American novelist. Best remembered for novels about agricultural workers, such as “Of Mice and Men” and “Grapes of Wrath”. Also wrote “Cannery Row,” “East of Eden” and “The Sea of Cortez”. Won the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1962.

Autograph Letter Signed, 3 separate pp folio on yellow lined paper, Aug. 16, [1951].

To Bill [the artist William Ward Beecher, 1921-2006] thanking him for sending a painting of yellow roses and offering his opinion of it. “I myself think it is your best... Last night we sat [Steinbeck and his third wife, Elaine] and were looking at the roses and I suddenly knew what you are doing and why you are a great painter. You are not painting reality any more than an abstractionist is but you are taking the physical through its ultimate reality and beyond. The roses are great not because you can ‘pick’ them out of the frame but because you could not for they are the thought about roses and the emotion about roses set down to be permanent....” Steinbeck then discusses his own work. “My own work sails along like a truck... I have only one more book – the 4th to do and my novel and to a certain extent, my life is over... I think I am not going to be ashamed of it.” He is referring to “East of Eden,” his last novel, which he was working on at the time. He states, “I am reluctant to finish it because it will be like a kind of death....” Signed, “John.” With envelope addressed by hand, signed with his full name, and postmarked Aug 16, 1951, Siasconset, Massachusetts. The envelope is browned at the edges and torn where opened along the edge opposite to Steinbeck’s return address; rust mark from paper clip on first page.

William Ward Beecher (1921-2006) lived and worked in Connecticut and New York and was a leading exponent of the School of “Trompe L’Oeil.”

Item ID: 2533
($4,500.00) save 30%  $3,150

View this listing on our website

THOMAS, DYLAN

“MY FATHER DIED TODAY”

(1914–1953) Welsh poet who wrote exclusively in English. In addition to poetry, he wrote short stories and scripts for film and radio, which he often performed himself. His public readings, particularly in America, won him great acclaim; his sonorous voice with a subtle Welsh lilt became almost as famous as his works. His best-known works include the “play for voices” Under Milk Wood and the celebrated poem for his dying father, Do not go gentle into that good night.


He writes to family friend Mary Davies on the day of his father’s death. “You will, I know, be very sorry to hear that my father died today. It was a very peaceful death. You will excuse my mother not writing personally to you, at this moment. She is bearing up, however, wonderfully well, and sends her fondest love to you....” He signs with the familiar, “Dylan.” With hand written envelope.

One of Thomas's most famous poems, “Do not go gentle into that good night,” was written by the poet on the impending death of his father. Thomas's father died at age 76 of cancer. He taught English at Swansea Grammar School where Dylan himself had gone to school. Thomas attributed his attraction to poetry to his father. This brief moving letter associates the poet not only to his famous poem but also with his complex relationship with his father.

Item ID: 2156
($5,625.00) save 20%  $4,500

View this listing on our website
THURBER, JAMES

“THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY”

(1894–1961) American humorist and cartoonist. Thurber was best known for his contributions, both cartoons and short stories, to “The New Yorker” magazine, and for “The Secret Life of Walter Mitty,” (1939) his most famous short story.

Typed Letter Signed, 4to, West Cornwall, Connecticut, March 8, 1956.

He writes in full, “I would be very glad to become a member of the Honorary Committee of the American Theatre Wing for the presentation of the ‘Tonys’, and trust that this letter does not arrive too late. I was unable to answer it before now....” He signs in full in a bold hand in pencil, “James Thurber”. This is a memorable letter for its theater association. Three repairs with tape on verso to fold tears, two at left margins, third at the bottom. Some soiling.

This letter was written in the year his collection of fables, “Further Fables for Our Time” was published (1956). In 1960, Thurber’ play, “A Thurber Carnival” received a Tony Awards Special Award recognizing Thurber as writer and Burgess Meredith as director.

Item ID: 1187 ($1,050.00) save 25% $787.50

View this listing on our website

TROVA, ERNEST

Group of Eleven A.L.S., with envelopes, nine 4to; two 8vo; one 12mo, Saint Louis, MO, 1967-1971.


Letters sent to Lola Pergament in NY about art items popularized by comic characters (roll paper, watches, postages), which Trova was interested to buy for his collection. Letters signed in full, “Ernest Trova.” “Thanks for informing me of the Mickey+Donald wall paper. Could I have a roll of each...”

The letter on personal stationery, dated on Oct 12, 1971 reads, “Any way I do hope you will let me know if you can find me also items, movie star jewelry, rings, bracelets, necklaces of Frank Sinatra, Elvis Presley etc....”; The letter dated on Oct 22, 1967 reads, “...I am interested in buying Mickey Mouse watches, Shirley Temple wrist watch...”; Letter of March 29, 1968 reads, “...I will wait till you find the radio items to complete my collection...”; Letter on Nov 13, 1967 reads, “Thank you for Buck pin.... I do want the Duck Tracy pin...”; Letter on Nov 2, 1967 reads, “...I would also be interested in a Tom Mix ring and other small items popularized by comic characters of the 1930’s...”; Letter dated July 22, 1968 reads, “Thank you for informing me of the Mickey + Donald wall paper. Could I have a roll of each...”; Letter of Dec 4, 1968 reads, “Dear... thank you for writing. I do have these two rolls but I will use them for trade include $ 12.00 + postage...”.

Some of Trova’s first art was acquired by the collections of the Guggenheim Museum and the Museum of Modern Art in New York City, as well as by the St. Louis Art Museum in his hometown and by the Tate Gallery in London.

Item ID: 1837 ($650.00) save 40% $390

View this listing on our website
WODEHOUSE, P. G.

“I WOULDN’T TURN A KNIGHT OUT ON A DOG LIKE THIS....”

(1881–1975) [PELHAM GRENVILLE] British author known for his humorous writings centered around upper-class British life before World War, and particularly for his characters Bertie Wooster and his butler Jeeves.


He writes a light hearted letter which includes a well known joke. “You like my little stories, do ya? Oh, glory hallelujah! I thought the shaggy dog story fine. Did you hear the one about the knight in the middle ages who was riding along on his charger and there was a terrible storm and his charger got struck by lightning and the knight went to a peasants’ [sic] cottage near by and said he would like to borrow a horse. The peasant said he hadn’t got a horse, only the large mongrel dog... ‘You can ride that if you like,’ he said, and the peasant’s wife was quite shocked. ‘I wouldn’t turn a knight out on a dog like this,’ she said....” He signs boldly, “P. G. Wodehouse.” He adds that, “No secretary. The above is my own unaided work.” Two tiny punch holes visible in lower corners, slight soiling at edges.

Item ID: 2371
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