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February 4, 2020 eList

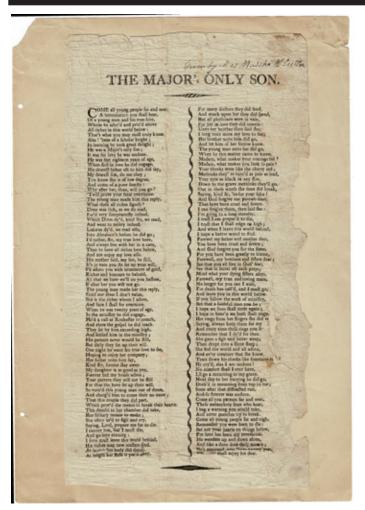
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1. **[American Poetry.]** *The Major's Only Son.* N.p., n.d.: ca. 1790s-1810. \$200

Folio broadside (approx. 14" x 8"), 140 lines of text in double column beneath the running head, the columns separated by a helix-shaped typographic rule with type ornament separating title from text and a similar ornament at foot of the text. Right margin erose, but nowhere touching text. A couple of small holes, one along right-hand edge of text with loss to a word at the end of 2 lines. Mounted to stiffer paper. "Given by Mrs. Martha W. Cutter" written in an early hand in top margin.

This popular ballad was apparently first published in 1792 (Bristol 46496) and frequently reprinted in Boston and a few other New England locales, under various titles, for the next 50 years or so; the American Antiquarian Society alone has thirteen examples. The most common of these titles was "The Major's Only Son, And His True-Love's Overthrow." It involves a Major who will not permit his son to marry a poor girl, with predictable tragic consequences. The present copy does not conform to any of the numerous printings recorded in OCLC.

2. [Banking.] Brown, Fenner.

Memorial To the Hon. General Assembly ... at their session to be holden on the last Monday in October, 1839, the undersigned, freeman of the town of Cumberland--Respectfully represent--that at a meeting of delegates from different banks in this state, held in Providence ... it was recommended that the several Banks of this State

should suspend the payment of their debts; and ... that all, or nearly all of said institutions, have from that time to the present, utterly refused payment of all claims presented... [Providence: publisher not identified, 1839.]

\$475

Folio broadside (approx. 16" x 8½") text triple column under the running head; signed in type by Fenner Brown, Aaron White, Jr., "and four others," dated Cumberland, October, 1839 at the end of the third column; some light creasing at top; previous fold, near fine.

Remonstrating against the recommendation that Rhode Island banks suspend payment of debts and petitioning the legislature to pass a law requiring the banks to honor the paper currency they have issued. While the proximate cause of Dorr's Rebellion was the desire to replace an outmoded State Constitution, and in particular to broaden the franchise, the economic conditions caused by the Panic of 1837 provided fertile ground for "insurrection." Brown was for a time a member of the Rhode Island Legislature and was narrowly defeated as a Democratic candidate for Congress in 1847. White was a close political ally of Thomas Dorr and one of the leaders of Dorr's Rebellion. According to an online article by Chaput and DeSimone, White was a proponent of black suffrage ("Strange Bedfellows," in Common-Place, Vol. 10, no. 2, Jan. 2010).

OCLC: NY Historical, AAS, Library Co., Williams, and Brown; not in *American Imprints*.

MEMORIAL

To the Hon. General Assembly of the State of Elaste Island her, at their Scarion to be holden on the last Munchey in October, 1830, the under-

That at a meeting of Deleganes from different Banks in this State, held in Providence, in the early part of the present month, it was recommended that the present month, it was nocommended that the present month, it was nosent to be a superior of the advisor, at the second State should superior of the advisor, and crastly efficiently superior of at historic field and subject that the subject of the state presented; here goes on continuously sort delta, and crastle, in most obstaces, their crastle, in the state, and the state, the state of the state on the state of the state on the state of the state on the state of the state

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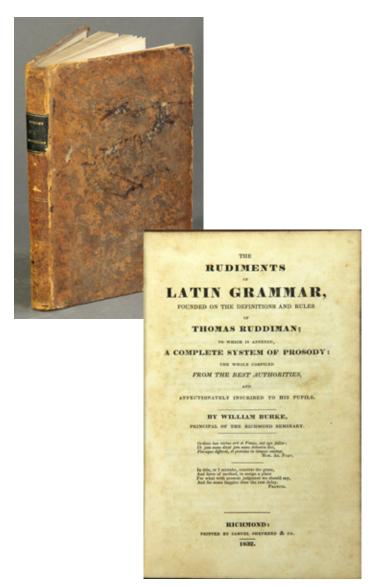
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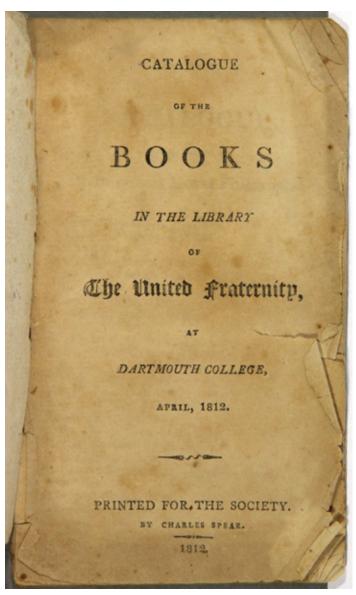
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> FENNER BROWN, AARON WHITE, JR., and 4 others



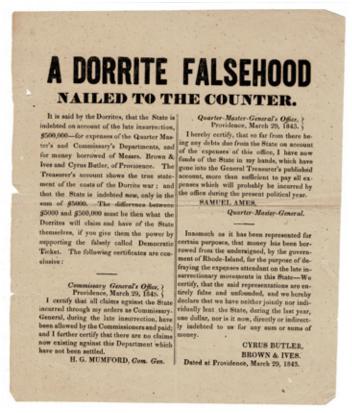
3. Burke, William, principal of the Richmond Seminary. The rudiments of Latin grammar, founded on the definition and rules of Thomas Ruddiman; to which is annexed, a complete system of prosody: the whole compiled from the best authorities, and affectionately inscribed to his pupils. Richmond: printed by Samuel Shepherd & Co., 1832. \$275

First edition, 12mo, pp. [4], iv, [1], 6-186; contemporary full sheep, black morocco label lettered in gilt on spine; very good. OCLC locates only the Huntington and Virginia copies. Not in Vancil.



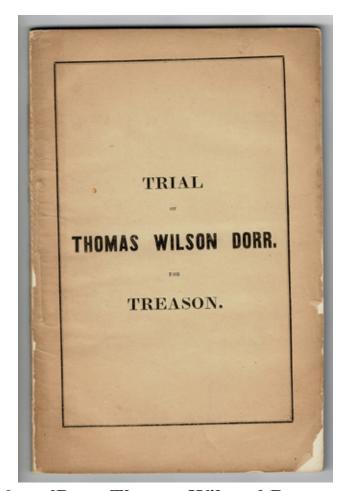
4. **Dartmouth College, United Fraternity.** Catalogue of books in the library of the United Fraternity, at Dartmouth College, April, 1812. [Hanover, N.H.]: printed for the Society, by Charles Spear, 1812. \$600

12mo in half-sheets; pp. 24; original marbled wrappers; front wrap almost detached and with some loss at the edges, corners curled and with a few short breaks; good. A short-title catalogue of nearly 500 books arranged under various headings, such as Divinity and Moral Philosophy; Law and Politics; Natural Philosophy, Mathematics, Arts, Sciences, & Natural History; British Classics; Voyages and Travels; Poetry and Plays; Novels and Romances; among others. Dartmouth only in OCLC. Not in *American Imprints*.



5. [Dorr Rebellion.] Ames, Samuel, Cyrus Butler, & Henry G. Mumford. A Dorrite falsehood nailed to the counter. [Providence: publisher not identified, 1843.] \$350

Quarto broadside (approx. 9½" x 7¾"), text in double column beneath the running head; previous folds, 3 short tears in the left margin; very good. Alleges that Rhode Island owes \$5,000 for costs of the "Dorrite war" instead of \$500,000 as the Dorrites claim. The text consists of three statements, dated March 29, 1843, from the Commissary General's Office, signed by H.G. Mumford, from the Quarter-Master-General's Office, signed by Samuel Ames, and from Cyrus Butler and Brown & Ives, certifying that the state had paid its debts. OCLC: NY Historical, Clements, AAS, and Brown. DeSimone & Schofield 1 (adding 3 at RI Historical and 2 in private collections). Not in *American Imprints*.



6. [Dorr, Thomas Wilson.] Burgess, W[alter] S., & George Turner, attorneys for the defense. Report of the trial of Thomas Wilson Dorr, for treason: including the testimony at length, arguments of counsel - the charge of the Chief Justice - the motions and arguments on the questions of a new trial and in arrest of judgment: together with the sentence of the court, and the speech of Mr. Dorr, before sentence. From notes taken at the trial. Providence: B. F. Moore, 1844.

\$300

First edition, 8vo, pp. 115, [1]; text largely in double column; original tan printed wrappers; a few short splits at the joints but otherwise very good. Most of this report was published earlier in the *Republican Herald* according to the Preface which is signed: George Turner [and] W. S. Burges. *American Imprints* 2044; Bartlett, p. 111; Cohen 14138; Sabin 20650.

7. [Dorr, Thomas Wilson.] Cranston, Henry Y., President of the Convention.

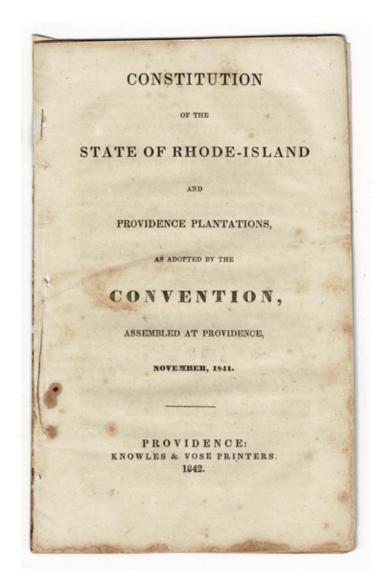
Constitution of the State of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations as adopted by the Convention assembled at Providence, November, 1841. Providence: Knowles & Vose, printers, 1842. \$400

8vo, pp. 27, [1]; self-wrappers; removed from binding; stitching partially perished and a small staple neatly applied in top gutter margin; modeate foxing to title page; all else very good.

Known as the Landholders' Constitution, from the fact that only owners of real estate, and their eldest sons were allowed to vote for delegates to the Convention, adopted by the charter government in Providence.

"Once again reformist agitation prompted the General Assembly to authorize a constitutional convention, this one scheduled for November 1841. The agitators correctly assumed that the Assembly's act was insincere and opportunistic, merely designed to sap vitality from the [Rhode Island Suffrage] association's cause and no more intended to be the vehicle of change than those previous "do-nothing" conventions summoned to appease the disfranchised in 1824 and 1834. As a result of this disbelief, members of the association decided upon an extralegal course to attain their ends. Drafting Dorr to lead them, they exhorted the adult male citizenry to disregard the landholding qualifications and go to the polls to elect delegates to a "People's Convention," which would meet in October 1841. The elections were duly held late in August, and within six weeks the reformers' convention presented the fruit of its deliberations to the white male populous of Rhode Island for ratification" (Patrick T. Conley in his Introduction to The Broadsides of the Dorr Rebellion, compiled by Russell J. DeSimone and Daniel C. Schofield). Not that this mattered at the time to the charterist government who adopted this constitution to replace the Charter of 1663 from the time of King Charles II, but with little change in voting rights and requirements.

Not found in *American Imprints*; Bartlett, p. 90; Sabin 70571.



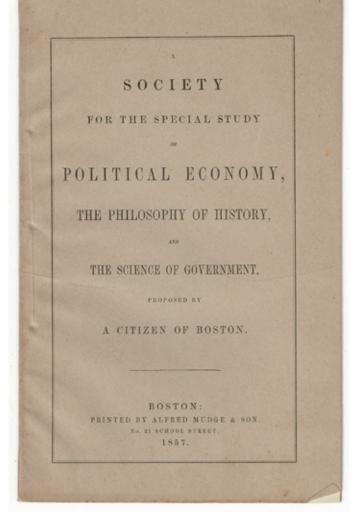
8. **[Dorr, Thomas Wilson.]** *To the Democrats of Rhode Island.* [Providence: publisher not identified, 1843]. \$950

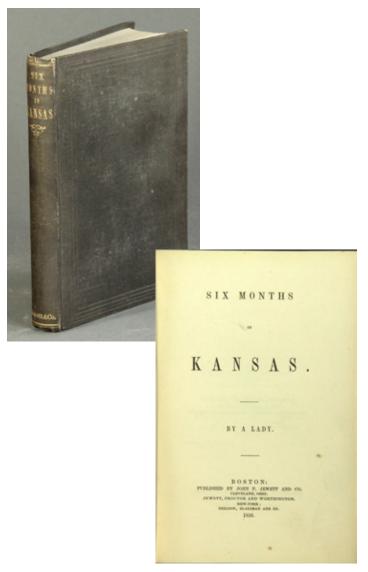
Folio broadside (approx. 13" x 10¾"), text in double column beneath the running head; some spotting and wear in the margins, else very good. Not in OCLC, *American Imprints*, Bartlett, or Sabin. DeSimone & Schofield, 180 (locating the R.I. Historical and Providence Public copies): "Claims duplicity of Dorrites in campaigning in southern and northern R.I."

9. **Foster, William.** A society for the special study of political economy, the philosophy of history, and the science of government, proposed by a citizen of Boston. Boston: printed by Alfred Mudge & Son, 1857. \$250

First edition, 8vo, pp. 19, [1]; fine copy in original tan printed wrappers. Consists of "Introductory remarks" and four essays signed: "Franklin" which explain a plan to establish an institute in Boston, with funds from the bequest of James Smithson of England, to research, consider, and advise the nation on the best means of improving its government, "to approach to that ideal perfection of government prescribed by Bacon, Mansfield, Blackstone, Montesquieu and the host of encyclopedists." 'Sabin 25268.

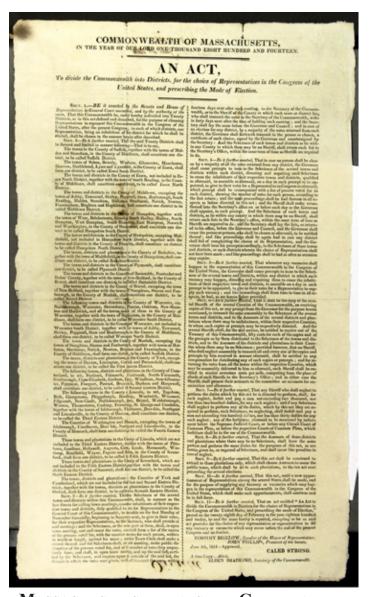






10. **[Kansas.] [Ropes, H. A., Mrs.]** *Six months in Kansas. By a lady.* Boston: John P. Jewett and Co., 1856. \$325

First edition, 8vo, pp. [8], 9-231, [1]; original brown cloth, gilt-lettered spine; nice copy. Not in Howes or Graff; Sabin 73143; Wagner-Camp 279c (4th thousand, enlarged, with plates): "This glowing account of conditions for settlement in Kansas consist of a series of letters written in 1855-56 from Lawrence. It contains a full description of the immigration of 1854.



Massachusetts repeals the Gerrymander 11. [Massachusetts - Gerrymandering.] Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

An act, to divide the Commonwealth into districts, for the choice of representatives in the Congress ... and prescribing the mode of election. [Boston]: 1814. \$950

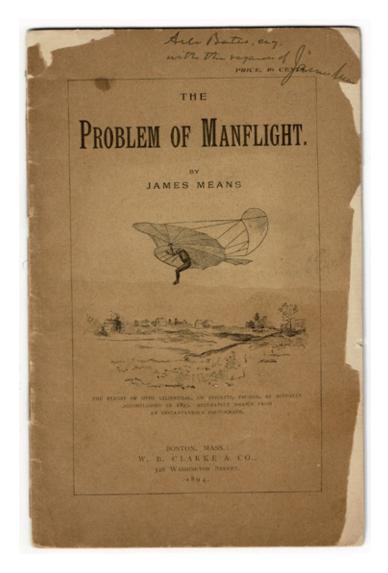
Folio broadside (approx. 18½" x 11"), text in double column beneath the running head, the columns separated by an ornamental rule, signed in type by the Governor, Caleb Strong, and other State officers; a few breaks in the margins, previous folds (2 reinforced on the verso); all else very good, with good margins. Manuscript docket on verso, "Baldwin / Districting Law, June 4th, 1814" and with "Otisfield" written in margin opposite.

At head of title: "Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in

the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fourteen." In 1812, Governor Elbridge Gerry took to re-drawing election districts in Massachusetts in an effort to counteract the influence of the Federalist party. The result was castigated in the press. One absurdly elongated district that resembled a salamander was lampooned as a "Gerrymander." Despite the negative press, the re-districting had its desired effect: Republicans were elected in numbers disproportionate to their vote in the statewide election of 1812. Gerry himself, however, was defeated for re-election by Strong. The present act sets forth in detail 20 new election districts in the State and makes other electoral modifications, and it specifically repeals the notorious "Gerrymander Act" of Feb. 28, 1812. Within weeks of his defeat Gerry was nominated by the Republicans to be Vice-President and did so serve under Madison. OCLC locates only the Mass. Historical copy. Not in American Imprints or Sabin.

12. **Means, James.** The problem of manflight. Boston: W. B. Clarke & Co., 1894.

First edition, 8vo, pp. 20; 7 figures in the text (1 full-page); original pictorial wrappers a bit chipped at the edges, the text slightly toned; all else very good. Inscribed by Means at the top of the front wrapper, "Arlo Bates, Esq. with the regards of James Mea[ns]" - the last two letters lost to a chip.



[Rhode Island Constitution.] Bowen, Henry, Secretary. In General Assembly of the state of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, at a special session held at Providence, on the 29th day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-four. Protest and declaration of the state of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations against any inference by the Congress, or by the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States with the internal government and the Constitution of said state. [Providence: publisher not identified, 1844.]

Three quarto pages on two sheets (once a bifolium, now split at the joint), printed on thin blue paper; 3 top corners chipped, affecting a few letters; all else very good.

Protests the attempt of Democratic members of the R.I. legislature to have Congress investigate the R.I. government and enforce the People's (Dorrite) Constitution. Claims that 26 legislators are in violation of their oaths: Samuel Steere, Olney Ballou, Otis Wood, Cyrus Brown, Levi C. Eaton, George C. Carr, Anson Potter, Isaac Wilkinson, Eddy Keech, Gladding O. Thompson, Adams Park, James Angell, Cyrus Farnum, Williams Steere, David Wilbour, James Harkness, Pardon Angell, William Smith, Thomas Buffum, Ariel Ballou, Fenner Brown, William Latham, Joseph T. Sisson, Jonathan Cole, Niles Westcott, and Richard Mowry. Signed in type on p. [3]: Henry Bowen, sec'ry. Brown and AAS in OCLC. Not in American Imprints or Sabin.

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations,

At a special session held at Providence, on the 29th day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-four.

PROTEST AND DECLARATION
Of the State of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations against any interference by

PROTEST AND DECLARATION

Of the State of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations against any interference by the Congress, or by the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States with the internal government and the Constitution of said State.

Whereas, this State was settled under fore and popular institutions, which at all times have been ferally maintained against foreign aggression and donestic violence; and, whatever hath been the control exercised over its external concerns, bath ever contended for the exclusive right to adopt and uphod its own mode of donestic republican government:

And whereas, the General Assembly of this State, in the spirit of the founders of this State, did, on the fourth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven bursfired and seventy-six, for good reasons moving our people thereunts, formally revoke their allegiance to George the Third, then King of Great Brinain, and did substitute the name and authority of the Governer and Company of this them colony for the name and subnority of said King, and did thereby become an independent State; and at the same sension and on the same day point delegates to the General Congress of the United Colonies, with authority to return into that dodge "all proper measures for promoting and confirming the strictest union and confederation between the said United Colonies for exerting their whole strength and Store to anney the common enemy, and to seeme to the said Colonies for exerting their whole strength and Store to anney the common enemy, and to seeme to the said Colonies for exerting their whole strength and Store to anney the common enemy, and to seeme to the said Colonies for exerting their whole strength and Store to anney the common enemy, and to seeme to the said Colonies for exerting their whole strength and Store to anney the common enemy, and to seeme to the said Colonies for exerting their colonies and the said colonies their rights and histerite, held delegates, in the delegates, the said colonies their ri

over to call for persons and papers, and thus to inquise into all the matter in said meanfast or neglecting to limit said power of inquiry or to specify for what purpose or to white ...

Now, therefore, lest silence, in the premises, should be construed into nequinecence in any action white.

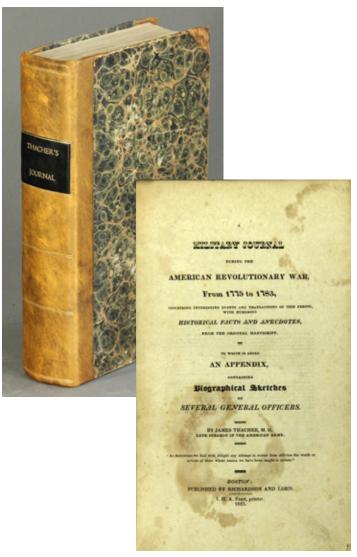
Now, therefore, lest silence, in the premises, should be construed into nequinecence in any action white.

Said House of Representatives hath taken, or which said House, or the Congress of the United States shall take therein, and a precedual to established dangerous to the freedom and covereignty of this State, and of
the other States of this Union.

The General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, here, in special sension
duly convened, on the partiand in the helmal of the people of and State, do mest solesmly

PROTEST,

HENRY BOWEN, Sec'rg.



THE BENJAMIN SHURTLEFF, BENJAMIN SHURTLEFF, BENJAMIN SHURTLEFF, BENJAMIN SHURTLEFF COPY

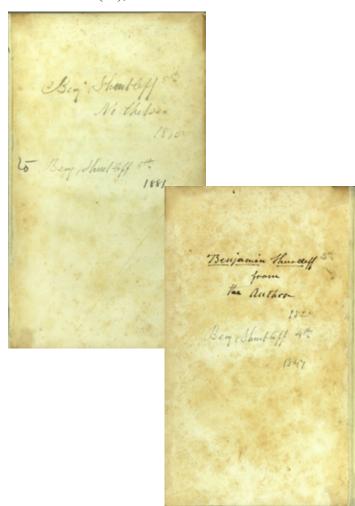
14. Thacher, James, M.D., late Surgeon in the American Army. A military journal during the American revolutionary war, from 1775 to 1783, describing interesting events and transactions of this period, with numerous historical facts and anecdotes, from the original manuscript. To which is added an appendix, containing biographical sketches of several general officers. Boston: published by Richardson and Lord, 1823.

First edition, 8vo, pp. viii, [1], 10-603, [1]; contemporary marbled boards neatly rebacked with gilt-paneled spine

and label renewed; very good copy. Inscribed by Thacher to "Benjamin Shurtleff [III] from the author." Subsequently owned by Benjamin Shurtleff IV, Benjamin Shurtleff VI, and Benjamin Shurtleff VI, each inscription dated 1823, 1847, 1863, and 1881 respectively. See *Memorial Biographies of the New England Genealogical Society*, Volume I (1880), pp. 33-36 for details on the first two.

The presentee, Benjamin III, graduated from Brown 1796, and taught school for a year in Plymouth, "but very soon begin the study of the profession to which his life was afterwards mainly devoted. From May 1797 to December 22, 1798 he was at Plymouth pursuing his medical studies under the direction of doctors James Thatcher and Nathan Hayward. On 5 February 1799 he became surgeons made in United States Navy and set sail for the West Indies in the United States ship *Merrimack* in company with Dr. Nathaniel Bradstreet as surgeon." Benjamin finally received his M.D. from Harvard in 1810, and settled into a long and successful practice in Boston.

Howes T-149 (aa); Sabin 95152.



THE FIRST THREE DAYS OF THE WAR OF 1812
15. [War of 1812.] "Sloop Five Sisters on board..." Ledger entries showing ships landed and cargo. Boston: June 20 - 23, 1812. \$150

Folio ledger sheet (approx. 15" x 9½"), from unknown ledger, pp.107-8; in ink; light toning of the paper and the hand is legible.

This page is a chronological register of ships engaged in the coastwise trade on the eastern seaboard from June 20th to 23rd of 1812, several of which were later captured by the British. Just one day earlier, on June 19, 1812, President Madison declared war or Great Britain, but it was not until March 30, 1813 that the British had succeeded in blocking all coastwise traffic in the New England area. The listings suggest landings at the port of Boston. Names of the ships include sloop *Jane*, sloop *Antoinette*, schooner *Charles*, sloop *Morning Flower*, schooner *Tanney*, sloop *Five Sisters*, sloop *Betsey*, sloop *Lydia*, schooner *Packet Elira*, sloop *Alert*, sloop *Charles*, and sloop *William*. Cargo listed is rum and molasses, books, leather, tobacco, sugar, flour, lemons, flax, and so on.

On the right side of the ledger are names of purchasers and distributors of the goods. Two standouts are Josiah Bradlee (1778-1860) wealthy Boston shipping merchant, whose portrait was painted by Gilbert Stuart and second, Israel Thorndike (1755–1832), sailor and merchant, born in Beverly, Massachusetts. Thorndike went to sea at an early age, commanded a privateer during the American Revolution, and became active in the early China trade. Thorndike is considered to have been the fiftieth wealthiest American of all time (adjusted for inflation), having left an enormous fortune. Interestingly, several of the named ships did not last through the war; the sloop Five Sisters enroute from New York to Philadelphia was captured in December of 1813. On November 3, 1814, the British ship Telegraph captured and destroyed the sloop Alert, of 25 tons and a crew of three. The schooner Lydia, of 89 tons, from Buckstown, bound to Baltimore laden with boards and fish, was captured October 24, 1812.

The sloop *Jane*, (Capt. William Robinson, whose name appears on the ledger page), of Fairfield, "from New York for Boston (with gin, teas, jewelry, etc.) was

captured on December 18, 1812, by the British privateer, *Liverpool Packet* [the most successful privateer vessel ever to sail out of a Canadian port]. "Every man, except Capt. R. taken out, and a prize-master and three men put on board, and ordered for Liverpool, N. S.—two days after, the master's mate (who navigated the sloop) was knocked over board by the mainsail; when Capt. R. succeeded in securing the arms and forcing the men to assist in navigating the vessel to Boston, where she arrived last Saturday. Capt. R. had not closed his eyes for seven days and nights previous to his arrival there and came in greatly exhausted". [*Niles Weekly Register*, Volume 3. 1813].

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