

19th Century Americana
- an even dozen

Catalog #419

**JOSLIN HALL RARE BOOKS,
EPHEMERA, & PHOTOGRAPHS**

JOSLIN HALL RARE BOOKS, EPHEMERA, & PHOTOGRAPHS

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1. **Statement of the Cost of certain Garments, &c. composing a Suit of Dragoon Clothing, calculated at the present prices of the materials.**

Although not dated, this sheet is very, very similar to a sheet of the costs of Infantry Clothing in the Ann S.K. Brown Collection at the John Hay Library, dated by the Library as 1800. Dragoons, mounted infantry, were used in the United States armed forces from 1776 to 1861. Single sheet. 8"x6.5". Minor wear. [37704] \$150

STATEMENT

Of the Cost of certain Garments, &c. composing a Suit of Dragoon Clothing, calculated at the present prices of the materials.

	Dols.	Cents.		Dols.	Cents.
Cap, - - - - -	2	50	Stockings, pairs of, - - - -		5½
Coat, - - - - -	5	96 ¾	Socks, pairs of, - - - -		10
Vest, - - - - -	2	08	Shoes, pairs of, - - - -		98
Linen Overalls per pair, - -		92 1-2	Boots, pairs of, - - - -	6	
Woollen Overalls per pair, -	2	77 ¾	Blanket, - - - - -	3	
Frocks, - - - - -	1	57 1-2	Stock and Clasp, - - - -		11 1-2
Trowsers, - - - - -	1	15	Cockade and Eagle, - - - -		8 1-2
Gaithers, pairs of, - - - -		28 ¾	Feather, - - - - -		35
Shirt, - - - - -	1	¾2	Cloak, - - - - -	13	75
Musician's Coat, - - - -	7	7¼ 1-2			

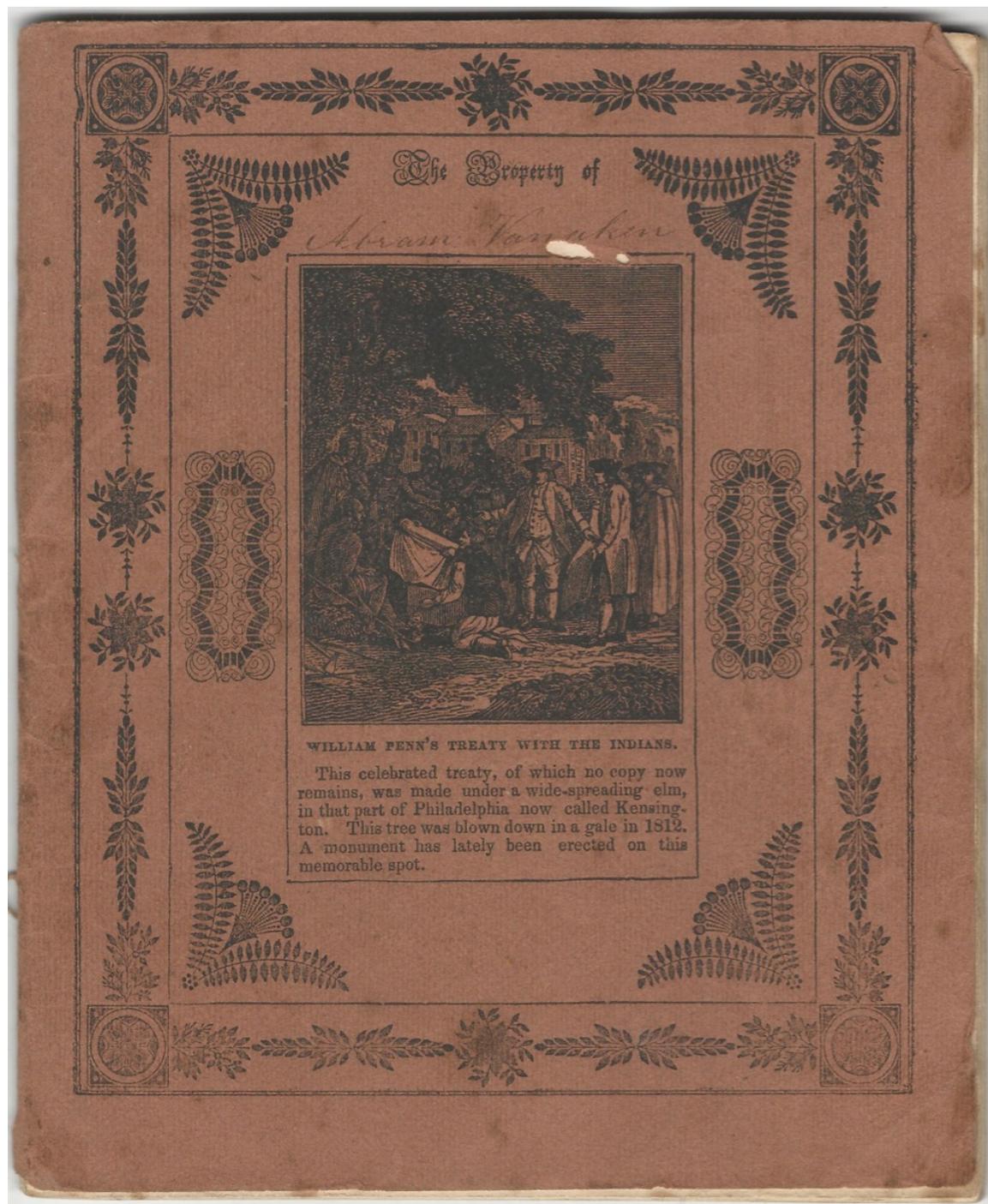
For the price of the Sergeant's Clothes, add 10 per cent. to that of the Privates—That is, for the Coats, Vests, Overalls and Shirts; the other Garments being of the same quality with those of the Privates.

Your Nation
calls on you
to-
Conform!

2. 1840s American Blank Class Note Book with Decorated Covers of William Penn.

The front features a stirring array of printer's ornaments and a reproduction of the famous painting "William Penn's Treaty with the Indians", with the note that the tree under which it was signed was blown down in 1812 (actually 1810) and "A monument has lately been erected on the memorable spot". That monument was erected in 1827 by the Penn Society, dating this to the 1830s or 1840s, depending on how literally "lately" is to be taken, and allowing for successive printings from the same blocks. The back features a helpful multiplication table. Decorated paper covers. 6"x7.5", 16 blank leaves. Covers with wear and soil, crease, small hole goes through the cover to the first leaf. Some light foxing and soil to the blank internal leaves. [53319] \$65

my mind is a perfect blank...

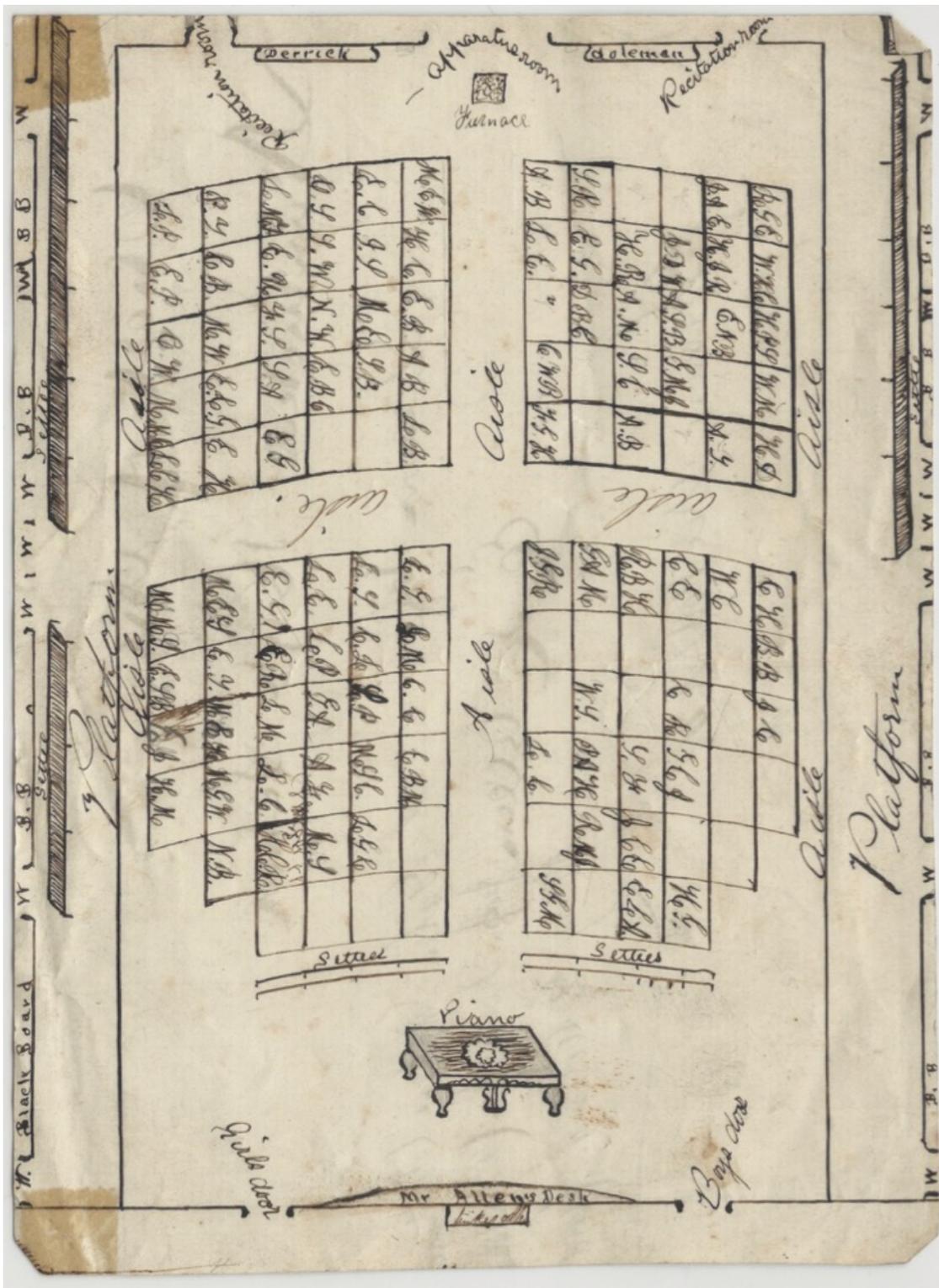


1860s



3. 1860 Washington Star Library Association Chromolithographed Lady's Invitation Card.

Some very, very lucky lady got an invitation to the patriarchal halls of the Washington Star Library Association on the evening of November 1st, 1860. The Association was evidently well-funded, as they could afford to print this exceedingly handsome pictorial colored card. Money can buy many things- exceedingly handsome invitation cards for instance, but it cannot, alas, buy immortality, as a diligent search turned up no record whatsoever of the Washington Star Library Association. Posterity is a fickle mistress. Card. 4.75"x3.25". Minor soil, light wear. [48962] \$125



Robert Gardner,
 Nantucket,
 Mass
 Dec 1864.

Chart of the Nantucket High School

Drawn by
 G. D. Allen

Galen Allen (Principal)
 J. J. Derrick (First Assistant)
 Mary G. Coleman (2nd)

Drawn Dec 16th/864.

4. 1864 Manuscript Floor Plan of Nantucket High School.

A rather charming and detailed plan of the high school of Nantucket, Massachusetts, drawn by the Principal. An ink inscription on the back explains- "Chart of the Nantucket High School - Drawn by G.D. Allen - Galen Allen (Principal) - J.J. Derrick (First Assistant) - Mary G. Coleman (2nd) - Drawn Dec 16th 1864". Single sheet. 6.5"x4.75". Minor soil, light wear. [44022] \$250

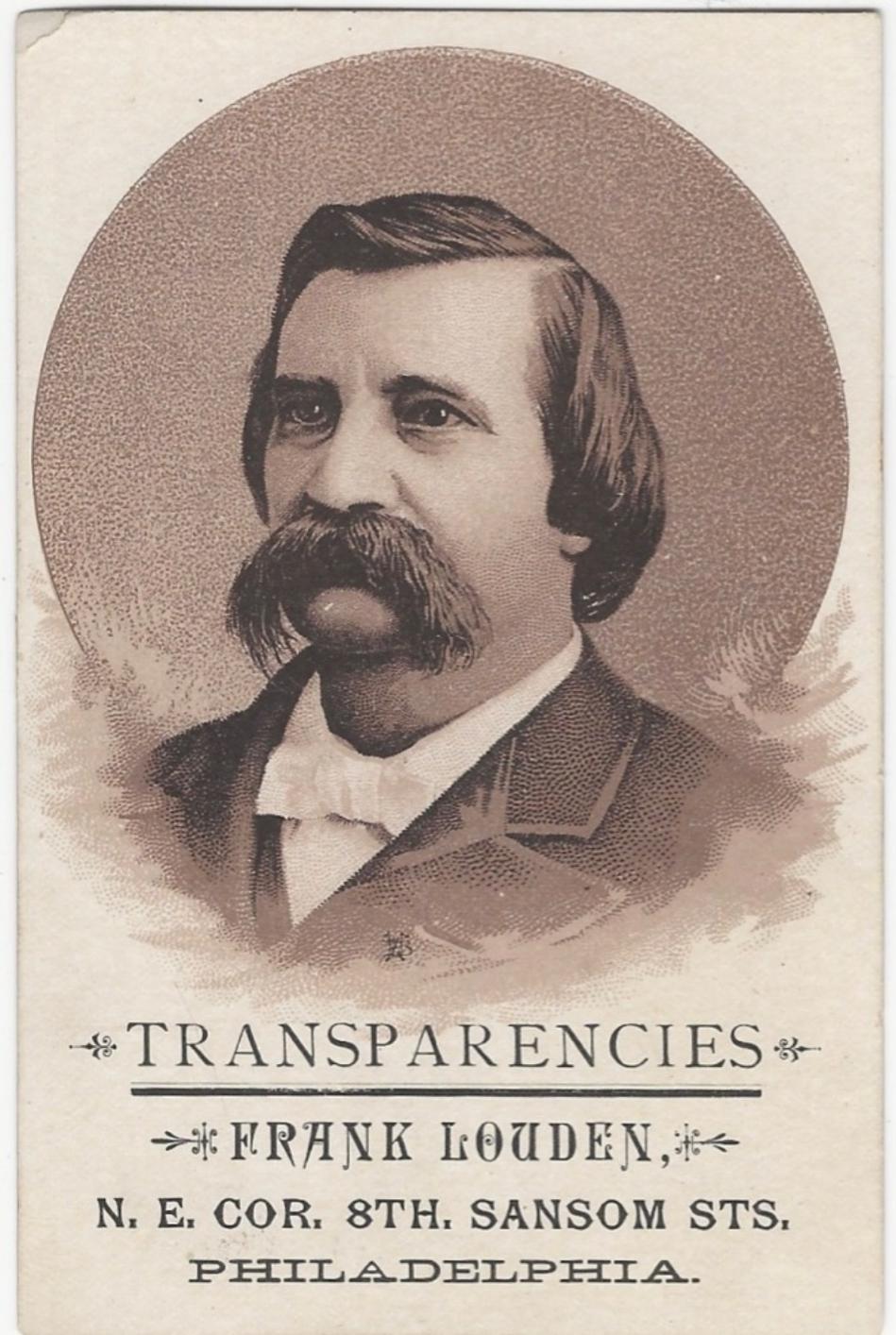
Humming Pink Floyd whilst cataloging this.

1870s

**5. Victorian Art Transparency Artist
Frank Loudon Portrait Card.**

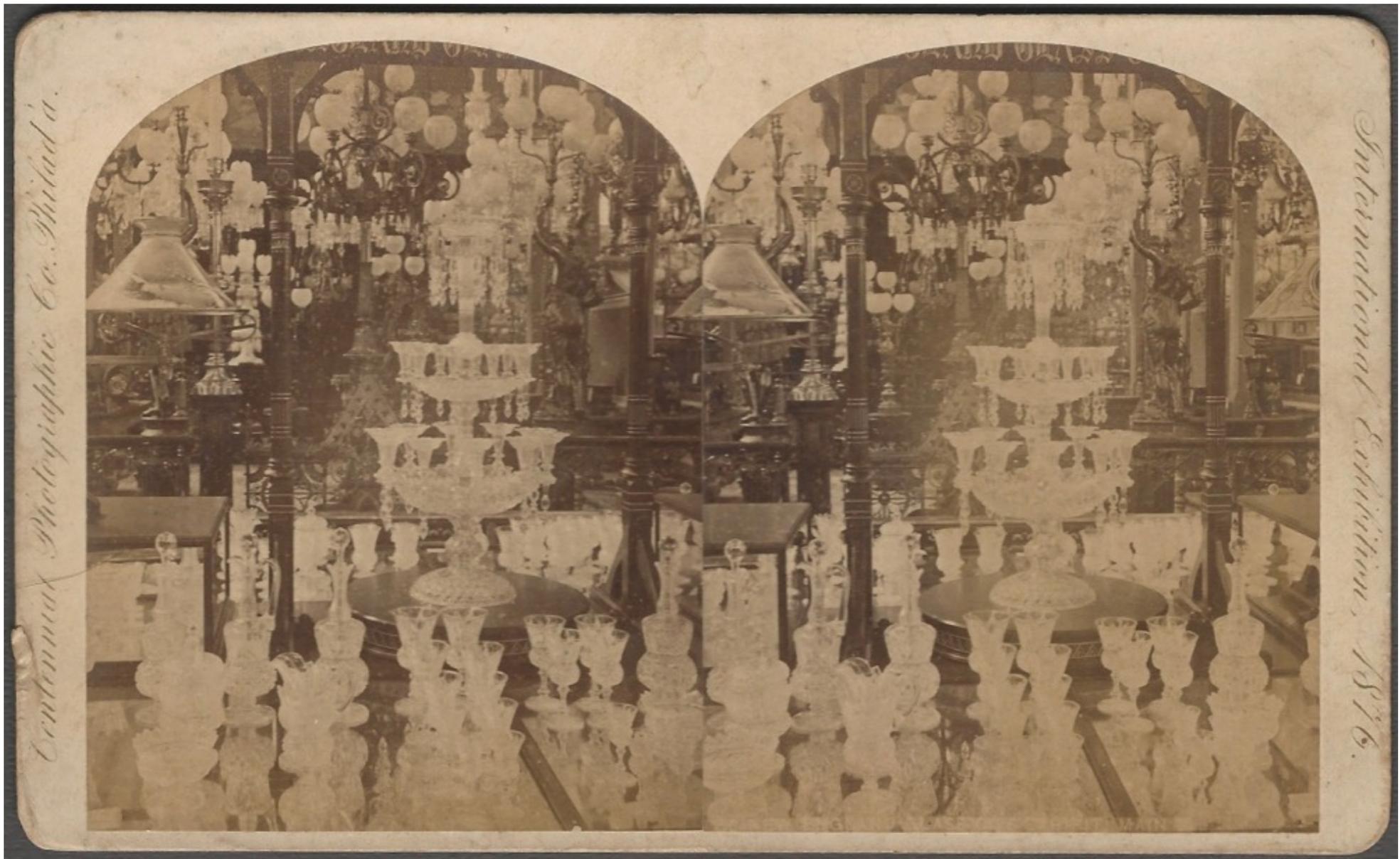
A handsome portrait trade card, probably 1870s (some idiot wrote May 1850 in pencil on the back). Transparencies, which became popular in 18th century Europe before crossing the Atlantic with the new century, were scenes painted on a translucent paper or sometimes a light cloth (silk, linen, etc.). When light was placed behind them, “they have a very gay and sprightly effect” according to one contemporary observer. Small examples might be used in the home, while larger ones were prepared for public celebrations and displays. So, of course, artists began to specialize in creating them for the burgeoning market, people in 19th century America being ready and willing to celebrate just about anything with some sort of festivity. Card. 3”x4.5”. Minor soil, light wear, slight corner crease, pencil note on the back. [49480] \$85

*everybody's always in favor of
transparency for other people...*



6. 1876 Centennial Exhibition New England Glass Company Exhibit Stereoview.

Published by Centennial Photographic Company. Tall stereoview card. Some soil, minor wear. [49275] \$150



1880s



7. Flegenheimer Bros. New York Wine & Brandy Trade Card.

A very attractive trade card for Flegenheimer Bros. of New York, who distributed a selection of American-made wines and brandies, including wines from Kelley's Island, Ohio, and California wines from Sonoma, Sacramento, Napa, Anaheim, Los Angeles, San Jose, and San Gabriel. The front of the card is illustrated with an image of Miss Liberty putting aside her shield and flags to sit down in a vineyard for a glass of wine amidst casks and bottles. Card. 4.5"x3". Minor soil, light wear. Removed from an album, with some light paper residue on the back. [51287] \$85



**8. Werner & Co. New York
Champagne Victorian Trade Card.**

An attractive American trade card of Lady Liberty putting down her shield and tipping happily with some bubbly. We see gold champagne grapes behind her. Card printed by Mayer, Merkel & Ottmann of New York City. Card. 3"x4.75". Some soil, corner crease, mounting points on the back. [49854] \$75

Lady Liberty on Casual Friday

9. Elephant Pipes and Inscribed Tablets in the Museum of Academy of Natural Sciences, Davenport, Iowa.

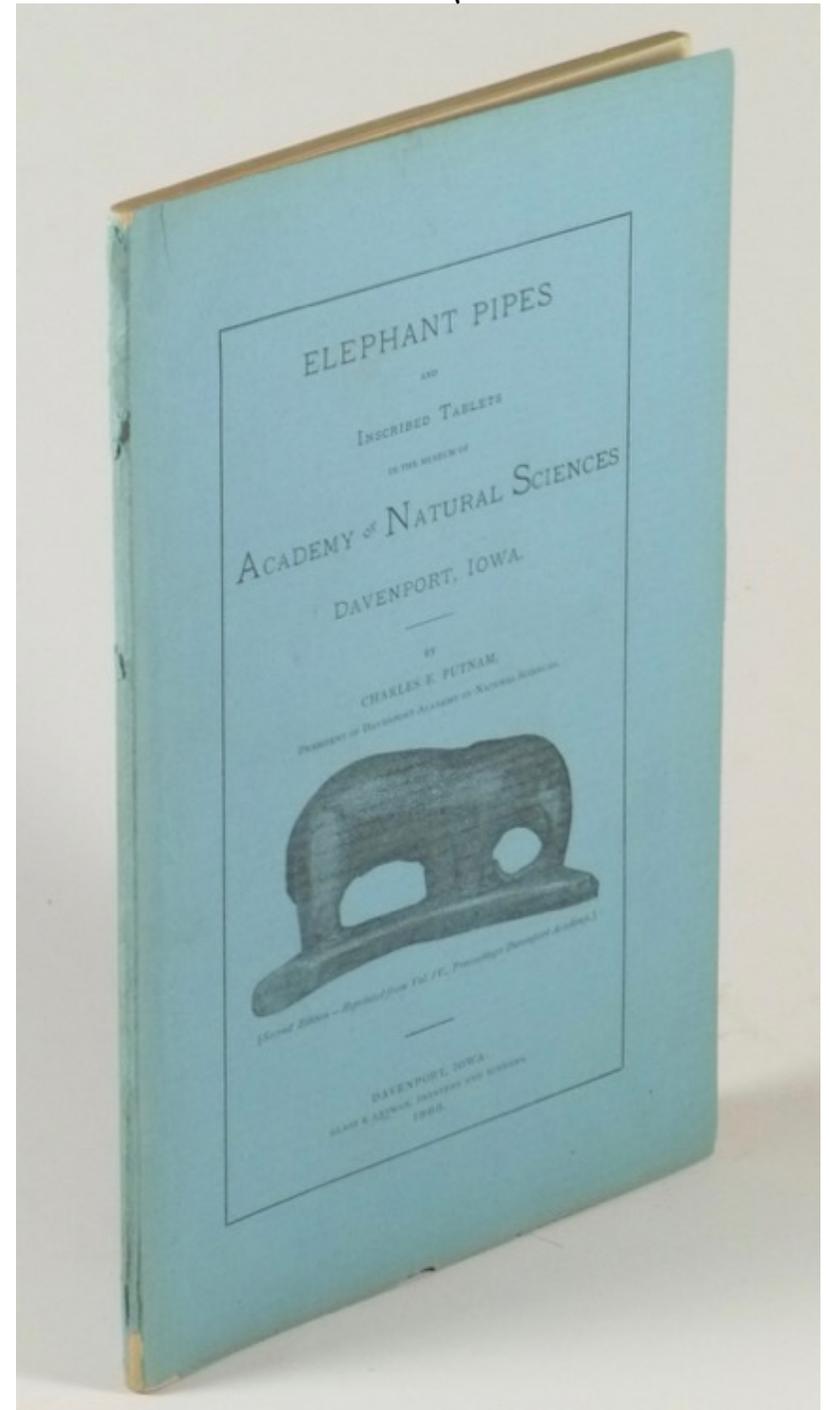
By Charles E. Putnam. Printed in Davenport by Glass & Axtman, printers in 1886. 2nd, enlarged edition.

In the winter of 1877 amateur archeologist Rev. Jacob Gass made a series of incredible discoveries while excavating an ancient Indian burial mound on a farm in Davenport, Iowa. The relics in question eventually included several incised slate plaques, one apparently with a calendar and another with writing, and a pair of stone "elephant" pipes.

Controversy over their authenticity raged almost from the moment of their discovery, but the Davenport Academy, including a young scholar named J. Duncan Putnam, staunchly defended them. When young Putnam died at the age of 26 in 1881 his father, Charles E. Putnam, took up the cause. A wealthy lawyer, Putnam was one of the major funders of the Academy, though not one of its "inner" social set. Putnam published his first broadside in defense of the pipes and tablets in 1885, followed a year later by this, much expanded edition. He was shouting into the wind. After a series of disparaging reports by, among others, the Smithsonian, Putnam swung into full gear and what followed soon began to resemble a Gilbert & Sullivan operetta. Critics within the Academy were "investigated" and expelled in a witch hunt resembling the Red Scare of the 1950s; lawsuits for defamation swirled around like raindrops, and yet... and yet... many of the Academy members, though evidently not Charles Putnam, knew all along that the whole thing was a hoax. They knew it because they did it...

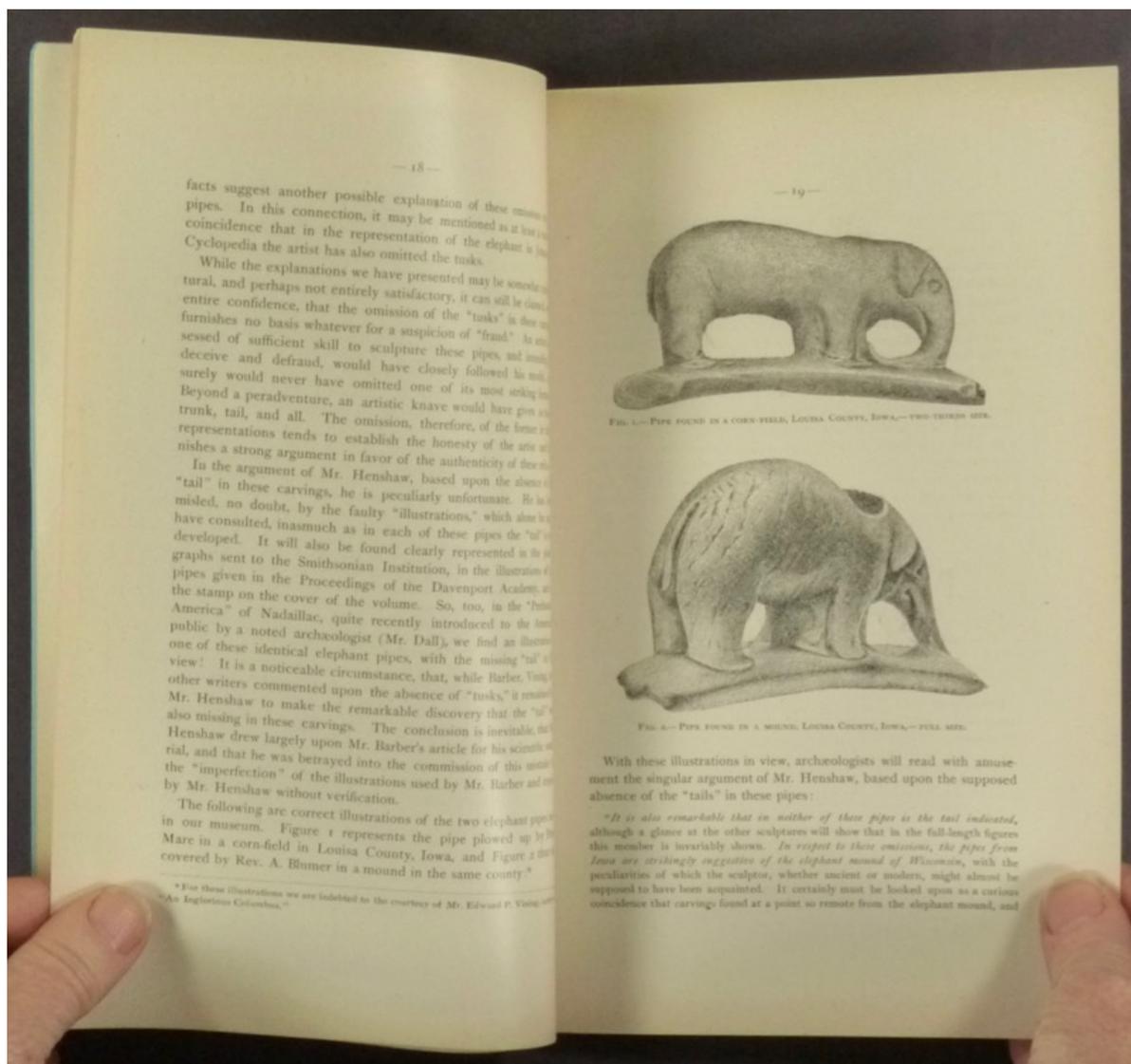
An awesome find.

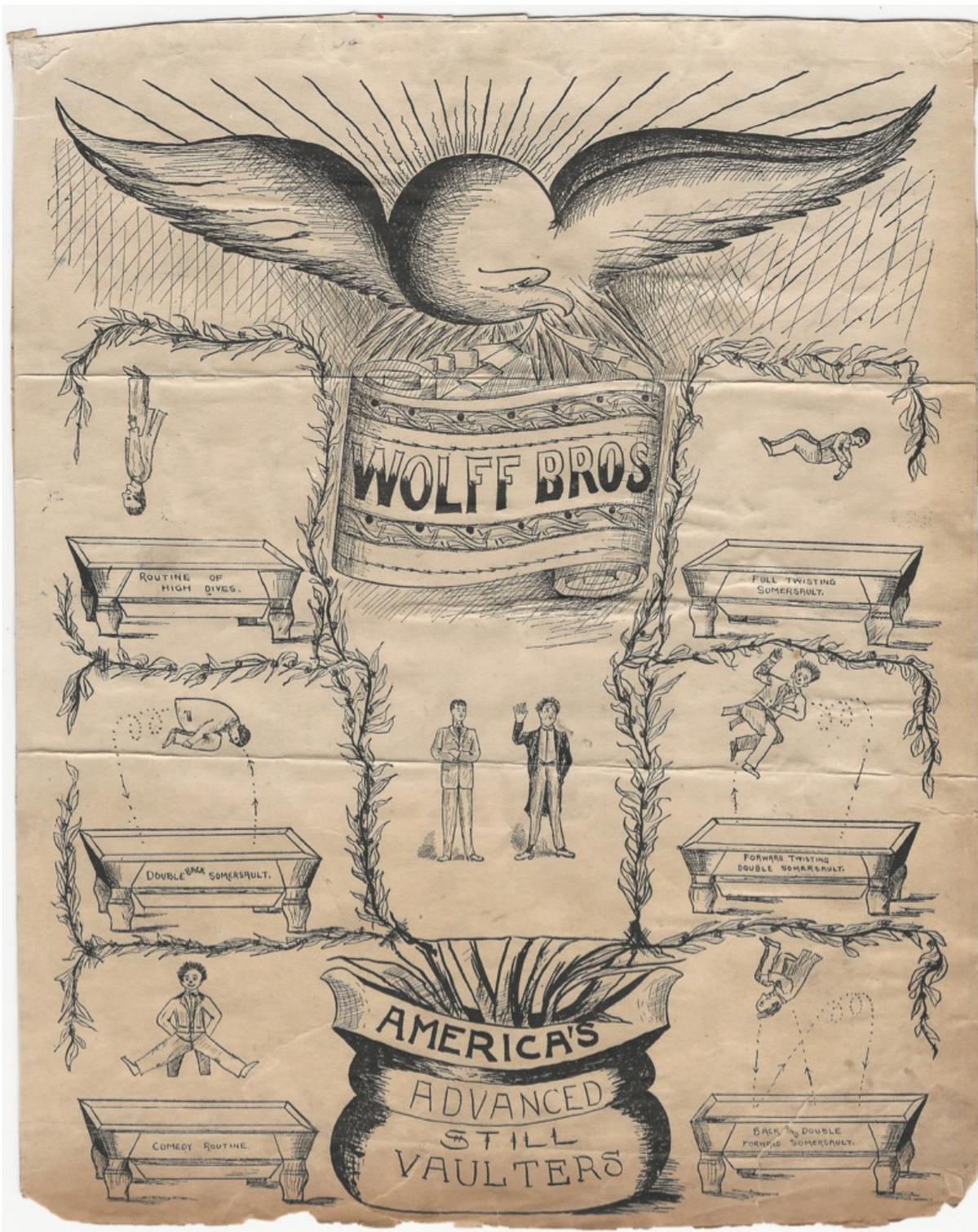
Too bad it was all fake-



As it later turned out, many members of the "inner" social circle within the Academy were jealous of Gass, an outsider who didn't speak very good English, and decided to have some fun with him by burying some hastily faked artifacts in a mound they knew he would be digging in over the winter. Evidence suggests that Gass himself came to realize this in his later years. Whether Putnam ever did will remain an unanswered question, but he may have. In June of 1887 his mansion and all his papers burned. Charles Putnam died six weeks later at the age of 63.

Softcover. 6"x9", 95 pages, line illustrations. Slight spine loss but otherwise fine and clean. [42968] \$60





**10. 19th Century 'Wolff Bros.
America's Advanced Still
Vaulters' Hand-Drawn
Broadside.**

A dramatic and amusing pen & ink broadside featuring a giant eagle, the Wolff brothers, and six examples of their advanced still vaulting. Single sheet. 8.5"x10.5". One sheet of paper glued to a sheet of notebook paper backing. Some wear and soil, edges rough. Folds. [46758] \$175

*Caution:
do not vault in the vicinity
of giant eagles.*

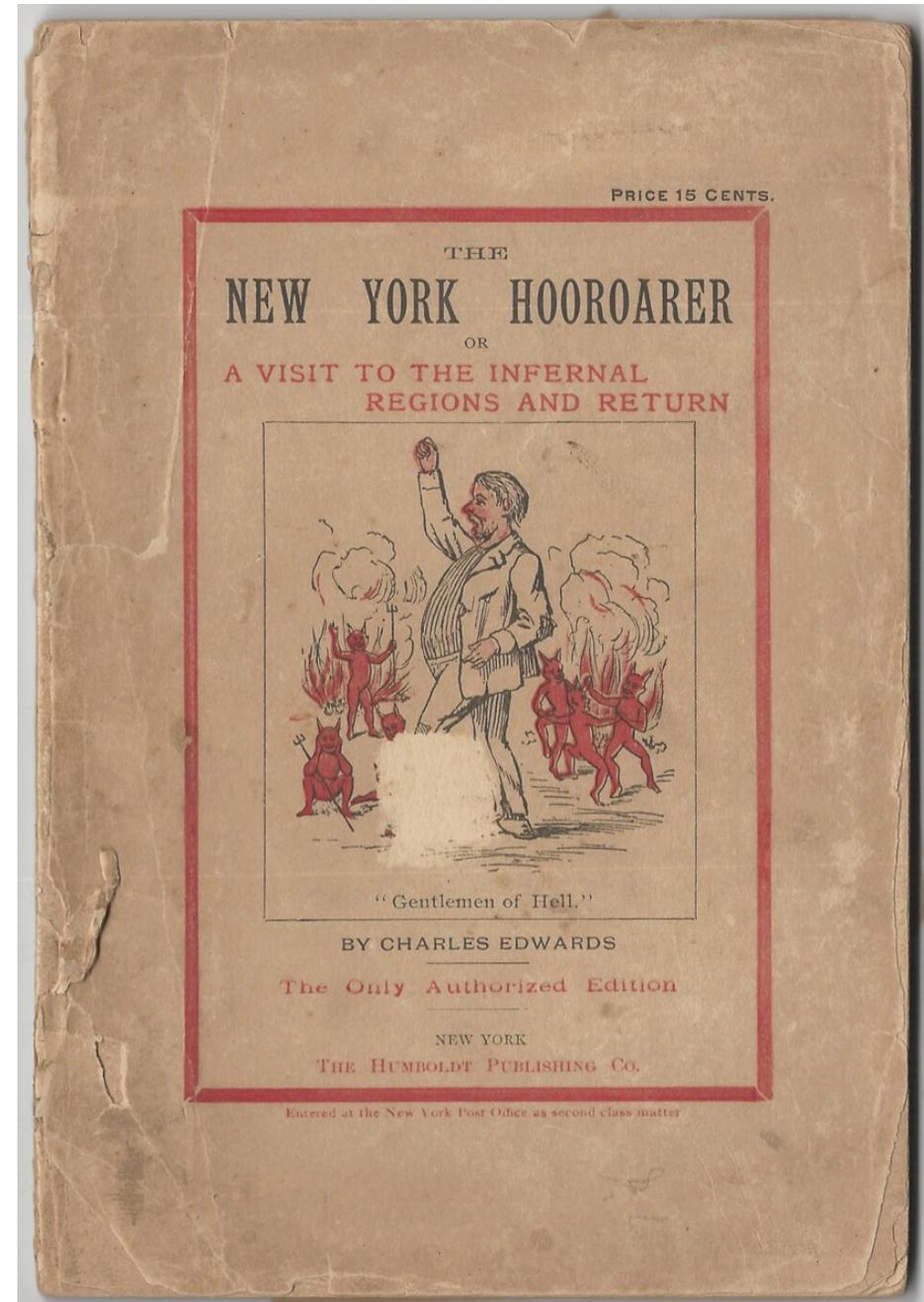
1890s

11. **The New York Hooroar, or, A Story of Newspaper Enterprise, Containing a Visit to the Infernal Regions and Return.**

By the Rev. Charles Edwards. Published in New York by the Humboldt Publishing Co. in 1893. 2nd edition.

Reverend Charles Edwards was the pastor of the Freeport Baptist Church between about 1888 and 1893, resigning from the church at about the same time this little volume of satire, poking fun at both the press and religion, was published. Edwards sets his story in the editorial office of the New York Hooroar, where the editor is lamenting the lack of fresh scandal and gossip with which to entertain his readers. His answer is to send reporter Scribble-Scrub down to Hell to interview the Devil, which Scribbs obediently does, along with a parson and a deacon. Scribby makes it back, to provide the next day's wonderful headlines. Edwards satire of not only America's yellow-prose press, but also the popular fire-and-brimstone preacher's concept of a literal Hell, struck some readers' funny bones and made other readers apoplectic, a situation he attempts discusses in this edition's Preface. As was noted earlier, he resigned his church position this same year, so his explanation may not have been well-received by everybody. Stiff paper covers. 5"x7", 63 pages, several line illustrations. Covers quite worn, a spot of adhesion loss to the design on the front, both front and rear covers detached but present, spine perished. Rear cover with edge chips and a tear. Last several text leaves detached but present. Page 38 printed very (very) lightly. Basically, cheaply printed on wood-pulp paper and quite fragile. [51520] \$50

The Devil went down to...
Manhattan?





uh huh. Sure it is...

12. It's All in the Draw.

Copyright 1895 by C.E.H. Brelsford & C.W. Dimick. Printed by Forbes Lithograph Mfg. Co., of Boston in 1895. A rather delightful late Victorian chromolithographed poker book, with rhymes for the ascending hands written by C.[harles] E.[dgar] H.[ilburn] Brelsford (gambler, hunter, sporting magazine writer), and C.[harles] W. Dimick (salesman for U.S. Cartridge Co. and a competitive trap shooter), featuring Bicycle Playing Cards. Each hand is illustrated surrounded by the heads of annoyed, genial or incredulous card players (many smoking cigars), and each rhyme is playfully interspersed with pictures and ornate lettering of the sort that people get up to after an evening at the poker table, with seven or 8 scotches in them. It all comes to the ultimate climax with a Royal Flush, after which the back cover features an illustration of the tired saloon keeper with a candle in his hand showing a party of weary players out the door. All good masculine fun, and presumably we all learned something.

Card covers & pages, string bound. 9.25"x5.5", 10 leaves total, including the covers. Front cover with chip on the lower corner, gouge on the upper edge. Some soil the covers, and some light scattered soil internally. [49768] \$250





Good morning Boys



That's All, Folks!

