

Foundations of American Literature



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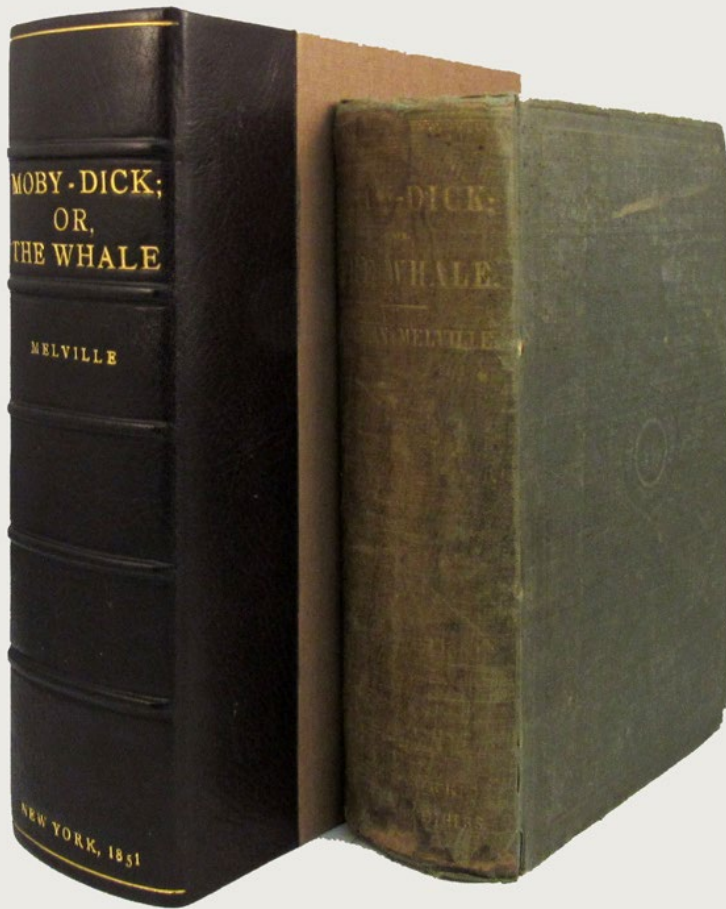
(617) 536-4433 F: (978) 358-7805

Info@buddenbrooks.com or Buddenbrooks@att.net

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Newburyport - Boston - Mount Desert Island

Moby Dick - Herman Melville - 1851 - Original Cloth
The Scarce First Edition of an Epic American Masterpiece
And the Great Cornerstone of the American Renaissance



1 Melville, Herman. MOBY DICK; or, The Whale (New York: Harper and Brothers, 1851) FIRST EDITION of one of the greatest and most important literary works in the American oeuvre. The American edition contains thirty-five passages and the "Epilogue" omitted from the English edition published as THE WHALE. 8vo, in the publisher's ORIGINAL FIRST STATE BINDING of green/gray cloth, both boards stamped in blind with ruled frame and the Harper and Brothers' circular device at the center, the spine gilt lettered and with gilt banding at the head and tail, the endpapers coated orange. Now protectively housed in a handsome folding cloth-covered case backed in dark chocolate morocco with blind-ruled bands and gilt lettering. xxiii, 635, [6 ads] pp. A rare example in that the book is in fully original state. Most copies seen nowadays are either rebound or show evidence of restoration. Internally the foxing, always present in the book due to the materials used, is much lighter in tone than typically found and appears in most places more like gentle mottling than obtrusive spotting. The textblock is solid throughout, mellowed a bit but with no tears, dog-ears or flaws worthy of note, the orange endpapers intact with the hinges firm, a bold signature of some long-ago owner adorns the title-page, and there is a neat February of

1852 inscription on the front fly. The cloth is mellowed, and shows some wear at the extremities, but is still quite well preserved and without repair.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT, FIRST EDITION OF ONE OF THE GREATEST (MANY WOULD SIMPLY SAY "THE GREATEST") AND SCARCEST WORKS OF AMERICAN LITERATURE. THIS COPY IN HARPER'S ORIGINAL FIRST ISSUE CLOTH AND FULLY UNSOPHISTICATED WITH NO EVIDENCE OF REPAIR OR RESTORATION. RARE THUS. The exact number of copies published is not known, but the book was not successful. In a fire in 1853 at Harper and Brothers 297 copies were lost; about sixty survived.

"Moby-Dick is the great conundrum-book. Is it a profound allegory, with the white whale the embodiment of moral evil, or merely the finest story of the sea ever written? Whichever it is, now rediscovered, it stirs and stimulates each succeeding generation, whether reading it for pleasure or with a scalpel. Within its pages can be found the sounds and scents, the very flavor, of the maritime life of our whaling ancestors" -Grolier Club.

"As Queequeg and I are now fairly embarked in this business of whaling," Melville's narrator begins, "and as this business of whaling has somehow come to be regarded among landsmen as a rather unpoetical and disreputable pursuit; therefore, I am all anxiety to convince ye, ye landsmen, of the injustice hereby done to us hunters of whales." Melville points out the historical accomplishments of whalers ("Often, adventures which Vancouver dedicates three chapters to, these men accounted unworthy of being set down in the ship's common log") and the traditional homage paid to whales ("In one of the mighty triumphs given to a Roman general upon his entering the world's capital, the bones of a whale, brought all the way from the Syrian Coast, were the most conspicuous object in the cymballed procession"), and in general does a fine job of vindicating his profession.

"Oh, the rare old Whale, mid storm and gale
In his ocean home will be

*A giant in might, where might is right,
And king of the boundless sea."* BAL 13664; Grolier American 60; Johnson Highspots 57; Wright II:1701.
\$29,500.

Nathaniel Hawthorne - *The Scarlet Letter* - 1850
The First Edition - A Beautiful Copy in Very Fine Condition
The First Issue with the Earliest Ads and All Points

2 Hawthorne, Nathaniel. THE SCARLET LETTER. A Romance (Boston: Ticknor, Reed and Fields, 1850) First Edition, First Issue, with ads dated March 1. 1850, no preface and all first edition points noted by Clark, including 'reduplicate for 'repudiate' on page 21. Title-page printed in red and black. 8vo, a rare survival in the publisher's original Ticknor Style A brown textured cloth, the covers decorated in blind, the spine printed in gilt. Now protected and housed in a folding box of brown cloth covered boards lined with marbled paper, the back with brown leather label lettered and ruled in gilt. iv, 322 pp. A beautifully preserved copy, and a remarkably fine example of what is arguably the author's most important and most revered work, as well as a landmark of American literature. The text very clean and fresh, completely free of foxing or stains, looking to be near as pristine the binding sturdy and strong, the hinges fine and firm, the cloth rich and unfaded with bright gilt, trivial rubbing to the tips and edges.

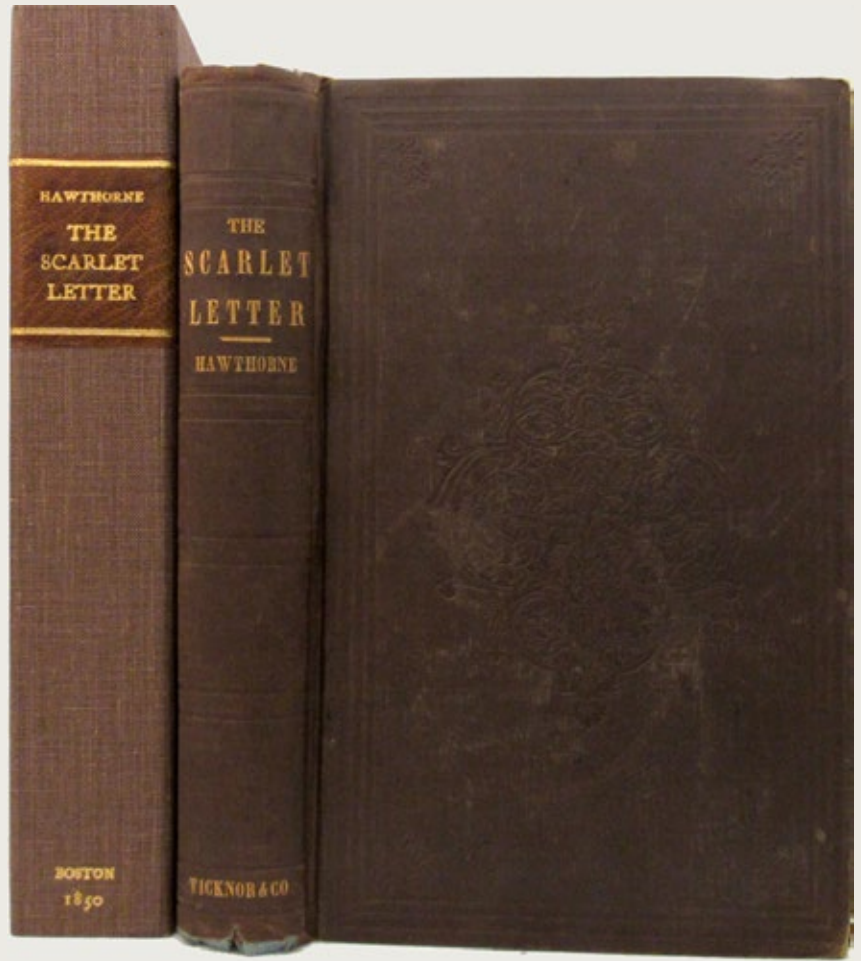
FIRST EDITION, FIRST PRINTING AND VERY RARE IN SUCH FINE CONDITION. IN THE ORIGINAL CLOTH, THIS IS CORNERSTONE WORK IN AMERICAN

LITERATURE AND A LANDMARK WORK OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY. An American Renaissance masterpiece and surely one of the most important works in the oeuvre of colonial America. More than any other work of literature, Hawthorne's SCARLET LETTER set the stage for an understanding of the puritan mind and beginnings of the American social system.

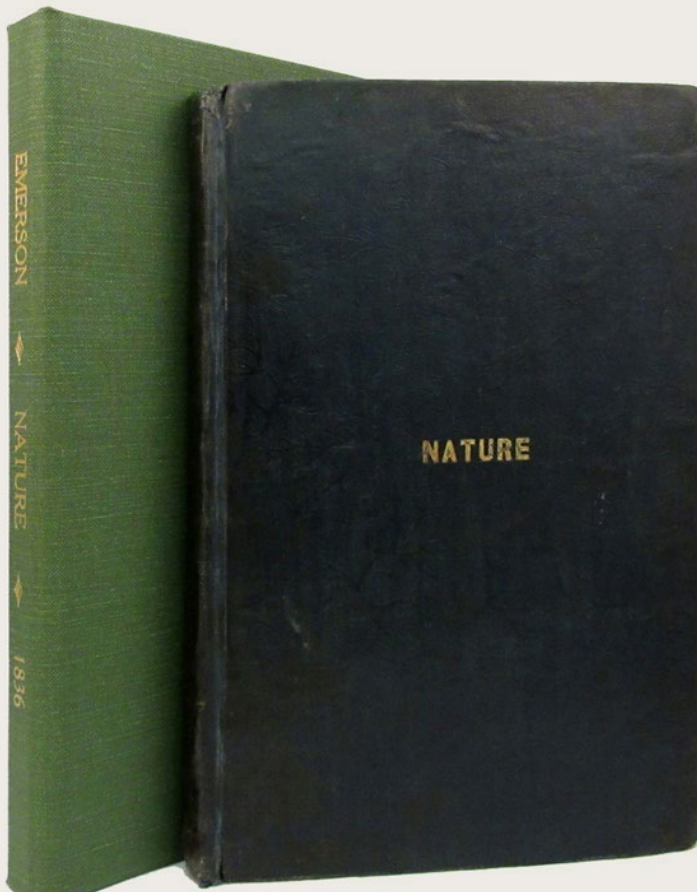
The first printing of THE SCARLET LETTER consisted of only 2500 copies, and sold out within days. It is said when Hawthorne delivered the final pages to Ticknor, Reed and Fields he doubted it would be popular, but THE SCARLET LETTER ushered in the most lucrative period of his long career. The public's positive response was enormous, but the book was not without its critics. The publication brought protest from natives of Salem, who did not like how Hawthorne depicted their Puritan ancestors. Religious leaders also took issue with the novel's subject, and the 'Church Review' offered that the novel "perpetrates bad morals."

Reviewers from the next generation proved more tolerant. Author D. H. Lawrence argued that there could not be a more perfect work of the American imagination than The Scarlet Letter. Henry James said of the novel; "It is beautiful, admirable, extraordinary; it has in the highest degree that merit which I have spoken of as the mark of Hawthorne's best things — an indefinable purity and lightness of conception... One can often return to it; it supports familiarity and has the inexhaustible charm and mystery of great works of art." BAL 7600; Clark A16.1

\$18,500.



A Copy With Superb Association and Provenance
Nature - The Beginning of Transcendentalism - 1836
H.G.O. Blake's Copy of Emerson's Most Important Work
The Rare First Edition, First Issue in Original Cloth
The First and Greatest Book of the American Renaissance



3 [Emerson, Ralph Waldo]. NATURE (Boston: James Munroe and Company, 1836) FIRST EDITION, FIRST ISSUE OF THE FIRST BOOK OF THE TRANSCENDENTALIST MOVEMENT. THE BOOK WHICH BEGAN IT ALL, preceding all of Emerson's other philosophical works, all of Thoreau's, all of Melville's, all of Hawthorne's, all of Alcott's, and Whitman's, and any other of the Transcendentalist writers. THE FIRST GREAT BOOK OF THE AMERICAN RENAISSANCE. According to Meyerson, the entire printing may have been less than 1500 copies. Also, A TRULY IMPORTANT ASSOCIATION COPY, with the OWNERSHIP SIGNATURE of HARRISON GRAY OTIS BLAKE (H.G.O. BLAKE), Ralph Waldo Emerson's close friend and colleague and Henry David Thoreau's "most intimate friend" and literary executor to the rear pastedown and presumably, his bookplate to the front pastedown. Page 13 of this specimen contains a penciled quotation ("We are not a part of God, but he dwells in our soul") initialed "R.W.E" and dated "Nov. 16th 1854." This note was penned by Blake during one of his readings of the book. [Note: Other penciled corrections and annotations, added by Blake, are found throughout the book.] The first issue point of page 94 being mis-numbered as 92 is present in this copy. 12mo, in the publisher's

original dark blue cloth blindstamped in a motif of branches, this being Myerson's binding "2" and stamping "E", no priority has been established for either point. The upper cover is lettered "Nature" in gilt. Now housed in a green cloth-covered clamshell box, the spine of which is gilt lettered. [iii], 95 pp. A well preserved copy in the delicate original cloth, an extraordinarily rare association survival and a book very scarce in the open marketplace. The book with light scattered foxing throughout as is typical for the paper, the cloth mellowed a bit at the edges and extremities, some wear to the paper joins at the front and rear inner hinges.

RARE FIRST EDITION OF THE FIRST BOOK OF THE AMERICAN TRANSCENDENTALIST MOVEMENT. THE FIRST BOOK OF THE AMERICAN RENAISSANCE, AND THE BOOK WHICH BEGAN THE ENTIRE BACK TO NATURE MOVEMENT. A cornerstone of American literature, this is the work that launched not only Emerson's literary career, but also gave a firm foundation to the Transcendentalist movement in America. The essay expressed Emerson's belief in the mystical "unity of Nature--the unity, in variety,--which meets us everywhere", a theme that was taken up by Thoreau in WALDEN and by Whitman in LEAVES OF GRASS. It was also in NATURE that Emerson developed his concept of the Over-Soul or Universal Mind,

Although Emerson's ESSAYS were extremely popular with the general public, NATURE is perhaps his more important work. It stands as one of the most significant philosophical works in American literature, for despite his standing as a "shallow philosopher," Emerson provided in the essay the most notable elaboration of Transcendental epistemology, and did so in a nontechnical but remarkably sophisticated fashion, bridging the gaps between philosophy, theology, and literature.

To expand further on the provenance, this copy bears the engraved plate design of Harrison Gray Otis Blake. H.G.O. Blake (1816-98) graduated from Harvard College and was a member of the class of 1838 at the Divinity School. He was one of the signers of a letter inviting Emerson to address the graduating class. The resulting "Divinity School Address" shook the foundations of Unitarian orthodoxy and was vigorously denounced by conservative Unitarian leaders. Blake, however,

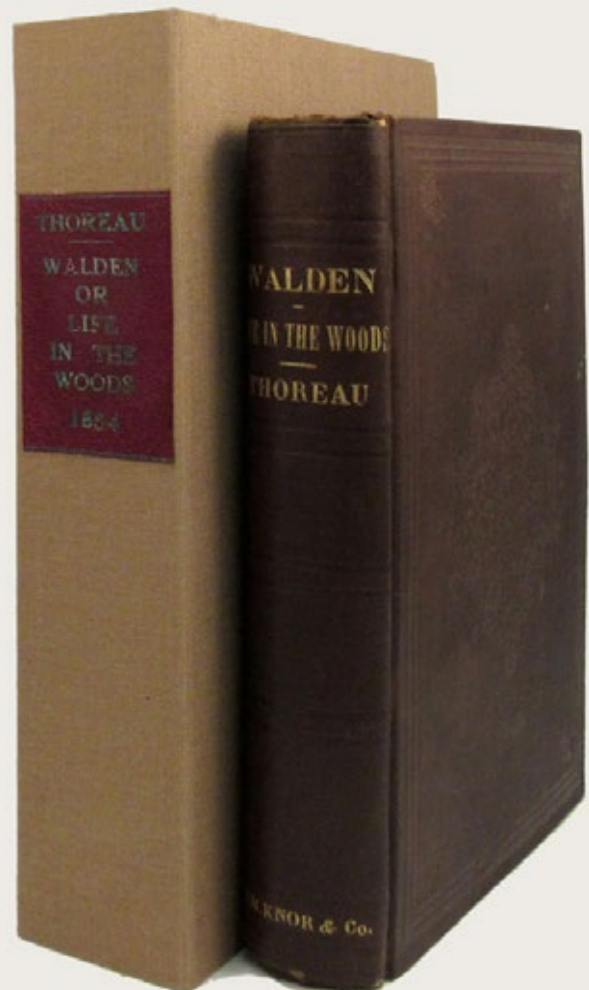
so enjoyed and supported the oration that he promptly joined four fellow graduates in soliciting Emerson to publish the manuscript. Blake regularly attended Amos Bronson Alcott's 'Concord School of Philosophy', where he also gave readings. He often served as Henry David Thoreau's host for Lyceum Lectures; and he and other adherents, such as Theophilus Brown, Thomas Wentworth Higginson, David A. Wasson, and Edward Everett Hale, would eagerly meet for reading and discussion when correspondences from Thoreau arrived. Upon Thoreau's death Blake inherited his voluminous journals. He would edit and publish selections of them throughout the 1880s and 90s. Thomas Wentworth Higginson, another important member of the group of Transcendentalists had written in a letter to the historian Fannie Eckstorm in which he noted that "It may interest you to know that Thoreau's most intimate friend & outdoor companion, [was] Rev. H. G. O. Blake of Worcester..." The letter is also valuable for providing a new...estimate of H. G. O. Blake's connection with Thoreau. Higginson's view that Blake was Thoreau's "most intimate friend" is helpful observation. Various Thoreau scholars accord this distinction, by popular fallacy perhaps, alternately to Channing and Emerson.... Still, Blake may be the proper candidate, for according to Walter Harding Blake was Thoreau's "first disciple," and a letter of his to Thoreau in 1848 was the "beginning of Thoreau's longest and largest correspondence." Blake became Henry's posthumous editor and prepared the four "season" volumes from the manuscript journals turned over to him by Sophia Thoreau: *Early Spring in Massachusetts* (Boston, 1881); *Summer* (Boston, 1884); *Winter* (Boston, 1887); *Autumn* (Boston, 1892). T. W. HIGGINSON ON THOREAU AND MAINE. Donald h. Williams, *Colby Quarterly*, Vol. 7, Iss. 1 [1965], Art. 5. BAL 5181. Meyerson A3.1.a. \$18,500.

**Henry David Thoreau - Walden - First Edition
A Highlight of American Renaissance Thought
An Exceptionally Well Preserved Copy - Quite Smashing**

4 Thoreau, Henry David. WALDEN, Or, Life In the Woods (Boston: Ticknor and Fields, 1854) First Edition, First Printing of this cornerstone work of American literature, the ads dated "June 1854" with no bibliographical significance as noted by BAL, though these were printed prior to the July 1854 publication of the book. Illustrated with the map of Walden Pond printed on a separate leaf and inserted at p. 306, and with a vignette illustration to the title-page showing Thoreau's house in the woods at Walden Pond. 8vo, in the publisher's original ribbed brown cloth lettered in gilt and ruled in blind on spine, bordered and decorated in blind on all covers with small floral designs coming in from the corners towards a large central floral scrollwork, pale yellow flies and endpapers. Now housed in a light brown cloth-covered folding case and with wrap around chemise, the spine of the case with a dark brown morocco label lettered in green. 357, [8 ads (dated June 1854)] pp. A especially handsome copy indeed, one of the nicest we've seen in quite some while, internally fine and very fresh, crisp and clean, a few spots on the title-page only, otherwise completely free of any signs of foxing or staining. The binding in unusually fine condition, rarely found as such, the cloth is deep and dark brown with no fading whatsoever, the gilt on the spine uncommonly bright, sharp and neat corners and edges, a few minor spots barely noticeable, just a hint of very minor rubbing at the head and tail of the spine, in all an exceptional copy. Very tidy ownership stamp of Arthur Holland on the blank front free-fly.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT FIRST EDITION OF A SEMINAL WORK IN AMERICAN LITERATURE. "I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life, and see if I could not learn what it had to teach, and not, when I came to die, discover that I had not lived."

WALDEN has taken its place as one of the most important

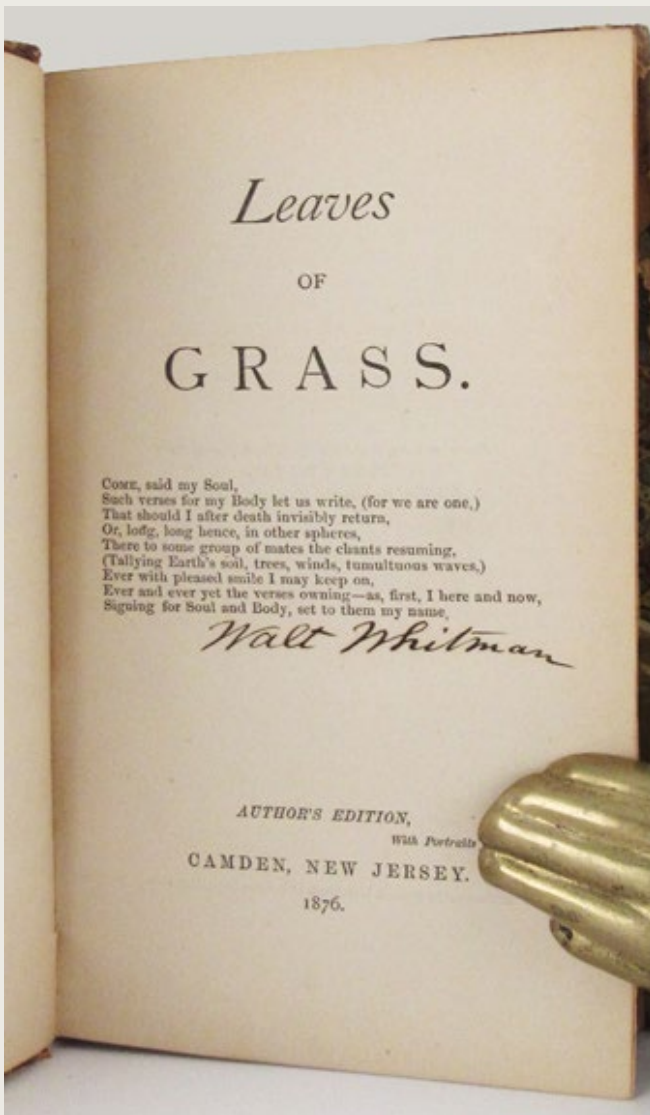


pieces of American literature and a highlight of American thought. In attempting an experiment in simple living Thoreau became the embodiment of the American quest for the spiritual over the material; and his book, ostensibly a simple record of his experiment, has earned the reputation as a work of great philosophical import.

Walden is part personal declaration of independence, social experiment, voyage of spiritual discovery, satire, and manual for self-reliance. By immersing himself in nature, Thoreau hoped to gain a more objective understanding of society through personal introspection. Simple living and self-sufficiency were Thoreau's other goals, and the whole project was inspired by transcendentalist philosophy, a central theme of the American Romantic Period. As Thoreau made clear in his book, his cabin was not in the wilderness, but at the edge of town, only about two miles from his family home. Grolier 100; Borst A2.1.a; BAL 20106.

\$15,500.

**Inscribed and Presented by Walt Whitman to His Friend
Leaves of Grass - The Author's Edition - Also Autographed
Published Camden 1876 - An Important Association Copy**



5 Whitman, Walt. LEAVES OF GRASS...Author's Edition, With Portraits from Life. (Camden, NJ.: (printed for Whitman), 1876) THE AUTHOR'S EDITION, was the fifth overall, third printing, second issue, with integral title-page (600 copies). A SIGNED, INSCRIBED, PRESENTATION COPY FROM WALT WHITMAN TO CHARLES OSCAR GRIDLEY. For the Author's Edition, Whitman signed his name beautifully in ink on the title-page. In this copy he has inscribed the book to "Charles Oscar Gridley / From the Author." Gridley's handsome engraved bookplate is opposite on the front pastedown. In an 1885 letter to Herbert Gilchrist, Whitman referred to Gridley as a "friend of L of G. and W. W." With the engraved Samuel Hollyer portrait of Walt Whitman and the W.J. Linton engraved portrait of Walt Whitman from the G. C. Potter photograph, both on inserted plates. 8vo, in the original binding designed and executed for Whitman by James Arnold of Philadelphia, this being three-quarter tan calf over marbled boards, the spine blind-tooled in a hatch grillwork motif and a single brown morocco label gilt lettered and ruled, coated yellow endpapers. vi, 384, [2], [1 ads.] pp. Very well preserved internally, the text-block clean and tight, the binding with some wear to the extremities, front board tender at the hinge, an important survival of an Whitman association item.

AN INSCRIBED PRESENTATION COPY OF WHITMAN'S "AUTHOR'S EDITION" OF LEAVES OF GRASS, and a copy with a pleasing association as well. Whitman presents this copy to Charles Oscar Gridley. Gridley was the secretary of the Carlyle Society and had visited Whitman in April 1884. Afterwards, Gridley privately published a pamphlet called "Notes on America" describing the visit with Whitman just after he moved to his Mickle Street home and giving his impression of the poet's

personality, appearance, opinions, and philosophy. The following year Gridley contributed to William Michael Rossetti and Herbert Gilchrist's fundraiser for Whitman. Whitman called Gridley a "friend of L of G. and W. W." in a letter to Gilchrist of September 15, 1885. Later, Gridley would publish his own collection of poetry under the title "Ivy Leaves", perhaps inspired by the title of Whitman's great body of work.

This edition was printed from the important fifth edition of LEAVES OF GRASS. In early May 1876 Whitman wrote printer Samuel W. Green to order 600 copies. Whitman then had Green send these to his chosen binder, James Arnold. He

would distribute them over the next several years

Whitman's LEAVES OF GRASS is, arguably, the greatest work in all of American literature. LEAVES OF GRASS portrayed America at the crossroads between an old world, soon to be cast off, and the new world of our future present. With the publication of LEAVES OF GRASS in 1855, Whitman, the poet of democracy, ushered in a new era in American letters, describing specifically American experiences in a distinctly American idiom. From its first publication in 1855, he had complete confidence in the greatness of both the book and its author.

"Always the champion of the common man, Whitman is both the poet and the prophet of democracy. The whole of LEAVES OF GRASS is imbued with the spirit of brotherhood and a pride in the democracy of the young American nation. In a sense, it is America's second Declaration of Independence: that of 1776 was political, this of 1855 intellectual. ...The poems are saturated 'with a vehemence of pride and audacity of freedom necessary to loosen the mind of still-to-be-formed America from the folds, the superstitions, and all the long, tenacious, and stifling anti-democratic authorities of Asiatic and European past'. To the young nation, only just becoming aware of an individual literary identity distinct from its European origins, Whitman's message and his outspoken confidence came at a decisive moment.

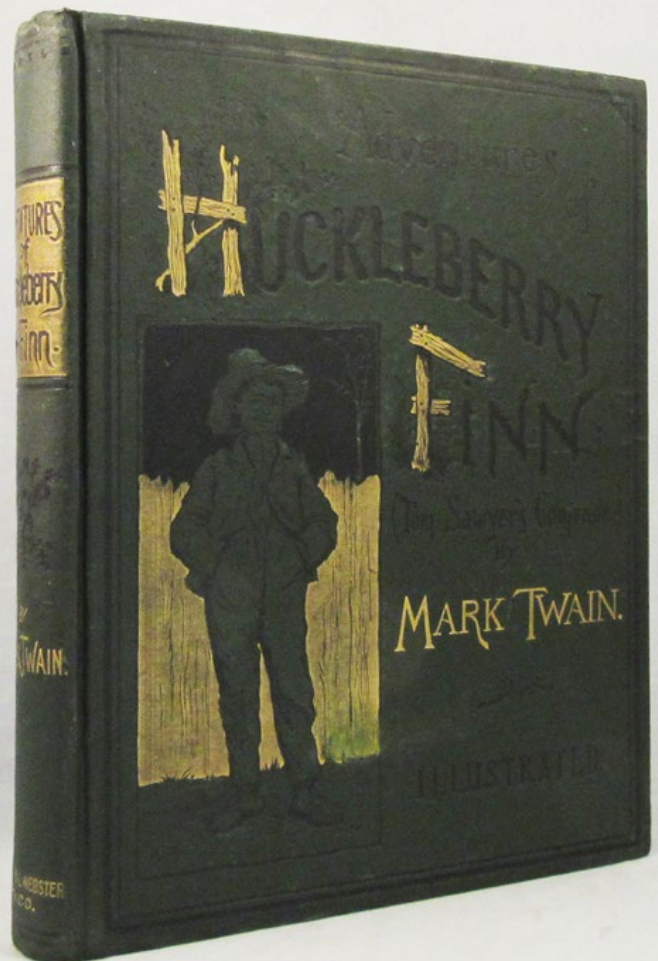
LEAVES OF GRASS was Whitman's favorite child. From the time of its original publication,...until the year of his death, he continued revising and enlarging it. If (his) reputation has fluctuated over the years and his position among, if indeed not at the head of, the list of great American poets was not assured until some time after his death, there was never any doubt of the matter in his own mind. 'I know I am deathless', he wrote. 'Whether I come to my own today or in ten thousand or ten million years, I can cheerfully take it now, or with equal cheerfulness I can wait.' Time has vindicated his conviction." PMM Charles E. Feinberg Collection; Myerson A.2.5.c2; BAL 21412
\$15,500.

Twain's Masterpiece of American Literature
Huckleberry Finn - First Edition in the Original Cloth
A Handsome and Pleasing Copy - Very Early Issue Points

6Twain, Mark. THE ADVENTURES OF HUCKLEBERRY FINN (New York: Charles L. Webster and Company, 1885) FIRST AMERICAN EDITION, FIRST PRINTING with the very early issue points: "was" for "saw" on p.57; the Illustrations list p.[13] showing the "Him and another Man" plate as appearing on p.88; p. 9 with 'Decided' in the heading to Chapter VI, later corrected to 'Decides'; p. 155 with the final "5" dropped, the final leaf blank, no signature mark to p. 161. With 174 black and white illustrations by E.W. Kemble. Square 8vo, publisher's original green cloth elaborately decorated in gilt and black on the covers and spine, now housed in a custom slipcase with wraparound chemise. 366 pp. A handsome, well preserved and pleasing copy of this enduring classic. The cloth still nice and dark green with the gilt and black still strong on the upper cover, the giltwork on the spine well preserved, only very minor evidence of age or use to the tips and edges, the text-block very clean and the binding tight and firm. A fine survival of a cornerstone work, with some very skillful and near invisible sophistication, in collector's condition.

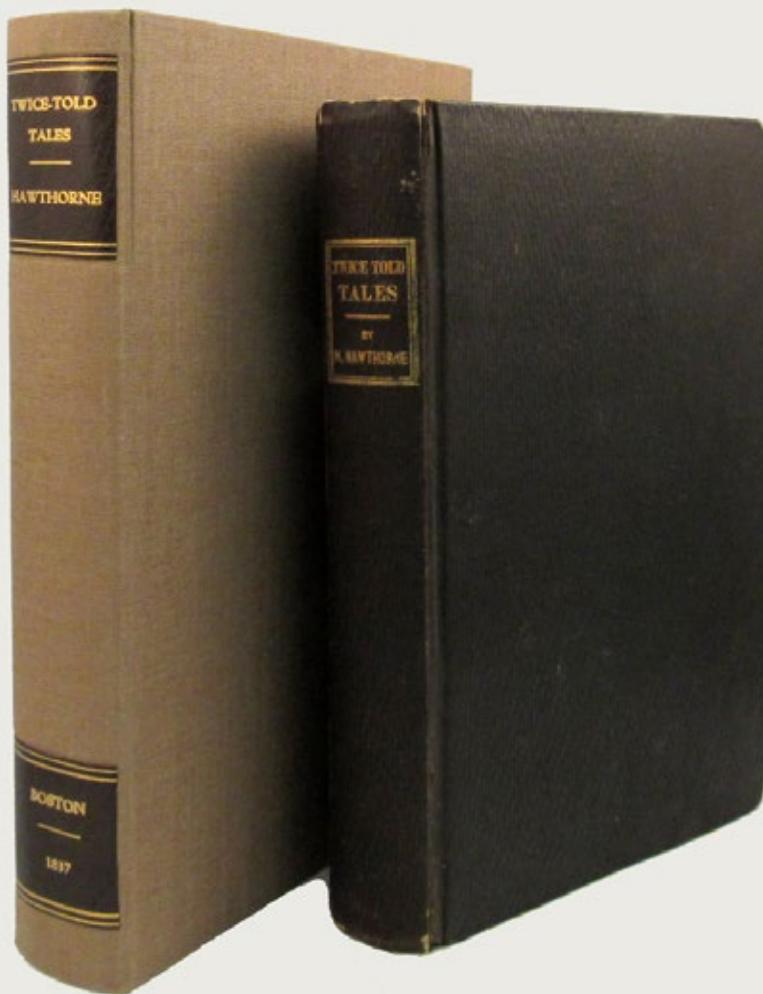
THE FIRST EDITION OF ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT AND GREATEST BOOKS IN AMERICAN LITERATURE. "ALL MODERN AMERICAN LITERATURE COMES FROM ONE BOOK BY MARK TWAIN CALLED HUCKLEBERRY FINN"--Ernest Hemingway.

Along with TOM SAWYER, HUCKLEBERRY FINN is



considered the stepping stone to modern American literature. And along with *Tom Sawyer*, for the first time, the hero of the novel was a boy. These books are landmarks and Hemingway often offered his opinion that the modern novel would have been impossible without them. With Whitman's *LEAVES OF GRASS* and Melville's *MOBY DICK*, they provide us with a view of America transcending its past and beginning its future. BAL 3415; Grolier American 87; Johnson, pp. 43-50; Peter Parley to Penrod, pp. 75-6
\$8500.

**The Rare First Edition - First Issue in Original Cloth
Hawthorne's *Twice-Told Tales* - 1837 - One of His Earliest
An Unusually Fresh and Well Preserved Copy**



7 Hawthorne, Nathaniel. *TWICE-TOLD TALES* (Boston: American Stationers Co., 1837) The First Issue of the True First Edition, very scarce and significantly important. With American Stationers Co.'s circular quill imprint on the title-page. 8vo, publisher's original textured brown/black cloth, with the spine lettered in gilt within a gilt frame. While there are known variations to the bindings no priority is given and all first edition copies are first printing, first issue. Now housed in a handsome light brown cloth-covered folding box with two dark brown morocco labels lettered and ruled in gilt. 4 ads, 334, 16 catalogue pp. An unusually handsome and well preserved copy, very scarce as such, the text with far less than the typical foxing that is always present due to the paper stock used, otherwise extremely clean and fresh, the hinges solid and firm, the binding dark and unfaded with bright gilt, very minor wear or rubbing at the tips and extremities, the front blank free-fly with a small amount of loss to the bottom outside corner, and a short closed tear without loss to the first leaf of the advertisement catalogue, early ownership notation of Eliz. L. Parkman.

FIRST EDITION, FIRST ISSUE, RARE, AND ONLY THE SECOND BOOK PUBLISHED BY HAWTHORNE AND THE FIRST ONE TO ACTUALLY BEAR HIS NAME. As Hawthorne was a young and relatively unknown writer at the

*time, the print run was understandably rather small, recorded as only 1000 copies printed. That fact, along with the low production values continue to make *TWICE-TOLD TALES* one of the most scarce of all the author's works.*

*Released in the spring of 1837, *TWICE-TOLD TALES* is a collection of short stories all of which had been previously printed only in various magazines and annuals, thus Hawthorne's title of "Twice-Told". The stories had been published anonymously, as was *FANSHAW*, his first published book. Hawthorne enjoyed calling the stories 'twice-told' as this was also a reference to Shakespeare's 'King John'. A third aspect of the 'twice-told' scenario is the fact that many of them are ironic retellings of familiar older stories and tropes.*

*While reviews were largely positive (his college mate from Bowdoin, Henry W. Longfellow, reviewed it in the *North American Review* with extreme praise) sales were slow, and then were halted completely by the Panic of '37. The book may have been the first to make a name for the author, but it would not make him wealthy. There was no second edition until 1842, and at that time many more tales, and a second volume, were added. That edition was noticed far and wide, and many of the stories have lived on and are now considered American classics. Grolier 100, BAL 7581, ClarkA2.1.
\$4950.*

**One of the Most Important Works of American Literature
In the Rare Special Gilt Decorated Presentation Binding
Uncle Tom's Cabin; or, Life Among the Lowly
Harriet Beecher Stowe - Published Boston - 1852**

8 Stowe, Harriet Beecher. UNCLE TOM'S CABIN; or, Life Among the Lowly (Boston: John P. Jewett & Company, 1852) 2 volumes. First edition. Later Issue, in the Rare Special Presentation Binding, elaborately gilt decorated and gilt edged, first edition of the text with later points. Copyright statement of Geo. C. Rand & Co. Illustrated with original engravings. 8vo, publisher's original purple-brown cloth, with full gilt decorated spines and extra gilt fully decorated covers for this noted limited gift binding, all edges gilt, the best of the publisher's special bindings. [i]-x, [13]-312, [2-blank]; [2, blank], [i]-iv, [5]-322, [2, blank], [12 publisher's ads], [2, blank]



pp. collated complete, six engraved illustrations. A very pleasing and handsome copy of this very scarce issue. The books present very well with only just a bit of the inevitable rubbing to the head of the spine panels, a beautifully preserved copy, with only light mellowing to the cloth, the original yellow endleaves remain in a fine state of preservation, the hinges are tight and strong, the text-blocks also in very pleasing condition with only rare instances of the normally confronted spotting.

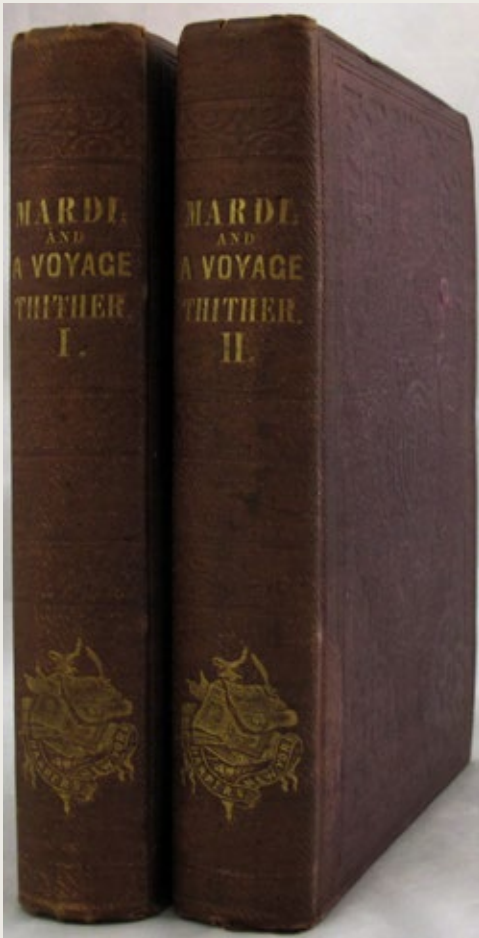
RARE FIRST EDITION, LATER ISSUE IN THE RARE GIFT BINDING RICHLY DECORATED IN GILT, Arguably, the most influential work of American literature and unquestionably a milestone of 19th century world literature. The initial printing sold out immediately upon publication and the book went through continual reissues for years after its introduction. Nice copies of the first edition as with this copy have become increasingly difficult to find. The book is especially scarce in the deluxe presentation binding. UNCLE TOM'S CABIN IS THE ONLY AMERICAN NOVEL TO BE INCLUDED IN PMM. "In the emotion-charged atmosphere of nineteenth-century America, UNCLE TOM'S CABIN EXPLODED LIKE A BOMBSHELL...THE SOCIAL IMPACT OF UNCLE TOM'S CABIN on the United States was greater than that of any book before or since." PMM

'For Harriet Beecher Stowe, the battle against slavery was a God-ordained crusade to cleanse the United States of an evil affront to humanity. In the emotion charged atmosphere of mid-19th century America this novel exploded like an atomic bomb. For those opposed to slavery it was a testament to all that was wrong in an evil system. To the pro-slavery forces it was considered a slanderous attack on an established way of life. In either case, the impact of UNCLE TOM'S CABIN on the society of the United States of America was probably greater than any book published before or since'. PMM

Stowe presented her story in the style of popular works of the era [melodramatically]--and with religious undertones, but the themes of the novel--the breaking up of families, violence, the naive idea of a return to Africa, and the question of slaves' agency in this oppression--are historically significant. Stowe had not only witnessed incidents like the ones described in her novel, but "had long been concerned about slavery, having read the autobiographies of Frederick Douglass and Louis Clark, as well as the abolitionist tracts of L.M. Child and Theodore Weld, and in 1850, when the Fugitive Slave Act was passed, she began writing Uncle Tom's Cabin." [The Fem GT Lit in Eng] The Fugitive Slave Act, in combination with her book, were arguably the catalysts for the Civil War, as even Lincoln implied upon meeting Stowe.

The initial printing sold out immediately. Of the roughly 5000 copies of the first issue printed, 3000 are believed to have sold on the very first day. An amazing and unmatched achievement in 19th century book selling. Reissues appeared immediately, eight steam-powered presses were dedicated to this title by the publisher and yet they still failed to keep up with demand. By the end of the year over 300,000 copies were sold. Thus, true first issues are understandably very hard to come by. In fact, all of the early issues are very difficult to find in good condition. This was one of the most read, passed along, reread and passed along again books in history, certainly in American literature few other titles even come close.

It is said that for writing this extraordinary bestseller Ms. Stowe was paid only \$300. For her the battle against slavery was a God-ordained crusade to cleanse the United States of an Evil affront to Humanity. In the emotion charged atmosphere of 19th century America this novel exploded like an atomic bomb. For those opposed to slavery it was a testament to all that was wrong in an evil system. To the pro-slavery forces it was considered a slanderous attack on an established way of life. In either case, the impact of UNCLE TOM'S CABIN on the society of the United States of America was probably greater than any book published before or since. BAL 19343. Printing and the Mind of Man 332 \$4500.



**Rare First Edition of Melville's *Mardi* - Two Volumes
A Unusually Handsome Set in Publisher's Original Cloth
New York - Harper and Brothers - 1849**

9 Melville, Herman. MARDI and a Voyage Thither (New York: Harper & Brothers, 1849) 2 volumes. First edition. 8vo, publisher's original blind-stamped purple cloth, with elaborate blind-stamped decorative tooling on covers and spine, lettering and Harper's logo in gilt to the spine panel. Housed in a pleasing dark green morocco solander case, the volumes each with their own chemise. xii, 365; xii, 387 pp., 8 pp. ads. An unusually fine copy and a very handsome pair, beautifully preserved. The cloth is bright and clean and essentially without fading, some of the typical offsetting to the pastedown and free-fly.

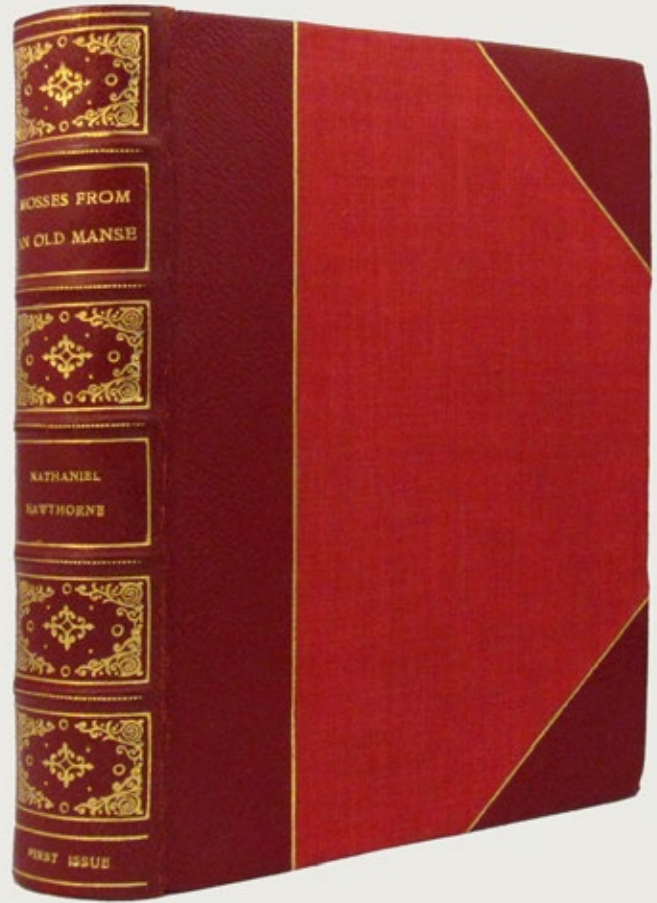
RARE FIRST EDITION IN ORIGINAL CLOTH IN UNUSUALLY WELL PRESERVED CONDITION. THE BOOK IS EXCEPTIONALLY SCARCE IN THE PURPLE CLOTH IN FINE CONDITION AS IS THIS COPY. After a tiring 18 month whaling voyage in the south seas, Melville jumped ship and with his companion, Richard Tobias Greene, lived in the islands for several months. While there he was captured by but escaped from island natives. He served on an Australian trader, worked as a field laborer and enlisted on the frigate U.S.S. United States. His experiences are the basis for the Swiftian adventures of Taji and his companion Jarl in *Mardi*. This is one of Melville's best written stories. BAL 13658, Wright I, 1860 \$2850.

**Nathaniel Hawthorne - First Edition, First Printing - Rare
Mosses From an Old Manse - New York - 1846**

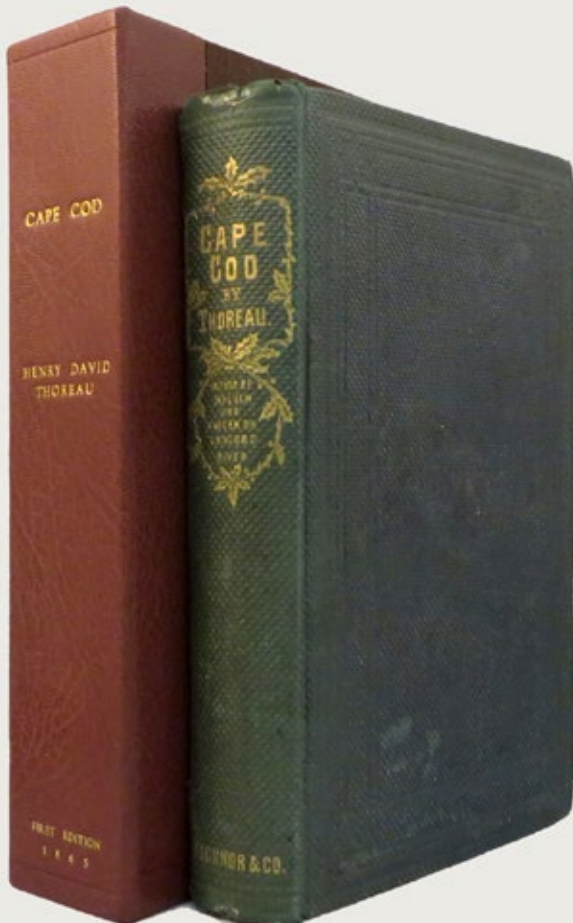
10 Hawthorne, Nathaniel. MOSSSES FROM AN OLD MANSE (New York: Wiley and Putnam, 1846) 2 volumes bound into one. First Edition of each book, First Printing with "R. Craighead's Power Press" and "T. B. Smith imprints on the verso of both title-pages, and all first issue points as called for by Clark. 8vo, very handsomely bound in three-quarter scarlet morocco over red cloth-covered boards, gilt trimmed on the cornerpieces and backstrip, the spine with handsome ornately gilt decorated compartments between gilt stippled raised bands, gilt lettering in two gilt framed compartments and additional lettering at the tail, t.e.g., PUBLISHER'S RARE ORIGINAL DARK GREEN CLOTH preserved and bound in the rear rear of the volume. [i-vi], [1]-207; [i-vi], [1]-211 pp. A very clean and handsome copy, beautifully preserved, the text-block unusually clean and the binding bright, tight and strong.

FIRST EDITION, FIRST PRINTING OF THIS EARLY AND QUITE SCARCE HAWTHORNE TITLE RARELY ENCOUNTERED IN FULL FIRST STATE FORMAT. Hawthorne spent three years in the Old Manse in Concord. The Old Manse is a historic manse famous for its American literary associations. It is now owned and operated as a nonprofit museum by the Trustees of Reservations. In 1842, the American writer Nathaniel Hawthorne rented the Old Manse for \$100 a year. He moved in with his wife, transcendentalist Sophia Peabody. Prior to their arrival at the Manse, Henry David Thoreau created a vegetable garden for the couple. The Hawthornes lived in the house for three years. Previously the manse had been home to Ralph Waldo Emerson.

MOSES FROM AN OLD MANSE is the best and most important of the three literary collections Hawthorne published during his lifetime. Many of the tales are allegories and, as in much of Hawthorne's best works, focus on the negative side of human nature. Herman Melville, a close friend of Hawthorne, noted this aspect in his review of it-- "This black conceit pervades him through and through. You may be witched by his sunlight, —transported by the bright gildings in the skies he builds over you; but there is the blackness of darkness beyond; and even his bright gildings but fringe and play upon the edges of thunder-clouds." Clark A15.1 \$2250.



The First Edition of Thoreau's *Cape Cod* - 1865 A Very Pleasing Copy in Original Green Cloth



11 Thoreau, Henry David. *CAPE COD* (Boston: Ticknor and Fields, 1865) First edition and printing. 8vo, publisher's original green pebbled cloth lettered and decorated in gilt on spine, embossed in blind on both covers of a wreath within framed borders. BAL's binding "A", no sequence determined. (6), 252 pp., ads (dated December 1864). A very good and handsome copy with only light edgewear or evidence of shelving to the tips, light and light mellowing internally.

SCARCE FIRST EDITION. Thoreau occasionally left his beloved woods to visit and write about other places. He went to Cape Cod, "Wishing to get a better view than I had yet of the ocean, which we are told covered more than two thirds of the globe, but of which a man who lives a few mile inland may never see any trace."

Thoreau's account of his meditative, beach-combing walking trips to Cape Cod, reflecting on the elemental forces of the sea. "Cape Cod chronicles Henry David Thoreau's journey of discovery along this evocative stretch of Massachusetts coastline, during which time he came to understand the complex relationship between the sea and the shore. He spent his nights in lighthouses, in fishing huts, and on isolated farms. He passed his days wandering the beaches, where he observed the wide variety of life and death offered up by the ocean. Through these observations, Thoreau discovered that the only way to truly know the sea — its depth, its wildness, and the natural life it contained — was to

study it from the shore. Like his most famous work, *Walden*, *Cape Cod* is full of Thoreau's unique perceptions and precise descriptions. But it is also full of his own joy and wonder at having stumbled across a new frontier so close to home, where a man may stand and "put all America behind him." - Penguin Nature Library Borst A5.1.a.; BAL 20115 \$2450.

***Life on the Mississippi* - First Edition - 1883
One of Mark Twain's Best Books - Profusely Illustrated
A Fine Copy - Bright, Clean and Especially Well Preserved**

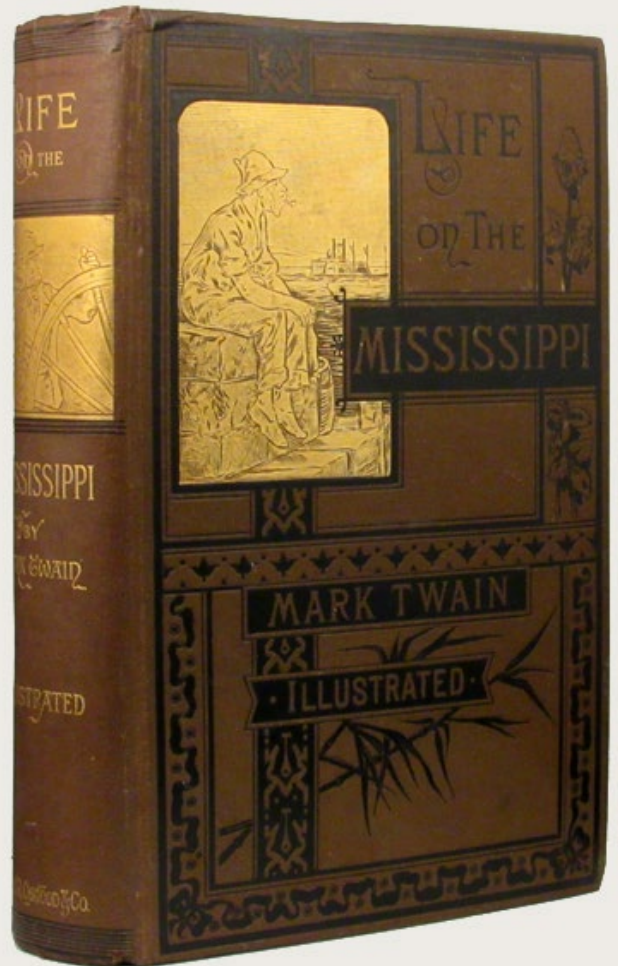
12 Twain, Mark. LIFE ON THE MISSISSIPPI. (Boston: James R. Osgood, 1883) First Edition, Early State. Blanck's intermediate B, with the tailpiece of Twain in flames on p.441 not present, and with caption on p.443 reading "The St. Charles Hotel". Profusely illustrated throughout. Tall 8vo, publisher's original decorated cloth with black stamped decorations and gilt pictorial vignettes on the upper cover, the spine decorated in black and with a large gilt pictorial vignette, lettered in gilt, a.e.g., protected in a fine slipcase 624 pp. A very fine copy, uncommonly fresh and well preserved, the cloth is a rich brown with bright gilt and only the lightest evidence of age, internally sound and very clean. A superior copy.

ONE OF TWAIN'S BEST BOOKS AND A RARE AND HANDSOME COPY IN ORIGINAL CLOTH OF THIS IMPORTANT FIRST EDITION. Twain writes about his home and his muse-the great Mississippi. "As a dwelling place for civilized man it is by far the first upon our globe." (preface)

In this largely autobiographical narrative, Twain gives us a vivid account of his experiences on the great river. LIFE ON THE MISSISSIPPI is brilliant firsthand account of the steamboat age, the science of river piloting, and the life of the river itself from the point of view of those who made their living navigating it.

The book is also an account of the changes of time, both to a man and to a way of life. The first part of the book recounts Twain's youthful days as a steamboat pilot before the American Civil War. Later in the book Twain recounts a trip along the Mississippi River from St. Louis to New Orleans many years after the war, taken by a now mature and successful author.

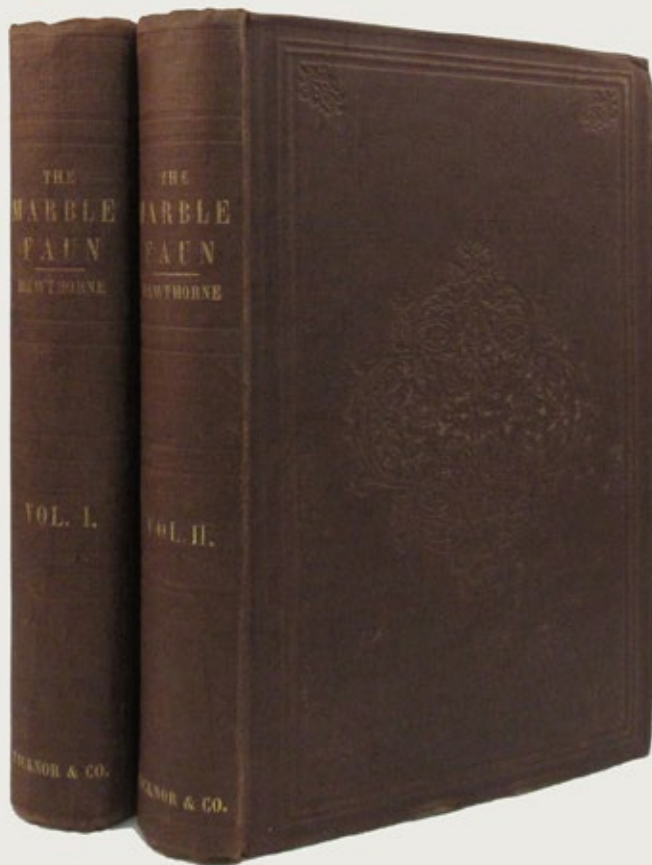
LIFE ON THE MISSISSIPPI is a truly wonderful book and a valued piece of the American legacy. B.A.L.3411, Queens Quorum p.45. \$2150.



**The First Edition, First Issue - Nathaniel Hawthorne
The Marble Faun; or The Romance of Monte Beni
An Unusually Fine Set of His Splendid Work on Italy**

13 Hawthorne, Nathaniel. THE MARBLE FAUN; or The Romance of Monte Beni (Boston: Ticknor and Fields, 1860) 2 volumes. First edition, first issue with Clark's points as called for and with sixteen page catalogue in the rear of Volume I dated March. 8vo., publisher's original brown cloth lettered in gilt on spines and decorated in blind on the covers in the style of Ticknor format A, and with white wove endpapers coated brown. xi, 283, 16 pp. ads; 284 pp. An especially fine and bright set, unusually well preserved, the text-blocks clean with no spotting, the signatures firm, the bindings fresh and unfaded, the gilt still bright, uncommonly well preserved for Ticknor cloth.

FIRST EDITION AND FIRST ISSUE IN UNUSUALLY NICE CONDITION. *Italy was the site of this, one of*



Hawthorne's most popular books. Of it, the writer said, "No author, without a trial, can conceive of the difficulty of writing a romance about a country where there is no shadow, no antiquity, no mystery, no picturesque and gloomy wrong, nor anything but a commonplace prosperity, in broad and simple daylight, as is happily the case with my dear native land. It will be very long, I trust, before romance-writers may find congenial and easily handled themes, either in the annals of our stalwart republic, or in any characteristic and probable events of our individual lives. Romance and poetry, ivy, lichens, and wall-flowers need ruin to make them grow."

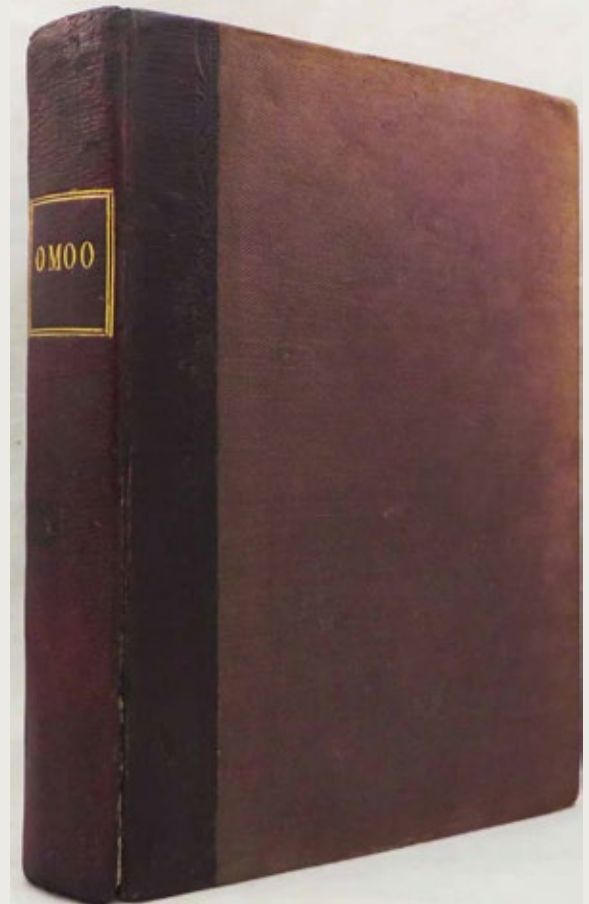
John Lothrop Motley wrote to Hawthorne that "I like those shadowy, weird, fantastic, Hawthornesque shapes flitting through the golden gloom which is the atmosphere of the book. I like the misty way in which the story is indicated rather than revealed. The outlines are quite definite enough, from the beginning to the end, to those who have imagination enough to follow you in your airy flights; and to those who complain, I suppose nothing less than an illustrated edition with a large gallows on the last page, with Donatello in the most pensive of attitudes, his ears revealed at last through a white nightcap, would be satisfactory." Henry Wadsworth Longfellow called it a "wonderful book" and William Dean Howells wrote that it would "...[yield] him that full honor and praise which a writer can hope for but once in his life."
\$1500.

Herman Melville - First Edition - Omoo
His Second Book - A Soujourn in the Marquesas - 1847

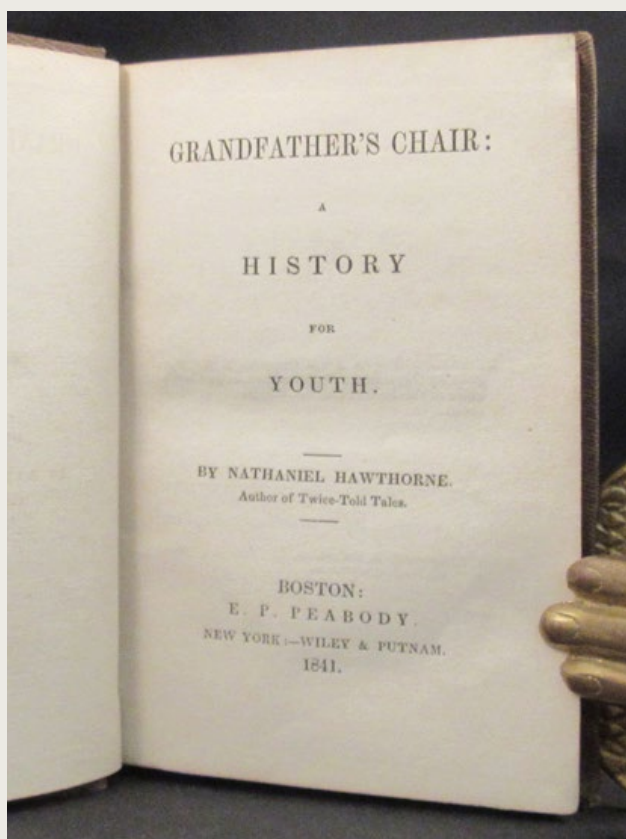
14 Melville, Herman. OMOO: A Narrative of Adventure In The South Sea (London: John Murray, 1847) First Edition, the English issue, preceding the American issue by about a month. State A of the signature mark on p. 209. Full page cartographic frontispiece and the illustration at p. 78. 8vo., in an antique binding of dark brown-maroon over brown cloth boards, the spine with gilt panel enclosing the title lettered in gilt. [xiv], 321 pp. A handsome and very well preserved copy, with just pleasing bit of age. A fine survival of an important book, Melville's second.

FIRST EDITION, OMOO is a story of the Marquesas and was written out of Melville's own sojourn there. This English issue preceded the American edition. the work is loosely based on the author's experiences in the South Pacific. In this story, which picks up where Melville's first book, TYPEE, ends we find our un-named hero leaving the island of Nuku Hiva. He ships aboard a whaling vessel that makes its way to Tahiti, after which there is a mutiny and a third of the crew are imprisoned. The narrator meets and forms a friendship with the vessel's surgeon, a tall thin man known to his crew-mates as "Dr Long Ghost".

\$1850.



Grandfather's Chair: A History for Youth
A Hawthorne Scarcity in Wonderful Condition
First Edition - Original Cloth - 1841



15 Hawthorne, Nathaniel. GRANDFATHER'S CHAIR: A History for Youth (Boston: E. P. Peabody, 1841) First Edition and a true Hawthorne rarity. 12mo, publisher's original basket-weave grained plum cloth, the upper cover with black paper pastedown label gilt decorated and lettered. vii, 140pp. An especially well preserved copy, the text is near to pristine, the hinges are strong and tight, the cloth with only the most minor evidence of age to the extremities, and as is always the case the gilt on the paper label is dulled.

FIRST EDITION OF THIS TRULY SCARCE ITEM IN THE HAWTHORNE OEUVRE. Also one of his earlier works, printed nine years prior to THE SCARLET LETTER and a decade prior to THE HOUSE OF THE SEVEN GABLES. In these early days Hawthorne wrote primarily for children, for whom he was a wonderfully descriptive teller of tales.

GRANDFATHER'S CHAIR retells real stories from America's early days by following the history of a chair brought to America from England in 1630 aboard the good ship 'Arbella'. The chair makes it way through the Colonial and revolutionary periods before finally being purchase by Grandfather at auction. Many famous and infamous people are met along the way. And have no doubt, George Washington sat here!

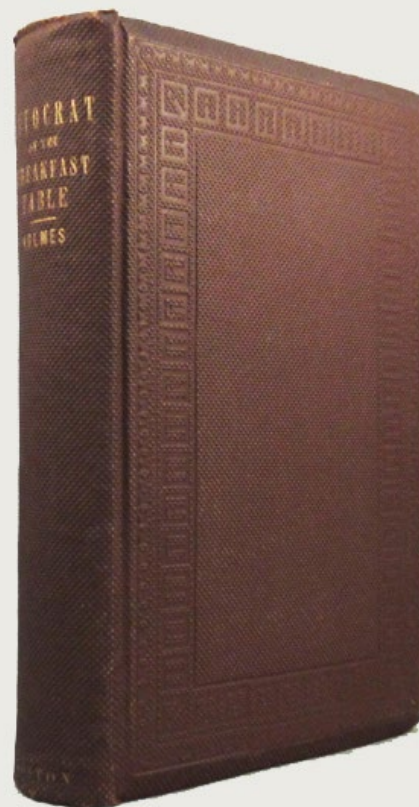
This early Hawthorne rarity is typically found foxed and worn, this copy is exceptional in its fine condition. BAL 7590; Clark A6.1. \$1850.

Autocrat at the Breakfast Table - First Edition - Large Paper
First Issue with the Engravings Present
Oliver Wendell Holmes - An American Cornerstone Work

16 Holmes, Oliver Wendell. THE AUTOCRAT OF THE BREAKFAST-TABLE (Boston: Phillips, Sampson and Company, 1859) First edition, First State (Issue A with the illustrations) on large paper. With eight engravings as called for. 8vo, publisher's full terra-cotta cloth, the covers richly decorated and blocked in blind, the spine panel lettered in gilt, all edges gilt. viii, 373 pp. A very handsome and fine copy, the binding in excellent condition, the hinges tight and strong, the text-block clean, bright and crisp, the illustrations all in good order.

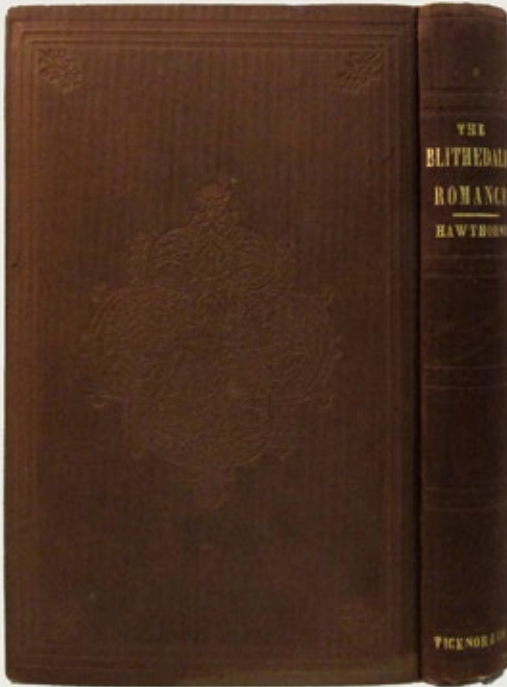
FIRST EDITION, THE SCARCE LARGE PAPER ISSUE IN STATE A WITH THE ILLUSTRATIONS PRESENT. The engravings were subsequently excised by Holmes' request from future states of the first edition printings. Additionally, this copy is in unusually fine condition.

Surrounded by Boston's literary elite (which included friends such as Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, and James Russell Lowell) Holmes made an indelible imprint on the literary world of the 19th century. His most famous works, the "Breakfast-Table" series, began with the "Autocrat," which first appeared in serial form in the first issue of the Atlantic Monthly. It blends the discursive and whimsically comprehending talk of a boarding-house sage with verses, both light and serious. One of the quirkiest and most charming books in American literature, the Grolier Catalogue of One Hundred Influential



American Books Printed Before 1900 calls it the “distillation of the intellectual and cultural life of New England at its Brahmin zenith,” which is a stuffy way of saying its subject matter ranges amusingly across all the corners of Holmes’s...er, The Autocrat’s mind. It was followed by two more titles, “The Professor” and “The Poet,” and their enthusiastic reception has been justified by the place they have retained in American letters. BAL 9093. \$950.

**A Scarce Nathaniel Hawthorne First Edition, First Issue
The Blithedale Romance - An Especially Fine Copy - Rare Thus**



17 Hawthorne, Nathaniel. THE BLITHEDALE ROMANCE (Boston: Ticknor, Reed and Fields, 1852) First American edition, first issue, binding A, earliest dated ads (April). 8vo, in the original Ticknor style A brown cloth, lettered in gilt on spine and with all-over decorative work in blind on the covers. 288, [4 ads. bound at the front] pp. An especially fresh and bright copy, the text-block very clean and fresh, the binding tight and strong, the gilt work unusually well preserved. A lovely copy.

FIRST EDITION AND FIRST ISSUE, and a very scarce Hawthorne title in such fine condition. An uncommonly bright and fresh copy.

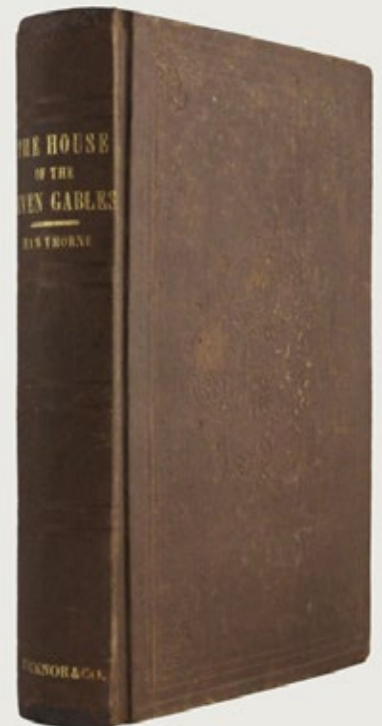
Hawthorne’s “romance” was based on Brook Farm, a community farm near Boston. It examines what progress, if any, has been made to the human animal. Blithedale, like Brook Farm, was a would-be modern Arcadia along the lines of the anti-capitalist ideals of Charles Fourier, but in spite of the lofty ideals falls prey to the self-interested behavior of its members. Though this concept for a work of fiction may sound a bit heady, Henry James called it “the lightest, the brightest, the liveliest” of Hawthorne’s “fictions.” Hawthorne’s claim that the characters of the novel are “entirely fictitious” has been widely questioned and many suggest that Bronson Alcott, Emerson, Horace Mann, Margaret Fuller and Hawthorne himself can all be found in this novel. BAL 7611, Clark A20.2 \$950.

**Nathaniel Hawthorne’s House of the Seven Gables
A Classic of American Literature in Original Cloth**

18 Hawthorne, Nathaniel. THE HOUSE OF THE SEVEN GABLES, A Romance (Boston: Ticknor, Reed and Fields, 1851) First Edition, one of 1000 copies of the September (4th) issue. 8vo, in the original Ticknor’s style A ribbed brown cloth, decorated in blind on both covers, the spine lettered in gilt with bands in blind, variant E, no priority assigned. vi, [3], 10 - 344 pp. A very attractive and well preserved copy, expertly restored at the spine but retaining nearly all of the original gilt decorated cloth, the text is very clean and fresh for the title, only a few incidents of foxing and with very little evidence of use.

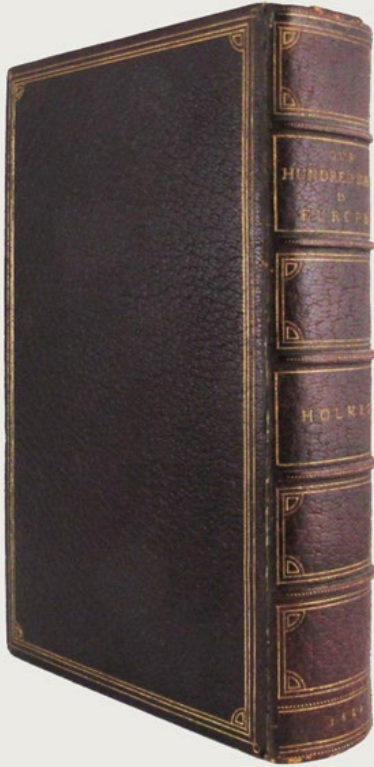
One of Hawthorne’s most popular books and A central classics of nineteenth-century American literature, AND ARGUABLY THE QUINTESSENTIAL OF AMERICAN GOTHIC. THE HOUSE OF THE SEVEN GABLES is a pillar of American Renaissance literature, and was a major influence on later authors of both the horror and mystery genres, in fact it continues to be influential even today.

Written during the most lucrative period of the author’s career, the novel centers on a New England family and their ancestral home. The setting was inspired by the Turner-Inglesoll Mansion, a dark and rather moody gabled house in Salem, Massachusetts which still stands today and offers very popular tours. While set in Hawthorne’s time, the novel searches history and reaches back to discern the life that occurred through the years. The house, in Hawthorne’s tales is presented as a gloomy mansion, haunted since



its construction by unscrupulous dealings, accusations of witchcraft, and death.

The House of the Seven Gables was released in April of 1851. Two printings were issued in the first month, a third in May, and a fourth in September 1851; totaling 6,710 copies in its first year. Hawthorne earned 15% in royalties from the \$1.00 cover price. After its publication, Hawthorne said, "It sold finely and seems to have pleased a good many people." His friend Henry Wadsworth Longfellow called it "a weird, wild book" and it met with extreme popularity not only in America, but also in England where it was viewed as kin to *Jane Eyre*. British critic Henry Chorley noted that, with *THE SCARLET LETTER* and *THE HOUSE OF THE SEVEN GABLES*, "few will dispute [Hawthorne's] claim to rank amongst the most original and complete novelists that have appeared in modern times." Clark 17.1.d; BAL 7600. \$875.



Oliver Wendell Holmes' *Hundred Days In Europe* Handsomely Bound By James MacDonald

19 Holmes, Oliver Wendell. ONE HUNDRED DAYS IN EUROPE. (Boston: Houghton, Mifflin and Company, 1877) First Edition. This copy is extra-illustrated, with 50 plates. 8vo, very handsomely bound in full leather executed by James MacDonald in New York City. A fine copy, but for the hinges which are in need of restoration, otherwise an attractive binding.

A HANDSOME COPY OF HOLMES' EUROPEAN TRAVELS.

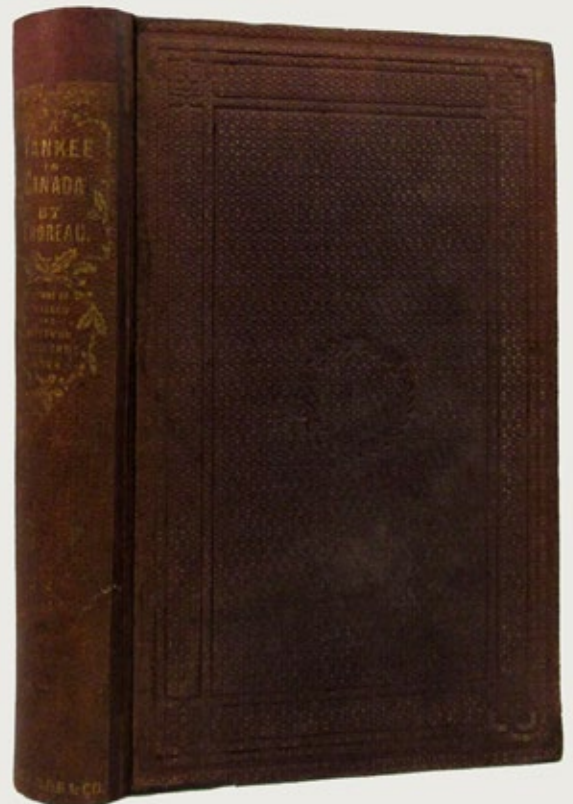
"After an interval of more than fifty years I propose taking a second look at some parts of Europe. It is a Rip Van Winkle experiment which I am promising myself. The changes wrought by half a century in the countries I visited amount almost to a transformation. I left the England of William the Fourth, of the Duke of Wellington, of Sir Robert Peel; the France of Louis Philippe, of Marshal Soult, of Thiers, of Guizot. I went from Manchester to Liverpool by the new railroad, the only one I saw in Europe. I looked upon England from the box of a stage-coach, upon France from the coupe of a diligence, upon Italy from the cushion of a carrozza. The broken windows of Apsley House were still boarded up when I was in London." \$750.

Thoreau's *Yankee in Canada* With the First Appearance of "Civil Disobedience"

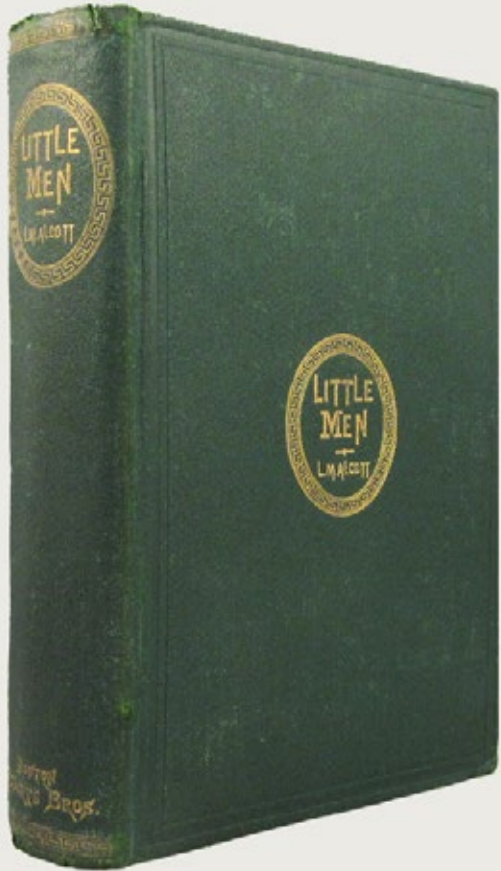
20 Thoreau, Henry David. A YANKEE IN CANADA, With Anti-Slavery and Reform Papers (Boston: Ticknor and Fields, 1866) First edition and printing, in the first binding, per Borst. 8vo, publisher's original dark plum cloth, lettered and decorated in gilt on spine, the covers with blind-stamped wreaths in the center bordered in blind, brown coated endpapers. 286 pp. Internally a very nice copy, the text is quite clean and fresh with no foxing, the original cloth still attractive without fading but with some expert consolidation at the corner tips and neatly rebacked preserving a majority of the original decorated cloth from the spine.

FIRST EDITION OF THIS IMPORTANT WORK IN AMERICAN PHILOSOPHY AS IT Includes the first general appearance of "Civil Disobedience".

This title contains a five chapter work "A Yankee in Canada" based on several brief trips Thoreau made from 1849 to 1853. It was during these years that his primary residence was at Walden. The second half of the book is a series of 11 essays called the "Anti-Slavery and Reform



Essays". They include a plea for John Brown, an essay on Wendell Phillips address to the Lyceum Society in Concord, and most importantly the first public printing of his essay "Civil Disobedience", originally given as a sermon in 1849. "Civil Disobedience" was written after Thoreau spent a day in prison for refusal to pay a poll tax supporting the Mexican War. Thoreau considered the war to be an unethical land grabbing scheme to increase the size and number of the southern slaveholding states. His article stresses the influence of passive resistance as a form of political protest. This essay has had a profound influence on the American psyche from the Civil War to the Vietnam era and beyond. It was revered by both Gandhi and Martin Luther King who credited it with giving them their first introduction to the philosophy of non-violent social action. BAL 20117; Borst A7.1.a
\$750.



**Louisa May Alcott - *Little Men*
First Edition - First Issue - Original Cloth - 1871**

21 Alcott, Louisa May. *LITTLE MEN: Life at Plumfield With Jo's Boys* (Boston: Roberts Brothers, 1871) First Edition and the First Issue with ads stating Pink and White Tyranny "Nearly Ready". With a frontispiece portrait of Jo's Boys and three additional plates. 8vo, publisher's original bright green cloth lettered in gilt on the spine and front cover within a gilt oval frame. [4] ads, [iv], 376 pp. A well preserved copy of a book rarely found in nice condition, the green cloth is bright and fresh though a little rubbed at the extremities, inner rear hinge with separation starting at join of free-fly and paste-down, the text is clean and fresh with no foxing, the final leaf with a closed tear with no loss.

THE VERY ELUSIVE FIRST EDITION, FIRST ISSUE, and a nice copy of the very successful sequel to LITTLE WOMEN and is the second book in the unofficial LITTLE WOMEN trilogy that ended with JO'S BOYS. The novel reprises characters from LITTLE WOMEN. The novel centers on a diverse and challenging group of students at Plumfield, mostly orphaned boys. BAL 167.

\$550.

Cover image is adapted from item six

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All books are returnable within ten days, we ask that you notify us by phone or email in advance.

Massachusetts residents are requested to include 6.25% state sales tax.