A Dozen New Acquisitions from Private Collections

THE EXTREMELY RARE SECOND AMERICAN COLOR PLATE BOOK

1. BIRCH, WILLIAM R. The Country Seats of the United States of North America, with Some Scenes Connected with Them. Springland near Bristol, Pa.: W. Birch, enamel painter, 1808 [i.e., 1809]. Oblong folio (225 x 285 mm.). 4 letterpress leaves, 20 hand colored engraved copper plates (complete). Marbled paper-covered boards, leather title label on front board, straight-grain red morocco gilt spine and corners (very skillfully rebacked). Light marginal foxing on the first letterpress leaf and a light dampstain at the extreme fore-edge of the last three letterpress leaves, else a remarkably fine, fresh copy, with the plates clean and bright and lovely. Contemporary ownership signature of Ann Rouse on title leaf. $100,000

First edition of the second American color plate book, and a considerable rarity, missing from most institutional and private collections of early American color plate books. In 1800 William Birch had produced the first American color plate book, The City of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania North America, as it Appeared in the Year 1800. The work was a great success, in spite of its high price, and it gave Birch the encouragement he needed to continue. Sadly, Country Seats, issued a little over eight years later, was a commercial failure. While the Philadelphia work captured the civic pride and enthusiasm of a young nation, Country Seats, argued Philadelphia iconography authority Martin Snyder, "was much more a work born of Birch's individual background, ambitions, and failures. It was, in fact, the product of a desire to raise the prevailing levels of taste in homes and of a desire to identify himself with the leisurely and wealthy life externally portrayed in his pictures."
The twenty color plates, a combination of line and stipple engraving and delicate coloring, depict gentlemen's country estates in Pennsylvania, Virginia, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, and Louisiana. Relatively few complete copies of the book survive. The last copy sold at public auction was the Martin Snyder/Jay Snider copy, Bloomsbury New York, 2008, $90,000 all in. The present copy has remained in a private Philadelphia collection for the last seventy-five years. Most copies of the book suffer from considerable offsetting of the images onto the facing leaves. In this copy the offsetting is negligible. M. Snyder, "William Birch his Country Seats of the United States," Pennsylvania Magazine of History & Biography 81 (3); Howes B-460; Reese, Stamped with a National Character, 2.

ABRAHAM CLARK SURVEYS HIS NEIGHBOR'S PROPERTY

2. CLARK, ABRAHAM (1726-1794; Signer of the Declaration of Independence). Autograph document signed, [Elizabethtown, N.J.], 29 May 1772. Two pages, folio. Being a survey map and a full metes-and-bounds description of the property, entirely in Clark's hand and boldly signed and dated by him under the map. Folds professionally and almost invisibly strengthened, else fine and lovely. $4,500

☐ Before becoming a self-taught lawyer and ultimately entering politics, Abraham Clark was a surveyor. Here he surveys a 78-acre tract of land, adjoining his own land, that was owned by Daniel Ross and was being sold to Moses DeCamp. On the front of the document Clark has drawn a simple map of the land, indicating the course of each side and showing a public easement of a two-rod-wide road running diagonally through the land. A statement of the size of the tract and the easement appears at the center. At the bottom Clark has boldly written: "A Survey of Daniel Ross's Land, sold to Moses DeCamp. Survey'd May 29th, 1772. By Abra: Clark," with Clark's large paraph beneath the signature. On the verso, entirely in Clark's hand, is a full metes-and-bounds description of the property (about 200 words), naming all the surrounding landowners, including himself twice. On the bottom half of the verso, in an unidentified hand, is a docket title, a record of payments made through 1773, and various figures and calculations.

In over forty years of specializing in New Jerseyana, we have never seen an Abraham Clark survey, nor were we able to locate one having been sold at auction in those same years. Good Clark documents are increasingly rare on the market, and a 1772 survey and map of his neighbor's land, entirely in his hand, is quite significant.

THE GETTYSBURG ADDRESS

3. (GETTYSBURG BATTLEFIELD). Everett, Edward. Address of the Hon. Edward Everett, at the Consecration of the National Cemetery at Gettysburg, 19th November, 1863.... Boston, 1864. 87, [1] p. 2 maps, errata slip. Publisher's cloth. Three one-inch pieces of spine cloth chipped off, front free endpaper gone, offsetting from the folding map. $800

**A LOVELY 1802 FEDERALIST**


The revised and corrected second edition of arguably the most famous, and influential, American political work. Written by Alexander Hamilton in collaboration with John Jay and James Madison, *The Federalist* was originally published in 1788. To this edition is added the Constitution and the first eleven amendments as well as a series of articles by Hamilton under the pseudonym "Pacificus." For the first time the authors are identified, in the preface, but the specific contributions of each are not indicated. A contemporary owner has pasted on the front endpaper a small newspaper cutting identifying the individual contributions. A lovely copy--the nicest we have ever had. S&S 2218; Howes H114.

**SPORTS AND PASTIMES: 1684**


First edition of a highly popular work on early sports and pastimes that would ultimately pass through several later editions. Schwerdt I, p. 225; Westwood & Satchell p. 110; Wing H3194; ESTC 4841.
JEFFERSON'S NOTES ON VIRGINIA

6. JEFFERSON, THOMAS. *Notes on the State of Virginia*. London: For John Stockdale, 1787. [4], 382 p. Large folding map hand colored in outline, folding table. Modern antique-style calf, very skillfully rebound in exact style of the original binding and retaining the original spine label. Gutter and top of title leaf soiled and darkened, second leaf lightly soiled and verso with offsetting from the adjacent map, else a very attractive copy with almost no foxing. The map has one neat and very early short repaired tear on the verso else is clean and largely free of foxing and offsetting.

$28,000

□ First English edition of one of Jefferson's most important printed works. Largely written in 1781 and first published in Paris, in French, in 1785, this London edition is the book's first appearance in English. The very handsome map, engraved by Samuel J. Neele, is based on the Joshua Fry and Peter Jefferson map of Virginia and, like that map, depicts parts of the surrounding states. The evolution of Jefferson's text, and its publication history, is told in considerable detail in Millicent Sowerby's catalogue of Jefferson's library. Howes J78; Clark I, 262; ESTC T147402.

COUNTRY RECREATIONS IN 1664


$700

□ Tenth edition, corrected and enlarged. Wing M624; ESTC R41332, recording only three copies: two in England and one in the U.S. (NN).

ONLY TWO RECORDED COPIES


$900

□ A very rare St. Louis strangers guide. OCLC records but two copies, both on the East Coast (MH, MWA).
THE GREAT DESOBRY MAP OF THE MORRIS CANAL, 1827

9. (MORRIS CANAL--MAP). Line of the Morris Canal, New Jersey, 1827 [signed:] "P. Desobry, fecit." New York: Imbert's Lith., [1827]. 7 1/8 x 16 1/2 in. (neatline measure) plus full margins (deckles on three sides). Original outline hand coloring. Single central vertical and horizontal folds very skillfully and almost imperceptibly strengthened on verso, very faint darkening along folds, but a remarkably bright copy on a fully untrimmed halfsheet. $4000

The extremely rare Prosper Desobry map of the fledgling Morris Canal, depicting the full length of the canal from the Passaic River at Newark to the Delaware River at Easton, passing through Essex, Bergen, Morris, Sussex, and Warren Counties. Depicted, in addition to town names, are forges and furnaces "Now in Operation," forges and furnaces "In Ruins," and "Factories and Mills of any Kind that use water power." This is the most attractive, and most desirable, map of the Morris Canal, as well as the rarest. In more than four decades of specializing in New Jerseyana, this is only the second copy we have handled.

ONLY ONE LOCATED COPY, IN GERMANY


Apparently the only edition, with no corresponding American printing. The work describes a fire in the home of a German-American textile manufacturer and the heroic actions of a young maid who, along with her five-year-old charge, were trapped in the cellar for five days before being rescued. The text concludes with a lengthy ballad beginning: "Merk auf, o Mensch, und stehe still,"... which
summarizes the event. OCLC records only a single copy, at the Berlin Staatsbib-liothek.

**SOUTH CAROLINA BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER, 1808, IN A CONTEMPORARY GILT EXTRA BINDING**


In 1808 New York bookseller David Longworth shared an edition of the Book of Common Prayer with Charleston printer and bookseller William P. Young. The printer of the text has not been identified. Longworth, who favored elegant productions, had several plates engraved for the edition by Benjamin Tanner, and the plates boldly bear Longworth's name: "Published by D. Longworth." The book could be ordered with or, as here, without plates, and in plain or, as here, extra binding. Page [225], second sequence, contains a full-page advertisement for William P. Young's "wholesale and retale [sic] book-store, 41 Broad Street, Charleston." S&S 16006/14507 records the NN copy only; OCLC adds three additional copies: MWA, N, and ScU; Griffiths 1808/17 records the NN copy. Early Southern imprints in gilt extra bindings are quite rare.

**VERY EARLY ANGLING TREATISE: 1668**

12. [VENABLES, ROBERT]. *The Experienc'd Angler: or, Angling Improv'd. Being a General Discourse of Angling. Imparting the Aptest Wayes and Choicest Experiments for the Taking of most Sorts of Fish in Pond or River.* London: For Richard Marriot, 1668. 8vo. [14], 95, [7] p. Ten text engravings of fish. Lacks added engraved title. Mid-nineteenth century calf, very skillfully rebacked retaining gilt-decorated spine. Top margin trimmed a bit close to the running heads but all are unaffected, title leaf and leaves containing the engraved fish a trifle soiled, but a very good copy. $130

Third edition of a very early angling book, first published in 1662. Apparently the second edition was entirely consumed in the Great Fire and no copy is known. Wing V184; ESTC R32919.
Item no. 1