Everyday Life
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1. Sherman, Orin *The Sherman Clothes Wringer, Warranted Without Cog Wheels*

Boston: By the author, n. d. (1860s). $450.00

Small broadside; 8 3/4 x 5 3/4; off-white stock printed in black and illustrated with a woodcut; a small nick to right edge and a tiny puncture to lower margin; a bit of age-toning and spotting; in about very good condition.

A fabulous, mid-19th-century advertising piece, it showed a lady using the Sherman Wringer, dressed in a patriotic, American-Flag-pattern dress. Historically, laundry was a dreaded household chore in the 19th century, one which women did everything they could to avoid - including sending their washing out for others to do and hiring laundresses to come to their homes, when they could afford it. Those, who could not afford help needed a large variety of supplies - water, heating sources and vessels for boiling water, pails, tubs, dippers, wash-boards, soaps, drying areas, and so on. The Sherman Wringer promised to make everyone's life easier by being improved, compact, simple, durable, and without cog wheels "to cause it to turn hard, or to break and render the machine useless," like other wringers on the market. The broadside stated that the Sherman was far superior to Putnam's, Colby's, and many other competitors' contraptions and that it could fit both round and square tubs, making it universal.

2. (Wells, Oscar L.) *The Bell Advertising Agency. World's Greatest Corresponding League*

Chicago: Home Office, Omaha Building, n. d. (ca 1902). $180.00

First edition presumed; 6 x 3 1/2; pp. 1-11; stapled pink wraps, illustrated with a wood engraving; discolored spot to upper right margin (not affecting readability); small nick to upper right corner; in about good to very good condition.

Starting in the mid-1850s, with rapid industrialization and urbanization, newspapers' personal ads would become immensely popular - arguably, more popular than the news themselves.
Following in that path, matrimonials would become a regular periodicals' feature in the second half of the 19th century, especially in big, urban areas. Social obligations, loneliness, money, and more nefarious reasons would prompt both men and women to seek a spouse through the media (there have been several documented cases of murders, where the killers had met their victims through such ads). One way to address the demand was the publishing of newspapers entirely dedicated to matrimonials. Another way, at the turn of the 20th century, was to establish agencies, go-betweens, which fielded prospective spouse-seekers, advertised, posted ads on their behalf, and promised wealthy, educated better halves...for a fee.

Historically, while some of these agencies were legitimate, many were run by con artists and fraudsters. Research shows that the proprietor of the Bell Advertising Agency - Oscar L. Wells - was an industrious and accomplished shyster, who would be arrested numerous times between 1902 and 1905, together with his wife and various partners, for running fraudulent matrimonial agencies in Chicago and other Midwestern cities. Their scam was ingenious in its simplicity - they would promise to introduce prospective clients to, specifically, wealthy men and women, all of them fictitious, for a membership fee. It was said that they had received over 200 000 letters in a very short span of time. After paying a fine and being released from jail the first time, Wells moved to St. Louis, then to Cincinnati, then back to Chicago - finding new partners, opening new agencies, being arrested, then being released with a slap on the wrist. It is possible that he was eventually thrown in prison for a long time, or he passed away, or he decided to quit (very unlikely), but he fell off the face of the Earth after about 1905. The unrecorded pamphlet described what marriage was - "a fine art," what the purpose of the Bell Agency was - "A RECOGNIZED SOCIAL FACTOR... connecting marriageable ladies and gentlemen in all parts of the United States, Canada, and Mexico...," what the reasons the agency required an advance fee were - "...Because we must have this amount to partly cover the entire cost of intelligently looking after your interests...," and so on.

3. R. Hoe & Co. *No Room at the Top*


$90.00

“When special circular card;” 11 x 7; beige card stock - illustration and text to recto, manuscript address and cancelled stamp to verso; closed cut and creasing to bottom half; age-toning to margins; in about good condition.

A great advertisement piece for R. Hoe & Co., it featured various anthropomorphic chisel tooth circular saws climbing and falling off of a vertical ladder.
A lady looked at one of the fallen ones and said: "Poor little bogus saws!" The R. Hoe blade was the only one sitting at the top. The company was founded in New York in 1805 by brothers Peter and Matthew Smith and their brother-in-law Robert Hoe. Becoming enormously-successful with manufacturing printing presses - both wooden hand ones early on and high-speed mechanical ones later, they would also add the production of saw blades by the 1830s. The business was merged with Pacific Saw and Knife Company in 1984 and is still in operation today.


New York: Abendroth Bros., 1870. $200.00

First Edition. Large advertising piece in a newspaper format; 19 3/4 x 14 1/4; pp. [4]; illustrated with engravings; fold lines and a few closed splits and creases to edges; about very good.

An unrecorded advertising for the Abendroth Bros. products, with emphasis on the Cotton Plant Stove, it also featured articles on the Franco-Prussian War, the wide-spread adoration for the "Shoo Fly Don't Bother Me" song (said to have been written by a soldier a few years earlier, during the Civil War), etc. It also showcased writings by, allegedly, customers, including a short one by a "Texan," with questionable for the times morale, which was titled "Conjugal Confusion" and told a story of railway men, wives visiting, confused hotel employees, and switched women.

The Abendroth Bros. Stove Foundry was established in 1840. One of the largest foundries on the East Coast, at its height it employed 700 people.


Large broadside; 22 x 17; illustrated with numerous lithographs; fold lines, else minor wear - in very good to near fine condition.
A beautiful advertising piece for the renowned lithographic company, which was initially founded by Benjamin Corlies in the 1850s in New York. Later, he would enter into a co-partnership with Charles A. Macy, Jr. and the company would also offer blank books, business forms, journals, ledgers, and so on.


Chicago: Goes Lithographing Company, 1897.

$150.00

Large brochure; 12 1/2 x 9 1/2; single sheet, folded, pp.[4]; illustrated with lithographs; two old horizontal creases with small cuts to edges; a few minor spots; in about very good condition.

Billed as "the largest plant in the United States devoted exclusively to lithographing in all its branches for the trade," the company was founded in 1879 as a partnership, with C. B. Goes I - formerly typographer with the Chicago Herald at the age of 14 - becoming its founding President. Renowned for their stock certificates and bank notes, they would also branch into labels, fine art prints, and so on. The year 1897 and the current advertising piece would mark an important milestone in the company's timeline, as this would be the first time calendar pads would be produced. The brochure included 6 examples of the calendars, in various sizes, fonts, and prices. The last page also included a list of the company's other products and "Important Points for Consideration..." for potential customers.
7. Dupree, Wm. M. Do Not Be Humbugged!

Skowhegan, Maine: The Singer Manufacturing Co. Branch Office, 1878. $85.00

Small broadside; 8 1/2 x 4 1/2; yellow stock, printed in black and illustrated with a vignette; several penciled-in manuscript notes to verso with light bleed-through to recto, else minor wear; in very good condition.

Though the particular event, which had prompted this cautionary tale was not mentioned - one could surmise that former managers and employees of the Skowhegan branch office of the Singer Manufacturing Company had been making and selling counterfeit Singer sewing machines. The broadside also described the various authenticity points of a genuine Singer.

8. G. P. Kimball & Co. Two Early Billheads, Related to Coach Manufacturer Kimball & Co. and the Omnibus Railroad and Company of San Francisco

San Francisco: By the authors, 1867. $250.00

Two billheads, affixed to each other with two rivets; printed and partially filled in manuscript; illustrated with an advertising blurb in an elaborate border to upper left margin; a bit of age-toning and wear to corners; good to very good.

While Brewster and Company is often credited by some historians and researchers as the first coach-building family in the United States, others believe the honors belong to the Kimball family of Boston, where nine generations were involved in some way in the trade, starting with British-American wheelwright Richard Kimball in 1634, going through 1910-1912, when the company manufactured an electric car, to 1929, when the business closed its doors.
The Omnibus Railroad and Cable Company was one of the earliest transportation systems in San Francisco, dating to 1861 and in operation until 1899. They will be involved in one of the very first legal cases, which challenged racial segregation, against African-American educator and Civil Rights activist Charlotte L. Brown. In 1863, after refusing to leave one of their streetcars on Filbert Street and being forcibly removed by the conductor, Charlotte, with the help of her father, brought a lawsuit against the Omnibus Company. Despite the company arguing that the conductor’s actions were justified, as white women and children might have been repulsed by riding in the same vehicle with an African-American, Brown won her case and was awarded $25 by the jury. The conductor was convicted in a criminal court of assault and battery. Though the civil case would be tied in several appeals in the following years, the verdict would stay and in 1865 - another jury would award Brown $500.

The billheads listed various parts and equipment purchased by the Omnibus Company for their cars from the San Francisco branch of the Kimball Company.

9. *Various A Group of Items from the Soviet Section at the Brussels International Exhibition 1958*
Moscow: USSR Section: Brussels Universal and International Exhibition, 1958. $200.00

Expo 58, also known as the Brussels World's Fair (1958) was the first major international fair after WWII and the backdrop for the cultural Cold War between the U.S. and the Soviet Union. While many countries used the event to showcase their post-war successes - the Soviet Union and the US hastened to antagonize each other and to promote their rival political systems. The core of the Russian exhibit were models of their newly launched Sputnik satellites. Ironically enough, one of the Sputnik models mysteriously disappeared and the Russian delegation promptly accused the US of stealing it. The following group of items was printed in Moscow in English, to be distributed at the fair.

- **Facing the Cosmos** - folded brochure; 16 3/4 x 22 1/2 unfolded; illustrated with drawings and photographs; light wear - in very good condition. Short biographies of Soviet rocket scientists and pioneers Konstantin Eduardovich Tsiolkovsky and Mykolaj Ivanovych Kybalchych, a large depiction and photographs of Sputnik, a photo of Laika (the dog space traveller), etc.

- **Such is Soviet Democracy in Action** - folded brochure; 16 3/4 x 22 1/2 unfolded; illustrated with drawings and photographs; a bit of wear to edges and a closed split to one of the folds; in about very good condition. On the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R, elections, parliament, etc.

- **U.S.S.R. Industrial Exhibition 1958 Guide** - booklet; 6 1/2 x 4 1/4; pp. 3-95, [16]; illustrated with photographs; light wear to edges; in very good to near fine condition. Detailed descriptions of the various sections of the Russian exhibit, including the Pavilion of Atomic Energy for Peaceful Purposes, the Pavilion of Chemical Industry, the Pavilion of Wine-making, etc.


10. Whitney, William H. 1868 Manuscript Trace Negative Surveys of the East Corner of Chauncy and Essex Streets (Essex Street Church) and of Curtis and Drake Wharves Running to Federal Street

Boston: William H. Whitney, 1868. $550.00

Manuscript trace negative surveys; 29 1/2 x 24 1/2; in blue and red (on verso) ink; folded, with old crease lines and a bit of fraying to edges; occasional spotting; overall in very good condition.
An interesting piece of Boston history, the map featured two surveys - the first outlining the corner of Chauncy and Essex Streets - the former home of the Essex Street Church. No longer existing nowadays, the church was formed in Boylston Hall in early 1819 and later that same year it moved to the Essex Street location. The second survey featured two wharves running perpendicular to Federal Street - Curtis and Drake. The surveyor, William Henry Whitney (1843 - 1909) was a renowned civil engineer in Boston, remembered as one of the earliest adopters of blueprinting. After enlisting in the Union Army during the Civil War he later served as Alderman of Cambridge and was involved with the Back Bay Development Project. Towards the end of his career he would also work with the Union Pacific to produce numerous maps of cities on the West Coast.

11. *Anonymous* An Early-20th-century Mystery Advertising Booklet to San Francisco

S. I. (San Francisco): s. n., n. d. (1920s). $125.00

First edition presumed; 8 x 5; pp. 3-46, [2]; plain black wraps; printed in black and red and illustrated with several photographs, drawings, and elaborate borders; leaves' right margins die-cut to form thumb-tab index in alphabetical order; occasional spotting and glue residue to gutter; several small, manuscript notes penciled-in; in about very good condition.
An interesting, unrecorded mystery, the booklet touted: "San Francisco, piquant and serious, modern as New York, ancient as China...Give yourself plenty of time to see San Francisco itself...

Each left-hand page described noteworthy landmarks and points of interest in and around the city, while the right-hand pages advertised various businesses, including You Drive Auto Rental Co., Fairmont Hotel Pharmacy, Nina Foley's Exclusive Gown Shop, and Der - Ling (Precious Jade) Chinese Gift House.

12. Various A Small Collection of Material Related to Grace Church in San Francisco

San Francisco: Various, 1873 - 1887. $280.00

Three items - one Sunday School Easter Sunday Programme for 1881, two Order of Services for Christmas 1873 and 1887; various sizes - approx. 9 1/2 x 6 1/2 and smaller; pp. [4], [4], and [2] respectively; two of them printed and ruled with elaborate fonts and borders; one lavishly printed in gilt and green; occasional creasing and spotting; overall in very good condition.

Wonderful pieces of San Francisco history, the programs commemorated the celebration of important holidays at Grace Church, nowadays known as Grace Cathedral of the Episcopal Church. The parish was founded in 1849, during the Gold Rush. Initially designed by noted English Gothic Revival architect George F. Bodley, Grace would change sites several times, including a move to a much bigger building in 1862, where it would be first referred to as "Cathedral," because of its size. This last location would be destroyed in the fire following the Great 1906 Earthquake and the cornerstone of the present-day structure would be laid down in 1910.

13. Whittemore, E. M. (Emma Mott) [The "Door of Hope" Series] A Pink Rose together with A True Story of Two Young Girls

New York: "Door of Hope", 1891. $200.00

First editions; approx. 4 3/4 x 3 1/2; pp. 15 and 8 respectively; salmon-colored wraps, printed in black and ruled with elaborate borders; minor wear to edges and tips of spine; a tiny spot to front wrap of one of them; in very good to near fine condition.
Two beautiful, unrecorded, inspirational publications, they were written by author and activist Emma Augusta Mott Whittemore (1850 - 1931), who would establish the first "Door of Hope" rescue home for fallen women and wayward girls in New York in 1890. By the time of her death in 1931, there would be 96 homes modeled after that original one. Said that "Money, servants, parties, balls - Emma had it all," her husband Sidney Whittemore and she were part of New York's extremely-wealthy elite. After hearing an evangelist speak at the local YMCA and visiting a rescue mission in the Bowery run by an ex-convict, she both found God and was horrified by the deplorable conditions and mistreatment of the unfortunate women, which would prompt her to provide the housing and the funds for the "Door of Hope" homes.


Salem, Massachusetts: Barry & Lufkin, 1890. $100.00

Large folio, single sheet, 18 3/4 x 11 3/4; illustrated with two wood engravings; a few small creases and a tiny nick to upper right corner; several spots with slight offset from being folded with another publication; in very good condition.

Unrecorded and issued by the fairly obscure publishing house of Barry & Lufkin in Salem, the bulletin advertised local businesses and products, including the Franklin Fish Market - "Ocean, Lake and River Fresh Fish...Alive and Boiled Lobsters a Specialty," the Leonard Cleanable Refrigerator, T. Herbert Gifford, Architect, etc. There was also a poem and an article on banking facilities. Arguably, the most interesting parts were the two large, blank sections, where the ad space had not been sold out, but the publishers had gone ahead with the printing.
15. Potter and Putnam Educational Publishers **Price List**

New York: Potter and Putnam Educational Publishers, 1897.  
$75.00

First edition; 5 1/2 x 3 1/2; pp. 2-30; stapled, pictorial beige wraps, decorated in blue; illustrated with engravings; two tiny chips to corners of wraps, else minor wear; in very good condition.

A handsome booklet, it advertised the publications of Potter & Putnam, a late-19th-century New York publishers, specializing in educational material. They would become known for devising their own system of, and publishing a primer on, a vertical script style of writing for kids. The current booklet contained sections of reading, drawing, charts, etc. material - with short descriptions and prices.

16. Bartok, Dr. Milton **Bardex "Radio" Minstrels Stationary**

S. l. (Columbus, Ohio): By the author, n. d. (late 1940s).  
$35.00

Single sheet of stationary; 11 x 8 1/2; off-white stock, printed in red and illustrated with an exaggerated caricature of an African-American; a few small creases to corners and a very minor spot to upper margin; in very good condition.

Founded in the early 20th century by quack "Doctor" Milton Bartok, the Bardex Medicine Company's miracle cures specifically targeted ailments of the liver, the kidneys, and the bowels (this somewhat set them apart from the products of other quacks, which generally claimed to heal one and all in the human body). As a way to promote and distribute his wares, Dr. Bartok would become part of an interesting cultural phenomenon - the American Medicine Show. He, and many other quackery representatives, would travel through the country with their own troupes, set up shops in certain locations for a few days, and entertain potential customers with shows, concerts, etc., while selling their potions. In his case, the entertainment was provided by the Bardex Radio Minstrels - an all-African-American band - singing, dancing, playing instruments, and joking - which would become famous nationwide.
17. Dean & Son Dean & Son's Almanack Fan 1875

S. l. (London): Dean & Son, 1875. $280.00

Die-cut, card-stock fan; 6 blades, affixed together with a small brad; 4 1/2 x 2 1/2 closed, 4 1/2 x 8 1/2 extended; chromolithographed illustrations, elaborate floral borders, and two months of the year per blade; a few spots to verso (mostly to last blade); light wear to edges; in very good condition.

Founded in the late 1790s, the publishing company of Dean & Son would lay claim to being the first firm to introduce pop-up books for children. This very-scarce advertising novelty for the business was listed in Perry & Co.'s Monthly Illustrated Price Current as "New Perfumed Almanacs for 1875 - Dean & Son's New Goods for the Coming Season - Useful and Ornamental." This would be one of three patterns - the standard fan shape - as opposed to the screen shape and the stand shape, and Perry's would state: "Each have their separate merits as useful and art products, neat, tasteful, and exquisite in gold and many colours, and seasonable as presents or gifts. We have not seen anything better of the kind, at the price..."

18. Abraham Bell & Son A Small Group of Bills of Landing of the Quaker Shipping Merchants Abraham Bell & Son

New York: By the authors, 1852. $400.00

Three documents, printed and partially filled in manuscript; approx. 6 x 12; illustrated with small engravings; a few small nicks to edges and mild age-toning; in very good condition.
Abraham Bell (1778 - 1856) was born in a prominent Quaker family in Northern Ireland. Immigrating to New York in 1797, he co-founded Abraham Bell & Company with several partners, of which he would become the sole owner and which would be renamed Abraham Bell & Son in 1844. A shipping firm and commissions merchant, it imported and exported a variety of commodities, though it specialized in the export of Southern cotton to the British Isles. During the potato famine of the 1840s, Bell transported thousands of immigrants from Ireland. The three current bills addressed the shipping, via various vessels, of bales of cotton to Liverpool, rosin to Glasgow, and embroideries to Richmond.

19. Hess, Chas D. The Art of "Making Up"

$100.00

First edition; 6 x 3 1/2; pp. [1], 2-20; stapled, cream wraps, printed and decorated in brown; illustrated with portrait frontis; a few minor spots to wraps; in very good condition.

The Hess Company, successors to the Youthful Tint Mfg. Co., was founded in 1882, branching from the family business of S. F. Hess and Company - well-known manufacturers of tobacco, cigars, etc. since the early 1800s. The Hess Co. specialized in theatrical makeup, perfumes, and toiletries and was famous for their "grease paints, face powders, cold cream, rouge, etc." The booklet, at times racist in its subtitles (i.e. how to make chinamen, negroes, and so on) detailed the techniques and application to create various characters, including the above-mentioned ones, as well as old age, juvenile, clowns, indians, etc. It also contained a chapter of endorsements and testimonials. Scarce, with a few copies at institutions and none other in the trade.
20. Mehring, Wm. M. *Mehring's Pneumatic Foot Power Cow Milker*

S. l. (Carroll Co., MD): s. n., n. d. (ca 1903). $85.00

Small brochure; 8 1/2 x 5 1/2; single sheet, folded, pp. [4]; two faint creases; small nick to fore-edge of pp. 3-4; a printed price on pp. 4 corrected in pencil; illustrated with a drawing; very good or better condition.

An interesting advertisement piece for an early and important machine in the history of mechanization of milking. The early ones of the 19th century could be categorized in two groups - mechanical pressure devices and vacuum devices. The Mehring's invention would, arguably, hold the ultimate spot in pre-pulsator suction milkers. Patented in 1899, the current machine would allow two cows to be milked at the same time, with the operator sitting on its bench between the cows and working the levers with his feet to provide vacuum. The pamphlet provided a short history and a detailed description of the device and its operation, as well as testimonials by happy customers.