Arctic Exploration &
the Search for Franklin
A Note

This catalogue is devoted to Arctic exploration, the search for the Northwest Passage, and the later search for Sir John Franklin. It features many volumes from a distinguished private collection recently purchased by us, and only a few of the items here have appeared in previous catalogues. Notable works are the famous Drage account of 1749, many of the works of naturalist/explorer Sir John Richardson, many of the accounts of Franklin search expeditions from the 1850s, a lovely set of Parry’s voyages, a large number of the Admiralty “Blue Books” related to the search for Franklin, and many other classic narratives.

This is one of 75 copies of this catalogue specially printed in color.

Available on request or via our website are our recent catalogues: 320 Manuscripts & Archives, 322 Forty Years a Bookseller, 323 For Readers of All Ages: Recent Acquisitions in Americana, 324 American Military History, 326 Travellers & the American Scene, and 327 World Travel & Voyages; Bulletins 36 American Views & Cartography, 37 Flat: Single Significant Sheets, 38 Images of the American West, and 39 Manuscripts; e-lists (only available on our website) The Annex Flat Files: An Illustrated Americana Miscellany, Here a Map, There a Map, Everywhere a Map..., and Original Works of Art, and many more topical lists.

Some of our catalogues, as well as some recent topical lists, are now posted on the internet at www.reeseco.com. A portion of our stock may be viewed at www.reeseco.com. If you would like to receive e-mail notification when catalogues and lists are uploaded, please e-mail us at info@reeseco.com or send us a fax, specifying whether you would like to receive the notifications in lieu of or in addition to paper catalogues. If you would prefer not to receive future catalogues and/or notifications, please let us know.

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The American Senate edition of the three substantial and important atlases issued by the Boundary Tribunal, tasked with making the final determination of the Alaska-Canada boundary lines. The first two atlases present historical maps reproduced as evidence for each side’s position, naturally providing a wealth of information on the cartography of the Northwest. The first part consists of maps detailing the American claims to the Alaskan boundary line. Notable mapmakers include Arrowsmith, Tanner, and Greenhow, with some produced in England during the early years of the American republic. Includes maps printed in St. Petersburg, Augsburg, Paris, Madrid, and Toronto. The second part contains maps detailing the British case in the arbitration with the United States over the Alaskan boundary. Many of the maps are earlier historically important works by Vancouver, Bouchette, Arrowsmith, Langsdorff, etc. A boundary was established by a six-member tribunal of British, Canadian, and United States representatives. The third atlas presents the modern mapping of the border, the first accurate mapping of the interior region through which the boundary passes, and details the complex boundary established by a six-member tribunal of British, Canadian, and United States representatives, formed to resolve the boundary dispute between the United States and Britain over the Alaskan boundary. An important and rare collection of atlases which helped establish the forty-ninth state in the Union.

PHILLIPS ATLASES 1452. WICKERSHAM 9373. $1500.

HANSEN VICE-COMMANDER OF THE EXPEDITION WITH ABOUT ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-NINE ILLUSTRATIONS AND THREE MAPS. New York: E.P. Dutton and Company, 1908. Two volumes. xiii,[1],335,[1]; ix,[1],397pp., plus frontispieces and two color folding maps. Original cloth, stamped in gilt. Light chipping at head of spine on first volume. Modern address label on front fly leaves. Light foxing to preliminaries, internally clean. Very good.

First American edition, after the first edition of the previous year. A narrative of Amundsen's navigation of the Northwest Passage from 1903-06, with observations on geography and various native communities, and descriptions of obstacles and conditions encountered during the expedition. The Norwegian explorer was credited with being the first person to reach both the North Pole and South Pole in the early 20th century. His traversing of the Northwest Passage, though some fifty years after the famed Franklin expedition and its resulting recovery missions, was the first successful navigation of the treacherous stretch between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. The Amundsen party travelled via Baffin Bay, Parry Channel, and through Peel Strait and John Ross Strait, spending two winters on King William Island.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 400 (ref). $850.


An interesting assortment of London magazines containing articles and illustrations relating to Arctic exploration. The individual issues are as follows:

3) The Portfolio. Vol. II. No. 38. [London. 1824]. With a lengthy article on Capt. Parry's recent explorations, including content regarding the Esquimaux, including an engraving of Esquimaux clothing.
6) The Portfolio. Vol. III. No. 61. [London. 1824]. With another long article on Capt. Parry's second voyage to the polar regions on pages 1-11, including two engrav-
ings titled “An Esquimaux Creeping Into His Snow Hut” and “An Esquimaux of Igloolik Carrying His Canoe.”


16) *The Saturday Magazine*. No. 91. Supplement. November 1833. Includes a lengthy article titled “Some Account of the Arctic Regions, and of the Voyages Undertaken for the Discovery of a North-West Passage from the Atlantic to the Pacific.” With four interesting engraved illustrations relating to the subject.


$600.

An early juvenile account of John Franklin’s overland expeditions to the Arctic regions. According to the Advertisement, “This work, originally prepared and published by the ‘Society for Promoting the Education of the Poor in Ireland, held in Kildare Place, Dublin,’ has been reprinted by their permission and illustrated with new cuts, for the use of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.” Scarce, with only seven copies in OCLC. $750.


A scarce juvenile work on the Arctic region, being a dialogue between two inquisitive young gentlemen and the recently returned Capt. Mackey, who made three voyages with Capt. Parry in the Arctic. According to the Advertisement, “This work, originally prepared and published by the ‘Society for Promoting the Education of the Poor in Ireland, held in Kildare Place, Dublin,’ has been reprinted by their permission and illustrated with new cuts, for the use of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.” Scarce, with only five total copies of the London edition in OCLC. $500.

A Suite of Images of an Arctic Whaling Disaster


A scarce, complete set of five lithographs recording the disastrous loss of a large fleet of New Bedford whaleships, trapped in the ice near Point Belcher in September 1871. In all, some thirty-four ships were lost, at a cost of $1.5 million. After passing through the Bering Strait in June, the fleet began to be frozen in in August. For a time the captains waited for a northeast wind that might carry them out of
the ice. They had a chance to escape the floes in late August, but did not heed the warnings of natives, who claimed the ice would close up again soon. Indeed, a southwest wind on August 29th crushed three of the ships, and the captains decided to abandon their ships and escape south in smaller vessels. The stranded ships were abandoned, and more than 1200 men, women, and children took lifeboats to seven whaleships not caught in the ice which ferried them to Honolulu. The first three plates show the various ships stuck in the ice, giving the name of each vessel in the caption. The fourth print shows the crews escaping in smaller rowboats, and the final one shows the rescue ships “receiving the captains officers and crews of abandoned ships.”

The illustrations were drawn on stone by J.P. Newell, printed by the lithographic firm of J.H. Bufford in Boston. Peters praises Bufford as being among the very best at producing whaling images. The prints were published by Benjamin Russell in New Bedford, the important whaling port at which the fleet was based. The Lothrop catalogue points out that “all known copies of the prints in this set are marked ‘proof,’ and it is believed Russell retained this to enhance sales.” This event did irreparable damage to the New Bedford whaling fleet and severe damage to the local economy that depended so much on it.


Armstrong sailed as surgeon aboard the H.M.S. Investigator under Capt. Robert McClure on one of the numerous voyages in search of the lost Franklin expedition. “His personal narrative of the discovery of the north-west passage, published in London in 1857, was the last of the three chronicles of the voyage to appear.... [It] is a lucid and straightforward, although somewhat ponderous, account of the phenomena, animate and inanimate, which came under the author’s observation. It furnishes moving descriptions of appalling peril in the wind-driven pack-ice, along with a candid exposure of the condition to which the crew were reduced, thereby contradicting McClure’s arrogant boast that he could have saved the men’s lives without external aid. The book was awarded the Gilbert Blane gold medal for the best journal kept by a surgeon of the Royal Navy” – DCB.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 682. DICTIONARY OF CANADIAN BIOGRAPHY (online). $3250.

A large paper copy of this major source both in the early exploration of the Far North and in ethnology. “...Full of details of his commerce with the Cree, Chippewa, and Coppermine Indians...a fundamental source of information about Indian life along the route of the Arctic expedition” – Streeter. This private expedition was undertaken to search for the second Ross expedition. Back and his party went from Montreal to Great Slave Lake, then overland to the Arctic Ocean. The narrative also contains valuable information on Arctic flora and fauna. A basic Arctic exploration.


A scarce account of Sir George Back’s 1836 expedition to complete a survey of the coastline between Regent’s Inlet and Cape Turnagain. The result was a terrible and harrowing journey. Off Cape Comfort the ship was frozen in for ten months, and then drifted up Frozen Channel. For three days she was on her beam ends, and was not completely free until four months later. On July 14, the following year, a submerged iceberg lifted the ship bodily to one side, but she was eventually righted. “Back’s narrative contains principally detailed descriptions of the ice floe, its changes and its effects on the ship, together with brief notes on those sections of the Southampton Island coast to which short visits were made. Includes lists of equipment, supplies, and personnel, mention of unusual coldness of the summer of 1836, and accounts of trading with Baffin Island Eskimos” – Arctic Bibliography.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 850. HILL 44. SABIN 2617. ROSENBACH 20:43. $2500.


This Hakluyt Society publication is a compilation of the five voyages of William Baffin, supplemented with the explorer’s journal entries and correspondence. Baffin’s exploration of the Arctic produced new and insightful information about the
conditions and layout of the area, particularly of the bay area north of David Strait, which he discovered and which now bears his name. $500.

One of Six Copies Specially Bound


The rare, privately-printed first edition of this popular account of life in Hudson Bay and the Red River settlement, replete with trappers, Indians, intrepid explorers and travelers, and descriptions of hunting and fishing. This copy seems to conform to the presentation binding as enumerated in Quayle: “the author had a small number of copies bound specially for presentation in red morocco (the family say not more than six) and these he gave to members of his family and a few close friends.” Additionally, there is a bookplate on the front pastedown printed with the initials “R.B.” indicating this copy could have either belonged to Ballantyne personally, or was given away by him after tagging it with his personal bookplate.

“Based on the author's experiences as a Hudson's Bay Co. clerk, 1841-47, an account of the Company, life at its posts and on the trail; climate, game, physical features of the region around York Factory, and (mainly) northwest Canada south of 60° N” – Arctic Bibliography. “The woodcuts, including the frontispiece of Tadousac, are from drawings made on the spot by the author” – Decker. “Camp rates this work as one of the best narratives of the north woods, told with humor and details of the lives of both Indians and whites. Ballantyne traveled extensively during his stay in the north, and, in addition to long excerpts taken from his journal, he has added the story of the Red River settlement and tales of the western interior” – Wagner-Camp.


The rare first edition of this important work on Arctic exploration, including the first supplement. These are Barrington's celebrated "Tracts on the possibility of approaching the North Pole." In the complete work they comprise three separate
pamphlets, the “Probability of reaching the North Pole” (which contains five parts) and the two supplements, but the pagination was continued throughout the three. This copy only includes the first supplement, “Additional Instances of Navigators, Who Have Reached High Northern Latitudes,” paginated to page 112.

The tracts were reissued in a large collection of curious papers known as his ‘Miscellanies,’ published in 1781. The original issues are very scarce. “Compilation of facts derived from records of early navigators, and results from queries to whaling and fishing captains concerning ice conditions in northern Greenland Sea and Baffin Bay, with discussion of the best season for open water in polar regions” – Arctic Bibliography. “This work caused the memorable voyage undertaken by Captain Phipps” – Sabin. “These writings by Barrington were very influential in their time. They were responsible for directing attention to polar exploration, Northeast and Northwest passages” – Nebenzahl.

A rare work, with only four copies in OCLC, and no copies at auction in thirty-five years.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 1093. SABIN 3632. NEBENZAHL 8:22. EBERSTADT 165:007. OCLC 18250766. $9500.


A strange ensemble, but the two articles in the collection of the greatest interest are “The Possibility of approaching the North Pole discussed” and “Journal of a Voyage in 1775. To explore the coast of America, Northward of California.” This section, consisting of some ninety pages, was written by Don Francisco de la Bodega and is illustrated by a map of the Pacific Coast of America from Baja to Alaska, with capes named by Bodega marked. Wagner comments at length on the origins of this often inaccurate map. Much of the first article
was drawn from information provided by whaling captains. There are several pieces on natural historical subjects, as well as “Ohthere’s ‘Voyage, and the Geography of the Ninth Century illustrated.’ In addition there is an account, illustrated with an engraved portrait, of “a very remarkable young musician” (i.e. Johannes Chrysostomus Wolfgangus Mozart).

HILL 56. LADA-MOCARSKI 34. HOWES B177. STREETER SALE 2445. BELL B61. WAGNER NORTHWEST COAST 674.


Barrow’s compilation of Arctic voyages. Barrow was an avid supporter of Arctic navigation and this early publication illustrates his passion for exploration of the mysterious region. “The object of this work is to present in very abridged form the chronological history, from early times to 1818, of voyages into the Arctic regions and of the attempts to find a passage between the Atlantic and the Pacific” – Lada-Mocarski. “More than any other man not actually engaged in Arctic discovery, he contributed to the splendid results obtained in the 19th century. Point Barrow, Cape Barrow, and Barrow Straits, in the polar seas, attest the estimation in which his friendship was held by the explorers” – _DNB_.

SABIN 3660. LADA-MOCARSKI 76. TPL 4846. $750.

15. **Barrow, John:** _VOYAGES OF DISCOVERY AND RESEARCH WITHIN THE ARCTIC REGIONS, FROM THE YEAR 1818 TO THE PRESENT TIME: UNDER THE COMMAND OF THE SEVERAL NAVAL OFFICERS EMPLOYED BY SEA AND LAND IN SEARCH OF A NORTH-WEST PASSAGE FROM THE ATLANTIC TO THE PACIFIC; WITH TWO ATTEMPTS TO REACH THE NORTH POLE. ABRIDGED AND ARRANGED FROM THE OFFICIAL NARRATIVES, WITH OCCASIONAL REMARKS_. London: John Murray, 1846. xiv,530pp. plus two maps (one folding) and sixteen pages of advertisements. Frontispiece portrait. Original decorated blue cloth, spine gilt. Slightly cocked, cloth rubbed, corners bumped. Bookplate on front pastedown, light offsetting from frontispiece to titlepage, else internally clean, tight, and very good.

First edition of this study of early 19th-century arctic explorations. “Contains a detailed account of the principal British expeditions into the North American
Arctic (also to Svalbard), from that of Ross in 1818 to those of Back and Simpson, 1836-39; their scientific achievements, and contribution towards a discovery of a Northwest Passage. The final chapter includes criticism of Sir John Ross’ second voyage 1829-33, to which Ross replied in his Observations on a Work...by Sir John Barrow (1846)” – Arctic Bibliography. This copy has ads at the rear dated 1850, but is in the regular publisher’s binding.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 1096. TPL 7825. SABIN 3669. $750.

Baxter Print Looking for Franklin


A rare color-printed illustration pertaining to the search for the lost Franklin Expedition. The print relates to the expedition led by James Clarke Ross in 1848-49. A small cut-out in the mat reveals the title of the print along with Baxter’s studio information. The scene depicts two sailors battling two polar bears on an ice floe, using hand-held weapons against the great beasts. Three more men are running to their aid from a dory at the edge of the ice floe. Two ships can be seen in the distance, presumably the Enterprise and the Investigator. Beams of light radiate from the sun and provide the background to this surrealistic landscape of icy spires and craggy peaks.
The Baxter color-print process involved using wood and metal color blocks along with steel key plates, and often produced an image of great quality. The process, however, was laborious and time-consuming, sometimes involving up to twenty different colored plates to achieve the final result. As such, the process did not catch on in the commercial market, and Baxter eventually went bankrupt. This image of one of the key Franklin searches remains a testament to both the quality of Baxter’s printing process and to the importance of the events surrounding the search for Sir John Franklin.

The “Admiralty” Edition


The coveted “Admiralty” edition, printed on large paper. Beechey’s expedition went to Bering Strait and beyond to meet and assist the Franklin and Parry parties, whom Beechey expected to arrive from the East. The expedition was based at Kotzebue Sound. Franklin’s team arrived within fifty leagues of Beechey’s encampment, but was forced by weather to return. This work is “one of the most valuable of modern voyages” (Hill), and incorporates accounts of visits to Pitcairn Island, Tahiti, Alaska, Hawaii, Macao, Okinawa, and the coast of California. On Pitcairn Island, Beechey met John Adams, the last survivor of the Bounty mutiny. Beechey gives an important account of Monterey and San Francisco before the American conquest, with much on the missionaries in California. Considerable botanical information gathered during the voyage was separately published by W.J. Hooker. The narrative of the trip provides a background to where and when the plants were collected. The maps are a chart of the Pacific showing the route of Beechey’s ship, and a map of the northwest coast of Alaska. Contains a “Vocabulary of Words of the Western Esquimaux.” The collation given in Streeter calls for only seven plates in the second part, due to his counting the three fossil plates as one, but there are actually three fossil plates (see the note in Lada-Mocarski).


This important work features a superb complement of lithographed plates, many of them chromolithographs or tinted, showing early views in the high Arctic. Belcher’s narrative is printed in journalistic form, occupying the first two thirds of the text; the remainder is turned over to substantial reports and appendices on the natural history observations by John Richardson, Prof. Owen, and several others. The map shows the Arctic Ocean in North America.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 1241. ABBEY 645. SABIN 4389. TPL 3409. NMM 921. $2750.


A Franklin Search Rarity
Translated from the French edition of the previous year (both published posthumously). The journal of Joseph Bellot (1826-53), detailing his time with an expedition in search of Sir John Franklin, serving as second in command under Capt. William Kennedy on the Prince Albert. The expedition, which extended through 1851 and 1852, included a substantial overland sledging journey. Though they failed to find Franklin’s lost ships, they did make significant discoveries in the Canadian Arctic, returning to England with the entirety of the crew safely intact. Bellot was not as lucky on the next expedition he served on in search of Franklin the following year: he fell through the ice while crossing Wellington Channel and disappeared from sight. His crew mates erected a memorial grave on Beechey Island, next to three graves from the lost Franklin Expedition.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 1305. TPL 8402. SABIN $8000.

A Long Run of the Great ATUAGAGDLIUTT,
Including a Presentation Volume from the Editor to the Founder

20. Berthelsen, Rasmus, and Lars Møller: ATUAGAGDLIUTT. NALINGINARNIK TUSARUMINASASSUNIK UNIKÁT. [Nuuk, Greenland: Hinrich Rink, 1862-1946, lacking the years 1884-91, 1894-95, 1901-03]. Eighty-five volumes. Replete with illustrations, many in color. Some issues loose. First volume in original limp patterned cloth. Second volume in cloth-backed printed boards, spine repaired. Third volume in cloth-backed boards, spine worn. Fourth volume with lower half of spine and titlepage lacking. Of the remaining volumes, sixteen are in cloth-backed boards and sixty-five are in original wrappers, spines generally worn. Second volume with contemporary manuscript index, possibly by Møller. Overall very good.

A tremendous run of this landmark Greenland newspaper, equally celebrated for its remarkable quality, range of content, and longevity. The fourth volume of the this set is enhanced by a presentation inscription from Lars Møller, the longtime editor and noted native lithographer, to Hinrich Rink, proprietor of Greenland’s first regular press and founder of the paper. Further, the plates in the fourth volume have been hand-colored, presumably by Møller in Rink’s honor.

ATUAGAGDLIUTT, translated literally as “distributed reading matter,” stands alone when evaluating the impact of a single printed periodical on a native culture. The catholic editorial taste of Berthelsen and Møller not only brought the world’s great literature to the doors of native Greenlanders, but did so in a manner that accomplished dual milestones in Greenlandic cultural history. First, by printing entirely
in the native language, they transmitted the worldly canon, much of it for the first time, in a manner readily understandable by their readership. This resulted in a near instant removal of substantive cultural gaps between Greenland and Europe. Second, foreign epics and tales were often set alongside traditional native legends, equating their value with those of the outside world. In result, the success of *Atuagagdliutt* was a point of national pride. Avidly consumed by its readership, its pages were shared, clipped, and culled to the point of near extinction. To date, five (at most) complete runs exist, entirely in public institutions in Denmark and Greenland. One additional set resides in private hands. Only nine institutions in the United States possess comparable runs, to varying degrees of completeness.

The founders of *Atuagagdliutt* include some of the most prominent men in the history of Greenlandic printing. The prime mover behind its creation, Hinrich Rink, first came to Greenland from Denmark in 1848, quickly rising to the position of royal inspector for South Greenland. In 1855 he began printing small pamphlets from a late 18th-century press left behind by Greenland’s “first” printer, Jesper Brodersen, whose total known output is one small pamphlet done in 1793. In 1857 he installed a new press imported from Copenhagen, in effect becoming Greenland’s first regular printer. Rink was soon joined by Rasmus Berthelsen, a native Greenlander who proved a quick study talented enough to become the paper’s first editor when it was launched in 1861. Apprenticed to Berthelsen was Lars Møller, the son of a carpenter who, under the tutelage of Berthelsen and Rink, learned nearly every facet of the printing trade, including lithography. It was Møller who printed the *Atuagagdliutt* from its earliest days, and he was responsible for a
majority of the numerous lithographs. Accomplished as he was, the success of Møller's lithographs was due entirely to the instinctual talent of the original artist, the legendary Aron of Kangeq. While bedridden with tuberculosis, Aron received a visit from Rink, who had heard of Aron's considerable talent from other natives. According to Oldendow, “Rink...sent him paper, coloured pencils, and the necessary tools for woodcutting and with no instruction whatsoever Aron produced over two hundred woodcuts and watercolors.” His ability to illustrate both foreign and native legend alike secured his reputation, and his contributions were an invaluable addition to the paper. Berthelsen continued as editor for twelve years until 1874, when Møller succeeded him.

The combined talents of the paper's staff notwithstanding, success, let alone survival, was far from assured. Working in the forbidding Greenland climate, Rink and his assistants were faced with numerous shortages and hurdles that make their considerable accomplishment all the more remarkable. Ink was often wanting, substituted frequently with a homemade variety made from boiling varnish and soot. Paper needed to be moistened to accept the ink, but often it would freeze before it could be put to use. Most serious of all was the large language barrier between Møller and Rink which, fortunately, was overcome thanks to Møller's diligent study and a well-timed training trip to Denmark. Despite disadvantageous circumstances, the small crew was determined, and when they found themselves without, they improvised.

This steadfast dedication was due, above all, to Rink's abounding love of his adopted home and its people. From the moment of his arrival, Rink sought to learn as much as possible about native culture. He undertook countless overland and boat journeys throughout the land, staying with local families whenever possible. He began to develop an idea of what a Greenland periodical could be, and tried to convey this notion in the advertising leaflets he issued prior to publication. When publication began in January 1861, it was clear Rink had imbued the young Berthelsen with the same enthusiasm, and after Møller assumed editorship, this cultural fervor erupted. Year after year the newspaper contained “innumerable articles written both by and for Greenlanders – on hunting conditions and famous lives, on public events and memorable occasions at home and abroad, novels and stories translated into Greenlandic, legends, articles, official decrees...” (Oldendow). Equally important was how Møller stretched the language to fit his needs. When a foreign object or idea lacked a Greenlandic equivalent, Møller invented one.

The cultural consequences of the publication of Atuagagdliutt are extreme, as its longevity attests. That this venture, unique among indigenous cultures, took root in a North American language is significant and offers ample opportunity for comparison to other frontier native language presses, such as those at Park Hill and Harbor Springs. What is immediately clear is that Atuagagdliutt brought world and native culture to life in vivid detail, free of religious constraints and with no overt didactic purpose. This circumstance alone makes Atuagagdliutt a North American language production of the greatest interest.
“The results were slow in coming, but come they did, and Atuagagdliutt’s finest achievement would seem to be that quietly and gradually it caused the Greenlanders to grow as a people; it welded them together into a whole, until little by little they learned to notice things outside their immediate daily life and the narrow boundaries of their isolated land. Throughout its many years of publication it helped the Greenlanders to develop from an Esquimo community into a people” – Oldendow.


$35,000.


Richard Henry Bonnycastle (1791-1847) was a British army officer in the Royal Engineers who was assigned to Upper Canada in 1826. He contributed significantly to both infrastructure and educational projects in the colony, and wrote several books on the colony as well. He likewise helped to quell the Canadian Rebellion of 1838. This work focuses on his time in Newfoundland, where he served as commanding engineer. “Between 1841 and 1846 he made his main literary contribution, publishing with Henry Colburn in London The Canadas in 1841 (2v., 1842), Newfoundland in 1842: A Sequel to ‘The Canadas in 1841’ (2v., 1842), and Canada and the Canadians, in 1846 (2v., 1846). He retired from the engineers in June 1847 and died in Kingston soon after, at the age of 56. A fellow officer and friend, Sir James Edward Alexander, edited Bonnycastle’s voluminous notes and published them in Canada as It Was, Is, and May Be (2v., London, 1852). These works are not great literature, but they were competent and informative tracts which helped to publicize British North America in Britain and to attract middle-class immigrants and investment capital” – DCB.

SABIN 6332. TPL 5221. DICTIONARY OF CANADIAN BIOGRAPHY (online). $600.

One of the handsomest illustrated works on Canada, with outstanding early views of Montreal and other settlements. The work is a vastly expanded outgrowth of the author’s earlier work, published in 1815, and based on a year’s survey in Canada. This two-volume work is found in two different issues, with titles dated 1831 and 1832, respectively. Both Sabin and the TPL catalogue confuse the number of plates correctly issued with the work; this set is complete and correct with thirty-one, which include various local maps. A handsome set.

SABIN 6848. LANDE 1594. TPL 1627. $1350.


The disappearance of explorer Sir John Franklin spurred numerous expeditions to recover his whereabouts from 1848 to 1854. Brandes attempts not only to give an overview of the various Arctic expeditions which took place in the search for the Franklin party, but also to illustrate the details of daily operations and procedures. Scarce in the market.

SABIN 7394. LANDE 979. TPL 8335. $2500.


A masterly digest of efforts to locate Sir John Franklin and his crew, ending with one of the best contemporary bibliographies. “History of expeditions to arctic North American waters, 17th-19th centuries, and a review of opinions concerning the Northwest Passage, held throughout Europe and America in the mid-nineteenth century” – Arctic Bibliography. Scarce.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 2302. SABIN 8517. ROSENBACH 20:91. $3750.


A government report on the resources of the basin of the Mackenzie River in the Canadian Arctic, with maps of the region showing resources, including wildlife. An early, detailed report of the Canadian Northwest. $650.


A handsome collection of annual volumes of The Nautical Magazine containing articles on important Canadian and Arctic expeditions between 1834 and 1859. The individual volumes are as follows:

1) The Nautical Magazine for 1834. Vol. III. With articles on Back (including letters regarding the North-West Passage), Ross, Arctic expeditions from England, and steamboats on the St. Lawrence River and Lake Ontario.

2) The Nautical Magazine and Naval Chronicle, for 1845. With important news of the appointment of captain and crew to the Franklin expedition. Also includes articles on the wreck of the Crusader, the retirement of John Barrow, and various Arctic and polar expeditions.

3) The Nautical Magazine and Naval Chronicle, for 1849. Contains information on Franklin search expeditions and other Arctic explorations, as well as articles on Vancouver Island, the destruction of whalers by icebergs, Sitka, Alaska, and other subjects of Canadian and Arctic interest.

4) The Nautical Magazine and Naval Chronicle, for 1850. With a significant amount of important information on the Franklin search, including a multi-part account of the voyage of the H.M.S. Enterprize and Investigator to Barrow Strait; a
report by Sir John Richardson on his Franklin search; and Capt. Forsyth’s Arctic Branch Expedition and Search for Franklin. Also includes much on Arctic explorers such as Barrow, Moore, Austin, Ross, and Rae, and Canadian-related articles on a North-West expedition, the winds on the St. Lawrence River, and Louisbourg Harbour near Cape Breton.

5) *The Nautical Magazine and Naval Chronicle, for 1851.* Contains articles on the Franklin search by Pullen and Snow, with a review of the Franklin search expedition by Austin & Penny. Also includes articles on screw steamers in the ice by Osborn, Snow’s “Remarks on the Prince Albert’s Trace Through the Ice of Baffin Bay,” an account of Juan De Fuca Strait by Wood, and Robinson’s “Summer Cruize on the Coast of Labrador,” among others.

6) *The Nautical Magazine and Naval Chronicle, for 1852.* Includes articles on the Franklin search, other Arctic expeditions, and reports on Sable Island by Bayfield, Puget Sound, the Funk Islands in Newfoundland, and casualties from Collinson’s Bering Strait Expedition, among others.

7) *The Nautical Magazine and Naval Chronicle, for 1853.* With articles on Simpson, Allen, Barrow, Dr. Rae’s projected Arctic expedition, M’Clure’s passage from the Bering Strait to the Bay of Mercy and other news of the North-West Passage, and notices of new books by Kennedy (*Second Voyage of the Prince Albert in Search of Sir John Franklin*), Kellett (*Narrative of the Voyage of H.M.S. Herald*), and Inglefield (*A Summer Search for Sir John Franklin*).

8) *The Nautical Magazine and Naval Chronicle, for 1854.* The most notable article here is Rae’s report on the Franklin search, in which he reports: “From the mutilated state of many of the corpses, and the contents of the kettles, it is evident that our wretched countrymen had been driven to the last resource, cannibalism, as a means of prolonging existence.” Also includes articles on the Grinnell’s Expedition in search of Franklin, the Bering Strait Expedition, Kane’s Arctic Expedition, and other Arctic expeditions by Collinson and Simpson. Further articles focus on the Isle of St. Paul, Vancouver, and Queen Charlotte Islands, the New Canada Treaty, and other related subjects.

9) *The Nautical Magazine and Naval Chronicle, for 1856.* Includes a most notable article, “Reflections on Sir John Franklin’s Expedition and Where His Ships Were Most Probably Beset in the Ice,” with two maps and illustrations (with a short article by John Ross commenting on this article, printed later in the same volume). This was an important article in paving the way for the successful M’Clintock Expedition the next year. Also contains Belcher’s article on the probable position of the lost Franklin party, and an account of Anderson’s Franklin searching expedition up the Great Fish River. Other articles focus on the discovery of the Resolute in Arctic waters, portions of the journal from Trollope’s expedition to the Bering Strait on the Rattlesnake, a publication notice for Osborn’s *The Discovery of the North-West Passage*, and more.

10) *The Nautical Magazine and Naval Chronicle, for 1859.* Most notable is an article on the return of M’Clintock after his search for the lost Franklin party. Also includes articles on the voyage of the Fox, the navigation of the Frazer River, ocean currents in the Bering Strait and along the Arctic coasts, and Newfoundland.
An excellent collection of a rare periodical, with much information on the exploration of Canada and the Arctic. $1750.

27. [Canadiana]: [COLLECTION OF ORIGINAL LEAVES OF THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS REGARDING CANADA, ALASKA, AND GREENLAND, 1843 – 1877]. London. 1843-1877. 136 leaves. Illus. A few leaves foxed. Overall very good. Laid into a cloth clamshell case, leather label, with an original cloth cover of the periodical pasted on the front cover.

An interesting collection of individual leaves extracted from The Illustrated London News, all pertaining to Canada, Alaska, and Greenland. The collection begins with stories about Toronto and a proposal for Sir John Ross’ North Pole expedition. Other highlights include stories or mentions of mining in Greenland, the Red River exploring expedition, the lumber trade in British North America, Vancouver’s Island, the Alaska territory, British Columbia, the British Arctic Expedition of 1875 led by Sir George Strong Nares, and much more. Includes a typed list summarizing the content of each leaf, prepared by a previous owner. A valuable collection of contemporary news about Canada, Alaska, and Greenland in the mid to late 19th century, with excellent engravings. $2500.

A Classic of Canadiana and 18th-Century Travel Literature


George Cartwright first visited the Americas in the spring of 1766, when his brother John was first lieutenant of the Guernsey, flagship of Commodore Hugh Palliser. Cartwright sailed with the governor-designate to Newfoundland, where he spent a season cruising along the northeast coast. He returned in the spring of 1768 and took part in an expedition to the interior of Newfoundland to establish friendly relations with the Beothuks at Red Indian Lake. Cartwright’s army career was foundering, so he determined to set up as a trader and entrepreneur in Labrador, and in 1770 he went on half pay.

Raids by the Americans, competition between the English and French fishermen and between the different English merchant houses, along with the hostility between the natives and Europeans, all made for an unstable business atmosphere during Cartwright’s time in Labrador and Newfoundland. None of this was helped
by the political problems caused by the rival authorities of Quebec and Newfoundland. The scene of his operations from 1770 to 1786 was the stretch of coastline between Cape Charles, where he occupied Nicholas Darby’s old site, and Hamilton Inlet. From the stations he established he engaged with his servants and sharemen in the fisheries for cod, salmon, and seals, and the trade in furs. The present work gives a fascinating insight into the business life of the region.

But this work offers much else besides: a detailed record of the seasons with fine meteorological and natural history observations as well as extensive notes on the numerous hunting expeditions that Cartwright undertook. “The journal is, above all, testimony to a persistent, curious, and resourceful mind. In his relations with the native peoples of Labrador, especially the Inuit, Cartwright displayed an honesty which led to mutual trust. In 1772 he took a family of five Inuit to England, where they created considerable interest, meeting with the King, members of the Royal Society including Joseph Banks, and James Boswell, who reported to a skeptical Samuel Johnson his ability to communicate with them by sign language....What has only recently been properly recognized, however, is the interest of Cartwright not only in the Inuit language and its study, but also in making himself a glossarist of 18th-century Newfoundland English; and he was a close student of and perhaps contributor to the work of such scientific contemporaries as Banks, Thomas Pennant, and Daniel Carl Solander. Of his sole essay as a poet, ‘Labrador: a poetical epistle’ (composed in 1784 [and bound at the back of the final volume of the present work]), Cartwright himself warned the reader: ‘Tho I have often slept whole nights on mountains as high as that of famed Parnassus, yet, never having taken a nap on its sacred summit, it cannot be expected, that I should have awoke a Poet.’ Yet less interesting verses have attracted the industrious attention of Canadian literary historians, and among writings from the New World a more singular 18th-century document than the journal itself is hard to find” – DCB.

Robert Southey, who met Cartwright in 1791 and read this book in 1793, subsequently wrote that the author “had strength and perseverance characterized in every muscle....The annals of his campaigns among the foxes and beavers interested me far more than ever did the exploits of Marlbro [sic] or Frederic; besides, I saw plain truth and the heart in Cartwright’s book and in what history could I look for this?”
There is some bibliographical confusion over the collation of the maps, which are after surveys of the coasts of Newfoundland and Labrador by Lane and are engraved by Faden: the work is complete with two maps, with one of the maps printed on two sheets and bound with the upper sheet in the second volume and the lower sheet in the third volume (and therefore sometimes incorrectly described as three maps).


With Handsome Maps of Nova Scotia and Newfoundland


A highly detailed geographical account of the coasts of Acadia (Nova Scotia), Isle Royale (Cape Breton), and Newfoundland. The handsome maps depict the coasts and ports, with names of French settlements and towns noted, including a detailed plan of the port of Chibouctou in Nova Scotia. “Mr. Chabert’s work is highly praised by the commission appointed by the French Academy of Science to examine it, and is recommended as a model to future navigators. It is divided into two parts: the first containing an account of the author’s voyage from Brest to Louisbourg, and his four expeditions to the neighboring coasts and islands; the second part containing the astronomical observations at large” – Sabin.

Exploring Hudson Bay


An interesting and important work, much scarcer than the same author’s work on Newfoundland which appeared the following year. Chappell made his voyage to Hudson Bay in 1814 as escort to vessels of the Hudson’s Bay Company. He describes the forts and posts maintained on the Bay by the Company, whose policies he scorned. He also gives detailed accounts of Indians found around the Bay, especially the Eskimo and Cree, and includes some very interesting illustrations of Indian life.

LANDE 1117. TPL 976. SABIN 12005. FIELD 281. ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 2994. $750.

A Franklin Search Rarity


The expedition journal of Capt. Richard Collinson, published posthumously, by his brother. Collinson led one of several search parties in the recovery efforts of the missing Franklin party in 1849. He and Commander Robert McClure were to sail to the Arctic as a pair, but were separated early in the voyage. McClure continued through the Bering Strait and eventually became the first man to officially cross the Northwest Passage, with Collinson delayed by ice and unable to reach Fort Barrow until 1854. Collinson actually came closest to the area where the Franklin expedition ended, and his geographical knowledge of the Arctic offered considerable insight into the elusive region. “Journal entries throughout record the course of the expedition, give information on currents, ice, dust and stone on ice, coasts, equipment for sledge parties, distances traversed, meteorology, animals encountered, and appearance and customs of the Eskimos” – Arctic Bibliography.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 3351. TPL 3536. $5000.
Dublin Edition of Cook’s Third Voyage

32. Cook, James: King, James: A VOYAGE TO THE PACIFIC OCEAN. UNDERTAKEN BY THE COMMAND OF HIS MAJESTY, FOR MAKING DISCOVERIES IN THE NORTHERN HEMISPHERE.... Dublin. 1784. Three volumes. [8],xcviii,421; [14],549; [11],559pp., plus frontispiece portrait, eighteen folding maps and charts, seven folding plates, and folding table. Contemporary calf, spines gilt, leather labels. Extremities lightly worn, slight wear to spine ends and hinges, first volume expertly rebacked, with original spine laid down. Minor occasional foxing. A very good set.

First Dublin edition of the official account of Cook’s third and final voyage, including text on the exploration of Hawaii and the west coasts of America, Canada, and Alaska. The third voyage was undertaken to continue the British survey of the Pacific, but most particularly to search for a northwest passage from the western side. Sailing in 1776, the expedition called at Kerguelen Island, Tasmania, New Zealand, and the Cook, Tonga, and Society islands, then sailed north and discovered Christmas Island and the Hawaiian Islands. They then thoroughly explored and charted the Northwest Coast from the Bering Straits along the coast of Alaska and Canada, as far south as present northern California. Returning to Hawaii in 1778, the expedition was at first received warmly; but after departing and being forced to return to repair a mast, trouble developed which led to a tragic series of events in which the great navigator was killed. However, the expedition pressed on under Clerke and then Gore, and explored the coasts of Siberia and Kamchatka.
before returning to England in 1780. Forbes calls this work “arguably the single most important book on the Hawaiian islands.” The Dublin edition was issued both with and without the plates; this copy is the issue with the plates, which is considerably more desirable and difficult to come by.


Cook’s Third Voyage, to Hawaii and the Northwest Coast


A fine set of the second and best edition of the official account of Cook’s third and last voyage, during which he explored Hawaii and the west coast of America, Canada, and Alaska. “Cook’s third voyage was organized to seek the Northwest Passage and to return [the islander] Omai to Tahiti. Officers of the crew included William Bligh, James Burney, James Colnett, and George Vancouver. John Webber was appointed artist to the expedition. After calling at Kerguelen Island, Tasmania, New Zealand, and the Cook, Tonga, and Society Islands, the expedition sailed north
and discovered Christmas Island and the Hawaiian Islands, which Cook named the
Sandwich Islands. Cook charted the American west coast from Northern California
through the Bering Strait as far north as latitude 70 degrees 44 minutes before he
was stopped by pack ice. He returned to Hawaii for the winter and was killed in
an unhappy skirmish with the natives. Charles Clarke took command and after
he died six months later, the ships returned to England under John Gore. Despite
hostilities with the United States and France, the scientific nature of this expedi-
tion caused the various governments to exempt these vessels from capture. The
voyage resulted in what Cook judged his most valuable discovery – the Hawaiian
Islands” – Hill.

The typography of the second edition text of the third voyage is generally
considered superior to the first (Hughes took over the printing from Strahan and
reset all the text). Contemporary support for this view is reported by Forbes, who
quotes an inscription in a set presented by Mrs. Cook to her doctor, Dr. Elliotson,
which notes: “the letter press of the second edition being much superior to the first
both in paper & letter press.”

An attractive set of Cook’s third voyage, with the plates in the atlas free of any
foxing and with strong impressions of the plates.

HILL 361 (1st ed). HOLMES 47. SABIN 16250. STREETER SALE 3478. HOWES
FORBES 85. BEDDIE 1552.

$24,000.

Rare American Edition

34. [Cook, James]: CAPT. COOK’S THIRD AND LAST VOYAGE TO
THE PACIFIC OCEAN, IN THE YEARS 1776, 1777, 1778, 1779,
Modern pink paper boards, printed paper label. Light dampstaining and soil-
ing to text, heavier in some places. Good plus.

“Faithfully abridged from the quarto edition.” An abridged children’s version of
Capt. James Cook’s third and final voyage, on which he was murdered by natives.
The third voyage was undertaken to continue the British survey of the Pacific, but
most particularly to search for a northwest passage from the western side. Sailing
in 1776, the expedition called at Kerguelen Island, Tasmania, New Zealand, and
the Cook, Tonga, and Society islands, then sailed north and discovered Christmas
Island and the Hawaiian Islands. They then thoroughly explored and charted the
Northwest Coast from the Bering Straits along the coast of Alaska and Canada, as far
south as present northern California. Returning to Hawaii in 1778, the expedition
was at first received warmly; but after departing and being forced to return to repair
a mast, trouble developed which led to a tragic series of events in which the great
navigator was killed. Relatively scarce, with fewer than ten copies listed in ESTC.

EVANS 30276. ESTC W37314. FORBES 257.

$2000.

Third edition, and second Canadian edition, of Cormack's journey across Newfoundland, published by the anti-Confederation Morning Chronicle. The Scottish explorer returned to his birthplace of St. Johns in 1822 and decided to undertake an exploration of the island's interior with hopes of making contact with the nearly extinct, indigenous Beothuk. His narrative remains a classic of Newfoundland travel, with invaluable accounts of the mineralogy, geology, and layout of the interior which had not yet been explored.

The Morning Chronicle was one of several newspapers published in Newfoundland in the latter part of the 19th century. Most of the papers published at the time took decidedly political stances regarding the Canadian Confederation and the Morning Chronicle was significant for its anti-Confederation editorials. Scarce, with only eleven copies located in OCLC.

LANDE S546. TPL 8486 (ref). SABIN 16789 (ref). $1250.

With a Large Map of the Labrador Coast


A brief but rare history of the Labrador region, notable for its large and detailed map. Roger Curtis was a British Naval officer who served in both the American and French revolutionary wars after compiling the data used in the present work. Daines Barrington was an English lawyer and antiquary who wrote extensively for the Royal Society, as in the present work. He also wrote two notable books regarding the North Pole. In the present work Curtis describes Labrador's geography, its animals, and the ways of the Inuit, with some brief information on the Montagnais as well. He also attempts to calculate the Inuit population based on tribal information. This section of a larger work was extracted from Volume LXIV, Part I of the Royal Society of London's Philosophical Transactions, Giving Some Account of the Present Undertakings, Studies, and Labours, of the Ingenious, in Many Considerable Parts of the World. The large folding map is titled "A chart of part of the country
of Labrador. Taken by order of Commodore Shuldham, on a tour [by H.M.'s sloop the Otter] up the coast in the year 1773, by Lieutenant Roger Curtis.” This copy includes the titlepage and table of contents of the larger work in facsimile. A rare work, not accounted for in the bibliographical record for the region, presumably because of its presence inside the larger and more general publication.  $1500.


Three reports on the Yukon Territory gathered into one volume: Dall’s “Travels on the Yukon and in the Yukon Territory in 1866-1868,” which contains an account of the Western Union Telegraph Company Expedition; Dawson’s “Extracts from the Report on an Exploration Made in 1887 in the Yukon Territory, N.W.T., and Adjacent Northern Portion of British Columbia”; and Ogilvie’s “Extracts from the Report of an Exploration Made in 1896-1897.”

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 3630, 3726, 12748. WICKERSHAM 1914. RICKS, p.77. TOURVILLE 1168. $600.


An interesting account of the Jeannette’s voyage to the Arctic region, in the rare original publisher’s sheep. A mixed set, with a later issue of the first volume. “The ‘Jeannette’ sailed from San Francisco in 1879, calling at Bering Sea ports. She went adrift in ice near Herald Island in November, and after 19 months, was crushed and sank, northeast of the New Siberian Islands. Among the crew members who reached the Lena River delta in Siberia, De Long and eleven others perished” – Ricks. RICKS, p.82. TOURVILLE 1260. $500.

Second edition, with an added introduction by Lieut. Koolemans Beynen of the Royal Netherlands Navy. Also includes an additional postscript relating to the recently completed voyage of Nares and Stephenson. The work contains a lengthy introduction and a type-facsimile of the original 1609 work titled *The True and Perfect Description of Three Voyages, So Strange and Wonderfull, That the Like Hath Neuer Been Heard of Before....* Scarce in the market.

GOODSPEED 324:662. $600.

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A handsome large paper copy of this important attack on the Hudson's Bay Company monopoly in the Americas, with a valuable early account of the search for a northwest passage. Dobbs, later colonial governor of North Carolina, was an active opponent of the monopoly of the Hudson's Bay Company, pointing out that if they did not alter their policies, the French would quickly occupy the central plains to the west of their traditional areas of influence (as, in fact, they did). This and other works on a similar theme by Dobbs led to the investigation of the monopoly by a British Parliamentary committee in 1749. Dobbs never saw the Bay, and his information was largely based on French publications and Canadian sources, particularly that of Métis trader Joseph La France. According to Peter C. Newman, the account of La France's exploits is this work's “most valuable historical contribution” (Empire of the Sun, [2000], p.213). The second main thrust of Dobbs’ narrative concerns his advocacy of the necessity of searching for a northwest passage: he gives an account of the early exploration of the area, and of the opportunities that further exploration would offer. In addition, he fires the opening broadside in his attack on Christopher Middleton for his leadership of the 1741-42 expedition in search of a northwest passage. This controversy, played out in print, lasted for more than three years.


An exceedingly rare pamphlet relating to the Hudson's Bay Company's struggles to maintain controlling land interests in North America, mainly in Western Canada. In 1869 the Hudson's Bay Company would give up vast lands in North America and be compensated just £300,000 for them, a sum far lower than the many millions the land was supposed to be worth. “Dobbs belonged to the whole-hoggers among the shareholders. He would be satisfied with five million for the lands of the Hudson's Bay Company, and implied that the offer of a million was a joke. What his opinion was when Sir Stafford Northcote made the Company take £300,000 and a twentieth of the land, it would be difficult to imagine” – Goodspeed. This
copy is identified as "Second Thousand" on the titlepage. Includes the perforated Shareholder's Notice still bound in after the text, not readily included in paginations of other copies of this title. Scarce in institutions, and almost never encountered in the market.

TPL 4494. PEEL 256. GOODSPEED 193:678. $2500.

42. Douglas, George Mellis: LANDS FORLORN. A STORY OF AN EXPEDITION TO HEARNE'S COPPERMINE RIVER. New York & London. 1914. xvi, 285pp. plus illustrated frontispiece portrait and two folding maps. Includes 180 photographs in the text, all by the author. Publisher's blue cloth stamped in gilt and black. Original printed dust jacket. Dust jacket spine slightly soiled, small coffee ring on front panel, some old tape reinforcements. Overall, a near fine copy in a good jacket.

A rare narrative of an expedition undertaken by August Sandberg, L.D. Douglas, and the author in 1911-12, down the Athabasca and Mackenzie rivers, to Great Bear Lake, Dease River, Dismal Lakes, and the Kendall River to Coppermine River. Includes "an account of the wintering at Great Bear Lake, and a second journey down the Coppermine to its mouth; descriptions of the routes (with map), natural history, Indians and Eskimos; the hunting and geological observations and prospecting especially in the Copper Mountains" – Arctic Bibliography. With useful appendices containing valuable geological and topographical information.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 4074. $1250.

Classic of the Northwest Passage


A rare and important narrative of an early exploratory expedition in Hudson Bay in search of the Northwest Passage. The expedition was dispatched by the North West Committee in 1746 as part of an attempt to verify the assertions of Arthur Dobbs and Christopher Middleton in the quest for a passage. The two ships which made up the expedition examined Wager Bay and wintered at the Hudson's Bay Company's York Factory. Streeter describes this anonymously authored work, which is rarely seen on the market, as a "significant item in the literature relating to attempts at finding the Northwest Passage...it tells of a voyage undertaken to sustain Arthur Dobbs' claim that a northwest passage existed leading from Hudson's
Bay.” The outcome was to prove the opposite. Among the illustrations is a plate of an Indian in a kayak, and another shows an Indian tent and equipment. TPL and Sabin call for only five maps, although some copies, such as the present, contain six.

STREETER SALE 3640. EUROPEAN AMERICANA 748/54. SABIN 82549. TPL 206. JCB (3)I:872. $45,000.

The first part contains a synopsis of twenty-three English voyages to discover the Northwest Passage, a history of the rise of the Hudson's Bay Company, and the discovery attempted from New England. The second part gives an account of a voyage under Captains Moor and Francis Smith, financed by private subscription, with Arthur Dobbs the leading subscriber. Ellis, also a subscriber, was hydrographer, surveyor, and mineralogist on the expedition, which proved, finally, the nonexistence of a Northwest Passage from Hudson Bay. The voyage led to a rapid decline of British interest in the search for a Northwest Passage, which was not revived until 1816. The work includes many valuable observations on tides, on the vagaries of the compass, and on the customs of the Eskimos, people then practically unknown.—Hill. The attractive plates depict Eskimos canoeing and hunting seals; birds, fish, mammals, and animals of the area, including the horned owl, pelican, wolverine, porcupine, white bear, sea horse, whale, and sea unicorn; and views of Douglas Harbor, Wager Bay, Cape Walsingham, and the Island of Resolution, among others.
on the vagaries of the compass, and on the customs of the Eskimos, people then practically unknown” – Hill.

SABIN 22315 JCB 927. EUROPEAN AMERICANA 750/109. HILL 540 (ref).

$2000.


Fisher was the assistant surgeon aboard the Hecla during this first of Parry’s Arctic expeditions. “This voyage was for the discovery of the North West Passage, and penetrated through Barrow’s Strait as far as Melville Island” – Lande. The maps are “A Chart of the Discoveries of H.M.S. Hecla & Griper...being on a Voyage to Discover a N.W. Passage” and “A Map of the Route of the Expedition across Melville Island.” “Fisher gives especially useful remarks on natural history, and ice conditions” – Arctic Bibliography.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 5022. TPL 1193. LANDE 1170. HILL 605. $600.


An important history of exploration in the far north, written by the German scientist who took part in Cook’s second voyage and who made numerous significant contributions to natural history and the literature of exploration in the late 18th century. This history, originally published in German in 1784 and here first translated into English, traces the history of far northern exploration from the middle ages, but devotes the most space to English voyages in search of a northwest passage. All of the significant voyages from Cabot in 1497 to Cook on the Northwest Coast in 1776 are discussed, with particular emphasis on the voyages into Hudson Bay. There are also sections on
French, Spanish, Portuguese, Danish, and Russian voyages. An important work by a leading scientist and explorer.

HOWES F269, “aa.” LANDE S786. TPL 528. SABIN 25138. $3000.


A carefully assembled collection of photocopies of fifteen of the rarest Parliamentary papers relating to the lost Franklin expedition. Sir John Franklin’s doomed 1845 expedition, his fourth to the Arctic and third as commander, set out in 1845 to search for the fabled Northwest Passage. In September 1846 the expedition’s ships became trapped in the ice off of King William Island, which would be their final resting place. The crew spent the next year and a half trapped there before attempting to walk south, dying along the way in the arctic tundra, hundreds of miles from the nearest European settlements. After three years without word, the British Admiralty launched a massive search for the missing ships. Spurred by a large reward, many expeditions from Britain and the United States set out on the hunt, beginning in 1848 and continuing through the next decade. The British Parliament printed occasional reports of the various expeditions and related Arctic subjects during that time. These reports became known as the Arctic “blue books,” named after the distinctive blue wrappers in which they were originally issued.

This collection of rare blue books was assembled by a lifelong Arctic collector from copies held in institutional libraries, in an attempt to complete his own collection of the Parliamentary literature related directly to the Franklin expedition. These imprints represent the blue books that proved to be so rare that the collector had not encountered any of them in private hands in over forty years of searching. He included a custom titlepage and table of contents, and had the papers attractively bound to style. The publications included here are as follows:

1) Arctic Expedition. Return to an Address of the Honourable the House of Commons, Dated 26 May 1848; for, a “Copy of the Orders from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty Under Which Captain Sir James Clark Ross, R.N., Has Proceeded on an Expedition in Search of Captain Sir John Franklin, R.N.” 3pp. ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 45217.

2) Arctic Expedition (North Star). Expense of the Estimates of the Equipment of Her Majesty’s Ship “North Star”; and Copy of Minutes of the Board of Admiralty Respecting the Equipment of the North Star...on an Expedition to the Arctic Regions, 23 March 1849. 2pp. ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 45218.

3) Arctic Bibliography. Return to an Order of the Honourable the House of Commons, Dated 15 March 1849; for Extracts “of Any Proceedings or Correspondence of the Admiralty, in Reference to the Arctic Expeditions”.... 27pp. ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 45219.

4) Arctic Expeditions. Further Return to an Order of the Honourable the House of Commons Dated 15 March 1849; for, Copies or Extracts “of Any Proceedings or Correspondence
of the Admiralty, in Reference to the Arctic Expeditions. (In Continuation of Parliamentary Papers, Nos. 264 and 386, of Session 1848, Up to the Present Time.)" 10pp. ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 45220.

5) Arctic Expedition. Return to an Address of the Honourable the House of Commons Dated 11 June 1849; for, "Copy of Any Communication from Her Majesty's Consul at Washington to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in Reference to Measures Adopted by the Government of the United States, on the Subject of the Expedition Sent Forth by This Country, Under Command of Sir John Franklin, to the Arctic Seas." 3pp. ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 49221.

6) Arctic Expedition. Return to an Order of the Honourable the House of Commons, Dated 12 April 1850; for, an Account "of the Charge for the Purchase, Repair, and Outfit of the Vessels Now Fitting for the Arctic Expedition." 2pp. ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 45224.

7) Arctic Expeditions. Return to an Address of the Honourable the House of Commons Dated 10 May 1850; for, "Copies of Instructions from the Admiralty, R.N., C.B., and to Any Other Officers in Her Majesty's Service Engaged in Arctic Expeditions, Since the Date of the Last Parliamentary Return." 7pp. ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 45225.

8) Arctic Expeditions. Return to an Address of the Honourable the House of Commons, Dated 7 February 1851; for, "Copy or Extracts from Any Correspondence or Proceedings of the Board of Admiralty, in Relation to the Arctic Expeditions, Including Those Most Recently Sent Forth in Resumption of the Search for That Under the Command of Sir John Franklin...." 105pp. plus two maps. ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 45226.

9) Preserved Meats (Navy). Return to an Order of the Honourable the House of Commons, Dated 5 February 1852; for...Contracts for Preserved Meats...Whether These Meats Were Issued to the Arctic Voyagers.... 6pp. ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 45231.

10) Ship "Rattlesnake." Return to an Order of the Honourable the House of Commons Dated 27 April 1853; for, Copies or Extracts "of Any Minutes or Other Documents Connected with the Selection by the Late Board of Admiralty of the Ship 'Rattlesnake,' in Preference to a Steamer, for the Purpose of Endeavouring to Communicate with the 'Plover.'" 4pp. ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 45239.

11) Arctic Regions. Return to an Order of the Honourable the House of Commons Dated 1 August 1853; for, Copies of the Sailing Orders and Instructions to Commander Inglefield.... 4pp. ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 45240.

12) Arctic Expeditions. Return to an Address of the Honourable the House of Commons, Dated 17 March 1854; for, "Copy of a Letter Addressed by Lady Franklin to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, Dated the 24th Day of February 1854, in Reference to Their Lordships' Announcement in the LONDON GAZETTE of the 20th Day of January 1854, Respecting the Officers and Crews of Her Majesty's Ships 'Erebus' and 'Terror,' and a Copy of Such Notice." 13pp. ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 45242.

13) Arctic Expedition. Return to an Order of the Honourable the House of Commons, Dated 4 April 1854; for, Copies "of Any Instructions Which Either Have Been Issued, or Hereafter May Be Issued, During the Present Season to the Commanders of Her Majesty's Ships Now Engaged in the Arctic Regions in the Search for Sir John Franklin's Expedition." 4pp. ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 45243.

14) Arctic Expedition. Instructions from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty for the Arctic Expedition. 28 April 1854. 4pp. ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 45244.
15) *Arctic Expeditions. Return to an Order of the Honourable the House of Commons, Dated 29 March 1855; for, a Return “of the Cost of the Further Papers Relative to the Recent Arctic Expeditions....”* 2pp. ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 45247.

Franklin Search “Blue Books”
from the Library of a Noted Arctic Explorer

49. [Franklin Expedition Search]: [Stefansson, Vilhjalmur]: *ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY THE LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF THE ADмирality TO INQUIRE INTO AND REPORT ON THE RECENT ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS IN SEARCH OF SIR JOHN FRANKLIN....* [bound with:] *ADDITIONAL PAPERS RELATIVE TO THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION UNDER THE ORDERS OF CAPTAIN AUSTIN AND MR. WILLIAM PENNY.* [bound with:] *ARCTIC EXPEDITION. FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE AND PROCEEDINGS CONNECTED WITH THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.* London. 1852. [4],lix,[2],199pp. plus two folding maps; iii,368pp. plus fifteen maps bound in (six folding) and numerous maps and illustrations in the text; 216pp. plus...
three maps bound in (one folding) and a small map in the text. Folio. 20th-century green buckram, gilt leather label. Minor shelf wear. Dartmouth College bookplate on front pastedown (deaccessioned). Very good.

Noted Canadian Arctic explorer Vilhjalmur Stefansson's annotated collection of three important Franklin Blue Books. Sir John Franklin's doomed 1845 expedition, his fourth to the Arctic and third as commander, set out in 1845 to search for the fabled Northwest Passage. In September 1846 the expedition's ships became trapped in the ice off of King William Island, which would be their final resting place. The crew spent the next year and a half trapped there before attempting to walk south, dying along the way, hundreds of miles from the nearest European settlements. After three years without word, the British Admiralty launched a massive search for the missing ships. Spurred by a large reward, many expeditions from Britain and the United States set out on the hunt, beginning in 1848 and continuing through the next decade. The British Parliament printed occasional reports of the various expeditions, and related Arctic subjects, during that time. These reports became known as the Arctic “blue books,” named after the distinctive blue wrappers in which they were originally issued.

This volume contains three 1852 Parliamentary blue books relating to the lost Franklin Expedition and the subsequent search parties. Each work includes Stefansson’s coding system, in pencil, on the front endpapers, identifying these three works as “1852a,” “1852b,” and “1852c.” Essentially, it is Stefansson’s working copy, with extensive marginal notes in his hand and numerous typed and longhand notes inserted throughout, mostly on yellow paper. The notes relate to many points about survival techniques and nourishment that became important to Stefansson’s work in such books as The Friendly Arctic.

The first work contains results of an inquiry regarding the thoroughness of the Austin and Penny search for Franklin in Wellington Channel in 1850-51, focusing on the ice and current conditions in Wellington and Queens channels, and the discovery of Franklin expedition relics in the vicinity of Beechey Island. In addition to the evidence given, the committee reviewed the status of the search program, and recommended an additional expedition to the Barrow Strait region, based at Beechey Island, for 1852-53.

The second work relates reports from sledgers of Austin’s expedition of 1850-51 while wintering at Griffiths Island. The accounts cover journeys along the coasts of northern Prince of Wales, southern Cornwallis, Bathurst, Byam Martin, and Melville Islands. Also contains sledger reports from Penny’s expedition wintering in Assistance Bay, together with translations of reports made by native peoples regarding the Franklin expedition.

The third and final work included here is of major importance. This report covers a wide-ranging number of expeditions from 1850-52, including the Collinson expedition in the Bering Strait, expeditions in the eastern part of the Canadian Arctic by De Haven, John Ross, Austin, and Penny, and reports by John Rae of his expedition to southwestern Victoria Island. Includes numerous letters speculating
on the activities of the Franklin Expedition, various proposals for future searches, and more.

The Dartmouth College Library bookplate indicates that the book was at one point part of a proposed gift to the college, as Dartmouth did acquire Stefansson's library after his passing in 1962. However, a provenance letter included with the book asserts that this copy was retained by Stefansson's widow as a duplicate copy at the time the gift was made.

An important set of blue books regarding the Franklin expedition, and unique copies, having been annotated by one of the leading Arctic figures of the 20th century.

Arthur Bibliography 45227, 45228, 45229. $12,500.

50. [Franklin Expedition Search]: Arctic Expeditions. Return to an Address of the Honourable the House of Commons, Dated 19 November 1852; – For, Copies of Any Correspondence Received at the Admiralty from Sir Edward Belcher’s Squadron...of Any Communications Received at the Admiralty from Mr. Kennedy, of the Prince Albert Discovery Ship...of Correspondence from Commander Inglefield, of the Screw Vessel Isabel.... London. 1852. iv, 88, [1] pp. plus three lithographed folding maps. Folio. 20th-century blue cloth, gilt. Minor foxing. Very good.

A rare “Arctic blue book” concerning the search for Franklin, with correspondence and maps relating to expeditions by Belcher, Kennedy, Inglefield, and others, as well as proposals for future expeditions including John Rae’s 1853–54 sledging expedition which would discover the first traces of the fate of Franklin.

Sir John Franklin’s doomed 1845 expedition, his fourth to the Arctic and third as commander, set out in 1845 to search for the fabled Northwest Passage. In September 1846 the expedition’s ships became trapped in the ice off of King William Island, which would be their final resting place. The crew spent the next year and a half trapped there before attempting to walk south, dying along the way in the arctic tundra, hundreds of miles from the nearest European settlements. After three years without word, the British Admiralty launched a massive search for the missing ships. Spurred by a large reward, many expeditions from Britain and the United States set out on the hunt, beginning in 1848 and continuing through the next decade.

In 1852, Sir Edward Belcher was given command of an expedition of four ships sent by the Admiralty in search of the Franklin Expedition. It was ultimately unsuccessful in discovering any news of Franklin, and Belcher abandoned the ships when they became stuck in the pack ice, returning home on transport ships from Beechey Island. The correspondence here documents the first few months of that journey.

Also included is correspondence from and concerning two of Lady Franklin’s privately financed search expeditions by William Kennedy aboard the Prince Albert
and Commander E.A. Inglefield aboard the Isabel. The report also include the text of a July 1, 1852 letter from Thomas Moore, captain of the H.M.S. Plover, written from Port Clarence, Alaska. The penultimate section of the blue book includes nine proposals for further search expeditions, including letters by John Rae, Henry Trollope, William Penny, and others. The most interesting of these is the proposal by Rae, his plan for the 1853-54 sledging expedition to Boothia Peninsula which would be the first to discover traces of Franklin. The report concludes with “Miscellaneous Correspondence,” including an April 1852 letter by Belcher and correspondence from and to William Penny.

The maps comprise: “Arctic Sea Showing the Discoveries of Mr. William Kennedy 1851-2”; “Arctic Sea Showing New Discoveries of Capt. Inglefield 1852”; and an untitled map showing Alaska from as far south as Norton Sound to Barrow Point in the North, with soundings given along the shoreline and an inset plan of Moore Harbor at Barrow Point.

Very rare; not in the Brooke-Hitching collection.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 45238. TPL 3254. $5000.


A rare collection of articles reproduced from the monthly newspaper published by the officers and men of the Horatio Austin Expedition to find the lost Franklin party in 1850-51. The newspaper, called the Aurora Borealis, was produced in manuscript by an officer aboard Austin’s ship, the Assistance. “The collection includes a variety of whimsical and informative articles by members of the [Austin] expedition, on animals and birds, sledge journeys, entertainment, history, and the Eskimos, etc.” – Arctic Bibliography. Includes an engraved titlepage vignette and several handsome engravings in the text.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 651. LANDE 926. TPL 3128. SABIN 1924. SMITH 273. $2750.

THE ILLUSTRATED ARCTIC NEWS


A well-executed lithographic reproduction of the newspaper produced on board the H.M.S. Resolute while in search of the lost Franklin Expedition. The newspaper was based on The Illustrated London News, mixing text with lively color illustrations picturing life aboard a naval vessel in the mid-19th century. Also includes eyewitness accounts of evidence gathering from the Erebus and Terror. The work is presented with two preliminary leaves, followed by the five issues of the periodical, ending with two leaves of miscellaneous “Arctic sketches.” A rare and famous work.

ABBEY 639. SABIN 23608. $4250.


A rare omnibus volume of the expeditions made in search of John Franklin up to the time of the book’s publication. The work includes previously published accounts as well as reports and letters from Moore, Pullen, Martin, Ross, Parry, and others. It closes with a letter from Joseph W. Haddock, dated from Bolton, Nov. 12, 1849, relating news that according to a reliable clairvoyant, Franklin was still alive. Franklin had, in fact, died over two years earlier. Both the engraved titlepage and engraved frontispiece are handcolored. The plates include portraits of Franklin, Back, and Beechey, and also show icebergs, the aurora borealis, ships cutting or breaking through ice, a travelling party at Prince Regent’s Inlet, Port Leopold, Eskimos at Hotham Inlet, Eskimos playing sports, bear hunting, the Coral Islands, and a scene of a frigate rounding Cape Horn. Not in any of the standard bibliographies of Arctic literature. Rare, with fewer than ten copies in OCLC. $850.

With the Very First Published News of Franklin’s Fate


Original printed wrappers. Minor edge wear, else fine. Unopened.

An exceedingly rare periodical containing “Fate of Sir John Franklin. Dr. Rae’s Letter to Sir George Simpson. York Factory, 4th August, 1854.” Rae’s correspondence
includes a list of found or recovered items once belonging to the lost Franklin party. Further, it contains this chilling passage: “From the mutilated state of many of the corpses, and the contents of the kettles, it is evident that our miserable countrymen had been driven to the last resource — cannibalism....” This is one of the earliest mentions in print of the long-held suspicion that the Franklin party resorted to cannibalism for survival, a view that most have since discounted. It caused a sensation at the time, and Lady Franklin did her best to contest Rae’s claim on the reward for discovering Franklin’s fate.

$850.


A rare Parliamentary report of the early activities of the Sir Edward Belcher expedition, covering the winter and spring of 1852-53, with detailed dispatches on all aspects of the expedition: Belcher’s eastern division out of Northumberland Sound, the western division under Kellett at Dealy Island, and those of Pullen and the North Star at Beechey Island (including McCormick’s boat expedition up Wellington Channel). Also with information on Inglefield’s voyage of 1853 with the Phoenix and the Breadalbane, Collinson’s expedition through the Bering Strait in the Western Arctic, and reports by McClure, Frederick, Maguire, and Trollope.

The maps cover the discoveries of Capt. Belcher, the journeys of Maguire, the area explored by McCormick (the east coast of Wellington Channel and the shores of Baring Bay, from Beechey Island to Owen Point), with the two largest maps depicting the Northwest Passage as discovered by McClure, with tracks of areas explored by various Franklin searchers (Ross, Richardson, McClure, Austin, Penny, Rae, Kennedy and Bellot, Inglefield, and Belcher) and a large-scale map of the Beechey Island region showing locations of cairns and other landmarks.

Sir John Franklin’s doomed 1845 expedition, his fourth to the Arctic and third as commander, set out in 1845 to search for the fabled Northwest Passage. In September 1846 the expedition’s ships became trapped in the ice off of King William Island, which would be their final resting place. The crew spent the next year
and a half trapped there before attempting to walk south, dying along the way in the arctic tundra, hundreds of miles from the nearest European settlements. After three years without word, the British Admiralty launched a massive search for the missing ships. Spurred by a large reward, many expeditions from Britain and the United States set out on the hunt, beginning in 1848 and continuing through the next decade. The British Parliament printed occasional reports of the various expeditions, and related Arctic subjects, during that time. These reports became known as the Arctic “blue books,” named after the distinctive blue wrappers in which they were originally issued.

A wealth of information on the most important Franklin searches up to 1854. Rare in the marketplace.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 45241. TPL 3441. LANDE S908. SABIN 25633. $6000.


A rare Parliamentary report, and one of the Franklin expedition “blue books” (a series of parliamentary reports so named for their original blue paper wrappers). This volume is chiefly concerned with the reports arising from Belcher’s expedition
of 1852-54, both the Eastern and Western Divisions (the latter under the command of Kellett). With his depot ship stationed at Beechey Island, Belcher took the Assistance and Pioneer north into Wellington Channel to spend the winter of 1852 in Northumberland Sound. Meanwhile, the Resolute and Intrepid under Kellett sailed west to winter at Dealy Island. The next winter Belcher’s vessels moved south to Baring Bay; Kellett’s vessels were frozen in near Cape Cockburn, southwest Bathurst Island. All of these vessels were abandoned in 1854. The depot ship, the North Star, under Pullen’s command, remained at Beechey Island throughout.

The Belcher expedition papers comprise two groups: Belcher and Kellett. The Belcher section comprises his own reports, and those of his officers, such as G.H. Richards, Sherard Osborn, J.P. Cheyne, Walter May, D. Lyall, J.B. Grove, and W.J.S. Pullen. Reports from three of Pullen’s lieutenants on Beechey Island (Haswell, Court, and Jenkins) are also included.

The second section pertaining to Belcher’s expedition concerns the Western Division under the command of Henry Kellett. This section includes reports by Kellett and by his officers, W.T. Domville, R.V. Hamilton, G.F. Mecham, B.C.T. Pim, F.J. Krabbe, G.S. Nares, E.A. Inglefield, and John Rae.

In addition, relatively minor accounts are included from the expeditions of Collinson in the Enterprise, Houston in the Trincomalee, McClure in the Investigator,
Maguire in the Plover, and Trollope in the Rattlesnake, all of whom operated almost exclusively in the Bering Sea and Western Arctic regions.

The maps in this work provide a detailed visual companion to the texts, with information on discoveries from recent expeditions, tracks of sledge journeys by numerous expeditions, tracking charts of boating expeditions and other traveling parties, sketch maps of coastlines and routes taken by specific ships, survey maps of important coastal features, and more.

Sir John Franklin’s doomed 1845 expedition, his fourth to the Arctic and third as commander, set out in 1845 to search for the fabled Northwest Passage. In September 1846 the expedition’s ships became trapped in the ice off of King William Island, which would be their final resting place. The crew spent the next year and a half trapped there before attempting to walk south, dying along the way in the arctic tundra, hundreds of miles from the nearest European settlements. After three years without word, the British Admiralty launched a massive search for the missing ships. Spurred by a large reward, many expeditions from Britain and the United States set out on the hunt, beginning in 1848 and continuing through the next decade. The British Parliament printed occasional reports of the various expeditions, and related Arctic subjects, during that time. These reports became known as the Arctic “blue books,” named after the distinctive blue wrappers in which they were originally issued.

A rare Franklin blue book, and the most substantial of the almost twenty or so Parliamentary reports published in the wake of the Franklin searches.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 45245. TPL 3549. SABIN 25633. LANDES 909. $7500.

Matched Set

57. Franklin, John: NARRATIVE OF A JOURNEY TO THE SHORES OF THE POLAR SEA, IN THE YEARS 1819, 20, 21, AND 22... WITH AN APPENDIX ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS RELATING TO SCIENCE AND NATURAL HISTORY.... [with:] NARRATIVE OF A SECOND EXPEDITION TO THE SHORES OF THE POLAR SEA, IN THE YEARS 1825, 1826, AND 1827...INCLUDING AN ACCOUNT OF THE PROGRESS OF A DETACHMENT TO THE EASTWARD, BY JOHN RICHARDSON.... London. 1823/1828. Two volumes. xvi,768 pp. plus errata slip, thirty plates (eleven in color), and four folding maps; xxiv,[xxi]-xxiv,320,clvii,[2] pp. plus thirty-two plates and six folding maps. Both volumes lacking half titles. Quarto. 19th-century three-quarter calf and marbled paper, gilt leather label. Boards lightly rubbed. Contemporary ownership signature on titlepages. Light foxing. Very good.

The first volume narrates Franklin’s first expedition of 1819–22. Franklin, along with naturalist Dr. John Richardson, was appointed to lead an expedition overland from Hudson’s Bay to east of the mouth of the Coppermine River for the purposes of establishing the latitudes and longitudes of the northern coast of America,
developing a correct geographical description of the country, and searching for a northwest passage. Franklin's narrative includes a great deal of detail regarding the country, native Indians, the murder of Robert Hood, and their disappointment in failing to find a passage. Sabin calls the appendix “valuable” in its contribution to the knowledge of natural history in the area. The handsome plates include illustrations of the native Indians and Eskimos (many of them attractively colored), artifacts, types of fish, and ships at sea. “The views of Arctic scenery with which these volumes are both illustrated and embellished, are of extreme beauty.” – Quarterly Review – Sabin.

Two issues were published of this first volume, both in 1823. The present issue is the first, with 768 pages (see Streeter and Sabin). The second issue contains a longer introduction, with an additional note about the moral condition of the Indians. The main text appears to be extremely similar (though not identical) up to page 730, in the midst of John Richardson’s “Botanical Appendix,” and thereafter a number of changes are incorporated. The third edition of Wagner-Camp lists the second issue, and the fourth edition of Wagner-Camp lists the first issue. One of the maps called for in the list of plates and maps, “[Route] From Slave Lake to the Arctic Sea,” is not present and “An Outline to Shew the Connected discoveries of Capts. Ross, Parry & Franklin in the years 1818, 19, 20 and 21” is in its place. Apparently this was the map that was issued with the book, since it is contained in Streeter’s copy and that of the Bancroft Library, which are also copies of this first issue (although evidently Wagner’s copy contained the “correct” map). The error in the list of maps printed in the book is not corrected in the second issue.

The second volume prints Franklin’s account of his second voyage, of 1825-27. The work is mainly devoted to the accounts of Richardson and Franklin in their
explorations of the Mackenzie River region of the Canadian Northwest, although it contains a brief narrative of the explorations of Thomas Drummond in the Canadian Rockies. The plates, which are fine engravings by Finden after drawings and sketches by Lieut. Kendall and Capt. Back, depict the Mackenzie Basin and the Arctic Ocean. The handsome maps include “Route of the Expedition A.D. 1825, from Fort William to the Saskatchewan River...,” “Route of the Expedition from York Factory to Cumberland House...in 1819 & 1820,” “Route of the Expedition from Isle a la Crosse to Fort Providence, in 1819 & 1820,” “Route of the Land Arctic Expedition...from Great Slave Lake to Great Bear Lake River...,” and “The Discoveries of the Expedition...Near the mouth of the Mackenzie River, and on the Sea Coast East & West....”


A scarce account of a seaman on the Advance, a ship on the ill-fated Second Grinnell Expedition in search of the lost Franklin party, under the direction of Elisha Kent Kane in the Smith Sound Region. Includes “some criticism of the expedition’s direction, and with some vindication of the author’s character, said to have been maligned by the leader of the expedition...also includes a biography of Kane” – Arctic Bibliography. In fact, Godfrey and Kane came close to killing each other in the course of the disastrous expedition, from which all parties were lucky to escape with their lives.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 5838. SABIN 27659. $1100.


Narrative of the author’s eight-month journey in search of his brother, who had sailed with Sir John Franklin in his final (and fateful) expedition. Goodsir, a medical doctor and lately the president of the Royal Medical Society of Edinburgh, sailed
twice to the Arctic in search of his brother, Harry, who was assistant surgeon and
naturalist to the Franklin Expedition. This work recounts his first such journey.
Extracted from the author’s journal, the tale includes interactions with Eskimos, an
excursion to hunt polar bears, and a whale hunt; likewise, a thorough description
of arctic scenery, wildlife, and landscape, with which the author was quite smitten.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 5919. SABIN 27931.

60. Gordon, Andrew Robertson: REPORT OF THE SECOND HUD-
SON’S BAY EXPEDITION UNDER THE COMMAND OF LIEUT.
A.R. GORDON, R.N. [with:] CHARTS SHOWING THE MEAN,
MONTHLY AND ANNUAL TEMPERATURES OF HUDSON’S
BAY REGION AND EASTERN CANADA, SEPTEMBER 1884 TO
OCTOBER 1885. [Ottawa. 1886?] [2],112pp. plus two plates and two folding charts;

Official government report of Gordon’s findings from his 1884–85 voyage through
the Hudson Bay region. Gordon, a naval officer and hydrographer, took detailed
notes of ice and meteorological observations, water temperatures, geological findings,
and presence of animal life. This incredibly thorough record, supplemented with
journal entries, includes numerous tables measuring temperature, wind, rain, and
snow. The report is accompanied by a collection of charts by Gordon measuring
temperatures of the region, month by month. This volume is virtually unrecorded
and extremely scarce, with only five copies located in OCLC. It appears to have
been intended to be published in tandem with Gordon’s report, though remains mysteriously absent from the usual sources.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 2715. $1750.


An early Hakluyt Society publication. The first volume of this compilation of Arctic expeditions explores the four Danish commissioned voyages to Greenland, from 1605 to 1612. These voyages were an attempt to reaffirm Danish dominion over Greenland, though proved largely unsuccessful due to harsh Arctic conditions. The second volume deals exclusively with the disastrous voyage of Jens Munk in his search for the Northwest Passage. Munk sailed in 1619, under the patronage of King Christian IV, along with sixty-five men, in an attempt to traverse a northern passage to Asia. The expedition made it through Hudson Strait and into Hudson Bay before stopping to winter. The crew was mostly defeated by severe hypothermia, starvation, and scurvy, with only two men besides Munk surviving. Thus, the expedition ended, and a hasty retreat to Norway was expedited. $750.

Among the Earliest Greenlandic Lithographs


Two superlative early lithographs by Greenland’s first professional lithographer, Lars Møller. The lithographs were done as part of a series of Greenland landscapes, and were based on original artwork by the father of Greenlandic printing, Hinrich Rink. “These lithographs depict different Greenland landscapes...The young Lars Møller did them immediately after returning from his eight months period of training in Denmark, and they are therefore the handsome result of his newly acquired craft. They are, too, the best work he ever did, for after this his work slowly and gradually goes downhill, perhaps because he lacked inspiration and competition. Nevertheless his work as a craftsman and lithographer was of immense and immeasurable importance for two generations of his picture-starved countrymen...The pictures were on sale in the Greenland shops...Since some of the pictures are provided not only with a Danish and Greenlandic caption they may have been used as presents to be sent abroad or possibly even sold abroad” – Oldendow.
Consistent with Oldendow’s description, the present pairing represents well both Møller’s talent and Greenland’s dynamic landscape. The first image, presumably the original of which Rink signed, since his initials are reproduced in the lower left corner, shows the serene Lake Kugssuak against a backdrop of mountains. The second, captioned in Danish and Greenlandic, shows Godthaab’s famous fjord. Together they offer a wonderful showcase of Møller’s nascent skill.

Two of the best early lithographs by a native Greenlander, indicative of an ambitious and increasingly influential press.


An apparent continuation of Møller’s four-part series on regional Greenland local councils. The fourth part discusses the northern councils from 1863 to 1867, and this pamphlet resumes where that installment leaves off. Each was produced separately, though intended to form a complete work. The large folding lithographic plate includes various local statistics pertinent to the councils. An early Greenland imprint and quite rare. Not mentioned by Oldendow.

“Habersham was an American naval officer who later became a tea and coffee merchant. He was descended from a family of early English settlers in Georgia who became prominent rice plantation owners and merchants. This expedition, under the orders of Commander Cadwalader Ringgold, sailed in June of 1853 for the Orient via the Cape of Good Hope and Batavia. The ‘Vincennes’ served as flag-ship to four other vessels. The ships returned, via San Francisco and Cape Horn, to the New York Navy-yard in the summer of 1856” – Hill. One of the plates shows a nude bathing scene in Japan. One of the few records of this important American exploring expedition.

HILL 739. SABIN 29466.


Hall’s account of his time among the Inuits during his first Arctic expedition. “Contains narrative of the voyage of the George Henry to Holsetinsborg, West Greenland, then across Davis Strait to Cornelius Grinnell Bay...includes throughout, detailed descriptions of Eskimo life as shared by the author...” – Arctic Bibliography.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 6485. TPL 4146.

$1750.

Teenage Sailor in Hawaii and the Arctic

A scarce account of a teenager's adventures at sea, including Pacific whaling experiences and visits to Hawaii and Siberia. During a three-month stay in Honolulu, Hall witnessed a volcanic eruption and planned his escape from the cruel captain of the whale ship Condor. After some whaling adventures in the Pacific, Hall deserted ship along the coast of Siberia, near the bank of the Oudskoi River. He was eventually rescued as a result of his father's efforts back home in New Bedford. One of the reasons Hall published this work was to call the public's attention to the severe punishments suffered by seamen, especially in the whaling fleet, and to encourage the reform of discipline at sea. Includes a chapter entitled "Peep at the Whale Fisheries." Not in Hill nor, apparently, Arctic Bibliography.

SABIN 29745. FORSTER 469. FORBES 2422. $1000.


A comedic opera which uses the search for the North Pole, not yet "discovered" at that time, to lampoon such themes as the unscrupulous rich, the miserable English spoken by some Americans, and the follies of love. In this work Capt. Jo, the Professor, and millionaire Junius Brutus Botts sail to discover the North Pole after a tearful farewell from their girlfriends at the docks, during which it is revealed that Botts, who has made his money by cheating others, is underwriting the adventure. In the second scene the cast awakes at the North Pole, at which point it becomes obvious that the reason Botts has financed the expedition is that he intends to steal the pole itself and take it back to the U.S. for exhibition. That plan is interrupted by the appearance of Magnetic Pole, who says they have been summoned below by Queen Aurora, at whose court they arrive after a 2,000-mile elevator ride. In the third act the travelers are regaled by dancing ladies, and the Queen magically learns to speak the "slang" her visitors use. The festivities are interrupted by the sudden appearance of the girlfriends, who are shocked at the men's unfaithful behavior. Finally, a Western Union messenger appears with a telegram from the U.S. Secretary of the Navy ordering them back home.

Not in OCLC, though the Library of Congress reports a copy in its collection. This copy bears contemporary presentation inscriptions by the author and the composer. $600.

First Dublin edition, after the original London edition of the previous year. In 1769, Hearne was sent by the Hudson’s Bay Company to find a northwest passage via Hudson Bay and to explore the country for copper mines which had been reported by the Indians. After two initial failures, Hearne reached the Coppermine River in December 1770 and followed it to its mouth on the Arctic coast. On his return he discovered Great Slave Lake. As a result of Hearne’s explorations, any theory of a western exit was disproved, and much was learned and reported about the natural history and Indian tribes of the region. Curiously, it is to the great French explorer, La Pérouse, that we owe the publication of Hearne’s narrative, for it was La Pérouse who discovered the manuscript when he captured Fort Albany on Hudson Bay. After the British recaptured the fort, La Pérouse insisted on the publication of the manuscript by the Hudson’s Bay Company, which resulted in the publication of this work.

A classic of American travel, by “the first white man to gaze on the Arctic or Frozen Ocean from the northern shores of the continent of America” (Lande).


The French Hearne


The first publication of Hearne’s journal was in London in 1795. Ironically, it was published at the instigation of the French navigator, La Pérouse, who captured Fort Albany on Hudson Bay and discovered the manuscript. This French edition is certainly superior to the English in the execution of the maps and plates. The maps show Hudson Bay and Hearne’s explorations to the northwest portion. Hearne was one of the first explorers to travel through the vast country to the west of Hudson Bay, in 1769 and 1770, and his work remained for a long time the chief source on that country.

70. Hind, Henry Youle: EXPLORATIONS IN THE INTERIOR OF THE LABRADOR PENINSULA THE COUNTRY OF THE MONTAGNAIS AND NASQUAPEE INDIANS. London. 1863. Two volumes. xv,[1],351; xiii,[3],304pp., plus twelve chromolithographic plates including frontispiece, two maps (one folding), and engraved plate. In-text illus. Original green pebbled cloth, spines gilt, expertly rebacked with original spines laid down. Minor soiling to cloth. Internally clean, very good.

Hind’s account of an exploration undertaken in the summer of 1861 to explore Labrador. “All that Mr. Hind undertakes, is done so thoroughly that little more could be indicated, to complete the exhaustion of his subject. All the peculiarities of the aboriginal races of Labrador, which a stranger would be permitted to observe, he noted...Mr. Hind’s volumes are almost entirely occupied with incidents of Indian life and character, particularly of the Montagnais, Abenakens, and Esquimaux Indians. The engravings are illustrative of scenes in aboriginal life, or of their customs, features, and other peculiarities...it must be said that the whole work is a great repository of facts relating to [the Indians]” – Field. The vast majority of the plates are brilliantly colored and illustrate Indian life and customs. Contains much information concerning the Atlantic coast fisheries.

LANDE 442. DIONNE II:1645. TPL 4069. FIELD 700. ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 7105. $1750.


Howgate’s presentation to Congress, inscribed by him on the front cover: “Compliments of HW Howgate U.S.A.” He outlines his plan for the colonization of an
area near Lady Franklin Bay on the northeast coast of Ellesmere Island, and seeks Congressional support for the venture. Howgate includes a review of recent expeditions in the Smith Sound region and a report on the Howgate Preliminary Arctic Expedition to Cumberland Sound in 1877-78, with preparations, instructions, and progress up to September 1877. The Appendix contains Howgate’s paper, “Plan for the exploration of the arctic region,” read before the American Geographical Society meeting on Jan. 31, 1878.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 7454. $750.


A rare narrative of the Howgate Polar Expedition. Howgate, an army officer interested in the Arctic, developed a plan for a temporary colony to be based at Lady Franklin Bay. He actively promoted the plan, managed to purchase a small whaler, and go north in 1877 under the command of George E. Tyson. The expedition wintered at Cumberland Sound, collecting supplies and Eskimo support for the main expedition to Lady Franklin Bay the next year. Alas, Howgate never reached his destination, and was forced to return in 1878. His efforts did lead to the choice of Lady Franklin Bay as the base of operations for the Greely expedition, and his scientific team was able to gather information on Baffin Island in the process.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 18168. $1750.


The second printing of this important Hudson Bay report containing orders to factors and to commanders seeking a northwest passage, and a list of vessels outfitted for the discovery of such passage; statements of stocks and stockholders, of goods bought and sold and their values; the journal of Henry Kelsey’s journey to the Nawaitamee Poets in 1691; a copy of the charter of the Hudson’s Bay Company; and the narrative of Joseph La France, a Canadian fur trader. Printed together with the “Papers” (pp.249-286) which were printed separately in 1747. “One of the most important accounts of the Hudson Bay territory, and of great interest to the student of Indian affairs. Not only does it contain the journal of Joseph Robson, but the account of Joseph La France as well. The latter’s narrative is of great historical
importance...” – Rosenbach. According to Sabin, this printing was part of Volume 2 of Reports from Committees of the House of Commons (1780).

$1750.

Treatment of Natives by the Hudson’s Bay Company

74. [Hudson’s Bay Company]: [Isbister, Alexander]: Thom, Adam: A FEW WORDS ON THE HUDSON’S BAY COMPANY; WITH A STATEMENT OF THE GRIEVANCES OF THE NATIVE AND HALF-CASTE INDIANS, Addressed to the British Government through their Delegates Now in London. [with:] A FEW REMARKS ON A PAMPHLET, ENTITLED “A FEW WORDS ON THE HUDSON’S BAY COMPANY,” IN A LETTER TO ALEXANDER CHRISTIE, ESQ., GOVERNOR OF ASSINIBOIA. London. [1846], 1848. 24; 21, [1]pp. Original printed wrappers. Mild wear, the first work with light dust-soiling and two small ink notations on the front wrapper. Overall very good. In a half calf and cloth slipcase.

A rare pair of pamphlets constituting the entirety of a pamphlet war regarding the Hudson’s Bay Company’s treatment of native peoples. The first pamphlet was almost surely written by Alexander Isbister, even though his name is only briefly mentioned on the titlepage (“Communications to be addressed to A.K. Isbister”). He later stated that he was not responsible for the petition itself, but “produced evidence in the course of those papers to support the statements” (Report from the Select Committee). Isbister was a well-educated former employee of the Hudson’s Bay Company who was residing in London when asked to present a petition by Rupert’s Land natives to the British government to redress supposed grievances. The first pamphlet was clearly written to support the natives’ argument, which it does, as well as making an additional case for reconsidering the Hudson’s Bay Company’s trade monopoly.

Ever wary of attacks on its legal status, the Hudson’s Bay Company decided to respond. The second document is the result. Its author, Adam Thom, was a generally disliked legal officer in Rupert’s Land, but one who had been appointed by the powerful governor, Sir George Simpson. Thom asserts and defends the Hudson’s Bay Company position down the line. Curiously, he states the petition was “projected” in the house of an unnamed Irish Catholic, presumably in the Red River settlement, but declines to mention Isbister at all, perhaps because of the latter’s good connections in London with the Aborigines’ Protection Society and with the Colonial Office.

Both pamphlets are exceedingly rare in the market.

An interesting publication, evidently issued by the Company, regarding the history of the Hudson’s Bay Company, tracing the history of the company from its origin by Charter of King Charles the Second in 1670 to 1853, when the company helped finance the Rae expedition to search for Sir John Franklin, which “cost the Company very large sums of money.” Includes information on earlier expeditions by Rae, as well as Dease and Simpson, Hearne, and Smith and Mitchell. Not in any of the regular sources for Arctic literature. The work is accompanied by five original leaves from The Illustrated London News in 1857-58 relating to the Hudson’s Bay Company: British possessions in North America under the control of the Company, questions of monopolistic practices, company officials defending the Company against accusations of mistreatment of Mackenzie River Indians, an editorial advocating payment to the Company for abrogation of their trading rights, and a short article challenging the Company’s charter and trading privileges, and asserting that their territories should be opened up to colonization.

This pamphlet must have been issued by the Hudson’s Bay Company in an attempt to retain its original rights, largely taken away in the reorganization of the government of Canada carried out in 1857.

HARMSWORTH 24:7710. $500.


An account of Capt. Beechey’s voyage to explore the Bering Strait, where he discovered several Pacific islands. His success earned him his namesake, Beechey Island, where Sir John Franklin wintered during his fateful voyage. Part two of the text focuses on George Back’s voyage to the Arctic, in search of survivors from the second Ross expedition. “Includes introductory information on the purpose
and plans of the expedition, and on the British campaign to raise funds for the expedition...” – Arctic Bibliography.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 7530. HILL 838 (ref). $675.

The Search for a Northwest Passage


A foundation work in the literature of the search for a northwest passage from the Pacific and the development of geographical knowledge of the north Pacific. The text, with additions by Jefferys, is based on Gerhard Muller’s work on the Northeast Passage and represents the best geographical knowledge of the time. “Contains the original account of Captain Behring’s Polar Expedition, and discovery of the strait which bears his name, and the western limits of North America...this important book is becoming indispensable for the history of discovery and exploration in the Northern Pacific” – Sabin.

HOWES M875. SABIN 51285. HILL 1199. STREETER SALE 3458. LADA-MOCARSKI 17. WICKERSHAM 6332. TOURVILLE 3234. $1000.


First edition, limited to 750 copies. A compilation of information intended to aid the 1875-76 Arctic exploration of Capt. George Nares. The manual includes valuable information on ice conditions, physics, geology, tides, and other factors, mainly derived from past voyages to the area. Contributors include Richardson, Ross, and Markham, among others. The primary objective of the Nares expedition was to reach the highest northern latitude. Though they were unsuccessful in
this pursuit, the expedition was the first to sail ships through the channel between Greenland and Ellesmere Island, now named Nares Strait. Unfortunately, scurvy and bitterly cold conditions forced the expedition to turn back before achieving their goal of reaching the North Pole. $750.

79. Jukes, Joseph Beete: EXCURSIONS IN AND ABOUT NEWFOUNDLAND, DURING THE YEARS 1839 AND 1840. London: John Murray, 1842. Two volumes. x,322; iv,354,[2]pp., plus folding map. Publisher’s blind-embossed cloth, spines gilt, rebacked with original spines laid down. Minor edge wear, corners bumped. Old library stamps on titlepages and a few other leaves, contemporary ink ownership notation on titlepages. The folding map with expertly repaired tears and reinforcement along the fold lines. Good.

A scarce work of Canadiana, with the rare folding map. Jukes was one of the outstanding geologists of his time. In 1839 and 1840 he carried out the arduous task of conducting a geological survey of the island of Newfoundland, a territory for which no map then existed. Before Jukes, the only charted portion of Newfoundland was a single track of William Eppes Cormack’s crossing from Trinity Bay to St. George’s Bay in 1822. In 1842, Jukes published his findings in the second volume of this work, constituting the first geological survey of Newfoundland, and with the first map of the interior of the island. This geological report was published separately the following year, with the folding map found here.

“The author was the royal surveyor for the province and visited most of the important places in the maritime section. He has some account of the Indians, persons, one especially being George Harvey, the artist” – Decker. “Scarce. Jukes was formerly Geological Surveyor of Newfoundland and here prints his journal, kept while making the survey, describing the country, inhabitants, Indians, fishery, a Sealing voyage, etc.” – Robinson.


William Kennedy (1814-90) was the son of a Hudson’s Bay Company factor and a Cree Indian woman. In 1851 he was chosen by Lady Franklin to lead the second private expedition in search of her husband. Although he found no trace of Sir John, the expedition discovered Bellot Strait in the far north of America. Kennedy utilized native Inuit clothing and techniques, and the expedition returned with the
entirety of its crew intact. “His narrative of the expedition includes description of ice condition in the straits, sledging conditions, the country explored, rations, frostbite, and the weather; also a (four-times) daily journal of temperature, wind and weather notes” – Arctic Bibliography. The plates show the expedition’s adventures living in the Arctic, and the map details their explorations in the area. A scarce work on the market, with only one copy appearing at auction in the last forty years.

TPL 3270. ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 8539. SABIN 37443. $9000.

A Pioneering Northern Voyage


An account of French explorer Kerguelen-Trémarec’s voyage in the North Sea, including the coasts of Iceland, Greenland, and Norway, undertaken in 1767 and 1768. A second edition was published the following year in Amsterdam and Leipzig,
and an English translation appeared in the first volume of John Pinkerton’s collection of voyages and travels issued in the early 19th century. According to the preface, the purpose of the expedition was to “give protection and encouragement to the cod fishermen on the coast of Iceland, and to preserve order among the French fishermen” (Cox). Complementing the three folding engraved maps are several plans and coastal profiles and four fine plates depicting the indigenous peoples of the Arctic regions. Kerguelen-Trémarec’s later expeditions included a voyage to the South Seas, where he discovered the Kerguelen and Desolation islands in the Antarctic in 1772.


**Rare Narrative by the Surgeon and Naturalist on the Back Expedition**

82. King, Richard: **NARRATIVE OF A JOURNEY TO THE SHORES OF THE ARCTIC OCEAN, IN 1833, 1834, AND 1835; UNDER THE COMMAND OF CAPT. BACK, R.N.** London: Richard Bentley, 1836. Two volumes bound in one. xv,[3],312; viii,321,[1]pp., plus four plates, including two frontispieces and one map. Modern three-quarter morocco and marbled boards, spine gilt. Minor scattered foxing. Small old library stamp on each titlepage and p.27 of each part, stamps on titlepage mostly erased, otherwise internally clean. Very good.

“Dr. King’s narrative is full of the details of Indian life, as it was presented to the members of Captain Back’s expedition. He looked at the same transactions with the natives, and the same phases of their character which Captain Back portrays, from a different point, and their coloring to his eye bears another tinge. His journal, filled with descriptions of interviews with the Chippewyans, Crees, Dog-Ribs, and Esquimaux, is therefore exceedingly interesting even after the perusal of Captain Back’s narrative. Although every chapter is largely devoted to incidents associated with the natives, and anecdotes illustrative of their character, Dr. King yields the whole of Chapter XII to an examination and relation of the present condition of the tribes inhabiting the Hudson’s Bay territories. The Doctor does not attempt to conceal the chagrin he felt, at the cool absorption of his own careful researches in the narrative of Captain Back. In the splendid work of that really eminent explorer,
there appears a little, and but a little of that want of generosity which the relation of Dr. King insinuates. Both give the most minute narrations of the peculiar traits of the Northern Indians, their destructive wars, their wasting from disease, and famine, and debauchery, all of which are directly traceable to their communication with the whites. Dr. King, however, finds in them traces of some of the nobler, as well as the more tender emotions, the possession of which Captain Back somewhat superciliously derides. Dr. King very justly reminds him that the gallant Captain owed his life, and that of his entire party, to the devotion and self-denial, through two long starving winters, of the Chippewyan chief Akaitcho. This remarkable Indian deserves an honorable fame. While his tribe in common with himself were starving, he shared with Captain Franklin in his two expeditions, and with Captain Back in a third, the scanty food, which his superior hunter-craft enabled him to obtain, when the duller white reason failed. Captain Franklin would never have sailed upon his fateful voyage, but for the humanity of Akaitcho, as he would have perished of starvation on his first exploration” – Field.

“King, surgeon and naturalist of the Back expedition that descended the Back River to the arctic coast of Canada, includes much material similar to that contained in Sir George Back’s Narrative of the Arctic Land Expedition, 1836, with additional detail on birds, mammals, and fishes, especially as observed near Fort Reliance” – Arctic Bibliography. Most notable from a historical perspective is King’s charge that Capt. Back appropriated his own research and that Back’s conclusions were less than exact. King praises at great length the aforementioned Chipewyan chief Akaitcho.


in gilt. Library bookplate and withdrawal stamps on front pastedown, edge, and verso of titlepage. Bright and clean. Very good.

Very scarce first volume of the first publication of The Ethnological Society of London. Includes three articles by Dr. Richard King on the Esquimaux, examining their physical characteristics, intellects, and industrial arts, on pages 45-59, 127-153, and 277-300. King is notable for his part in Capt. Back’s voyage in search of the missing Ross party from 1833 to 1835, and for the subsequent works he published on the Arctic. Also included are articles on the tribes and languages of the Northwest Territory.

The Ethnological Society of London was founded in 1843, publishing journals relating to the behavior, characteristics, and cultures of various communities. King was instrumental in its formation, along with medical pioneer Thomas Hodgkin. The society conducted scientific research on human diversity, embracing the teachings of Charles Darwin in their work. This volume, rare in its complete form, offers insight into early, environment-based anthropological study, particularly surrounding indigenous communities.

SABIN 36721. $1000.

An Arctic Rarity

84. King, Richard: THE FRANKLIN EXPEDITION FROM FIRST TO LAST. London. 1855. xxxviii,[3]-224pp. plus four plates. Publisher’s blind-embossed cloth, gilt titles. Hinges tender. Ink ownership inscription on titlepage (partially erased), offsetting to some leaves from previously laid-in botanical samples. Very good.

A truly rare work by Richard King, collecting his correspondence with the British Admiralty and the Colonial Office, regarding King’s offers of help in the search for John Franklin’s lost expedition. “Includes considerable comment on the geography,
importance of the Back River route to find Franklin, conditions of travel in the region, and on the activities of those (in northern Canada and in London) involved in the Franklin search” – Arctic Bibliography.

“King took great interest in Franklin’s expedition and was one of the first to raise the alarm when he failed to return. He insisted, at first on very slender evidence, that Franklin’s party would be found near the mouth of the Great Fish River. His opinion was discounted and in 1847 and 1856 his offer to lead a search party was refused. His loud and continued insistence on the need to search his favoured site increased the animosity of the Admiralty, the Hudson’s Bay Company, and the Royal Geographical Society, who were also irritated by popular journals which took up King’s point of view. Matters were not helped by King’s Franklin Search from First to Last (1855) which set out his own convictions and dwelt on the obduracy of those who would not listen to him. Franklin’s party was finally found by McClintock in 1859 in the spot King had suggested eleven years earlier. The delay, however, probably made no material difference since, even if his advice been taken immediately, it would probably have come too late to save any of Franklin’s men” – Oxford Dictionary of National Biography.

This work is described as “very rare” in the auction catalogue for the Brooke-Hitching Library at Sotheby’s.


Pioneering Voyage


A rare work detailing a Moravian missionary visit to the Labrador region of Canada. Kohlmeister and Kmoch, two Moravians from the mission at Nain, sailed with four Esquimaux families from Okkak as far west as the present site of Fort Chimo on the Koksoak River and produced a useful map of the coastal region of northern Labrador and western Ungava Bay. Although stressing the religious purpose of the
trip, the authors also record their impressions of the landscape, Esquimaux manners and customs, weather and ice conditions, and fauna and flora. The publication of the journal supposedly influenced the Hudson’s Bay Company to extend their operations to Ungava Bay; the site of Fort Chimo was selected in 1828 and the fort was built in 1830.

“Journal of a trip undertaken by two Moravian missionaries with four Eskimo companions, in summer 1811. Includes references to ice along the coast, the vegetation, fish and game, seals, currents, mountains and coastal geography” – Arctic Bibliography.

An Arctic rarity.


Important Northwest Coast Maps


The first German edition, enlarged from the first publication in Russian of 1828. Kotzebue’s second voyage to the Pacific, made eight years after his first, combined scientific exploration and discovery with conveying cargo to Kamchatka and the protection of the Russian American Fur Company from poachers. Kotzebue spent the winter of 1824 in California and Hawaii, and his narrative provides an extensive account of the Fort Ross settlement, as well as a description of the San Francisco area. He also visited Brazil, Chile, the Society Islands, Pitcairn, Micronesia, and Alaska. The original Russian edition contains different maps and does not include the zoological study found herein.


“One of the earliest descriptions of Russian America and the Kurile Islands” – Howes


The first English and second chronological edition, an abridged translation by James Grieve from the original Russian, first published in 1755. “Contains one of the earliest descriptions of Russian America and the Kurile Islands” – Howes. “Krasheninnikov, a young student of the Academy of Sciences, was sent to join Bering’s second expedition as an assistant to Steller. Steller and he spent some time exploring Kamchatka and making notes for a subsequent report. Steller’s notes were available to Krasheninnikov, who used them in the preparation of the present work, along with his own observations. In the preface which Krasheninnikov proposed to write to his work, he was to give information as to how he happened to be sent to Kamchatka, also what part of Steller’s work was included by him in his Description, etc. Unfortunately, Krasheninnikov died before the printing of his Description was completed. In the text of the latter, however, Krasheninnikov often mentioned Steller as the source of his information…” – Lada-Mocarski. Steller’s own account of the voyage with Bering was not published until 1793.

The second part of Krasheninnikov’s narrative is devoted to the botanical and natural history aspects of the region, including many valuable observations, comprising what is generally considered to be the pioneering natural history work concerning Alaska and Kamchatka. The attractive plates are some of the earliest depictions of the natives and their habitat. Lada-Mocarski states that the first edition “is a very rare book…and difficult to secure.”


A Rare Voyage, with Color Plates of Alaska

88. Lisiansky, Urey: A VOYAGE ROUND THE WORLD, IN THE YEARS 1803, 4, 5, & 6; PERFORMED, BY ORDER OF HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY ALEXANDER THE FIRST, EMPEROR OF RUSSIA, IN THE SHIP NEVA. London. 1814. [2],xxi,[1],388pp. plus
eight colored maps or charts (three folding), and six plates (two of them aquatint views) including frontispiece portrait. Lacks the Appendix half title (which would be p.321). List of officers bound out of order. Quarto. Modern three-quarter calf and cloth, spine gilt. Portrait lightly foxed. Titlepage and dedication leaf backed with paper; three folding maps backed with linen. A few leaves with minor marginal repairs. Leaves B3 (pp.xiii-xiv) and 3D2 (pp.387-388) extensively repaired, but with no loss of text. Very good and untrimmed, with the bookplate or Sir James Campbell of Ardkinglass on the front pastedown.

The first English edition of this very important narrative, which includes an account of Russian expansion into Alaska. Lisianski left the Krusenstern expedition when it reached Hawaii in 1804 and sailed aboard the Neva to Kodiak, where he corroborated reports that Indians had demolished the settlement at Sitka. He then went to Baranov, where he took a new hill, naming it New Archangel. After spending over a year at both Kodiak and Sitka (comprising one hundred pages of the narrative), he set sail for China but hit a reef en route, leading to his discovery of the Hawaiian island which now bears his name. The portion of the narrative which Lisianski devotes to Hawaii is more extensive than that of Krusenstern, and his account of the Marquesas is also different. The final part of the account consists of a detailed description of time spent in Canton. Appendix 3 contains a “Vocabulary of the Languages of the Islands of Cadiack and Oonalaschca....” The colored charts show islands and harbors of the Alaskan coast, most notably the
“Island of Cadiack” and “Sitka or Norfolk Sound,” as well as a world map. The handsome aquatint views depict “Harbour of St. Paul in the Island of Cadiack” and “Harbour of New Archangel in Sitca of Norfolk Sound.”

A rare work on Alaska and the Pacific. The last copy at auction, the Frank Streeter copy, sold for $42,000.


Long began working for the Hudson’s Bay Company in 1768. As a fur trader he travelled extensively among the Canadian Indians for nineteen years. “His knowledge of the character, customs, and domestic life of the Indians was therefore the most thorough and intimate. His relations are characterized by candor and intelligence...” – Field. “An excellent account of the customs and manners of the Indians among whom the author lived...” – Graff. “The most valuable record of Indian life and the fur trade of the period, by a fur trader who lived 19 years in the old Northwest. The vocabularies occupy pp.183-295 and are of great value. The
map, showing the territory from the Great Lakes north to James's Bay and from the Mississippi east to the St. Lawrence, is entitled ‘Sketch of the Western Countries of Canada 1791” – Vail.

HOWES L443. HUBACH, p.27. PILLING, PROOF-SHEETS 2311. RADER 2249. TPL 597. EBERSTADT 113:288a. GRAFF 2527. FIELD 946. SABIN 41878. STREETER SALE 3651. VAIL 878. $2750.


Lyon was commander of the Hecla on Parry’s second expedition attempting to discover a northwest passage. The party surveyed Repulse Bay, Fury, and Hecla Strait, and spent two winters in the Arctic, gathering a great mass of scientific information on the region. The work is particularly interesting for its wealth of information about the native peoples. “Almost the entire volume is devoted to the narration of the peculiarities of the Aborigines of the Arctic regions. Captain Lyon’s curiosity led him to observe with great attention, the habits of life, and traits of character of the different tribes of Esquimaux, which his humanity, and good management attracted to his winter quarters. They built their villages near his ships, and permitted a closer familiarity, than any other of the Arctic voyagers was able to attain. His narrative, therefore, abounds with incidents of their intercourse, and curious anecdotes of Esquimaux life” – Field.

TPL 1289. FIELD 961 (ref). SABIN 42853. $675.


Lyon’s official report of this important expedition, with much, if not most, of his narrative concerning his relations with the Eskimos, with whom he was on excellent terms. This report includes three plates of Indian subjects, with the map illustrating Hudson Straits and northern Hudson Bay. There are two identical copies of six of the plates in this copy.
“Exploring for a Northwest Passage by Hudson Bay, the author penetrated, with the Griper, into Roes Welcome about halfway between Wager Inlet and Repulse Bay in 1824, but was driven back by foul weather. He gives here a narrative of the voyage, description of Southampton Island and its natives, notes on tides in Roes Welcome Sound and on compass variation” – Arctic Bibliography

Tipped-in at the front of this copy is a single-page, undated autograph note, signed by the author, reading: “My Dear Sir, My broken knee confines me in the house or I would wait on you. Will you give 5 minutes to me & call – I will then endeavour to arrange everything for your accommodation. I am D. Sir Your obt. Sv. Geo. Lyon.”

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 10530. TPL 1324. FIELD 962. SABIN 42851. DECKER 22:265.

Presentation Copy in a Special Morocco Binding


A specially bound presentation copy of the much-preferred second edition of Mangles’ excellent work on the Arctic searching parties for the lost Franklin expedition. Mangles has written “From the Author June 23, 1852” on the titlepage and has affixed a presentation bookplate to the front pastedown, designating this copy for the Countess of Carnarvon. The first edition contained only seventeen brief articles on the Franklin search expeditions. This second edition was greatly expanded and includes forty-six articles and excerpts from newspapers, letters, official reports and despatches, and narratives of expeditions, with discussion of the Northwest Passage, the north polar sea, flora, fauna, and more. The maps include a general map of the polar regions, a chart of the field of search, and a special map of Beechey Island, all engraved on stone by Augustus Petermann.

TPL 3282. SABIN 44251. $12,500.

A brief history of the Polar expeditions embarked upon from the 6th century to Markham's own voyage aboard Capt. Nare's ship in 1876. Includes the expeditions of John Franklin and Edward Parry. $750.


A scarce account of life and adventures in the Arctic regions, relating the author's trip via the Mackenzie River in 1896 to Herschel Island through several seasons. Includes two sketch maps and several photographic plates featuring Eskimo children, Canadian missionaries, a sledge with dogs, Eskimos at religious services, an Eskimo village, and more. Not readily encountered in the marketplace. ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 11051. $750.


McClintock was commissioned by Lady Franklin to search for her husband and crew in 1857. Dr. John Rae of the Hudson's Bay Company met an Eskimo in 1854 who furnished clues regarding Franklin's fate, and this information aided McClintock in finding artifacts which revealed the tragic end of the expedition. The voyage also brought the discovery of the only feasible passage by Montreal Island, through Rae Strait, the path later followed by Amundsen's first northwest passage. This was effectively the end of the Franklin Search, bringing back artifacts of the lost expedition. SABIN 43043. ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 10555. $750.

in matching cloth. Corners lightly bumped. Mild toning, scattered foxing.
Very good.

Captain McClure set out from England in 1850 in yet another attempt to obtain information regarding the missing Franklin party. He and Capt. Richard Collinson were meant to sail together but became separated early in the journey. The H.M.S. Investigator was eventually abandoned due to ice, with McClure’s crew continuing by sledge before being rescued by another ship. In this manner McClure managed to traverse the Northwest Passage, albeit unorthodoxly, for which he was knighted and received a hefty award. “The narrative of the expedition includes descriptions of the perils of the ice in Beaufort Sea and in the straits, of the activities carried out by the crew, measures for their health, and their reactions to arctic conditions; notes on animal migrations...concluding remarks on progress of the Franklin search” – Arctic Bibliography. A wonderful and scarcely available resource for scholars of Arctic exploration, published the year after the crew of the Investigator received the Parliamentary Award for crossing the Northwest Passage. Rare.

TPL 3451 (ref). ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 10563. SABIN 43073. $1500.


An important work by McCormick, the surgeon during Ross’ 1839-43 Antarctic expedition, taken from his own diaries written during the expedition. Also includes McCormick’s experiences with John Franklin, first as surgeon on Franklin’s 1827 attempt to reach the North Pole and during his own search for Franklin in 1852-53. “McCormick served under Parry and Ross, and took a prominent part in the Franklin search expedition of 1852-3. This personal narrative covers all these as well as his other voyages” – Scribner. A rare work, as McCormick financed the publishing himself, resulting in an initial print run of only 750 copies.


Canoeing to the Pacific Across Canada

The journals and itinerary of George Simpson and Archibald McDonald, both employees of the Hudson's Bay Company, during their canoe trip to the Pacific via the Peace River. “The editor's object in publishing the journal was to draw attention to the potentialities of the Peace River country, and the suitability of the Peace River Pass for the proposed Canadian Pacific Railway. Simpson became governor of the Northern Department of Rupert’s Land, and later of all the Hudson’s Bay Company territory” – Lande. With interesting observations on the fish and wildlife encountered. Quite rare.


McDougall's narrative of his experiences as master of Kellett's Resolute on the five-ship expedition led by Sir Edward Belcher to continue the Franklin search by way of the Barrow Strait. Eventually the Resolute became icebound and abandoned in 1854. “The author describes the voyage and subsequent months in the Arctic, gives useful description of the ice conditions, the process of wintering the ship and keeping the crew entertained; the sledge journeys, encounters with musk oxen, polar bear, lemmings, ptarmigan and other game, and remarks on the dogs and harness” -- Arctic Bibliography. Rarely encountered in the original cloth.


“McLean served the Hudson's Bay company in Ottawa valley, the North West, on the Pacific coast, Hudson Bay and in Labrador between 1821 and 1845. He was the first white man to traverse the entire Labrador Peninsula, and in so doing he discovered the Grand Falls on the Northwest River” – TPL. “The largest portion of these volumes, is devoted to the narration of incidents of travel among the Indians of the territory; descriptions of the life, habits, and character of the different tribes

GRAFF 2640. TPL 2729. FIELD 996. WAGNER-CAMP 169. STREETER SALE 3712. $1650.

Lavish Illustrations of the Nares Expedition

83pp. plus map and fifteen color plates with separate printed caption leaves. Illus. Folio. Publisher’s original blue cloth, decoratively stamped in gilt and black, neatly rebacked with original spine laid down. Boards slightly soiled, corners worn. Tiny stamp on titlepage (likely by the publisher), minor marginal thumb-soiling, light dampstain in bottom gutter. Very good.

A lavishly illustrated account of the Nares Expedition on the ships Alert and Discovery. Though the expedition was cut short by scurvy, the Alert reached the highest latitude ever reached by ship. Moss was the surgeon aboard the Alert. “Although his Preface disclaims a narrative intent for the book and places his emphasis on pictorial efforts, the book still provides a substantial and engaging account of the Nares expedition (1875-76). He is a quiet observer, noticing the literacy of young Greenlanders, the details of the shipboard rituals, the ‘disappointingly limited’ open seas within the ice, ‘the complicated hieroglyphic savouring of Freemasonry.’ He only balks at discussion of scurvy, the curse of the expedition, as ‘a subject which
it would be altogether improper to enter upon here,’ though he does compare the situation towards the end of the expedition to the probable demise of Sir John Franklin’s men” – Books on Ice.

Rare. Not in Arctic Bibliography.

BOOKS ON ICE 4.7. HOWGEGØ III, N6. $7500.

102. [Nares Expedition]: ARCTIC EXPEDITION. PAPERS AND CORRESPONDENCE RELATING TO THE EQUIPMENT AND FITTING OUT OF THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION OF 1875, INCLUDING REPORT OF THE ADMIRALTY ARCTIC COMMITTEE.


This scarce document describes the plans for the 1875 Nares Expedition, includes specifications for the H.M.S. Discovery, data on supplies needed, estimations of costs, and a hydrographer’s report, as well as a color chart of the North Polar Sea. The chart is a Polar projection map showing the seas navigated by British expeditions, as well as coasts discovered by British, American, German, Swedish, and Austrian explorers through 1874.

The Nares expedition, which sailed from 1875-76, strove to be the first to reach the North Pole, and to explore its coasts and region. Though unsuccessful in this venture, the expedition was the first to sail ships through the channel between Greenland and Ellesmere Island and as far north as the Lincoln Sea, recording valuable information about the mysterious region. A sledging party under Capt. Albert Hastings Markham also set a new record on land, reaching as far north as 83° 20’. The British Parliament printed occasional reports of the various expeditions and related Arctic subjects which became known as the Arctic “blue books,” named after the distinctive blue wrappers in which they were originally issued. This copy has the stamp of the Stefansson collection at the Dartmouth library, but was deaccessioned as a duplicate to his widow.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 45251. $1500.

An official government document, or “blue book,” of the reports of the Arctic Expedition of 1875-76 commanded by Capt. George S. Nares. The British Parliament printed occasional reports of the various expeditions and related Arctic subjects which became known as the Arctic “blue books,” named after the distinctive blue wrappers in which they were originally issued. This expedition’s primary objective was to reach the North Pole and explore its coasts and region. Though unsuccessful in this venture, the expedition was the first to sail ships through the channel between Greenland and Ellesmere Island and as far north as the Lincoln Sea. A sledging party under Capt. Albert Hastings Markham also set a new record on land, reaching as far north as 83° 20’.

This government publication includes reports of the expedition’s ships, Alert and Discovery, and various autumn 1875 and spring 1876 traveling parties (including journals of the various sledge parties). The volume provides incredible detail concerning the daily activities and experience of the expedition, with descriptions of the ice, weather, wildlife, vegetation, and the health and activities of the members of the expedition. The appendix, Nares’ report on the quality and quantity of the provisions, is also of great interest, noting which supplies were particularly worthwhile and which items were useless. Thirty-two maps and plates illustrate the proceedings, including numerous views and profiles of the region.

Nares’ own Narrative of a Voyage to the Polar Sea During 1875-6 was published in two volumes in 1878, although this document provides far more detail on the expedition.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 45255. $1000.

Scurvy Report


A Parliamentary report, or “blue book,” concerning the devastating outbreak of scurvy among the members of the Nares Expedition of 1875-76. Symptoms, causes, and preventions for the affliction are discussed by several medical professionals. The scurvy problem, directly related to the poor diet many Arctic expeditions subsisted on, plagued English Arctic exploration. The highly informative index serves as a guide to the procedures of the expedition, with information on personnel, supplies and equipment, arctic environmental features, and sledging operations, and other factors related to Arctic travel.

The Nares expedition, which sailed from 1875-76, strove to be the first to reach the North Pole and to explore its coasts and region. Though unsuccessful in this venture, the expedition was the first to sail ships through the channel between...
Greenland and Ellesmere Island and as far north as the Lincoln Sea, recording valuable information about the mysterious region. A sledging party under Capt. Albert Hastings Markham also set a new record on land, reaching as far north as 83° 20’.

The British Parliament printed occasional reports of the various expeditions, and related Arctic subjects which became known as the Arctic “blue books,” named after the distinctive blue wrappers in which they were originally issued.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 45256. $2500.


A scarce Nares Expedition Parliamentary “blue book.” “Meteorology, hydrography, soil temperatures, atmospheric phenomena, solar radiation, aurora, terrestrial magnetism, are reported in tabulated data, and excerpts from journals. Observations reported were made aboard the Alert and Discovery moving through Smith Sound, Kennedy Channel, Hall Basin, and Robeson Channel; and at their winter quarters on northeast Ellesmere. Both vessels traveled the western side of these waters.... Some observations reported were made in Davis Strait and Baffin Bay, and a few on the ice of Lincoln Sea...” – Arctic Bibliography.

Also includes information on the diseases of the sledge dogs, and a list of scientific papers resulting from the Nares expedition. The folding tables illustrate solar radiation readings from the Alert and Discovery. Among the phenomena illustrated by the tinted folding plates are the aurora borealis and various solar and lunar phenomena.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 45257. $2000.


The earliest printed account of the expedition to the North Pole aboard the Alert and Discovery, commanded by Capt. George Strong Nares. Nares served on Belcher’s expedition to find Franklin and was subsequently involved in hydrographical surveying off the coast of Australia and in the Mediterranean. Based on his experience, Nares was given command of the Challenger circumnavigation. In 1874 he was recalled to lead the expedition covered in the present work, which was designed to reach the North Pole. The expedition turned out to be an ill-fated attempt, marked by an outbreak of scurvy.

“The failure of the Nares expedition effectively ended British polar exploration for the next 25 years....The ships reached Lady Franklin Bay on Northern Ellesmere Island in late August, and the Alert went on to the extreme north of the island, the
highest latitude that had yet been reached by ship. After wintering at their bases of Floeberg Beach and Discovery Harbour, three separate sledge journeys set out in April 1876 but within a month men in each group showed serious signs of scurvy. By July nearly half of the 122 men of the expedition were ill and a number had died. Nares reluctantly turned back, freed his two ships from the ice, and returned embarrassed if not disgraced to England on September 9, 1876” – Books on Ice.

A rare work, effectively the predecessor of Nares’ own Narrative of a Voyage to the Polar Sea During 1875-6 in H.M. Ships “Alert” and “Discovery.” Not in Arctic Bibliography.

BOOKS ON ICE, pp.57, 107. $1250.


Captain Sir George Strong Nares’ account of the British Arctic Expedition of 1875-76, which he commanded. The primary objective of the expedition was to attain “the highest northern latitude, and, if possible, to reach the North Pole, and from winter quarters to explore the adjacent coasts within the reach of traveling parties.” The expedition was the first to sail ships through the channel between Greenland and Ellesmere Island and as far north as the Lincoln Sea. A sledge party under Capt. Albert Hastings Markham also set a new record on land, reaching as far north as 83° 20’. In addition to reporting on these high latitude achievements, Nares describes “ice, weather, and living conditions, health and activities of men; scurvy; sledge trips to northeastern Ellesmere and northwestern Greenland (in detail)...wildlife, ice, coastal features, vegetation, etc.” (Arctic Bibliography). The illustrations, including six handsome woodbury print photographs, were made by members of the expedition, and the narrative includes extensive extracts from the diaries of Nares and the leaders of the different sledge parties.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 12026A. FITZGERALD COLLECTION CATALOGUE 507. $1850.


A rare account of two trips to Hudson Bay in the summers of 1842 and 1843 by a surgeon on one of the ships belonging to the Hudson’s Bay Company. “Original
edition of this scarce little account of voyages in the 1840s, with much on the Es-
kimos, the Chippewas, and the Crees” – Decker. Only fourteen copies in OCLC, and hardly ever seen in the open market.

*With Church After Icebergs*

109. Noble, Louis L.: *AFTER ICEBERGS WITH A PAINTER: A SUM-
MER VOYAGE TO LABRADOR AND AROUND NEWFOUND-
Original cloth, spine stamped in red. Extremities slightly rubbed, spine slightly
sunned, small nick in spine. Very good.

Noble accompanied painter Frederick Church on a cruise in the summer of 1859 to
the Arctic to paint icebergs. Church’s grand canvases of the austere and desolate
beauty of the northern oceans have become some of the most famous images of
19th-century American art. The lithographic plates are after Church.
SABIN 55580. TPL 3926. SMITH N18. ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 12352. $750.

*Greenland Classic*

110. O’Reilly, Bernard: *GREENLAND, THE ADJACENT SEAS, AND
THE NORTH-WEST PASSAGE TO THE PACIFIC OCEAN,
ILLUSTRATED IN A VOYAGE TO DAVIS’S STRAIT, DURING
THE SUMMER OF 1817.* London. 1818. [8],293pp. plus eighteen black
and white plates (five engraved, thirteen aquatint); three maps and charts (two
folding). Quarto. Three-quarter calf and marbled boards, gilt leather label.
Boards lightly rubbed. Modern bookplate on front pastedown. Manuscript
ownership details on titlepage. Scattered toning and foxing. Very good.

O’Reilly sailed as surgeon aboard the whaler Thomas in 1817. He was accused
of plagiarism, and gained little favor when he ridiculed John Barrow’s theory of
the open polar sea and predicted the failure of Buchan’s expedition to the North
Pole. The present work contains substantial descriptions of the native peoples of
Greenland (especially the Uskees and their customs, language, etc.), natural his-
tory, the ongoing search for the Northwest Passage with an account of previous
expeditions, and notes about the whale fishery. The excellent plates depict native
Uskees, geologic specimens, birds, luminous atmospheric phenomena, and the like.
ABBEY 635. ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 12852. HILL 1263 (American ed). TPL 1125.

111. Osborn, Sherard: *STRAY LEAVES FROM AN ARCTIC JOUR-
NAL; OR, EIGHTEEN MONTHS IN THE POLAR REGIONS,
IN SEARCH OF SIR JOHN FRANKLIN’S EXPEDITION. IN THE

In 1850, Osborn was appointed commander of the Pioneer steam-tender in the Arctic expedition under Capt. Austin aboard the Resolute, to search for Franklin. The expedition discovered traces of Franklin’s having wintered at Beechey Island in 1845-46, thereby disproving the theory that his ships had been lost in Baffin’s Bay. “Considered as a surveying expedition, [the voyage] was eminently successful.... Much of the success of the voyage was due to the steam-tenders, which, during the summers of 1850 and 1851, held out new prospects for arctic navigation. The way in which the Pioneer or Intrepid cut through rotten ice, or steamed through the loose pack in a calm, was an object-lesson to the whalers, and led directly to the employment of powerful screw-steamers in the whaling fleet” – DNB. Indeed, in the preface Osborn refers to the expedition as “this, the first and severe trial of steam in the Arctic regions.” Upon his return to England in 1851, he urged the renewal of the search for Franklin, and the public’s interest was stimulated by the publication of the present work in February of 1852. The searching expedition of Edward Belcher was undertaken early that year. Osborn went on to become a distinguished rear admiral in the British navy and author of important books concerning the Arctic, including Arctic Journal and The Discovery of a North-West Passage by Captain M’Clure.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 12899. $1500.


A brief account of the life and voyages of Sir John Franklin, including the many fruitless efforts to recover his lost expedition in the Arctic, written after the McClintock expedition had finally discovered the artifacts which revealed the tragic end of the expedition. The author was a Royal Navy officer and a major advocate of the Franklin search parties. In 1850 he sailed with Horatio Thomas Austin on one such expedition, later publishing an account of the voyage entitled Stray Leaves from an Arctic Journal, in addition to the present work. This account is enlivened with imagined images of the final days of the Franklin expedition. Quite scarce in the market.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 12893. SABIN 57760. $3000.
Fine Set of Parry's Voyages

113. Parry, William E.: JOURNAL OF A VOYAGE FOR THE DISCOVERY OF A NORTH-WEST PASSAGE FROM THE ATLANTIC TO THE PACIFIC; PERFORMED IN THE YEARS 1819-20 IN HIS MAJESTY’S SHIPS HECLA AND GRIPER.... London: John Murray, 1821. [8],xxix,[3],310,[2],clxxix,[1],[1, Errata]pp. plus six maps and fourteen plates. [with:] JOURNAL OF A SECOND VOYAGE FOR THE DISCOVERY OF A NORTH-WEST PASSAGE FROM THE ATLANTIC TO THE PACIFIC; PERFORMED IN THE YEARS 1821-22-23, IN HIS MAJESTY’S SHIPS FURY AND HECLA.... London. 1824. [8],xxx,[2],571,[1]pp. plus twenty-nine plates (four folding) and nine maps (four folding). Folding plates bound after the following Appendix. [bound with:] APPENDIX TO CAPTAIN PARRY’S JOURNAL OF A SECOND VOYAGE FOR THE DISCOVERY OF A NORTH-WEST PASSAGE FROM THE ATLANTIC TO THE PACIFIC, PERFORMED IN HIS MAJESTY’S SHIPS FURY AND HECLA, IN THE YEARS 1821-22-23. London. 1825. [4],432pp. plus two plates. [with:] A SUPPLEMENT TO THE APPENDIX OF CAPTAIN PARRY’S VOYAGE FOR THE DISCOVERY OF A NORTH-WEST PASSAGE...CONTAINING AN ACCOUNT OF THE SUBJECTS OF NATURAL HISTORY. London. 1824. [10],[clxxiii]-cccx pp. plus six engraved plates. [bound with:] APPENDIX TO CAPTAIN PARRY’S
JOURNAL OF A SECOND VOYAGE FOR THE DISCOVERY OF A NORTH-WEST PASSAGE FROM THE ATLANTIC TO THE PACIFIC, PERFORMED IN HIS MAJESTY’S SHIPS FURY AND HECLA, IN THE YEARS 1821-22-23. London. 1825. [4],432pp. plus two plates. [bound with:] Edward Sabine: THE NORTH GEORGIA GAZETTE, AND WINTER CHRONICLE. London. 1822. xii,132pp. [with:] JOURNAL OF A THIRD VOYAGE FOR THE DISCOVERY OF NORTH-WEST PASSAGE FROM THE ATLANTIC TO THE PACIFIC; PERFORMED IN THE YEARS 1824-25 IN HIS MAJESTY’S SHIPS HECLA AND FURY.... London. 1826. viii,[2, Directions to Binder],[ix]-xxvii,[1],186,[2],151,[1]pp. plus seven plates (one folding) and four maps (one folding). [with:] NARRATIVE OF AN ATTEMPT TO REACH THE NORTH POLE, IN BOATS FITTED FOR THE PURPOSE, AND ATTACHED TO HIS MAJESTY’S SHIP HECLA, IN THE YEAR MDCCCXXVII.... London. 1828. xxii,[2],229,[1]pp. plus four plates and three maps (one folding). Eight volumes bound in five large quarto volumes. Uniformly bound in contemporary calf, rebacked preserving original leather labels, spines gilt. Minor edge wear. Light foxing to most volumes, a bit more pronounced scattered foxing in the Narrative. Overall, a very good, handsome set.

A complete collection of Parry’s four voyages in search of the Northwest Passage, each a hallmark of Arctic literature. After standing by while his predecessor and former commander, the irascible John Ross, was lambasted by the Admiralty for turning back too soon during his first voyage to the Arctic, Parry was grateful to inherit command of the next major expedition. Dedicated to both the physical and mental health of his men, Parry succeeded in reaching Melville Island, being the first to penetrate so far into the hypothetical passage. The voyage made Parry a hero in England, where he was promoted to commander, elected to the Royal Society, and presented with numerous awards, all before his thirtieth birthday. This expedition also made some of the first significant botanical collections in the high Arctic. The maps included with the volume illustrate the eastern Canadian Arctic.

No sooner had Parry written the account of his first voyage than he departed on a second, in the spring of 1821. During this voyage he surveyed Repulse Bay, Fury and Hecla Strait, and spent two winters in the Arctic gathering a great mass of scientific information on the region. Upon his return
in 1823 more honors awaited him, and he was promoted to captain. The second
voyage yielded the most data from an ethnographic standpoint, and the present
account includes numerous plates of Eskimos after original artwork by George F.
Lyon, while the text includes an Eskimo vocabulary.

Again the Arctic beckoned Parry, and he departed for his third and final attempt
at discovering a northwest passage in May of 1824. Adamant about exploring Prince
Regent Inlet beyond the previous record established during his first voyage, Parry
worked the Fury and Hecla through extreme ice conditions which, ultimately, forced
the abandonment of the former. The frontispiece illustration of that calamity is
one of the most striking Arctic images. As with the previous two voyages, Parry’s
third narrative is replete with extensive natural and ethnographic data.

Parry’s fourth voyage took place in 1827, following three attempts to discover a
northwest passage from the Atlantic to the Pacific made between 1818 and 1825.
During the North Pole expedition he established a new northern record which
remained unsurpassed until 1876. Includes descriptions of specimens of natural
historical interest, as well as meteorological and magnetic observations. The at-
tractive engraved plates show the party in Arctic and seagoing settings. The large
map is “A Survey of the Principal Points on the Northern Coast of Spitzbergen,”
which indicates the route of the Hecla and accompanying boats, as well as the
location of icebergs.

Included here are the Supplement to the first voyage and the Appendix to the
second voyage (in fact, two copies of the Appendix to the second voyage are present
here). When Parry returned from his second voyage, he learned to his distress that
important natural history material failed to appear in the published narrative of
his first voyage, hence the production of the supplement to the first voyage. The
Appendix to the second voyage includes chronometer charts, readings on atmo-
spheric refraction, sound, atmospheric air, effects of the cold on gases and different
substances, and accounts of quadrupeds, birds, plants, and zoophytes.

Also includes Edward Sabine’s The North Georgia Gazette, a weekly newspaper
established by Parry’s crew in 1819-20 and published onboard ship while on the
way to discover the Northwest Passage in order “to enliven the tedious and inactive
months of winter” in the Arctic region, according to Sabin. “Each issue contains
verses, letters to the editor, reports on social activities in the camp, humorous articles,
etc., usually signed with pseudonym and all ‘designed to promote good-humour and
amusement’” – Arctic Bibliography. The Gazette is bound with the supplement to
the first voyage and the second copy of the Appendix to the second voyage.

“William Edward Parry was the nineteenth century’s first hero-explorer. He
stood at the head of a long line of celebrated Britons that would include Franklin
and M’Clintock, Burton and Speke, Livingston and Stanley, Scott and Shackleton.
There were folk figures, larger than life, their failings, flaws, and human frailties
ignored by a public and a press that saw them in the personification of Imperial
expansion” – Berton.

An excellent complete set of Parry, comprising seven works in five volumes
(technically eight, counting both copies of the Appendix to the second voyage).

114. Parry, William E.: *JOURNALS OF THE FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD VOYAGES FOR THE DISCOVERY OF A NORTH-WEST PASSAGE FROM THE ATLANTIC TO THE PACIFIC, IN 1819-20-21-22-23-24-25, IN HIS MAJESTY'S SHIPS HECLA, GRIPER AND FURY....* [with:] *NARRATIVE OF AN ATTEMPT TO REACH THE NORTH POLE, IN BOATS FITTED FOR THE PURPOSE, AND ATTACHED TO HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP HECLA, IN THE YEAR 1827....* London. 1828-1829. Six volumes. [2],iv,[2],[v]-viii,283,[1]; iv,270; vii,312; vii,295,[1]; v,330; xxxv,211,[1]pp., plus folding map and twelve engraved plates. 16mo. Contemporary green cloth, paper labels, neatly rebacked with original spines laid down. Moderate shelf wear, some corners bumped. Contemporary bookplate on front pastedown of two volumes. Mild foxing. Very good. First collected edition of Parry’s Arctic voyages. John Murray’s series of “Modern Discoveries,” in which this set was issued, attempted to present in a convenient format a compendious version of the original texts that would appeal to the average reader, sacrificing some technical data, but retaining all of the important facts and events. The sixth volume, which was not originally planned for the set, is often lacking. SABIN 58869. $650.

115. Pennant, Thomas: *ARCTIC ZOOLOGY*. London. 1784-1785. Two volumes. [2],cc,[14],185; [3],188-586,[13]pp., plus twenty-four engraved plates (one folding), and engraved titlepage vignettes. Quarto. Handsome contemporary calf, expertly recased with original gilt backstrip and boards preserved. A few leaves foxed, otherwise internally clean. Very good. A rare large paper copy of Pennant’s beautifully illustrated 18th-century work of Arctic and American natural history. A prolific British naturalist and antiquary, Pennant originally intended the work as a sketch of the zoology of North America only, but included descriptions of birds and quadrupeds of the northern parts of Europe and Asia as well, from latitude sixty to the farthest known regions of the Arctic, together with Kamchatka and parts of North America that he visited.
during Cook’s final voyage. Regions covered include the Kurile Islands, Alaska, British America, California, the Polar Seas, Greenland, Baffin’s Bay, Hudson Bay, Canada, and Nova Scotia. Over seventy pages are devoted to Kamchatka, the Aleutian Islands, California, Nootka Sound, and Alaska. Pennant did not visit the Arctic himself, but relied primarily on specimens and information collected from authorities such as George Low, Joseph Banks, Peter Simon Pallas, and other prominent naturalists of the day. The first volume is comprised of descriptions of quadrupeds and birds, and the second volume is devoted to birds, reptiles, fishes, and insects. Most of the plates depict ornithological subjects, but some of the more notable illustrations include “the Musk Bull,” “Elk or Moose,” “Tomahawk & Bow of Nootka Sound,” “American Avoset,” “Eskimaux Curlew,” “Male and Female Baltimore Orioles,” etc. “Pennant’s name stands high among the naturalists of the eighteenth century, and he has been commended for making dry and technical material interesting...Pennant’s literary industry was immense, and he reckoned that his works contained 802 illustrations prepared under his superintendence” – DNB. In addition to the present work, Pennant is best known for his British Zoology (1766), Synopsis of Quadrupeds (1771), History of Quadrupeds (1781), Of London (1790), and more than a score of other works devoted to natural history and travel.

A rare and exquisitely illustrated work of American natural history, including much material relating to Arctic and Alaskan fauna. Large paper copies are exceedingly rare.


$4500.

Bedford Clapperton Tervelyan Pim served in the Royal Navy, as a barrister, an author, and most importantly, as an Arctic explorer. He was the first man to successfully travel by ship from the eastern side of the Northwest Passage to the western side. He also led an expedition in search of Sir John Franklin in 1850, and served under Edward Belcher in the western division of his 1852 Arctic expedition. In this short autograph note, signed, Pim writes to a friend who had likely asked for photographs of him for her scrapbook or album. He complies, as such: “My dear young friend Flora Braby I have much pleasure in sending you three or four Photographs for your album and one of myself in wig and gown which I have no doubt will amuse you – with kind regards to Papa and Mama I am Yours Sincerely Bedford Pim.”

Frozen In During the Franklin Search


A handsome and striking painting of the “wintering” of an arctic voyage, signed: “S. Quay Pinxt 1857.” The painting is closely based on the color frontispiece of an 1850 book, Expeditions to the Polar Regions Including All the Voyages Undertaken in Search of Sir John Franklin (London: William Wright, [1850]). The frontispiece, entitled “Winter Quarters in the Arctic Regions,” was itself copied from an engraving that appeared in the October 13, 1849, issue of The Illustrated London News, accompanying a story about the missing expedition of Sir John Franklin and captioned, “Winter Quarters.”

When the Illustrated London News story appeared in the fall of 1849, it was commonly believed that survivors from Franklin’s expedition would still be found. Responding to public interest over recent reports on the expedition, The Illustrated London News produced a series of “pictures of the polar regions...copied from the Journals of the recent Voyages,” accompanied by a discussion of the various tasks
and privations the Franklin crew might be enduring. In the “Winter Quarters” section, the 1819 voyage of William Edward Parry and his winter at Melville Island is discussed, and the engraving may be loosely based on Parry’s account of his experience. Generally speaking, however, the illustration from which Quay’s painting is derived is almost certainly the work of imagination rather than reportage.

The painting is a fine marine and Arctic view, conveying both the trials and heroism of the mid 19th-century Arctic voyagers and the romance of high Arctic endeavor.

A Classic Arctic Rarity

Fresh from medical training, Rae shipped as surgeon in 1833 on the Hudson's Bay Company ship Prince of Wales, sailing to Moose Factory on Hames Bay in the same year. He stayed on as post surgeon and within a few years became chief trader and then chief factor. Notwithstanding his medical and commercial pursuits, his true interest was in exploration of new territory, its wildlife, and native people. During the 1840s and '50s he undertook four expeditions, charting a remarkable two thousand miles of northern coastline. In 1854 he visited Eskimos at Repulse Bay who supplied valuable information and sold him articles which provided the first clues to the fate of Franklin and his men. His account is interspersed with valuable descriptions of Eskimo life, and the struggles and triumphs of living in the Arctic, including the hunting tactics used by the Arctic natives. Rae's report created a sensation, and he was the recipient of the £10,000 reward for discovering Franklin's fate. The impressive large folding map of the Arctic regions is titled “Discoveries of the Honble. Hudson's Bay Cos. Arctic Expedition to the North of Repulse Bay....” Another folding map, with new coastline discoveries marked in red, shows the Arctic west from Hudson Bay to Sitka in the Pacific, and north to the edge of the Polar Sea. The appendix includes information on the flora and fauna observed, as well as magnetic observations and other meteorological data.

119. Reeves, John: HISTORY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ISLAND OF NEWFOUNDLAND. WITH AN APPENDIX; containing the acts of parliament made respecting the trade and fishery. London. 1793. [6],167,[5],cxvi pp. Lacks the half title. 20th-century half calf and marbled boards, spine gilt. Light foxing to a few leaves. Very good.

A history of the island, early laws and orders, establishment of the judicial system, developing commerce and trade with special attention paid to the fishing industry, and the role of Lord Baltimore. The long appendix prints the statutes relating to Newfoundland and its commerce. The author was the first chief justice of Newfoundland.

120. Richardson, Sir John: FAUNA BOREALI-AMERICANA; OR THE ZOOLOGY OF THE NORTHERN PARTS OF BRITISH AMERICA: CONTAINING DESCRIPTIONS OF THE OBJECTS OF

A rare complete set of this important and influential work on Arctic and sub-Arctic natural history. It took eight years to produce and was issued by three different publishers in two cities, and is most difficult to find complete.

The fine collection of plates is distributed as follows: Volume I contains twenty-eight uncolored etched plates (one folding) of quadrupeds by Thomas Landseer; Volume II includes fifty excellent handcolored lithographic plates of birds by William Swainson; Waterhouse Hawkins is responsible for all twenty-four plates in Volume III (two are handcolored copper engravings after Hawkins, the remaining twenty-two are lithographs by Hawkins, ten of these are handcolored, and three of the remaining uncolored plates have folding flaps); the final volume includes eight handcolored engravings of insects, all heightened with gum arabic and engraved by C. Wagstaff after C.M. Curtis.
A complete set of the natural history of the Franklin expeditions to the Arctic, produced under the supervision of John Richardson, surgeon and naturalist with both Franklin expeditions. It is one of the earliest and most complete studies of the natural history of far North America and the Arctic. Over the course of the two expeditions (which lasted from 1819 to 1822 and 1825 to 1827) Richardson spent seven summers and five winters in the North. Each species is described in detail, including its habitat, physical characteristics, colors, etc. William Swainson’s beautifully executed and colored bird plates are particularly noteworthy. The volume on fish is Richardson’s own work, whilst he was assisted by Swainson and William Kirby on the volumes on quadrupeds and insects, and Swainson alone did most of the work on the ornithology. Richardson’s “contributions to the natural history of the Arctic are particularly notable” (Wagner-Camp). “The influence which this work exerted cannot well be overstated...it was the chief source of inspiration of numberless writers upon the same subject...” – Elliott Coues.


121. Richardson, Sir John: ARCTIC SEARCHING EXPEDITION: A JOURNAL OF A BOAT-VOYAGE THROUGH RUPERT’S LAND AND THE ARCTIC SEA, IN SEARCH OF THE DISCOVERY SHIPS UNDER COMMAND OF SIR JOHN FRANKLIN.... London. 1851. Two volumes. viii,413,[1]pp. plus nine colored plates (including frontispiece); vii,[1],426pp. with color frontis. The first volume includes the folding map, backed on linen, not found in all copies. Original cloth, neatly
rebacked, original gilt backstrips laid down. Minor shelf wear. Contemporary bookplate of Robert Damon on each front pastedown, his signature on each titlepage. Small ink stamps reading “Soliday” on endpapers. Light occasional foxing. Very good.

Thomas W. Streeter’s copy of Richardson’s arctic exploration journal (with Streeter’s penciled notes, but without his bookplates). Richardson, the noted naturalist, accompanied Franklin on his first and second expeditions. The present work includes the journals of Richardson and Rae on the Mackenzie, Arctic, and Coppermine rivers in 1849. “Filled with details of personal experiences of Indian life. The appendix contains a comparative table of dialects spoken by the Eskimo. Some copies are described as having a map, but it is not called for in the list of illustrations” – Sabin. Richardson did not limit himself to searching for Franklin, and looked for plants and animals as well. An appendix of almost ninety pages comprises one of the earliest detailed listings of Canadian and Arctic plants, as well as describing the physical geography of the Arctic. A number of contributors have provided material on the linguistics of the Indians of the region. Most of the attractive plates illustrate members of the Kutchin tribe of native Indians.

This copy was in the George Soliday collection, dispersed by the bookseller Peter Decker, and was sold to Streeter for $20 in 1947. It realized $100 at the Streeter Sale.


ITEM 122.
Maps of the Hudson Bay Area


Robson’s famous work is among the earliest substantial accounts of the Hudson’s Bay Company and region. Robson served as the Surveyor and Supervisor of Buildings to the Company, and this work, based on six years worth of intimate inside knowledge, is a basic source of Company history. “Robson, with a sound knowledge of the locale and of the personnel of the Hudson’s Bay Company, condemned the Company for its failure to promote enterprise and development in its lands” – Streeter. The maps illustrate the Nelson and Hayes rivers, plans of the York and Prince of Wales forts, and the Churchill River. A foundation work of Canadia, in an attractive contemporary binding.


With Color Plates of Arctic Scenes

One of the pioneering voyages of high Arctic discovery. Led by Sir John Ross, the officers included future Arctic greats William Parry, James Clark Ross, and Edward Sabine. Ross sailed up David Strait and westward into Lancaster Sound, seeking a northwest passage. A mirage deceived him into believing the end of the Sound was blocked by a high range of mountains, despite the disbelief of his colleagues. The expedition returned to England in 1818 with much fanfare and Ross was promoted, but the false conclusions were widely challenged when this account was published, and involved Ross in lifelong controversy.

Aside from its incorrect geographical conclusions, however, the expedition bore important fruits in encouraging Arctic exploration, training future leaders, and compiling accurate geographical and ethnological data. This copy is particularly notable for the beautiful extensive contemporary coloring of the plates.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 14873. HILL 1488. TPL 1152. ABBEY 634. SABIN 73376. LANDE 1425. $6000.

Building an Igloo During the Second Ross Expedition


A gray wash sketch of three men building an igloo, while another group of three men and one husky dog stand off to the side. In the lower margin of the stiff paper
upon which the illustration is mounted, a caption reads: “The Ross Expedition.”

This drawing is likely from Ross’ second expedition, during which he and his crew camped over three consecutive winters from 1830 to 1833. While the illustration is not reproduced as a plate in Ross’ official report, Narrative of a Second Voyage in Search of a North-West Passage... (1835), it is similar in style to some of the published views. Ross made ample use of native construction methods, at one point overseeing the construction of a virtual arctic compound, complete with mess hall and officers’ quarters, during their final winter on the ice in 1832-33. Though it is possible the drawing was done in the warmth of the expedition’s winter quarters, it was likely composed after the expedition’s return to Britain. Wash was rarely a favored medium in a climate where the seasonal highs seldom reached ten degrees Fahrenheit.

Original art work concerning the early arctic expeditions is superlatively rare.

With the Rare Supplements

A fundamental Arctic narrative, offered with the rare illustrated appendix. Despite the failure of his trip in 1818, Ross set out in 1829 in the small ship, Victory, to find a northwest passage, but the vessel had to be abandoned in 1832. Ross and his party were rescued in the summer of 1833 in Lancaster Sound. In the meantime Capt. George Back had set out in search of Ross. Back’s account of his explorations was published the year after this volume appeared. The greatest scientific yield of the trip was the discovery of the Magnetic Pole. The many attractive plates are listed in detail in Abbey. A number of them depict the natives and events during the voyage. The lengthy appendix adds significantly to the work and includes additional color plates of Eskimos and a vocabulary of the Eskimo language, as well as a report about the natural history of the Arctic.

This set is remarkable for having both the rare Supplement to Captain Sir John Ross’s Narrative... by John Braithwaite (an engineer who supplied the steam boilers for Ross’ ship) and Explanation and Answer to Mr. Braithwaite’s Supplement, Ross’ incredulous rebuttal to Braithwaite’s accusations regarding the ship’s failure. The second pamphlet is of the greatest rarity, and to find the set with both supplements is notable.

ABBEY 636. ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 14866. LANDE 1462. HILL 1490. SMITH 8792. TPL 1808. SABIN 73381. PILLING PROOF-SHEETS 3388, 3391. $7000.

8pp. Original light brown paper wrappers, titled in letterpress on upper cover.
Minor foxing and light wear, slight loss at top edge of front cover. Very good.

After his failure to explore Lancaster Sound in his first voyage of 1818, Ross had his 1829-33 second voyage privately financed. Forced to abandon his steamship Victory in the ice at Felix Harbor, Ross in his Narrative... placed the blame largely on the shortcomings of the boilers supplied by Messrs. Braithwaite and Ericsson. Braithwaite responded to the accusations by publishing his craftily titled Supplement to Capt. Ross’ narrative, and Ross herein follows with his Explanation and Answer.


An important early Hakluyt Society publication, a compilation of narratives describing early attempts to discover the Northwest Passage, including the voyages of Frobisher, Cabot, Hall, and Baffin, among others.

SABIN 74131. $600.

In Original Boards

“My object has been to travel with my eyes open, and to relate what I have seen in the simple language of truth” – Preface (p. xiv). Sauer, an Englishman who served on the expedition as “private secretary and translator,” here provides a largely first-hand account of the expedition under Joseph Billings undertaken between 1785 and 1794 to map and describe the farthest eastern reaches of the Russian empire, from Kamchatka in the southwest, eastwards through the Aleutians, then north to the Bering Strait and the coast of Alaska. The work includes a detailed description of the voyage, of the natives encountered and their customs, including (in the appendix) vocabularies of the Yukagir, Yakut, Tungoose, Kamchatka, Aleutian, and Kodiak languages. “This is the first account in English of the first major exploring expedition sent out by the Russians to the Frozen Ocean and the north Pacific after Bering’s second expedition of 1741” – Streeter. The fine large chart was made by Aaron Arrowsmith from Sauer’s notes and Capt. Billings’ astronomical observations and offers the most accurate map to date of the region. This map is ably complemented by William Alexander’s spectacular plates showing the peoples, settlements, and topography of the region.


129. Scoresby, William, Capt.: AN ACCOUNT OF THE ARCTIC REGIONS, WITH A HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION OF THE NORTHERN WHALE-FISHERY. Edinburgh. 1820. Two volumes. xx,551,[1],82; viii,574pp., plus four folding tables, twenty plates (five folding) including frontispieces, and four maps (three folding). Half title in each volume. Later 19th-century polished calf, spine gilt, leather labels. Mild darkening to spines, light soiling, front hinge on first volume cracking. 19th-century bookplate on each front pastedown. Short tear in frontispiece in first volume, a few leaves foxed. Overall very good.

A classic narrative of Arctic and Greenland whaling, complete with all tables, maps, and plates. “Nineteenth century classic on whaling, geography and natural history of northern waters” – Arctic Bibliography. “The first volume of this work relates to the progress of discovery in the Arctic regions, and the natural history of Spitzbergen and the Greenland sea; the second is devoted to the whale-fishery as conducted in the seas of Greenland and Davis’s Strait[.] Mr. Scoresby, the commander of a Greenland whaler, has here displayed much judicious and active observation, combined with no ordinary share of acquired knowledge and scientific attainment, and prompted by an ardent and generous zeal for useful discovery.’ – Rich. ‘This standard work comprises all that most persons can wish to know of the subjects of which it treats.’ – Macculloch [sic]. ‘This, together with a voyage to Greenland, published subsequently by the same author, is full of most valuable information on the meteorology and natural history of this part of the world, besides containing
interesting particulars of the whale-fishery.’ – Stevenson...’” – Sabin. “Geographically [Scoresby’s] discoveries were greater in importance and number than those of any other single navigator in northern waters” – Hill. The attractive plates illustrate various types of whales and fishes, tools used in whaling, and a variety of snowflake formations.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 15610. SABIN 78167. TPL 7054 (lacking 4 plates). LANDEN S2036. HILL 1543 (ref). $1000.


Two works by explorer and scientist William Scoresby. The first is an intimate biography of his father, celebrated Arctic navigator and whaler William Scoresby Sr. Scoresby began his navigation education joining his father on expeditions when he was only ten years old. The second work reflects Scoresby’s decision to abandon Arctic exploration and join the clergy. Though he refocused his attentions on the church, his enthusiasm for and involvement in the scientific community never waned, and he is best known for his observations surrounding terrestrial magnetism. The second edition of Sabbaths in the Arctic Regions... is devoted to proving the existence of providence while on the seas, specifically related to whaling expeditions. Here he illustrates how proper devotion and prayer on Sabbath can result in more favorable results at sea, and alternatively, how detrimental lack of observation can be.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 15615, 15616. SABIN 78178. $1250.

In the Arctic after Franklin


An important Pacific and Arctic voyage. Seemann was the naturalist of the Herald expedition, which made extensive surveys along the Northwest Coast and into the
Bering Sea. They “explored most of the west coast of America, Galapagos, the Hawaiian Islands, Kamchatka, Bering Strait, Alaska, and the Arctic Ocean. Extensive land exploration was undertaken in Brazil, Peru, Ecuador, Panama, and Mexico. In September 1846 the *Herald* anchored in San Francisco Bay, and the author records a visit to Mission Dolores, at that time occupied by a party of Mormons” – Hill. “At the end of 1848 Captain Kellett was directed to join the search for Sir John Franklin, going through Bering Strait and searching the northwestern extremity of America (Alaska) and the Arctic Sea. As a result of this assignment, the ‘Herald’ made three separate voyages in these regions” – Lada-Mocarski. Seemann, a botanist, studied at Kew Gardens under Sir William Jackson Hooker, to whom this book is dedicated. His work on this voyage is an important accumulation of specimens from throughout the Pacific, and is the basis for his later work on the palms and flora of Fiji. Contains some material on the Eskimo language.

LADA-MOCARSKI 141. HOWES S271. SABIN 78867. HILL, p.271. PILLING, PROOF-SHEETS 3548. WICKERSHAM 6593. TAXONOMIC LITERATURE 11602. $2500.


Scarce first edition of the history of Arctic travel, including details of the attempts by the English government to rescue the lost Franklin expedition. “Record of exploration from the time of Eric the Red to 1850, in the North American and Asiatic Arctic based on the English explorers’ narratives and on English chronicles and translations” – *Arctic Bibliography*. This copy has the two folding maps in the front board pocket, with two duplicate maps bound in at the rear.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 15909. SABIN 80488. $2250.


A rare biography of Thomas Simpson’s early life and his service with the Hudson’s Bay Company, including his joint expedition in 1837-39 with Peter Dease to explore the northern coast from Point Barrow to the Back River, previously unexplored by Franklin. The expedition completed the exploration, generally on foot, of the north coast of America between Point Barrow and the Boothia Peninsula. There
is a discussion of the mysterious circumstances of Simpson's death and comments on the geography and Indians of the Northwest. Also includes excerpts of Thomas' letters to the author, his brother Alexander.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 16116. TPL 2397. SABIN 81338. SMITH 9457. PEEL 113. $1250.

Summing Up the Search for Franklin


The second and “best” edition of this rare summary of 19th-century polar expeditions, with a spiritualist twist. “A summary of explorations for the Northwest Passage before Franklin; brief sketch of the last Franklin expedition in 1845-47 and of the subsequent search expeditions; and detailed account of a ‘revelation’ (or spirit manifestation) concerning the whereabouts of Sir John Franklin, which subsequently resulted in the second search expedition of the Prince Albert, 1851” – Arctic Bibliography. The second edition contains a seventy-page appendix with letters from Lady Franklin and much discussion of who might be lying about what. Scarce in institutions, with only fifteen copies in OCLC, and positively rare in the marketplace.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 16186. OCLC 16916537. $1500.
135. Smith, David Murray: ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS FROM BRITISH AND FOREIGN SHORES FROM THE EARLIEST TIMES TO THE EXPEDITION OF 1875-76. Edinburgh. 1877. xiv,[1],824pp. plus two folding chromolithographic charts and twenty-four plates (two chromolithographic). Extra-illustrated with an engraved map from Ross’ first voyage at p.88. With clippings and manuscript notes by Alexander McNeil Caird. Large, thick quarto. Contemporary three-quarter calf and cloth, spine gilt, leather label. Front hinge tender, light wear to binding. Contemporary related newspaper clippings pasted to front endpapers. Some minor scattered soiling, a few pencil notes in a contemporary hand. Large map torn at gutter margin, repaired on verso. Very good.

A comprehensive survey of Arctic expeditions from the early Norse navigations to those of Sir John Franklin and beyond. Handsomely illustrated with lithographed plates of Arctic scenes. This copy was owned by Alexander McNeil Caird, a British army officer. He has annotated the volume and included his own manuscript notes, dated 1891, on Schwatka's search for the records of the lost Franklin expedition, undertaken in 1878-80. These are of some substance; his notes are also interesting and reflect a deep knowledge of the Arctic literature. $1500.


Snow’s premiere voyage to the Arctic in search of the missing Franklin party, based on his private journals. After experiencing a vision of the whereabouts of the missing Franklin expedition, Snow wrote to Lady Franklin, who promptly sponsored the voyage of the Prince Albert, captained by Charles Forsyth. The vessel sailed from June to September, 1850, travelling through Baffin Bay, Barrow Strait, and exploring the Boothia Peninsula before prematurely returning to England. Snow published his narrative shortly after, which was used to promote additional rescue missions. The lithographic plates were done after original drawings by the author. SABIN 85560. ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 16362. TPL 3111. LANDES 2105. $1500.

French edition, published the same year as the first edition, of Snow’s premiere voyage to the Arctic in search of the missing Franklin party, based on his private journals. After experiencing a vision of the whereabouts of the missing Franklin expedition Snow wrote to Lady Franklin who promptly sponsored the voyage of the Prince Albert, captained by Charles Forsyth. The vessel sailed from June to September, 1850, travelling through Baffin Bay, Barrow Strait, and exploring the Boothia Peninsula before prematurely returning to England. Snow published his narrative shortly after, which was used to promote additional rescue missions. “Includes in addition to this journal and appendix some letters concerning the Franklin search from the Morning Chronicle, and official dispatches from Sir J. Ross, Capt. E. Ommanney, W. Penny, and others, to the British Admiralty, 1850” – Arctic Bibliography. Scarce, with only nine copies located in OCLC.


Arctic explorer and ethnologist Vilhjamur Stefansson was commissioned by the American Museum of Natural History to embark on an anthropological expedition to the Arctic in 1908. During his four-year stay, he and Dr. Rudolph Anderson conducted an ethnological study of the Arctic coasts between Mackenzie River and Hudson Bay. Stefansson’s account of the findings were used in his book, My Life with the Eskimo. A remarkable resource of information on the Inuit communities in this region of the Arctic, with detailed maps illustrating their migration patterns during various seasons. Scarce, with only eleven copies located in OCLC. $750.

One of 200 Copies, Signed by the Author


Special edition, limited to 200 numbered copies, signed by Stefansson. Contains an account of the disappearance of the Greenland colony, the death of Thomas Simpson, the lost Franklin expedition, speculation on the fate of Andree’s ballooning expedition, and a study of the circumstances surrounding the missing Soviet fliers. The trade edition was published the following year.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 16873. $600.

An unpublished chapter from Stefansson’s *Unsolved Mysteries of the Arctic*, printed privately in an edition of 300 copies, and signed by the author on the titlepage. “The author states the mystifying facts concerning this island which he discovered and named, but which seemingly had appeared on a contemporary map showing Cook’s journey, and which Cook denied having seen” – *Arctic Bibliography*. Very scarce.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 16850.

$1250.


An important and scarce Arctic expedition under the command of Capt. William Penny. The H.M.S. Lady Franklin and Sophia set out in search of Sir John Franklin through Baffin’s Bay and Barrow Strait, thence north into Wellington Channel, where search parties went out and observations were made to obtain further geological and natural history information in the Arctic. The appendix contains detailed reports of the travelling parties that were sent out in search of signs of the
Erebus and Terror, including to the unexplored regions beyond Wellington Channel. Also in the appendix are Admiralty papers, meteorological data, a register of the tides, and illustrations of natural history and geological specimens. The handsome plates depict life in the Arctic, including “Winter Quarters, Assistance Bay,” “Arctic Travelling,” and natural history illustrations. The folding maps include “A Chart of the Arctic Regions...” and “A Polar Chart...of Capt. Penny’s Expedition.” Not in Lande or Lande supplement.


A detailed narrative of a tour through Labrador and Newfoundland, undertaken for the author’s health. Tucker describes local life and customs, with much on the Eskimos, other Indians, the fur trade, sealing, the fisheries, Cape Breton, and Louisbourg. “A good sealing post,” he writes, “is ranked as of the most valuable species of property.” A useful description of the upper Canadian coastal economy. Scarce.

TPL 5139. SABIN 97297. JONES II:227. ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 18068. SMITH, AMERICAN TRAVELLERS ABROAD T73. $850.

Of Major Importance for Hudson Bay


One of the earliest works dealing with the fur trade in western Canada and the Great Lakes region. Umfreville worked for the Hudson's Bay Company from 1771 to 1782, when he was captured by La Pérouse at Fort York. After his release through an exchange of prisoners, he explored and traded in the region west of Lake Superior in the employ of the North West Company until 1788, when he went to New York. The text includes a printing of his journal, written during a trip from Montreal to New York, containing many references to the languages of the native Indian tribes, as well as the climate, soil, and natural history of the area.


A rare and important work regarding the Hudson Bay area in the late 18th century. William Wales was an English mathematician and astronomer who was employed by the Royal Society of London to make observations on the Transit of Venus, which was to take place in June 1769. In May 1768, Wales and his assistant, Joseph Dymond, were sent to the Churchill River, Hudson Bay to prepare for the astronomical event. Similar observations were being made by others at various points around the globe, including James Cook, who was to observe the Transit at Tahiti during his first voyage to the Pacific.

Wales’ assignment to the Hudson Bay area resulted in the present work, which is not only important for its astronomical content, but includes observations on the flora and fauna of the area, the geography, the native people, and the weather in Canada. This section of a larger work was extracted from Vol. LX of the Royal Society of London’s Philosophical Transactions, Giving Some Account of the Present Undertakings, Studies, and Labours, of the Ingenious, in Many Considerable Parts of the World. This copy includes the titlepage and table of contents of the larger work in facsimile, plus another section of Philosophical Transactions, a report titled Observations on the State of the Air, Winds, Weather, &c. Made at Prince of Wales’s Fort, on the North-West Coast of Hudson’s Bay, in the Years 1768 and 1769, by Dymond and Wales, also in facsimile. This section immediately follows Journal of a Voyage in the original work, constituting pages 137-178 and consisting of weather charts of the Hudson Bay area.

An important work, attractively bound. Only one copy, also pages 100-136, mentioned in OCLC, at the University of Manitoba. Exceedingly rare in the market. OCLC 184782763. $1500.

The Apotheosis of Dr. Kane


A striking print, presenting the scene of the famous arctic explorer, Elisha Kent Kane, standing before the graves of Sir John Franklin’s men. The graves, dating from 1846 and located on Beechey Island, are for three seamen from the Franklin expedition who died. Kane is pictured in the frozen Arctic, looking to the left,
and standing before three grave markers with the names of the dead explorers. He is dressed head to toe in furs and carries a telescope. Large, dark glaciers rise out of the background and his ship, the Advance, is seen on the left.

British explorer Sir John Franklin and his expedition of more than 125 men were lost and died during his third arctic exploration, around 1850. After a few years, several British and American groups set out to find them. Elisha Kane was the senior medical officer of the first United States Grinnell expedition in 1850, and commanded the second Grinnell expedition of 1853-55. His heroism on that expedition and the fame gained from his subsequent book, *Arctic Explorations*, and lecture tour, launched him to international stardom. “*Arctic Explorations* lay for a decade with the Bible on almost literally every parlor table in America” – *DAB*. Kane, who was of frail health due to childhood illness and was exhausted by his explorations and touring, died in Havana on his thirty-seventh birthday, in 1857. The present image was originally painted by James Buckingham Wandesforde (1817-1902), a Scottish-born Canadian artist best known for his portraits. He created the image shortly after Kane’s untimely death, most likely as a tribute to the heroic explorer. The engraving was executed by D.G. Thompson, and the print was sent out to subscribers of the New York *Albion*. *DAB* X, pp.256-57. $3250.

*Arctic Explorations*


Two small closed tears in margin, else near fine.

An engaging Greenland scene, derived from Sieuwert van der Meulen’s classic set of sixteen Dutch images of hunting in the Arctic, here engraved by T. Willson. “It is believed that Sieuwert van der Meulen made the original drawings for the set around 1720, just after the Dutch entered Davis Strait, opening vast new whaling grounds and bringing new vitality, prosperity, and interest to the industry” – Lothrop. The present variation combines three images from that set, showing the killing of a snarling polar bear, the harpooning of a breaching whale, and two whaleboats being dragged on what would come to be known as a “Nantucket sleigh ride.” It was
originally paired with another scene showing walrus hunting, though both readily stand on their own. Arctic savagery in striking detail. Scarce. LOTHROP COLLECTION, p.9 (ref); 73a. BREWINGTON 112. $850.


A scarce polar map showing the Arctic regions in the late 1840s. The Queen’s cartographer, James Wyld, assembled the map, likely, or at least in part, to assist the searching expeditions for John Franklin’s lost Arctic expeditionary party. Wyld’s printed dedication reads: “To Lady Franklin This Sketch is Dedicated by her Obliged and Obedient Servant James Wyld.” The hand-coloring traces the various routes of discovery, with a key at bottom to identify the expeditions, which include Ross, Parry, Franklin and Richardson, Beechey, Back, Dease and Simpson, Rae, and Kellett. Not in any of the standard sources for Arctic material. Scarce, with fewer than twenty copies in institutions. Rare in the market. $3500.


An account of Young’s expeditions to the Arctic in search of relics of the missing Franklin party. Young received financial sponsorship from Lady Franklin for his
first attempt to search the area, but was thwarted by heavy ice in Peel Sound and forced to return. In 1876, after the death of Lady Franklin, Young returned to the Arctic, entering Smith Sound and bringing aid to the British Arctic Expedition. Based on Young’s journals, with detailed maps and “notes on ice of Melville Bay, Smith Sound and Canadian Arctic Waters, on West Greenland ports, and the Polar Eskimos” (Arctic Bibliography). In his preface Young states that his narrative “was intended for private circulation only, but at the suggestion of a few friends I have requested Mr. Stanford to publish it.” It is speculated that the number of copies printed were few, and consequently this rare work is scarcely seen in the market.

ARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY 19759.

Watercolors of Northern Siberian Tribes


A set of three lovely watercolors by Mikhail Stepanovich Znamensky, a prominent 19th-century Siberian artist, writer, historian, archaeologist, and ethnographer. Each is captioned in pencil and all are signed by the artist. The first scene shows two summer tents with three Khanty women seated in or just outside them. One woman holds a child. The second image is a winter snowscape showing a man with three reindeer standing outside a log cabin. The third scene depicts three Khanty people in traditional clothing standing in a dining room, with a Russian official
seated on the left; a portrait of the Tsar hangs on the wall in the background and an animal skin is draped on the table.

Very well educated as a religious artist, Znamensky was among the elite of Tobolsk and was close to many exiled members of the famous Decemberist revolt of 1825 (Puschin, Yakushkin, and others), as well as the outstanding Russian writer, Pyotr Yershov. Znamensky worked as a teacher in several religious and secular colleges in Tobolsk, was a translator of the Tatar language, and illustrated the literary works of Gogol, Yershov, Goncharov, and Tolstoy. He regularly published his caricatures in the magazines of Saint Petersburg. His main interest, however, was Siberian history and ethnography. Znamensky’s essays and stories on Siberian history were regularly published in the local magazines, and several of his books on the subject were published in Tobolsk, Tyumen, and Saint Petersburg. In pursuance of his interest, Znamensky traveled extensively in Siberia, Central Asia, and the northern regions of Asiatic Russia in the 1850s and 1860s, making sketches and paintings of the landscapes and tribes. In 1872 his works were exhibited at the Moscow Polytechnic Exhibition, where they were awarded the silver medal from Moscow University.

The present watercolors are from a series of works created to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the founding of Tobolsk and the annexation of Siberia to Russia, which was celebrated in 1885. The artist took a special trip around the towns of the region, the result of which was a unique series of sketches and watercolors. From this body of work an album entitled “From Tobolsk to Obdorsk” was created, specially bound in birch bark. It was comprised of thirty-two images showcasing local life in Tobolsk, Berezov, and Obdorsk, with images of local people, the surrounding area, and historical sketches. The album was exhibited in the Tobolsk Art Gallery in 1889. Later, in 1894, the heir to the Russian throne – the future Nikolai II – visited Tobolsk during his round-the-world trip. He was quite taken with the album, which he acquired for the high price of 800 roubles (per his inscription on the verso of the folder). The album came to the Emperor’s library in the Winter Palace in Saint Petersburg, and after the Revolution of 1917 it became part of the Russian State Library in Moscow where it currently resides. The three watercolors offered here were not part of that album, but are similar stylistically and clearly come from the same series. For example, the image with the three Khanty and the Russian official appears almost exactly in the album, with trivial changes in detail, such as a different color of tablecloth.

Znamensky’s watercolors weren’t published in Russia before the Revolution of 1917. His album “From Tobolsk to Obdorsk” was printed in facsimile for the first time in 2008. His drawings were used, however, as illustrations in the first and only edition of the book by the Italian ethnographer and anthropologist, Stefano Sommier, Un’ Estate in Siberia Fra Ostiacchi, Samoiedi, Siriieni, Tatari, Kirghisi e Baskiri (Florence, 1885). This valuable report of Sommier’s travels through Siberia in 188 contains fourteen interesting woodcuts based on Znamensky’s watercolors and depicts Samoyeds and Ostyaks resting in their dwellings, riding deer, playing musical instruments, walking in market places, and more. Znamensky’s original works can be found in many Russian state institutions. $12,500.