

## Women in Wealth, Women in Poverty

This week, for our Curator Love Event, we focus on the economic concerns of women. Across these printed books and manuscript pieces, we gain an appreciation for how, whether living in wealth or poverty, women necessarily confronted financial precarity. For some, dire straits prevented anything other than day-to-day survival; for others, activism was the answer; and still for more others, blinded by privilege, the answer was to ignore the plight of fellow women in favor of enjoying their own privilege.

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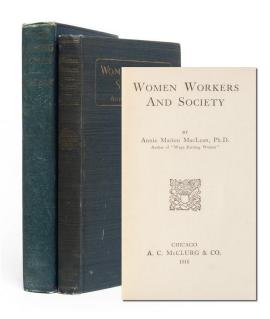




#### 1. MacLean, Dr. Annie M.

# Wage-Earning Women [with] Women Workers and Society

New York; Chicago: Macmillan; McClurg, 1910; 1916. First editions. Both books in original publisher's cloth bindings with titles to spines and front boards. The former in VG+ condition with some sunning to spine and offsetting to rear board. The latter Near Fine, with the slightest bumping to extremities and early ownership inscription to front endpaper "C.W.B.M. [Christian Women's Board of Missions] Millersburg, Ohio Oct. 1918." Internally both copies clean, square, unmarked, and complete, with Wage-Earning Women retaining the two folding charts to the rear. A pair of important and ground-breaking studies on the conditions of working women in the United States and its national and international impacts.



Annie M. MacLean was a cutting-edge sociologist whose

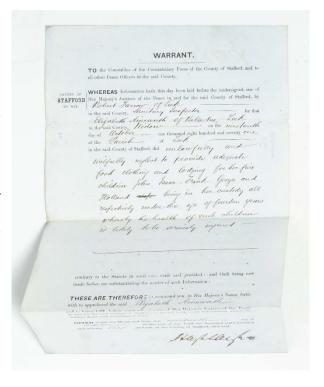
work focused on the conditions of working women in the United States. Immersive in her work, she was a contributor to Jane Addams' Hull House and the settlement house movement as well as an investigative researcher who took on a variety of jobs to study the treatment and conditions women experienced. In 1907-1908, MacLean supervised a major study on behalf of the YWCA, using a staff of 29 women sociologists surveying a total of 400 companies employing a total of 135,000 women in more than 20 cities (Fish). The result was Wage-Earning Women, a data-driven survey on women's labor and labor conditions the likes of which had never before occurred in the U.S. And it took into account a wide array of situations in which women functioned: industrial work, office labor, seasonal farming. MacLean's work ushered in a new era, where women could draw on measurable statistics to press organizations like the YWCA to move past an emphasis on individual wellbeing of women to an interest in studying the systemic conditions women faced and pressing for corrections through education and legislation.

Within six years, MacLean's work had already had a significant impact. Women Workers and Society follows up her previous work with a concise study on the improvements and new challenges faced by a recognizable and "an important class of women in society; namely the eight million or more women who go out from the home daily to the various tasks that the industrial and professional world offers them." While MacLean's research shows some progress for women, it undeniably concludes that "our industrial structure has grown up around a man's labor and is not yet adjusted to the capacity of women." This is a problem, as "American can never reach the highest point of strength if she fails to heed the needs of her women workers." Moving beyond the cold hard facts of both studies, this later work also issues a rallying cry for women to unionize and unite to demand change. Very Good + to NF (Item #3350) \$960

# 2. [Single Motherhood] Ainsworth, Elizabeth (suspect); Robert Farrow (complainant); Enoch Hinton (executor).

Arrest Warrant for Elizabeth Ainsworth, widow, for Wilfull Child Neglect

Leek, County of Stafford: 19 October 1871. Single sheet measuring 34 x 21cm with print form completed in manuscript to both recto and verso. Faint offsetting to header and some soiling along original foldlines at verso; in all, a clean, legible example. The present County of Stafford Warrant for the arrest of the widow Elizabeth Ainsworth for criminal child neglect preserves an exceptionally early example of laws designed by the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) being executed as attitudes toward parenting and child labor shifted in the latter half of the century. As a standalone document it is research rich for the questions it raises about the specific economic and social conditions of Ainsworth and her children—including her summons a year later by Public Health Enforcement. More importantly, in context it raises questions about the successes and failures of new laws designed to protect children from abuse and neglect during the late Industrial Revolution and how they affected numerous families.



According to the present warrant, county sanitary officials sought the arrest of a widowed mother due to concerns about the safety of her young children: "To the Constables of the Constabulary Force of the County of Stafford, and to all other Peace Officers in the said County...Information hath this day been laid before the undersigned...by Robert Farrow of Leek, in the said County, Sanitary Inspector, for that Ellizabeth Ainsworth of Bellevue, Leek in the said County, widow...did unlawfully and wilfully neglect to provide adequate food, clothing, and lodging for her five children John, Isaac, Frank, George, and Holland being in her custody all respectively under the age of fourteen years, whereby the health of such children is likely to be seriously injured." Specifics are not included in the warrant, but what information is present suggests a woman living in extreme poverty.

The historical record bears this out. Census records show that Elizabeth (b. 1832) would have been 39 years old and recently widowed by her husband John (b. 1830), a silk trader; she herself had taken up silk winding in order to support her family, with her eldest sons assisting her as silk twisters while the youngest were still infants. Records from Ellington's Kirby Cane Mill during this period show that the majority of employees in these fields were women and children, "the wages being too poor to attract adults [men]" (Kirby Cane). Shifts began "at six in the morning and finished at five at night with an hour and a half for breakfast and dinner" with pay ranging between "five and seven shillings per week" (Kirby Cane). This means that at the low end, someone like Elizabeth would be making the modern equivalent of \$35 weekly to support herself and her children as well as pay off any debts left behind by her late husband. While legislation earlier in the century had sought to account for poverty resulting from shifting employment opportunities during the period, but these policies largely "took for granted the universality of the stable two-parent family, primarily dependent upon the father's wage" and the mother's domestic care-taking; "hence the poverty of women and children was thought to be remediable by the increased earnings of husbands and fathers. These assumptions were quite incompatible with the realities of industrial low pay and recurrent unemployment, and early or sudden death: Many deserted, abandoned, or widowed women were left to support children or other dependents on less than subsistence wages" (Thane). Asylums and poor houses, which admitted impoverished women suffering from exhaustion and other ailments, mostly served "housekeepers, housemaids and the like" but also reported increases in "silk

weavers, stay-makers, tailoresses and other occupations": "primarily the very poorest women in society" (Higgs & Wilkinson).

While women like Elizabeth Ainsworth struggled to keep families afloat without a social and economic safety net, new laws were being enacted to protect children from the dangers of industrialization. The 1870 Education Act the previous year "stands as the very first piece of legislation to deal specifically with the provision of education...on a national scale"; expanded in 1876 and 1880, it not only increased the number of schools in underserved areas, it also "recommended that education be made compulsory in order to stop child labour" (Parliament). In concert with these efforts, organizations such as the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) began battling "against child abuse and neglect in England between 1870 and 1908," pushing legislation to end "children being considered the chattel of their parents" and instead "reshaping public opinion to police parental behavior...including the passage of the first legislation to protect children in their own homes" (Behlmer). Yet the lack of alignment between the new standards of domestic child care and the existing precarity for single parents and widows was highly problematic and unsustainable—leading to cases such as Ainsworth's. Records show that Robert Farrow would make another complaint against Ainsworth in 1872. But by 1881, census records show her complying with laws regarding education, with George and Holland both being listed as enrolled students.

The number of cases like this which would emerge across the decade pointed to problematic "Victorian attitudes toward poverty, family, social class, and state interference" (Behlmer). These issues and more coalesce around the present document, which welcomes engagement from researchers in a variety of fields.

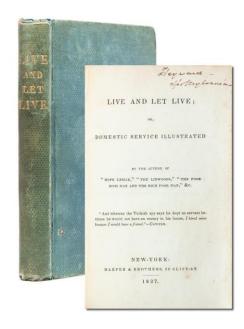
England, Wales & Scotland Census 1861, 1871, 1881. (Item #5953) \$2,200

#### 3. [Sedgwick, Catharine Maria].

## Live and Let Live; or Domestic Service Illustrated

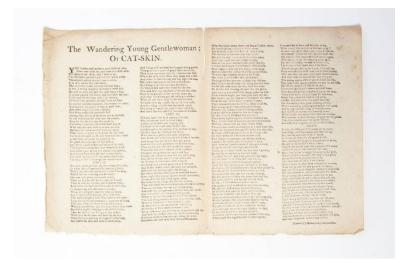
New York: Harper & Brothers, 1837. First edition. BAL second state, without the period following the word Illustrated on the title page. Original green publisher's cloth binding with gilt to spine. Some rubbing to extremities and boards. In all square and sound. Small stains to front endpapers. Early ownership signature to header of title. With less foxing than typical. Collating viii, 9-216, 16: complete, retaining publisher's catalogue to rear. With one appearance at auction in the last 45 years and no other copies on the market, this important work depicting the experiences of American working-class women has become quite scarce.

"As the United States was finding a national identity, writers of the time were creating a distinctive American literature. Catherine Maria Sedgwick was a novelist who contributed greatly to the new American writing of this age" (Wolfanger).



Unafraid of using her platform for social reform, Sedgwick tackled uncomfortable questions about the U.S.' founding principles; and her work exposed how the problematic systems these principles perpetuated affected women. In Live and Let Live, Sedgwick is particularly concerned about the unethical, dangerous, and inhumane conditions often faced by working women. Following the protagonist Lucy as she enters domestic service, readers witness practices not unfamiliar today—the manipulation of immigrant workers, the demand for additional labor without additional pay, the exposure to harassment. What Lucy witnesses and experiences is more than a simple critique of the system. It is a call to action for readers, and female readers specifically, to make positive change in their own behaviors. After all, Sedgwick recognized that the majority of her readers would be women, and that her task was to get them to sympathize with the working class and not the elite characters. "To my young Countrywomen—The future ministers of the charities of home, this volume is dedicated," she begins the book. Continuing, "the writer of the following pages begs her readers will have the kindness to remember that her business has been to illustrate the failures of one party in the contract between employers and employed...I shall be satisfied if it rouses more active minds than mine to reflect upon the duties and capabilities of mistresses of families; if it quicken some sleeping consciences; if it make any feel their duties and obligations to their 'inferiors in position."

BAL17373. Feminist Companion 962. Near Fine (Item #3944) **\$1,160** 



# 4. [Broadside Ballad] [Gender and Inheritance].

# The Wandering Young Gentlewoman; or Cat-Skin

London: J. Evans, [1795]. Early edition. One of several iterations printed in broadside format between 1750 and 1800. Measuring 380 x 240mm printed to recto only. Trivial wear to edges; long closed tear between columns three and four with no loss to text. A lovely example of this scarce broadside, depicting a young woman rejected by her father on account of her sex, and the life

she builds for herself within the patriarchal marriage economy. ESTC reports copies of this impression at four libraries; no copy of any edition has appeared at auction, and the present is the only example in trade.

On the surface, The Wandering Young Gentlewoman is a fairytale of meritocracy. The second daughter of a gentleman, the protagonist is roundly and fully rejected by her family: "In twelve months time this woman we hear, Had another daughter of beauty most clear. And when he knew it was a female, In bitter passion he presently fell." Railing at his wife, the squire demands that this second child be cast off into the country. There she is educated and clothed on her father's bill, but is denied family affection or even a name that would allow her to find safety and advance her own circumstances through marriage. On coming of age, she casts off her father's silks, clothes herself in a cat-skin, and goes out to make a living of a scullion maid; however, she attracts the attention of a knight's son who asserts that her "beauty is thy portion" and together they plot to accomplish their marriage despite their difference in means. Her father reappears at the end, having lost his wife and first daughter, and he calls upon his newly wealthy daughter to forgive and accept him.

The broadside's message, under the surface, is much darker and more tragic; indeed, it highlights the dangerous contingency of women within the system of primogeniture. Before being born, the protagonist is devalued by her father and rejected by her mother—a woman who needs to ensure stability for herself and her firstborn child. Educated and clothed like a gentlewoman, she nonetheless will not have access to the class from which she was ejected; and it is through a combination of cleverness and luck that she is able to avoid being forced into sex work in order to maintain her class. Instead, she opts to leverage her good looks to enter the "honorable prostitution" of marriage to a young man silly enough to value her fleeting beauty over anything else she can bring to the union.

ESTC T206996. (Item #5469) \$760

#### 5. Monroe, Anne Shannon.

#### Making a Business Woman

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1912. First edition. Original red publisher's cloth binding with bright gilt and a bit of sunning to the spine. Lacking the scarce jacket. Internally clean and unmarked with the exception of an early ownership signature to front pastedown. Retaining the two page publisher's adverts at rear featuring "New Books Primarily for Women." First appearance in book form, following the four-part serial in The Saturday Evening Post (The Bittner Stories). Scarce on the market, Monroe's semi-autobiographical novel was one of several that gave young women a role model who could inspire their own career ambitions.

MAKING A
BUSINESS WOMAN

BY
ANNE SHANNON MONROE

NEW YORK
HENRY HOLT AND COMPANY
1912

Anne Shannon Monroe enjoyed a successful career in advertising as well as publishing. The author of magazine

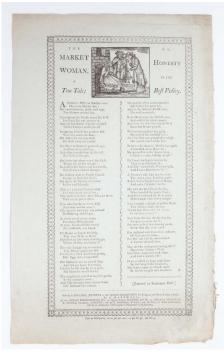
fiction and non-fiction, she became most popular for writing self-help pieces in Good Housekeeping. The present novel, dedicated to her mother and written in the first-person, draws on Monroe's experiences; the result is a lively and interesting depiction of an independent-minded young woman's rise through the professional ranks. From the book's opening, there is no mistaking that Miss Gale represents a new and outspoken generation of women. "I was downright tired of being poor. I was equally tired of hearing my past-generation relatives complacently remark: 'No one of our blood was ever in business.'" Casting off old-fashioned notions of class and gender, she decides she will take on office work; under the guidance of Miss Krog and the office owner Mr. Bittner, she overcomes challenges, grows in ambition, moves through the ranks of her Chicago book-publishing company, and ultimately moves toward opening her own advertising firm. Near Fine (Item #5504) \$680

#### 6. [More, Hannah].

#### The Market Woman, a True Tale; or, Honesty is the Best Policy

Bath and London: S. Hazard, J. Marshall, and R. White, [1795]. First edition. First issue, with Spinney recording this form of imprint in use from March to May of 1795; the second variant, also scarce, was used from May 1795 through early 1796. Broadside ballad on one sheet measuring 420 x 270mm and printed to recto only. Woodcut ornament at head; signed Z [Hannah More] at end. In Near Fine condition, with a bit of light fraying and soiling to foreedge and bottom edge; faint crease above header. Overall fresh and unmarked. ESTC reports 12 libraries holding copies (with the BL, Oxford, and Harvard reporting duplicates). It does not appear in the modern auction record, and the present is the only example on the market.

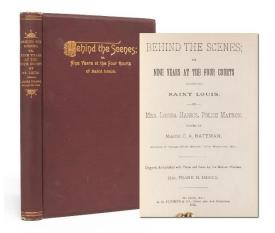
Four years before her influential treatise Strictures on the Modern System of Female Education, Hannah More used several of her Cheap Repository Tracts to articulate her ideas in narrative form. In The Market Woman, she focuses in on women's vulnerability to fashion—not only clothing, but also revels such as dancing and



drinking—and the financial, filial, and personal costs that can result. Going to market each day because her neighbors will no longer buy from her, the Farmer's Wife cheats her customers for personal profit because "she lik'd to flaunt in gowns so gay, And laces fine and thin; And is worse than all the rest, She lik'd a little gin." Funding her habits to the detriment of her household finances ("her Husband was an honest Man And did not know her tricks") and her community, she also risks her own reputation. Frustrated with being swindled, townspeople report her to the Market Bailiff; and when he demands to weigh her butter, she inserts a coin inside to avoid coming up short and facing consequences. But even this is brought to light. As a result, she loses her husband who "wou'd not live with one Of such an evil name"; but worse, she loses her chance at "an honest name."

The concerns of propriety and reputation become centerpieces of More's later treatise, admonishing women on "appearing to behave properly in public in order to get a good reputation"; for it is only with the public trust that comes with a good reputation that women "can enact change" (Constructing Women's Reputations). Pleasant public behavior was, in her perspective, used to "combine and express all moral and intellectual excellence" (Strictures). While numerous of the Cheap Repository Tracts emphasize God's grace or present women like the Farmer's Wife repenting and finding Grace, no such ending occurs here. Rather, More seems more interested in how the vapid fashions women are encouraged toward can lead them onto destructive paths that ultimately deplete them of public authority or any opportunity to create communal change, instead feeding into the stereotypes so often used to deny them access to educational or activist spaces.

ESTC T38985. Spinney 20:3, 142. Feminist Companion 760. (Item #5090) \$1,800



#### 7. [Women's Employment] Harris, Louisa.

# Behind the Scenes; or, Nine Years at the Four Courts of Saint Louis

St. Louis: A. R. Fleming & Co., 1893. First edition. Original publisher's cloth binding with gilt to spine and front board. Brown coated endpapers. A square, tight copy with just a bit of rubbing to extremities and light shelfwear to bottom edges of boards. Internally clean and unmarked, collating viii, 9-220: complete including frontis. The first book published by a policewoman in America, it is difficult to acquire in collectible condition.

Despite assumptions to the contrary, "women have served in organized law enforcement in the U.S. almost from the beginning. The first police departments in America were established in the 19th century, and in 1845 women began working as matrons in New York City jails" (Smith). The practice rapidly spread across the country, where police forces needed assistance in supervising female prisoners and dealing with the specific challenges faced by this population. Women's clubs—particularly the American Female Moral Reform Society and the Women's Christian Temperance Union—urged recognition for the widespread violence perpetrated on female prisoners and called for meaningful change. "It was these women's groups that fought for these distinctly female positions, demanding there was a need for women to take care of women...and they provided police departments with funds for paid matron positions until the government could be convinced of the necessity of having women in the police force" (Maiorano).

Louisa Harris, having served in the prisons and courts of Missouri for nearly a decade, became the first of these women to publish about her experience. The resulting narrative reflects an awareness of the social forces that often put women at a disadvantage, driving them toward arrests or recidivism. Domestic violence, poverty, and the stigma placed on sex work all do damage to women; and according to Harris, these women should not be treated as or placed with violent offenders when they could, with proper assistance, find safety or build more secure lives. This is the motivation for Harris' memoir. In the introduction she explains that while she hesitated to publish the book which might in some readers awaken a "morbid curiosity," she ultimately moved ahead because "I reasoned that if the world knew more about the unfortunate and their revolting experiences, together with the causes that promote misfortune, there might be more true sympathy exhibited...While I have from personal observation become familiar with so-called criminals, I have had the opportunity to learn many of the causes of the committal of crimes. The law seldom recognizes the palliating influences, but humanity should." Harris calls for reforming the handling of juvenile offenders, advocates for therapeutic programs for young women, and taps into a number of other systemic issues of concern within policing today. Near Fine (Item #5679) \$960

Despite willing her property to sisters, a family entail ensures that the bulk of a woman's wealth goes to her male relatives



#### 8. [Women's Property Rights].

Accounts of the Estate of the late Miss Henrietta Campbell, Dec[eased]

Pembrokeshire and London: 1833-1834. Folio measuring 190 x 110mm stitched at spine and comprised of 17 manuscript pages of accounts. Compiled by Henrietta Campbell's family friend and executor Dr. Lt. General Alexander Adams, the document shows the scope of Campbell's property, her outstanding expenses related to domestic labor and healthcare, the portion of her estate that was entailed, and the division of remaining money and personal items among her three sisters Lady Campbell, Lady Gage, and Mrs. Hulton. A research rich piece, the accounts give insight into the extent to which even elite, privileged women were beholden to

patriarchal property laws that restricted how they might spend or upon whom they might bestow property.

A first cousin of John Campbell, 1st Baron of Cawdor, Henrietta lived in a position of relative comfort. Though she did not own any houses or lands, her accounts show rent on a home at Manorbier Newton in Pembrokeshire near the Cawdor seat as well as lodgings in London. It is unsurprising that the majority of her finances were held at Coutts or in bonds held by Cawdor—keeping her economically tied to the larger family system. Her own personal property was somewhat limited; while the executor Adams reports throughout the year of locating small sums of money hidden in her lodgings (typically in £1-18 increments), the majority of her holdings existed in the form of domestic and personal items including jewelry, spectacles, silk dresses, china, framed art, and her library of "105 vols. & 19 of Music." Much of this was auctioned off to cover outstanding fees to domestic laborers and local tradespeople, her nurse, the apothecary, the expenses for the funeral, and any remaining taxes and rents; these can provide insight into how physical goods might be traded in-kind (as in the case of dresses supplementing the cash payout to her maid), the calibre of goods Henrietta purchased throughout her life, and the end-of-life expenses of nineteenth century upper classes. The details on her accounts also reveal the extent to which Henrietta's property—and many noble women's property—was not her own. Because while £48 was left to be divided among her sisters and chosen heirs (approximately £3500 today), the Baron of Cawdor retained the bulk of her final assets through the family entail approximating £1,280 (approximately £87,000). Ultimately, all assets were consolidated within the family given that the heirs were Henrietta's closest relatives; but Britain's continued system of primogeniture ensured that the most powerful man within the family retained that position and could pass it on to the son who would inherit from him. (Item #5065) **\$1,200** 

In the face of disinheritance and marital dissolution, a woman carves out financial independence and shows her daughter how to

# 9. [Women and Money] [Financial Estates] [Financial Autonomy] Mary Ann Tritch Rogers.

# Collection Relating to the Financial Empire of a Woman & her Daughter

Colorado; Massachusetts: 1890-1942. Hailing from an immigrant family that rose to prominence in the West, Mary Tritch Rogers and her daughter Georgette Houston were often overlooked in their own time in favor of the family patriarchs. Mary's father George Tritch (1829-1899) was, after all, a German immigrant whose evolution from downtrodden pioneer to millionaire rail road and real estate magnate was documented in Sketches of Colorado (1911) and celebrated in numerous newspaper and society articles in his lifetime. Meanwhile, Mary's husband Benjamin W. Rogers (1842-1917) was Colorado's first dentist and a community cornerstone. Yet the present



collection reveals that Mary, and Georgette after her, were more than ballroom delights. Savvy investors and business women, in their own quiet way they built and maintained their own empire even in the face of scandal, marital separation, and disinheritance. Without the documents preserved here, we might never know their story.

The territory and later state of Colorado had varying property laws for women across Mary's emergence to adulthood. It was a space where white male settlers drastically outnumbered their female counterparts; and when statehood in 1876 stripped women of suffrage, there was little incentive for men to vote to reinstate it immediately. That said, the increasing number of Married Women's Property Acts extending across the US did provide expanded protections for women to have control over their own wages, their inheritance, their land ownership and their investments. Mary Tritch Rogers used this to her benefit, as portions of this collection show. Taking the allowances given her first by her father and later her husband, she was able to grow her own little empire based in stock investments, real estate purchases, and interest earned from rents and loans to members of the community. This financial privilege allowed her to legally separate from her husband and her unhappy marriage in 1900 (signing over \$15,925—or \$576,000 today—for his promise to depart peacefully and disconnect from her). It also allowed her to survive disinheritance from her father—something reported by newspapers following his death, and potentially connected to the public scandal of her separation. Along with her daughter, she relocated to Massachusetts for the remainder of her life. Though newspapers suggested this was for her "health," it's far more likely that the distance from her estranged husband and perhaps even Massachusetts' own property laws were a larger appeal.

With her independent wealth, Mary Tritch Rogers was also able to provide freedoms for her daughters that weren't available to her. Georgette would be widowed early on in her marriage, and lived as a single mother to her children William and Dorothy. Account books from her household show, however, a comfortable life similar to her mother's. According to the 1910 and 1920 US Censuses, she took up residence near Boston, Massachusetts with her children and mother, keeping at least one maid. Yet neither women list employments other than head of household. Notably, neither show signs of remarrying either. By the time of Mary's death in

1935, her estate was valued at \$269,458—or \$6.02 million today. A full accounting of her assets and debts owed for settlements and funeral expenses is included.

The research rich assortment of ledgers, checkbooks, letters, travel and stock documents, legal materials and other personal ephemera give scholars an opportunity to examine not only the individual lives of these women, but also how their financial savvy contributed to or harmed the white and Indigenous communities around them. To what extent did these women's lives in Colorado, in Europe (where Mary lived for a time), or in Massachusetts expand or contract based on the localities' laws surrounding women's finances? And to what extent did the women replicate or depart from some of the more fiscally aggressive and harmful practices of the men around them? (Item #5465) \$2,600



#### Collection contains:

Mary Tritch Rogers' Loans and Banking Ledger (1894-1898)

Quarter roan over printed cloth with handwritten ownership title to front board. Measuring 235 x 185mm and containing 22 pages including pastedowns. With detailed information on Rogers' investments, outgoing loans, and payments owed or received during the later years of her marriage leading up to her formal separation.

Georgette R. Houston Account Book (1908-1911) Pictoral cloth with stitched edges. Measuring 185 x 60mm and containing 24 handwritten pages of financial information from her early years of marriage. Managing her household expenses and allowances.

Georgette R. Houston Check Book (1941-1942) Pebbled faux leather. Measuring 215 x 175mm and with all check stubs filled and all checks absent. Documenting her expenditures including

household costs, tuitions, and charitable donations.

#### Packet 1: Legal and Financial Documents

1895 Power of Attorney granted by Mary T Rogers to her father and husband while in Paris

1900 Formal Separation and settlements between Mary T Rogers and her husband (2 signed copies)

1916 Attorney letter addressed to Mary T Rogers

1935 Mary T Rogers final estate and funeral expenses

#### Packet 2: International Travel

1892 Family Visa for travel to Europe

1896 Single Visa for Mary T Rogers' travel to France

1899 Family Visa for travel to Europe

1904 Single Visa for Mary T Rogers' travel to Germany

#### Packet 3: Assorted Family Documents

1 Sheet of Family Marriages & Births

Unidentified dental record

## 1901 Stock Certificate

1911-12 Car Insurance Letter in Mary T Rogers' sole name

## Packet 4: Assorted Letters of the Houston Family

Letters, report cards, clothing orders, job references and other documents.

## Packet 5: Licenses & Ephemera

Assorted hunting licenses and cricket ephemera

#### Packet 6: Photos

Assortment of 6 original family photographs, including Mary Rogers in mourning

## Packet 7: Clippings

Assortment of 6 society pages clippings regarding family marriages and deaths



The Squibb Pharmaceutical heiress records her teen years, before wartime medical service and family financial struggle shaped her adulthood

## 10. [Diary] [Women's Social History] Catherine Harrison Squibb.

An heiress grows into womanhood in a changing world, documenting five years of her life in the US and Europe

US, Germany: October 1906 - October 1911. Red cloth over card with gilt to front board. All edges stained read. Measuring 200 x 170mm and containing 186 handwritten pages across five years. Dried flowers and theatre program loosely inserted at front. Ownership signature and bookplate of Catherine Harrison Squibb to front pastedown and endpaper with signature of the same to rear endpaper. A research rich and densely written diary, the present would be useful in fields including but not limited to intergenerational wealth and its relationship to emotional abuse, women's education and educational travel, early 20th century reading habits, modern friendship, courtship and romance, and women's increased mobility and travel.

The second daughter of Charles Fellow Squibb, himself the second son of pharmaceutical boss Dr. E. R. Squibb, Catherine Harrison Squibb was raised in economic privilege. Her earliest years were spent in the Brooklyn townhouse built for her parents by her grandfather, while her teen years were split between her father's historic estate of Welwood and her boarding school in Dresden. At Welwood Charles, always considered as "the lesser son" according to his E.R.'s journals, followed in his father's controlling footsteps by "purchasing polo ponies, setting about learning to jump" and "insisting his children do the same...to maintain the lifestyle of the landed gentry" (Belcher). This is confirmed in the opening entry of the diary (October 25, 1906) near Catherine's 16th birthday, where she reports "I rode side-saddle with Rosalie in the morning...rode again in the afternoon (ist richerverlobt! er est 62—alt!!)" The numerous rides do not seem to entirely please Catherine, as she hides her frustration in the German parenthetical (roughly, "he is engaged to be a judge! he is 62 years old!!"). Three days later on her birthday, she spends her time significantly differently, clowning with her brother and aunt, and "playing tennis in the afternoon." This becomes something of a tradition, as her birthday entries report several times "played tennis all afternoon" She also notes her time in French and German lessons—with German becoming more frequent during and after her time at school in Dresden, especially when she wants to obfuscate her thoughts from unwanted readers.

If this diary is any indication, music and reading, travel and school became refuges for Catherine. And she claimed as much time as she could to find independence and develop herself outside of Charles' strict rules. Her reading preferences reflect this desire to immerse herself in Jane Austen's world of social visits and balls, where family conflict is eventually smoothed by a woman's exit to a loving partner and home of her own. "Good day!" she writes on April 29, 1908, "Stayed in bed all day. I finished Pride & Prejudice and began Emma." This is contrast against her reaction to Charlotte Bronte's work on May 1 of the same year: "Cold & windy. We came in on the 9.30. Aunts at Welwood...had music lesson...I began Jane Eyre. Dismal book!" Her tone and word choice reflect the most happiness in these circumstances, whereas riding is reported like a duty—she may report what time of day and what horse, but no expressions of joy accompany them.

While the diary concludes in 1911, when Catherine is 21, we know that she would return to Europe from 1917-1919 as a nurse in WWI, watching her own country battle her beloved Germany. Within the time, her father had sold his birthright in Squibb, and with "his extravagant lifestyle eating through his money quickly...he was forced to sell Welwood...not long thereafter he went to France" and never returned to the US (Belcher). In 1920, she would marry veteran and shoe manufacturing foreman Raymond Pratt, moving with him to Pasadena, California and becoming a civic leader.

Much deeper work can be done on Catherine's lives and relationships, especially considering the current cultural trends of novels, films, and series depicting both the glamour and the emotional squalor of the 1%. (Item #6011) \$1,200