



Rare Books L.A., Palm Springs

May 2022

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A HIGH SCHOOL GIRL IN SKAGWAY, ALASKA IN 1931

1. **[Alaska Photographical]. [Selmer, Pauline].** *[Annotated Vernacular Photograph Album and Scrapbook of Miss Pauline Selmer, a High School Student in Alaska During the Great Depression]*. Skagway: 1931-1932. [35] leaves, illustrated with 205 original vernacular photographs, from thumbnails to 9.5 x 3.5 inches. Oblong folio. Contemporary textured black cloth. Minor soiling and edge wear to covers. Some images missing or slightly worn. Very good.

A rare peek at the high school years of a young Alaskan woman named Pauline Selmer during the early portion of the Great Depression. On the inside front cover, as well as in at least one of the images, Selmer indicates she was attending Skagway High School at the time she compiled the album. Her collection of photographs feature scenes around Skagway, such as the White Pass Hospital, street scenes downtown, the Chilkoot Barracks, a banner leading into town that reads, "Skagway Welcomes You," the school house, the E&R Athletic Hall, Lynn Canal, a glacier near Haines, and the Broadway Theater.

Selmer appears to have been an energetic young woman. She features a trip to Burro Creek with eleven other women in late-May 1931; one of the photographs documenting this trip is a group shot featuring all twelve women, each identified in manuscript around the image. She also apparently played on the Skagway High basketball team. The largest photograph in the album is a full portrait photograph of Selmer kneeling in her uniform, holding a basketball reading, "S.H.S. '31." Selmer also manages to capture some of the scenery around Skagway, most notably the glacier and numerous additional views of Upper Lake Dewey, local waterfalls, a local airfield, and the Skagway waterfront.

Numerous family members and fellow Alaskan residents are pictured and identified in the album, such as Pauline's mother, Raymond Swartz, Leah Ray, numerous others identified by first name, and a Japanese woman named Eiko Tsuijika. Tsuijika has inscribed the photo "To Pauline Selmer." Selmer is pictured in dozens of photographs with her family and friends, almost always with one female friend or another. She is additionally pictured in the company of visiting Navy men.

A unique assemblage of original photographs collected by a Skagway highschooler, featuring the people and places in this still-remote Alaska town, almost a century ago now.

(McBRB2549)

\$2,250

NEWS OF THE ALASKA GOLD RUSH TO A SWEETHEART IN ST. LOUIS

2. [Alaska]. Sherzer, Edwin, B. [Autograph Letter, Signed, from an Early Alaska Gold Rush Entrepreneur to His Fiancée in St. Louis]. Nome, Ak.: November 1, 1900. 6pp., with original transmittal envelope. Loose octavo sheets. Previously folded; light, even tanning. In a slightly hurried, but quite legible script. Very good.

Missouri natives Edwin Sherzer and his brother were two of Nome's first postal workers, while they endeavored to develop a dog sledding business on the side. In this content-rich letter from the first year of the gold rush in Nome, Sherzer describes his life and pursuits in the Alaska boom town to his fiancée Clara at home in St. Louis.

"We have had lots of snow and everything is on runners and everybody riding. The dogs would simply fly over it and we were sitting back on the sled having great fun.... You see women all wrapped up in furs seated in a basket sled with a team of 5 or 6 dogs running along with them. I have found it fine sport, but my brother says just wait until you get out on the trail and it is work, then you won't enjoy it so much.

He continues, talking up their work prospects with their own sled team and his hopes for their fledgling business:

"We have both been working the post office, but that only lasted till Nov 1. However, we would not have stayed anyway as we have our assessment work to do before January and we can also make more money with our dog team. Four or five persons have tried to buy the dogs from us already and one fellow wanted to hire them but we won't let any of them go, as we have a very fine team and have not been keeping them all summer for nothing.

He also comments on the adjustments necessary to living in such a remote place:

"I suppose everything back home is all excitement over the coming election; up here we don't hear or know anything about it and it will be a long time till we find out who is elected.... I ate in one of the restaurants the other day and when they brought things in on china plates I hardly knew what they were and it seemed strange to eat off of them. In the cabin we never wear out coats and they are about the first thing we take off when we come in. Brother remarked the other day what would the folks think if they could see us eating in our shirtsleeves, however we have to adapt ourselves to things here and we get so hot over the stove getting supper and working around, it is simply impossible to do otherwise."

A spirited and descriptive letter concerning life in Nome from a St. Louis native and relative early arrival to the Alaska Gold Rush.

(McBRB2888)

\$1,500

VERNACULAR PHOTOS FROM THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE

3. [Alaska]. [Western Photographica]. [Charming Vernacular Photograph Album Depicting Life in Alaska at the Turn of the Century]. [Georgetown and other locations in Alaska: 1908-1910]. 112 silver gelatin photographs on [28] leaves, including a handful loosely laid in. Small black cloth album. Moderate wear to covers, binding detaching from text block. Black paper leaves, several loose or with wear at edges. Some images with ink notation on photograph; light wear to contents, one photo torn in half, some loose. Good plus.

A charming vernacular photograph album from turn-of-the-century Alaska, documenting the residents and their environs, including several images of the local Inuit. Identified locales include Georgetown, Fairbanks,

Paimiut, and Tanana in Alaska. Though a handful of the images appear to be professional (one is stamped on the verso with the imprint of Duke E. Stubbs of Georgetown), most are clearly amateur and taken by a photographer wandering around town capturing the residents as they go about their days. Georgetown is located in the Alaskan interior on the Kuskokwim River, about 350 miles southeast of Fairbanks as the crow flies. Street scenes show the store front and "shipping fleet" of the N.C. Company; there are also other unidentified street scenes including an image of men perched in boats on an icy river with a view of the town in the background. Other photos show residences or cabins. One photo shows a group of schoolboys, identified on the verso as "St. Matthews boys & Rev. Bettinger" posed on the steps of a wooden building for a pre-picnic photograph with their schoolmaster.

Many of the images feature women and girls, including a wonderful series of eight images showing two young women. In one photo the two pose with guns and pipes clenched in their teeth looking quite saucy for the camera. Other images show them seated side by side on a fence, smiling and laughing; yet another photo shows them standing next to each other smiling with their arms around each other, attired in proper clothing, a camera hanging around one young woman's neck. These are by far some of the best and most striking images in the album. Altogether, this is a wonderful vernacular album from what is undeniably the outer frontier, and at a very early period for photography in the area.

(McBRB2507)

\$2,750

BORDER WAR IN ARIZONA

4. [Arizona]. [Border War]. *Private Louis O. de Rongé Fifth Militia Cavalry Troop B of Hartford Conn. 1916. On the Mexican Border. Arizona [manuscript caption title].* [Nogales, Az.]: 1916. 71 original photographs, most 3.5 x 5.5 inches or slightly smaller. Quarto album, limp leatherette covers. Cloth worn, hinges cracked, spine chipped. Photos in corner mounts, with extensive manuscript captions on album leaves and blank image versos. Adhesive of corner mounts beginning to fail, some photos loose, but generally crisp, clean images. Good plus.

A vernacular album containing over seventy well composed and printed images that document the experience of Louis O. de Rongé, who was with his militia unit at Nogales, Arizona, in 1916 during the Border War. De Rongé was a private in the Fifth Militia Cavalry Troop B from Hartford, Connecticut, a unit that had originated as the state governor's Volunteer Horse Guards. The troop was mustered into federal service on June 20, 1916 and was sent to Nogales directly in order to strengthen border security while Pershing's Punitive Expedition was ongoing. They remained stationed on the border until October, and were eventually sent to the Western Front as part of a machine gun battalion following American entry into World War I.

The present album provides an excellent of the experience for this group of Connecticut national guardsmen. In addition to portraits of fellow enlisted men, officers, and staff, the photographs contain numerous images of camp life and training, and several examples of the troop on maneuvers and on patrol in the surrounding area, going as far afield as the tiny town of Arivaca, thirty-five miles northwest of their camp. The album also includes several interesting shots of the two towns of Nogales as well as of the local Mexican and American populations. Each image is well captioned both on the album leaves and on the blank versos of the prints. The final ten uncaptioned images are apparently family portraits unrelated to the subject. De Rongé clearly knew his way around a camera, as the images here are quite well produced and constitute a very good record of service life in Nogales, where tensions between Mexico and the United States were often at their highest during this period.

(McBRB2569)

\$1,500

DOS NOGALES

5. [Arizona]. [Photography]. [*Panoramic Photograph of Nogales, Arizona and Mexico, Captioned in the Negative:*] *Nogales, Mexico. La Plaza Inter. N. Bndry. Nogales, Ariz., U.S.A.* Los Angeles: Jameson, [ca. 1916]. Panoramic photograph, 8 x 48.5 inches. Rolled. Light creasing and cracking at vertical edges; moderate soiling in upper right corner. A crisp image with good contrast, captioned in the negative. Very good.

An excellent panoramic view of the two towns of Nogales, on the U.S-Mexico international boundary in Arizona and Sonora, taken by a Los Angeles photographer during the Mexican Revolution and Border War. The image was taken with a circuit-view camera and presents a wide-angle view of the Mexican and American settlements centered on the border, then just a road called International Street / Calle International, and the Plaza and City Hall of the Mexican Nogales. To the right of center are the two train stations directly adjacent to one another, straddling the border, with most of American Nogales further to the right and spreading into the background. The photograph was taken from a hill just on the Mexican side of the border, looking slightly northwest; captions in the negative identify the respective sides and the international boundary, as well as the plaza at the center of the image. None of the military buildup around Nogales, which resulted from a skirmish in 1915 and precipitated the Battle of Los Ambos Nogales in 1918, is visible, but another panorama taken by this photographer on the same excursion from a farther vantage point shows American soldiers and army tents that surrounded Nogales during the Border War. OCLC locates no individually catalogued examples of this photograph, though we locate a possible copy in the Southwestern photography archives of the University of Arizona.

(McBRB3187)

\$1,750

WOMEN IN FRONTIER ARIZONA

6. [Arizona]. [Women]. [*Group of Six Letters Written to "Aunt May" and Her Daughter Franc by Her Niece, Margarette, Describing Life in Arizona and Other Family Matters*]. Phoenix & Yuma: 1898-1906. Six letters, totaling [22]pp., plus three additional letters dated 1914 from Franc's husband, [38]pp. Quarto on folded folio sheets. Old fold lines, minor wear. Very good.

A small group of letters written over the course of several years from a niece to her aunt and cousin, with both writer and recipients located in Arizona. The family seems to have been fairly well off, with talk of trips to the California coast and time spent at curative hot springs, as well as household staff. The younger woman, named Margarette, writes chatty, well-spoken letters full of interesting details. Her first, dated at Phoenix in 1898, counsels Aunt May on the benefits and downsides of renting out her house ~ possibly a second home, as it would require furnishing ~ for part of the year. She encourages Aunt May to simply stay with them when visiting and sell the other house. She writes, "We will be very likely to be home in March, or April at latest, and are going to have an Indian girl at once; so there isn't any reason why you can't stay with us."

In 1902, Aunt May's husband died, and two of the letters here are single-page condolence notes. Margarette writes, "Be very careful and [do] not get sick yourselves," indicating he died of something contagious. In 1904, Margarette was tasked with closing up Aunt May's house, apparently while she and Franc went on an extended trip. She writes from Phoenix:

"Do not trouble yourself about the things you left for me to do.... I think I sent you all the things you mention as well as some you did not. The shoes which were new; and the stockings also, I put in the express package; as I thought you would surely want them. I packed the broken and whole negatives carefully, and am sure they will go all right; also the Indian pictures. I saw Franc's postal card albums in the library at your house when I was up there; shall they be taken to the block."

She continues, discussing specific items which might need to be taken care of. At one point she says, "Do not try to do anything at all over there, until you are rested," and writes with concern about the state of their nerves and physical health. Indeed, the family seems prey to all manner of illness, with Margarett's mother's rheumatism and neuralgia, her aunt's frayed nerves, her cousin's poor heart and kidneys, and finally her husband, who suffers from a serious but unidentified illness. She writes of him in 1904, "I think Jed will go on a trip to Tonto Basin via Globe taking Kitt with him; and be gone three or four weeks, and while they are gone Mama and I will sew like smoke." In her next letter, dated at Yuma in 1906, however, she is writing about packing up her own house with the goods to be held in a warehouse awaiting a destination for delivery. She writes of her husband, "Jed is getting better slowly but is quite weak; has to have only liquid food, and care all the time. But he has a good nurse and every attention." In November, she writes of a tortured summer: "...we had all been almost without sleep, since Jed was taken sick. So while he was gone up the coast we tried to make up and couldn't sleep, especially me. Then when Jed came back, and we all went to Long Beach, we were up so many times in the night rubbing him and waiting on him; and he seemed so hopelessly sick and getting worse all the time; and was so sure himself that he was going to die.... Then I had retroversion and sciatica and headache; and had to go to the osteopath myself. I can't afford to get sick with Jed so miserable and Mama so lame."

She mentions small details of daily life throughout her letters, but the two written from Yuma in 1906 are the most interesting. In her letter from January she writes, "We have a fair cook, and I make the desserts. The kitchen would turn your hair white, but you mustn't go there. The burglar makes beds and sweeps etc. I have no housework to do. It isn't done as I want it but I let it go. You see it is this way: either I have the prison help or none; and I have graduated from housework in Arizona. Then they are all so nice to me, that I shut my eyes to their shortcomings in the housekeeping." Her letter from opens by asking Aunt May, "What are you'uns up to? 'Fess right up.' I hear that you have 'the making of an Indian training school at your house'; How are you getting on with your Pimas." She subsequently writes, "They say there will be a boom in real estate in Salt River pretty soon, but the only thing that I can hear booming yet, is the Colorado River and Vinia's cough. ... Jed was anxious to make a flying trip to Phoenix this week coming. But the Gila bridge is gone; and there has been no Phoenix mail for two days; so he must needs delay the journey. I am glad he can't go yet, though I'm sorry of course that they've lost the bridge."

Altogether, the group is an interesting look at one woman's frontier life in Arizona Territory at the turn of the 20th century, as told to a close relative who has also moved to the region.

(McBRB1950)

\$750

UNIQUE CUBAN MANUSCRIPT OF A MEXICAN INDEPENDENCE MANIFESTO

7. Barcena, Manuel de la. *Manifiesto del Mundo. La Justicia y Necesidad de la Independencia de Nueva España* [manuscript title]. [Havana?]: 1822. [49]pp. Small quarto. Partially sewed, with several loose gatherings. Occasional dust soiling; light tanning and scattered faint foxing. Accomplished in a highly legible script. Very good.

A contemporary manuscript copy of Manuel de la Barcena's scarce call for Mexican Independence, first printed in Puebla in 1821, with a second edition being published in Veracruz the same year. A note on the final page of the present manuscript indicates that this was copied from an extremely rare third edition, printed in Havana in 1822, or that perhaps this manuscript, which is set out like a book, constitutes a third edition.

In the early years of the 19th century, much of the conservative Mexican clergy opposed independence, observing the oath of loyalty to Spain sworn to under the terms of the Church's Patronato Real. Resistance to independence in the quarter dissipated following the Riego Revolt of 1820, and the abandonment by the clergy was one of the significant blows to colonial New Spain that led to the recognition of independence for Mexico in 1821. Manuel de la Barcena (1768-1830) was the Archdeacon of Michoacan through the years of Central and South American independence from Spain. Mirroring the sentiments of clergymen in New Spain, Barcena initially opposed the insurgent movement but came around to the notion of independence and became sympathetic to the cause of Iturbide and his allies. He was a signatory of the Act of Independence of the Mexican Empire and was appointed a member of the Regency of the Mexican Empire.

Barcena begins by flatly stating that, "The independence of New Spain is absolutely necessary," and notes that, "The flames of discontent have become greater between the years 1817 and 1820, flames fanned by the desires of freedom, liberty, and individuality...." His principal argument against colonial rule is one of logic and geography:

"New Spain cannot exist politically, and depend on the mother country more than 2,000 leagues away.... So much time is wasted in government offices. Sometimes a whole year passes by before we receive a reply to a petition.... Just suppose the Russians cared to land in California, and the Spanish artillery happened to be in the Pyrenees...."

Barcena continues with many moral, philosophical, and religious arguments for independence, and the whole is an impassioned but forceful argument for an independent Mexico that comprises a fascinating reflection of opinion of a powerful faction in Mexican society just before independence was fully realized. The Havana edition contains a foreword from the publishers, noting the importance of its content to politics across the Spanish American colonies and several added footnotes. OCLC notes a single copy of this Havana edition, at DIBAM (Chile), and any edition is extremely scarce on the market ~ the Eberstadts offered the first Puebla edition in 1956 for \$300, and a contemporary Barcelona reprint of the Veracruz edition sold for approximately \$1400 at a Mexican auction in 2016. "Rare and valuable" (Eberstadt), and an important treatise favoring the imminent independence of Mexico, and fascinating evidence of its distribution across the Spanish colonial world.

Eberstadt 138:40 (ref). Medina, Puebla 1883 (ref). Palau 128843 (later ed.).
(McBRB2856)

\$3,750

FIGHTING INDIANS AND CHASING WOMEN ON THE NUECES RIVER

8. Beggs, William. [*Autograph Letter, Signed, by William Beggs to J.A. Richards Concerning the Soldiering Life, Including Chasing Mexican Women*]. Camp G.W.F. Wood, Texas: Oct. 18, 1857. [3]pp. On a bifolium. Previously folded. Bottom half of second leaf and upper corners torn away, with no loss of text. Good plus.

In this lively letter, William Beggs writes from Camp Wood to an enlisted friend at Fort Duncan, J.A. Richards, about the military experience in "the wilderness of living." The letter, dated October 18, 1857, was written several months after the establishment of the camp on the Nueces River, in the Hill Country between San Antonio and Del Rio, on the site of an abandoned Spanish mission in order to defend against Indian raids farther from settled areas. He writes, in part:

"I hope that in the course of a few weeks, you will be able to 'duty' around as usual, and let Mexican ladies go to H-ll; for my part, I think I have got quite enough of such cattle; but still, you are aware that I always had a liking for the 'beauties' while I was in Eagle Pass, and I hope they learned me a lesson which I will not soon

forget.... I understand, from good authority, that we are also going to get twenty horses for the use of this post (or camp, as it is called) and I 'calculate' or 'reckon' we will have great times, charging through the bushes after the 'Injuns,' for they say the Indians are plenty about 50 or so miles up above us on Pecos & Nueces Rivers."

Beggs continues in this vein, describing the disposition of the camp and his daily routine with much enthusiasm. An entertaining letter from a remote Texas military outpost just prior to the Civil War.

(McBRB1167)

\$450

LIFE OF A VANCOUVER ISLAND TEACHER IN PHOTOS

9. [British Columbia Photographica]. [Education]. [Waugh, Mary S.]. [*Charming Annotated Vernacular Photograph Album Assembled by Students of the North Galiano School and Given to Their Teacher in British Columbia*]. [Mainly Galiano Island, B.C.: 1911-1919]. [25] leaves, illustrated with 100 vernacular photographs, the great majority annotated in white pencil on the album pages. Contemporary suede souvenir snapshot album with image of Native American on front cover, string-tied. Minor chipping and light soiling to covers. Two leaves detached, and two photos removed, but pictures in overall very nice shape. Very good.

A unique look into the life of Mary S. Waugh, a rural teacher from Vancouver during her time teaching in a one-room school on Galiano Island, part of the Southern Gulf Islands between Vancouver Island and the lower mainland of British Columbia. According to a handwritten gift bookplate on the inside front cover, the album was given "To M.S. Waugh from the pupils of the N. Galiano School as a small token of their esteem July 1918." Ms. Waugh then added more photographs through 1919. The photographs, most of which are annotated, document various locations on Galiano Island (population 1,044 as of 2016) and greater Vancouver, Trincomalie Channel (including a small two-part panorama), Cowichan Gap, Active Pass, Point Atkinson, various island residents, the school pupils (all eight of them), the Galiano School itself, mountain climbing, Ms. Waugh and her friends, and two pictures of the Glee Club at Britannia High School in Vancouver, two views of the Queen Mary School in Point Grey, and a sixth-grade school class picture at Provincial Normal School in Vancouver. Waugh also apparently spent some time in Virginia before her time in British Columbia, with a handful of the photographs recording her time teaching at Buena Vista, Virginia and a few other locations in Charlottesville and Lexington (including Robert E. Lee's chapel).

(McBRB2441)

\$950

TYPESCRIPT DRAFT OF CALIFORNIA HISTORY

10. Bynum, Lindley. [*Typescript with Corrections of The Record Book of the Rancho Santa Ana del Chino*]. [1948]. 3,45,[1] typescript leaves, plus [6]pp. typed contract and two single-page typed letters. Typescript leaves loose; contract stapled into printed blue wrappers. Light wear and soiling to script leaves, with a few minor chips and very short tears at edges. Copious contemporary manuscript annotations in pencil and ink throughout. About very good.

Interesting typescript draft of *The Record Book of the Rancho Santa Ana del Chino*, as transcribed by Lindley Bynum, a historian and author who held the position of librarian for California history at the Huntington beginning in 1933. The transcription was made by Bynum from the manuscript record book held by the Huntington, which contains extensive notes on the operations from 1849 to 1854 of the rancho, located in the southwestern corner of present-day San Bernadino County and run by one of the earliest American emigrants to California, Isaac Williams. The typescript contains numerous manuscript annotations and corrections to the text, which was published privately by Bynum in a small number of copies. Useful both for

information contained in the record book and as a document of the publication process for an important California historical manuscript.
(McBRB1957) \$450

GOLD RUSH LETTER

11. [California Gold Rush]. Morse, W.H. [*Manuscript Letter from a Forty-Niner in St. Louis, Priming to Embark on the Overland Trail*]. St. Louis: April 4, 1849. [8]pp., on a bifolium and two separate sheets. Previously folded. Light wear and discoloration along old folds; one minor loss at fold point, slightly affecting text. Composed in a tight but highly legible script. Very good.

A detailed letter from Forty-niner W.H. Morse in St. Louis en route to California, sent to a friend back home in New England. The preponderance of the missive details his journey from an unnamed town in the northeast, in which he went south through Baltimore to Harper's Ferry, and then through to the Cumberland Gap to Morgantown, where he caught steamboats that took him to Pittsburgh and Cincinnati ("A fine looking city only they don't pay much attention to the Sabbath..."). He continued along the Ohio River, and remarks on several of the sights, including William Henry Harrison's Log Cabin and, more grimly, a plantation with a large number of slaves working in the fields near the defunct Kentucky village of Cairo ("The most miserable unhealthy place I ever saw"). Morse completed his journey up the Mississippi River to St. Louis ("a right smart place as the western folks term it"), with the whole of his journey to that point taking thirty-five days. In the final part of his letter he first describes the city, where he has been for three weeks:

"I had supposed that St Louis was almost out of the world, but you will see laying along the levee most every day from 80 to 100 steam boats, some for Missouri river, some for Illinois, some for the Ohio & some for the far famed city of New Orleans and I must say that there is more business done according to the size of the city than any other that I was ever in...."

Morse then moves on to discussing preparations for the onward journey to California:

"I have been here three weeks next Friday with Mr Frye another member of our company buying our provisions & tools & medicins [sic] and we are now waiting for our waggons from Pittsburg. They are shipped and will be here tomorrow or next day when we shall leave here for St Joseph where the rest of our company have gone.... Our road will be along by Fort Laramie and & through the South Pass of the Rocky Mountains. There are great many that will go through in company with us, perhaps from 5 to 8000 although some place it as high as 12000 ~ and the best looking set of men I ever saw. They all look hardy as though they could endure any hardship. Ministers, doctors, lawyers, and one judge that is [sic] stopping at the house that stop at. Our New Englanders are very highly complemented by the St Louis papers and I think they deserve it for they all seem to behave extremely well thus far...."

An interesting and expansive letter by an early Forty-niner, just as he is about to set off on the Overland Trail from Missouri to California in the Spring of 1849.
(McBRB3062) \$1,500

AROUND THE HORN TO GOLD COUNTRY

12. [California Gold Rush]. Klages, Theodore H. [*Manuscript Account of a Canadian's Voyage Around the Horn to California*]. [Various places, mostly South America & California: 1858]. [26]pp. Narrow quarto journal.

Quarter cloth and marbled boards, front board lacking. Leaves loose; minor wear at edges. Moderate toning and dust soiling. Accomplished in a highly legible script. Good.

An engaging manuscript narrative of a California Gold Rush voyage, including a harrowing account of passage through the Strait of Megellan and lively descriptions various ports of call along the route. Theodore Klages left Hamilton, Ontario for California on August 17, 1858. The narrative offered here appears to be a polished version of his journal and was likely written within a year or two of his voyage.

Klages departs by train for New York, passing through Niagara Falls and stopping in Albany. He remarks early on that he is about to traverse some 15,000 miles of water and conveys the sense of danger of his coming voyage. He leaves New York on August 22 aboard the steamer Hermann with some 600 passengers. On August 30, they cross the Tropic of Cancer, and the Captain celebrates with a small display of fireworks; by September 10, they have crossed the Equator. Four days later, a quarrel breaks out and a man stabs another man three times, but the victim survives; the aggressor is "manacled & locked up to await his trial in the next Port." On September 18, they arrive in Rio de Janeiro, 26 days after leaving New York. Here Klages offers an extended description of the city, its harbor, mountainous, and tropical surroundings. He takes daily walks through the city; visits several coffee plantations; and during a visit to a cathedral, and sees the Emperor and his wife: "All the people as he passed bowed on their knees and said a short prayer." Klages comments at length on local society and mentions the 7-mile long city aqueduct. Along with several companions he hikes to the summit of a mountain west of the city: "It seemed to me as I stood on that mountain top as though I was looking at a new world.... It appeared like a Paradise, a vast garden of fruits and flowers." After nine days in Rio de Janeiro, the narrative cuts, perhaps because of a missing leaf, to the Strait of Magellan where the ship is beset by "a perfect hurricane":

"We arrived at the mouth. The night was dark as pitch. The sea running high and dashing furiously against the distant rocks resembling the roar of artillery. We had still one dangerous place to pass... a number of rocks known as the Judges & Apostles, many of which are just below the surface of the water while others extend from twenty to 200 feet out of the ocean. Many a poor marine has had to make this place his resting place.... At each lightning flash we could discern the rocks. Showing their fearful sides and expecting momentarily to be dashed against them. They being not more than a hundred yards to our side.... Some of the passengers were praying, some crying, singing and others cursing, the last of which most resorted to. In that moment how many thought of those dear ones whom they had left behind, never to be seen by them again.... At about this time part of our Wheelhouse was carried off by the sea, along with the last of our bulwarks. Our Pilot was thrown twice over the wheel, being unable to hold it. The steamer was beginning to become unmanageable.... Had anything happened to the engine during this gale we all should have been lost. No one would have been saved to have told the tale of our ship wreck.... The storm continued all night, but towards morning it began to abate, so that we were able to make from three to four miles per hour. The whole ocean looked like a sheet of foam, and the waves rolling mountain high and tossing our ship to and fro as though it were but an eggshell. But now we began to breathe more free, our hearts seemed to expand with the thought of being saved and the hope of making our destined harbor safely."

After making it out alive and seemingly against the odds, they pass the Western coast of Patagonia, and reach the small town of Lodi [??] Chile where they procure provisions, cattle, and coal. Most of its inhabitants are "government debtors, forced to work in the coal mines until the sum which they owe had been canceled." Klages observes, "The most become old and decrepit before the sum has been attained for which they are held. The slaves of North America live like princes to what these poor beings have. They wear but little clothing. Their whole habiliments consisting of a shirt extending to the knees."

Next, they steam to Valparaiso, Chile, where they find some 167 vessels in the port. Here Klages comments at length on a wide variety of topics, including the local social structure:

"The people here are comprised of these distinct classes. The peon or half breed form the lowest and are the only persons by whom all low drudge work is performed. Next comes the mechanic and the highest in the scale is the aristocrat or wealthy man. They seldom if ever associate together.... The half breeds are all well built robust men, and some of them are descendants of some of the first Spanish families, but who becoming government debtors and being partly Indians are doomed to drag out a miserable existence."

Other topics covered include the landscape, climate, architecture, languages, and American investment in the region. The steamer leaves Valparaiso on October 26, soon arriving at the Island of Taboga, located just nine miles from Panama. Here the ship's captain leaves the vessel, having been called back to New York by the steamer company. On November 15, they pass four active volcanoes along the coast of El Salvador, one of which is said to have destroyed the old city of Guatemala. Soon after, one of their Quartermasters dies from Panama fever, whereupon Klages witnesses his first sea burial.

On November 27, the Hermann arrives in San Francisco. Klages stays in a hotel where he enjoys a fine meal and promptly makes inquiries in reference to business, which he finds to be dull, prompting him set out for the Southern mines. On the 29th, he takes a steamer to Sacramento, then a stage to Stockton, arriving on the first of December. Proceeding to the mines, Klages and his fellow miners run into a number of "Chinamen" panning for gold without much success, a dispiriting experience for the greenhorns. After several days of prospecting, Klages throws in the towel, calling it "a bad job." He concludes:

"People who have never been in the mines can hardly form an idea thereof. By the most, it is considered a perfect wilderness, where the houses are few and far between. Once it was so, but now wherever gold is found there is also a flourishing village, in many instances built right in the heart of them. The ground in such places has all been washed and in many cases three and four times over. Persons therefore going to the mines stand but a poor chance..."

The Los Angeles Herald records various lands sales involving one Theodore H. Klages from 1895 to 1902; his name likely being uncommon, this evidence would seem to suggest that Klages remained in the state despite his disappointments. A lively record of a Canadian's voyage to California in pursuit of gold.

(McBRB3056)

\$4,750

MANUSCRIPT NEVADA COUNTY MINING MAP

13. [California]. [Mining]. *Map of Mining Ground Situated on Manzanita Hill Near Sweetlands As Surveyed for the Manzanita Mining Co. [manuscript title].* Sweetland, Ca.: 1867. Hand-colored manuscript map, approximately 15 x 21.5 inches. Matted and in corner mounts. Mounted on linen. A few short closed tears and minor chips at edges, not entering map area. Horizontal crease across center of map. Light tanning and scattered foxing. About very good.

A neatly composed and hand-colored manuscript of the Manzanita mine in the Sweetland mining district, located in Nevada County, California. The settlement of Sweetland was established in 1850 by the Sweetland brothers, who operated a trading post there in the early 1850s. The Manzanita mine was one of the largest in the district and the Manzanita Company was listed in the famous 1867 Bean's Directory of Nevada County, contemporaneous to the drawing of the present map. It is unclear, however, whether the company enjoyed much ultimate success.

Here, the claims of the Manzanita Company, along with those of the Administration Company, and the Rough & Ready and Buck & Breck claims, are delineated in black ink and hand shaded in six colors. Claims that were apparently established subsequent to in both pencil and light blue ink, and are labeled Tennessee, Kentucky, Fremont, Prospect, Riley & Graham, and so on. A note at the bottom right corner states that the map, composed from a survey completed in November 1867, was "filed Feb 5th 1868 at 3 o'clock P.M. and recorded at the request of H.S. Bradley," the county surveyor. In all, a quite attractive and informative manuscript California mining map composed just after the Civil War, that evidently does not conform to any printed cartographic examples relating to these claims.

(McBRB2904)

\$2,250

MAKING WATER IN CALIFORNIA

14. [California]. [Water]. [*Five Early Views of Hemet Lake and Dam*]. Hemet, Ca.: 1906. Five silver gelatin photographs, each 6.5 x 8.5 inches. Mounted uniformly on boards with printed captions. Light wear and scattered light staining to mounts and images. About very good.

Five original, apparently promotional images of the attractions in the vicinity of Hemet, California, including two shots of Lake Hemet, two of the Great Hemet Dam, and one of the Hotel Hemet, all taken in early April 1906. The dam of the San Jacinto River which created Lake Hemet was completed in 1895 and is located approximately twenty-five miles southeast of the town of Hemet itself. The Hotel Hemet was owned by financier W.F. Whittier and was destroyed by earthquake in 1918. A nice set of images relating to this water project in the San Jacinto Mountains, whose dam for a short time in the early-20th century stood as the tallest such structure built by solid masonry.

(McBRB2045)

\$475

HOMESTEADING IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

15. [California]. [Western Photographical]. [*Group of Sixteen Photographs Documenting Life in and Around the Small Town of Elk, California*]. Elk, Ca.: C.M. Walker, [ca. 1895]. Sixteen silver gelatin photographs (2.25 x 2.25 inches) mounted to white glazed cards (3.75 x 3.75 inches), each with the photographer's imprint. Light soil to mounts, a few images lightly faded. Very good.

An interesting collection of photographs documenting the lives of a homesteading community in rural California. Scenes here depict men, women, and young children on horseback through wooded and brush-like terrain, what wooden buildings can be seen in a state of some disrepair. The domestic scenes show the women building a fire outside, fishing in a stream, and doing laundry in a large wooden tub, children clothed and unclothed dotting the scenery. The tiny, unincorporated community of Elk, in Mendocino County, California, remains quite small to this day ~ a recent census lists the population at 208. The present collection of photographs depict the community in its nascent days, when it was the site of a large sawmill which was producing, by 1890, 80,000 feet of lumber a day. Indeed, many of the shots show a rather beleaguered landscape of wooded areas stripped down to stumps and decaying limbs. The photographs were taken by Scottish-born photographer C.M. Walker (1862-1947), who emigrated to California in 1892 where he worked on the construction of a dam on the Tuolumne River. An accident on the job led to the loss of a limb and Walker turned to photography, opening his San Francisco studio in 1895, which remained active until 1906 when he was elected Justice of the Peace. The present images have the imprint "C.M. Walker, Elk, Cal." on the mounts. A nice group of images depicting an obscure California logging town in its early years.

(McBRB2330)

\$800

TRYING TO HALT ILLEGAL LAND SALES IN TEXAS

16. [Coahuila y Tejas]. [Land]. [Manuscript Document on Foreigners and Lands]. Leona Vicario [i.e., Saltillo]: December 31, 1830. [3]pp., on a bifolium. Minor dampstain at upper corner of both leaves. Light tanning. Highly legible. Very good.

A quite interesting December 1830 letter from a government official in Saltillo, Santiago del Valle, to his superiors that expresses his intention to halt illegal land sales in Texas according to the infamous land law passed by the Mexican legislature on April 6, 1830. "The Law of April 6, 1830, said to be the same type of stimulus to the Texas Revolution that the Stamp Act was to the American Revolution, was initiated by Lucas Alamán y Escalada, Mexican minister of foreign relations, and was designed to stop the flood of immigration from the United States to Texas.... The law, reasonable from the Mexican point of view, authorized a loan to finance the cost of transporting colonists to Texas, opened the coastal trade to foreigners for four years, provided for a federal commissioner of colonization to supervise empresario contracts in conformity with the general colonization law, forbade the further introduction of slaves into Mexico, and apparently was intended to suspend existing empresario contracts" - Handbook of Texas Online.

Del Valle would soon profit from the law, which was used in 1832 to strip Benjamin Milam of his land grant around present-day Austin and transfer its ownership to del Valle. In this letter, he states that because of the new law, he now has the authority to prevent illegal sales from occurring and that he will attempt to do so:

"Con presencia de lo que vuestra excelencia se sirve decirme en su oficio del 13 del corriente y especies que contiene la copia que adjunta de la nota reservada que para la 1a. secretaría de estado se pasó á vuestra excelencia el 25 del último Octubre, cuya comunicación se hizo a este gobierno relativo todo a las ventas que se están practicando en los Estados Unidos del Norte de las tierras que se han concedido en el Departamento de Bejar en conformidad de las leyes de la colonización, las que ciertamente en ningún sentido dan derecho a los agraciados con dichas tierras para que puedan enajarlas a extranjeros.... Me ha parecido que la medida que vuestra excelencia se dignó proporcionarme debe cortar, en efecto, los avisos indicados y como tal digo a vuestra excelencia como comisionado que es por el Supremo Gobierno de la Federacion para intervenir en los asuntos de colonizacion de Tejas en virtud de la ley de 6 de Abril del corriente año...."

He concludes by reporting that he has also written to the government in San Antonio, informing them of this intention:

"Con esta fecha transcribo al jefe del Departamento de Bejar y demás autoridades del estado a mi cargo esta comunicación a fin de que entiendan su conocimiento entre todos los avitantes del mismo estado y en particularidad de los de aquel pais encargandoles usen al efecto de todos los medios posibles para proliros [?] que pudieran parecer en otras circunstancias, pues asi los require el tamaño del desorden que se trata de evitar."

A fascinating manuscript record of the initial enforcement of the provocative 1830 land law by one of its eventual beneficiaries.

(McBRB2116)

\$3,500

LARGE ARCHIVE OF THE 94 TUNNEL MINING COMPANY

17. [Colorado Mining]. Francis, George. Possell, George. [Large Archive Documenting Activities of the 94 Tunnel Mining Company in Clear Creek Colorado]. [Primarily locations in Colorado: 1900-1908]. Approximately 300

total pages, comprising 90 letters and other various materials, primarily manuscripts. Contents clean with minimal wear, written in a clear and legible hand. Very good.

An extensive archive of letters and other documents from the founding of the 94 Tunnel Mining Company through its first years of operation. The present materials were accumulated by George Francis of LaPorte, Indiana, who served first as the company's vice president and subsequently as its president. Most of the letters herein were written to Mr. Francis by the company's founding secretary, George Possell, and most are dated either at Denver or at Yankee, Colorado between 1901 and 1905. In addition to more than 200pp. of correspondence, the archive includes a manuscript account of the company's initial organizational meeting, a typed report on the property at Yankee Hill, typed reports of shareholder meetings, and numerous forms with stock and shareholder information. There is also a printed prospectus for the Yankee Hill Gold Section of Clear Creek County which mentions the mine, and a small ledger kept by George Francis recording expenses and other business information related to the company.

Yankee Hill is located approximately twenty miles northwest from the current outskirts of Denver. The 94 Tunnel Mining Company was organized on May 28, 1900 at a meeting in Denver, and the manuscript minutes of the meeting lay out the initial election of officers, as well as the by-laws governing the company. A typed report from July that year gives the location, general condition, and progress of the camp, as well as its geologic advantages. "The '94 Tunnel is three hours ride from Idaho Springs by stage, and the property of the company is located on the southwest slope of Yankee Hill. Its surface, buildings and large acreage or property has resulted in its being more generally known as 'The '94 Camp.' I should say that it was located at the very center of the mineral bearing belt of the camp." The author goes on to report about the veins and lodes in the area, and the rosy future of the 94 Tunnel: "the ore in sight and that which will be developed by the '94 Crosscut can be treated very cheaply by reason of the situation and condition existing at your property... from the size and continuity of the veins I am prepared to say that there must be an amount that would appall one were he to reach figures by any method of computation." The primary product was gold, though other ores were also in evidence. The company appears to have had at least two presidents in its first two years of operation; an annual report from 1901 indicates George Francis as vice president, and by letters from 1902 he is named on the letterhead as president. This seems to have remained the case until 1908, when he shifted roles back to vice president. George Possell is listed as secretary and treasurer throughout this period.

Possell, who seems to have been a driving force for the success of the mine, writes in great detail about the operations at Yankee Hill. Possell was also involved with the Home Dairy Restaurant in Denver, and seems to have split his time and energy between the two businesses. His early letters are full of optimism for the success of the venture, and filled with rigorous detail. In addition to corresponding about matters relating to the company's stocks and finances in his role as treasurer, he gives precise information about ore loads and operations ~ essentially, he was the company's man on the ground. Writing to Francis in December 1901, he discusses the production rates at the mill in the current wintry conditions:

"Well Mr. Francis I found the mill in operation and what work is being done is very satisfactory. The saving is very good and to concentrates have good value. The last assay by stack was \$108.40 per ton on concentrates, but the amount that can be put through is to[o] small. As near as I can estimate the run about 50 ton in the last 17 day making a little over 4 tons concentrates. I don't think the concentrates will go much above \$75.00 so you see we are not making enough to pay expenses of running the mill as are from \$22.00 to \$25.00 per day. ... it seems to me we better not try to run the mill untill our capacity is increased and the tables rebuild. As it is it takes five men to run, whereas three ought to and can do the work when the things are in proper shape."

As the months and years progress, the difficulties involved in mining become more apparent, both to the reader and perhaps also to the author. In September 1902 the mine needed capital for improvements, and Possell writes, "Winter is almost upon us again and we can not expect to do a great deal of out side work this fall. I wish we could get enough money to get that placer patent through at once, and a most necessary thing that should be done by all means and that is to fix up the drainage in the 94 tunnel. This should be attended to at once or we will be in the same mess that we were in last winter. It not only fills the tunnel with ice but spoils the timbering if the tunnel. We are obliged to put in several sets of timber now on account of frost and ice last winter." And flooding wasn't the only problem the mine faced that month. Writing a week later, he delivers "another disgusting piece of news" to Francis: "I was served with a summons this morning by which Mr. J.J. Smith brings action for \$20,000.00 against the 94 Tunnel Mining Co. claiming that we unlawfully refused to issue him 147,994 shares of the capital stock of this company in accordance with a contract and agreement dated May 3rd, 1900." He goes on to give Francis the background history on the matter, saying Smith had wanted stock issued but Possell lacked revenue stamps to issue it; he said Smith could provide the stamps, which he refused to do and then "got very abusive to me and drew a big knife on me and afterwards told Mr. Weicher that if I did not issue that stock he would cut my --- heart out."

In addition to Possell's lively correspondence, there are meeting reports and other relevant documents relating to the company's enterprises. One letter from May 1902 is written to Francis by a J.B. Knoblock, an entrepreneur and fellow Hoosier, who wishes to sell the company a Boileau Pulverizer machine; his letter includes samples of crushed rock folded into small sleeves of paper. There are also several printed circulars and reports dated after 1908 reporting on the activities of the company. Altogether, this is a tremendous trove of archival documentation recording the activities and travails of a Colorado gold mining operation at the turn of the century, written from one company officer to another. Clearly worthy of further research.

(McBRB1531)

\$7,500

"BLACK HILLS, THE SWITZERLAND OF AMERICA"

18. Cross, William R. [*Group of Fourteen Stereoviews of South Dakota Depicting the Black Hills Region*]. Hot Springs, S.D.: W.R. Cross, [ca. 1890s]. Fourteen stereoviews on three different mounts, from 3.5 x 7 inches to 4.25 x 7 inches. Light wear and soiling, minor chipping to some cards. Images lightly faded. About very good.

An attractive and varied group of fourteen stereocards by W.R. Cross (1839-1907), one of the first professionally trained photographers operating on the Great Plains. Cross began his career in Omaha, Nebraska, in 1867, before moving several years later to the northwestern corner of the state. In 1890, he purchased a gallery from J.W. Pike in Hot Springs, South Dakota, near the Pine Ridge Reservation in the Black Hills, and operated it until his death in 1907. Cross made a name for himself traveling and photographing Native Americans around the West, and was one of the photographers to document the aftermath of the Battle of Wounded Knee. After 1891, he focused on his work at the gallery, traveling far less and creating a series of views of the Black Hills; much of his surviving photography stems from this period.

The images present here are mounted on three different sets of cards, with eight of them appearing on a 4 x 7 inches mount with verso advertisements that promote Cross as a "photographic artist" producing views and portraits in the "Lower Town of Hot Springs, S.D." Four views are on slightly larger cards which note on the verso that Cross is the "oldest and most reliable gallery in Hot Springs," and two are regular-size stereocards printed only on the front: "Black Hills, the Switzerland of America, reached by the Northwestern Line. W.R. Cross Photo, Hot Springs, S.D." We believe these smaller cards to be his earlier work, with the largest mounts dating perhaps closer toward 1900. The views are as follows:

"Catholicon, Hot Springs, S.D."
 "Minnekahta Avenue, Hot Springs, S.D."
 "Wind Cave Black Hills, S.D. Scene in Garden of Eden."
 "View of Wind Cave, in the Black Hills. Scene in Garden of Eden."
 "View of Wind Cave, in the Black Hills. Council Chamber."
 "High Rocks at Sylvan Lake, 6 Miles from Custer, S.D."
 "Needles Near Sylvan Lake, S.D. 500 Feet High; Altitude 7,500 Feet."
 "Soldiers' Home, Hot Springs, S.D. on F.E. & M.V. R'y."
 "Spearfish Canyon from Trestle Work, Looking Northwest. Seven Mile Bend to Gain 600 Feet, B. & M. R'y, Black Hills, S.D."
 "Spearfish Falls, Black Hills, S.D., B. & M. R'y."
 "Plunge Bath, Hot Springs, S.D."
 "Scene in Devil's Park, Cascade Springs, Black Hills, South Dakota."
 "Observatory Ridge, Cascade Springs, Black Hills, South Dakota. Jan. Tem. 60o."
 "44 Sioux Indian Tepees."
 (McBRB1251) \$650

DIARY AND ACCOUNTS OF A RURAL IOWA FARMER

19. Erskine, Harlow Linzel. [*Handwritten Diary of H.L. Erskine, Farmer in Onawa, Iowa*]. [Onawa, Ia.: 1870-1871]. [88]pp. Handmade journal comprised of forty-four lined sheets, folded and stitched with twine. Outer leaves detached, minor wear at upper corner. In a somewhat cramped but legible hand. About very good.

Manuscript diary and account book for 1870 and 1871 of Harlow Erskine, a farmer and lumberman in the small town of Onawa, in western Iowa near the Missouri River and the border with Nebraska. Erskine appears on the rolls of the 15th Iowa Regiment and apparently returned home to make his living after the conclusion of the Civil War. Approximately the first half of this handmade consists of his terse but frequent diary entries for 1870, which entail his daily farming, logging and milling activities. His entries also contain notes on events in town that year, many of which deal with school issues; Erskine was elected to the local school board in this year and it seems no less fraught than present-day iterations. In the latter half of the journal, Erskine kept a record for 1870-1871 of his own accounts and accounts with local stores and suppliers, which show a reasonably active business. An interesting and fairly detailed account of enterprise and town life in very rural, western Iowa several years after the Civil War.

(McBRB1739) \$450

19th-CENTURY PHOTOGRAPHS OF IOWA

20. [Iowa]. [Western Photographica]. [*Vernacular Photograph Album of Scenes from Iowa, Including a Substantial Journey by Boat on the Upper Iowa River and the Down the Mississippi*]. [Various locations in Iowa]: 1894-1895. 149 albumen photographs on twenty cardstock leaves, images measuring 4 x 5 inches. Oblong quarto. Original black cloth, cover gilt; leaves laid in, formerly string-tied. Light wear and soiling to cloth, evidence of slight dampstaining to lower edge of binding and later leaves. Internal numbering sequence indicates first sixteen images lacking. Images generally clean, some minor fading; one photograph partially removed and effaced. Very good.

Wonderful photo album of images documenting late-19th century Iowa, assembled by an unidentified young man with a clear passion for both amateur photography and the area's rivers. Internal evidence suggests he

was a student at the University of Iowa, possibly pursuing a course of study in the geological sciences. Each image is numbered, captioned, and dated in a tidy hand, usually identifying location and any interesting features. The images span a full year, from April 1894 to July 1895, ending with a self portrait.

There are two series of eighty-three images (the first sixteen of which are not present). The first of these focuses on the area around Iowa City, documenting explorations along the Iowa River. Captioned images include: "21 ~ Looking across Iowa River - University buildings in the distance. May 3, '94"; "25 ~ Looking up Iowa River from Iowa Ave. Bridge. - Water Works in the distance. May 26, '94"; "46 ~ Children at play - Iowa River. May 12 '94". There are images of a baseball game between the University and Luther College, views of lime kilns, and images of natural specimens. Several photographs chart the "Great Hail Storm at Iowa City" on May 5, 1894, with images of golfball-size hail and the damage done to the windows of buildings around town. There are also photos of the author's roommate and some of the activities they got up to, including catching snakes and hunting. The roommate, Bartsch, appears to have been studying natural sciences, and one photograph shows him seated at his desk, "Blowing Bird Eggs."

The second series has a manuscript title of "Oneota Expedition," and documents a trip by boat from Decorah, Iowa on the Upper Iowa River and down the Mississippi as far as Muscatine, several miles below Davenport. The trip began on June 18, 1895, and lasted through July 26th. Scenes along the river include "6. Women wading the river - w. of Decorah June 19 '95"; "14 ~ Dragging our boat in the Oneota. June 24, '95" which shows a flat-bottomed boat laden with supplies being both pushed and pulled by a man at either end; a series of views taken from Oneota Bluff near New Albin on the Minnesota border; "37 ~ Winnebago Indian Camp - Iowa Slough July 6 '95"; numerous lovely images of camping along the river and river towns as seen from the water; "77 ~ Beds of Montpelier Sandstone at water's edge - Below Montpelier, Ia. - Bartsch & 'Fitz' hunting fossils. July 23, '95." An interesting album, full of wonderful and meticulously documented views of the Iowa River as seen through the eyes of a 19th-century university student.

(McBRB1422)

\$1,750

LARGE PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVE OF A JAPANESE-AMERICAN FAMILY

21. [Japanese Americana]. [*Large Collection of Photographs from a Japanese-American California Family*]. [Various places, mostly San Francisco and other California: ca.1910-1925]. 312 loose photographs, in varying small formats, including some real photo postcards and several multiples. Some wear at edges and fading to images. Occasional heavier wear and abrasion. Good.

A large and absorbing group of over 300 photographs taken and collected by a Japanese family that migrated to the United States in the early 1900s. The present collection contains a letter and several photos addressed to a Mr. (or Dr.) T. Yamanaka; the Yamanakas arrived in California before 1910, and lived on Railroad Avenue in San Francisco before moving to Cottage Grove Avenue in Chicago more than a decade later. The majority of photos depict the Yamanaka family, friends, and greater community in California during the 1910s and 1920s, and include a wide variety of portraits and activities in the Bay Area and elsewhere in California. The collection also includes a number of photos sent to Yamanaka from friends and family in Japan and the rest of the Americas.

One of the more fascinating items in the collection is an image of the infant son of Japanese writer Okina Kyuin, which Okina inscribed and sent to Yamanaka in 1922. Okina came to Seattle from Japan in 1907, and lived for seventeen years in Washington and California, working as a journalist and novelist credited with a number of Japanese-language books about the United States. There are also a number of studio portraits, apparently of Yamanaka family members, taken at the studios of Japanese-American photographers

Moriyama and Motoyoshi in San Francisco, and from other photographers in California and Chicago. The family likely had Christian connections, as there are several real photo postcards of the Japanese Methodist Episcopal Church in Oakland and of a Japanese Methodist Mission Church in Alameda. In addition to the numerous photos from San Francisco, there are also many photos and photo postcards from family excursions to destinations including Yosemite and Niagara Falls, and images of Japanese school children on outings. Two photographic portraits showing a Japanese woman and child emanate from a studio in Sao Paulo, demonstrating the growing diaspora of Japanese emigrants in the early-20th century. In all, an excellent photographic resource for research into the Japanese community and its growth across the United States during the early 1900s.

(McBRB3274)

\$4,250

JAPANESE-AMERICAN NEWSPAPER

22. **[Japanese Americana].** *Rafu Shimpo*. Los Angeles: 1936. Eleven issues, each 8pp. Large newspaper folio. Folded, with some wear and minor loss along fold lines. Light chipping at edges. Somewhat browned, more heavily along folds and at edges. Good plus.

Rafu Shimpo, the Los Angeles Japanese Daily News, is one of the oldest Japanese language newspapers in the United States and also the longest running ~ founded in 1903, it continues to be published today. The paper initially was published in Japanese only, but in 1926 began to print a page of news in English in order to cater to second generation Japanese Americans. This scarce group of eleven issues published in October 1936 seems to have been collected by Haruki Takashi, whose articles on Pan-Asianism appear throughout this run of the newspaper. Beyond the writings of Takashi, these issues contain a wide variety of Japanese and international news, much of which is focused on the war and negotiations with China, as well as the evolving diplomatic and political situation between Japan and the United States. Additionally, there is much news concerning the Japanese American community in Los Angeles and Southern California, as well as many notices and advertisements, covering everything from politics to agriculture to sports. In all, a very interesting insight into the Japanese community in Los Angeles during the mid-1930s.

(McBRB3273)

\$2,750

ARCHIVE OF A KANSAS TEACHER

23. **[Kansas]. [Henley, Mary Florence Rogers].** [*Group of Letters and Documents Sent to or Belonging to Mary Florence Rogers Henley, a Teacher Who Lived and Worked in Kansas and Indian Territory, Documenting Her Life in the Middle West*]. [Mainly Kansas and Oklahoma: 1882-1910]. Forty-seven letters, postcards, or transmitted documents, between one page and eight pages, almost all in original transmittal envelopes, and sometimes with more than one letter per envelope. Original mailing folds, occasional minor wear. Very good.

An informative collection of letters sent to Mary Florence Rogers Henley of Hesper, Kansas, Bluejacket, Oklahoma, and later Eudora, Kansas, detailing life on the frontiers of the Middle West in the last two decades of the 19th century and the first decade of the 20th century. Henley is referred to mostly in the current correspondence as Florence. Florence's correspondents include her father, George Rogers; her husband, H.A. Henley; two of her sons, George and Emmett; her siblings, Horace, Eleanor, and Annie; and other family members and friends in Kansas.

Florence Rogers married H.A. Henley some time before 1888; the remainder of the letters after that date are addressed to Florence Henley. The couple lived initially in "Cherokee Nation" near Bluejacket, Indian Territory. By 1905, Florence was living in Eudora, Kansas while her husband remained in Bluejacket, though

Florence apparently moved back to Bluejacket that summer. Florence may have taught school in Bluejacket, though she certainly did prior to her time there.

Numerous issues and activities are covered in the letters sent to Florence, which include an instance of infant mortality on the frontier, the health of the correspondents, buying books for Florence's classroom, a grisly scene in which a friend had a wart removed from his eyebrow, a long description by Florence's father on the economics of the wheat crop yield in 1895, typical small-town gossip about friends and neighbors, and numerous instances of discussions of livestock, crops, and farming, especially from Florence's husband in Bluejacket, as well as Sam Stanley, who was apparently her farm manager in Eudora. Stanley writes at five letters in which he details the crop yields and earnings from Florence's wheat and corn fields; a 1908 letter from Stanley even includes a plat map illustrating placement of the crops on Florence's land. Florence's father sends her money in a letter dated in 1888. In the latter part of the archive, Florence's children write to her regarding farm life, church activities, and their educational activities in Wichita and Joplin, Missouri (including the requisite requests for money from home).

In addition to the letters are a handful of documents related to Florence's professional activities and her farm properties. These include report cards; both her 1882 and 1883 teaching certificates for Johnson County, Kansas; and several tax receipts for land owned by Florence in Lexington, Kansas.

While living in Indian Territory, Florence received a particularly interesting letter in August 1888 from Kansas, when a friend informs her that "all of the Modoc people are well at the present time. Except one or two that is Dinah and Long George been sick some. Long George is getting worse but Dinah is better than she was a week ago."

In a letter from H.A. Henley to Florence in 1905, Henley details a recent whistle stop in Bluejacket by Theodore Roosevelt, in which the president "came out on the rear platform of his car and waved his hands & laughed and bowed & stood on the platform till the train got even with where we live & had a guard on each side of him with a carbine rifle in his hand ready for action."

The collection of letters to and documents belonging to Florence Henley constitute a vital record of rural life in the Middle West between 1882 and 1910, a time of great change to both Kansas and especially Oklahoma, during which time Indian Territory became the state of Oklahoma. A wonderful assemblage of firsthand correspondence worthy of further research.

(McBRB2266)

\$950

A RARE LOOK AT THE WILDS OF MEXICO IN 3D

24. [Mexican Photographica]. [*Group of Annotated Vernacular Stereoviews Documenting Hiking Trips Around Mexico City in the Early 20th Century*]. [Various locations around Mexico City: 1922-1924]. Thirty-nine vernacular stereoviews, all but one mounted on cards measuring approximately 3.5 x 7 inches, a few with the same pair of images on both sides of the mount, and thirty-two with manuscript captions in the margins or on the verso. Minor wear and light occasional soiling. Very good.

A unique collection of annotated vernacular stereoviews illustrating perhaps three different hiking explorations in the forests and mountains near Mexico City and Toluca in the early 1920s. The images capture the well-healed men and women in natural settings and occasional group shots, plus quite a bit of the majestic beauty of the landscape through which they hiked. Most of the photographic mounts are captioned in blue pen with the location, and occasionally the date, of the pictures. The captions are written in Spanish, likely

indicating the hiking parties were composed of Mexico City residents trekking into the nearby wilderness. The hikers documented their locations and subjects in captions such as "Pico del aquila del Nevado de Toluca," "Cerro Pena del Milagro," "Rio de Acopilco Camino de este Pueblo e San Juan Viejo," "Pueblo de Santa Cruz," "Canales de la Presa los Leones," "Pena en la Canada de Chimalpita," "Precisio rincon del bosque de Santa Rosa," "Cabana en el Tepehuisco cerro Ila Rosa," and "Camino por el Pueblo," among many others. Vernacular stereoviews are quite rare in the market, and this is the first collection of Mexican examples we have handled.

(McBRB2866)

\$1,250

"I AM IN THE MEXICAN MUD CITY MATAMOROS...THIS MOST ABOMINABLE OF PLACES
CONSISTS OF 5 OR 6 WRECKS OF STEAMBOATS WHICH ARE USED AS HOUSES,
ONE BEAUTIFUL STEAMER THE GREENWOOD IS THE PUBLICK HOUSE."

25. [Mexican-American War]. Wing, J.B. [*Autograph Letter, Signed, from Lieutenant J.B. Wing, to James H. Shepard of West Cambridge, Massachusetts, Reporting on the Wretched Conditions Near Matamoros During the Mexican-American War*]. Matamoros: May 6, 1847. [3]pp., on a bifolium, addressed on verso of second leaf. Original mailing folds, short closed tear to top edge, minor staining, some discoloration to address leaf. Very good.

The Mexican-American War was fought in some particularly harsh environments in Texas and throughout Mexico. In the first half of the present letter, Lieutenant J.B. Wing takes the opportunity to describe in detail the poor conditions of his own environment to his brother in Massachusetts, along with some of his movements in the area. Writing from Fort Paredes near Matamoros, in an area the Americans had seized from Mexican forces after the Battle of Fort Texas, Lt. Wing reports: "I am in the Mexican Mud City Matamoros, but in the first place let me say that we made a tolerable passage to Brazos about 23 days. This most abominable of places consists of 5 or 6 wrecks of Steamboats which are used as houses, one beautiful steamer the Greenwood is the publick house. These with some thousand barrells of Pork & Bread make the place at 12 oclock. You take a realizing sense of reason this place (I would say hole if it was not so level) is called Bras-oz. The Sun pouring down like molten lead upon the sand which as you walk is ankle deep. I tell you, you would think of nothing but brass-oz. After encamping a day or two we marched to the mouth of the Rio Grande thence up the river by Steamboat to this place when we encamped in the Grand Plaza or square & common, for some weeks when our company was ordered to Garrison Fort Paredes about 3/4 miles from the Plaza at which place we are now stationed. On our arrival Col. [Caleb] Cushing ordered me to act in a Military Commission, similar to Court Martial, consisting of Capt P.R. George, Lt. Addams of the Tennessee Cavalry, Lt. Wing of Mass. Inf't. to act as Judge Advocate or Recorder to meet each day until further orders...."

Wing also discusses briefly some maneuvering for promotions inside his unit, but most of the remainder of the letter concerns matters of family and the heart. Wing writes: "I am having a tolerable good time of it. We are told that we shall go up to Monterey in about a month in which case we shall be at the expected fight at St. Louis Petosi but what worries me more than the fear of bullets is to know whether My Lee is happy, whither she wants me to come home, for I feel wicked that I left her."

A rare personal communication from the middle of the Mexican American War, with interesting observations of the environment around Matamoros, which would become a far northeastern Mexico border town at the conclusion of the war.

(McBRB3093)

\$950

WITH SEVERAL STRIKING IMAGES OF MEXICAN STREET VENDORS

26. [Mexico Photographica]. [*California Photographica*]. [*Photograph Album Containing a Wealth of Images Featuring Late 19th Century Mexico and California*]. [Various locations in Mexico and California: ca. 1880-1900]. Eighty-eight photographs, mostly sepia-toned, tipped-in one or two images per page. Contemporary half pebbled leather and cloth boards. Spine perished, edges roughly worn and chipped, minor rubbing to boards. Internally clean, with bright, clean images. Very good.

A compendium of professionally-produced images documenting numerous sights and some of the people in various locations in Mexico and southern California. The producers of the photographs appear to be numerous given the differing styles of captioning in the various negatives from which the images were made. The photographs feature a wide range of settings and scenes, including a busy street scene in Zacatecas, the market at Zacatecas, the Avenida de Chapultepec, a group of young boys and girls at a school or orphanage, a group of water carriers at Guanajuato, a pulqueria in Mexico City, a group of men ranged around a flyer ("Juega del Volador"), an elevated view of San Miguel de Allende, a scene featuring a few dozen Mexican villagers during a "Fiesta en un Pueblo," the Hotel de la America Puebla, various group shots of Mexican people (one captioned simply "Grupos Mexicanos"), the obligatory bullfighting scene, and more.

Numerous pictures record Mexican street vendors carrying or having mules carry their wares, or laborers heading teams of oxen or other animal-led carts of merchandise. One particularly striking image features a potter ("Ollero") carrying his products in a rather large basket strapped to his back while posed next to train tracks. Other identified merchants include dairy vendors, pulque dealers, a basket dealer, and another potter. The images also depict notable landmarks such as churches and other architectural wonders, as well as sights of natural interest throughout Mexico. A single image shows four "Indians" sitting outside their hut. As with some photo albums of Mexico, the present example includes numerous pictures of notable artworks throughout the country, mostly paintings in this case.

Some images in the album have a faint backstamp from D.S. Spaulding, a merchant of various goods in Mexico City who also operated a photography studio and worked with some of the most notable photographers of the time. One image of the village of Santo Tomas has a typed caption on paper adhered along the bottom edge identifying the photographer as Abel Briquet, one of the aforementioned important photographers who sometimes worked with Spaulding. The lion's share of images are not marked or stamped.

The last twenty-five images of the album emanate from the United States, beginning with two shots of El Paso. The remainder feature scenes in California, including numerous shots of orange groves. Other subjects and settings capture a couple of street scenes in San Francisco's Chinatown, various identified private residences in Los Angeles, Lucky Baldwin's cottage, several elevated views of Pasadena, and a view of the "Old Vineyard of Rose's Ranche," among others.

A wonderful and wide ranging collection of photographs capturing Mexico and California in the late-19th century.

(McBRB3100)

\$3,250

19th-CENTURY MANUSCRIPT MAP OF A RURAL MEXICAN TOWN

27. [Mexico]. *Plano Topographico de la Vista de los Linderos del Pueblo de Colucán...* [*manuscript title*]. [Mexico: 1846]. Manuscript map, approximately 13 x 17.25 inches. Folded; original hand color. Moderate chipping and several short closed tears at edges; three minor losses within map area. Light ink offsetting; Light tanning and scattered faint foxing. Good.

A neat manuscript map that delineates the boundaries of the small Mexican town of Colucán in the mid-19th century. Today the village, located in the state of Puebla in the foothills south of Izucar de Matamoros, with a population of about 2,500, is known as San Lucas Colucán. This map, drawn in September 1846, delineates a fairly large area for the town, with the interior of the borders hand colored in green. The principal parcel of land outlined here calculates roughly to about eight square miles, with a tail of land extending from the lower left corner that adds an additional approximate three square miles (using the scale in varas at the lower center of the map). The map lines are drawn to meet and to change direction at named landmarks. Three sides of the town are bordered by lands claimed by one Juan Quahuixtlan; the southern edge is bordered by the land of two other small towns in the region, Tuzantlan and Tejalpa, which also still exist as small villages today.

(McBRB1360)

\$600

MURDER INVESTIGATION IN MEXICO

28. [Mexico]. [Murder]. *[Documents Relating to the Murder of Nicolas Gregorio Picazo in Real del Monte, an Important Mining Town]*. [Mineral del Monte: 1775]. [8]pp. Small folio. Stitched. Minor wear at edges. Light toning. Minor darkening and patchy staining at upper corner and along top edge. Still very good.

Fascinating documents of a murder in a colonial Mexican mining town during the late 18th century. Nicolas Gregorio Picazo was killed in the town of Mineral del Monte, also known as Real del Monte, in early March 1775, and a group of three men, Phelipe de Avila, Miguel de Avila, and Manuel Gonzalez were charged with the murder. Real del Monte, northeast of Pachuca in Hidalgo, is located in the region where the Spanish one of their earliest discoveries of gold and silver following the conquest of the Aztecs in the early 1520s. Real del Monte is particularly rich in silver, and is estimated to produced over one billion ounces of the precious metal from its mines over the course of the last five hundred years. The present documents include affidavits and witness statements, including one from the widow of the murdered man, as well as several procedural decisions from the judges in the case. An interesting record of colonial Mexican homicide proceedings in one its most significant industrial and commercial areas beyond Mexico City.

(McBRB2247)

\$800

MANUSCRIPT MAP OF A SMALL TOWN IN SINALOA

29. [Mexico]. Rocha, Ignacio L. *Plano de los Terrenos de Santa-Anita Levantado por Ignacio L. Rocha, Ingeniero*. Casa Blanca: 1888. Manuscript map, 18 x 23.5 inches. Drawn in black, red, and blue. Previously folded. Minor soiling and wear. Very good.

An attractive manuscript map depicting the topography surrounding the small Sinaloan town of Santa Anita, southeast of Culiacán, near El Comedero. The map is somewhat oddly oriented, with due north pointing toward the lower right corner of the sheet. It shows Santa Anita at its center, with mountains to its east and dry plains to the west, heading toward the Pacific Ocean. Two trails, labeled "Camino Nacional de Culiacan" and "Camino del Veinticuatro" connect Santa Anita to the even smaller towns of Llano and Veinticuatro at the map borders. A small section of the Rio San Lorenzo is detailed at the eastern edge of the map area for context. The map was surveyed and drawn by Ignacio L. Rocha, a graduate in 1883 of the reformed Colegio Rosales, first founded in 1874. Three other maps by Rocha are located in the Mexican Agricultural Archives. A neat and appealing example.

(McBRB1549)

\$750

"GOLD THAT WAS FIRST DISCOVERED BY A BADGER"

30. [Nevada]. [Mining]. [*Group of Typed Letters and Promotional Material for the Weepah-Tonopah Gold Mines Company*]. Amarillo, Tx.: 1927. Six items, totaling [11]pp., plus three transmittal envelopes. Previously folded. A few short separations and light wear. Light tanning. About very good.

A neat group of promotional material and letters from the Weepah-Tonopah Gold Mines Company, promulgated in the wake of a gold strike that triggered one of the last significant western gold rushes, after Frank Horton discovered a rich vein in a "badger hole" in early 1927 in Esmeralda County, Nevada. The promotional materials present here, one a folio-sized bifolium and the other a quarto broadsheet, enthusiastically advertise the prospect of guaranteed and instant wealth that would result from investment in the Weepah-Tonopah Company:

"Golden Weepah!! Gold! Precious gold in abundance!... Gold that is scooped up with a shovel! Gold that is raked up with the hands! Gold that was first discovered by a badger ~ tiny animal of the desert ~ and kicked out of the hole that was buried to make a more comfortable nesting place. Gold that was shoveled out of the badger hole and into sacks and assayed at \$78,000.00 to the ton!... Golden Weepah! Until a few days ago a bleak, barren waste-land of Nevada. Today ~ the golden spot in the sun of the universe."

The larger of the two promotional also contains excerpts from newspaper articles celebrating the richness of the strike and the continuing rush to the area by both companies and individuals, as well as two photographic reproductions of men at the original discovery site. The Weepah-Tonopah company, evidently founded directly in the wake of the discovery, controlled eighty acres of land that it claimed was "about 3200 feet from the Horton glory hole," and advertised itself through the Cortez Brokerage Company in Amarillo, Texas. Through them, the promotional material reached one Robert Henry Lewis of Sparta, Georgia, who read that Cortez, "Suddenly find ourselves in possession of the most wonderful privilege, in our opinion, and in the opinion of men of good judgment, that has come ~ or will come out of the amazing Weepah gold strike," and was offering discounted shares in the venture.

The advertising was successful, as a second letter indicates that shares would be issued to Lewis shortly, and indeed the material is accompanied by Lewis' stock certificate for 250 shares in Weepah-Tonopah. The immediate riches were less forthcoming, however, as a third letter from Cortez admits that, "All Weepah issues have been showing some weakness, which we believe has been due to the extremely hot summer and the difficult way of shipping the ore. With the installation of a mill we believe all Weepah issues will take a new life... and under the present conditions advise you to hold your stock."

(McBRB289)

\$800

THE THINGS A NEVADA RAILROAD CARRIED

31. [Nevada]. [Railroads]. [*Freight Receipt Book for the Carson City Station of the Virginia & Truckee Railroad in 1877*]. [Carson City, Nv.: 1877]. 246 leaves. Oblong octavo. Original quarter cloth and marbled boards. Spine and edges somewhat worn; text block cocked. Internally clean. Good plus.

A fascinating manuscript receipt book that documents the types and amounts of freight carried by the Virginia & Truckee Railroad during the first half of May 1877. The railroad, completed in January 1870, was built between Virginia City and Carson City to serve the mines of the Comstock Lode, and carried a vast amount of freight between the hub of the Nevada mining boom and the state capital. At the peak of the bonanza in 1876 and 1877, twenty-two V&T locomotives and 361 freight cars transported over 400,000 tons of freight per month, running thirty to forty-five trains per day. The present register dates to the latter portion of this

period, and well demonstrates the variety and volume of materials that were hauled along this twenty-one mile section of track. The railroad carried lumber, coal oil, ore bags, tin ware, flour, butter, liquor, cigars ~ in short, everything that was needed to keep the Comstock boom towns booming. Each leaf of this log, which contains over 245 entries for the period of May 1st to the 17th, registers the type of freight being shipped, its weight, its consignee, its place of origin, the V&T car number that carried the load, and the total charges for the shipment. An excellent document of this Nevada railroad that played a critical role in the state's mining industry.

(McBRB824)

\$875

DESERT AGRICULTURE IN DEMING ~ "WATCH US GROW"

32. [New Mexico]. [Western Photographica]. [*Vernacular Photograph Album of Agriculture and Irrigation in Deming, New Mexico, Just Before World War I*]. Deming, N.M.: 1914. Fifty-eight original photographs, most 8 x 10 or 3.5 x 5.5 inches, with twelve small panoramas, plus sixteen postcards and real photo postcards. Oblong folio album. Light dust soiling and patches of soiling to covers; moderate wear at edges. Light wear to edges of album leaves. Photos mounted directly to leaves, with occasional wear and scattered contemporary manuscript captions. Very good.

An attractive album of almost sixty original photographs, likely a bespoke promotional, that depicts agriculture and life in Deming, New Mexico, and the surrounding area in 1914. The town was founded in 1881 where the routes of the Southern Pacific and Atchison, Topeka, & Santa Fe Railroads crossed paths in the southern New Mexico desert, about thirty-five miles from the border (another, much less famous golden spike ceremony was held on the spot the same year). The nearby Mimbres River allowed for a small agriculture industry in the valley region, and the arrival of irrigation during the early-20th century brought new growth to the town, whose population grew from 1,864 in 1910 to 3,212 in 1920.

The photos present here, which include many large-format and panoramic shots, seem intended to show off the success of local farmers and a thriving agricultural community taking advantage of the latest available technologies. Several shots demonstrate the fecundity of the river valley, with groups of men in their shirtsleeves posed in sweeping fields of leafy crops, and men at work bailing hay and alfalfa or compiling large mounds of beans. The viewer is also treated to views of new farm buildings and equipment, with an emphasis on the recent irrigation system that makes the crops of Deming a reality. As well, there are views of the town itself, including images of the train station, the local school, the region's real estate office, and several residences. A final set of images concentrates on a recently purchased herd of 500 cattle, showing the expansion of the town beyond agriculture and into ranching, presumably on the strength of the improved water supply. Many of the photographs are captioned in manuscript, and these underscore the promotional feel of the album by touting the successes of new farmers ("Rieser Beans ~ planted July 14 - Picture Aug 11 - 1914," e.g.) and showing potential homes and camps for new arrivals. In all, a well assembled vernacular photograph album full of engaging images that provide a detailed and interesting view of life in this agricultural outpost and railroad junction in the southern New Mexico desert during the 1910s.

(McBRB2829)

\$2,750

REVOLUTIONARY FILIPINO NEWSPAPER

33. [Philippines]. [Periodicals]. *El Heraldo de la Revolucion. Año 1. Núm. 1 [3&5]*. Malolos: 1898. Three issues, totaling [30]pp. Previously folded, with some short separations along old folds. Minor wear and chipping at edges. Moderate browning. Good.

Three of the first five issues of this scarce bilingual newspaper published by the short-lived Revolutionary Government of the Philippines in Spanish and Tagalog during 1898. The government was established at Malolos, northwest of Manila, by Philippine independence leader Emilio Aguinaldo, and constituted an initial attempt at self-governance of the islands following the Spanish-American War. The government survived to declare itself the First Philippine Republic, and orchestrated the resistance to American rule now known as the Philippine-American War effectively until the capture of Aguinaldo by U.S. forces in March 1901. This newspaper published the decrees and other official business of the insurgent government, as well as important international diplomatic measures that affected the Philippines. The first issue, for example, carries the articles of the 1899 Treaty of Paris that ended the war between Spain and the United States. The October 6 issue prints the minutes of the first congressional session, edicts from the President, and other pieces of government business. Some advertisements, mostly in Spanish, are printed on the back pages of the second two issues here. Each issue is printed in two columns, with Spanish on the left and Tagalog on the right, and the printing is quite dense. Scarce.

(McBRB2887)

\$1,250

HUSTLING IN SOUTH DAKOTA

34. [South Dakota]. Owen, George. [*Autograph Letter, Signed, by the Chamberlain, South Dakota, Newspaper Editor Regarding His Printing and Publishing Investments*]. Chamberlain, S.D.: December 19, 1891. 6pp. on octavo leaves. From a gummed pad of letterhead paper, with leaves joined at top edge. Previously folded, light tanning. Accomplished in hasty, but legible scrawl. Very good.

An amusing and spirited letter from George R. Owen, the editor of the Chamberlain, South Dakota, newspapers to his recently visited cousin in New York, composed on his attractive, personal letterhead. The missive begins by announcing the author's safe return, declaiming his happiness to be back in the South Dakota climate (!), and relating the discovery of a new artesian water source, which, "will irrigate hundreds of acres and means sixty bushels of wheat per acre, DEAD SURE." He then moves on to discussing his own newspaper and printing business, in which he is transferring much of his interests from papers to the production of blank books - "Am now going to put about \$4000 more into the blank printing business exclusively. It is a big business - THOUSANDS of dollars worth of them used in a year...." Of course, he cannot raise the cash locally ("I have the reputation here of being a 'rustler'") and asks his relative to loan him the \$1500 or \$2000 extra he needs, while also blaming the tight cash market on heavy local investment in the construction of a Black Hills railroad bridge. The letterhead, which takes up nearly half of these smallish sheets comprises a map of South Dakota with Chamberlain in bold, and the titles of the newspapers of which Owen was editor in varied fonts. An enjoyable snapshot of late 19th-century wheeling and dealing in rural South Dakota.

(McBRB3012)

\$350

COCKFIGHTING, RANCHING, AND FAMILY TIME IN MID-CENTURY SOUTH TEXAS

35. [Texas Photographica]. Swift, W. Grady. [*Collection of Photographs, Many Annotated, Retained in the Family of W. Grady Swift, Documenting His Time with the Department of Agriculture, Along with His Hunting and Ranching Activities in South Texas*]. [Various locations in Texas, including San Antonio, Laredo, and Raymondville: mostly 1947-1950]. Forty-six black-and-white photographs, from 3 x 2 inches to 8 x 10 inches, one tintype, and one printed certificate. Most photographs with personalized family annotations on verso. Moderate surface and edge wear to some pictures, a few creased or with minor chipping. Overall very nice condition. Very good.

A small but informative collection of photographs from the family of W. Grady Swift (1904-1979), a long-time agent of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, who worked in the department's Bureau of Animal Industry, Livestock Inspection, and River Patrol Division in South Texas. Most of the annotations were written by one of Swift's four daughters, who identifies herself posed with Grady and one of her sisters, Grady Ann; given the appearance of the subject in relation to Grady Ann, the annotator is likely her twin sister, Patti. Many of Swift's family are also featured, including his wife and about twenty friends and associates. The annotations should provide a solid basis for contextualizing the subjects of the pictures within a larger South Texas photographic research collection.

The photographs capture a mixture of subjects from Swift's professional career as an agent for the Department of Agriculture, including meetings with Mexican officials, group pictures with cowboys and other staff from the various ranches where Swift worked, and several featuring cattle and fowl, combined with numerous pictures of Swift or his family members in more personal settings, such riding horses, swimming, and with Swift posed alongside some of his hunting buddies. One of the group photographs shows Swift with numerous colleagues, everyone dressed in cowboy gear, depicting a combination of Anglo and Mexican or Mexican American staff; one of the group photographs is captioned with the names of numerous additional government officials on the verso, including Swift himself. Two of the personal photos capture Swift in Raymondville, Texas posed with a dead mountain lion; in one of these shots, he poses with two of his daughters, Grady Ann and likely Patti. Some of the pictures indicate the Swifts bred dogs and perhaps even bred cattle themselves.

Identified locations include the Franklin Ranch and the La Mesa Ranch in Eagle Pass. A handful of the largest photographs from Swift's professional work are stamped on the verso, "Army Air Forces Photographic Dept. LAAF, Laredo, Texas." According to the obituary of Grady Ann Swift McAllister, the family lived in Laredo during this time. Many of the family photographs include an ink backstamp from a San Antonio photographic developer, likely indicating they moved there shortly afterwards.

About ten of the photographs feature roosters, with a few of the pictures suggesting that they were bred for cockfighting. A couple of the pictures show two roosters squaring off against each other; and in fact, one of these photographs is captioned in manuscript on the verso, "Jimmie Burns in picture of sparring cocks." One of the smaller photographs is captioned on the verso: "A Damon bred cock...won in Austin \$200 derby. Won blind after first pitting in Corpus \$150 derby 3 yrs ago. Died on my yards as a brood cock."

W. Grady Swift died in 1979 in Fairview, Texas, north of Dallas. The present photographs are accompanied by a certificate issued to Swift on May 15, 1965 by the Department of Agriculture, "in recognition of the completion of thirty years of service as a Federal employee." A handful of later reproductions of family photographs and a greeting card also accompany the collection.

(McBRB3054)

\$950

LADY LIFE IN THE BIG STATES

36. [Texas]. [California]. [*Annotated Vernacular Photograph Album Mostly Documenting the Life of a California Woman Living in North Texas, Before She Eventually Returns to California in the Early-20th Century*]. [Various locations, including Texas and California: 1918-1925]. [35] leaves, illustrated with 272 original vernacular photographs of various sizes, plus a handful of ephemeral items, all mounted. Oblong folio. Contemporary black cloth photograph album, gilt titles on front cover, string tied. Minor soiling, staining, and rubbing to boards, minor edge wear. Very good.

An artfully-composed annotated vernacular photograph album documenting the life of a female compiler and her family in Texas and California over about a decade after World War I. The album opens with a few dozen scenes on the Los Rados and Cheyenne pastures of the Q Ranch and in the relevant residences in Channing, Texas. The Q Ranch scenes feature cowboys on horseback, horse-drawn carriages, scenes of cattle rustling, and more. The album compiler was most likely a woman living for some time at the Q Ranch; she notes on more than one occasion when people are leaving the ranch for more western locations. For instance, in May 1919, the compiler notes when "Em and Norine left for 'Sunny California.'" They include a handful of "Scenes enroute Texas - California," which show mainly scenes in New Mexico. Another series shows pictures memorializing several people "Leaving Channing and us for Husband and Pocatella, Idaho." Several photographs from 1921 depict the compiler's experiences at the Union Laundry in Breckenridge, Texas; this section also includes several pictures of the Breckenridge Natatorium.

There are also other western scenes showing a ranch in Harney County, Oregon, located "miles and miles from no-where." These Oregon pictures depict both men and women working the fields of a farm and ranch in a remote location. The scenes in California record the compiler's time visiting family in San Pedro, Inglewood, Hermosa Beach, and other places in California. Towards the end of the album, the compiler notes that she is "Home Again Here at Last Never more to Roam Home Sweet Home" when she arrives in California. Other locations documented here include Juarez, Mexico (apparently a vacation), scenes along the Santa Fe Route in Colorado to California, and others.

Several subjects are identified by name in the present album, such as John Quarries, Jr., Jeannie Thomas, Louisa Collins, Grandmother Millering, Katie Braithwaite, Rosa, Euola, and Gladys Dawson, and numerous others, sometimes only noted by their first names. These names should provide ample opportunity to connect the subjects of the present album to a larger context within the community of North Texas ranching families based in California.

(McBRB2671)

\$1,500

LAND DEALS IN TEXAS

37. [Texas]. Fisher, George. *[Two Autograph Letters, Signed, to Col. Almanzon Huston Concerning a Texas Land Deal]*. San Francisco: 1859. Two letters on bifolia, totaling [8]pp., with original mailing envelopes. Previously folded. A couple of short separations. Patchily browned. Still very good.

A pair of lengthy manuscript letters from one important figure in the early American history of Texas to another regarding money and land in the Lone Star state just before the Civil War. In them, George Fisher, at this point residing in San Francisco, writes to Almanzon Huston in San Augustine, Texas, in August 1859, accusing him of mistreating his son and owing him a considerable sum of money from a land deal. Fisher, born in Hungary of Serbian parents, came to the United States in 1814 and after a brief time in Mississippi, secured an empresario contract and became a Mexican citizen. He was briefly the administrator of the port in Galveston, and operated a newspaper in Matamoros, but was dismissed from Mexico in 1835, and became commissary general in New Orleans and secretary for the Tampico expedition. In 1837, he became a land agent in Houston and served in various political and military positions in the Republic before leaving for California in 1851. Almanzon Huston was the Quartermaster of the Texas army during the Revolution, and was an innkeeper, land agent, and operator of a stage coach line in San Augustine, east of Nacogdoches.

Huston apparently acted as agent for Fisher in several sales in Central and East Texas, but was at best slow with the details and at worst intentionally uncommunicative regarding the transactions. To make matters worse, according to Fisher, he was receiving multiple letters from his son about mistreatment he was receiving

from Huston, in which he claimed that Huston had swindled him out of \$200, given him strange and unreliable advice about traveling in Texas, and sold land without approval on unusual terms. Indeed, Huston had proved so unreliable that Fisher's son has hired a lawyer in an effort to obtain money from him. Fisher for his part is quite eager to visit his interests in Texas, but is forced to remain in California to reorder his affairs there after a long absence. In both of his letters, he repeatedly asks for any word from Huston regarding the status of his investments or any of the matters arising from the letters by his son. In the end however, he is strangely noncommittal to such seemingly unnerving news, saying that he will withhold his opinion on the matter until he can travel to Texas again in a few months and to pay a visit to his "old friend" Huston. An interesting and detailed slice of this drama between two old men of the Texas Republic.

(McBRB2773)

\$750

A CAVALRYMAN ON THE TEXAS-MEXICO BORDER

38. [Texas]. [Mexican Border War]. [*Vernacular Photograph Album Kept by D. Watson of the 8th United States Cavalry During the Texas Border War*]. [Various locations in Texas: 1917-1918]. Fifteen leaves, illustrated with fifty-five mounted photographs, and a few ephemeral clippings identifying locations. Oblong octavo. Contemporary black cloth, string-tied. Light soiling to covers. Minor wear to some photographs, but overall a handsome selection. Very good.

A unique collection of vernacular photographs collected by a soldier in the 8th U.S. Cavalry identified simply as D. Watson, serving in southwest Texas during the Mexican Border War. The first two pictures emanate from Quartermaster Training Camp in Jacksonville, Florida. This is followed by one photo from Barron Field in Everman, Texas. The remaining photographs document Watson's time in Ruidosa, Texas, an unincorporated Texas-Mexico border town in Presidio County, about a hundred miles from Terlingua. Here, Watson includes photographs of himself and other soldiers and their horses posed in front of old stone structures, in orange groves, amongst canyons, in front of an automobile, and more, with images of Mexican adobes, a wagon advertising an "electric light company," the cavalry preparing their horses, scenes of the wilds of southwest Texas, and the E.H. Carlton company store. E.H. Carlton was also a principal in the Carlton Van Loan Company, an oil speculation firm active in the 1920s. An eclectic and intriguing selection of Texas-Mexico border images from an important period in history.

(McBRB2322)

\$1,750

WITH IMAGES OF CHINATOWN

39. Tyler, William B. [*Handsome Photograph Album of California Scenes, Including Images of San Francisco's Chinatown*]. San Francisco: 1889. Twenty-seven original photographs, approximately 3.5 x 5.75 inches. Small quarto album. Contemporary pebbled cloth, boards blind stamped. Light wear to spine, boards with minor scuffing, corners bumped. Two album leaves loose, several more beginning to separate at gutter. Photos mounted directly to leaves, with contemporary manuscript captions. Occasional minor soiling and wear to prints, including one short, closed tear and one tear at corner mounting; album leaves evenly tanned. About very good.

A well composed album of twenty-seven original images of San Francisco by W.B. Tyler, the late 19th-century California photographer. The photographs present here include a selection of that highlight Tyler's areas of focus, the San Francisco missions and Chinatown. The album contains eight images of Chinatown and its environs, including a short series of the Bun Sun Low Restaurant at 629 Jackson Street, as well as four images of the Mission Dolores and its surroundings. Other small series include several images of the Golden Gate and three photos of Yosemite. Also included are street scenes and hilltop views of San Francisco, and images

of California architecture such as the Central Pacific Ferry Terminal and the Golden Gate Park Conservatory. A complete list of images as captioned is as follows:

- 1) The Ferry Landing S.F.
- 2) The Mission Dolores Church.
- 3) Churchyard. Mission Dolores.
- 4) Interior of the Church [at Mission Dolores].
- 5) Adobe. Mission Dolores.
- 6) Clay St. From Van Ness Ave.
- 7) View from Telegraph Hill.
- 8) Big Tree. Yosemite (28 Feet in Diameter).
- 9) Looking Down California St.
- 10) The Bank of California.
- 11) "Barbary Coast." A Bit of Old San Francisco.
- 12) In Chinatown. San Francisco.
- 13) Chinese Children.
- 14) A Chinese Restaurant.
- 15) A Chinese Restaurant.
- 16) Interior of the Bun Sun Low Restaurant.
- 17) Interior of the Bun Sun Low Restaurant.
- 18) The Bun Sun Low Restaurant [Interior].
- 19) The Bun Sun Low Restaurant [Exterior].
- 20) The Conservatory. Golden Gate Park.
- 21) Entrance to the Golden Gate.
- 22) The Pacific. Entrance to the Golden Gate.
- 23) The Seal Rocks.
- 24) The Wake of the Oakland Ferry Boat.
- 25) Ship's Boat.
- 26) Bridal Veil Fall. Yosemite.
- 27) Bridal Veil Fall and Face of Pohonto [Pohono?].

This album was present by a T. McSweeney to Thomas Bours in February 1889; an auction catalog of Tyler's inventory and equipment two years later seem to signal the end of his career in photography. Tyler published a book of Chinatown photographs in 1889 entitled *The Festival of the Great Dragon*, which contained not his own work but images by Samuel Cheney Partridge, as well as a photobook of the California missions. His own images are much harder to come by and sparsely held institutionally, nor is he listed in Mautz's guide to Western photographers. Overall, a very appealing album of San Francisco images from the late 1880s, by one of its lesser known photographers.

(McBRB2895)

\$4,750

MY DAY LOGGING IN WASHINGTON

40. [Washington]. [Logging]. *[Diary of a Logging and Pile Driving Business on the Stillaguamish River at the End of the 19th Century].* [Stanwood, Wa.]: 1896. Small, wallet-style commercial diary, with [370]pp. of entries and notes. Contemporary dyed calf, gilt lettered; wallet flap folded over from right edge. Light wear to covers, heavier along flap spine. Light tanning and minor dust soiling internally. Accomplished in a slightly crude, but quite legible script. Very good.

A manuscript pocket diary for 1896 kept by an unnamed man who ran a small logging and pile driving operation along the Stillaguamish River, in and around the town of Stanwood on the coast of Snohomish County, Washington, approximately fifty miles north of Seattle. Although the diarist does not identify himself, the preponderance of locations where he worked and stayed throughout the year are meticulously tracked, and several of the named individuals with whom interacts socially and professionally correspond to historical records for the region and period.

Entries in the present account are typically brief, extending to four or five sentences at most, but also are extremely consistent, with every day of the year documented. They detail the course of his business activities ~ prices charged, wages paid, names and locations of customers, and type of work completed ~ as well as his personal life such as travels and social events on occasion. The writer logged wood from the forests around the Stillaguamish, transported them via the river to his work sites, and drove piles with a crew of two or three

laborers, usually for waterfront docks and loading platforms. Altogether, an interesting and steady account of a small business operating in northwestern Washington at the end of the 19th century.
(McBRB2625) \$650

19th-CENTURY CAMPING IN THE SOUTHWEST

41. [Western Photographical]. [*Late 19th-Century Vernacular Photographs of Camping and Waggoning Excursions in Northern New Mexico and Southern Colorado*]. [Various locations]: 1897-1898. Thirty-nine original photographs, each 3.5 x 4.5 inches. Mounted on embossed cards; contemporary manuscript captions on card versos. Card mounts a bit curved and foxed; light wear and occasional dampstaining at edges; one card chipped at top edge. Prints with occasional mirroring and light soiling, and a few patches of overexposure. Good plus.

A charming set of nearly forty vernacular photographs that depict camping and other nature excursions of a Raton, New Mexico, family in Northern New Mexico and Southern Colorado at the end of the 19th century. The present images depict several excursions principally on the San Juan River, the Conejos River, Elk Creek, and the New Mexico Brazos in 1897 and 1898. While perhaps not wealthy, this family was well off enough to be handsomely equipped and provisioned during their explorations (and to be able to afford the camera and film to capture their experiences). In any event, the photos show their campsites, scenic views that they encountered, several portraits and candid shots of party members, and their home and several other buildings in Raton. Together, they form a cohesive and engaging photo account of late 19th-century Western nature tourism and early vernacular photography in a region that was still quite remote and less visited, let alone photographically documented by travelers. All but one photo bears a fairly detailed manuscript caption on the verso of its mount.
(McBRB2865) \$1,500

THE ORIGINAL CORN PALACE

42. [Western Photographical]. [Iowa]. [*Group of Twenty Stereoviews of the Sioux City Corn Palace of 1888*]. [Sioux City, Ia.]: James H. Hamilton, 1888. Twenty stereoviews on printed mounts (one duplicative). Some light soiling and wear, one card lightly creased affecting image. Some slight fading to several photos. Very good.

A group of twenty stereocards depicting the Corn Palace of 1888 taken by James H. Hamilton, the official photographer for the Corn Palace festival that year. The Corn Palace at Sioux City was the world's first, founded in conjunction with a citywide harvest festival in the fall of 1887. The festival and the palace were such a success, drawing nearly 140,000 visitors to Sioux City, that the founders decided to repeat their efforts for a further four years. Each year the Corn Palace was rebuilt from scratch, the framed timber structure coated with grain from top to bottom. The Corn Palace of 1888 drew approximately 350,000 people and advertised "toilet rooms and conveniences for ladies and gentlemen".

James H. Hamilton worked as a photographer in Sioux City from the mid-1860s through the 1890s. He photographed many notable figures and scenes in the region, including the Corn Palace, serving as the event's official photographer in 1888. He also worked in partnership at different points with photographers Franklin Hoyt and John Kodylek. The views present here primarily depict the interior of the Corn Palace, showcasing its various rooms which include features such as fireplaces and gas lighting.
(McBRB1964) \$1,250

CHARMING YOSEMITE ALBUM

43. [Western Photographica]. [Yosemite]. *A Souvenir of Our First Trip to Yosemite June 16 to 24, 1923* [manuscript title]. [Yosemite]: 1923. [41] silver gelatin prints on [16] leaves. Black paper leaves, string-tied. Captions in white ink. Closed tear to first leaf, minor wear else. Very good.

A charming narrative album detailing a family holiday through Yosemite. Many of the photographs show sweeping scenery, together with shots of the travelers themselves, including two photos of the children perched on the back of Cakewalk the Donkey. Images are all captioned, often providing elevation information. A final image shows two women seated at a folding table outside, along with two young girls who appear to be twins, and a sleeping man. The two girls are holding newspapers; one eats a sandwich and gazes at the camera. The family car is in the background. The caption reads, "In Purussima Creek, where the trip was planed [sic] and 'discussed'. June 3, 1923." A lovely little souvenir album of an auto trip to Yosemite. (McBRB903) \$600

BUILDING AIRFIELDS TO BOMB JAPAN

44. [World War II Photographica]. *[Two Vernacular Photo Albums of Saipan and Okinawa Documenting the Efforts of the 806th Aviation Engineer Battalion Constructing Airfields for B-29s to Launch Bombing Raids on Japan in the Last Year and a Half of World War II].* [Okinawa and Saipan: 1944-1952]. Two volumes. [130]; [140]pp. containing 268; 315 mounted photographs and three maps. Folio. Original grey cloth binders, manuscript titles on front covers. Light wear and soiling to covers. Contents mounted on leaves of ruled notebook paper. Annotated extensively in a neatly printed hand. Very good.

These exceptionally well-documented photo albums detail the efforts of the 806th Aviation Engineer Battalion to construct and support airfields for B-29 bombers on Saipan and Okinawa to aid in the massive 20th Air Force campaign to bombard the Japanese homeland. The 806th was activated in Puerto Rico in 1942, and by July 31, 1944, the group had reached Saipan to begin the backbreaking work of creating runways out of coral. The compiler includes photos showing the storage areas; hospital tents dubbed "Dengue Hill" where they treated Dengue fever patients; the American Red Cross tents; medical officers; and images of the 2nd Marine Division Red Beach Cemetery along the beach road. Each image is neatly captioned, sometimes humorously, and identified with the number of the negative where applicable. The author of these albums seems to have been a tidy and meticulous compiler, and he appears in several of the photos.

Working conditions were brutal in the heat, with disease a significant concern and the coral destroying machinery. As a result, the 806th became incredibly inventive, including the building of a wind-powered washing machine connected to a large windmill; salvaging drums of Japanese high octane gas to mix with Bunker Coal road oil to create fuel for their trucks; building supply and motor pool sheds with walls made from burlap sacks and army truck tarps for roofs; and constantly scrounging for scrap lumber, which the author of these albums notes was "a pet racket with me, 500 board feet comprised a load." They also harvested scrap metal from downed airplanes and a Japanese locomotive. On October 12, 1944, the first B-29 landed on the newly-constructed landing strip, followed by hundreds more, with photos documenting their return from bombing runs on Tokyo; close-up photos of pinup art on the nose of the bomber "Fools Paradise" which had a record at the time of thirty-four bombing runs; as well as images of Hellcat fighter planes and the B-29 bomb dump a quarter of a mile from the author's office. The photos also depict Garapan after being destroyed during the battle for Saipan and its rebuilding; the ice house constructed to supply ice to the U.S. forces on the island; building an officer's club; and U.S.O. performers staging a show in distinctly primitive conditions.

The second volume records the 806th's time on Okinawa, where they were dispatched in June of 1945 along with twenty-five other Aviation Engineer Battalions. Their job was to begin building airfields for the B-29 superfortress across Okinawa as an advance base for an increasingly active bombing campaign leading up to an invasion of Japan. The battle for Okinawa had already stretched from April 1, and would continue for two more months after the 806th began working to construct facilities and airfields. The album opens with photos of the destroyed city of Naha, including the Judo Palace, which barely survived the battles, and the lone surviving generating station of the Naha Power & Light Company. There are also photographs of the 806th Battalion supply offices, power plant, vehicles, and other structures. This album focuses heavily on surviving Okinawa natives and culture, as well as detailing changes wrought by the engineers. Such changes include images of trees, carefully pruned for decades, being removed to make way for the construction of the Futema Air Strips, and a control tower erected by the 806th. Additionally, he includes images of temples; Japanese citizens planting rice and terracing fields; the battle-damaged Shuri Castle where caves and bunkers were dug into the hillside beneath; the historic graves of western soldiers who traveled to Japan with Commodore Perry; and even a photograph of a Japanese casualty six months after the battle for Okinawa. The compiler notes that Japanese and native Okinawan women vastly outnumbered the surviving men on the island. The album closes with several photos of a U.S.O. troupe featuring Charlie Ruggles and Mary Brian, who entertained the 806th troops in September 1945. The 806th would remain on Okinawa another seven months after the surrender of Japan in August 1945.

Despite close reading and careful research, we are unable to pin down the name of the compiler of these albums. He, however, has provided extensive documentation including names, locations, and other specifics for his fellow soldiers in the 806th. An altogether wonderful archive of images documenting this tumultuous and important period in the Pacific Theatre at the end of World War II.

(McBRB1982)

\$3,750

"THIS FLYING IS SOME FUN."

45. [World War II]. Largey, William Edward. [*Collection of Manuscript Letters from Air Force Private William E. Largey, Writing Home to His Parents in California During His World War II Flight Training in Texas and Oklahoma*]. San Antonio and Hunt, Tx., and Chickasha, Ok.: October 7, 1943 to October 2, 1944. 187 autograph letters, signed, between one and three pages in length, almost all with original transmittal envelopes or written on aeromail stationery. Small portions of a few letters torn away, occasional offsetting from laid-in newspaper clippings, a great many of which still accompany their original letters. Letters are mostly in nice shape. Very good.

A large and informative collection of personal letters from a prolific letter writer, Private William Edward Largey, an Air Force cadet writing home to his parents in Glendale, California over the course of a year during his World War II flight training in Texas and Oklahoma. Private Largey writes candidly about a myriad of subjects and signs each letter, "Edward." His letters begin shortly after his cadet training at the Air Force Academy in Colorado, when he was stationed at the Army Air Force Pre-Flight School located at the San Antonio Aviation Cadet Center; the letters conclude with actual training flights in Chickasha, Oklahoma and a brief time back in San Antonio before he was reclassified after a nagging shoulder injury cut short his fledgling flight career.

Largey's letters detail his training activities. He spends time in the pressure chamber, takes classes in math, code, physics, naval identification, maps & charts, and aircraft identification, goes along on training flights, and eventually flies solo. He also comments on the nature of life in San Antonio and his observations of Texans, impressions of his fellow aviators, shipments of various products through the base, and so much

more. He occasionally asks for items from back home, relates his experiences in the station hospital, comments on movies and popular music, recounts his own firearms training, and reports on his meals. Interestingly, in a letter just after Thanksgiving, he sends his parents the menu, which includes a roster of soldiers at the station hospital; the "Roster of Colored Enlisted Men" is printed separately from the rest of the officers and enlisted men. Largey was admitted to the base hospital for a while for a mysterious shoulder problem that turned out to be bursitis; he later had his wisdom teeth removed. He spends a considerable amount of time in the station hospital before returning to flight training, which also causes a delay in his training at one point when the regulations force him to repeat classes due to the time he spent in the hospital. From the context of some of his letters, it appears his family, or certainly some close friends, work in the aviation industry, particularly Lockheed.

A few brief excerpts from just a handful of Largey's letters provide a flavor of his correspondence to his parents:

October 7, 1943: "The weather here is nice clear with high fleece clouds. But the music down here, on the radio - all cowboy - "Sons of the Pioneers," Al Dexter, and Roy Acuff (of 'Grand Ole Opera' fame) are the top favorites.... There is a terrific spirit among the men here. I've never seen so much pep and energy - they are raising the devil all the time.... There doesn't seem to be as much flying down here as there was in Denver. All I have seen here are B-24s, B-17s and B-25s and not many of them.... In several days I should be into the classification tests fairly well. There certainly is a lot more red tape to becoming a pilot than when Russell Haywood went through."

November 4, 1943: "Didn't ship today but tomorrow at 7:30 A.M. we ship across the street, for our 9 weeks Pre-Flight Training. Up to the last minute I was hoping for Santa Ana but I guess the odds were too great. Well, there isn't anything to do but jump into the middle of the place and start giving it the devil. If I am lucky enough to get through this training, which I should without trouble, maybe I will be sent out of this South and to California for my actual flying training."

December 16, 1943: "For a long time I have read and reread about the war being won by the Texans but today the headlines are terrific - they are enclosed never have I read anything like it in my life - every day these papers here tell only of the Texans. Other day there was a headline which read '258 die in battle including 6 heroic Texans.' I can see why the people have such a funny attitude towards their men winning the war. So much for that."

February 1, 1944: "Bobbie is no doubt getting ready for a lot of activity as I understand we maintain bases within bombing distance of Jap held Burma and Thailand. Imagine it is really rough territory over there and the natives underfed and diseased."

March 7, 1944: "I have never seen a poorer group of Army Officers than here in San Antonio. They literally don't know beans when the bag is open - all of them have the opinion they have the world by the tail on a downhill pull. Of course I realize the officers here are from all over the place but the officers in Colorado at Buckley Field were seemingly nicer and didn't have such big heads."

March 8, 1944: "Lockheed is working on some big projects at the present - one is a 6 engined plane - huge according to Bruce and the other a jet-propelled ship - this plane is strictly 'hush-hush' and few know about it. Bruce said they are working on it now and in the wind tunnel it has blown 813 M.P.H. in level flight!!!! The huge P-58-2-42 cylinder engines in this plane has been flying for some time he said. They were finishing it when I left and it was supposed to be fast as can be. Has Mary Louise seen it fly - it is flying out of L.A.T. (Lockheed Air Terminal)."

May 14, 1944: "The post is full of women every Sunday & Wednesday evening as the wives and girlfriends of the Cadets come out to see them. As a cross-section they are a mighty poor looking bunch of women. Let no one ever tell you that California doesn't have the prettiest girls (maybe half of them haven't any sense and the other half are crazy but they are still the best looking since my wanderings in this Army)."

August 10, 1944, from Chickasha, Oklahoma. Largey writes thirteen letters during his actual flight training, beginning with the following: "Well, flying a plane is a little different from driving a car but all there is to it is coordination between your hands and feet. We flew to 4500 feet, which is only 3360 because the field is 1140 feet above sea level. The terrain is beautiful around here - gardens, etc. The gas well I wrote you about loomed up like a tower of flame about like the L.A. City Hall. Flew for ½ hour between 2-2:30 P.M. in the heart of the afternoon and the air was rather rough - felt fine no sickness or anything although a number of men got sick and had to come down. You're probably interested in the fastest speed we made - it was 110 M.P.H."

August 29, 1944: "Yes, I soloed today - did 3 take-offs and 3 perfect landings. Instructor was very happy but I am having a little trouble in coordinating my turns but it is only a question of a few more hours and I'll have that ironed out. This flying is some fun and after a while it gets like driving a car except one must be alert and have his head on a swivel as it were because you must be looking in all directions at the same time seemingly. Twenty men so far have washed out - some of the men were afraid of the air - some subject to air sickness and others the instructors washed out because they just weren't pilot material and couldn't coordinate properly in their flying."

A handful of later family letters accompany the wartime correspondence. A wonderful collection of World War II-era letters from a young California cadet learning to fly in Texas and Oklahoma.

(McBRB2529)

\$1,250