

PACIFIC NORTHWEST AMERICANA

The Auction Season of 1928-1929

The auction sales of the past fall and winter have been of unusual interest. The prices fetched at the Kern sale have been displayed upon the front pages of the newspapers and have established new records for all time. Interest in this sale has doubtless reacted favorably upon the market for Americana. At any rate the offerings have been more notable than those of the previous year and prices have indicated a strong upward trend. The two most important sales from the standpoint of Pacific Northwest Americana have been those of the Library of Norman James and the Library of Nathaniel S. Thomas.

The Library of Norman James

The Library of Norman James of Baltimore was sold by the Anderson Galleries during the month of November. Many of the important items related to sports, game hunting, fishing, mountaineering and distinctive books on natural history. Important items were included relating to the history of the early West. A total of 1981 lots were disposed of at prices aggregating \$96,151.50, or something better than \$48.50 per lot. The following items are noteworthy:

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| Catlin, <i>North American Indian Portfolio</i> (Checklist 636)... | \$230.00 |
| Chittenden, <i>The American Fur Trade</i> (Checklist 675)..... | 45. |
| Coke, <i>Ride Over the Rocky Mountains</i> (Checklist 734).... | 45. |
| Dawson, <i>Pioneer Tales of the Oregon Trail</i> (Checklist 912) | 18. |
| Field, <i>Essay Towards an Indian Bibliography</i> (Checklist 1231)..... | 27.50 |
| Jacob, <i>Life and Times of Patrick Gass</i> (Checklist 1915)... | 70. |
| Kane, <i>Wanderings of an Artist</i> (Checklist 2003)..... | 75. |
| Lord, <i>Naturalist in Vancouver Island</i> (Checklist 2249).... | 11. |
| Pike, <i>Subarctic Forest</i> (Checklist 3075)..... | 17. |
| Ross, <i>Fur Hunters of the Far West</i> (Checklist 3356)..... | 67.50 |
| Scammon, <i>Marine Mammals of the Northwestern Coast</i> (Checklist 3421)..... | 52.50 |
| Simpson, <i>Peace River</i> (Checklist 3657)..... | 160. |

The Thomas Sale

The Library of the Right Reverend Nathaniel S. Thomas was sold at the Anderson Galleries on January 30, 1929. Three hun-

dred fifty-seven lots brought \$11,559.50, or an average of over \$32.00 per lot. Sample prices follow:

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| Applegate, <i>Recollections of My Boyhood</i> (Checklist 107) .. | \$ 30.00 |
| Campbell, <i>Idaho</i> (Checklist 580) | 375. |
| Chittenden, <i>American Fur Trade</i> (Checklist 675) | 60. |
| Dimsdale, <i>Vigilantes of Montana</i> (Checklist 969) | 170. |
| Franchere, <i>Narrative of a Voyage</i> (Checklist 1293) | 22.50 |
| Greenhow, <i>History of Oregon</i> (Checklist 1535) | 27.50 |
| Langford, <i>Vigilante Days and Ways</i> (Checklist 2102) | 20. |
| Coues, <i>Lewis and Clark</i> (Checklist 2181) | 60. |
| Mercer, <i>Banditti of the Plains</i> (Not in Checklist) | 260. |
| Ross, <i>Adventures of the First Settlers</i> (Checklist 3354) | 100. |
| Russell, <i>Journal of a Trapper</i> (Checklist 3377) | 55. |

Records of the A. B. C. F. M.

The *Boston Transcript* of January 9, 1929, is authority for the statement that the manuscript records of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions have been transferred for safe keeping and reference from the Congregational Library on Beacon Hill, Boston, to the Andover-Harvard Theological Library in Cambridge. These records comprise more than 600 bound volumes and date back as far as 1812. Of special interest to students of Western history is the voluminous correspondence between Marcus Whitman and his colleagues of the Oregon Mission and the American Board.

A Union List of Manuscripts

The libraries of the Pacific Northwest are actively at work preparing a union list of their manuscript materials relating to the history of the Pacific Northwest. Notices of this project have appeared in the News Sheet of the Bibliographical Society of America and in the *Boston Transcript*. Similar projects are under way by the New York Library Association and by the Mississippi Valley Historical Association.
