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19th Century Popular Music: Songsters, Minstrelsy, Tune Books and More

1. (Banjo Tutor.) BUCKLEY, James. *Buckley's Banjo Guide: Containing the elementary principles of music, together with new, easy, and progressive exercises, and a great variety of songs, dances, and beautiful melodies, many of them never published.* Boston: Oliver Ditson & Co., 1868. Oblong 8vo, orig. illustrated green wrappers, cloth spine. Pp. 67, (1.) Minor wear, a nice fresh copy. \$450.00

First edition of one of the minstrel period's most influential guides to banjo playing. As described in the preface, Buckley was "father of Buckley's Serenaders, who has had twenty-six years experience as teacher and player, and has improved the banjo, by applying screws, and in other ways." A detailed diagram of Buckley's banjo illustrates the cover. Very scarce. OCLC locates copies at Hamilton College, Boston Public Library, and Brown U.

2. (Christmas) BRAMLEY, Henry Ramsden and John Stainer, eds. *Christmas Carols: New and Old.* New York: McLoughlin Brothers, nd [1870's]. 8vo, brightly color printed pictorial wrappers. Pp. 91, illus. Some wear to spine; a very good copy. \$125.00

Forty-two carols, each with vignette. A pretty McLoughlin cover.

3. DODGE, Ossian E. *Musical Entertainment! Mr. Ossian E. Dodge, takes pleasure in stating, that he has been enabled to select, from over two hundred applicants, a club of Singers, who have never been equalled in America.... which will be known under the name of Ossian's Bards... At Cabot Hall, Chicopee, March 2nd, 1852.* Boston: Times Job Press, [1852]. 8vo bi-fold, with full page cut of Dodge standing with guitar on front wrapper; text pp. [2-4], within ornamental border. A little browned at edges, very good. \$60.00

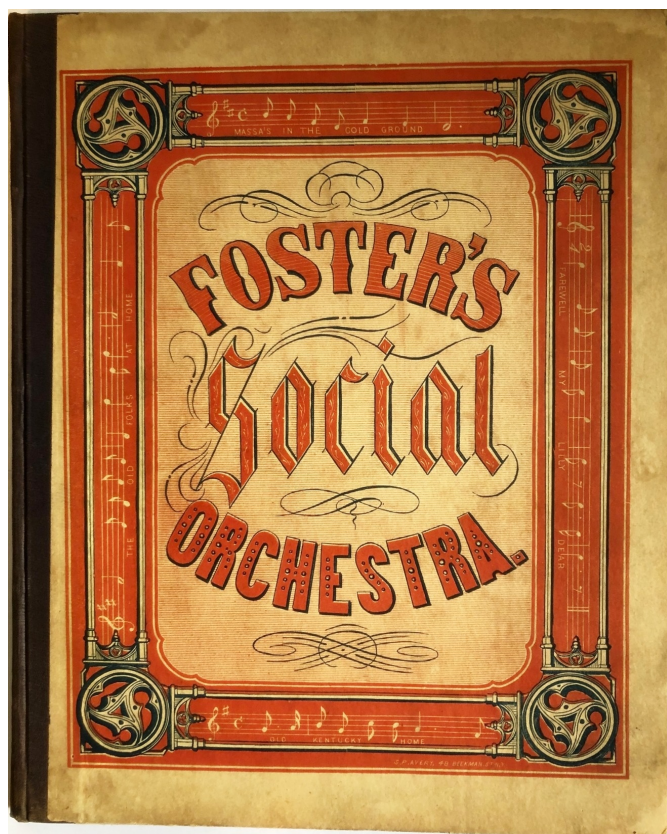
Includes performance program, and press reviews, along with the striking woodcut portrait of Dodge. Ossian Dodge was a noted performer of "sentimental, grave and comic" songs, who also managed other vocal troupes, including a later branch of the Hutchinson Family. His association with Jenny Lind, to whom he was introduced by P. T. Barnum, is well documented.

4. [DODGE, Ossian E. and William HAYWARD.] *Biographical, Historical and Incidental Sketch of Ossian E. Dodge.* Boston: Wright & Potter, nd [1855]. 8vo, portrait title wrappers, stitched. Pp. 44; illus. Considerable wear and chipping to wrappers, some old pencilings on the front wrapper; a good copy. Serial title at top of front wrapper "Scott's Dime Library. No. 10." \$250.00

Scarce biography and collection of sketches, anecdotes, and songs of Dodge (1820-1876), noted music seller and teacher, comic singer and entertainer, and composer of "Bury Me Not On The Lone Prairie."

Tipped in here is a promotional portrait broadside on yellow paper for Dodge's protégé William Hayward, "The Eminent Ballad Singer."

5. FOSTER, Stephen C. *The Social Orchestra for Flute or Violin: A Collection of Popular Melodies Arranged as Solos, Duets, Trios, and Quartets*. New York: Firth, Pond & Co., 1854. Quarto, color printed ornamental boards, cloth spine. Pp. 83, (1). Minor rubbing of extremities. A very good, bright copy. \$2,500.00



First edition of Foster's only collection of instrumental music, which includes original compositions by Foster, including two 4-part sets of quadrilles, along with his settings of popular airs and works by Donizetti, Mozart, Schubert and other classical composers. In typical fashion, a time-consuming, laborious effort for which Foster was paid a flat \$150. proved to be very popular and went through many subsequent editions. This first edition is a rare book, with no copies located on OCLC (the single copy located turns out to be a facsimile and otherwise the earliest edition there is 1856), and none in the auction records of the past fifty years. A handsome copy.

6. (Harmonica - Broadside.) *A Decided Novelty. A New Invention in Harmonics. A New Invention. "The Brass Band Clarion." The Finest Harmonica Made*. Chicago: Sears, Roebuck & Co., [1890s?]. Broadside, printed in gold on black glazed paper, 9 ¼ x 5 ¾ inches. \$50.00

A handsome promotional handbill, with illustrations of German-made single and double reed harmonicas.

7. HOOD, George. *A History of Music in New England: With biographical sketches of Reformers and Psalmists*. Boston: Wilkins, Carter & Co., 1846. 12mo, orig. brown blind-stamped cloth. Pp. 252, with 4 preliminary pp. of testimonials. Spine ends chipped, outer hinge beginning to wear; otherwise a very good copy. Ownership signatures "Lydia Gates [to] Henry Phelps." \$250.00

First ed. An early contribution to American musicology, entirely devoted to the history of sacred music, including a history of singing schools and choirs, with a 9-page list of tune books published before 1800. Hood was manager of a music academy in Philadelphia. "This was the first work published in this country

that contained a connected history of psalmody from the landing of the Pilgrims."-- Appleton's. Imprints 3422; Howes H-621; Sabin 32801.

8. (Hutchinson Family.) ***The Book of Brother; (second series) being the adventures of John W. Hutchinson and His Family in the Camps of the Army of the Potomac.*** Boston: S. Chism, - Franklin Printing House, 1864. 12mo, illustrated wrapper (rear wrapper lacking.) Pp. 24. Portrait of John W. Hutchinson on wrapper, along with title "A History of the Adventures of John W. Hutchinson and His Family." Edges of wrapper chipped, running stain in blank margin, a good copy. \$185.00

Sole edition. Much of this account, which includes several songs with music, tells of the family's travails in Washington, where, after being received cordially by Pres. & Mrs. Lincoln at the White House, and receiving a pass to tour the camps, they sang an abolition song by Whittier that was deemed offensive and inflammatory, and their pass was revoked, with- Gen. Kearny stating, "I think as much of a rebel as I do of an abolitionist." Despite this being stated a second installment, no copy of a first is recorded on OCLC.

9. (Hutchinson Family - Asa B. Hutchinson.) ***In Memoriam.*** [Glencoe, Ill.: Glencoe Register, 1885]. 12mo, title wrappers, stitched. Pp. [iv], blank, 12. Very Good. \$325.00

Sole edition. An account of the funeral of Asa Hutchinson, leader of the "Tribe of Asa," one of the two branches of the singing family whose music helped to unite anti-slavery sentiment in the country. "The demand for papers containing the account of the death and burial... coming from all parts of the United States, having so far exceeded the supply, the friends of the deceased have decided to have it re-printed in this form.." - preface. Includes the eulogy of Hutchinson's friend Liberty Hall, the editor of the Glencoe Register, and a letter from abolitionist Parker Pillsbury. Rare.

10. (Hutchinson Family.) **Hutchinson Family, "Tribe of Asa." Concert. Admission Ticket. S. G Anderson, Business Manager.** Printed ticket on pale salmon coated stock, 2 x 4 inches. Pencil scrawls on blank verso, very good. \$75.00

Rare ticket to a Hutchinson Family concert, probably dating to 1860s. After the death of Judson Hutchinson in 1859, the group split in two, one the "Tribe of Asa," as here, the other the "Tribe of Jesse."

11. [HUTCHINSON, Asa B.] ***Book of Words of the Hutchinson Family.*** New York: Baker, Godwin & Co., 1851. 12mo, printed wrappers with ornamental border; pp. 48. Minor soiling; a very good copy \$250.00

Wrapper title reads, "The Hutchinson Family's Book of Words."

12. LAW, Andrew. ***Select Harmony. Containing in a plain and concise manner the Rules of Singing. Together with a Collection of Psalm Tunes, Hymns and Anthems.*** Np [?Cheshire, Ct.]: [?Andrew Law], Nd [1782-87]. Oblong 4to, contemp plain paper boards, calf spine. Pp. 4 (letterpress), 100 (engraved). Moderate wear to boards, lacking flyleaves; a very good copy. Early ownership signatures of Sarah Bradley and Josiah Bellows, of Vermont. \$1,650.

Second edition of the first copyrighted American tune book, first published in 1778, this being one of a number of issues printed in the 1780's. These issues are generally thought to have been published by Law himself in Cheshire, Ct., based on evidence in the Law papers. Lowens sorted out the various issues using typographical evidence (see B&L, p. 430) and this appears to be his edition 'M'. Britton & Lowens 359A; Evans 23492.

13. (Minstrel Handbill.) **"Jim Crow;" With the Astounding Jump!**

Nd: ca. 184-?.

Small broadside, 7 ¼ x 4 inches.

Large woodcut illus.

\$650.00

Rare handbill with a striking image of Thomas "Daddy" Rice's famous Jim Crow black-face character in a dancing position.



14. (Minstrelsy - Foster-ana.) Plumer, W. G., Minstrel vocalist with The Sable Harmonists. **ANs to W. C Peters, music publisher of Cincinnati, Tuesday, June 11 [1850].** 1 page, on scalloped embossed-border note paper, with integral address leaf, 6 x 4 inches. Addressed on verso, "Mr. Peters, Cincinnati " and docketed by Peters in pencil "Mr. Plumer, a celebrated vocalist."

\$175.00

A brief note but one of rich associations, which probably accompanied an enclosure of complimentary tickets: "Washington Hall. The Sable Harmonists present their respectful compliments to Mr. Peters, and request his acceptance of the enclosed... W. G. Plumer, Sec'y." The Sable Harmonists were one of the most popular minstrel troupes of the 1840's and '50's, and were intimately connected with Stephen Foster's early success, with members of the group having introduced "My Old Kentucky Home" and "Oh, Susanna" in September of 1847. The following year W. C. Peters published "Oh, Susanna" and other Foster compositions in a best-selling sheet music series, "Songs of the Sable Harmonists," by which it is said Peters made ten thousand dollars.

15. (Minstrelsy.) [KEELER, Ralph Olmstead]. **"Three Years as a Negro Minstrel."** [in] ***The Atlantic Monthly. July 1869.*** Boston: Fields, Osgood & Co., 1869. 8vo, original wrappers, stitched. Pp. 71-85 of 128. A very good, uncut copy.

\$65.00

First appearance of Keeler's famous account, a preliminary excerpt from Keeler's memoir *Vagabond Adventures* (1870). The noted journalist and author (1840-1873) ran away from home at the age of eleven, and soon discovered a talent for dancing Juba and playing the banjo. He toured the country with several troupes until he was fifteen, when he gave up show business for college.

16. (Musical Instruments.) FITZGERALD, Algernon S. ***How to Make Musical Instruments. Full directions how to make a banjo, violin, zither, aeolian harp, xylophone and other musical instruments; together with a brief description of nearly every musical instrument used in ancient or modern times.***

New York: Frank Tousey, (1891). 12mo, illustrated wrapper, showing boy playing a banjo. Pp. 61, illus.

Blank corner of wrapper chipped, spine worn. Very good copy of a cheap paper production.

\$185.00

Sole edition; part of the publishers "10 Cent Books" series listed on the rear wrapper. The author identifies himself "for twenty years Band Master of the Royal Marines." There is detailed information here but it is difficult to imagine any boy making an instrument from these pages. Scarce. OCLC locates two copies at Smithsonian and Oberlin.

17. (Performance Broadsheet.) ***Coming Again! The People's Favorite! That Comical Brown. William B. Brown respectfully announces to his many friends and the public generally, that he will soon appear in this place with an attractive program, comprising the latest, most popular and laughable musical and mirthful novelties. He will perform at [Clayville, Tuesday Evening, April 16th, 1872].*** Boston, Mass.: F. A. Searle, Job Printer, [1872]. Narrow folio broadsheet, printed both sides, 21 x 7 ¼ inches, folded. Portrait cut at top. Marginal wear, old tape repairs; very good. \$250.00

Good information, with program on recto, and promotional material, reviews and press coverage on verso.

18. (Performance broadside - Georgie Dean Spaulding.) ***Spaulding's Classical & Comical Concert! Tonight. Tonight.*** Np: nd [after 1870.]. Narrow broadside, 14 ¾ x 5 inches, folded. Oval portrait of Spaulding at top. \$100.00

Full program for the popular harpist and bell ringer. We would like to have seen her solo act, "The Magic Trio... introducing Fisher's Hornpipe with the right hand, Yankee Doodle with the left, and at the same time singing Tramp, Tramp, Tramp..."

19. (Performance Broadside - Illinois.) ***Grand Concert! Composed of the Principal Singers of Henderson and Mercer Counties. The citizens of the above named counties generally, and of Sugar Tree Grove, particularly, are invited to meet at the Brick Church, in Sugar Tree Grove, on Friday evening, March 16, 1860.*** [Monmouth, Ill.]: Monmouth Review Job Printing Office, [1860]. Narrow broadside, 17 ½ x 6 inches. Text in a variety of display types, within ornamental border. Folded, moderately foxed. \$250.00

A humorous broadside for a musical performance - "a rich intellectual feast of Sacred Music and Glees" - by named local citizens in this northwestern Illinois community. A rare Illinois imprint.

20. (Performance Broadside - Bell Ringing.) ***By Particular Request. Peak Family Bell Ringers! Will give one Entertainment on Monday Evening, May 13, 1867. Town Hall, Medford.*** Boston: Lunt, Goodwillie & Henshaw, [1867]. Broadside, 11 x 5 ¾ inches. Sm piece missing from one corner; otherwise fine. \$135.00

Full program of vocal music and bell ringing. Text in bell-themed ornamental border.

21. (Performance Broadside - Minstrelsy.) ***Billy Birch's San Francisco Minstrels! Billy Birch and Harry Kennedy Proprietors. Programme for This Evening!*** New York: Richardson & Foos, Print., [1884]. Broadside, 10 ¼ x 4 ½ inches. \$145.00

Billy Birch (1831-1897) began his professional minstrel career in 1846, and in 1851 went west and performed in San Francisco, where he played in various combinations. He formed his San Francisco Minstrels in 1864. and the company survived in a number of incarnations for more than twenty years. The present handbill marks the most short-lived of these - according to Rice, Birch's 1884 partnership with Harry Kennedy "lasted only a few weeks." See Rice, *Monarchs of Minstrelsy*, p. 68, and Koon, *Gold Rush Performers*, No. 122.



22. (Performance Broadside - Minstrelsy.) **Musical Hall Brooklyn... Grand Santa Claus Concert on New Year's Eve. Thursday Evening, Dec. 31st, 1857... The well-known and old Established White's Serenaders.** [New York: 1857]. Narrow folio broadside, 21 x 7 inches, untrimmed. Woodcut illustration. A fine copy. \$875.00

A handsome antebellum minstrel broadside with several notable features. The cut at the top shows two seated black-face banjo players, rendered without caricature. The evening's festivities included "Two silver goblets to be given away, one for the Best Ethiopian Dancer, and the other for the Best Original Conundrum. In addition to this every lady will receive a toy present given by Santa Claus himself." Whites's Serenaders was founded by Cool White (John Hodges, 1821-1891) who, according to Rice's *Monarch's of Minstrelsy*, "was one of the pioneers of minstrelsy, and for many years was one of the most brilliant luminaries" His program here included the usual mix of sentimental ballads and minstrel diversions, including several banjo performances, solo, duet and trio, a Burlesque Lecture on Woman's Rights, and an original Ethiopian sketch, Fanny at the Soiree. The date here is significant as most accounts place White settling in New York in the 1870s.

23. (Revival hymns.) NEALE, Rev. Rollin Heber, comp. **Revival Hymns; Principally selected by the Rev. R. H. Neale: Set to some of the most familiar and useful Revival Tunes, many of which have never before been published; arranged and newly harmonized by H. W. Day.** Boston: Published at the Musical Visitor Office, by Hartley Wood, 1842. 12mo, stiff plain wrappers, cloth spine. Pp. 71, (1). \$175.00

First ed. of an interesting revival collection, with music. A few of the tunes are accompanied by interesting notes, such as "Hale": "The following tune has been used very much, and with great effect in the vicinity of Beverly, Mass. While the congregation are assembling, the tune is commenced and continued, until a dozen verses or more are sung, in a slow and solemn style, by the whole congregation. The effect is most heavenly..." Imprints 4262.

24. (Revival hymns.) WALTER, J. J., compiler. **Revival Melodies for the Prayer, Class and Camp Meeting.** Bloomington, Ill.: Leader Publishing Company Print, 1884. 12mo, title wrappers. Pp. 62. Ads for Illinois Wesleyan Univ. on wrappers, etc. Wrappers soiled and chipped, one corner of front wrapper missing. \$60.00

Lyrics for 88 hymns, indexed. A scarce imprint.

25. ROBINSON, Alvan, Jun. *Massachusetts Collection of Martial Musick, containing a plain, easy and concise introduction to the grounds of martial musick... Together with a large collection of the most approved beats, marches, airs, &c. Including the principal part of the duties of the camp, the evolutions for the musicians, and their signals... Designed principally for the benefit of the Militia of the United States.* Exeter [N.H.]: Alvan Robinson, Jun., 1820. Oblong 12mo, plain rear wrapper present. Pp. 71, (1). Small light water stain on first several leaves; a very good copy. \$375.00

"Second edition, corrected, improved, and enlarged." A popular and influential work first published Hallowell, Me.: 1818 (55 pp), of interest to drummers for its precise documentation of period beats, and fifers (and fiddlers) for its collection of 73 notated tunes. Instructions for musical military formations, funerals, and the duties of musicians, fife and drum majors are also provided. Robinson (1802-1865) Imprints 3033; see Sabin 72049, third edition of 1826.

26. (Shape-note - Manuscript Tune Book) ERWIN, Matthew, of Strasburgh, Franklin County, Pa., b. 1781. **Manuscript Shape-Note Hymnal, ca. 1808.** Oblong 8vo, contemp. polished calf. 27 leaves of music related manuscript, with additional genealogical lists. Front board detached; pages browned, with a little wear to the outer edges of the first few leaves. \$2,650.00

A handsome, carefully executed manuscript in typographical calligraphy, from the early years of shape-notation. The system was first printed in William Smith and William Little's *The Easy Instructor* in 1801, but Smith and Little claim the system was invented in 1790 by John Connelly of Philadelphia, by whom they were assigned rights. The purported Pennsylvania origins for shape-note instruction would account for the earliness of this manuscript, suggesting the system had been in general practice long enough to be circulated by hand.

The contents begin with a 5 pp. "Gamut or Scale of Music," with charts and explanations of the fa-so-la 4-shape system, the keys, transposition and time moods. This is followed by a selection of 36 hymns with words, set for three and four parts. About half of the tunes fall into the core repertory that makes up much of early American hymnody. Thirteen were later included in William Walker's influential *Southern Harmony* (1835,) a fundamental source for modern shape-note practice. A few are less traceable and suggest local origin. Tunes included: America, Suffield, Lisbon, Rochester, Virginia, Coles Hill, Meditation, Sutton, 24th Hymn, Faducia (sic,) Repentance, Ex[h]ortation, Westminster, Newburgh, Livonia, Saint's Repose, Macedonia, Delight, Mortality, Stillwater, Carlisle, Sutton (long,) Wells, Ocean, Courier, Whitestown, Symphony, Landaff, Lenox, Silver Spring, Amanda, Middleton, Grafton, Heavenly Vision.

More than one hand likely contributed to the manuscript. The volume is signed "Matthew Erwin's Book" at front , with the notice "Musicians all, who are you be,/ Know that this book belongs to me./ And when you sing, I hope you try/ To guard against profanity." It also is signed "James Austin his book, February -March 1809." Erwin's ownership is noted elsewhere, and on the last leaf Austin has repeated the notice verse, and signed it "James Austin his hand and pen."

27. (Shape note.) SMITH, Henry. *The Church Harmony. Containing a Selection of Approved Psalm and Hymn Tunes, adapted to the divine worship of the various religious denominations.* Chambersburg: Printed for the proprietor by Henry Buist, 1831. Oblong 12mo, orig. illustrated boards, calf spine, ruled in gilt. Pp. xii, 136, (2.) Minor rubbing and soiling; a fine, fresh copy. \$950.00

First edition of this popular shape-note hymnal, which went through five more editions before the end of the decade. A presentation copy, inscribed within a printed frame "J. H. Rahausen presented by Henry Smith, Chambersburg Pa., 1831." Imprints 9209.

28. (Singing Tutor.) CAREY, Henry G, of Malden, Mass. *Graded Exercises in Singing. For Schools and Private Classes. Progressive and Attractive.* [cover title.]. [?Boston]: 1873. Oblong 12mo, original illustrated wrappers. Pp. 48; inserted slips tipped in at p. 1 and p. 3. Minor soiling, a very good copy. \$50.00

Rare singing tutor. Laid in is a folded broadside "Supplementary Instruction" (Independent Steam Job Print, Harwich, Mass), and a small printed school exam form. OCLC records the Harvard copy only.

29. (Songster - Slip Ballads.) **A Home-Made Songster of 40 Slip Ballads. ca. 1890s.** 8vo, 10 x 7 inches. Red paper wrappers, leaves made up of wrapping paper, hand stitched, with mounted ballads. \$325.00

A period gathering of slip ballads, all from the New York song publisher Henry J. Wehman, preserved in an appealingly crude format. Many of the songs are from the minstrel stage, coon songs and spirituals, along with sentimental and character pieces, older ballads, and topical songs. Includes *Lost on the Lady Elgin*, *Pictures From Life's Other Side*, *Mary's Gone With A Coon*, *Hear Dem Bells*, *One More Ribber for to Cross*, *The Butcher Boy*, *Stoke's Verdict*, *Over the Hills to the Poor House*, *The Fatal Wedding*, *Put on De Golden Shoe*, *Just Before the Battle Mother*, *Poor Little Soldier's Boy*, etc., etc. An evocative survival.

MADE-UP SONGSTERS

30. (Songster.) *All Sorts Songster.* [Buffalo: G. & M. Morse, nd]. 2 vols. so titled. 8vo, illustrated yellow paper title wrappers. 21 & 22 leaves respectively. \$525.00

Rare and curious songster format, each volume composed of remainder slip ballads of varying dimensions, gathered up and stitched into uniform job printed title wrappers. Most of the song sheets bear the imprint of G. & M. Song Publishers, or Morse's Steam Song Pub. House, 254 Seneca St., Buffalo. The firm appears at this address in the Buffalo directory for 1884; the song sheets themselves span a range of styles with the earliest appearing to be from the 1870s. The paper is cheap pulp stock, and these have survived remarkably in a near fine state, with only neat splits along the spine fold. We are unable to trace any other examples of these typographical curiosities.

31. (Songster.) *Clark & White's Popular Songster.* Cavendish, Vt.: Walker M. Bent, Job Printer, 1878. 12mo, original illus. title wrappers; portrait on cover. Pp. 18. Minor wear and browning; nevertheless a very nice copy. \$200.00

George M. Clark and Hank White started in minstrelsy in 1860. Both died in Vermont in the 1880's. See Rice, *Monarchs of Minstrelsy*, p. 84. A very scarce imprint. OCLC locates copies at at Brown and MTSU.

32. (Songster - Circus.) *Walter L. Main's All New Monster-r-r. Shows Popular Songster.* New York: The Benedict Popular Publishing Co., C. 1890. Orig. pictorial title wrappers. Pp. 16. \$200.00

Rare songster from one of the most popular circus troupes of the 19th century. The wrappers bear a portrait of Main on the front wrapper, and a cut of a horse act on the rear, along with promotion for the "Biggest and Best Side Show on Earth." Only a few copies are recorded on OCLC at least one of which imperfect.

33. (Songster - Civil War.) *Beadle's Dime Union Song Book No. 3. Comprising new and popular Patriotic Songs for the times.* New York: Beadle and Company, [1861]. 12mo, illustrated wrappers, printed in red and blue. Pp. 74 + [6] pp. publisher's catalogue. Minor wear and soiling, a few chips. Very good. \$325.00

With topical current battle songs and sentimental ballads, including *Ellsworth Avengers*, *Secessia Land*, *Jeff Davis Coming*, *Burnside the Choice of the Nations*, etc.

34. (Songster.) COPENHEAVER, J.W.F. *Public School Songs (Revised)*. Codorus, Pa.: 1896. 12mo, illus. title wrappers. Pp. 44. Near fine. \$40.00

Mixture of popular and original lyrics for school children.

35. (Songster - Female Minstrels.) *Howe's Great London "Female Minstrel" Songster*. New York: Robert M. De Witt, 1872.. 12mo, original hand-colored pictorial wrappers. Pp. 64. Fine. \$350.00



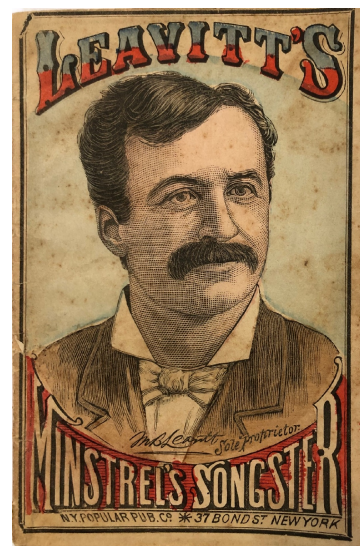
First edition. Some of the songs include music, including "Brigham Young," a Mormon parody. The first all-female minstrel troupe was founded by Mme. Rentz in 1870, and imitators, such as Howe's troupe, soon followed. Although the show promised a "chaste and pleasing entertainment," the high-stepping, bare-legged can-can dancer on the wrapper suggests otherwise, and this minstrel hybrid has been credited with the rise of the girlie show.

36. (Songster - Minstrelsy.) *Christy's Bones and Banjo Melodist. Being a collection of the most popular, fashionable, patriotic, Ethiopian comic and humorous songs, speeches, etc. : as sung and delivered by the world renowned Christy's Minstrels at their popular entertainments throughout the United States*. New York: Dick & Fitzgerald, [186-?]. 12mo, orig. pictorial wrappers. Pp. 72. Front wrapper chipped and fragile, library release stamp on verso of title; a very good and sound copy. \$250.00

A substantial collection of the famed troupe's material, with a satirical black-face pictorial cover.

37. (Songster - Minstrelsy.) *Leavitt's Minstrel Songster*. New York: New York Popular Publishing Co., [ca. 1881]. 12mo, color pictorial wrappers. Pp. [32.] Light foxing and wear; a very good copy. \$225.00

M. B. Leavitt (Michael Bennet Levy) had great success as a minstrel, clown, and comic vocalist, and finally as a manager of highly successful burlesque troupes. See Rice, *Monarchs of Minstrelsy*, p. 158. With a fine, large steel-cut portrait of Leavitt on the front wrapper. Not in OCLC, which records a single copy only of a different songster with the same title.



38. (Songster - Minstrelsy.) ***The Minstrel Songster No. 2.*** [cover title]. Baltimore: Press of Isaac Friedenwald, nd [ca. 1880's]. 8vo, orig printed wrappers. Pp. 20. Creased, very good. \$75.00

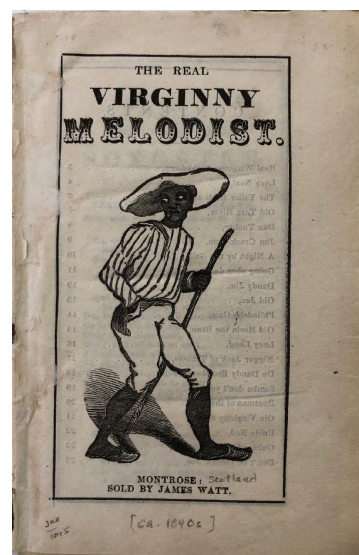
Twenty-seven songs, most with music. Fine cut of mutton-chopped banjo player on rear cover.

39. (Songster - Minstrelsy - British Isles.) ***The Negro Minstrel: Containing a choice selection of the most popular Negro songs. No. 1.*** Glasgow: Printed for the booksellers, 1850. 12mo, title wrapper. Pp. 24, uncut. Fine. \$375.00

Scarce collection from the British Isles, with the lyrics of twenty-six songs from the classic minstrel repertoire, including Going Ober de Mountain, Jim Crack Corn, Boatman of the Ohio, Sich a Gittin' Upstairs, Lucy Long Clar de Kitchen, etc. OCLC: 5 cc. in US.

40. (Songster - Minstrelsy - British Isles.) ***The Real Virginny Melodist.*** Montrose [Scotland]: Sold by James Watt, nd [ca. 1840s]. 12mo, disbound. Pp. 24; woodcut figure of black man with striped shirt, wide-brimmed hat and staff on title. \$225.00

Scarce collection of 20 songs in Negro dialect, published at the height of British enthusiasm for minstrelsy. One song is credited to the Ethiopian Serenaders, a popular troupe that toured England in 1846. A fine copy



41. (Songster) [cover title:]. ***The Old Clown's Comic Song Book.*** Np nd (ca. 1871.) 12mo, yellow illustrated wrappers. Pp. 36. A very good copy. \$135.00

Circus-related songster with clown illustration on front wrapper, issued to promote Humboldt's patent medicines.

42. (Songster) ***Songs and Glees, Sung by Greene's Musical 200.*** Np, nd (ca. 1863). Oblong 12mo, printed yellow title wrappers, stitched. Pp. 20. Minor wear. \$75.00

Songs for a children's glee chorus, evidently sponsored by music merchandiser G. F. Greene, of Cohoes, NY, whose ad appears on the rear wrapper. Several of the songs have Union patriotic themes, and one celebrates Emancipation.

43. (Tune Book - Social Dance.) ***The New England Musician; Containing Five setts of Quadrilles, A Collection of Contra Dances, Waltzes, Marches, and One Sett of Voice Quadrilles; All arranged for four instruments, namely, violin, clarinet, post-horn or cornet, and orphicleide.*** Lowell: B. H. Shepard & Co., (1848). Oblong 8vo, orig. printed yellow wrappers, cloth spine. Pp. 64. Minor wear; a near fine copy. \$165.00

Sole edition of a scarce collection. Contra dances include Fisher's Hornpipe, Money Musk, and Hull's Victory. For those who wonder, the orphicleide is a now-forgotten bass brass instrument. An ad for Shepard's Lowell Umbrella Manufactory and Music Store is on the rear wrapper. OCLC locates 6 copies.

44. (Texas Fiddle ALs.) PEACE, William. **Autograph letter signed**, Sabine Parish, La., Aug 16th 1871. Folio, 2 pp. Some browning, folded, a nibbled hole in one fold, with loss. \$125.00

Intriguing letter from the Texas/Louisiana border. The letter is dated Sabine Parish, La., but at the end Peace gives his address as across the Sabine River in "Sabine Town, Sabine Co. Texas." Most of the letter, written to his cousin, is taken up with family and other news - "I saw in the Galveston Paper that Dick Earls had been shot through [sic] the breast. Write if has got well or not..." After assurances that while he isn't married, there are any number of women willing, he closes with a tantalizing bit of information: "Well I forgot to tell you that I hav improved a grate deal in playing the Fiddle. I have dun nothing else since I saw you. I have the name of the best Fiddler in the State ." Peace signs his letter "CAP" and at the bottom, under the Texas address, "William Peace." However scant, this is a very early documentary detail regarding the great regional tradition of Texas fiddling that continues to this day, a detail that is surely worth pursuing.