GENERAL INFORMATION

Condition of Books: All items are in very good condition unless described otherwise. Photos of items are available - please ask!

Abbreviations:
DJ - dust jacket
ed. - editor, edition
enlg. - enlarged
fly - the first free blank page
foxing - brown spots on pages
p., pp. - page, pages
pl(s). - plate(s)
ptg. - printing
rubbed - binding worn in spots
shaken - binding somewhat loose
VG - very good condition
wraps - paper covers

Sizes (approximate):
8vo. (octavo) - 9” tall, the size of all items unless otherwise noted
folio - 15” tall
4to. (quarto) - 12” tall
12mo. (twelvemo) - 7” tall
16mo. (sixteenmo) - 5.5” tall

TO ORDER

Please do not send payment in advance. Available books will be shipped with an invoice enclosed which will include shipping charges (determined by weight). Books sent within the U.S. are sent via U.S. Postal Service "Media Rate", insured, unless otherwise specified; if requesting shipment by UPS, please include your street address with your order.

Overseas shipments are sent by U.S. Postal Service, first class package, international, unless otherwise specified.

Returns: Books are returnable for any reason within 10 days of receipt.

Selling Your Books?
We are always interested in purchasing books, whether it be a single volume, or a larger collection. Please keep us in mind when you are "weeding" your garden library!

Best regards,
~ Bradford Lyon and Joanne Fuccello

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1. Beal, Alvin C. - GARDENING AND THE USE OF FLOWERS.  
The lectures cover gardening in Ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome as well as gardening in the Middle Ages, the Renaissance and more modern times. Alvin Casey Beal was an expert on flowers and the author of a book on sweet peas and one on radishes. This work contains the armorial bookplate of Frank Galsworthy (1863-1959), a British artist best known for his botanical and landscape watercolors. Exhibitions of his work were acclaimed in both England and America. An interesting privately bound item. $30.00

2. Blake, S. F. & Alice C. Atwood - GEOGRAPHICAL GUIDE TO FLORAS OF THE WORLD.  
An Annotated List with Special Reference to Useful Plants and Common Plant Names. 2 volumes. USDA Misc. Publ. 401: 797. pp.336: 742. Original green buckram. Washington, DC 1942: 1961. U.S.D.A. Arranged by country and within country divided into general and local works. Volume 1 comprises Africa, Australia, North and South America, and Islands of the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Oceans. Volume 2 comprises western Europe. Volume 1 was previously owned by E. D. Merrell and Lanzzella Schwarten, with their names on the front free endpaper. Elmer Drew Merrell was an American botanist who was an authority on the flora of Asia and the Pacific. Lanzzella Schwarten was Librarian at the Arnold Arboretum. A nice association copy, in VG condition. $40.00

Engraved bust of Cato on title to first work. [Bound with] Varro, Marcus Terentius - DE RE RUSTICA Curante Jo. Matthia Gesneri (Libri III). pp.(i-title),324. Cato’s work to p.105; rest is Varro’s work. Calf back, paper over boards, spine gilt-tooled. Mannheim, Germany 1781. Societatis Literarum. Hinges cracked, some small wormholes in spine, light foxing. Leaves untrimmed. Early engraved ticket from the Milanese publisher and bookseller Pietro & Giuseppe Vailardi inside front cover. VG-. Both works are guides to farming and agriculture originally written in the first century B.C. From the 15th century onward, they were often found published and bound together, sometimes also with the agricultural works of Palladius and Columella. Latto text. $100.00

Worn calf, spine ends bumped, hinge cracked, writing on endpaper, rear blank torn, foxing. Bookplate of the well-known book collector Marcus Craman. Jean-Antoine Chapital (1756-1832) was a French statesman, industrialist and agronomist who wrote a number of works on how to apply the scientific principles being developed at the time to agriculture. First published in 1823 as Chimie Appliquee à l’Agriculture, Chapital describes the nature of soil, manure, etc., and then discusses plans for cultivation, nourishment and the principles of crop succession. He also includes chapters on the preservation and uses of vegetable products, fermentation, distillation, and the cultivation of the beet root. Chapital’s political sympathies were very much in harmony with the United States and he hoped that his work would help peasants in France become independent farmers as they were in America. $185.00

5. Clarke Nursery; W. B. Clarke & Co., Owners - GARDEN ARISTOCRATS. Lot of 16 issues: Vol.1 1934 – Vol.16 1950. Cloth front wrap. Approximately 20pp. each. Wraps. San Jose, CA 1934-1949. In the early 1930’s the Clarke Nursery (established 1917) imported woody plants from England and other countries, but because of business uncertainties during the Depression, nurserymen were hesitant to buy expensive plants. We are willing to take a risk in purchasing these unknown plants in bulk. So Clarke Nursery decided to advertise them directly to consumers via this pamphlet: “Our idea is to describe in each issue as accurately as possible a limited number of the best things, omit all ‘ballyhoo’ and make the booklet worth saving for future reference.” Some soiling. Notations on front wrap of some. VG. The lot of 16 - $75.00

Vol.1 - Lepidotes. 95 color photos, 35 full-page drawings of botanicals. 431pp. Vol.2 - Elepidotes Pt. 1. Arboreum-Lacteum. 159 color photos on 48 plates, 7 b&w photos, 46 line drawings, 5 maps. 344pp. Vol.3 - Elepidotes Pt. 2. Emerardum, N partitions-Thomsonii, Azaleastrum & Camtschaticum. 161 color photos on 48 plates, 8 b&w photos, numerous line drawings and maps. 381pp. All bound in cloth. Thick 4to. Portland, OR 1982-1992. Timmer Press. This is the complete three volume set on rhododendrons (a fourth volume, on azaleas, was issued in 1995). Botany and practical information on the use and culture of rhododendrons, plus historical notes on expeditions and introductions. Fine new copies in VG DJ’s. The 3 volumes - $100.00

First U.S. Book on Flower Cultivation

8. Green, Roland - A TREATISE ON THE CULTIVATION OF ORNAMENTAL FLOWERS; Comprising Remarks on the Requisite Soil, Sowing, Transplanting and General Management: with Directions for the General Treatment of Bulbous Flower Roots, Green House Plants, &c. 59pp. Original printed paper over boards. 12mo. Shumaker #33414; Hedrick, p.479. Boston 1828. John B. Russell and G. Thorburn and Son. Boards torn, front board with some water-staining and rear board with small (3/4” x 1/8”) abrasion and loss of a few letters. Corners bumped, lacks rear free endpaper, some light to occasionally moderate foxing. This was the first book published in America wholly devoted to flower cultivation. Green begins by describing the advantages of ornamental gardening for the agriculturist, the elderly, the young, and young ladies. He then describes cultivation methods, arrange flowers and describes with descriptions of 88 outdoor flowers and 14 greenhouse plants. The rear board contains print advertisements for G. Thorburn & Son flower seeds, John B. Russell’s Dutch bulbous roots and Fessenden’s New American Gardener. Overall a very good copy of a work usually found in poor condition. A landmark work in American floricultural literature. $65.00


10. Horine M.D., Emmet Field - DANIEL DRAKE (1785-1852), Pioneer Physician of the Midwest. Introduction by J. Christian Bay. 55 b&w reproductions of portraits, prints, documents, etc. 425pp. Cloth. Philadelphia, PA (1961). University of Pennsylvania Press. A detailed biography of this influential 19th century American physician and author. Based in Cincinnati, Drake founded a medical journal which was used extensively in the West. He also wrote a memoir, Pioneer Life in Kentucky, which has become a classic American title. VG in slightly worn DJ. $40.00

SALESMAN'S CATALOGUE
BY D. M. DEWEY
7. Dewey, D. M. - DEWEY'S POCKET SERIES. Colored from Nature. 33 mounted color plates including 29 theorem paintings and four hand-colored lithographs. Brown morocco back with brown pebbled cloth over boards, lightly scuffed. Spine with gilt lettering. Oblong 8vo. (8.75” wide by 5.25” tall). Rochester, NY 1872. D. M. Dewey. Plates include the following: 7 apples, 6 pears, 4 grapes, 3 peaches, 2 plums, 3 currants, 1 berries, 1 quince, 1 rose, 1 chestnut 1 dwarf pear tree, 3 other trees. All but four are printed within an ornamental blue border with text printed at the bottom: “Dewey’s Pocket Series. Colored from Nature. Copyright secured 1872.” Although there is mild soiling on the plates with some color offsetting onto the verso of adjacent plates, the coloring in general is very good. There is moderate soiling on six of the plates and four plates (two pear and two trees) are moderately water-stained; two plates are close-cropped at the bottom and eight mounted such that the top blue border is obscured. From the late 1850’s through the late 1880’s, Dellon Marcus Dewey developed a business producing colored plates depicting various fruits, flowers and trees. These plates could be ordered individually by nurseries, and then bound into “salesmen’s catalogues” which salesmen could carry with them to show prospective buyers the nursery’s stock, and from which orders could then be taken. Dewey is credited with inventing this kind of catalogue and his firm dominated the market for decades. In this catalogue, all but the four tree plates are theorem paintings, a time-consuming illustration technique which developed in the 18th and 19th centuries in which pre-cut stencils were used to apply individual colors to plates, gradually layering the colors onto the plates until a life-like image of the object emerged. Later in the 19th century, this type of illustration was replaced by chromolithography. A good, early example of this type of nurseryman’s catalogue. VG. $1,200.00
12. HORTICULTURE ILLUSTRATED. Vol. 7 1929 - Vol. 13 1935. Total of 7 volumes. Published semi-monthly (24 issues per year). Full of b&w photos showing gardens, plants, and individuals, plus some text illustrations. About 500pp, per volume. Folio. Boston 1929 - 1935. Massachusetts Horticultural Society. Each volume has been bound uniformly in red cloth by a private collector with his name (Charles W. Holton, Essex Fells, NJ) and the periodical title printed in gold on spines, wraps bound in. This periodical was issued in two series: the first was published from 1904 - 1923 and the new series began in 1923. These volumes from the Depression era contain articles on the horticultural news of the day, horticultural societies, garden clubs, etc., and feature articles, nursery advertisements (including plants and their prices) as well as book reviews and announcements. VG condition. The 7 volumes - $350.00

13. Jekyll, Gertrude - WALL AND WATER GARDENS. “Second edition” (i.e. second printing). Many b&w photo plates. pp.xiv,177. Cloth. In the “Country Life” series. London/NY [1902]. Country Life & Geo. Newnes. This is actually the second printing of Miss Jekyll’s work, which was first published in 1901. This printing contains four photos of lily ponds not called for in the book’s listing of illustrations, but which are present here and are called for in the later “Third edition.” Cover faded, foxed, two contemporary names on endpaper (H. W. Howard and Const. H. M Shaw). Good. $30.00

14. Laurence, Edward - THE DUTY OF A STEWARD TO HIS LORD, Represented under Several Plain and Distinct Articles; Wherein May be Seen the Indirect Practices of Several Stewards, Tending to Len and, and the Several Methods Likely to Improve Their Estates. To which is Added an Appendix, Showing the Way to Plenty, Proposed to the Farmers... Design’d Originally for the Use of the Several Stewards and Tenants of His Grace the Duke of Buckingham... First edition. Double-page frontispiece map of Dan Boggs Farm in Hereford, and double-page plate of hedges. pp.xv,212. Full paneled calf, leather re-backing. 4to. London 1727. John Shuckburgh. Name on endpaper, light foxing on endpapers, writing on rear endpaper. Name of Edward Lascelles, Dec. 14, 1727, on title. The Lascelles family of England were active as merchants in the West Indies beginning in the late 17th century.

Edward Laurence (who died in 1740) was a land-surveyor who through his work surveying the great estates of the time came to know various stewards and the methods of farming they used. Writing under the patronage of the Duchess of Buckinghamshire and Normandy, he decries “the misfortunes and losses that have befallen several of the nobility and gentry throughout the kingdom on account of either the ignorance or knavery of bad stewards,” and discusses the proper duties of that position. He follows this with a survey sample of an estate with its various farms, acreage, types of crops and land usage, income derived, etc. An appendix for farmers on the management and improvement of farms is included, as well as chapters on dungs, soils, hedge-clipping, hogs and drainage, etc. He also provides examples of proper bookkeeping. A second edition of the book was published in 1731 and a third edition in 1743. A fascinating historical work. VG. $450.00

15. Levy Fils et Cie., printer - [POSTCARDS of Versailles]. 24 b&w postcards in the original stapled booklet, perforated at the binding end for detaching, with tissue guards. A collection of unused postcards measuring 5 ¾” wide by 3 ½” tall. Somewhat soiled, but otherwise in VG condition. Paris, circa 1918. Levy Fils et Cie. The firm of Levy Fils et Cie was established by Georges Levy along with his father-in-law, Moyse Leon; it was called “Leon & Levy.” Their specialty was producing postcards and glass plates. When Leon left the business in 1872, the firm was renamed “J. Levy & Cie.” and in 1895, Levy’s sons took over and called it “Levy Fils et Cie.” Original unused sets of postcards from the turn of the last century are scarce. $50.00

16. Lowe, E. J. - A NATURAL HISTORY OF BRITISH GRASSES. 74 chromolithographs of grasses. pp.(1-title, 1-content), 245. Large 8vo. (6.25” wide x 10” tall). Original green blind-stamped cloth. Stafleu #5041. London 1865. Groombridge & Sons. Joint ends corners worn (1” at front joint). Lightly soiled, name inside cover, leaves somewhat browned. Good. Edward Joseph Lowe (1825-1900) was a British botanist of private wealth who wrote a number of illustrated books on ferns, grasses, and parlor plants during the late 19th century “fern craze.” This book, (15 - cont.) father-in-law, Moyse Leon; it was called “Leon & Levy.” Their specialty was producing postcards and glass plates. When Leon left the business in 1872, the firm was renamed “J. Levy & Cie.” and in 1895, Levy’s sons took over and called it “Levy Fils et Cie.” Original unused sets of postcards from the turn of the last century are scarce. $50.00

17. MacCurdy, Rahno Mabel - THE HISTORY OF THE CALIFORNIA FRUIT GROWERS EXCHANGE. Four full-page b&w photos (including frontispiece), two other illustrations. pp.(3),106. Cloth in DJ. Los Angeles 1925. No publisher noted; printed by Geo. Rice and Sons, Los Angeles. Binding slightly scuffed. With the Author’s signature on the back of the frontispiece. VG. A history of this association for fruit growers in Southern California, which began as a group for orange growers but gradually expanded to include lemon growers and others. The early history of the California citrus industry is also covered. $150.00


20. Otis, Denise - GROUNDS FOR PLEASURE. Four Centuries of the American Garden. 333 illustrations (including 182 color photographs) plus numerous b&w reproductions of plates, engravings, plans, etc., from period sources. 352pp. Cloth. 4to. (NY 2002). Harry N. Abrams. Divided into three sections: a chronological history of private gardens in America; various styles in gardens used in this country; a portfolio of 20th century gardens, many by lesser known gardeners. VG in VG DJ. Published at $75.00, this new copy: $30.00


Payne was active in a number of horticultural societies including the National Chrysanthemum Society and the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. Bibliographies arranged by the name of the author, title, place and date. The first volume contains the armorial bookplate of the Scottish Colville family. Laid in is the author’s printed sheet noting “With C. Harman Payne’s Compliments and Thanks,” with address. Payne has written a note stating “I want No. 12 & 13 to make my set of American Dahlia Soc. Bulletin up to date” and thanking the recipient for Bulletin 14. A scarce set of this bibliography of florist’s flowers, in very good condition. $50.00


Otto E. Plath (1885-1940), father of the noted poet Sylvia Plath, was a professor of biology and German at Boston University when he wrote this in 1934. It contains a detailed appendix on the more important North American bumblebee species plus an 18pp. bibliography. Plath specialized in entomology and was an avid beekeeper. Sylvia was just two years old when her father published this, his first and only book, and she was just eight years old when he died. Interestingly, she uses bee imagery in several of her poems as a metaphor for her complex relationship with her father. On the front free endpaper is a SIGNED inscription by Otto Plath to Professor Earle A. Brooks (1871-1952), a Presbyterian minister and professor of Field Sciences in Boston. And laid in is a signed, typewritten note from Professor Brooks from Otto Plath - written on his Boston University stationery - thanking him for his review of Bumblebees for Boston. “I have seen several reviews of the book, but none showed as much appreciation and understanding as did yours.” A unique gift for the bee enthusiast. VG in Good+ DJ. $450.00


26. Schirach, M. A. G. - HISTOIRE NATURELLE DE LA REINE DES Abeilles, avec l’Art de former des Essaims. Translated from the German by J. J. Blassiere. 3 fold-out plates (1 repaired) showing designs for hives and honeycomb details. pp.iv,(4),269. Early full mottled calf, original marbled endpapers. A La Haye 1771. Frederic Staatman. Binding rubbed along spine and edges, several small pieces of lower portion of spine gone, lower 2nd of front hinge rubbed through. Adam Gottlob Schirach (1724-1773) was considered the most

27. Simmonds, J. H. - TREES FROM OTHER LANDS FOR FELDER & TIMBER IN NEW ZEALAND. Eucalyptus 176 botanical plates (74 plus 2 bis), 28 scenic b&w photos. pp.xviii,164. Cloth. Folio. Auckland, New Zealand. Brett Printing & Publishing Co. The author, the Rev. J. H. Simmonds (1845-1936), was a well-known silviculturist in New Zealand. In this work, descriptions of over 70 species of eucalypts are arranged by thermometric group, i.e., by the mean and extreme temperatures in which they can be grown. He includes an alphabetical glossary of words and terms used in the text. A presentation sheet SIGNED by the author to Mr. Fred W. Thorne is tipped in on the front endpaper. VG copy. $100.00


29. Taylor, J. Orville - *THE FARMER’S SCHOOL BOOK*. 238pp. Full calf, re-backed. 16mo. (3.5" wide x 5.5" tall) Albany 1837. Common School Depository. Endpapers browned. VG. Taylor was a professor and editor of a monthly education periodical called The Common School Assistant. The book offered here was written for students as an alternative to the then common textbook, the English Reader, which Taylor felt was neither of sufficient interest nor of any practical use to students who were going to become farmers. $60.00

30. Towne, Henry R. - A TREATISE ON CRANES. Descriptive Particularly of Those Designed and Built by the Yale & Towne Manufacturing Co., Operating and Owning the Weston Crane Co. Including also a Description of Light Hoisting Machinery as Built by the Same Makers. 83 text engravings (many full page). pp.x.(1),191, (2-advertisement). Original cloth with gilt-stamped illustration of man with a crane on cover. Stamford, CT 1883. Yale & Towne Manufacturing Co. A treatise on the various types and mechanisms of cranes, written by a mechanical engineer. The preface notes that this “is the first publication descriptive of American, as distinct from European practice.” Not a horticulture book, but it is an interesting and well-illustrated work nonetheless. Perhaps you’re looking for a gift for an engineer or mechanical tinkerer who enjoys history? A few scarce marks, name on title. VG. $50.00

32. Wright, Richardson - GARDENER’S TRIBUTE. First edition. 8pp. of b&w illustrations including reproductions of portraits, prints and paintings. 256pp. Cloth. Philadelphia, PA & NY (1949). J. B. Lippincott. Nine engaging essays on various gardeners and botanists such as Robert Fortune, the Empress Josephine, Rondelet, etc. Richardson Wright was a well-known horticultural author and delightful writer. Nice gift for the armchair gardener. VG in VG DJ (small chip at top of spine). $25.00

33. Wulf, Andrea - THE BROTHER GARDENERS. Botany, Empire and the Birth of an Obsession. (Third printing). 16pp. of color and b&w b&w illustrations taken from historic sources (botanical prints, portraits, book illustrations, etc.) pp.x(1),354,(1). Cloth. NY 2009. Alfred A. Knopf. An engaging narrative history of a group of eight 18th century plantmen both in England and in America whose correspondence and plant exchanges led to a revolution in garden design and plant appreciation. The gardeners include John Bartram, Peter Collinson, Philip Miller, Carl Linnaeus, Joseph Banks, and Daniel Solander. A lovely fine copy in fine DJ. $40.00