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Three Centuries of American Artifacts and Ephemera at Swann Auction Galleries' November Sale

New York— On **Thursday, November 17**, Swann Galleries will hold an auction of **Printed & Manuscript Americana**, featuring coast-to-coast historical documents relating to Mormons, conquistadors and more.

Early selections include the 1535 first Italian edition of *Libro Primo de la conquista del Peru & provincial del Cuzco*, a contemporary narrative of Peruvian conquest under Francisco Pizarro, written at his request by his secretary, Francisco Xerez (\$12,000 to \$18,000). Also available is *A Philosophical Treatise of the Original and Production of Things* by Richard Franck, 1687. Arguably the first work on philosophy written in North America, the book also discusses theology and natural history, referencing a fish called "the American Snite" (\$3,000 to \$4,000).

Materials related to the American Revolution include a collection of 38 issues of the *Pennsylvania Gazette* sent to a single subscriber from 1773-74, with such historical highlights as a justification and discussion of the recent Boston Tea Party; *Observations on Inoculation for the Small-Pox*; and an early printing of the Suffolk Resolves, presented to the Continental Congress (\$5,000 to \$7,500). Captain John Schenck's original unpublished manuscript orderly book titled *Preparing for the Most Vigorous Defence* details the fortification of New York City from February to April 1776. The book includes passwords and countersigns, updated daily, as well as financial accounts and a log of goings-on in the camp (\$6,000 to \$9,000). Other highlights include the first announcement of the completion of the United States Constitution in convention (in a 1789 issue of the *Pennsylvania Packet*), estimated at \$20,000 to \$30,000.

Also available is George Washington's official printing of the *Treaty of Greenville*, 1795, which ended the ten-year Northwest Indian War. Only one other copy of the treaty has appeared at auction; the present copy is expected to sell for \$6,000 to \$9,000,

One unusual highlight from the sale is *A Discourse Delivered in Charleston...before the Reformed Society of Israelites*, a pamphlet recounting the 1827 speech by in South Carolina by Isaac N. Cardozo. The line of Cardozo and his common-law wife Lydia (they could not marry legally because she was an African American) continues to this day. The pamphlet, in excellent condition, is expected to sell between \$12,000 and \$18,000.

The top lot of the sale is the rare first edition of *The Book of Mormon*, released days before the official establishment of the church in 1830. This is the only version to list Joseph Smith as the "author and proprietor" rather than the translator; it is valued at \$40,000 to \$60,000. A manuscript diary by a preacher named Benajah Williams is also in the sale, concerning circumstantial associations to Smith's

first vision (\$10,000 to \$15,000). Other Mormon offerings include a \$1 banknote altered to read "Kirtland Safety Society Anti-Banking Co." now valued at \$4,000 to \$6,000.

With highlights from the collection of Timothy Treacy, the sale offers selections that include most of the "Zamorano 80," a 1945 list of the most important early books on California. One of these, Edward Vischer's *Views of California*, 1862, a portfolio of 24 lithographs of what is now Calaveras Big Trees State Park, includes a view of the US Army's herd of war camels approaching Mammoth Grove (\$4,000 and \$6,000).

Military artifacts include Elias B. Hillard's set of mounted albumen photographs and biographies of the last six surviving veterans of the American Revolution, published in Connecticut in 1864; estimated at \$3,000 to \$4,000. Also available is an unusually large and complete archive of war-date correspondence by a lucky member of the ill-fated 16th Connecticut Infantry named Charles L. Taylor. The lot of nearly 450 items includes Taylor's diary, letters to his new bride Harriet Tuttle and his parents, and their replies. The tone of each is markedly different, creating a multi-dimensional view of battles and life in the camps from 1862-65. Most of the 16th Connecticut Infantry was decimated in the Battle of Antietam; survivors were taken to the infamous Andersonville Prison. Taylor was one of very few that emerged from the war unscathed. The lot includes additional letters, family photographs and valuables, and one portrait; it is estimated at \$8,000 to \$12,000.

The *Illustrated log of the USS Narragansett's Pacific Cruise* was kept by the *Narragansett's* Midshipman George A. Calhoun from 1871 to 1872. The manuscript includes detailed maps, illustrations and albumen photographs recording the ship's movements in the South Pacific, including Hawaii, the Marshall Islands, Pago Pago and Samoa (\$10,000 to \$15,000).

The auction will be held Thursday, November 17, beginning at 1:30 p.m. The auction preview will be open to the public Saturday, November 12 from noon to 5 p.m.; Monday, November 14 through Wednesday, November 16 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Thursday, November 17 from 10 a.m. to noon.

An illustrated auction catalogue is available for \$35 from Swann Galleries, Inc., 104 East 25th Street, New York, NY 10010, or online at www.swanngalleries.com.

For further information or to make advance arrangements to bid by telephone during the auction, please contact Book Department Director and Americana Specialist Rick Stattler via rstattler@swanngalleries.com or at 212-254-4710, ext. 27.

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