Gerald W. Cloud Rare Books
Catalog Three

Our newest list features French books, Literature, Travel, and a 12-vol. set of 19th century Lettering and design books (168 chromolithographs).


$140,000

Enguerrand de Monstrelet’s Chronicle of the 100 Years’ War is a continuation of Jean Froissart’s earlier chronicle (1327-1400). Monstrelet composed his work in two parts: book one spanning the period from 1400 until the end Charles VI’s reign, in 1422; the second book covers the period of French history that ended with the Treaty of Tours (1422-1444). The present remarkable volume includes of book one, and it consists of the following features:

ORNAMENTATION: numerous red ink initials, of various sizes; chapter titles in red ink, and red
underlining.

THE COPYIST AND THE DATE: Thomas de Lenoghe, 19 July 1464
The copyist signed and dated the text of the manuscript in the colophon: "Je Thomas de Lenoghe, natif de Cambray, ville séans en l'Empire d'Allemagne acomplie de coppijer che present livre le XIXe jour de juillet l'an 1464. Scriptor qui scripsit cum Christo vivere possit. Amen"

CONTEMPORARY SIGNED BINDING BY A BINDER NAMED "CAPELIER". Tinted parchment over wood, blind stamped décor, rectangular tool with the signature of the binder, several square tools including one with fleur-de-lis, traces of claps. Two of the reinforcing strips used for this binding include a scholastic text (maybe a commentary on Aristotle), written in 13th-century calligraphy, and music notation, probably from the 13th century as well.
PROVENANCE: Several handwritten ex-libris, dated from the 15th and 16th centuries are featured on the end leaves of the binding, which include: The De Clermès family; the D’Ennetières family; and, after the beginning of the 19th century the book joined one of the Princely House of Merode’s libraries.

Enguerrand de Monstrelet (c.1390-1453) was thought to be the illegitimate son of a noble family. He was born in Ponthieu, near Doullens, in western Picardy, and died in 1453. In 1430 he was nominated to the office of bailiff in Compiègne, in the service of John of Luxemburg, who became Joan of Arc’s first gaoler in May of the same year and subsequently sold her to the English. The author of Chronicles witnessed the first encounter between the Maid of Orléans and the Duke of Burgundy, Philip the Good. Monstrelet, through his connection to John of Luxemburg, was thus naturally loyal to the Anglo-Burgundian clan, whose cause he also upheld. In 1444 he became provost of Cambrai, a rich episcopal city located in the Holy Roman Empire, before becoming bailiff in Walincourt (a city to the South East of Cambrai). He is often referred to as Enguerrand de Monstrelet, formerly living in Cambrai, Cambresis.

A FULL DESCRIPTION IS AVAILABLE HERE:

Accompanied by 13 autograph letters written by Ribeyre (1864-1869), 50 pp. Fine.

$2,250
The bibliophilic correspondence of the Marquis de Ribeyre, written to an unidentified recipient toward the last years of his life, mentioning contemporary book sales with comments on those collections, his personal reading, his research and discoveries in archeology and other subjects, his travel, leisure and daily life in 19th century Paris, and his book collecting. Three letters carry a blind stamp with his arms (they have been cut out on a fourth).

Included here is the rare sale catalog of his library, *Catalogue des livres anciens reliés en maroquin avec armoiries choisis par feu M. de Ribeyre* (1872). Only the copy at the Grolier Club has been located; the title is absent from the catalog of the BnF.

Also included are a curious assortment of documents that suggest a close connection to Ribeyre: extracts of a translation of Lucian's *La Pharsale* in two versions, one by [Ribeyre or his correspondent?] and the other a transcription of the 1865 Paris edition by Garnier frères. More interesting are two pages of notes on the prices realized at the sale of Ribeyre's paintings, sold in 1872. The notes corresponding to: *Catalogue des tableaux anciens importants des écoles française, flamande et italienne composant la collection de feu M. le marquis de Ribeyre*. / [expert] Emile Barre. Finally, there are 5 pp. of notes that appear to trace the genealogy of the Marquis de Ribeyre de Villemont, as he is referred to on the title page of his monograph *Origines, Migrations et Etablissements des Différentes Races qui ont peuplé l’Europe*. Dentu: Paris, 1856. The genealogical notes trace Ribeyre's ancestors to the 16th century and include the date and place of his marriage.

**The correspondence:** 13 ALS, 50 pp.

All the letters are addressed to “Mon cher ami”, thus a male correspondent who it seems resides at least part of the time in Loisail (letters of 13 and 28 Oct 1864) about 100 miles southwest of Paris. The two correspondents share an acquaintance with M. and Mme Lorenzo (13 and 22 Oct 1864) and an interest in book collecting.

In the course of his correspondence, especially in an undated letter of 1865, the bibliophile Ribeyre mentions the contemporary library sales of James-Alexandre de Pourtalès, Alexandre Dumas fils, Chedéau de Saumur, Potier, Joseph Techener, Montmerqué, and Arthur Dinaux. At the latter sale Ribeyre reports experiencing a “bout de bibliomanie”, inspired by a sale in which the books were not expensive and the variety of the books and engravings was unique (22 Oct 1864). In the same letter Ribeyre discusses his thoughts on Sainte Beuve’s *Port Royal* from which he quotes at length.

The Marquis de Ribeyre wrote with humor and irony. On October 22, 1864, he sent word to his friend: “Paris est bruyant, Paris est sâle, Paris est ennuyeux; une grande ménagerie de bêtes curieuses qui se regardent sans se connaître […] à bientôt dans la menagerie” [Paris is noisy, Paris is dirty, Paris is tiresome; A great menagerie of curious beasts who look at each other without recognition […] See you soon in the menagerie].

Another of Ribeyre’s interests in these letters is archeology. In the letter of 5 Dec 1869 he discusses the discovery of “M. le Dr. Gosse” in Geneva, providing a lengthy quotation from *Le Journal de Geneve*. In another letter, (n.d.), he reports the discovery of a rare pamphlet, *Inscriptions antiques de Nice.*
de Cimiez et de quelques lieux environnants, recueillies et annotées par M.F. Bourquelot (Paris: Crapelet, 1850), in which the Roman ruins at Cimiez are discussed.

While traveling in Bastia, Ribeyre gives a vivid view of the world outside of his comfortable and familiar Paris: “Voilà le stimulus qui m’a fait quitter mes livres, mes habitudes de collecteur et les aises d’un petit intérieur .” [This is the stimulus that made me leave my books, my habits of collector and the ease of a small interior] (2 April 1866). His view of daily life in Corsica is frank, and he finds himself far from his habitual stimulations: “Il ne faut pas se le dissimuler, au fond c’est une existence triste et amère que celle qu’on peut mener ici. On ne vit que des gens qui veulent vous exploiter, et avec qui l’ont vit dans une défiance continuelle; pas une âme avec laquelle on puisse échanger un sentiment agréable.” [One must not hide it, in truth it is a sad and bitter existence that one can lead here. Only people who want to exploit you, and with whom one lives in continual distrust; Not a soul with which to exchange an agreeable feeling].

“Pas une récréation intellectuelle : pas une figure sur laquelle l’oeil puisse se reposer agréablement ; beaucoup de vermine, nourriture mauvaise, vie quelquefois en danger et solitude complete” [No intellectual recreation: not a soul on which the eye can rest pleasantly; A lot of vermin, bad food, life sometimes in danger and complete solitude].

He finishes his letter to his friend thus: “J’ai emporté avec moi tes volumes sur la Sardaigne ; si l’on venait à m’assassiner, tu feras tes réclamations au consulat français de Tempis .” [I have brought with me your volumes on Sardinia; If I am assassinated, you may claim them at the French consulate at Tempis].

In a poignant letter of 13 Nov 1869, written from Geneva, he imagines that his correspondent would wish to know how he manages to exist without the booksellers, the paintings, the auction sales, the distractions of his collection in Paris after such a habitual practice. Ribeyre contemplates the meaning of his life, his library, and paintings, reflecting on his life with both curiosity and regret.

In a letter dated 5 Dec 1869, de Ribeyre considers donating his library and “those luxurious objects that weigh [him] down” in order to form a museum and provide a pension toward his legacy: “Je les donnerais avec ma bibliothèque à une ville de province qui voudrait former un commencement de musée à la condition de lui donner mon nom et de me servir une rente viagère.”

The letters provide a fascinating insight into the world of nineteenth century French book collecting, and especially the concerns and habits of an active and enthusiastic bibliophile and antiquarian.


The author of *René*, and *Atala*, and a major figure in the Romantic movement, Chateaubriand provides here a narrative that is both historiography and guide through antiquity for the Grand Tour. The author excels at relating the richness of classical antiquity with the less than opulent contemporary state of Greece, Turkey, and the Holy Lands. Replete with quotations and insightful references, the *Itinéraire* also provides a model of the intellectual profile of the educated European traveler at the beginning of the nineteenth century. The first edition was exhausted so quickly that a second edition was called for the same year, which included the author’s corrections of dates and other details. Chateaubriand’s journey lasted from July 1806 to June 1807. His itinerary as recorded here is divided into seven parts: *Voyage de la Grèce* (I); *Voyage de l’Archipel, de l’Anatolie et de Constantinople* (II); *Voyage de Rhodes, de Jaffa, de Béthléem et de la Mer Morte* (III); *Voyage de Jérusalem* (IV et V); *Voyage d’Egypte* (VI); *Voyage de Tunis et retour en France* (VII). Near fine. Original paste paper wrappers. (234)
4. [Monrocq Frères]. Bibliothèque du Peintre en Bâtiment; [Trade catalogs]. Paris: Monrocq Frères. 12-volume set of chromolithographic pattern books, each in decorative wrappers, with paper spines, oblong format (9 vols. 15.5 x 24 cm; 3 vols. 20 x 30 cm), 168 plates in 12 vols. $3,500

More images available at:

The albums were intended for designers and decorators, with alphabets for sign painters and interior design options for wall coverings and finishings, as well as decorative images for cafes and other businesses. The albums were intended for copyists who possessed greater talent in drawing and painting than invention. There are six volumes of alphabets (more than 50 examples), which range from traditional sign painting letterforms to cursive, gothic, roman, and “fantasie genre japonais.” All are brightly colored and evocative of the nineteenth century. The architecture albums present elegant designs that emphasize Monrocq’s refined lithographic skills, especially the volume for wall marbling, which is fresh and radiant.
Printed at the renowned lithography studio Monrocq Frères [c.1898-99], the albums here represent a full set of catalogs 6488 and 6489 (which are described in the publisher’s ad at the end of several volumes). The catalogs are very scarce in both libraries and the trade, and we can locate only odd volumes in libraries (the BnF lists only 2 volumes) and none in trade. Particularly nice copies in near fine to very good condition, the spines of several volumes are rubbed with minor paper loss, covers occasionally showing very minor soil or browning, and one loose (but attached) plate in volume one; some corners rubbed, but the plates bright and very well preserved. Former ownership stamp of “Portal-Hortoul, 1 rue Frederic Mistral, Cette” on each volume.

The printer, lithographer, engraver, bookseller, and publisher Jean Noel Monrocq (1819-1913) was an important early lithographer who developed the process of printing from zinc plates instead of stone (see Manuel de lithographie sur zinc, Paris, 1878). His firm was most well known for their printing of maps and illustration manuals such as those offered here. Very good to near fine. Original decorative wrappers.
12 volumes as follows:
Format 15.5 x 24 cm:
1-6. Album de Lettres a l’usage des Peintres, 16 plates in each volume, a variety of alphabets in full color
7. Album de Filets Grecs a l’usage des Peintres, 16 plates,
8. Album d’Attributs a l’usage des Peintres, 16 plates, decorations for cafes, pharmacies, patisseries, tobacco shops, boulangeries, etc.
9. Album de Moulures a l’usage des Peintres, 16 plates, moldings, cornices, shutters, columns, and other architectural finishings
Format 20 x 30 cm:
1. Le Peintre en Décors Bois, 8 plates, wood paneling
2. Le Peintre en Décors Bois, 8 plates, wood paneling
3. Le Peintre en Décors Marbres, 8 plates, marbling designs for wall decoration

5. Faulkner, William. *Absalom, Absalom!* New York: Random House, 1936. First limited edition. 384 pp, folding map. Quarter green cloth spine stamped in gilt and patterned paper boards, top edge gilt, uncut. One of 300 copies printed on Holliston rag paper, signed and numbered by Faulkner, this being copy 201. Includes Faulkner’s fictional Yoknapatawpha County as issued. A very near fine and solid copy with minor wear to the corners, a tiny spot of shelf rub to the bottom edge, and faint age toning to preliminary leaves.

$4,500

Along with *The Sound and the Fury*, *Absalom, Absalom!* ranks at the top of Faulkner’s achievements as a writer. He was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1949. Near fine in none, as issued dust-jacket. Hardcover.

*Lolita*, one of the significant literary achievements of the twentieth century and the work that freed Nabokov from his teaching duties at Cornell, was turned down by every major American publishing house. Nabokov's French translator Doussia Ergaz brought the book to Maurice Girodias's Olympia Press, an imprint whose green paper covers did not always contain high literature. Nabokov's contentious relationship with Girodias lasted for years; however, the success of the Olympia edition was the leverage Nabokov needed to eventually attract a bigger publisher. Graham Greene wrote in the London Sunday Times that *Lolita* was one of the best books of 1955. Nonetheless, the novel was banned in Great Britain, and even France for a short period. A good solid copy of a book difficult (or expensive) to find in fine condition. Very good. Softcover.

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The program for the Jerusalem Prize, June 1999. DeLillo's acceptance address, "A History of the Writer Alone in a Room", appears on pages 13-18. Also included are an address by Scribner editor-in-chief Nan Graham, the Jury's Citation, and an address by Jerusalem mayor Ehud Olmert. The text was reprinted in a German translation in *Die Zeit* in 2001 and by DeLillo's French publisher Actes Sud in their 2000-2001 catalogue under the title "L'Ecrivain seul dans sa chambre." The essay addresses many of DeLillo's preoccupations and concerns as a writer and a novelist. OCLC lists only two copies (Yale and National Library of Israel), and there are copies in the writers archive at the Ransom Center. A rare 'A' DeLillo item in Fine condition. Fine. Wrappers.

(229)

\$750

*The Annals* appears as no. 70 on the Zamorano 80, where it is referred to as “A necessary reference book of San Francisco to the middle fifties, compiled mainly from newspapers and information received from pioneer citizens.”

Also included is the *Index to "The Annals of San Francisco"*, Charles Francis Griffin, published by the California Historical Society, 1935. 22 pp. Only the very faint toning to the spine and offsetting to the endleaves of an otherwise fine copy in original paper covered boards with paper label to the front board. Former ownership signature to endleaf.

ZAMORANO 80, 70. COWAN, p. 601. KURUTZ 594. Very good. Publisher’s cloth. (238)
9. [Lindsay, Ernest Daryl]. **Australia for the Tourist.** [Melbourne]: Government Printer, [1923]. 25 cm. 123 pp, [2] leaves of plates; illustrations, color maps. Original paper wrappers, with woodcut illustrations by Ernest Daryl Lindsay (1889-1976), showing a couple at a rugged overlook, signed 'Daryl Lindsay' at the lower right. Some edge wear and rubbing to the spine and paper covers, minor occasional spotting, otherwise very good plus copy.

Issued by the Australian Immigration Office, this profusely illustrated guide provides all the essential introductory knowledge needed for a tourist voyage to Australia. The volume provides an overview of the "natural beauties, the characteristics, and everyday life of the Great Island Continent." General information includes brief descriptions of every Australian state, and the climate, seasonal weather, flora and fauna, as well as streamer connection schedules from Europe, Canada, San Francisco, Japan, and Singapore.

There are 17 pp. of advertisements for hotels, banks, transportation, and shipping lines that document the essential resources, and their costs, for would-be travelers. A well preserved guide focused on the recreation, natural resources, and wilderness of Australia. Very good. Original wrappers.

(239) $125