Slavery
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An early account of Timbuktu by an American sailor and his subsequent life as a slave

1. [ADAMS, Robert (= Benjamin ROSE)]. Jongste en echte berigten betrekkelijk Tombuctoo en eenige andere nog onbezochte deelen der binnenlanden van Afrika.

Amsterdam, J.C. Sepp en Zoon, 1818. 8°. With a folding engraved map (30.5 × 37.5 cm) of North Africa with the routes of Mugo Park and Robert Adams highlighted in colour. Contemporary boards.

First Dutch edition of Adam’s *The narrative of Robert Adams,...* (1816). Robert Adams, an American sailor whose real name was Benjamin Rose, sailed in the *Charles* on a trading voyage along the west coast of Africa. Somewhere near Cape Blanc the ship struck ground, and after the crew had struggled ashore they were immediately taken prisoner by some 30 Moors, possibly with the intention of selling the crew as slaves. The prisoners were taken into the interior of Mauritania, and after the party had reached a hilly village, they were assaulted by a company of black Africans. Both the Moors and the captives were imprisoned and subsequently taken to the King in Timbuktu, where they arrived in February 1811. Adams, who stayed as a guest of the king, describes Timbuktu and its inhabitants at length. Timbuktu wasn’t the thriving metropolis it was made out to be, but a small city with no walls, and houses made of clay and grass. However, after a time Adams was sold as a slave to a group of tobacco sellers. Over the next three years, Adams would change hands four more times before eventually being ransomed by the British consul.

Spine slightly damaged. In very good condition, untrimmed leaving all deckles intact.

*Hougo, 1800–1850, R24; NCC (4 copies); Saalmink, p. 31.*
With an ink and ink-wash view of Bridgetown in Barbados

2. [BARBADOS]. [Illustrated manuscript, possibly school essays, devoted to Barbados and to Petrarch].

[The Netherlands, ca. 1840/50]. 4º (28×22 cm). Manuscript in Dutch, written in ink on paper, with 5 ink and wash drawings: a large view of Bridgetown, Barbados (11×14.5 cm) and smaller illustrations related to Petrarch. With the sewn quires loosely inserted in a contemporary wrapper.

€ 1750

An anonymous Dutch-language manuscript on paper, illustrated with 5 ink and ink wash drawings. It gives information about the present situation, some history, notes sugar cane as its most important product, and gives details of the number and value of Barbados’s slaves in 1798 and 1809. It refers to Speightstown, “Hole” or “Jamestown” [=Holetown] and “Austins” [=Oistins] as the only other cities of importance on the island. The account of Barbados appears on pages 1 to 13, while pages 13 to 25, written in the same hand discuss the 14th-century Italian poet Petrarch, with 4 illustrations. The latest date mentioned in the account of Barbados is the estimated value of the slaves on the island in 1809. It does not mention the abolition of slavery there in 1834, but the manuscript must have been written somewhat later than that.

The 3 sewn quires containing pp. 1–24 are loosely inserted in the folded sheet forming the wrapper and endpapers (with p. 25 of the text). Untrimmed and in very good condition, with only a faint marginal stain in the first leaf. The wrapper has a few small tears.
An extremely negative and colourful description of New Orleans, just before the Louisiana Purchase

4. BERQUIN-DUVALLO, Pierre-Louis. *Vue de la colonie Espagnole du Mississippi, ou des provinces de Louisiane et Floride Occidentale, en l’année 1802...* 


First and only edition in the original French, of a travel account of the territories of Louisiana and West Florida, then a French possession but administered by Spain. Pierre-Louis Berquin-Duvallon (1769–$2post 1814) was one of the many French plantation holders who had fled the Haitian Revolution on Saint-Domingue and settled in Louisiana. Embittered by his experience, he wrote an extremely negative report of Louisiana and its inhabitants, who had refused to admit the refugees’ slaves. Nevertheless, after describing the geography and economy of the territories, Berquin-Duvallon gives a colourful account of the cities and their inhabitants, particularly of New Orleans. He found the latter to be a filthy place, unworthy to be titled a city, full of ramshackle buildings and streets that for the greater part of the year turn into open sewers. Its citizens fared no better, as he considered them to be noisy and amoral, they preferred drinking wine to conversation and only sought profit instead of education. The nightlife of New Orleans is particularly mentioned, with its gambling and endless dancing where the low orders indiscriminately mix: black and white, freeman and slave. In five specific chapters, the former plantation owner Berquin-Duvallon describes the various racial groups in the colony: white “creoles”, white foreigners, freed people of colour and slaves. With some insignificant wear to the extremities of the boards and some offsetting of the colouring of the maps onto the header; a very good copy.

*Leclerc, Bibliotheca Americana, 1038; Sabin 4962; Streeter coll. 1530; Howes 389.*
"The first authoritative and detailed account of the West Coast of Africa"

5. BOSMAN, Willem. Voyage de Guinée, contenant une description nouvelle & très-exacte de cette côte où l’on trouve & où l’on trafique l’or, les dents d’éléphant, & les esclaves: ...

Utrecht, Antoine Schouten, 1705. Large 12° (17 × 10 cm). With an engraved author’s portrait, an engraved frontispiece and 27 folding engraved plates. Contemporary marbled boards. € 1750

First edition of the French translation of a work on the trade-settlements on the West Coast of Africa. The author, Willem Bosman (b. 1672), was Chief Factor at Fort Elmina for the Dutch West Indian Company. “He stayed on the coast for fourteen years, his Voyage de Guinée ... being regarded as the first authoritative and detailed account of the West Coast of Africa. It is a major source for the Dutch slave trade during second half of the seventeenth century, and provides an interesting picture of international rivalry, current trade, and the wretched and depraved existence of the European factors stationed permanently at the coast” (Howgego). It contains detailed information of areas which were hardly described by other travellers, and remained the most important source for over a century. The book is written in the form of letters to a friend, Dr. D. Havard, living in the city of Rotterdam in the Netherlands.

With library stamp. Some occasional spots and one plate heavily browned, but otherwise in good condition, wholly untrimmed. Binding worn along the extremities and spine discoloured.

Gay 2808; Howgego, to 1800, F38; Tiele 174, note.
Important account containing the earliest information on Darfur, written by the first European to describe the region

Amsterdam, Johannes Allart, 1800. 2 volumes. 8º. With 2 folding maps engraved by D. Veelwaard (ca. 32 × 24 cm and 43 × 40 cm), a woodcut of a pyramid and some tables in text. Modern half vellum. € 1250

The rare Dutch translation of an important work, containing the earliest information on Darfur (Sudan).
William George Browne (1768–1813), “inspired by Bruce’s travels, went to Egypt in 1792 hoping to explore the oases in the eastern Sahara and to journey to the source of the White Nile. He reached El Fashur in Darfur and was the first Englishman to explore the temple of Jupiter Ammon at the Oasis of Siwa. These deserts were not explored again until 1848 when Bayle St. John travelled through them. Browne was the first European to describe Darfur, which he reached with a Sudanese caravan in 1793. He was imprisoned there by the Sultan of Darfur. In 1796 he reached Egypt again by caravan and eventually returned to England via Syria and Constantinople. From 1800 to 1802 Browne travelled again in Turkey and the Levant. Some information gained at that time was published in Walpole’s Memoirs. In 1812 he left England with the intention of travelling through Persia to Tartary, but was murdered by bandits in Persia” (Blackmer).
The maps show Darfur and the route of the Sudanese caravan travelling from Egypt to Darfur as well as the tracks (of which one coloured) for slave traders from Darfur to surrounding countries.
In very good condition and wholly untrimmed, with owner’s stamp on both title-pages. Scarce Dutch translation of an important work containing the earliest information on Darfur.

Cox I, p. 394; Howgego, to 1800, B170; Ibrahim-Hilmy I, p. 91; cf: Atabey 156; Blackmer 219–220.
Suppressing the East African slave trade in the Gulf region


First edition of a very detailed and well-illustrated account of a British naval campaign to suppress the East African slave trade in the years 1868 to 1870, published only eight years after the end of the United States’ Civil War and the abolition of slavery there. Slavery was not outlawed in the Ottoman Empire (which at the time of publication included Egypt and what is now Iraq) until 1882 and in Iran and most of the Gulf States not until the 20th century. The book was written by Captain Philip Howard Colomb (1831–1899), Commander of the HMS Dryad from 1868 to 1870, who lead the campaign. He operated primarily in and around the Gulf, Oman and Zanzibar, and captured seven slave ships during those two years. The illustrations show the Dryad and some of the slave ships, individual and group portraits of slaves encountered during the campaign and views of ports where slave trading occurred. With bookplate and some occasional underscoring in pencil. The folding map foxed, otherwise a very good copy. Binding only slightly rubbed along the extremities. An essential primary source for any study of the slave trade, especially in the Gulf region.

Captivating essays 
on life in 18th-century North America

8. CREVECOEUR, Michel-Guillaume. Lettres d’un cultivateur Américain 
addressées à Wm. S...on Esq. depuis l’Année 1770 jusqu’en 1786. 
Paris, Cuchet Libraire, 1787. 4 volumes. 8º. With 3 full-page engraved title-pages 
with engraved vignette, 1 full-page engraved frontispiece, 5 folding engraved maps, 
3 engraved plates, 2 full-page and 1 folding. 19th-century dark blue half morocco, 
top-edges gilt. € 3500

“Best French edition and most compete of all editions” (Howes); second French edition 
of a famous collection of captivating letters on 18th-century life in America. Michel-
Guillaume Jean de Crevecoeur (1735–1813), who wrote under the name of Hector St John, 
was born in Normandy. He arrived in the New World in 1754 and explored the region of 
the Great Lakes and the East Coast before marrying and settling on a farm in Pine Hill, 
Orange County New York, in 1769. He began to write essay-like letters, describing the 
many opportunities of America, tales of immigrants from different countries, life on the 
frontier, relations with Indians, life as a farmer, the Amish, slavery, his journey through the 
Ohio basin, etc. They are characterized by his first-hand experience, his enthusiasm for his 
adoptive fatherland, his empathy with the plight of the people he meets and the liveliness 
of his style, giving them a distinct place in the American literature of the 18th century. 
With the bookplates of Josiah Kirby Lilly. Repaired tear in first map and some marginal 
damage to large folding map before it was mounted onto linen. Good copy.

Howes C-883; JCB 3122; LeClerc 860; Sabin 17495.
Life and customs in the Ottoman Empire, described by a Christian former slave

9. DJURDJEVIC, Bartol (Bartholomeus GEORGIEVITZ). Voïage de la saincte cite de Hierusalem. Jointe la description des citez, villes, ports, lieux, & autres passages. Ensemble les ceremonies des Turcs ...

Liège, printed by Leonard Streel for Lambert de la Coste, 1600. 2 parts in 1 volume. 4º. 18th-century calf, gold-tooled spine. € 17 500

Rare edition, in French, of “one of the most frequently reprinted accounts of all Turkish life and customs” (Atabey). The first part details a pilgrimage from Paris to Jerusalem, the second is devoted to the Ottoman Empire. Bartolomej Djurdjevic (or Georgievitz, ca. 1506–1566) was captured at the battle of Mohács (1526), Hungary, and spent 13 years in Turkish captivity. He describes the miseries of Christian slaves in the Ottoman Empire, as well as Turkish ceremonies, traditions, religion, agriculture, etc. It includes a Turkish-French vocabulary.

The second part is mentioned on the title-page of the first part, but has its own title-page, pagination and signatures, so that it could also be sold separately. The two parts are rarely found together.

Atkinson 407; Tobler, p. 73; USTC 54775, 34774; not in Belg. Typ.; cf. Atabey 488 (other ed.).
"one of the best books, at the time it was written..." on Surinam

Harlingen, Volkert van der Plaats junior, 1770. 2 parts in 1 volume. 8º. With a large folding engraved map, and 3 folding engraved plates. Contemporary half tanned sheepskin, gold-tooled spine.

First edition of the Dutch translation of an extensive description of the Dutch colony Surinam, “one of the best books, at the time it was written, in regard to the colonies” (Sabin). It deals with both Surinam’s geography (climate, soil, coasts, rivers, towns, forts, etc.) and inhabitants. Many chapters deal with the native inhabitants (Indians) of Surinam and their culture and the slaves, commenting on their origins and way of live. Also included is a chapter on how a planter or slave-owner should treat his slaves, emphasizing humility and sodality. The largest part of the book describes Surinam’s flora and fauna, in particular commercial crops like sugarcane, coffee, cacao and cotton. The large engraved map shows the numerous plantations, all numbered and with their names included in the preliminaries. The other engravings depict a Surinam tent-boat, a the working of mills in the sugarcane industry. With bookplate and a library stamp. Only a few tiny spots and a small tear in the half-title, otherwise in very good condition. Binding rubbed along the extremities and somewhat worn along the spine, but structurally sound.

Van Doorne & Van Kempen 1945; JCB 1735; Sabin 24119; Tiele, Bibl. 356.
Two offprints discussing De Froberville's researches on languages and races in sub-equatorial East Africa, with an autograph letter from De Froberville


[Port Louis, Mauritius], [Société d’Histoire Naturelle de Maurice], [1846]. Offprint, with its own pagination, from Procès-verbaux de la Société d’Histoire Naturelle de l’Ile Maurice, du 6 octobre 1842 au 28 août 1845, [1846].

With: (2) FLOURENS, Pierre, [Louis-Isidore?] DUPERREY and Etienne SERRES. Rapport sur les races nègres de l’Afrique Orientale au sud de l’équateur, observées par M. de Froberville.


2 works in 1 volume. Small folio & large 8°. 19th-century black half morocco, with the blue paper back wrapper of the second offprint bound in. € 1950

Two offprints discussing the researches of the French ethnographer Eugène de Froberville (1790–1871) in Mauritius on the languages and races of sub-equatorial East African, the first one published in Mauritius. The first is especially interesting, because it is an account of a lecture De Froberville gave at the Royal Society of Arts and Sciences of Mauritius, apparently on 8 February 1844, and his lecture does not appear to have been published on its own. The present account, comprising primarily long quotations from De Froberville’s lecture (including an 11-page comparative table of East African languages), may therefore be the best record of his lecture.

Bound before the offprints is a signed autograph letter from De Froberville, written in Port Louis, Mauritius, on 7 August 1846. It does not name the person he is addressing, but it seems likely to have been sent to Louis Bouton concerning his publication of De Froberville’s lecture. A signed autograph note by Bouton on the first page of the 1846 offprint identifies him as the author of the parts that are not directly quoted from De Froberville.

With the second offprint foxed, but both otherwise in very good condition. A rare record of early French research into East African languages.

Ad 1: WorldCat (1 copy, as issued in the proceedings); ad 2: Cohen, French encounter with Africans, p. 242 & note 86 on pp. 340–341; for De Froberville’s work in Mauritius: Vaughan, Creating the Creole Island: slavery in eighteenth-century Mauritius (2005), p. 267.
**Description of Guyana and Surinam**

13. HARTSINCK, Jan Jacob. Beschryving van Guiana, of de Wilde Kust in Zuid-America, ... als Essequebo, Demerary, Berbice, Suriname, en derzelver rivieren, ... Waarby komt eene verhandeling over den Aart en de Gewoontes der Neger-Slaaven.

Amsterdam, Gerrit Tielenburg, 1770. 2 volumes. Large 4º. With 6 full-page and 8 double-page folding engraved plates, and 1 engraving in text. Contemporary half calf.

Untrimmed, large paper copy of the first edition of the classic work on “Guiana,” covering primarily modern Guyana and Surinam, but also parts of French Guyana and northern Brazil. It provides an account of the geography and history of the regions; the customs and habits of the natives; the flora and fauna; the discoveries of the Spanish, French, Portuguese and Dutch voyagers and their settlements and colonization, the commerce of the Dutch West India Company, the Company of Berbice and the Surinam Society and slaves and the slave trade. Warden, *Bibliotheca Americana* calls it “by far the best work ever published on the countries described.”

With only an occasional marginal spot, smudge or crease, and with two pages stuck together in the gutter margin (not affecting or obscuring the text) and the fore-edge of the blank final page stuck to the following endleaf. The spines and the paper on the boards are slightly damaged. A beautifully preserved large paper copy.

*JCB 1742; JFB H-42; Sabin 30712; Suriname Catalogus 2560; Tielen, Bibl. 457.*
Moral novel on the importance of treating one’s slaves properly, written by a VOC official

15. HOGENDORP, Willem van. Kraspoekol, of de droevige gevolgen van eene te verregaande strengeheid, jegens de slaaven.

Rotterdam, Reinier Arrenberg, 1780. 8º. Contemporary marbled wrappers. € 2500

Second edition of Willem van Hogendorp’s very rare moral novel Kraspoekol, narrating the “sad consequences of being overly severe with one’s slaves” (Landwehr & V.d. Krogt) and the importance of treating them properly. The publication “originated in discussion among men then organizing the first secular society [the Bataviaasch Genootschap van Kunsten en Wetenschappen] in the Orient” (Smith Diehl). We have located only one other copy of this edition worldwide (at Cornell University). STCN and NCC record only 3 copies of the 1780 Batavia edition, which was printed by the state printer Lodewyk Dominicus. Willem van Hogendorp (1753–1784) was a lawyer, statesman, official of the Dutch East India Company (voc) and one of the founders of the Bataviaasch Genootschap van Kunsten en Wetenschappen. Some marginal foxing and water stains. A good copy of a very rare slavery item.

KVK (1 copy); cf. Landwehr & V.d. Krogt, VOC 1574 ; Smith Diehl pp. 26–28, 145–148 (Batavia ed.).
Extensive reports
on the British suppression of the slave trade


With: (2) HOUSE OF COMMONS. First [Second] report from the select committee on the slave trade; together with the minutes of evidence, and appendix. [London], 24 May 1849. 2 parts in 1 volume. 2º. With a folding lithographed map. Modern blue half calf, gold-tooled spine. € 8500

Ad 1: Report of a committee appointed by Great Britain’s House of Commons “to consider the best means which Britain can adopt for providing for the final extinction of the slave trade” (p. iii), containing eye-witness accounts and evidence of the violation of existing anti-slavery treaties. It mostly deals with slaves transported from Africa, especially Sierra Leone, to the British West Indies (British Guiana and the Caribbean), Cuba and Brazil, also commenting on the efforts of the Brazilian government to suppress slave trade. The first three parts contain the so-called “minutes of evidence”: the interrogation of witnesses, including captains and naval officers, reverends, merchants, former slaves, etc. Each interrogation is included in its entirety: each question by the committee is written out and numbered and followed by the witness’s answer. The fourth part narrates the proceedings and resolutions of the committee, the fifth contains an index.

Ad 2: Continuation of the report of ad 1, containing further evidence assembled in May and June 1849. It contains more interviews and an extensive appendix, containing a list of treaties for the suppression of the slave trade, lists of suspected and captured slave trade vessels, letters, legal reports and more.

Pages numbered in ink (Ad 1: 1–855, ad 2: 705–939), very slightly browned along the margins. Binding of ad 1 with a stain on front board. Overall in very good condition.

P. Hogg, The African slave trade and its suppression 25 (ad 1) and 26 (ad 2).
Detailed and lavishly illustrated memoirs of travels in the Caribbean

17. **LABAT, Jean-Baptiste**. Nieuwe reizen naar de Franse eilanden van America. Behelzende de natuurlyke historie van die landen, derzelve oorspronk, zeden, godsdienst, regering der oude en tegenwoordige inwoonders; als ook die der zwarte slaaven.

Amsterdam, Balthasar Lakeman, 1725. 4 volumes bound as 2. 4º. With 2 engraved frontispieces, 11 folding engraved maps and plans, and 83 full-page plates. Contemporary polished half calf. € 7500

First Dutch edition of Labat’s detailed journal recording his travels in the Caribbean. The work is replete with historical observations and contains important sociological, geographical, zoological, anthropological and gastronomic remarks, including an elaborate treatise on the cultivation of cocoa and the fabrication of chocolate. The maps depict North and part of South America with the Caribbean, the islands of Martinique, Barbados, Santa Domingo, etc.

The author, a Dominican Priest, travelled to Martinique in 1694. He sojourned two years in the island and then sailed for Guadeloupe, where he was appointed procurator-general of the Dominican convents. He travelled extensively in the French, Dutch, and English Antilles, using his knowledge of engineering and agriculture to build water mills and dams, to dig canals, etc.

Fine set.

*Alden & Landis 725/121; Hünersdorff, Coffee, pp. 836–837; Nissen, ZBI 2330a; Sabin 38415 (10 maps and 76 plates only).*
Freeing Christian slaves in Alger and Tunis in 1720

Including: La tradition de l’eglise.
Paris, Louis-Anne Sevestre and Pierre-François Giffart, 1721. 2 parts in 1 volume. 12º. With an engraved frontispiece portrait of Louis xv, engraved by P.F. Giffart, folding engraved plate of the court of the Dey (Regent) of Algiers, and a regular engraved plate in the second part. Contemporary mottled calf, richly gold-tooled spine. € 1000

First edition of an account of a voyage of three Trinitarian Fathers, François Comelin, Joseph Bernard and Philemon de la Motte, to Algiers and Tunis, initiated to free Christians enslaved by the Muslim rulers of North Africa. It describes the people they meet in Algiers, the progress of their negotiations with ambassadors, and the manners and customs of the Moors living in North Africa, and their journey to Tunis and back to France. Also included are more general descriptions of the cities and their ports. According to Barbier, the account was written by Jean-Baptiste de la Faye. The second part, La tradition de l’eglise, includes a list with the names of more than 400 Christian slaves, noting their age and years in captivity and describing their return home. Also given are Biblical texts related to slaves, captives and prisoners, to illustrate the proper Christian attitude towards slavery.

With two owner’s inscriptions in ink on title-page. Some occasional minor foxing or spotting, page 11–12 torn with minor text loss. Binding somewhat rubbed along the extremities, top of spine damaged. Overall in good condition.

Barbier IV, col. 1095; Gay 484.
First and only edition of a description of Bali

Amsterdam, G.J.A. Beijerinck, 1848. 8º. With lithographed title-page and a folding lithographed map of the island Bali. Contemporary dark green half cloth. € 3500

First and only edition of a description of the Indonesian island Bali and its people by Ulrich Gerard Lauts (1787–1865), a professor at the Royal Maritime Institute at Medemblik in the Netherlands. Without ever having set foot in the Dutch East Indies he wrote this book on Bali, which contains a general description of the island, its political system, the status of women, slavery, trade, customs (including the smoking of opium), religion, etc., and describes the relation with the Dutch from their first arrival in 1597 till 1848. The account was written when the Dutch were encountering difficulties with the virtually still independent local Balinese princes and rajahs.

The three supplements contain details on the trade and shipping between Java and Bali in the years 1837–1846, a manifest for the Rajah of Beliling, a description of the state of the Dutch colonial army on Bali in 1846 and an official account of the expedition to Bali in 1848.

Witha faint catalogue number and a library stamp. Browned throughout, with some spots, some wormholes throughout with loss of a few letters, two marginal tears along the folds of the map. Binding rubbed along the extremities. A fair copy.

Tiele, Bibl. 646; for the author: NNBW VIII, cols. 1014–1016.
Rare Swedish edition of Norris’ journey to Africa and defence of slavery


A very rare translation into Swedish of Norris’ travels in the West Guinean country Dahomey. Robert Norris (d. 1791) was a slave trader. In February 1772, he visited the court in Dahomey, and provides his readers with curious and horrifying details of a mass execution taking place as part of various “customs” or royal ceremonies. “In 1788, when, owing to the vigorous action of the advocates of abolition, a committee of the privy council was appointed to inquire into the slave question, Norris was delegated to lay before it the views of the Liverpool trade, a circumstance which probably led to the publication of his … His account of the slave trade is a defence of slavery” (DNB). Additionally, the Swedish translation contains many interesting notes by Samuel Ödman (1750–1829). With embossed library stamp on first endleaf. Some traces on title-page and last leaf of earlier binding. Spine of the boards slightly soiled and the top a bit damaged. A very good copy.

Cf. Compact DNB I, p. 1504; Gay 288t; Maggs, Bibliotheca Asiatica et Africana 841.
Shipwrecked Americans as slaves of Islamic hunters and nomads in the western Sahara in 1800

22. Paddock, Judah. A narrative of the shipwreck of the Oswego, on the coast of South Barbary, ...
London, Longman, Hurst, Rees, Orme and Brown (printed by Andrew Strahan), 1818. 4º. 20th-century tan goatskin morocco. € 1500

First British edition, published in the same year as the first American edition, of a detailed narrative of the wreck of the 260 ton American ship Oswego off the coast of Africa near the Canary Islands on 28 March 1800 and the capture of the captain and crew by a party of seven armed Islamic hunters armed with guns and daggers. It was written by the ship’s Quaker captain Judah Paddock, whose detailed description of their months in captivity provides a wealth of information about Islamic culture in a region where few Europeans or Americans had ever ventured. Their captors forced them to march inland through the desert for five or six days, where they sold the white prisoners to nomadic shepherds but chose to keep the two black prisoners for their own use and departed with them.

With minor foxing (mostly in the title-page and final leaf), some worm damage in the gutter fold of the first and last quire, and a few leaves with a corner torn off, but still in good condition. Binding with a small worm hole and a few superficial scratches and scuff marks, but also good. A fascinating and informative story of life in the captivity of nomads in the western Sahara.

Extensive travel account of Middle and South America

23. PONS, François Raymond Joseph de. Voyage a la partie orientale de la Terre-Ferme, dans l’Amérique méridionale, fait pendant les années 1801, 1802, 1803 et 1804: contenant la description de la Capitainerie générale de Caracas, composée des Provinces de Venezuela, Maracaibo, Varinas, la Guiane Espagnole, Cumana et de l’Ile de la Marguerite; ...

Paris, F. Buisson (back of half-title: Imprimerie de Fain et compagnie), 1806. 3 volumes. 8º. With 4 folding engraved maps, including a large map of Caracas and surroundings and 3 smaller showing groundplans of Caracas, Puerto Cabello and La Guaira. All engraved by J.B. Tardieu. Contemporary half calf.

First edition of an extensive description of a voyage to “terra firma”, referring to Spain’s possessions surrounding the Caribbean Sea (here Venezuela in particular), written by François Raymond Joseph de Pons (1751–1812), archivist of the French Navy. It starts with a history of the region starting at its first discovery and following (missionary) voyages and conquest of the lands. Other chapters deal with the geology and geography of the region, the inhabitants and their customs and culture, trade, commerce, slavery, resources, agriculture, warfare, religion, etc.

Slightly browned with some occasional minor foxing and some minor damage to the corners of the first few leaves. Bindings slightly rubbed along the extremities. Overall in very good condition.

Chadenat 559; Palau IV 559; Sabin 19641.
The struggle for an independent black Haiti: the founding of the second independent state in the Americas, written by an English admirer

24. RAINSFORD, Marcus. St. Domingo, of het land der zwarten in Hayti en deszelfs omwenteling. ... Naar het Engelsch. Met platen en kaarten. Amsterdam, Johannes Allart, 1806. 2 volumes. 8º. With engraved frontispiece, 8 numbered engraved plates and 5 unnumbered folding engraved plates, the folding plates for a map of Haiti (20.5 × 44 cm), a plan of “Kaap François” (Cap-Haïtien), and a facsimile of a 3-page letter from Toussaint l’Ouverture to Edward Tyrell Smith. Contemporary stiffened sprinkled paper wrappers. € 2750

First Dutch edition of an important and partly eye-witness account of Haiti and its struggle for freedom from French rule. Marcus Rainsford (ca. 1750–1805) served for many years as a soldier with the British Army in the British West Indies. He visited Haiti in 1799, where he became an admirer of Toussaint l’Ouverture, the black former slave who led Haiti’s revolution, struggled to end slavery and fought with great valour and military acumen to establish an independent republic. Toussaint l’Ouverture played a key role in what proved the first successful attempt by a slave population in the Americas (or elsewhere) to throw off the yoke of European colonialism. He defeated armies of three imperial powers, but died in French custody a year before the 1804 independence made Haiti the second independent republic in the Americas (after the United States of America but before Venezuela and Colombia).

With armorial bookplate. A small tear in the folding plan of Cap-Haïtien and in the sea in the map of Haiti, but still in very good condition, unpressed and wholly untrimmed. Wrappers slightly rubbed and spines slightly frayed. A detailed, well illustrated and sympathetic account of the Haitian slave revolt: an essential source for any study of slavery in the Americas.

Muller, America 531; Saakes 4, p. 268 and 306; Sabin 67335.
Unconventional travel account giving a fresh look at the declining Dutch overseas empire

25. **STAVORINUS, Johan Splinter.** Voyages par le Cap de Bonne-Espérance dans l’archipel des Molucques, de 1768 a 1771 et de 1774 a 1778 … Paris, Maradan, 1805. 3 volumes. 8º. With 4 engraved plates (3 folding) and 5 folding engraved maps. 19th-century gold-tooled half sheepskin. € 1450

Second French edition of Stavornius’s accounts of his two voyages, made in 1768–1771 and 1774–1778, to the Cape of Good Hope and the Dutch East Indies. Stavorinus was a rear admiral who temporarily transferred to the Dutch East India Company (VOC) in search of adventure. An observant traveller, he not only comments on the many exotic beauties he encounters (he was especially taken by the beauty of the Parsi women of Gujerat), but also describes the decline of the VOC, the appalling health conditions in pestilential Batavia, claiming the lives of numerous VOC servants each year, the fate of slaves kept in Batavia, the drinking habits of Europeans in Ambonia (10 to 12 glasses before diner was apparently no exception), etc. Browned, some stains, slightly soiled, two maps reinforced. Bindings worn, spines damaged at head and foot.

South African bibliography IV, p. 386; Tiele, Bibl. 1044 note; cf. Landwehr, VOC 300.
“any free negro or mulatto to come within the limits of Texas [shall be sold] at public auction to the highest bidder”

26. [TEXAS REPUBLIC]. Ordinances and decrees of the consultation, provisional government of Texas and the convention, which assembled at Washington March 1, 1836. By order of the secretary[!] of State.

Rare first edition of a collection of the ordinances and decrees declaring Texas’s right to secede from Mexico and setting up an interim government and its laws. Texas had been a Spanish territory and since 1824 part of the Mexican Federation, but large numbers of immigrants from the United States had settled there. When Mexico established its independence from Spain (1821-1824) the immigrants’ already uneasy relations with the government authorities worsened. In 1835, the Mexican president, General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, abolished the 1824 federal constitution and assumed greater centralized powers. The present book opens with the 7 November 1835 decree in which “the people of Texas” declare that Santa Anna overthrew the legitimate government of Mexico and that Texas therefore claims the right to secede.

The present book opens with the 7 November 1835 decree in which “the people of Texas” declare that Santa Anna overthrew the legitimate government of Mexico and that Texas therefore claims the right to secede. It is followed by the “Plan and powers of the provisional government of Texas”, adopted 13 November. This led to war on 2 October 1835. These declarations are followed by numerous ordinances of the interim government up to 17 January 1836. As independent Texas would reinstate the practice of slavery, among these is an ordinance foridding “any free negro or mulatto to come within the limits of Texas... and upon satisfactory evidence... that such free negro or mulatto emigrated into Texas... it shall be the duty of the Judge or Alcalde... to expose him or her to sale at public auction to the highest bidder” (p. 12).

With Sangorski & Sutcliffe’s binder’s stamp on the first free endleaf. Book and binding in very good condition.

Sabin 94959; Streeter, Americana 363; Streeter, Texas 246; WorldCat (5 or 6 copies).
Rare Rio de Janeiro imprint, relating travels in the East Indies, Indochina, Arabia, etc.

27. TRAVASSOS VALDEZ, Francisco. Da Oceania a Lisboa viagem. ... Offerecida e dedicada aos Portuguezes no Brasil. Rio de Janeiro, Typografia Perseverança, 1866. 8°. Contemporary red half sheepskin, gold-tooled spine. € 1950

First and only edition of a rare travel account by Francisco Travassos Valdez, who sailed from Lisbon to the Sunda islands, Timor, Java, Indochina, India, Arabia, Egypt and back to Lisbon. The book discusses the geography, economy, the customs, habits and native language of the places he visited. The author dedicated his book to all his fellow Portuguese countrymen living in Brazil. After the dedication is a letter written by 12 compatriots in Brazil ordering more than 1000 copies of the book. Travassos’s answer, dated from Rio de Janeiro (he had apparently moved there after the voyages described here), 11 March 1866 follows. Francisco Travassos Valdez (1825–1892) was a noted travel writer and anti-slavery campaigner. He also wrote *Africa occidental. Noticias e considerações.* (Lisboa 1864). In very good condition, with the first and last few pages somewhat foxed and a couple minor marginal tears.

*Palau 339860.*
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