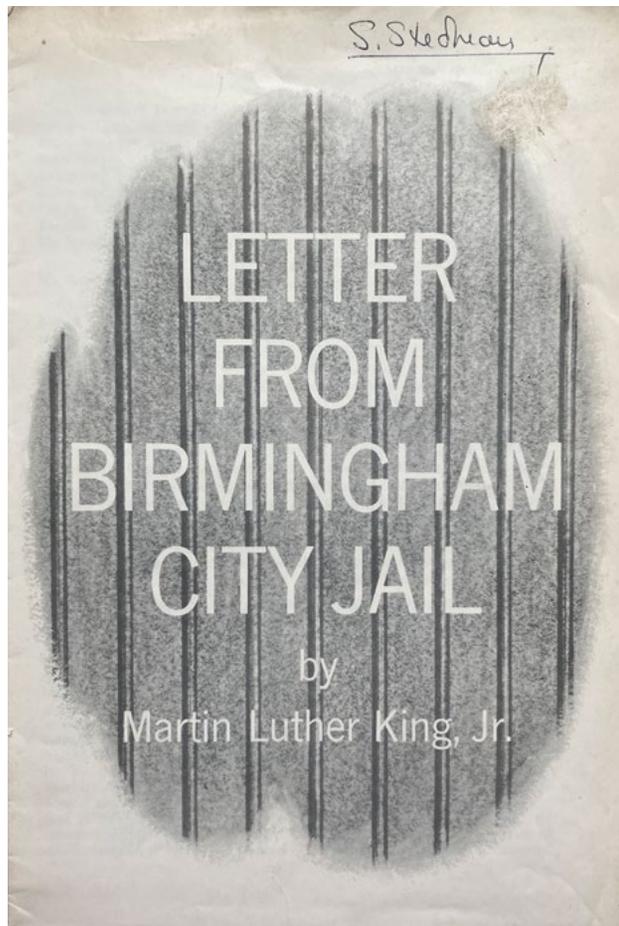


McBRIDE
RARE BOOKS

List 39

From Slavery to Civil Rights



The present list comprises twenty-five items of African-American history, from slavery to the Civil Rights era, from Phillis Wheatley to Dr. King. Highlights include a rare directory from Detroit; an annotated photo album from a young Black woman in Missouri; a handsome copy of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s *Letter from Birmingham City Jail*; a rare African-American novel; the law banning the slave trade in Mexico, and more. Enjoy!

Cheers,
Teri, James, & Joe

Terms of Sale

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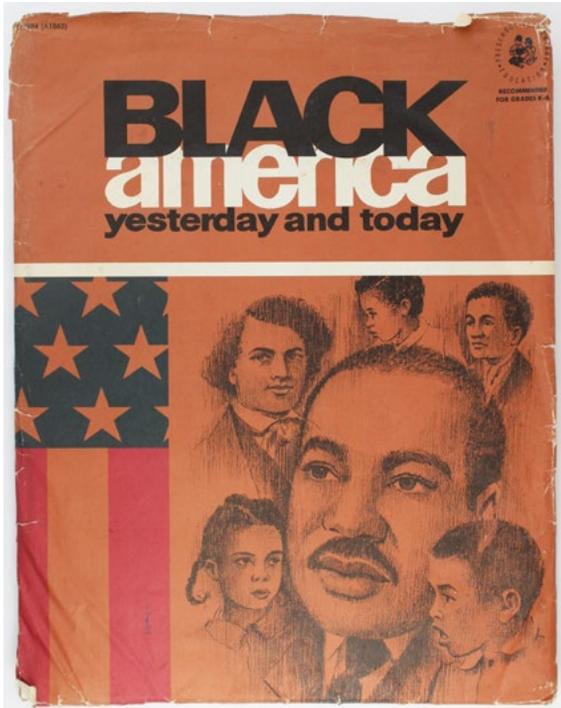
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LATE-1960s BLACK HISTORY TEACHERS' GUIDE

1. [African Americana]. *Black America Yesterday and Today*. Elgin, IL: David C. Cook Publishing Co., 1969. 40pp. booklet, stapled, plus twenty full-color illustrated study prints. Housed in publisher's pictorial paper envelope. Moderate wear and tear to envelope. Light foxing to booklet. Minor edge wear and light creasing to broadsides. Very good.



A rare and complete teaching aid produced to instruct grades K through 6 about African American history and notable historical figures. The booklet provides the teacher with notes and background information for the twenty full-color broadsides that feature subjects such as “Before Slavery,” “Ships Brought Slaves,” “Jim Crow Laws,” “Integrated Schools,” “Black is Beautiful,” and so forth, and highlight historical African American luminaries such as Frederick

Douglass, Harriet Tubman, Pickney Benton Stewart Pinchback, Mary McLeod Bethune, Dr. Charles Richard Drew, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., among others. The sections on Black writers prints notable poems by Gwendolyn Brooks, Paul Laurence Dunbar, and Langston Hughes. Both throughout and at the conclusion of the booklet, references and further readings are provided for teachers and inquisitive students. Scarce institutionally and difficult to find complete in the trade.

(McBRB3139)

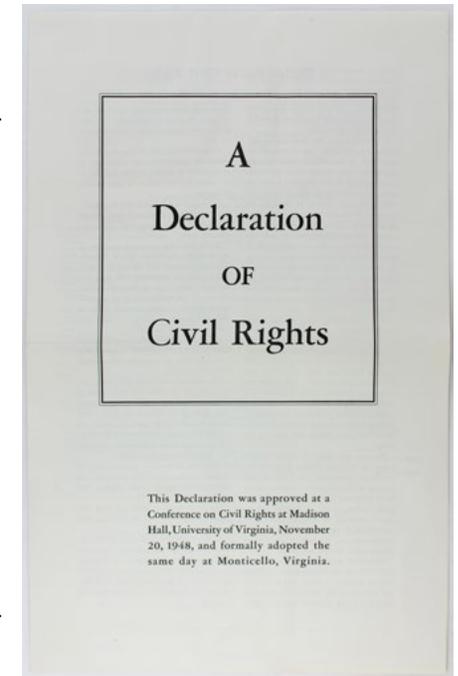
\$950

200 SOUTHERNERS CALL FOR FURTHER ACTION ON CIVIL RIGHTS IN 1948

2. [African Americana]. *A Declaration of Civil Rights [cover title]*. [New Orleans: Southern Conference Educational Fund, Inc., 1948]. [4]pp., on a single folded folio sheet. Old horizontal fold, minor wear. Very good plus.

An apparently unrecorded declaration of civil rights “approved at a Conference on Civil Rights at Madison Hall, University of Virginia” in 1948 by the Southern Conference Educational Fund. The group bills itself here as “a non-partisan, non-profit educational agency concerned with the elimination of discrimination and segregation based on race, religion, and nationality in the Southern States.” The text of the declaration rails against “racism and white supremacy contrary to American democracy” and advocates for “a new analysis of the meaning of equality and freedom adequate for new conditions” in the United States.

The text also references the U.S Declaration of Independence written “by a Southerner, Thomas Jefferson.” The crux of the declaration reads: “We take these rights to include equality before the law, and freedom from any discrimination bolstered by the law; a right to vote; freedom of expression; an unrestricted access to all institutions supported by taxes for the public welfare, schools and hospitals not excepted; equal pay for equal work, and equal opportunity to receive training and to gain employment; and the right of unsegregated transportation, housing and assembly.” At the conclusion of the declaration, the group calls for and lays out a three-pronged plan for further involvement in the civil rights struggle: “Voluntary Individual Action,” “Voluntary Group Action,” and



“Legislation.” This further call for civil rights came in the years after thousands of African American soldiers returned from World War II and also in the midst of the creation of the United Nations, which the document seems to reference in noting that the United States is “bidding for world leadership.”

The declaration is endorsed with the names, positions or professions, and institutional affiliations or hometowns of “200 citizens of the Southern States” arranged alphabetically in a listing of fifteen states from Alabama to Virginia. The signers are a combination of academics from both HBCUs and religious institutions, writers, publishers, architects, attorneys, private citizens, and so forth. Two of the organization’s most important leaders - James Dombrowski and Aubrey Williams - are mentioned in the document (with Williams among the signers to the declaration). Dombrowski was the organization’s director (based in New Orleans), while Williams served as president. Together, they grew the Southern Conference Educational Fund into an important civil rights organization that later worked closely with reverends Martin Luther King, Jr. and Fred Shuttlesworth, as well as the Southern Nonviolent Coordinating Committee during the most visible years of the Civil Rights Movement. No copies in OCLC.

(McBRB3464)

\$1,750

AFRICAN-AMERICAN LOAN SCHEME

3. [African Americana]. *Profit Sharing Loan Certificate* [caption title]. [Des Moines, Ia.: Robert E. Patten, 1951]. Broadside, 8 x 6 inches, printed in brown ink within a decorative border. Mild toning. Near fine.

A rare sample copy of an original promotional certificate offering a loan to prospective members of a “Co-operative movement” in Iowa. African-American publisher, printer, and Co-operative movement activist Robert E. Patten, from Des Moines, Iowa, upon the loan of \$10.00 to him, agrees, within various periods of time, to pay off the loan, with \$11.00 in cash, or \$15.00 in labor or groceries. The certificate states (in part): “To arouse more general interest in the Co-operative movement among a large number of people I am seeking the moral and financial



assistance of a few friends and acquaintances to whom I pledge direct and sole responsibility....” The document is signed by Patten in holograph facsimile, as issued.

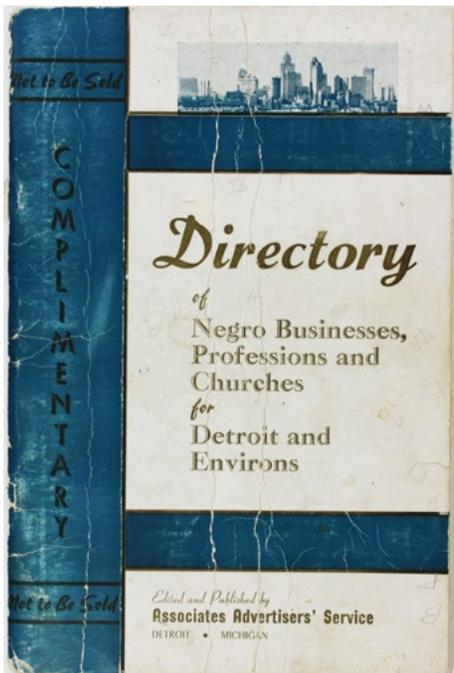
Robert E. Patten (1883 -1968) was born in Georgia, and moved to Des Moines, Iowa in 1909. He was a printer, publisher, and social activist in the African-American community, promoting various progressive movements including organic farming and co-operatives, ending urban blight (“The Community Garden Club”), supporting pacifist and anti-nuclear causes, and more. The State Historical Society of Iowa recognized Robert E. Patten with an exhibition devoted to his work.

\$275

RARE DIRECTORY OF DETROIT BLACK BUSINESSES

4. [African Americana]. [Directories]. *Directory of Negro Businesses, Professions and Churches for Detroit and Environs Second Edition 1953-1954*. Detroit: Associated Advertisers’ Service, 1953. 88pp. Illustrated. Original pictorial wrappers, stapled. Covers worn, creased, and somewhat soiled, text block separated from top staple. Occasional thumb-soiling, mild staining to bottom edge through about half the text, chip to one leaf costing only the page numbers. Good plus.

The very rare second edition of this business and professional directory produced for the African American community in Detroit in the early Eisenhower years. At least six such directories were produced between 1952 and 1957, and all are rare. The work was edited and published by the Associates Advertisers’ Service, organized by African American business owners in order to “materially assist...the 390,000 Negroes of this city..



in knowing those of our race who are in business and professional fields and the churches of Detroit and environs.” Naturally the work is comprised mainly of listings for local businesses, professionals, and churches, interspersed with legions of advertisements for said businesses. The ads are often illustrated with portraits of the proprietors of the businesses, which include car dealers, barbers and beauticians, general contractors, laundry owners, furriers, hoteliers, printers, realtors, and tavern owners. The work also includes separate indexes for the listings and the

advertisers. OCLC records five institutional records for this short series of African American directories, with only three institutions reporting copies of this second edition, at New York Public, Wayne State, and the Detroit Public Library.

(McBRB2665)

\$1,500

UNRECORDED CATALOGUE OF A NORTH CAROLINA AFRICAN-AMERICAN SCHOOL

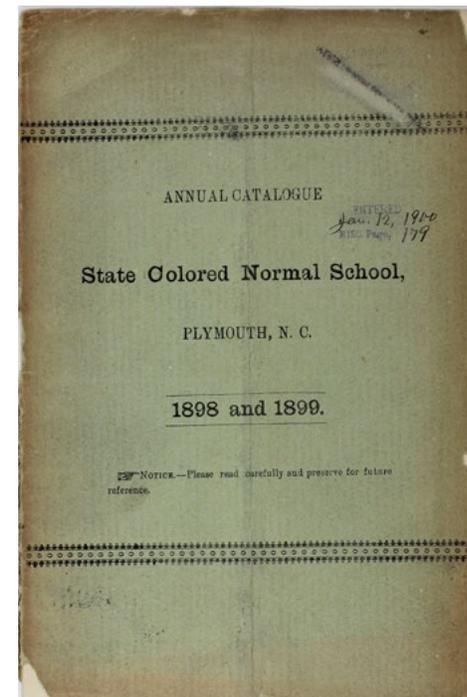
5. [African Americana]. [Education]. [North Carolina]. *Annual Catalogue State Colored Normal School, Plymouth, N.C. 1898 and 1899*. Plymouth, N.C.: Roanoke Pub. Co., [1898]. 24pp., including two full-page illustrations. Original printed wrappers. Minor soiling to wrappers, old ink stamps on front wrapper, edges and spine a bit chipped, vertical crease throughout. Internally clean. About very good.

An apparently unrecorded catalogue for an early North Carolina African American school. Around 1880, the state legislature in North Carolina provided funding for two normal schools in the eastern part of the

state to train African American teachers - one in Fayetteville (now Fayetteville State University) and the present school, which moved to Elizabeth City in 1903 and is now Elizabeth City State University. This early catalogue includes lists of faculty, students (as well as their hometowns), former students, courses of study, testimonials, and the books held by the school's library (a total of twelve titles). The two full-page illustrations depict the school building and the principal of the school, Rev. J.W. McDonald. No copies listed in OCLC.

(McBRB3091)

\$1,250



UNRECORDED AFRICAN-AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK FROM JIM CROW GEORGIA

6. [African Americana]. [Georgia]. [Education]. *The Carverian*. Published by the Senior Class of the George Washington Carver High School. Milledgeville, Ga.: 1947. [43]pp., printed on rectos only. Illustrated. Original red textured wrappers, screw bound. Minor edge wear, a few short closed tears. Gift inscription to title leaf from the school's principal, otherwise clean internally. Very good.

A humbly-produced yearbook for George Washington Carver High School, an African American segregated school in Jim Crow Georgia. The yearbook begins with a history of the school, followed by a dedication to George Washington Carver himself, an In Memoriam for two teachers, a note from Principal Ulysses Simpson Lane (who would later write a noted history of Southern University), listings of the administrative staff, individual listings and pictures of the senior class, group photographs of the underclassmen and women, group photos of the various sports



teams, a remembrance of former Carver students who served in World War II, four pages of photocollage of students on campus, and a five-page advertising section for local Milledgeville businesses. The yearbook is illustrated throughout with photographic portraits of the school's namesake, administration, faculty, and student body. No copies reported in OCLC.

(McBRB3138)

\$950

CALENDAR OF FAMOUS AFRICAN-AMERICAN FIGURES, ISSUED BY A BLACK-OWNED INSURANCE COMPANY

7. [African Americana]. [Michigan]. *Little Known History of...the Negro* [caption title]. Detroit: 1956. Large-format pictorial wall calendar on twelve sheets, each sheet measuring 19.5 x 13.5 inches, bound at top with a strip of black plastic. Minor wrinkling and staining, small hole in the last leaf costing a bit of one illustration. Very good.

An interesting and ephemeral wall calendar created in 1956 as a promotional for the Detroit Metropolitan Mutual Assurance Company, an African-American-owned life insurance company. The copyright notice is dated in that year and claimed by Charles C. Diggs, Sr., the founder and president of DMMAC. The calendar features notable African descendants from America and around the world. The first month repeats the old Southern white claim that Hannibal Hamlin,

Lincoln's first Vice President, was an African American. Hamlin is identified here as "Negro Vice-President of the United States." Other months are devoted to a variety of subjects such as Ida Wells Barnett, Reverend Patrick Francis Healy, two local civil rights leaders in Detroit - Francis M. Dent and Willis M. Graves, Fulgencio Batista ("Cuba's Negro President"), "Three African Popes," and Queen Charlotte Sophia of England ("Negro Ancestor of Present Day Royalty"), among others. The individual days of the calendar throughout the year are populated with facts regarding major moments in the history of the African American experience, i.e., January 1 - "New Year's Day - 863, Negro slavery abolished by law." January 5 reads, "1943, Dr. George W. Carver, scientist died at Tuskegee Institute. Carver Day, established by act of Congress."

Charles C. Diggs was an important African American political and business leader in greater Detroit. Over the course of his career, he operated a funeral home, helped found a cemetery for Black people, and created the DMMAC to provide life insurance to African Americans shut out of traditional insurance opportunities through discrimination. Diggs became active politically, as well, becoming the first African American Democrat elected to the Michigan Senate in 1936. He worked for civil rights from within the system, passing his signature legislation in 1937, known as the "Diggs Law," which punished discrimination based on race, color, or creed as a misdemeanor. Diggs' son, Charles, Jr. became the first Black man from Michigan to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives. No copies of the present version in OCLC, with only one copy of the previous year's calendar at the University of Kansas.

(McBRB3463)

\$850



NORTH CAROLINA NAACP BROADSIDE

8. [African Americana]. [National Association for the Advancement of Colored People]. *A Color Call but Not a Call to Colors The Call to Colors Have Been and Are Being Answered Are You a Negro? Then You are Wanted at St. Paul Methodist Church* [caption title]. [N.p., but likely Winston-Salem, N.C.: 1941]. Broadside, 9 x 6 inches. Minor edge wear, old horizontal folds, small single hole punch in upper margin. Very good.



(McBRB3121)

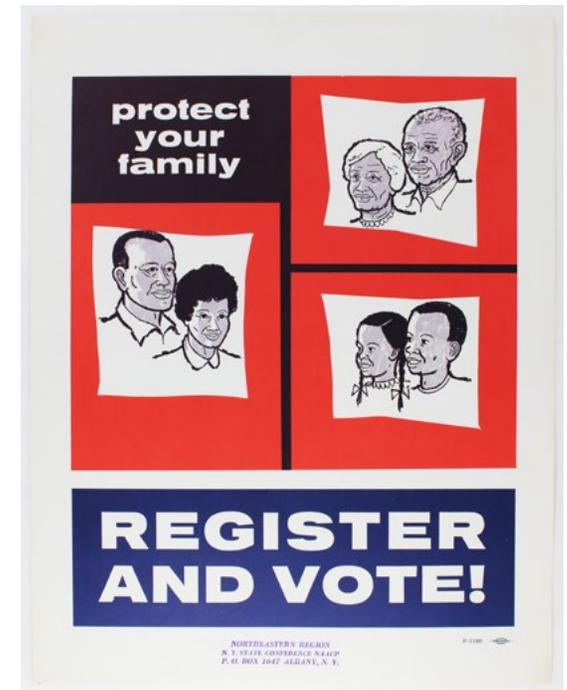
\$650

A very rare and ephemeral broadside handbill promoting a meeting at St. Paul's Methodist Church called by the Winston Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The text calls for local African American citizens to meet on Sunday, August 17, warning that "You may be the next Negro to be Cursed, kicked, or beaten with a Day or Night Stick!" The last phrase extolls the community that "We must fight for Fair treatment & Fair Trials." The broadside was very likely produced in response to police violence in Jim Crow North Carolina just before the outbreak of the Second World War. No copies reported in OCLC.

STRIKING NAACP CALL TO VOTE

9. [African Americana]. [Voting Rights]. [National Association for the Advancement of Colored People]. *Protect Your Family. Register and Vote!* [Albany: NAACP Northeastern Region, mid-to-late-1960s] Four-color broadside, 14 x 11 inches. Soft central horizontal crease, minor adhesive remnants on verso from former mounting. Very good plus.

A striking four-color broadside produced by the New York State Conference of the NAACP in Albany to encourage African American men and women to exercise their voting rights in the mid-to-late 1960s, likely in the aftermath of the Civil Rights Act of 1965. The poster is illustrated with three pairs of African American men and women - an elderly couple, a middle-aged couple, and a pair of young people, to highlight the importance of voting for the future of the African American people. The bottom margin of the broadside carries a purple stamp from the NAACP's Northeastern Region, New York State Conference in Albany. The trade union printer's slug at bottom right indicates the poster was printed in Washington, D.C., so the NAACP may have used these posters in numerous locations. No copies of this broadside are reported in OCLC. A stunning artifact from the height of the successes achieved by the Civil Rights Movement.

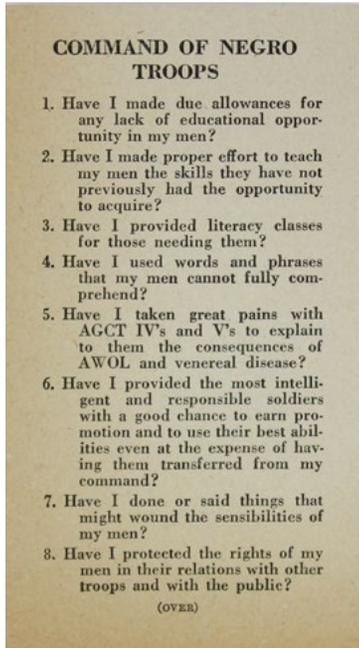


(McBRB3304)

\$850

“HAVE I PROTECTED THE RIGHTS OF MY MEN?”

10. [African Americana]. [World War II]. *Command of Negro Troops* [caption title]. [Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, ca. 1944]. Small card printed on both sides, 4.5 x 2.5 inches. Mild toning around the edges. Very good.



A rare pocket-sized, or wallet-sized card intended to be carried by White officers to instruct them how best to treat African-American soldiers in the field during World War II. The list of fifteen points reproduces the same checklist of points as printed in the War Department's nineteen-page pamphlet number 20-6, which is also titled *Command of Negro Troops*. Some of the commands are rather patronizing, such as the first and fourth, which read, “Have I made due allowances for any lack of educational opportunity in my men?” and “Have I used words and phrases that my men cannot fully comprehend?” Another point asks the officer to ponder “Have I protected the rights of my men in their relations with other troops and with

the public?” Other points concern fair discipline, instilling pride and confidence, promoting “the most intelligent and responsible soldiers,” and making sure to remind the soldiers “why we fight,” among other points. OCLC records just a single institutional holding of this pocket-sized version, at Brown University.

(McBRB2661)

\$325

**A YOUNG AFRICAN AMERICAN GIRL AND HER CIRCLE
IN 1930s MISSOURI**

11. [African-American Photographica]. [Johnson, Cassie]. [*Annotated Vernacular Photograph Album Belonging to a Young African American Woman in Missouri*]. Columbia, Mo.: [ca. 1935]. [10] leaves, illustrated with thirty-one mounted photographs. Contemporary black cloth photograph album, string tied. Minor wear to edges. Some photographs missing. A nice album. Very good.

A nicely-captioned vernacular photograph album assembled by Cassie Johnson of Columbia, Missouri. Johnson and a few friends have signed the front cover of the album, which is also captioned with “Columbia Mo” and “June 4, 1935.” The photographs are also captioned in the same white ink and feature four photographs of young Cassie, along with numerous shots of her family members and friends, all of whom are identified by name. The portraits include two of Mary Jane Johnson, who is another of Cassie's friends who signed the cover of the album. One of the more interesting photographs features a woman named Barbara Johnson posed in her Sunday best but holding a long rifle. An interesting collection of original photos - the type of photographic record that unfortunately does not usually survive - featuring a young African American woman and her friends and family in rural Jim Crow Missouri.

(McBRB3253)

\$1,250



KANSAS BLACK FAMILY PORTRAIT

12. [African-American Photographica]. [Kansas]. [Cabinet Card of an African-American Mother and Children in Rural Kansas]. Salina, Ks.: Atherton & Hopkins, [ca. 1890-1900]. Cabinet card photograph, 5.5 x 4 inches, on a slightly larger studio mount printed "Atherton & Hopkins Salina, Kans." Minor edge wear, small "X" handwritten above one subject's head within the image, a few small paper remnants to verso. Very good.



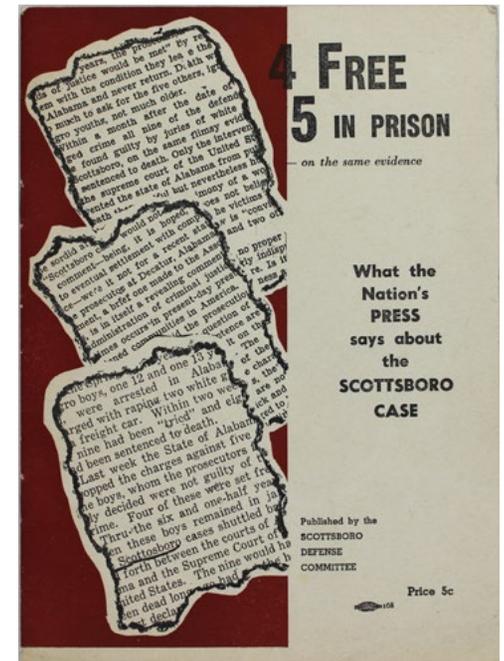
A striking image of an African-American family of six, a mother and five children, living in Kansas around the last decade of the 19th century. The African-American population in Kansas grew in the 1880s as families left the South to escape the rollback of Reconstruction-era protections. African Americans settled across Kansas, largely in the eastern states. The present photograph was taken in Salina, in central Kansas, about a hundred miles from either Wichita or Topeka. Images of African-American families in Kansas in the 19th century are exceedingly rare. (McBRB3338) \$850

IN THE MIDST OF A MONUMENTAL INJUSTICE IN ALABAMA

13. [Alabama]. [Scottsboro Nine]. *4 Free 5 in Prison -- on the Same Evidence. What the Nation's Press Says About the Scottsboro Case* [cover title]. New York: Scottsboro Defense Committee, 1937. 16pp. Original self wrappers printed in black and crimson, stapled. Minor edge wear and dust soiling to wrappers. Internally clean. Very good.

A scarce pamphlet devoted to publicizing the injustices wrought by the Alabama court system on the "Scottsboro Boys," nine African American youths who were falsely accused of raping two white women on a train in 1931, and were themselves railroaded by the legal system in Alabama. The title of the present work gives some idea of the inconsistency of the case overall. The text of the present work begins: "Mistaken Identity' After Eleven Trials, Statement of the Prosecution July 24, 1937...." The work also prints accounts of the trials, excerpts from various press sources about the Scottsboro case, and urges "The Fight to Free the Five Must Go On...." The penultimate page prints a list of the organizations and noted individuals supporting the Scottsboro Defense Committee, which was comprised mainly of African American leaders and members of the Communist Party. These notable figures include James Weldon Johnson, Walter White, A. Philip Randolph, Robert Minor, Norman Thomas, W.E.B. Du Bois, Adam Clayton Powell Jr., Donald Ogden Stewart, and many others. The present work provides a valuable snapshot of where the case against the Scottsboro Nine stood in 1937; various aspects of the case would linger for decades to come, with some defendants actually serving lengthy jail sentences before being pardoned or escaping from prison. The final three pardons only came about via the Alabama Board of Pardons and Paroles in 2013. Sadly, these pardons were posthumous, as all of the Scottsboro defendants had long since passed away.

(McBRB3514) \$550



UNRECORDED LEAFLET ON JIM CROW TRANSPORTATION

14. [Civil Rights]. *What About Jim Crow Transportation in the United States? Fellow American -- This is Our Fight!* [cover title]. [Detroit: Committee to Abolish Jim Crow Transportation, ca. 1941]. [4]pp. on a single folded sheet. Minor wear, light vertical crease. Very good.



A seemingly unrecorded leaflet devoted to an analysis of “Jim Crow transportation in the United States.” The text begins: “Our Common Cause: In quest of means for group betterment and national unity, some loyal and earnest persons have asked certain pertinent questions concerning the Committee to Abolish Jim Crow Transportation in the United States...”, followed by a series of five questions and lengthy, detailed answers devoted to the subject of Jim Crow transportation. The second question asks, “Is not Jim Crow transportation solely a Southern problem?”

The publication is undated, but the text concludes with the following reference: “The Constitution of the United States forms our bodily frame...[and] The Atlantic Charter gives this body its blood, and every citizen...must give this body its breath of life...” The Atlantic Charter was issued on August 14, 1941. No records in OCLC.

(McBRB3509)

\$450

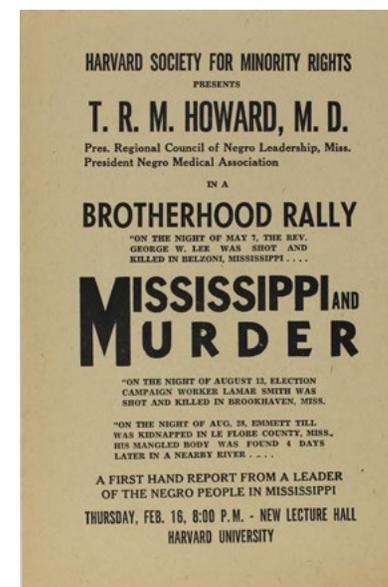
“A FIRST HAND REPORT FROM A LEADER OF THE NEGRO PEOPLE IN MISSISSIPPI”

15. [Civil Rights]. [Mississippi]. [Howard, Theodore Roosevelt Mason]. *Harvard Society for Minority Rights Presents T.R.M. Howard, M.D. ... in a Brotherhood Rally... Mississippi and Murder* [caption title]. Cambridge, Ma.: Harvard Society for Minority Rights, [1956]. Printed broadside handbill, 8.5 x 5.75 inches. Uneven toning, else very nice. Very good.

A very rare handbill advertising a lecture and “Brotherhood Rally” delivered to the Harvard Society for Minority Rights by Dr. T.R.M. Howard, President of the Regional Council of Negro Leadership and President of the Mississippi chapter of the Negro Medical Association. Dr. Howard was a close friend of one of the three murdered African- Americans discussed at the rally – all killed in Mississippi the year before. The victims were George W. Lee (1903-1955), a civil rights leader, businessman, and minister, who was killed over his fight to register African- American voters in Belzoni, Mississippi; Emmett Till (1941-1955), a fourteen-year-old child who was brutally murdered after being falsely accused of flirting with a white woman; and Lamar Smith (1892-1955), civil rights worker, farmer, World War I veteran, who was shot and murdered on the lawn of the County courthouse in Brookhaven, Mississippi, in broad daylight. A friend of Dr. T. R. M. Howard, Lamar Smith was working on behalf of Black voters in Mississippi. The broadside prints the names of each of the three Mississippi victims, along with a short note about their murder. OCLC records just a single copy, at Mississippi State University.

(McBRB3507)

\$650



**“BEFORE YOU BREAK THE UNION,
WE WILL SEE THAT JUSTICE IS DONE TO THE SLAVE.”**

16. [Civil War]. [Abolition]. Phillips, Wendell. *Wendell Phillips on the War* [caption title]. [Boston: The Liberator, 1861]. Large folio printed broadside, printed in six columns, 24.75 x 18 inches. Old folds with tiny losses at a few crossfolds, some creasing, edges frayed and a bit chipped, moderate staining and toning. Good plus.

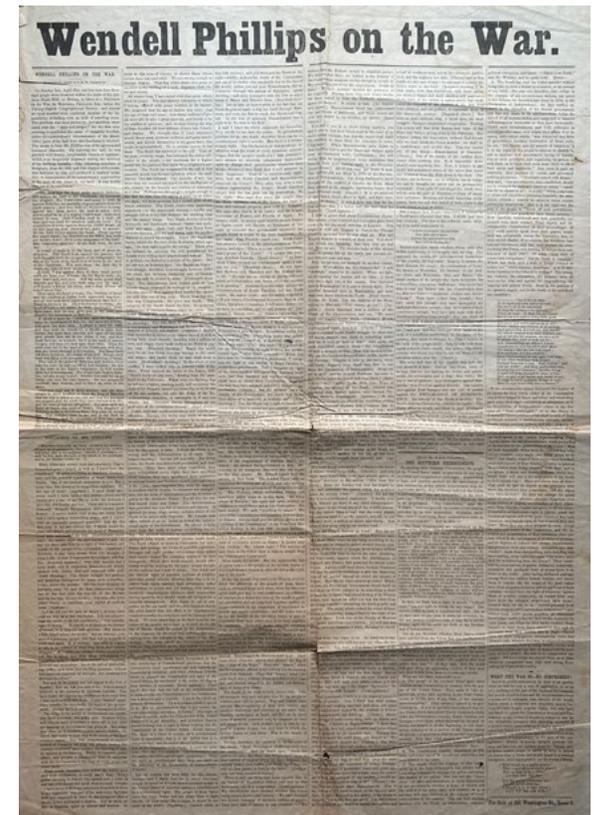
A rare broadside issued by The Liberator printing principally a long and impassioned speech by abolitionist stalwart Wendell Phillips, delivered to a standing-room-only crowd before the Twenty-Eighth Congregational Society on April 21, 1861, and centered on the righteousness of the Northern cause in the early months of the Civil War. In thundering language, and encompassing four-and-a-half columns of the six printed here, Phillips supports the right of the North to fight the South for the cause of Union and against the institution of slavery, arguing that although “Civil War is a momentous evil,” the North is now galvanized under the banner of “Sovereignty and Justice.” Phillips himself “welcome[s] the tread of Massachusetts men marshalled for war.” He also couches the war as a referendum on slavery, in which “the slave asks God for a sight of this banner [the stars and stripes], and counts it the pledge of his redemption.”

Phillips had previously “counselled peace” between the North and South, but was now speaking from a different viewpoint after the attack on Fort Sumter, which “annihilated compromise.” He now feels that “Any man who loves either liberty or manhood must rejoice” at the prospect of delivering the “Barbarous States” of the South from the evils of slavery. Phillips views the conflict represented by the Civil War as “no struggle between different ideas, but between barbarism and civilization.” He blisters the South by couching their mindset as practically medieval: “The North thinks - can appreciate argument - is the nineteenth century - hardly any struggle left in it but that between the working class and the money kings. The South dreams - it is the thirteenth and fourteenth century - baron and serf - noble and slave.” Through the course of his speech, Phillips relates his support for Abraham Lincoln, discusses the constitutional issues behind secession, argues that the Civil War

is a “holier” cause than the American Revolution, and encourages abolitionists and Americans to “wipe away the stain that hangs about the toleration of human bondage,” among other points. After all, Phillips concludes, the Civil War is not about “fighting for forms and parchments, for sovereignty and a flag...it is Civilization against Barbarism: it is Freedom against Slavery.” Phillips’ speech is followed by additional material on “The Southern Secessionists” reprinted from The Liberator, and a concluding section entitled, “What the War Is - No Compromise!” This last section reiterates the fact that the Civil War is not being fought to “subjugate the people of the South, but to crush a desperate and traitorous SLAVE OLIGARCHY.”

The bottom right is printed with a notice that copies of the present broadside were available for purchase at 221 Washington Street. As of May 1860, this address housed both the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society and The Liberator. Two versions of Phillips’ speech were printed in the aftermath of the event at the Congregational Society - this one printed in Boston and another produced as an extra by George Lawrence, Jr.’s Anglo-African Magazine in New York City (later renamed The Pine and Palm). Both versions are rare. OCLC records just seven copies of this version, at AAS, the University of Virginia, Cornell, Harvard, Yale, Brown, and the Library of Congress.

(McBRB3564) \$1,500

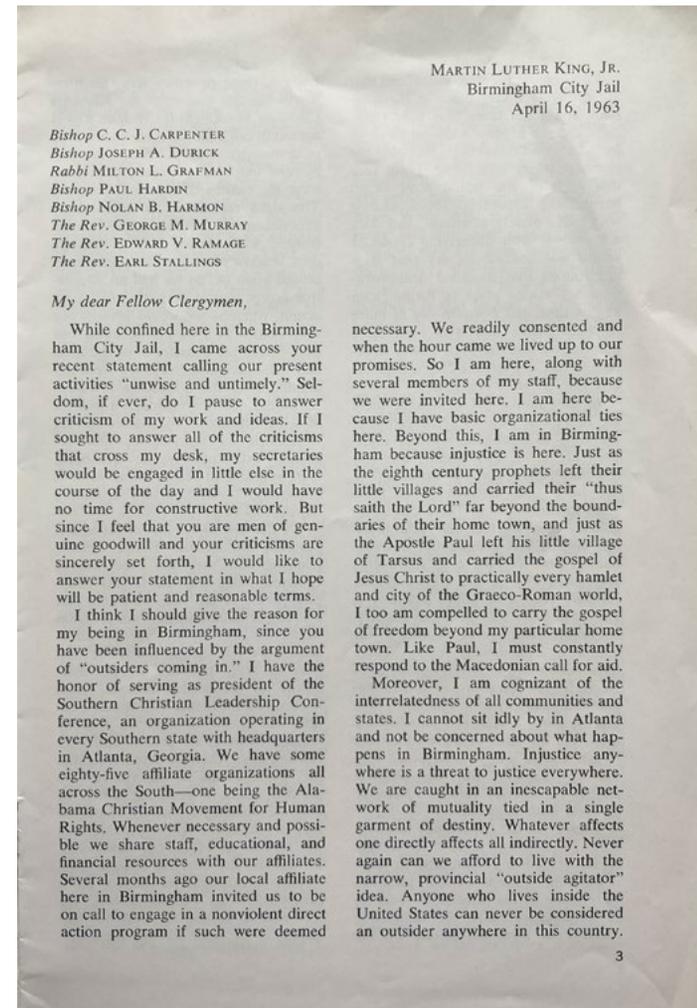


**“INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS A THREAT TO JUSTICE
EVERYWHERE.”**

17. King, Martin Luther, Jr. *Letter from Birmingham City Jail* [cover title]. Philadelphia: American Friends Service Committee, May, 1963. 16pp. Original illustrated self wrappers, stapled. Small ownership signature on front wrapper, minor wear and dust soiling, tiny abrasion to top of spine. Very good.

First edition, first issue of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s *Letter from Birmingham City Jail* - one of the foundational documents of the Civil Rights Movement, and the first time the work was published in its entirety. The first issue of 50,000 copies, including the present copy, carries a printed notice on the rear wrapper reading, “50M-5-63,” indicating it is one of the first 50,000 copies printed in May 1963. This first issue also constitutes the first separate printing of the Letter, and the first time the text of the work was made available in its entirety. A second printing of an additional 30,000 copies followed later in May, with successive monthly editions throughout the summer, all noted as such at the bottom of the rear wrapper. By September 1963, nearly 200,000 copies had been published.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s non-violent campaign protesting racism and racial segregation in Birmingham began on April 3, 1963. Arrested and jailed on Good Friday, April 12 for violating an Alabama injunction against public demonstrations, that same day a group of white clergyman published a letter in a Birmingham newspaper denouncing King's campaign (reproduced here). King responded with the present work, which he wrote without notes or research materials. The work is an impassioned defense for the use of nonviolent but direct actions during civil rights protests. King later detailed the process of its writing in *Why We Can't Wait*: “Begun on the margins of the newspaper in which the statement [by the White clergyman] appeared while I was in jail, the letter was continued on scraps of writing paper supplied by a friendly black trusty, and concluded on a pad my attorneys were eventually permitted to leave me.”



DR. KING CAMPAIGNS IN HOLLYWOOD

As was his arrest and incarceration, the publishing history of King's Letter from Birmingham City Jail was also controversial. After The New York Times passed on the chance to publish the work first, extensive excerpts were printed, without King's consent, in the May 19, 1963 issue of the New York Post Sunday Magazine. Other newspaper and magazine printings followed in June. Shortly after the New York Post printing, however, King himself authorized the American Friends Service Committee to publish 50,000 copies in pamphlet form. The front cover has become an iconic image, with the title set in front of an illustration of the bars of a jail cell.

“Over the course of the letter's 7,000 words, King turned the criticism back upon both the nation's religious leaders and more moderate-minded White Americans, castigating them for sitting passively on the sidelines while King and others risked everything agitating for change. King drew inspiration for his words from a long line of religious and political philosophers, quoting everyone from St. Augustine and Socrates to Thomas Jefferson and then-Chief Justice of the United States Earl Warren, who had overseen the Supreme Court's landmark civil rights ruling in *Brown v. Board of Education*. For those, including the Birmingham religious leaders, who urged caution and remained convinced that time would solve the country's racial issues, King reminded them of Warren's own words on the need for desegregation, ‘justice too long delayed is justice denied.’ And for those who thought the Atlanta-based King had no right to interfere with issues in Alabama, King argued, in one of his most famous phrases, that he could not sit ‘idly by in Atlanta’ because ‘injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere’” - Barbara Maranzani, “Behind Martin Luther King's Searing ‘Letter from Birmingham Jail,’” <https://www.history.com/news/kings-letter-from-birmingham-jail-50-years-later>.

(McBRB3554)

\$5,250

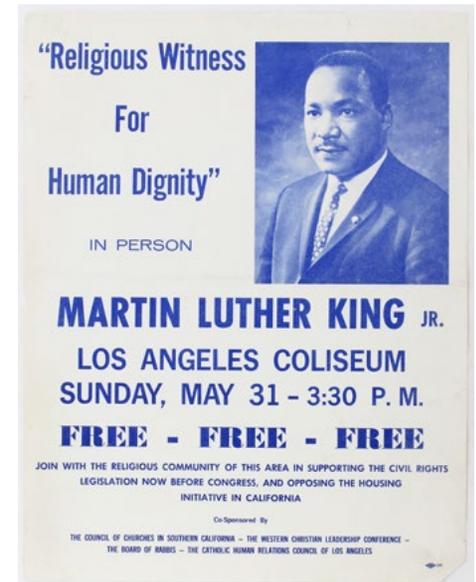
18. [King, Martin Luther]. “*Religious Witness for Human Dignity*” in *Person Martin Luther King Jr. Los Angeles Coliseum...[caption title]*. [Los Angeles: 1964]. Pictorial broadside, 11 x 8.5 inches, printed in blue, with portrait of Dr. King at top right. Minor edge wear and creasing, small chip to bottom right corner, old horizontal center fold. Very good.

A rare broadside promoting a multi-faith event focused on “Religious Witness for Human Dignity,” held at the Los Angeles Coliseum on May 31, 1964. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered the keynote address at the event, which was sponsored by the Council of Churches in Southern California, the Western Christian Leadership Conference, the Board of Rabbis, and the Catholic Human Relations Council of Los Angeles, in an effort to ally the local religious community with the Civil Rights Movement. King addressed an audience of nearly 15,000 supporters, including many prominent members of the Hollywood community. Dr. King touched on a variety of topics, but chiefly on the Civil Rights Act, which was at that time stalled in the Senate; the present broadside refers to the act as “the Civil Rights Legislation Now Before Congress.”

Part of Dr. King's speech that day is particularly salient: “Now is the time to make real the promises of democracy. Now is the time to open the floodgates of opportunity and allow now an avalanche of justice to pour upon us. Now is the time to get rid of segregation and discrimination. Now is the time to make justice a reality for all God's children. This is the challenge of the hour.” A few weeks after Dr. King delivered this speech, President Lyndon Johnson broke through the legislative stalemate in Congress to pass the Civil Rights Act of 1964. No copies in OCLC.

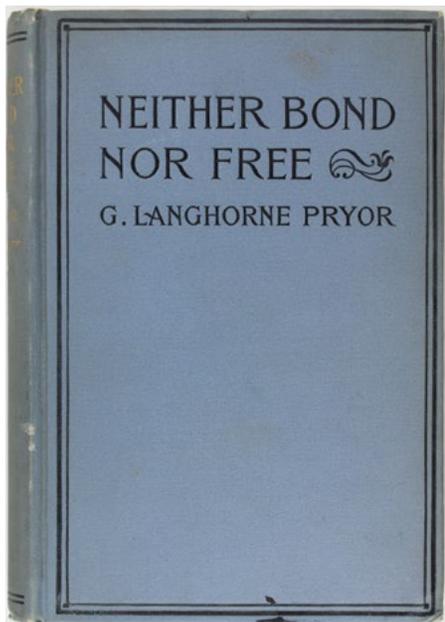
(MCRB3237)

\$950



OBSCURE AFRICAN-AMERICAN NOVEL, WITH A VERY NICE ASSOCIATION

19. **Pryor, G. Langhorne.** *Neither Bond Nor Free. (A Plea.)*. New York: J.S. Ogilvie Publishing Company, 1902. 239pp. Original light blue cloth lettered in gilt and black. Minor edge wear, spine ends a bit worn, spine somewhat darkened, small ink stain at bottom of front cover. Internally clean. Presentation inscription facing title page reads: "John Wesley Cromwell, Esq. With Compliments of the Author. Sept. 5, 1902." Very good.



A rare and early exposition of race and politics that masquerades as a novel by an obscure African American author. G. Langhorne Pryor (1857-1910) was born and raised in Virginia. He was one of only three African American students admitted to the law school at George Washington University (then known as Columbian University) in the 19th century. In Pryor's novel, he writes what he knew, as well-educated characters expound upon race relations and politics in a manner that is uplifting to its Black characters. Pryor's work has drawn comparisons to

other important African American novels "passing as autobiography" such as the early works of Charles Chesnutt, Paul Laurence Dunbar's *The Sport of the Gods*, and W.E.B. Du Bois's *The Quest of the Silver Fleece*. According to scholar Donald Goellnicht, these works "deal with the socioeconomic conditions of African American life in a realistic or naturalistic style."

The present copy of Pryor's novel carries an inscription to noted African American author John Wesley Cromwell. Cromwell was known to inscribe books given to him in the manner seen here, so the presentation

was probably written by him to commemorate the gift from Pryor. John Wesley Cromwell (1846-1927) was born into slavery in Portsmouth, Virginia, but his father purchased his freedom in 1851. Cromwell became an important African-American lawyer, teacher, journalist, and civil rights activist in Washington, D.C. during the latter half of the 19th century. He helped found the Bethel Literary and Historical Society, the American Negro Academy, and also periodicals such as *The People's Advocate*. Not in Work, Blockson, or the Library Company's Afro-Americana Collection.

Smith, American Fiction P-634.

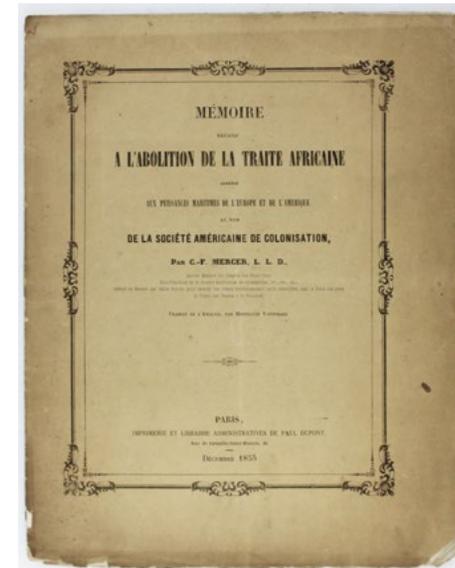
(McBRB3499)

\$2,750

RARE FRENCH-LANGUAGE WORK ON ABOLITION

20. [Slave Trade]. **Mercer, Charles Fenton.** *Memoire Relatif a l'Abolition de la Traite Africaine Adresse aux Puissances Maritimes de l'Europe et de l'Amerique au Nom de la Societe Americaine de Colonisation*. Paris: Imprimerie et Librairie Administratives de Paul Dupont, 1855. 20pp. In French. Quarto. Original printed wrappers. Wrappers tanned, with minor chipping and soiling. Bottom corners of most text leaves dogeared. Very good.

A rare French translation of a notable work by Charles Fenton Mercer, United States Congressman, abolitionist, and one of the founders of the American Colonization Society. Mercer, a Virginia lawyer and politician, and Texas empresario during the Republic period, worked throughout his distinguished career for the abolition of slavery and the international slave trade. In addition to the American Colonization Society, Mercer served as vice president of the



Virginia Colonization Society, and in 1853 traveled to Europe to further campaign for the abolition of slavery under the auspices of the ACS, at which time the present work was produced.

The first half of the present work prints a piece by Mercer, tracing the history of the American Colonization Society's efforts to establish the African American colony of Liberia, as well as the details of treaties which ended the slave trade from Africa. The second half prints an Appendix containing the "resolutions prises par la societe americain de colonisation, dans deux seances differentes tenues en 1835 et 1855" ["Resolutions taken by the American Colonization Society, in two different sessions held in 1835 and 1855"]. The work was translated into French by Hippolyte Vattemare; it does not seem an English original was printed. Mercer passed away shortly after returning to Virginia in 1858.

Sabin 47902.

(McBRB3394)

\$850

MEXICO AND GREAT BRITAIN BAN THE SLAVE TRADE IN 1843

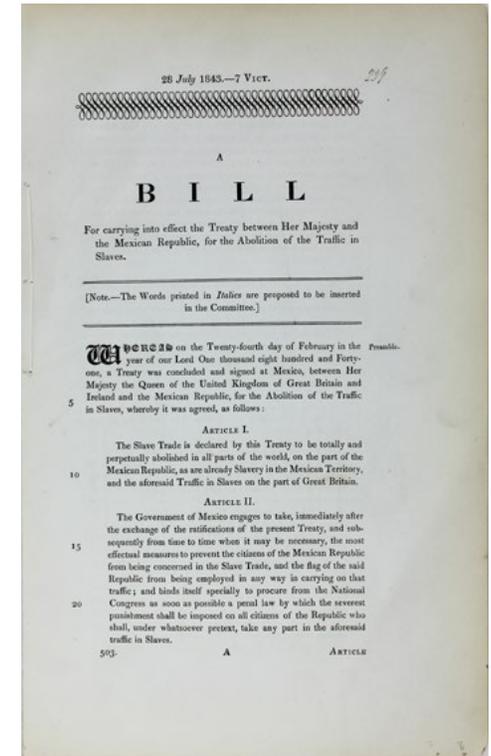
21. [Slave Trade]. [Mexico]. [Great Britain]. *A Bill for Carrying into Effect the Treaty Between Her Majesty and the Mexican Republic, for the Abolition of the Traffic in Slaves* [caption title]. [London]: July 28, 1843. 20,[2]pp. Folio. Gathered signatures, stitched. Mild dust-soiling. Near fine.

A rare and important British parliamentary omnibus draft bill relating to the treaty between Mexico and Great Britain to abolish the international slave trade, of special concern at the time because of the movement toward the annexation of Texas by the United States. The reality of the annexation of Texas would ultimately result in an expansion of the slaveholding states in America, throwing off the balance of power in the region that Great Britain was attempting to control, partially through its friendly diplomatic and economic relationship with Mexico. The two countries had enjoyed good relations since Great Britain was the first European state to recognize Mexican sovereignty after Mexico achieved independence from Spain in 1821. Mexico and Great Britain also shared a mutual enmity with France, especially after Mexico's experiences in

the Pastry War in 1838. British bondholders were also heavily invested in Mexico, and had a keen interest in good relations with the country. The two nations had first agreed to a treaty banning the slave trade between the two countries, which was apparently not enforced to any great degree, so it was followed by a second treaty signed in 1842, which is part of the present work.

The present slip-bill printing was circulated through the British Parliament, in July of 1843, and prints the text of the final treaty agreed upon between the two nations in 1842, along with three additional sections designated as Annexes A, B, and C which further defined specific regulations for enforcing the treaty. In the first article of the main treaty, the two nations agree that "the slave trade is declared by this Treaty to be totally and perpetually abolished in all parts of the world." The treaty also covers regulations for the respective navies with regard to enforcing the ban on the slave trade, including reciprocal searches and the detention of merchant vessels that exhibit features common to slave ships, such as hatches with open grating, "spare plank... to be fitted up s a second or slave deck," the presence of "shackles, bolts or handcuffs' aboard ship, and unusually high quantities of water, food, mess-tubs, and other telltale signs of human trafficking.

Annex A prints three articles laying out the "Instructions for the Ships of the British and Mexican Navies employed to prevent the Traffic in Slaves." Annex B details the "Regulations for the Courts which are to take cognizance of the Causes of the Vessels detained by virtue of the Stipulations of the Treaty of this date" in seven articles. Finally, Annex



C defines the “Regulations for the Treatment of Liberated Negroes.” The first article of the latter annex stipulated “permanent good treatment, and full and complete emancipation” for any slaves found on ships flying the flags of the two countries. Further, for any emancipated slaves who disembarked in Mexico, the government of Mexico was ordered to “secure to the Negroes the enjoyment of their acquired liberty, good treatment, adequate instruction in the tenets of religion and morality, and such as may be necessary in order that they may be able to maintain themselves as artisans, mechanics or domestic servants.”

OCLC lists just one physical copy, at the New York Public Library, though others are likely housed within runs of parliamentary laws in other institutions.

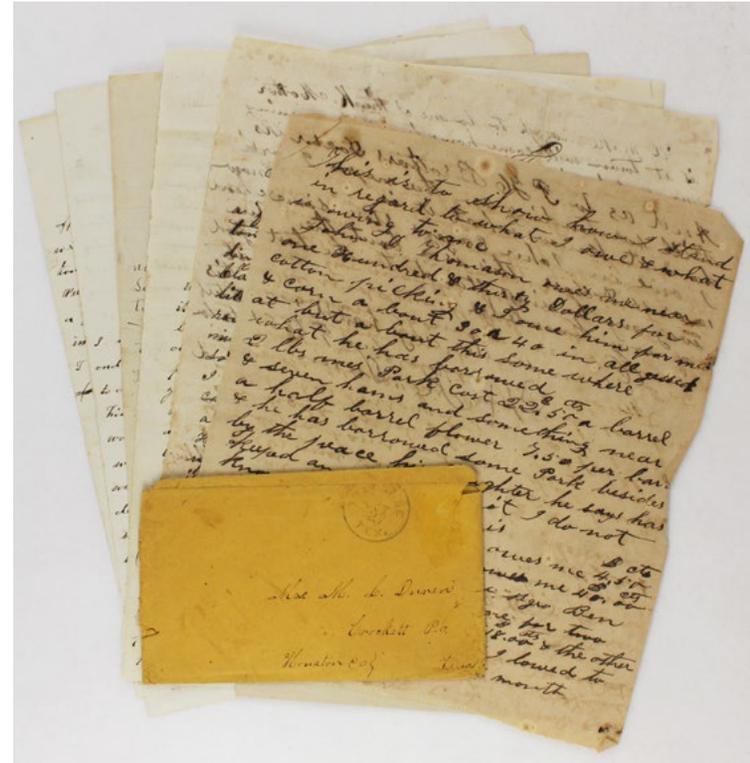
(McBRB3005)

\$3,750

FARMERS AND AFRICAN-AMERICAN LABORERS IN RECONSTRUCTION TEXAS

22. [Slavery]. [Texas]. [*Small Archive of Correspondence from a Family in Texas Concerning Slaves, Racial Tensions, and Farming*]. Tennessee Colony and Crockett, Tx.: 1861-1876. Five manuscript letters and one manuscript document, totaling [14]pp., plus one envelope. One letter with some loss, and in fair condition. Mostly minor toning and creasing to the remainder, with some tanning. Very good.

A small but notable collection of manuscript letters and documents from mid-19th-century rural Texas, with noteworthy content on race relations. Four of the letters, dating from 1875 and 1876, were written to William H. and Margaret L. Duren of Crockett, Texas from Helen Hudson (three letters) and her brother J.T. Hudson (one letter). Both of the Hudsons were members of a cotton farming family in Tennessee Colony, Texas. The community was founded in 1847 by settlers from Tennessee and Alabama who grew cotton in the area and brought their slaves with them; several plantations were established, including the Jackson Plantation, which, at one time, was one of the largest plantations in East Texas. Racial tensions in Tennessee Colony were high both before and after the Civil War, and two white men planned a



slave uprising there in 1860. The present letters discuss day-to-day life in Tennessee Colony, including descriptions of several outbreaks of sickness, discussions of cotton farming, and local gossip, as well as several descriptions of interactions with African American laborers and neighbors. One letter describes the whipping of an African American worker that took place over a decade after emancipation; another letter mentions the hiring of an African American cook.

Some excerpts of the letters provide a flavor of their content with regard to race relations, such as “Brother George...has been sick a week today... but yesterday he got mad at the negroes because they would not go to gathering corn and got out of the bed and went to whipping he whiped Ben and came very near whipping two or three others...” Another reads: “Brother George and Johnie has ginned 11 bales Cotton and started 7 to market this evening...he says he will get a bale of cotton to every 3 acres... Brother George he says if you have found out the ones of that bay horse that he sold you pleas write to him immediately for they are

about to indict the negroes. The negroes that live on the Perry place have him, he says for you to buy him if you can get him reasonable he is very poor Brother G says he is not worth more than \$400 dollars.” Another letter reads, in part: “I give \$250 rent per year there is 130 acres little over two dollars per acre the land is poor but I think that I can make a living on it and pay the rent I have two families of freedmen on the place they will cultivate 40 or 45 acres and I will cultivate the balance with hired hands...” Finally: “there are so many a marrying I am in hopes my time will come before very long...I have a very good old Negro woman cooking for me now and she cooks things tolerable strait but if a white woman was here it would be still better.”

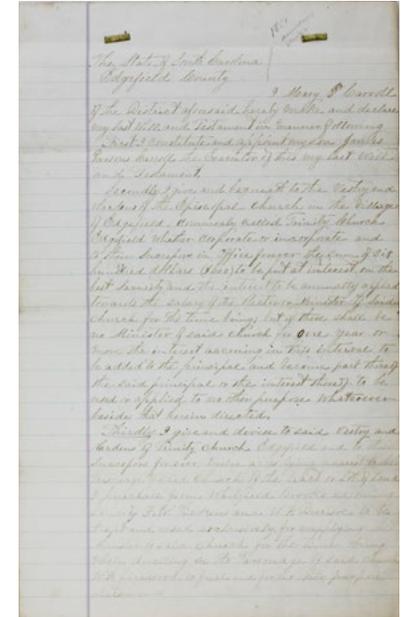
The remainder of the small archive consists of another manuscript letter, dated 1868, together with a two-page handwritten document, dated June 1861, both of which were authored by William Houston Duren of Houston County, Texas. The letter describes a wedding Duren attended at Mrs. Wille Rice's. The letter reads, in part: “We expect the big pot in the little one & dead loads of cake and pigs running round with candy legs with pine apples...I will have a fine time eating candy apples cake with the girls.” Duren continues: “I am gathering corn and it is not turning out as I expected though I will make enough to do me...” The document was written by Duren during the Confederate era to record debts owed to him including “one hundred and thirty dollars for cotton picking” as well as three debts related to his slaves: “The Widow Spruel owes me \$40 for two months hire of Negro Ben. Patton Thomas owes me for two months hire one month at \$18.... And as to P.H. Brothers Doctor Bill for tending on the Negros I do not know what it is.”

A unique record of life in an obscure area of east-central Texas, with special content on race relations and farming life after the Civil War.
 (McBRB2160) \$1,750

A SOUTH CAROLINA WOMAN BEQUEATHS SLAVES AND THEIR FUTURE KIDS TO HER OWN KIDS AND GRANDKIDS

23. [Slavery]. [Women]. Carroll, Mary Giles. [Contemporary Manuscript Copy of an 1851 Will in Which a South Carolina Woman Bequeaths a Number of Slaves to Her Children and Grandchildren]. Edgefield County, S.C.: June 4, 1871. [5]pp. on lined paper. Folio. Brad bound at top edge. Minor soiling, old folds. Very good.

Contemporary manuscript copy of the 1849 last will and testament of Mary Giles Carroll as certified by Judge David L. Turner of the Probate Court of Edgefield County, South Carolina. Mary Giles Carroll (1782-1851), the wealthy widow of planter James Parsons Carroll and an Irish immigrant, is listed in the 1850 U.S. Federal Census Slave Schedules as owning forty-one women and children. In the present will, Carroll bequeaths to her daughter Elizabeth C. Laborde her “negro slave Sarah and the youngest two children she may have at the time of my decease;” to her granddaughter Ellen Carroll Laborde her “negro slave Jane and her future increase;” to her grandson Oscar Laborde her “negro boy slave Captain;” and to her granddaughter Mary Elizabeth Laborde her “negro girl slave Fanny and her future increase.”



Material relating to slave-owning women is especially rare on the market. Awareness of women slave owners has been heightened in recent years by the publication of Stephanie E. Jones-Rogers' *They Were Her Property: White Women as Slave Owners in the American South*. The present example is rather impactful in the implications of its plain language, in which a South Carolina woman transfers not only ownership of slaves to her children and their children, but also ownership of any of the slaves' children to them, as well.

(McBRB3015) \$1,500

“WRITTEN BY PHILLIS WHEATLEY, A NEGRO OF BOSTON...”

24. [Wheatley, Phillis]. *The Gentleman's Magazine, and Historical Chronicle. Volume XLIII. For the Year M.DCCLXXIII.* London: 1773. [4],655,[17]pp. plus numerous plates and maps. Contemporary half calf and marbled paper-covered boards, gilt spine titles. Moderate wear, rubbing, and scuffing to boards. Armorial bookplate on front pastedown, scattered foxing, some text trimmed closely. Very good.



The full year of twelve issues of *The Gentleman's Magazine* for 1773, containing a rich assortment of historical information on America. Most notably, this volume contains a brief biography of Phillis Wheatley, along with the publication of her poem, "On Recollection." The biography and poem appear on page 456, in the issue for September, the same month Wheatley's book, *Poems on Various Subjects*, was published in London. The biographical note in the margin begins: "This piece was taken from a small volume of her Poems on Various Subjects, just published, written by PHILLIS WHEATLEY, a negro of Boston, who was brought from Africa in 1761, and is now only in the twenty-

first year of her age." The biographical passage ends just as powerfully: "Youth, innocence, and piety, united with genius, have not yet been able to restore her to the condition and character with which she was invested by the Great Author of her being So powerful is custom in rendering the heart insensible to the rights of nature, and the claims of excellence." As a child, Wheatley came to America in a slave ship and served in the home of a Bostonian, John Wheatley. Upon publication of her book, she became an instant international literary superstar, and remains one of the most important poets in the history of the United States.

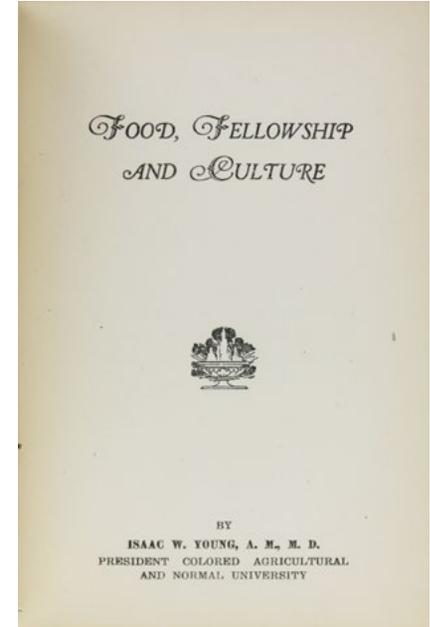
(McBRB3225)

\$2,250

INSCRIBED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE OKLAHOMA COLORED AGRICULTURAL AND NORMAL UNIVERSITY

25. Young, Isaac W. *Food, Fellowship and Culture.* [Langston, Ok.: 1925]. [4],41pp., plus photograph portrait frontispiece of the author's wife. Original brown leatherette, blindstamped title on front cover. Minor edge wear. Small ink stamp on each pastedown, slightly over-opened after frontispiece, else internally clean. Very good plus.

An inscribed copy of a rare title written by Isaac William Young, president of the Colored Agricultural and Normal University, known today as Langston University, the only HBCU in Oklahoma. Young's inscription on the front free endpaper reads, "Faithfully Isaac W Young 1925." Isaac W. Young was Oklahoma's only African American otolaryngologist (ear, nose, and throat doctor) and the state's most prominent civil rights leader in the 1920s and '30s, known locally as the "Father of Black Democracy." In the present work, Young's only book, he argues that the origin of class and racial strife is economic, caused by the struggle for food. Young contends that this disharmony could be overcome through fellowship and culture. In his Foreword, Young writes: "This little book is the outcome of my serious consideration of the economic struggle and contentions existing within the human family the world over... In my humble judgement... the struggle is largely economic.... Under the influence of a wholesome fellowship of love and a high and cultured sense of right this condition cannot long exist.... Class against class, caste against caste, creed fighting creed, race against race...all become points of contention, battlegrounds for economic conflict." In his "Philosophy of Life, Food, Fellowship and Culture," Young also points out the importance of organization, education, opportunity, service, grace, and performance in life. He ends



the work with a notable bit of optimism: “Then to live truly and happily one must, like God, scatter sunshine as he goes, giving sparkle to the eye, majesty to our presence and joy to our associations. We must live to bless mankind and teach it that: ‘Life is real, life is earnest, and the grave is not its goal.’” Young includes a portrait of his wife, Adelia as a frontispiece, and adds a note following the title page informing the reader that the portrait was included as a twenty-fifth wedding anniversary gift “in loving remembrance of her helpfulness and counsel.” A graceful work by an important African American figure. OCLC reports just four institutional copies, at Yale, Howard, Oberlin College, and the author’s home base, Langston University.

(McBRB3248)

\$1,350

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