

Adam Andrusier Autographs  
*A Spring Miscellany 2012*



in meinem guten Freunde Carl  
-im Brust der freundlichen Erinnerung  
P. Tschai'kowsky



## *Introduction*

Adam Andrusier studied Music at King's College, Cambridge, before establishing a business in autographs in 1993. With close to twenty years' experience in authentication, Adam Andrusier is an internationally-recognised dealer of investment-quality autograph letters and historical documents. His material covers a wide range of areas, though concentrates on the arts. His aim is to help the discerning collector and investor to find rare and important autographs that will take pride of place in their collections and portfolios.

We hope you enjoy browsing this catalogue, which presents some highlights of our current stock.

*Please contact us for advice about  
building your collection, or if you  
require auction representation in the UK.*

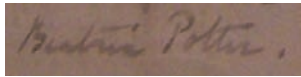
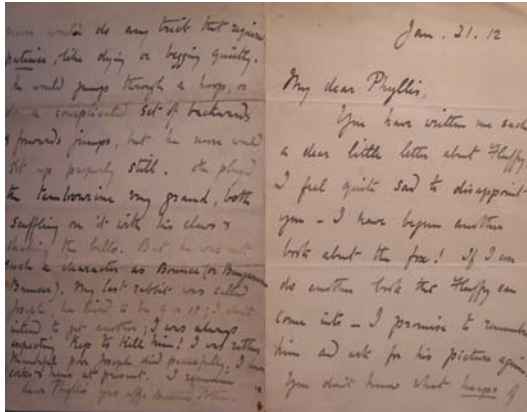
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## Beatrix Potter on Peter Rabbit and Jeremy Fisher

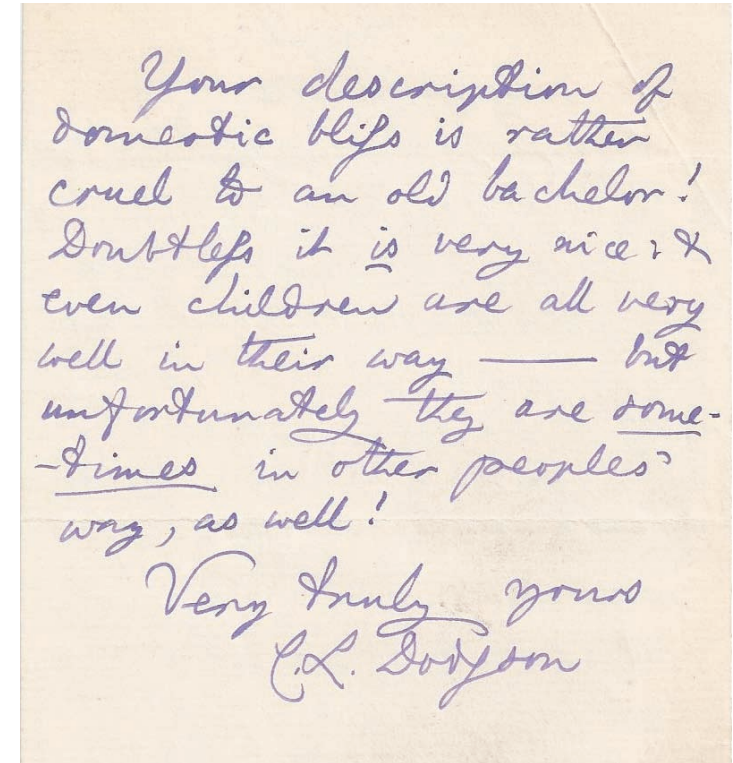


### Potter, Beatrix (1866 - 1943)

An outstanding four-page autograph letter signed by Beatrix Potter ("Beatrix Potter"), January 21st 1912, with extensive playful reference to characters from her books. The author writes to a young fan, opening, "My dear Phyllis, You have written me such a dear little letter about Fluffy. I feel quite sad to disappoint you - I have begun another book about the fox!" She goes on to lament the numerous requests she receives that she is unable to fulfil, "a child in Wales who wants a book about a crocodile called Amelia!... a small boy in Ireland who wants to know if Jeremy Fisher ever got married, and two want moles, and another wants a donkey named Salome, and another wants a horse book, and another wants hens, and another wants elephants - poor Miss Potter! Fluffy is a very reasonable request by comparison." She goes on to refer to a specific incident imparted by her correspondent about the aforementioned rabbit: "Fluffy must have surprised the guests at tea at that hotel! I can imagine him going from table to table and dropping dead. Peter Rabbit was rather clever at tricks, but he never would do any trick that required patience, like dying or begging quietly. He would jump through a hoop, or do a complicated set of backwards and forwards jumps, but he never would sit up properly still. He played the tambourine very grand, both scuffling on it with his claws and shaking the bells." Letter folds and slight age-toning, otherwise in very fine condition.

Price: £7,950.00 / \$12,720.00

## Dodgson on Domesticity



### Dodgson, Charles Louis (1832 - 1898)

A two-page autograph letter signed "C.L. Dodgson", August 26th 1885 to Mr. Bowles (Thomas Gibson Bowles, editor of *Vanity Fair*). Dodgson opens, "Dear Mr. Bowles, Your very kind offer to get the facts about 'Hart's Leap' published in *Vanity Fair* 'free, gracious, and for nothing' had to be reported to my friend (who is in France) before I could tell what to say. I now have her reply and accept your offer, with many thanks, leaving it to you to select what parts of it to print: of course it will bear considerable abridgement." Dodgson goes on, "Your description of domestic bliss is rather cruel to an old bachelor! Doubtless it is very nice: and even children are all very well in their way - but unfortunately they are sometimes in other peoples' way, as well! Very truly yours, C.L. Dodgson". In very fine condition

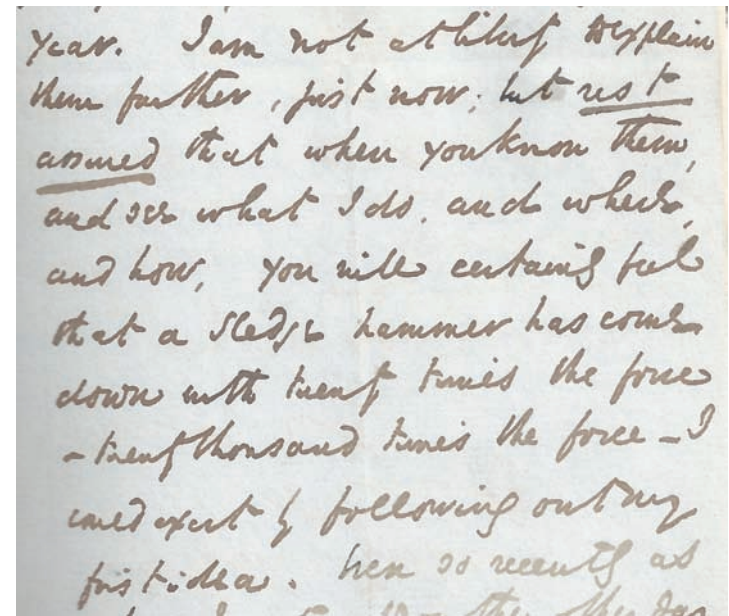
Price: £2,950 / £4,720

## *An Archive of Dickens' Letters; the Germination of A Christmas Carol*

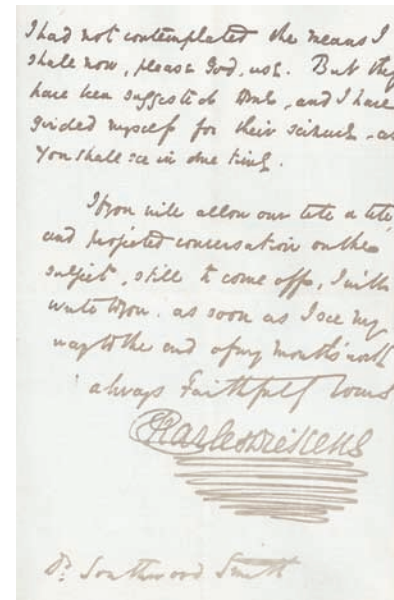
**Dickens, Charles (1812 – 1870)**

A noteworthy collection of ten autograph letters signed by Charles Dickens, to social reformer Thomas Southwood Smith, within which Dickens arrives at the idea to write *A Christmas Carol*. In the first letter, dated 2nd June 1843, Dickens is unable to visit a coalmine with Smith to see the working conditions of the children employed there. But by the second, dated 6th March 1843, Dickens has already committed himself to writing a "pamphlet, called 'An appeal to the People of England on behalf of the Poor Man's child'", partially in response to "the blue book you have sent me". *The Blue Book* was *The Second Report of the Children's Employment Commission*, of which Smith was one of four commissioners; its publication was one of the turning points in the history of Victorian social welfare, uncovering as it did the full horror of working conditions for children as young as six or seven years old. Just four days later, Dickens changes his mind about the pamphlet, in a widely-cited letter: "I am not at liberty to explain... further, just now; but rest assured that when you... see what I do, and where and how, you will certainly feel that a sledge hammer has come down with twenty times the force – twenty thousand times the force – I could expect by following out my first idea." This new idea was to become the novella *A Christmas Carol*, though Dickens decided on *The Sledge Hammer* as his working title (presumably writing this letter). The further seven letters in the collection include one in which Dickens organises a dinner in aid of the Sanatorium, one commenting on some books about the employment of convicts in Tasmania ("very terrible books they are"), a long letter in relation to Smith's candidacy for Commissioner under the terms of the *Health of Towns Bill*, and a letter in which Dickens agrees to take a share of £25 in the 'Metropolitan Association for Improving the Dwellings of the Industrious Classes', to help them with a project to build a block of model dwellings in London. All neatly laid down within a Victorian album (all could be easily removed intact) alongside corresponding hand-addressed and signed envelopes by Dickens. In very fine condition. A unique collection, that not only crystallizes the moment of inspiration for one of Dickens' most enduring classics, but also encapsulates Dickens' strong sense of social responsibility and his determination to write a book that might have a real and direct impact on Victorian society.

Price: £55,000 / \$88,000



year. I am not at liberty to explain them further, just now; but rest assured that when you know them, and see what I do, and where, and how, you will certainly feel that a sledge hammer has come down with twenty times the force – twenty thousand times the force – I could expect by following out my first idea. I am so recently as



I had not contemplated the means I shall now, please God, use. But they have been suggested to me, and I have guided myself for their success – as you shall see in due time.

You will allow our little, and projected conversation on this subject, still to come off, I will write you, as soon as I see my way to the end of my month's work.

always faithfully yours  
*Charles Dickens*

D. Southwood Smith

“Life is the most beautiful fairytale of all!”

Das Leben ist das schönste  
Märchen!  
G. H. Andersen.



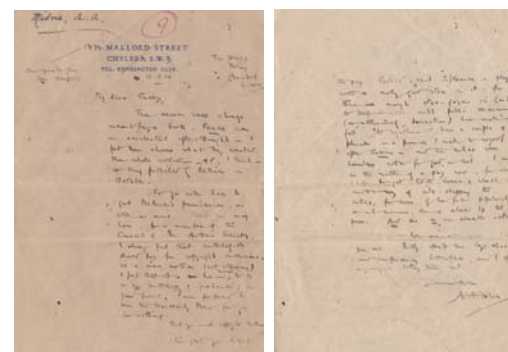
#### Andersen, Hans Christian (1805 – 1875)

A nice 6.5” x 4.25” cabinet portrait of Hans Christian Andersen, shown seated in profile in a chair. Boldly signed to the reverse in fountain pen ink, “Mr. Aufdermauer, as a warm souvenir of H.C. Andersen.” He has then signed for a second time below, adding the aphorism, “Life is the most beautiful fairytale of all!” Light age-toning, otherwise in very fine condition. A lovely example.

Price: £3,750.00 / \$6,000

#### Milne Announces the Publication of *When We Were Very Young*

The verses were always  
meant for a book; Punch was  
an accidental after-thought – I  
let them choose what they wanted.  
The whole collection – 45, I think –  
is being published by Methuen in  
October.



#### Milne, A. A. (1882 – 1956)

A good two-page autograph letter signed by A.A. Milne, 15th August 1924. Milne announces the publication of his most celebrated work, *When We Were Very Young*:

“My dear Carey, The verses were always meant for a book; Punch was an accidental after-thought – I let them choose what they wanted. The whole collection – 45, I think – is being published by Methuen in October.” Milne goes on to inform his correspondent that he will need Methuen's permission, “as well as mine. Mine you may have. As a member of the Council of the Authors Society, I always feel that anthologists should pay for copyright inclusions; as a mere author (not starving) I feel that it is honour enough to be in an anthology of Grahame's; as your friend, I am prepared to run the University Press for you for nothing. But you must apply to Methuen.” in very fine condition.

Price: £3750 / \$6000



*A Portrait Signed by the Young Mahler*



**Mahler, Gustav (1860 – 1911)**

A superb signed 6.5" x 4.25" cabinet portrait by Gustav Mahler. A striking three-quarter length shot of the composer, signed in very bold fountain pen ink to a light portion. Slight adhesion mark to the reverse, otherwise in excellent condition.

Price: £13,950 / \$22,300

*Tchaikovsky Signs his Portrait for a Friend*



**Tchaikovsky, Piotr (1840 – 1893)**

A fantastic signed and inscribed 6.5" x 4" cabinet portrait by Piotr Tchaikovsky. A pensive head and shoulders shot of the composer signed boldly in fountain pen ink to a light portion, adding an inscription in German, "To my good friend Carl Armbrust, with fond memories, P. Tschaikowsky, 10 Feb. 1888". Slight age-toning, otherwise in very fine condition. An exceptional example.

Price: £13,500.00 / \$21,600

*Darwin on the Reception of The Origin of Species:  
“Many are so fearful of speaking out.”*

## Charles Darwin (1809 – 1882)

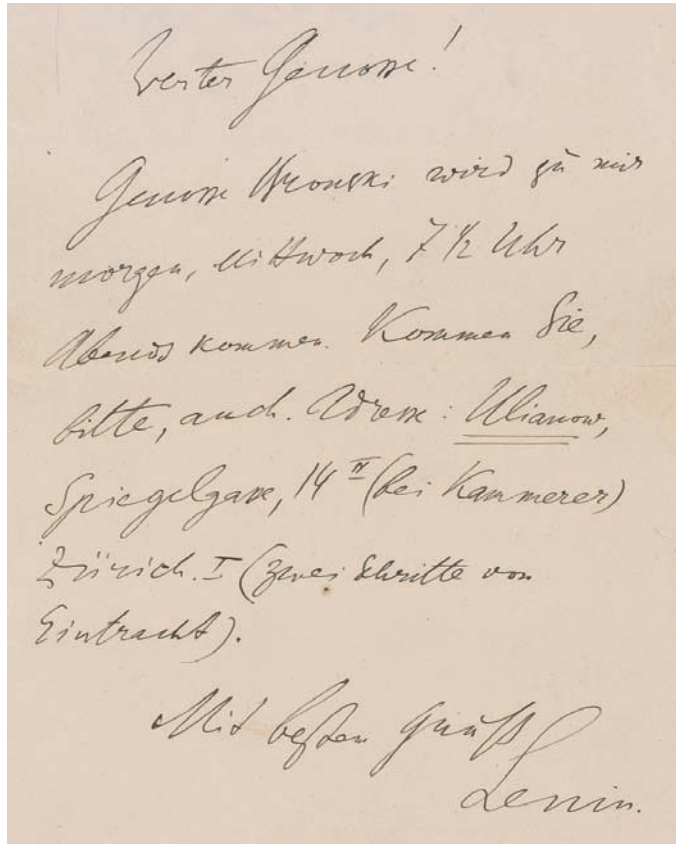
An important eight-page autograph letter signed by Charles Darwin, 18th September (1861), to the academic Henry Fawcett. Darwin opens by commenting on his correspondent's manuscript, being a paper written by Fawcett and delivered just days earlier to the British Science Association in Manchester, entitled *On the method of Mr. Darwin in his treatise on the Origin of Species*. Fawcett was there to defend the logic behind Darwin's theories before a largely sceptical audience. Darwin writes, "It seems to me very good and sound; though I am certainly not an impartial judge. You will have done good cause in calling the attention of scientific men to means and laws of philosophising. How miserably Prof. Williamson talked of my reputation, as if that had anything to do with it. As for Dr. Lankester, he is a man... who never observed a new fact, I believe, in his life. It made me laugh to read of his advice or rather regret that I had not published facts alone. How profoundly ignorant he must be of the very soul of observation!" Darwin goes on, "About thirty years ago there was much talk that geologists ought only to observe and not theorise; and I well remember someone saying that at this rate a man might as well go into a gravel-pit and count the pebbles and describe the colours. How odd it is that anyone should not see that all observation must be for or against some view if it is to be of any service!" Darwin then refers to the work he is currently involved in, which has "some direct bearing on the subject of species." Darwin possibly refers here to his paper, *Fertilisation of Orchids* (1862) which constituted his first detailed demonstration of the power of natural selection. The rest of Darwin's letter relates to the public reception to *The Origin of Species*, and Darwin asserts, "Pray believe that I feel sincerely grateful that you have taken up the cudgels in defence of the line of argument in the *Origin*; you will have benefited the subject. Many are so fearful of speaking out. A German naturalist came here the other day, and he tells me that there are many in Germany on our side; but that all seem fearful of speaking out, and waiting for someone to speak, and then many will follow. The naturalists seem as timid as young ladies should be, about their scientific reputation. There is much discussion on the subject on the Continent, even in quiet Holland, and I had a pamphlet from Moscow the other day by a man who sticks up famously for the imperfection of the 'Geological Record,' In very fine condition. An outstanding letter by Darwin detailing in extravagant detail the simmering public mood in the aftermath of the publication of *The Origin of Species*.

£75,000 / \$120,000

Origin: you will have  
benefitted to subject -  
may be so fearful of  
speaking out - a German  
naturalist came here to  
the day & he tells me  
the there are many in  
Germany on our side; but  
that all seem fearful

of speaking into & waiting for  
the one to speak & then  
may not follow. The  
lecturer's seems to think  
as young ladies think, say,  
about their nineteenth  
century. There is  
much difference in the  
outlook as to entrance  
even in quiet Holland;  
& I had a pamphlet  
from Moscow the other day  
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on the improvement of

*A Rare Autograph Letter by Lenin, in the Days Before the Russian Revolution*



**Vladimir Lenin (1870 - 1924)**

An extremely rare autograph letter signed in German, signed 'Lenin' and also 'Ulyanov' in the text, no date (though postmarked January 16th 1917). Lenin writes to Mr. Berger, in full, "Dear Comrade! Comrade Bronski will be coming to see me tomorrow, Wednesday 7 1/2 pm. Please come along. Address: Ulyanov, Spielgasse 14, 2nd Floor (at Kammerer's), Zurich 1 (a few steps from Eintracht). With kind regards, Lenin". In very fine condition, and together with the original envelope, hand-addressed by Lenin with his last name 'Ulyanov' written in the return address area on the reverse side. Just weeks later, the comrade mentioned by Lenin in this letter (Mieczyslaw Bronski), was to come to Lenin with news of the Tsar's abdication and of revolution in Russia. An excellent association piece.

£32,500 / \$52,000

*Original Artwork by the Young Winston Churchill*



**Churchill, Winston (1874 – 1965)**

A compelling original ink drawing by Winston Churchill, accomplished by him in 1892 at the age of eighteen, whilst still a student at Harrow School. The young statesman has drawn an appealing image of a boxer sat exhausted on a chair in the corner of a boxing ring, being wiped down by one man and thrown a towel by another. He captions the picture, 'The Losing Side' and has signed boldly in fountain pen ink, adding the date. Drawn on a 9" x 7" sheet that has been laid down to card. Some age-toning where the picture was presumably once framed, otherwise in fine condition. This appears to be the earliest-known artwork by Churchill, with its title ("The Losing Side") decidedly ironic in light of the man's future achievements. Apparently the young Churchill gave this picture to the owners of a sweet shop close to Harrow School, and it remained in their family until its sale.

Price: £12,500.00 / \$20,000



## Gandhi Reveals that he is Fighting “Englishmen’s battles”

few beautiful lines. It is indeed literally true that in my humble way I am fighting Englishmen's battles. I regard myself

10th April 1924  
I have no more to say. Thanking you for your good wishes. Yours sincerely, M.K. Gandhi

### Mahatma Gandhi (1869 – 1948)

An extraordinary two-page autograph letter signed by Mahatma Gandhi, ('M.K. Gandhi'), in pencil, 10th April 1924. Gandhi writes, in full, “Dear friend, It was so good of you to have sent me those few beautiful lines. It is indeed literally true that in my humble way I am fighting Englishmen's battles. I regard myself as their true friend, because I am applying in my thoughts and conduct about them the same rule I have applied and am still applying in respect of those who are nearest and dearest to me. Thanking you for your good wishes. Yours sincerely, M.K. Gandhi”. Letter folds, otherwise in fine condition. An astonishing message from Gandhi at a pivotal moment in his struggle. He had been released just weeks before writing this letter from a six-year prison sentence (commuted to two due to appendicitis). His policy of non-cooperation had been enjoying widespread success in the early 1920s, though Gandhi was arrested and tried for sedition in March 1922, in the aftermath of a violent clash in Uttar Pradesh. That Gandhi should make these comments about the British at this time is testament to his extraordinary commitment to non-violence and peaceful resolution.

£25,000 / \$40,000

## Husserl on his Cartesian Meditations ...

Jahrbuch für Philosophie und phänomenologische Forschung  
in Gemeinschaft mit M. Geiger-München :: O. Pfänder-München :: M. Scheler-Köln  
herausgegeben von Ed. Husserl :: Verlag von Max Niemeyer, Halle (Saale), Bräderstr. 6

Freiburg München, den 7 XI 1920

Lieber Herr Collège!

Ich war in der Tat eine Lungenkrankheit & hat  
wie lange, mit Feuer, gearbeitet und keine Zeit  
gehabt, um zu schreiben, ist ein Brief über die  
Wichtigkeit geworden. Ich bin Ihnen für die  
Gabe, die Sie mir schickten, dankbar. Ich bin  
ich, für alle Freunde, in der Hoffnung, dass Sie  
Glück zu sein.

Man kann nicht, was ich natürlich nicht für  
Mittelpunkte über die Fragestellung des Phänomenologischen  
des Ethik. Ein Jahr, ein Jahr von der Wissenschaft  
dieser Schrift ging es gut, weil es in der  
gegenwärtigen Zeit. Ich bin Ihnen dankbar.  
Ich bin Ihnen dankbar, dass Sie die Schrift nicht  
vergessen zu haben. Ich bin Ihnen dankbar.  
Ich bin Ihnen dankbar, dass Sie die Schrift nicht  
vergessen zu haben. Ich bin Ihnen dankbar.  
Ich bin Ihnen dankbar, dass Sie die Schrift nicht  
vergessen zu haben. Ich bin Ihnen dankbar.

Ihre ergebene  
Edmund Husserl

### Husserl, Edmund (1859 – 1938)

An extremely rare pair of autograph letters signed by Edmund Husserl to the French philosopher, Alexandre Koyré, in relation to his important *Cartesian Meditations*, a key text in the development of French Phenomenology, and a text that Koyré translated for its French edition. Autograph letters by Husserl rarely come to market, with these two both concerned with a central work in the philosopher's output.

£5,500.00 / \$8,800

*"We are just off now, and will soon be shut off from all we know"*

#### **Shackleton, Ernest (1874 – 1922)**

A superb four-page autograph letter signed by Ernest Shackleton, 23rd December 1901, on Discovery Expedition headed paper. He writes to, "My dear Cyril" during the outward journey of the expedition. He opens, "I have really been so busy that only now have I time to write a line to you old chap... We are just off now and will soon be shut off from all we know, excepting our little crowd on the ship. We get on very well together. Royds has tamed down wonderfully and is rather nice. He is better at sea. In port he fancies the weight of the whole expedition rests on his shoulders and assumes a worried look in consequence." He goes on to refer to a book he is after by the German polar scientist Drygalski, then notes, "I am going to write you an official letter about my money. Mind you never let anyone know where I have it sent and never forward any letters of mine to my people. Sent them to Lyttleton to await arrival of out by the relief ship." Shackleton closes in a jaunty fashion, "Now, old man. The very best of wishes for the New Year, from your s affectionately, Ernest H. Shackleton". In very fine condition. A fascinating insight into the mindset of the young Shackleton and into the mood of the Discovery Expedition in its earliest days

Price: £5,500 / \$8,800

#### *A Poignant 1911 Letter From Scott of the Antarctic*

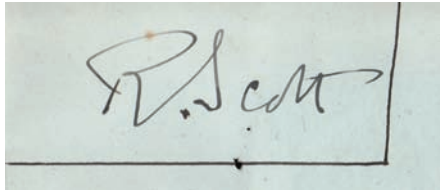


#### **Scott, Robert Falcon (1868 – 1912)**

A remarkable and poignant four-page autograph letter signed by Robert F. Scott, "R. Scott", Winter Quarters (Cape Evans, Antarctica), October 1911, to Mrs. Evans (the wife of Edgar Evans, a member on this ill-fated final expedition), on the printed stationery of the British Antarctic Expedition, *Terra Nova*. Writing in fountain-pen ink on the eve of his last journey southwards to the Pole, Scott expresses the high admiration he has for his correspondent's husband, "Although I have never met you, your husband has told me a great deal about you so that I can imagine that you and the children will be waiting to see him home again next year and will be very disappointed if he isn't able to come. So I write to you to tell you that he is very well indeed, very strong and in very good condition." The explorer continues to inform Mrs. Evans, "It is possible we may not finish our work this year and in that case he will stop with me for a second season" and reassuring her, "If so you must try and remember that he is certain to be in the best of health and that it will be all the better when he does come home. When that time comes I hope he will get some good billet and not have to leave you again. He is such an old friend of mine and has done so well on this Expedition that he deserves all I can do for him." Scott concludes his letter by remarking "So I must hope you won't be anxious or worried." A poignant letter which, as with others written at this time, would probably not have arrived in London until 11th May 1912, three months after Evans', and indeed Scott's, tragic death. Letter folds, with a small tear to the right edge of page three, away from the text. Some very light age wear and minor traces of former mounting, otherwise in fine condition. One of the most remarkable letters by Scott to have been offered for private sale, and one of the last known letters to be penned by him.

Price: £11,500 / \$18,400

## The Signatures of Scott and Fourteen of the Terra Nova Expedition

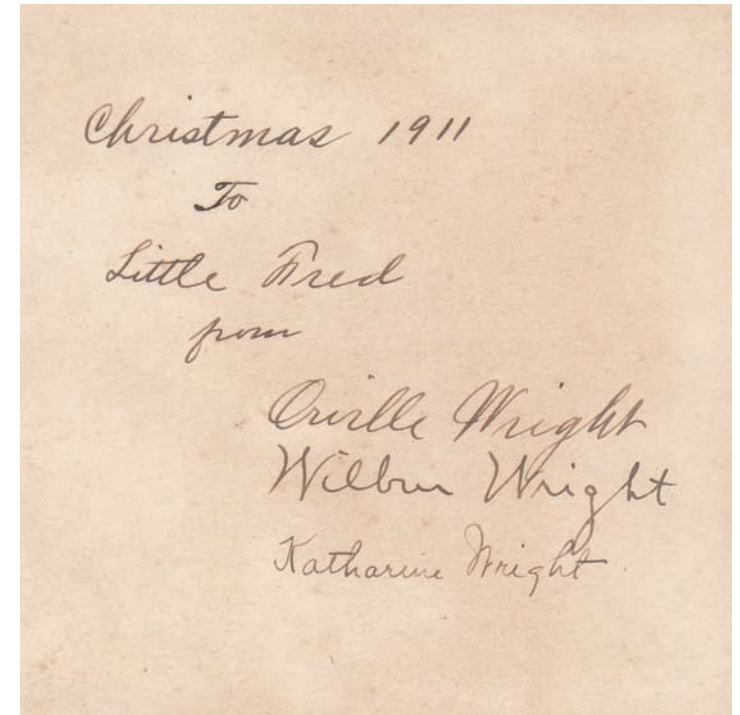


### Terra Nova Expedition

A large autograph album featuring a boldly signed page by Robert F. Scott, and a second page signed by fourteen members of Scott's *Terra Nova Expedition* team. Bold ink signatures of Lawrence Oates, Edward Wilson, Henry Robertson Bowers, Edward Atkinson, Edward R.G.R. Evans, George Murray Leick, Tryggve Gran, Edward Nelson, Apsley Cherry-Garrard, Victor Campbell, Edgar W. Riley, Dennis Lillie, Francis Drake and Henry Rennick. Bowers, Oates and Wilson all died with Scott after reaching the South Pole. An incredible collection of signatures, in very fine condition.

Price: £8,750 / \$14,000

## A Rare Set of Signatures by the Wright Brothers



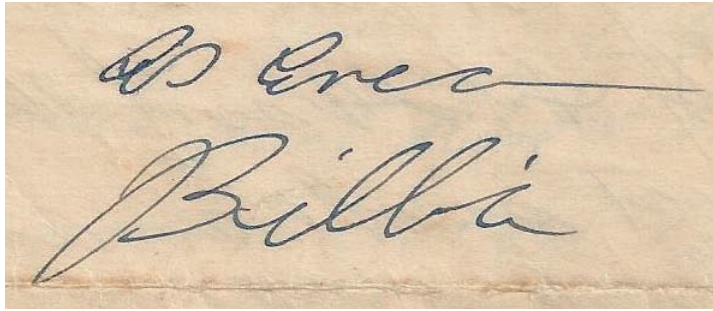
### Wright Brothers, The

An excellent signed 8.25" x 6" page by Orville Wright, Wilbur Wright and Katharine Wright individually. Orville adds an inscription, "Christmas 1911, to Little Fred". Nice fountain pen signatures of each. Light age-toning, otherwise in fine condition. Apparently a dedication page removed from a book that was given by the Wrights as a gift. A rare and important set of signatures.

Price: £9,500 / \$15,200



*“I would never sing again but I still have Mama to take care of”*

A close-up photograph of a handwritten signature in bold, cursive fountain-pen ink on aged, slightly textured paper. The signature reads "Billie" in a large, fluid script, with "Billie" written above it in a smaller, more compact cursive.

#### **Billie Holiday (1915 – 1959)**

A revealing and early four-page autograph letter signed by Billie Holiday, “Billie”. Dated February 11th 1938, Holiday writes in bold fountain-pen ink to Hotch. She writes about some “sad news”: “I’ve lost my job with Count Basie. I got my three weeks notice in the mail yesterday. Willard said he had to let me go because he had to cut down on expense, but that’s not it. I cussed John Howard out at rehearsal before we went in Iowa’s State, an after that he gave a party but I wasn’t there. We haven’t spoke. An another thing, I owe him some money an haven’t been able to pay him. Well, I didn’t accept the three weeks notice an when the Band left this morning I was slup because I could never sing with the Band again. I would never sing again but I still have Mama to take care of. Well honey, right now I am as low as a snake, don’t know what I am going to do, but I guess something will happen, it’s just got to or else I’ll be in the poor house by Tuesday.” She closes, “Gee, I wish I could see someone like you to talk to, sorry to have to write all these things down, but you’re my friend an I had to tell someone.” Letter folds, otherwise in very fine condition. Within weeks, Holiday was singing with the Artie Shaw band, making her among the first black vocalists to sing with a white orchestra. Many different stories prevail about the reasons for her sacking by Count Basie, including her apparently unreliable temperament. This letter sheds further light on that story, and gives real insight into her state of mind and disastrous personal finances at this early stage of her career.

Price: £29,500 / \$47,200

*Reinhardt Signs a Portrait During Nazi Occupation*



#### **Reinhardt, Django (1910 – 1953)**

A superb signed approximately 7” x 9.5” double-weight head and shoulders publicity portrait by Django Reinhardt. A smouldering shot of the guitarist with a cigarette in his mouth, signed very boldly in fountain pen ink, “Pour le Premiers Tommi a Paris, Bob, Amitié, Django Reinhardt”. In excellent condition. Apparently obtained in Paris, during the Nazi occupation. As a gypsy, Reinhardt’s life was in peril during this period, his survival due to the protection of jazz-loving Nazis, such as Dietrich Schulz-Köhn (nicknamed ‘Dr. Jazz’). Extremely rare in this format.

Price: £6,500 / \$10,400

*A Detailed Sketch by Liebermann*

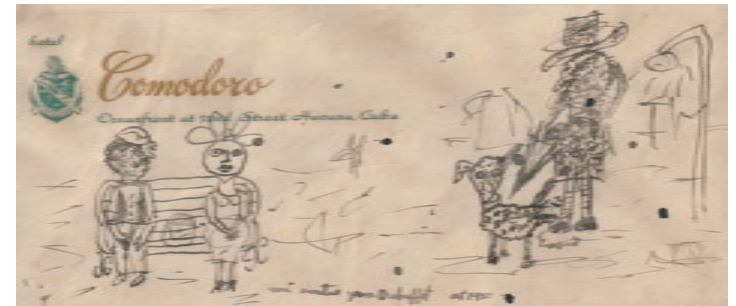


**Liebermann, Max (1847 – 1935)**

A superb sketch by German impressionist painter, Max Liebermann. Liebermann has drawn, in fountain pen ink, on a 4" x 5.75" sheet, a detailed portrait of a man in profile, carrying a bag on his back and wearily leaning his arms across his legs. Signed boldly and dated Berlin 1931. Laid down to card, and in very fine condition. Very desirable and attractive.

Price: £2,500 / \$4,000

*An Amusing Sketch by Dubuffet*



**Dubuffet, Jean (1901 – 1985)**

A superb and rare detailed sketch by Jean Dubuffet, drawn on a 4" x 9.5" hotel envelope. In his typical style, the artist draws a young couple sat side by side on a bench, the woman looking straight ahead, whilst the man beside her looks at her. Nearby, a man with an umbrella and sporting a top hat takes his dog for a walk. Signed by the artist and dated 1950. In very fine condition. Together with a second envelope bearing a signed sketch by the Cuban artist, Raul Milian.

Price: £3750 / \$6000



## Rodin Signs an Informal Portrait



### Rodin, Auguste (1840 – 1917)

An excellent signed and inscribed 5.5" x 3.5" postcard portrait by Auguste Rodin. A nice photograph of the artist sat beside one of his sculptures. Signed in bold fountain pen ink to a light portion and in very fine condition.

Price: £2,500 / \$4,000

## Houdini in Chains



### Houdini, Harry (1874 – 1926)

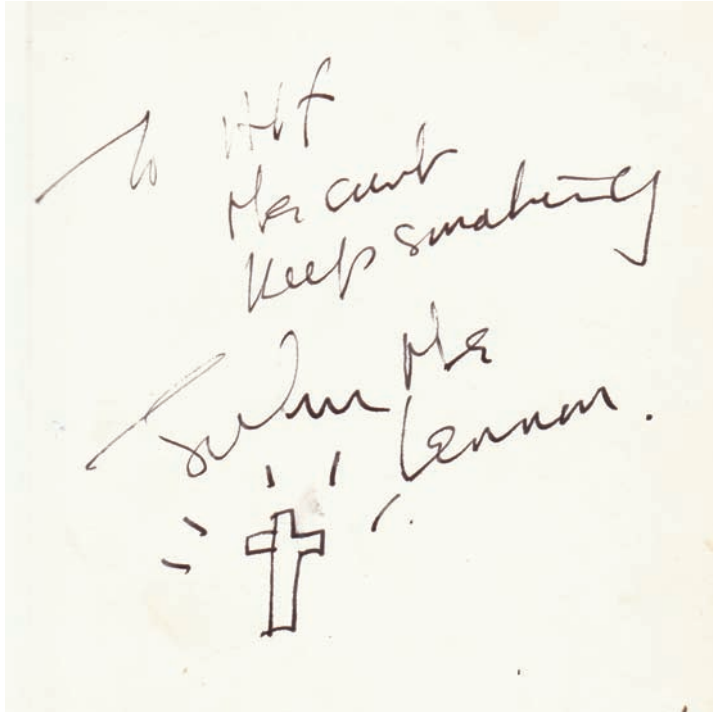
A superb signed 3.25" x 5" postcard portrait by Harry Houdini. The image, titled below 'Houdini the Handcuff King' shows the escapologist in a full-length pose, with his hands and feet chained together multiple times. Boldly signed in fountain pen ink, "Harry Handcuff Houdini, July 9th 1909". Houdini also adds, to the top left, "Photo taken 1904".

A superb example, and rare in this format

Price: £5,500 / \$8,800



## Lennon Adds a Crucifix to his Name

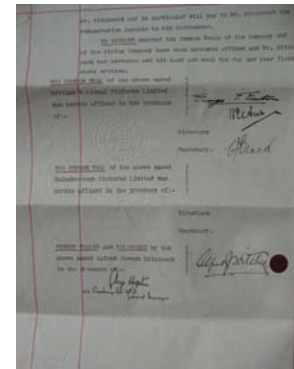
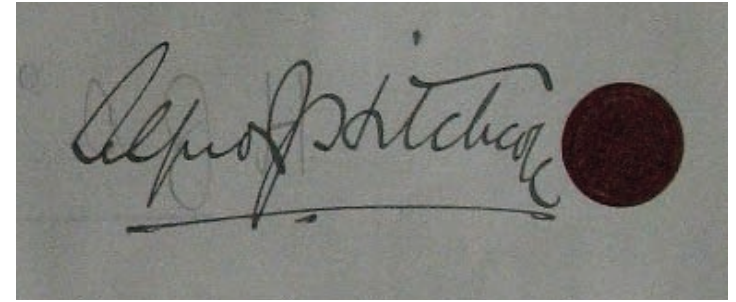


### Lennon, John (1940 – 1980)

A superb signed and inscribed copy of *A Spaniard in the Works* by John Lennon. Lennon has inscribed the book on the first blank page for a bodyguard and chauffeur to the Beatles, Alf Bicknell. Lennon writes, in bold fountain pen ink, "To Alf the cunt, Keep smoking, John the (crucifix) Lennon". Light age-toning, otherwise in very fine condition. An amusing inscription by Lennon who, by adding a sketch of a crucifix in the middle of his name, appears to be making reference to his famous controversial comments in 1965 to an *Evening Standard* journalist, "Christianity will go. It will vanish and shrink ... We're more popular than Jesus now – I don't know which will go first, rock and roll or Christianity". Extremely collectible in this format. Comes together with typed provenance by Alf Bicknell's niece, to whom the book was given as a gift.

Price: £5,950 / \$9,520

## A 1927 Film Contract for Hitchcock

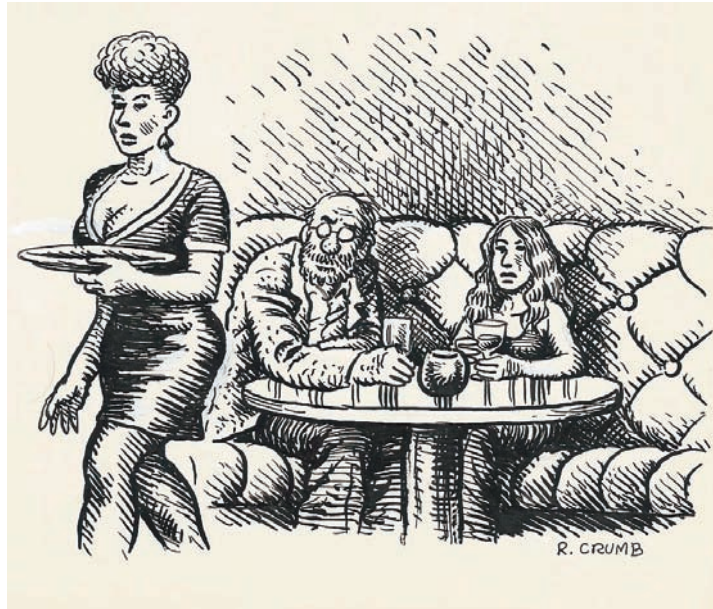


### Hitchcock, Alfred (1899 – 1980)

An early signed contract by Alfred Hitchcock. Dated 3rd January, 1927, the four-page large-format contract is between British National Pictures Ltd. and Gainsborough Pictures Ltd. British National Pictures agree to permit Gainsborough the services of Alfred Hitchcock to direct a film entitled *Down Hill*. Signed boldly to the conclusion by the young director in fountain pen ink (he writes over his own pencil initials). Folded in four, and in very fine condition. Together with a signed letter by a secretary to British National Pictures to Gainsborough Pictures, thanking them for a cheque for £200 "in final payment under our contract with you for Alfred J. Hitchcock". Whilst *Downhill* was a silent film, in it Hitchcock's emerging style became apparent, with the director's preference for telling the story visually, using a variety of screen techniques, rather than over-relying on the title cards to progress the plot. Early Hitchcock contracts such as this rarely come to the market.

Price: £2,500 / \$4,000

*An Original Drawing by Robert Crumb*



**Crumb, Robert (1943 – )**

An exceptional, detailed ink drawing by Robert Crumb on an approximately 5.5" x 4.75" card. Crumb has sketched a man and woman (most likely a depiction of himself and his wife Aline), seated at a table in a bar. The man stares, with undisguised interest, at the buxome waitress who has just delivered drinks, while his wife watches on blankly. Executed with extreme attention to detail, with a few areas lightly corrected with white ink. Neatly signed to the lower right, "R. Crumb". A number 10 appears to the top left corner of the card. In very fine condition. A superb item. Original artwork by Crumb is in high demand.

Price: £3,750 / \$6,000



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