FINE JUDAICA

HEBREW PRINTED BOOKS, MANUSCRIPTS, AUTOGRAPH LETTERS, GRAPHIC & CEREMONIAL ART

KESTENBAUM & COMPANY
THURSDAY, JUNE 25TH, 2009
Kestenbaum & Company

Auctioneers of Rare Books, Manuscripts and Fine Art
Catalogue of

FINE JUDAICA

HEBREW PRINTED BOOKS,
MANUSCRIPTS, AUTOGRAPH LETTERS,
CEREMONIAL & GRAPHIC ART

Featuring:
The Important Library of the Late
Dr. Max Kimche, Zürich

Along with:
American, including
A Hebrew Manuscript Prayer-Book. Kingston (Jamaica), 1868
An Illuminated Sephirath Ha’Omer Chart. Portland (Oregon), 1883
An Illuminated Marriage Contract. Bahia, (Brazil), 1844

Autograph Letters of Leading Israeli Statesmen
A Significant Selection of Jewish Livres d’Artistes

To be Offered for Sale by Auction,
Thursday, 25th June, 2009 at 3:00 pm precisely

Viewing Beforehand on:
Sunday, 21st June - 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Monday, 22nd June - 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Tuesday, 23rd June - 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Wednesday, 24th June - 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Thursday, 25th June - 10:00 am - 2:30 pm

This Sale may be referred to as: “Varykino” Sale Number Forty-Four
Illustrated Catalogues: $35 (US) * $42 (Overseas)

KESTENBAUM & COMPANY
Auctioneers of Rare Books, Manuscripts and Fine Art

12 West 27th Street, 13th Floor, New York, NY 10001 • Tel: 212 366-1197 • Fax: 212 366-1368
E-mail: Kestenbook@aol.com • World Wide Web Site: www.Kestenbaum.net
For all inquiries relating to this sale please contact:
Daniel E. Kestenbaum
Dr. Max Kimche was a prominent member of the Zürich Jewish community.

An early supporter of Jewish Statehood, Dr. Kimche was intimately involved in the effort to facilitate immigration of Holocaust survivors to Palestine and indeed played an instrumental role in the founding of the State of Israel.

As a lawyer and as a partner in the Bank Landau & Kimche, Dr. Kimche was a highly respected member of Zürich's legal and banking communities, enjoying an international reputation. He was appreciated by those who knew him not only for his knowledge and sage advice but also for his warmth and good humor.

A direct descendant of Rabbi David Kimche (1160-1235), Dr. Kimche cultivated throughout his life a scholarly devotion to Jewish learning. His distinguished Collection of Hebrew Books was built over the course of some three decades by way of judicious purchases at auction as well as via select private channels. The Collection is notable for its quality and depth and in particular, for the intelligence and erudition with which it was assembled and to which it bears testimony.

— By the Family

Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1523. $4000-6000

The Sepher HaChinuch is regarded as one of the mainstays of rabbinic scholarship, being the subject of numerous commentaries. In his introduction, the author writes that he intended the work to "arouse the heart" of his young son and his youthful companions to regularly study the commandments contained in each week's portion of the Torah. The identity of the author of Sepher HaChinuch remains a mystery, although what is certain, is that the book was composed at the end of the 13th-century. For a brief discussion of recent scholarly consensus, see EJ, Vol. VII, cols. 1126-27.


Pesaro, Gershom Soncino: 1511. $7000-9000

Abrabanel endeavors to explain the general content of the Bible, its principles, views and moral teachings more than the actual meaning of the words and passages. Primarily a philosophical, theological, ethical and to some extent historical commentary, his method as an exegete is entirely novel, prefacing each section of each book with a number of questions and then interpreting that section in such a manner as to gradually resolve them. He divided each book in his own way, according to the individual logical subjects treated, without attention to the traditional division. Abrabanel was practically the first Jewish commentator to devote attention to the question of Biblical chronology, primarily that of the period of the Judges until the division of the Kingdom, and as such, contributed greatly to attempted solutions by subsequent commentators both Jewish and Christian. The preface includes Abrabanel’s account of his life in Spain and the Expulsion; he also refers to his descent from the House of David. See M. Waxman, A History of Jewish Literature, Vol. II, pp. 46-51.

Gershom Soncino was perhaps the most prolific printer of his time producing more than 100 Hebrew titles and as many non-Hebrew texts (under the name Hieronymus Soncino). His sojourn in the Adriatic town of Pesaro was no doubt encouraged by the marriage and removal of his erstwhile patroness, Ginevera Sforza to that town. Pesaro became an asylum for scholars and artists under the rule of the Sforza family. Indeed, Gershom printed at Pesaro without cessation from 1507 to 1513 and again in 1517, 1519 and 1520. According to Marx: “The years 1509-1511, during which the production of books in Venice as a result of the War of the League of Combray, was at a complete standstill, were among Gershom’s best years as far as the quantity of books produced is concerned.” Regarding Soncino’s years on the Adriatic coast in Pesaro, see D. Amram, The Makers of Hebrew Books in Italy (1965), pp. 104-115 and M. Marx, “Gershom Soncino’s Wanderyears in Italy,” HUCA, Vol. XI (1936), pp. 459-65.

(Pesaro), Soncino: 1520. $7000-9000

※ EXCEPTIONALLY RARE EDITIO PRINCEPS OF ABRABANEL’S COMMENTARY TO LATER PROPHETS.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION LEFT]


Venice, Marco Antonio Giustiniani-Adelkind: 1545. $1000-1500

※ In his commentary, Don Isaac struggled to come to terms with the catastrophic suffering Spanish Jewry had endured. Nachlath Avoth is his testimony to the significance of that suffering. For a detailed biography of Abrabanel’s experiences and philosophical conclusions regarding the Spanish Expulsion, see B. Netanyahu, Don Isaac Abravanel: Statesman & Philosopher (1968).

[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM LEFT]


Sabbioneta, Tobias Foa: 1557. $800-1200

※ The departure point for this slim tract is the passage in Exodus 24:9-11 which treats of the mystical vision of the Seventy Elders of Israel. Maimonides contends - as did the Midrash - that the apprehension of these Elders was improper, and that they eventually received their just punishment at Taberah. (See Guide of the Perplexed I, 5). Don Isaac Abrabanel takes umbrage, writing this tract in defense of the Elders. Hence, the title “Crown of the Elders.”

6 ABRAHAM BEN NATHAN OF LUNEL. (Hayarchi). Sepher Hamanig. FIRST EDITION. Title within woodcut block floral border. A wide margined copy. ff. (130). Some staining, marginal repair to title and first few leaves, signatures and inscriptions of former owners on title including R. Akiva Breslau, elaborate Sephardic monogram signature on f. 94a. Later blind-tooled calf, slightly rubbed. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Const. 110; Yaari, Const. 63; Mehlman 691; not in Adams]. Constantinople, Solomon ben Mazal-Tov: 1519. **$7000-9000**

- The first work on European Minhag. A record of customs, particularly concerning prayer and synagogue functions as practiced in Provence, the south of France. Its explicit purpose was to demonstrate the Halachic underpinning for every Minhag. Due to the wider circulation of Halachic decisions emanating from Spanish Rabbinic authorities, a need arose to record indigenous communal practices and so prevent confusion. A scholarly treatment of the work, with a lengthy introduction emphasizing its importance and influence, was prepared by Yitzchak Raphael (Jerusalem, 1994).

- The author, R. Abraham ben Nathan of Lunel, was a disciple of R. Abraham ben David of Posquières (RABa"D), famous for his glosses to Maimonides and to Alfasi. See Isadore Twersky, Rabad of Posquières (1962), pp. 240-44.

7 ACHAI GAON. She’iltoth [Halachah as derived from the Pentateuch]. FIRST EDITION. Title within architectural arch. First words of five divisions of Pentateuch richly historiated. This copy includes the rare indices often missing. ff. 62. Signatures including Saul Yitzchak Marciano), lengthy full page inscription on verso of title in an Italian hand recording births in 1647 and 1652, some staining, slight marginal worming repaired, signatures of censors on verso of final blank flyleaf (dated 1629 and 1687). Modern calf. Folio. [Vinograd, Venice 294; Habermann, Bomberg 181; Adams A-104].

Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1546. **$500-700**

- The first work attributed to an author after the close of the Talmudic era. In the nineteenth century, R. Naphtali Zevi Judah Berlin (“NeZIV”), famed dean of the Volozhin Yeshivah, published a commentary to the work, “Ha’amek She’elah.” In the twentieth century, Prof. Samuel Kalman Mirsky of Yeshiva University published a critical edition of the She’iltoth.

8 (ADRET, SOLOMON IBN. RaSHB”A). Teshuvoth Shailoth Le-RaMBa”N [responsa]. FIRST EDITION. ff. (95). Verso of title with small area of worming neatly taped, marginal circular stain along following few leaves, touch discolored. Modern morocco. Small folio. [Vinograd, Venice 14; Habermann, Bomberg 10; Adams S-1409].

Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1519. **$1500-2000**

- Although this collection of responsa is ascribed to Nachmanides, careful perusal has determined that with the exception of five or six responsa, the entire collection is indeed by the Rashb’a. The number of his responsa, including this pseudo-Nachmanides collection, reaches well over three thousand, with inquiries addressed from all parts of the world, and touching upon all phases of law - religious, family and civil, as well as theological concerns. See M. Waxman, History of Jewish Literature (1933) Vol. II pp.165-167.

9 AKRA, ABRAHAM. (Editor). Arzei Levanon [kabbalistic treatises]. FIRST EDITION. Title within historiated arch depicting Mars and Minerva. ff. 50. Light marginal stains. Contemporary vellum. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Venice 920; Habermann, di Gara 204].

Venice, Giovanni di Gara: 1601. **$500-700**


Rimini, Gershom Soncino: 1522. **$5000-7000**

**[SEE ILLUSTRATION RIGHT]**
ALBO, JOSEPH. Sepher Ha’Ikarim [“Book of Fundamental Principles”]. FIRST EDITION. Wide margins. This copy with the rare opening page, as well as ff. 56-8 expunged from most all copies by Papal censor. The Eric Sexton Copy. Complete in ff. (108). First two and final leaves supplied from a shorter copy and laid to size with trace of insignificant wormholes. Few lines struck by Church censor - ecclesiastical ink long since faded. Although made-up, this is an attractive copy. Handsome modern blind-tooled crushed morocco. Sm. folio. [Vinograd, Soncino 15; Offenberg 3; Goff Heb-64; Freimann-Marx, Thesaurus A-39; Goldstein 30; Gershon Cohen, Hebrew Incunabula (YU Cat.) 19].

Soncino, (Joshua Solomon Soncino), 21st Teveth, (29th December): 1485. $20,000-30,000

Joseph Albo’s philosophical exposition proceeds from the view that every religion is founded on three basic principles: the existence of God, Revelation and reward and punishment. True faith, according to Albo, is that which recognizes not only the roots of these three fundamental principles, but also their logical consequences. The goal of man lies in perfecting himself, and the way of human perfection according to Albo, lies in striving to become similar to the supreme symbol of perfection - God. This can be achieved by doing good and right out of love for God through the loving fulfillment of His will and commandments. Albo also deals here with the terrors of the imminent catastrophe about to befall Spanish Jewry. He interprets suffering as “chastisements of love” imposed as a trial which only serves to strengthen the bond of love between God and Israel. As long as Israel cleaves to God’s ways, they need not lose hope that the day of Redemption will come. For a brief examination of Albo’s philosophies and the thinkers upon whose ideas he built, see Zinberg, vol. III pp. 233-9.

The anonymous typesetter of this book (“Ha-Talmid Ha-meshareth”) was so enthused by this, that he ended the colophon with the paraphrase: “Ki MeZion Teitize Torah U’Devar Hashem MeSoncino.”.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE]

Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1521-2. $20,000-30,000

EXCEPTIONALLY RARE AND IMPORTANT EDITION.

The RIF is the most significant Halachic compendium prior to the Yad HaChazakah of Maimonides and remains an important and widely admired Code. R. Joseph Caro regarded Alfasi’s scholarship with the utmost respect and determined the laws in his Shulchan Aruch upon his authority.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE]

* Bound with: ARIPUL, SAMUEL. Lev Chacham [commentary to the Book of Ecclesiastes, with text]. FIRST EDITION. ff. 80. [Vinograd, Const. 293; Ya’ari, Const. 226; Mehlman 638]. Constantinople: Kasti & Aschkenazi, 1586


Together, three works bound in one volume. Later mottled calf with ties, lightly rubbed. Thick 8vo.

$3000-4000


London, 1832. $4000-6000

Contains six laws passed by the Jamaican legislature from 1826 to 1830 expanding the rights of the Island’s Jews, Catholics, Indians and Blacks.

Two laws deal exclusively with the Jewish community: The first (1827) was “an act to entitle Jews, born within the allegiance of the King’s, to the rights and privileges of other natural-born British subjects.” “Whereas the Jews in Jamaica have ever conducted themselves as good citizens and faithful loyal subjects... it is expedient that disabilities under which they have hitherto laboured should be removed.”

The second Act (1830) repealed an earlier law that limited the right to vote and hold office in Kingston to professing Christians: “Whereas doubts have been entertained whether persons professing the Jewish Religion are entitled to exercise and enjoy the same rights, privileges and immunities and advantages to which His Majesty’s other natural-born subjects are entitled within this Island... Such doubts ought no longer to exist.”

A third Act (1826) repealed a law passed in 1711, that had prohibited members of the above-mentioned minorities from working as civil servants and had been interpreted so as to exclude Jews from the Bar.

Despite that fact that many Jamaican Jews were naturalized under the provisions of a 1739 Act passed by the English Parliament, Jamaican Jews continued to face various restrictions owing to the antipathy of the local legislature. Its members belonged to the merchant middle class and sought to use their political influence to stifle Jewish competition.

The Acts of 1826-1830 marked a new era in the history of Jews in Jamaica, and they quickly became prominent in public life. Indeed, the first Jew was elected to the Jamaican Assembly in 1835; eighteen years later, the Assembly adjourned for Yom Kippur because one sixth of its’ members were Jewish (including the Speaker of the House).


$3000-4000

- Jewish settlers in Barbados, West Indies, were subject to various restrictions from the very start of the Community. Most often the agitators for these restrictions were their Christian business rivals, who controlled the colonial legislature. The English Naturalization Act of 1740 afforded the Jews of Barbados various securities, but they continued to be subject to special taxation and other indignities. During the first decades of the 19th-century the Community enjoyed great prosperity and it was during this period that a series of colonial Acts greatly ameliorated the Jews’ position. However, following a devastating hurricane in 1831, the Community began to decline and many of its members resettled in the United States. See JE, Vol. II, pp. 523-5; Marcus, Colonial American Jew, 100-113.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE RIGHT]


Providence, Sayles, Miller and Simons: 1857. $400-600

- The Colony of Rhode Island was founded in 1647 by Roger Williams, a dissident from the Plymouth Colony of Massachusetts. Thanks to the religious tolerance of its founder, an anti-authoritarian theologian, Rhode Island immediately became a safe haven for the religiously persecuted - indeed Jews settled there as early as 1658. The laws of Rhode Island continued to reflect this notion of religious tolerance. The present law-book contains three subjects of Jewish interest: * The Touro Fund, a bequest by Abraham Touro of Boston, which significantly maintained the synagogue and Jewish cemetery of Newport when no Jews remained in the city (pp. 156-58). Abraham Touro was the brother of Judah Touro of New Orleans and son of Rev. Isaac Touro, Hazan of the Newport congregation. * A special clause exempting Jews from the prevalent laws of consanguinity (p. 312); * And another special clause permitting the conduct of business on Sunday “All the professors of the Sabbatarian faith or of the Jewish religion... may labor in their respective professions or vocations on the first day of the week” (p. 545). See JE, Vol. IX, pp. 294-96.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM RIGHT]


- The First Rabbinical Text Published in America. The First Hebrew Book Printed in New York.

Falk was well aware of the revolutionary aspect of issuing a Hebrew work of Jewish scholarship in the New World. His preface urged patrons to purchase the work in order to prove that books of this nature do indeed have a demand in America and consequently more such works would be printed there. The typsetter, Naphtali ben Kathriel Samuel of Thorn (Prussia), also recognized the book’s importance: “I give thanks that it was my good fortune to be the typsetter of this scholarly book, the first of its kind in America. Blessed be the God of Israel who surely will not deny us the Redeemer” (colophon).

See A.J. Karp, From the Ends of the Earth: Judaic Treasures from the Library of Congress (1991) pp.316-7 (illustrated). According to Jacob Rader Marcus, Falk is remembrance as “The Father of American Hebrew Literature”. No less an authority than Steinschneider extolled the virtues of the fine typography of this volume (Hebraische Bibliographie, no. 28).

[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM RIGHT]

Cincinnati, Bloch & Co: 1864. $1000-1500

This publication contains thirty-six government documents pertaining to Swiss discrimination against American Jews. The contents were collected by order of President James Buchanan in compliance with an 1859 House resolution requesting information on such discrimination as a result of a Swiss-American trade agreement. See J. R. Marcus, United States Jewry, II, pp. 290-7.


Baltimore, W. Polmeyer: 1867. $400-600

A native of Nemiskert, Hungary, Benjamin Szold (1829-1902) studied as a young man at the Pressburg Yeshivah under the leadership Rabbi Benjamin Wolf. Later, Szold came under the influence of Z. Frankel, H. Graetz and J. Bernays at the Breslau Rabbinical Seminary. In 1858, Szold accepted an invitation to become Rabbi in Baltimore, where he led Congregation Oheb Shalom to be one of the foremost synagogues in the United States. His daughter, Henrietta Szold (1860-1945) founded the Hadassah Women’s Organization and Youth Aliyah. See EJ, Vol. XV, cols. 664-5.


Jerusalem, Joel Moses ben M. Salomon: 1878. $500-700

Born in Salant, Lithuania in 1805, Moses Aaronsohn migrated to New York in 1860, where he served as Rabbi of the Adath Yeshurun synagogue on Allen Street. He died in Chicago in 1875. Aaronsohn’s intention of settling in the Land of Israel was fulfilled by his widow and sons. It was they who brought the manuscript of Mata’ei Moshe to Jerusalem, where it was published. Following a biographical sketch of the Author, the work contains several responsa reflective of the turbulence of Jewish life on New York’s Lower East Side.

Of American interest: Responsa 8 (ff.19v.-21r.) is addressed to the Jewish community of Baltimore concerning the fall of a Torah scroll from the Holy Ark. * On f.25r. the Author mentions the founding of the Allen Street Synagogue. * Responsa 12-15 (ff. 26v.-38c.) represent an exchange with the renowned Polish halachist (and Chassidic Rebbe) R. Abraham [Landau] of Tchechanow, as to how to draft a bill of divorce (Get) in New York. On f.34r. there is discussed the proper Hebrew orthography of “New York.” This is probably the earliest communication from a Chassidic Rebbe to America.


New York, A. H. Rosenberg: 1893. $150-200

N.S. Libowitz was a “gentleman-scholar” whose youthful success in the diamond business afforded him the opportunity to devote himself to writing, editing and other intellectual pursuits. Born in Poland in 1862, Libowitz emigrated to the United States in 1881. After a short spell in Palestine in 1927, he returned to America, where he died in 1939.


Chicago, M.P. Ginzburg: 1898. $200-300

The first commentary to the Shulchan Aruch published in the United States.

The author, who was Rabbi of Omaha, Nebraska for almost sixty years (1892-1949) was a cousin of the famed R. Chaim Ozer Grodzenski of Vilna.


New York, (June, 1899-November: 1899). $500-700

In this lengthy essay, the American writer Mark Twain explores the causes of anti-Semitism and possible solutions to the problem. Most famous is the conclusion to this essay:

“If the statistics are right, the Jews constitute but one per cent of the human race. It suggests a nebulous dim puff of star dust lost in the blaze of the Milky Way. Properly the Jew ought hardly to be heard of; but he is heard of, has always been heard of. He is as prominent on the planet as any other people, and his commercial importance is extravagantly out of proportion to the smallness of his bulk. His contributions to the world’s list of great names in literature, science, art, music, finance, medicine and abstruse learning are also way out of proportion to the weakness of his numbers...The Egyptian, the Babylonian, and the Persian rose, filled the planet with sound and splendor, then faded to dream stuff and passed away; the Greek and the Roman followed, and made a vast noise, and they are gone...The Jew saw them all, beat them all, and is now what he always was, exhibiting no decadence, no infirmities of age...All things are mortal but the Jew; all other forces pass, but he remains. What is the secret of his immortality?”


Minneapolis, A. Dalin: 1900. $200-300

The first Hebrew book printed in Minneapolis.

Abba Baruch HaKohen (1853-1896) was born in Kovno where he came under the influence of R. Israel Salanter. Indeed this volume contains an otherwise unknown poem with Messianic yearnings (on f.19a =p. 37) attributed to “our teacher and master...the light of Israel...R. Israel Lipkin (Salanter).


New York, A. L. Germansky: (1899). $120-180


New York, M. Philip: 1910. $100-150


n.p., circa: 1920. $300-500

In the thirty-one years, the English Jewess, Grace Aguilar conveyed the body, etc.

With the advent of modern shipping lines, the ancient dream of burial in the Holy Land became a reality for many American Jews, so much so, it was anticipated as a major enterprise. For whatever reason, it seems that the venture represented by this Pinkas never materialized, as witnessed by the mere four entries and close to 300 blank pages.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE]


New York, v.d. $1000-1500

In her thirty-one years, the English Jewess, Grace Aguilar, of a Portuguese Marrano family, accomplished much in the way of literary achievement of both general and of Jewish orientation.

New York, D. Appleton & Companion: 1852. $400-600


London, Alexander ben Judah Leib: 1773. $500-500

33 (ANGLO JUDAICA). Kohn-Zedek, Joseph. HaTorah VeHahMitzvah [demonstrates that the commandment of Torah study is equal to all others combined]. * Eleh Poskecha Yisrael [These Are Your great utility and benefit to students in their attempt to master Hebrew. so that by its explanation in English and Spanish, they will improve in the Holy Language, comprehend its true meaning, and increase in the knowledge of God’s holy word, whereas at present that is not the case with many who read Hebrew.” Bears the Haskamah of Moses Cohen de Azevedo (c. 1720-1784), Haham of the Spanish and Portuguese congregation of London, who writes that the book will be of great utility and benefit to students in their attempt to master the Holy Tongue. See JE, Vol. II, p. 368.

London, E.W. Rabbinowicz and J. Werber: 1884. $200-250


Lot 34


Paderborn, J. W. Schroder: 1883. $300-500


Dresden, M. D. Groh: 1936. $200-300


Berlin, for the NSDAP: 1941. $300-500

* Differing versions of the Alphabet of Ben Sira have been published. This, the first Latin edition, consists of twenty-two alphabetically arranged Aramaic aphorisms. After each aphorism there follows a Commentary by Uziel (supposedly Ben Sira’s son) or Joseph ben Uziel (supposedly Ben Sira’s grandson). Scholars are hard-pressed to place this pseudepigraphic work within some historical context. (The Alphabet of Ben Sira is not to be confused with the authentic book of Ben Sira by Jesus ben Sira, one of the works of the Apocrypha, cited on occasion in the Talmud.) Prof. Joseph Dan believed that the work was composed in the East during the Geonic period. See A.M. Habermann, Chadashim Gam Yeshanim (1975), p.108, no. 2; Joseph Dan, Mechikar Chadash al Sippurei Ben-Sira,” Kiryath Sepher (1984-85) pp. 294-97; and Ef, Vol. IV, cols. 548-49.

The Book of Tobias is one of the books of the Apocrypha, which though certainly Jewish in origin, did not enjoy canonical status in the Hebrew Bible, but was relegated by Jewish tradition to the realm of the Sepharim Chitzonim (literally, “external books” or non-sacred literature). The books of the Apocrypha were authored in the Hellenistic period of the Second Temple. Since the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls, fragments of the original Hebrew texts have become available, confirming their source in Eretz Israel. These are two of fifteen Hebrew books to issue from Fagus’ press at Isny between the years 1540-42. According to Habermann, the two books were printed as one. See Habermann, “HaMadpis Paulus Fagius Vesiphrei Beith Defuso” in: idem, Perakim BeToldoth HaMadpisim Ha’Ivrim (1978), pp. 149-66.

* A scandalalous tract, seeking to prove that rabbinic literature condoned human sacrifice. August Rohling (1839-1931) a fanatical priest and anti-Semitic polemicist, provided notorious testimony during the course of Hungary’s infamous Tisaeszlar blood-libel trial that Jews required blood for their religious practices. See JE, Vol. XII, pp. 148-150; Ef, Vol. XV, cols.1155).

39 ARAMA, ISAAC. Akeidath Yitzchak ["Binding of Isaac": Philosophical and allegorical homilies to the Pentateuch]. Second edition. Title within woodcut architectural arch. Opening word of each part within an elaborate border. ff. 309. Title partially wanting; following six and final leaves repaired with some loss, stained. Modern morocco. Folio. [Vinograd, Venice 326; Habermann, Bomberg 195].

Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1547. $300-500

In his introduction, Arama breaks his sermons into two components, which he terms “derishah” (investigation) and “perishah” (exposition). In the first part, the preacher investigates a philosophical idea in light of his chosen texts, biblical and rabbinical. This phase completed, the preacher then assumes the role of an exegete or commentator elucidating the text - and context - of the portion at hand. The title, “Binding of Isaac,” refers to the successful binding and connecting of the two types of homiletics. See I. Bettan, Studies in Jewish Preaching (1959), pp. 130, 143-144; EJ, Vol. III, cols. 256-259.

40 ARAMA, MEIR. Urim V e Tumim [commentary to the Books of Isaiah and Jeremiah]. FIRST EDITION. The Solomon of Dubno Copy, with his signature on the title-page. ff. 76. Ex-library, lightly browned and stained, gutter split. Later calf, rubbed and worn. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Venice 957].

Venice, Daniel Zanetti: 1603. $300-500

41 ARCHIVOLTI, SAMUEL D’. Ma’ayan Ganim. FIRST EDITION. Three-crown printer’s device on title (Ya’ari no. 18). Woodcut vignette of a water-fountain repeated several times. ff. 45, (1). Trace foxed and stained. Modern vellum. 12mo. [Vinograd, Venice 456].

Venice, Alvise Bragadin: 1553. $1200-1800

Containing some 25 letters, including love letters, written in metrical form designed to serve as templates for students of this classic literary genre.

Ma’ayan Ganim contains revolutionary ideas concerning women and Torah study. The Author reasons that the prohibition of teaching Torah to women was directed at a girl’s father, but if a woman should take upon herself Torah study, she should be encouraged to do so. (See ff. 44-45). This opinion was cited by R. Baruch Epstein in his works Torah Temimah and Mekor Baruch. Regarding several scholars not familiar with the original citation - no doubt due to the rarity of this edition - see D. Rabinowitz, “Rayna Batya and Other Learned Women: A Re-evaluation of Rabbi... Epstein’s Sources,” in: Tradition, Vol. 35, No. 1 (Spring 2001), pp. 55-69 (esp. n. 51).

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE RIGHT]

42 ASHER ANSHEL OF CRACOW. (Attributed to). Sepher shel Rabi Anshel... Mirkeveth Hamishnah. Second edition. ff. 113. Lighly browned with some staining, previous owners’ marks, slight marginal repair to title, first leaf and final leaf. Contemporary tinted vellum with leather ties. 4to. [Vinograd, Cracow 91; Melman 1567].

Cracow, Isaac Prostitz: 1584. $1500-2000

An alphabetical concordance and glossary of the Bible, with references and Yiddish translations. The Mirkeveth Hamishnah is the earliest book extant printed in Yiddish. The first edition appeared in Cracow in 1534, this is the second and final one.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION RIGHT]

Venice, Meir Parenzo for Alvise Bragadin: 1552. $400-600


Venice, Zanetto Zanetti: 1607. $300-500


Wittemberg, Johannes Graton: 1568. $300-500


Melbourne, York Press Ltd.: 1949. $100-150

47 BACHIAH BEN ASHER. Biur al HaTorah [Kabbalistic commentary to the Pentateuch]. Title with prominent printers mark depicting the Tower of Rimini on title (Yaari no. 6). Initial letters of opening word within white-on-black decorative historiated engraved border. Inscriptions of former owner on title in Hebrew and Ladino. Lengthy faded inscription on final leaf, scholarly marginal notes in a Sephardic hand especially on the kabbalistic portions, (notes are signed “Yaakov” in many places and “Yaakov HaKatan” on f. 90a, cites a comment he heard from R. Samuel Arnaki on f. 74b, signed “Hagoleh mimakom lemakom, Yonah ben Binyamin on f. 160b). ff. (260). Title silked, variously remargined, final leaf repaired with minor loss, few leaves supplied from another copy, few tears, small hole on ff. 124 affecting few letters. Modern tooled morocco. Folio. [Vinograd, Rimini 5; Mehlman 640; not in Adams].

Rimini, Gershom Soncino: 1524-26. $6000-9000

Bachiah ben Asher ben Chalawa (13th-century), Dayan of Saragossa, was a Kabbalist of the School of R. Solomon ben Adret of Barcelona. His Commentary is one of the most influential encyclopedic works on the Torah utilizing a wide variety of sources. Noteworthy are his Kabbalistic references, Midrashic interpretations as well as citations from lost Midrashim. For an excellent work on the Kabbalistic sources of R. Bachiah, see E. Gottlieb, Mekorotav shel R. Bachiah...Be’kitvei R. Yoseph Gikatilla in: Bar Ilan University Annual Vol. I (1969) pp. 306-26; and R. Yitzchak Sagi Nahor Ve’talmidav- Mekorot R. Bachiah Be’kitvei Ha’mekubalim, Bar Ilan University Annual, Samuel Bialoblocki Memorial Volume, (1964) pp.215-50.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION LEFT]

48 BACHIAH BEN ASHER. Biur al HaTorah. Title within architectural arch, title of each of the Five Books within an elaborate woodcut border incorporating the elephant and castle printer’s device of Cavalli (Yaari, 35). ff. 251. Mispaginated as issued by printer but complete, stained with old taped repairs, f.185 loose and wormed, title laid down. Modern boards. Sm. Folio. [Vinograd, Venice 514; Adams B-11].

Venice, Giorgio di Cavalli: 1566. $400-600

49 BACHIAH BEN ASHER. Biur al HaTorah. Title within woodcut architectural arch. On title, numerous signatures of former owners, all in Ashkenazic cursive script. Opening letters within floral woodcut vignettes. With Final Leaf Illustrating the ten Sefiroth, lacking from most copies. ff. 235, 235-246, (1). Tears to ff. 238-9; stained. Later calf, rubbed, gutter starting and few leaves loose. Folio. [Vinograd, Cracow 147; Mehlman 641; not in Adams].

Cracow, Isaac ben Aaaron Prostitz: 1566. $1500-2000

50 BACHIAH BEN JOSEPH IBN PAQUDA. Chovoth HaLevavoth [ethics]. Title within architectural arch. Lengthy scholarly note of a kabbalistic nature in a contemporary Ashkenazic hand on verso of final leaf. ff. 96, 99-104. Previous owners’ marks, some staining, paper repairs in places, marginal repair to title affecting two letters and lowerer decorative matter. Modern vellum. 4to. [Vinograd, Cracow 154; Mehlman 965].

Cracow, Isaac ben Aaaron Prostitz: 1593. $800-1200
Lot 51


Soncino, Joshua Solomon ben Israel Soncino, 24th Kislev: 1484. $20,000-25,000

★ R. Yedai’ah Bedersi (c.1270-1340) was a native of Beziers, Provence. His Bechinath Olam is a profound poetic composition on the futility and vanity of the world and the inestimably greater benefits of intellectual and religious pursuits. The author finds consolation in Maimonides’ world of ideas, concluding that the greatest achievement for man is to “perfect one’s understanding and immerse oneself in the grandeur of the idea of God. No power in the world can break man’s will when he strives toward this exalted goal.”


[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE]
52 BACHIAH BEN JOSEPH IBN PAQUDA. Chovoth HaLevavoth ["Duties of the Heart": ethics and pietsm]. Translated from Arabic into Hebrew by Judah Ibn Tibbon. Second edition. On front fly, old Italian inscription of former owner "Abram Vecchio, Rabbi of Mantua." (See below.) On another fly leaf, initials "S.D.L." (Samuel David Luzzatto?) Scattered Hebrew marginalia in old Itali hand. On final page, inscription of Church censor: "Visto per me Gio[vanni] Dominico Carretto 1618." (See Wm. Popper, Pl. III, no. 6). ff. 88. Light stains. On f. 9r. the word "HaMinim" (code for Christians) has been struck by the censor, the sepia ink of the deletion faded. Contemporary vellum. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Venice 335; Haberman, Bomberg 214; not in Adams].

Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1548. $800-1200

In composing this fundamental text of Jewish thought, Bachiah attempted to systematize the ethical teachings of Judaism. "The Torah is divided into two parts: the duties to be performed by the organs (chovoth ha'evanim) and the duties of the heart (chovoth halev), namely those belonging to human conscience.

The majority of the rabbis pay attention only to the outward observance of the Law, without regard to the ideas and sentiments embodied in the 613 laws of Moses. Even the pious are often prompted only by selfish and worldly motives" (Introduction). Thus Bachiah undertook to write "The Duties of the Heart.

Abraham ben Shabatai (del) Vecchio (d. 1654) was Rabbi of Mantua in the first half of the 17th-century. Some of his responsa have been preserved in contemporary collections, e.g. R. Samuel Aboab, Devar Shmuel, no. 19. See S. Simonsohn, History of the Jews in the Duchy of Mantua (1977) pp. 737-38.


Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1539. $1200-1800

Of a somewhat disputatious nature, R. Benjamin of Arta (Epirus) issued this mammoth collection of 450 legal decisions largely as self-justification following a tendentious Halachic feud with R. David Hakohen of Corfu concerning Agunoth. The work contains a distinctly independent tone in its rulings, but is often cited by R. Moses Isserles (the Rema), thus assuring its permanent place in the annals of Halacha.


Leiden, (Bonaventura and Abraham) Elzevier: 1633. $700-900


Tel-Aviv, 1956. $300-500


Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1539. $1200-1800

Of a somewhat disputatious nature, R. Benjamin of Arta (Epirus) issued this mammoth collection of 450 legal decisions largely as self-justification following a tendentious Halachic feud with R. David Hakohen of Corfu concerning Agunoth. The work contains a distinctly independent tone in its rulings, but is often cited by R. Moses Isserles (the Rema), thus assuring its permanent place in the annals of Halacha.


Leiden, (Bonaventura and Abraham) Elzevier: 1633. $700-900


Berlin, "For The Lovers of Hebrew Poetry": 1923. $100-150

Genoa, Petrus Paulus Porrus for Nicolo Giustiniani Paulo: 1516. $10,000-15,000

FIRST POLYGLOT BIBLE EDITION. THE SECOND BOOK PRINTED IN ARABIC. THE ONLY BOOK PRINTED AT GENOA IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY. WITH AN EARLY REFERENCE TO CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS’ DISCOVERY OF AMERICA.

The learned Dominican Agostino Giustiniani, Bishop of Nebbio in Corsica, and later Professor of Hebrew at the College de France spared no expense in the preparation of this first polyglot edition of the Book of Psalms. His “Scholia” commentary reveals considerable scholarship. Of particular interest are his comments to Psalm 19, verse 4; “Their line has gone out through all the earth and their words to the end of the world.” On this verse the bishop says; “In our own times, by his wonderful daring, Christopher Columbus, the Genoese, has discovered almost another world...as Columbus has maintained that God chose him as the instrument for the fulfillment of the prophecy [of this verse], I deem it proper here to refer to his life...” The lengthy note contains previously unpublished information on Columbus’ life and second voyage.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE RIGHT AND FRONTISPIECE]


Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1524-5. $10,000-15,000

THE SECOND BIBLIA RABBINICA. THE FIRST TO PRESENT THE MASORAH. The text of this edition became the standard Masoretic text for all subsequent editions. See D.S. Berkowitz, In Remembrance of Creation (1968), no. 166.

The first Biblia Rabbincia, printed by Bomberg in 1516-7 (see lot 62) was edited by the apostate Jew Felix Pratensis and contained the Imprimatur of the Pope. Bomberg realized that these two facts marginalized the Great Bible from the Jewish market. Bomberg therefore employed the Jew, Jacob b. Chaim ibn Adonijah, as editor of the Second Biblia Rabbincia. A meticulous, and most knowledgeable editor, Joseph b. Chaim went to great pains to secure as many Masoretic codices as possible. For the first time, there was issued a printed Hebrew Bible with a marginal masorah, which, as intended by Bomberg, was received with broad acclaim by the Jewish market.

THUS, THIS 1524 EDITION BIBLE MAY BE SAID TO BE THE FIRST “JEWISH” RABBINIC BIBLE.


Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1527. $4000-6000

This slight octavo is an unusually scarce Bomberg edition.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM RIGHT]
**Lot 62**

62 (BIBLE. Hebrew). Arba’ah ve-Esrim. Edited by Felix Pratensis with commentaries including Rashi, R. David Kimchi, Nachmanides, Gersonides, Aramaic Targumim, etc. Four parts bound in two volumes. Divisional titles. On titles, in Italki script, Hebrew signatures of former owner “Isaac Mahalalel [Norzi],” (In margin of Book of Job, Hebrew inscription: “Purchase of Samuel Norzi from Isaac Mahalalel Norzi.”) (See below.) Large woodcut head-pieces, initial letters of each Book within ornamental heading. Numerous old marginalia, both Hebrew marginalia in an Italki hand, as well as Latin marginalia.


Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1516-17. $20,000-30,000

**WIDE-MARGINED COPY OF THE FIRST BIBLIA RABBINICA.**


This first great work published in large folio by Daniel Bomberg, the Aldo of Hebrew printing, was edited by the convert Felix Pratensis. Although he utilized the Brescia Bible of 1493, Pratensis consulted many additional manuscripts for his redaction, hence this 1517 edition made an important contribution to textual criticism. As a result, various readings and masoretic glosses, as well as the Jerusalem Targum of the Pentateuch and the Targum of the Prophets and Hagiographia appear for the first time. Also, for the first time in a Hebrew Bible, the chapter numbers appear in the margin and the Books of Samuel, Kings, Ezra-Nechohiah and Chronicles are divided each into two separate Books.


[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE]


Light stains. Modern blind-tooled morocco with gilt florets, rubbed. Lt. 4to. [Vinograd, Paris 16; Darlow and Moule 5089].

Paris, Robert Estienne the Elder: 1543-1555. $5000-7000

→ “Robert Estienne [was] the most outstanding figure in the Renaissance book trade in France. As a printer...he occupies today a chief place in the history of typography, and it is to him primarily that the Estienne dynasty owes its reputation in this field.”


[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE RIGHT]

64 (BIBLE. Hebrew). Bound in fourteen volumes. Hebrew in square characters with nikud (vowel points). Printer’s device on all titles. Initial words within engraved cartouche. ff.146 (Genesis), ff.125 (Exodus), ff.88 (Leviticus), ff.122 (Numbers), ff.107 (Deuteronomy), ff.77 (Joshua), ff.73 ( Judges), ff.176 (Samuel), ff.184 ( Kings), ff.131 (Isaiah), ff.168 (Jeremiah), ff.144 (Ezekiel), ff.117 (Minor Prophets), ff.160 (Psalms), ff.53 (Proverbs), ff.61 (Job), ff.80 (Five Scrolls), ff.47 (Daniel), ff.73 (Ezra). ff.183 (Chronicles).

Title of Vol. III (Leviticus-Deuteronomy) repaired; title Vol. V (Samuel) loose. Light stains. Book of Psalms browned throughout. Later uniform vellum, rubbed. 16mo. [Vinograd, Paris 18; Darlow & Moule (noted only, not listed) below no. 5089; Adams B-1224].

Paris, Robert Estienne the Elder: 1543-46. $5000-7000


[SEE ILLUSTRATION MIDDLE RIGHT]

65 (BIBLE. Hebrew. Pentateuch, Haphtaroth And Five Scrolls). Chamishah Chumshei Torah. With Targum Onkelos and commentaries by Rash"i, Ramb"a (Nachmanides) and supercommentary on Ramb"a by R. Isaac Aboab. Haphtaroth according to the Sephardic and Ashkenazic rite. Title within woodcut architectural arch. First word of each Book within decorative surround. Divisional title (Haphtaroth). On title, Hebrew signature of former owner: "Jacob ben Zalman of Posna.” (See below). On f. 300r inscription of Samuel Adler Katz. On f. 34v Judah ben Joseph Halevi, Abram ben Judah Halevi, Asher Anshel ben Aaron Bonn (the latter name appears also on f.371v.). ff. 371(i.e. 382), 26. Opening leaf laid down. ff. 2-6 wanting portion of text supplied in old Ashkenazic cursive script. Few leaves remargined, stained. Modern calf. F. [Vinograd, Venice 336; Habermann, Bomberg 211; Darlow & Moule (noted not listed) following no. 5093; Adams B-1268].

Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1548. $6000-8000

→ The popularity of Nachmanides’ commentary is evident from its many publications, both separately and as part of the Mikra’oth Gedoloth. As early as the 15th-century, scholars saw the need for a super-commentary and R. Isaac Aboab (1433-93), referred to as the “last Gaon of Castile,” composed one of the most important.

R. Jacob ben Zalman Posna (1772-1849), a native of Offenbach, settled in Frankfurt a/Main, marrying there in or about the year 1800. He served as a Dayan in Frankfurt during the years 1791-1805, which coincided with the rabininate of R. Pinchas Halevi Hurwitz (author “Haphla’ah”). See Mishpachath Posen [The Posen Family] (London, 1985), pp. 13 and 29.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM RIGHT]

Venice, Cornelio Adelkind for Marco Antonio Giustiniani: 1549. **$2000-3000**

* The commentary combines a variety of approaches including Peshat - with an emphasis explaining how each verse logically follows the previous verse, as well as kabbalistic interpretations “as certain chapters cannot be interpreted in any other fashion.”

The Introduction is of great historic interest: Enumerated are two generations of some 70 scholars and rabbinic leaders that Solomon Atthia consulted with, including personages from cities in Greece (Saloniki, Patras); Turkey (Adrianpole, Bursa, Constantinople); Italy (Rome, Venice, Padua, Mantua, Ancona, Verona) etc. Atthia also includes here a lengthy account of members of the illustrious Taitatzak Family as well as concise biographical descriptions of many others.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE LEFT]

67 (BIBLE. Hebrew). Proverbs (Mishlei). With commentary Yad Avshalom by Isaac Arama. **FIRST EDITION.** The Mehlman Copy. ff. 94. ff. 85-88 misbound. Wormholes and slight tears professionally repaired, few leaves supplied from another copy. Modern morocco-backed boards. 4to. [Vinograd, Const. 225; Yaari, Const. 168; Mehlman 678; not in Adams].

(Constatinople, 1565?) **$3000-5000**

[SEE ILLUSTRATION MIDDLE LEFT]


Antwerp, Christopher Plantin: 1566. **$1500-2500**

* A majestic binding.


[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM LEFT]


Wittenberg, J. Crato: 1566. **$500-700**


Venice, Giovanni di Gara: 1566. **$4000-6000**

* THE FOURTH BIBLIA RABBINICA.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION FACING PAGE]

Antwerp, Christopher Plantin: 1573-74. $500-700

*Plantin's intention was to present the Bible “in the original tongues.” In addition to the Old Testament in Hebrew, with the addition of the New Testament in Greek, he printed about the same time, a Syriac version of the New Testament in Hebrew letters. As Plantin used “the same paper, the same size of type, of page, and of printed surface, the same typographic arrangement,” See Mehlman, nos. 1899 and 31.


Antwerp, Christophor Plantin: 1584. $700-900

*Reprint of Volume VIII of Plantin’s Antwerp Polyglot of 1569-72. The Hebrew Old Testament is found at the end of the volume and the Greek New Testament at the beginning, followed by the Greek Apocrypha.


Hamburg, Elias Hutter: (1587) $1200-1800

*An extraordinarily ambitious feat of scholarship. "In this edition the root letters are printed in thick type and the inflectional letters in hollow type; and when a root letter in any word does not appear, it is printed in small type above the line." Darlow & Moule 5108.


Venice, Bragadin: 1617-19. $1000-1500

*THE FIFTH BIBLIA RABBINICA.


Geneva, Capa Elon (i.e. Pierre de la Rouvière): 1618-19. $300-500


London, Lion Soesmans: 1787. $200-300

London, Thomas Roycroft: 1655-1657. **$3000-4000**

Lot 78


[Darlow and Moule, Amsterdam 45; Fuks, Amsterdam 7; Berkowitz, In Remembrance of Creation 182; Laor, Maps of the Holy Land 339].

Amsterdam, Menasseh ben Israel for Johannes Jansson: 1637-1639. **$700-900**

Lot 79


[Darlow and Moule, Amsterdam 449; Fuks, 398; Darlow & Moule (noted not listed) following no. 4485].

Amsterdam, Immanuel ben Joseph Athias: 1679. **$1000-1500**

**“The third and the last of the great polyglots; known as the London, or Walton’s Polyglot. The most accurate and best-equipped of the great Polyglots.” Darlow & Moule 1446.**
80 (BIBLE. Judeo-German). Translated by Yekuthiel b. Isaac Blitz. Followed by the "To’aliyoth" (moral lessons) by the RaLBa’G (Gersonides) on Joshua, Judges and Samuel. Title within architectural columns. Additional title showing Moses and Aaron, and vignette of Revelation at Mount Sinai. Privilege of King John III of Poland in Latin (supplied from another copy) and Privilege of the Council of Four Lands (Va’ad Arba Aratzoth) Divisional titles. Incipits historiated. ff. (8), 1-54, (1), 56-63, (1), 64-69, 68, 71-75, 77-252, 252, 254-256, 249; 1-18. Waterstained. Contemporary vellum, worn; spine distressed. Folio. [Vinograd, Amsterdam 451; Fuks 336; Darlow and Moule, 4483].

Amsterdam, Uri Phoebus ben Aaron Halevi: 1676-1679. $1000-1500

THE FIRST TRANSLATION OF THE TANACH INTO JUDEO-GERMAN.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE RIGHT]


Oxford, Clarendoniano: 1776-1780. $400-600

Kennicot’s edition is the earliest attempt to provide a systematic critical edition of the Bible on a large scale. In previous dissertations, Kennicott demonstrated the need for extensive collation of the Hebrew manuscripts of the Old Testament. For ten years, he and his co-workers engaged in this arduous task. The final work resulted in these two massive volumes including a general dissertation, critical notes, a list of subscribers and an index.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM RIGHT]


Fraenquer, Jacob Horre: 1696. $400-600

The Bibliotheca Rabbinica is the first scientifically organized bibliography of Jewish literature, alphabetically listing 324 Hebrew works. Buxtorf’s system influenced the physiognomy of Hebrew bibliography by introducing the title arrangement, a method that became the standard practice in Hebrew bibliography. His preference for this were two-fold; a title-listing eliminates the complication of establishing the identity and correct form of name of the Hebrew author, moreover, mosts Hebrew texts were better known by their title rather than by their author. See S. Brisman, A History and Guide to Judaic Bibliography, Vol. I (1977), pp. 3-5.


Hamburg & Leipzig, v.p.: 1715-33. $1000-1500


Parma, Ex Regio Typographeo: 1795. $400-600

85 (BIBLIOGRAPHY). Reshimath HaSepharim. pp. 78. Marginal wormholes. Original marbled boards. Sm. 4to. [Shunami 215].

Warsaw, 1901. $200-300

• List of 2205 printed works and 231 manuscripts housed in the Library of Rabbi Isaac Meir Alter, the first Rebbe of Gur.


Jena, Paul Ehrich: 1712. $700-900

• Compendium of Biblical, Rabbinic and Kabbalistic literature pertaining to the rite of the Birkath Kohanim, or Priestly Benediction. See EJ, Vol. VIII, col. 36.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE LEFT]

87 CHABIB, LEVI BEN JACOB IBN. (RaLBa”Ch). She’eloth U’Teshuvoth [responsa]. FIRST EDITION. Title within architectural arch; at top, vignette of Binding of Isaac. Astrological and calendrical charts. The R. Jacob ben Zalman Posna (1772-1849) Copy. ff. (5), 2-328. Foliation eccentric as issued by printer, volume is complete. (Doubles of ff. 289 and 294.) Stained in places, final leaf with repaired tear. Modern boards. Sm. folio. [Vinograd, Venice 508; Mehlman 715 (noting textual variants); Adams L-607].

Venice, Giovanni di Gara: 1565. $700-1000

• R. Levi ibn Chabib (c. 1483-1545), a native of Zamora, Spain, was taken by his father to Portugal, where he was forcibly baptized in 1492. Eventually the pair escaped to Salonika where they provided successive leadership to the Gerush Community of Spanish exiles settled there. In time, Levi ibn Chabib moved to Eretz Israel in order to atone for the baptism of his youth. Settling in Jerusalem, he became embroiled over the issue of renewing the ancient Semicha (ordination) in Safed - an innovation to which he was bitterly opposed. Included in the volume of responsa here is the famous Kuntress HaSemicha, the vitriolic exchange between R. Jacob Berav of Safed and R. Levi ben Chabib. See M. Benayahu, “Chidushah shel Hasemichah B’Tsefat,” in: Yitzhak F. Baer Jubilee Volume (1960), pp. 248-69; EJ, Vol. XI, cols. 98-99; Vol. VIII, cols. 1176-1178. For textual variants of our work, see I. Rivkind, Dikdukei Sefarim’ in: Sepher HaYovel L’Chevod Alexander Marx (1950) pp. 419-20, no. 23.

88 CHAIM BEN BEZALEL. Sepher HaChaim [ethics]. FIRST EDITION. Title within woodcut architectural arch. ff. 51, (1). Browued and stained in places, previous owners’ marks. Modern calf. 4to. [Vinograd, Cracow 155; Mehlman 1011].

Cracow, Isaac Prostitz: 1593. $1000-1500

• The author was the brother of the celebrated Mahar”l of Prague.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM LEFT]


Zolkiew, Saul Meyerhoffer: 1840-1845. $500-700

Concerns the controversy between the two Galician Chassidic dynasties of Sanz and Sadigora. At the center of the controversy lies the tragic figure of R. Dow Baer Friedman of Liova, Moldovia (1817-1876) - son of R. Israel Friedman, the famed Rebbe of Rizhin (and later Sadigora) - who turned from Chassidic Rebbe to Maskil (enlightened Jew). This act of "apostasy" brought down the wrath of the preeminent halachist R. Chaim Halberstam of Sanz upon the entire Rizhiner dynasty. When in turn, Nissan Bak and other Rizhiner Chassidim in Jerusalem declared a ban ("cherem") on R. Chaim Halberstam, numerous outraged rabbinical figures (including many Mithnagdic rabbis) rose to the defense of their colleague R. Chaim Halberstam, considered one of the "poskei ha-dor" (halachic decisors of the generation).

Various attempts have been made to solve the mystery of the Editor's identity. See S. Chajes, Ortzar Beduyye Hashem, pp. 290; Ch. Liberman, OHEL Rachel III, pp. 400-405; Y. Raphael, Aresheth, vol. VI, pp. 211-221.

93. CHAYUT, ISAAC. Siach Yitzchak. FIRST EDITION. Title within historiated border, Kabbalistic diagrams throughout. ff. 19 (of 20, lacking f. 17). Several lines of ff. 18-19 supplied in facsimile. Modern calf. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Prague 54; Mehlman 915]. Prague, Mordechai Katz: 1587. $500-700

A series of Kabbalistic poems with commentary, all of whose themes relate to the First Nights of Passover. The title of this rare book is unusually tucked away at the bottom of the title page in small Rashi letters.

Isaac Chayut was a scion of a branch of the Chassidei Provence who later settled in Bohemia, where he was appointed Rabbi and Rosh Yeshiva of Prague in 1584. His contemporary, David Gans, commends him as one of the most praise-worthy rabbis of the generation.


Frankfurt and Leipzig, 1714. $200-300

Concerns the controversy between the two Galician Chassidic dynasties of Sanz and Sadigora. At the center of the controversy lies the tragic figure of R. Dow Baer Friedman of Liova, Moldovia (1817-1876) - son of R. Israel Friedman, the famed Rebbe of Rizhin (and later Sadigora) - who turned from Chassidic Rebbe to Maskil (enlightened Jew). This act of "apostasy" brought down the wrath of the preeminent halachist R. Chaim Halberstam of Sanz upon the entire Rizhiner dynasty. When in turn, Nissan Bak and other Rizhiner Chassidim in Jerusalem declared a ban ("cherem") on R. Chaim Halberstam, numerous outraged rabbinical figures (including many Mithnagdic rabbis) rose to the defense of their colleague R. Chaim Halberstam, considered one of the "poskei ha-dor" (halachic decisors of the generation).

Various attempts have been made to solve the mystery of the Editor's identity. See S. Chajes, Ortzar Beduyye Hashem, pp. 290; Ch. Liberman, OHEL Rachel III, pp. 400-405; Y. Raphael, Aresheth, vol. VI, pp. 211-221.

Concerns the controversy between the two Galician Chassidic dynasties of Sanz and Sadigora. At the center of the controversy lies the tragic figure of R. Dow Baer Friedman of Liova, Moldovia (1817-1876) - son of R. Israel Friedman, the famed Rebbe of Rizhin (and later Sadigora) - who turned from Chassidic Rebbe to Maskil (enlightened Jew). This act of "apostasy" brought down the wrath of the preeminent halachist R. Chaim Halberstam of Sanz upon the entire Rizhiner dynasty. When in turn, Nissan Bak and other Rizhiner Chassidim in Jerusalem declared a ban ("cherem") on R. Chaim Halberstam, numerous outraged rabbinical figures (including many Mithnagdic rabbis) rose to the defense of their colleague R. Chaim Halberstam, considered one of the "poskei ha-dor" (halachic decisors of the generation).

Various attempts have been made to solve the mystery of the Editor's identity. See S. Chajes, Ortzar Beduyye Hashem, pp. 290; Ch. Liberman, OHEL Rachel III, pp. 400-405; Y. Raphael, Aresheth, vol. VI, pp. 211-221.

Concerns the controversy between the two Galician Chassidic dynasties of Sanz and Sadigora. At the center of the controversy lies the tragic figure of R. Dow Baer Friedman of Liova, Moldovia (1817-1876) - son of R. Israel Friedman, the famed Rebbe of Rizhin (and later Sadigora) - who turned from Chassidic Rebbe to Maskil (enlightened Jew). This act of "apostasy" brought down the wrath of the preeminent halachist R. Chaim Halberstam of Sanz upon the entire Rizhiner dynasty. When in turn, Nissan Bak and other Rizhiner Chassidim in Jerusalem declared a ban ("cherem") on R. Chaim Halberstam, numerous outraged rabbinical figures (including many Mithnagdic rabbis) rose to the defense of their colleague R. Chaim Halberstam, considered one of the "poskei ha-dor" (halachic decisors of the generation).

Various attempts have been made to solve the mystery of the Editor's identity. See S. Chajes, Ortzar Beduyye Hashem, pp. 290; Ch. Liberman, OHEL Rachel III, pp. 400-405; Y. Raphael, Aresheth, vol. VI, pp. 211-221.

Concerns the controversy between the two Galician Chassidic dynasties of Sanz and Sadigora. At the center of the controversy lies the tragic figure of R. Dow Baer Friedman of Liova, Moldovia (1817-1876) - son of R. Israel Friedman, the famed Rebbe of Rizhin (and later Sadigora) - who turned from Chassidic Rebbe to Maskil (enlightened Jew). This act of "apostasy" brought down the wrath of the preeminent halachist R. Chaim Halberstam of Sanz upon the entire Rizhiner dynasty. When in turn, Nissan Bak and other Rizhiner Chassidim in Jerusalem declared a ban ("cherem") on R. Chaim Halberstam, numerous outraged rabbinical figures (including many Mithnagdic rabbis) rose to the defense of their colleague R. Chaim Halberstam, considered one of the "poskei ha-dor" (halachic decisors of the generation).

Various attempts have been made to solve the mystery of the Editor's identity. See S. Chajes, Ortzar Beduyye Hashem, pp. 290; Ch. Liberman, OHEL Rachel III, pp. 400-405; Y. Raphael, Aresheth, vol. VI, pp. 211-221.
**Lot 95**

CORDOVERO, MOSES. Tomer Devorah. [“The Date Palm of Deborah” - Kabbalistic ethics]. **FIRST EDITION.** ff. 19. Marginal soiling toward end, some worming affecting a few letters. Modern morocco. 12mo. [Vinograd, Venice 738; Mehlman 986].

Venice, Giovanni di Gara: 1589. 

$2000-3000

** lot**

RARE FIRST EDITION OF A FUNDAMENTAL KABBALISTIC WORK.

R. Moses Cordovero (RaMa”K) (1522-1570), the great systematizer of Kabbalah, lays here the foundations for Kabbalistic ethical literature. Pivoting on the Thirteen Attributes of Mercy (Micah 7:18-20), the work provides instruction on how one may spiritually identify with each of the Ten Sephiroth.

Despite its Kabbalistic underpinnings, Tomer Devorah became a widely consulted ethical work, the study of which was recommended by R. Israel Salanter, founder of the Mussar movement, whose famous letter on the importance of Mussar was published in the Koenigsberg 1858 edition of Tomer Devorah.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE LEFT]

**Lot 96**

CORDOVERO, MOSES. Ohr Ne’erav [“Sweet Light”- Kabbalah]. **FIRST EDITION.** ff. 56. Signatures on title Shlomo Ulman (dated 1605) and Nata Fuld. Foxed and trimmed. Modern calf. 12mo. [Vinograd, Venice 701; Habermann, di Gara 87].

Venice, Giovanni di Gara: 1587. 

$1200-1800

** lot**

The rare **FIRST EDITION.** See the definitive critical edition: I. Robinson, Moses Cordovero’s Introduction to Kabbalah: An Annotated Translation of his Or Ne’erav (1994).

[SEE ILLUSTRATION MIDDLE LEFT]

**Lot 97**

DE ROSSI, AZARIAH. Me’or Einaim [Philosophy of History]. **FIRST EDITION.** Title within woodcut architectural border. Woodcut diagrams on f.156.

This copy with the corrected “mahaduroth” which are in most standard copies, and with the rare “Mahahaduroth Shniyoth” and “Teshuva Le’hasagah” affixed to very few copies.

ff. 186, (6 two leaves of ‘Mahahaduroth Shniyoth’ misbound after f. 191), 187-194. Some stains, previous owners’ marks. Later calf, rubbed. 4to. [Vinograd, Mantua 138; Mehlman 1327; not in Adams].

Mantua, n.p.: 1574. 

$2000-3000

** lot**

A SCARCE COMPLETE COPY WITH THE RARE ADDITIONAL MATERIAL.

“The Me’or Einaim became so important that it rendered its author as one of the greatest, or perhaps the very greatest, of Jewish historians who flourished in the seventeen centuries between Josephus and Jost.” (S. Baron, Azariah de Rossi’s Attitude to Life, in: Studies in Memory of I. Abrahams, (1927) p.12).

Azariah de Rossi, was a member of an Italian Jewish family that traced its ancestry back to the time of Titus and the destruction of Jerusalem. His controversial Me’or Einaim questioned conventional Medieval wisdom and introduced fundamental changes in chronology. De Rossi rehabilitated the works of the Jewish philosopher Philo, who had been ignored by Jewish scholars for almost 1500 years and exposed the Jossipon as an early Medieval compilation based upon the works of Josephus, though with much falsification. In the spirit of the Renaissance, de Rossi turned to critical analysis and made use of the Apocrypha and Jewish-Hellenistic sources in his study of ancient Jewish history and texts. Most controversially, he suggested that Midrashic literature was employed as a stylistic device “to induce a good state of mind among readers,” and thus should not be understood to be literal. Such statements led the Me’or Einaim to be viewed as heresy and the work was banned by the Rabbinic authorities upon publication. Consequently De Rossi re-issued the work the same year, having changed the offending passages and adding an apologetic post-script.


[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM LEFT]

**Lot 98**

DEINARD, EPHRAIM. Milchemeth [history of Sebastopol during the Crimean War]. **FIRST EDITION.** pp. 98, 2. Stained, ex-library. Later boards, with original purple wrappers. 8vo.

Warsaw, A. Ginz: 1879. 

$120-180

Copenhagen, J. Jørgensen & Co.: 1914. $80-120

- Genealogy of Adolph Hannover (1814-1894), a Danish-Jewish scientist and physician who made significant contributions to the fields of histology and microscopy, his ancestry (including families Hirsch and Goldschmidt) originated for the most part in Altona and Hamburg. See EJ, Vol. VII, col. 1273.


Riva di Trento, Jacob Marcaria for Joseph Ottolenghi: 1560. $500-700

- Regarding the identity of the author, opinions range from Jacob Marcaria and Josef Ottolenghi to Elijah Bachur. See P. Krieger, Parshandatha (2005) no. 144. Though the work focuses a great deal upon grammatical issues within Rashi, it also clarifies certain ambiguous portions of the commentary itself.

101 DURAN, SOLOMON. Tiph’ereth Yisrael / Megilath Sepher / Ma’amor Se’udath Mitzvah. FIRST EDITION. Title and first word of text within highly wrought typographical border. ff. 210 (i.e. 212). Mispaginated but complete. Few tears to inner margin, trimmed and lightly stained. Later half-vellum, rubbed. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Venice 768; Adams S-1419].

Venice, Daniel Zanetti: (c.1596). $400-600

- Rabbi Solomon Duran of Algiers (d. 1593) was a descendant of R. Simon ben Tzemach Duran (Tashbe’tz) and his son R. Solomon ben Simon Duran (Rashba’sh). See JE, Vol. V, p.18 (includes Duran Family Tree). The present work revolves around the Scroll of Esther and the Feast of Purim. In Megilath Sepher, Duran delves into the halachic problematic of Esther’s betrothal to King Ahasuerus, while she was at the same time married to her uncle Mordechai (ff. 106, 122).

102 EDELS, SAMUEL ELIEZER. (MaHaRSH”A). Chidushim Mi’Masecheth Nidah [Halachic and aggadic novellae and on Tractates Nidah and portion of Nedarim]. FIRST EDITION. Title within architectural arch. ff. (36). Previous owners’ stamps. Modern calf. 4to. [Vinograd, Prague 113, Mehlman 870].

Prague, Abraham ben Moshe: 1602. $2000-3000

- A native of Cracow, R. Samuel Edels (1555-1631) is unusually referred to by his mother-in-law name. A wealthy woman, she supported the scholar and his disciples for a period of twenty years (1585-1605). In 1625, Edels established an important yeshivah in Ostrog. See EJ, Vol. VI, cols. 363-4

The Maharsh”a’s supercommentary is indispensable to a proper understanding of Tosaphoth, the medieval French commentary to the Talmud. R. Abraham Isaiah Karelitz (author of Chazon Ish) was known to stress this as did R. Chaim Soloveitchik of Brisk (according to family oral testimony).

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE RIGHT]


Cracow, Isaac ben Aaron Prosstitz: (1593-94). $1500-2000

- In the same year of 1593, Isaac Prosstitz published in Prague the third edition of Elijah de Vidas’ classic of kabbalistic ethics, Reshith Chochmah which also included five chapters from the earlier work of ethics, Menorath HaMa’or. In the present collection, Isaac Prosstitz printed separately the chapters from Menorath HaMa’or, calling it Menorath Zahav Kulah and utilized the pagination from the concurrent Reshith Chochmah. Thus our work, oddly enough, commences on f. 365 and ends on f. 418. See M. Pachter, The Book ‘Reshith Hokhmah’ by R. Eliyahu De-Vidas and Its Epitomes, Kiryath Sefer, Vol. XLVII (1971-1972), p. 693; JE, Vol. V, p. 182.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM RIGHT]
104 **ELEAZER BEN JUDAH OF WORMS.** Sepher HaRoke’ach [ethics, rabbinic law and custom]. Third edition. **DELUXE WIDE-MARGINED COPY PRINTED ENTIRELY ON BLUE PAPER.** ff. (4), 91, (1). Few light stains and paper repairs, previous owners’ marks on title. Modern calf. Folio. [Vinograd, Cremona 14; Benayahu, Cremona 8 (p. 191-93); not in Adams].

Cremona, Vicenzo Conti: 1557. $5000-7000

Deluxe copy printed entirely on blue paper. According to Benayahu (p. 192), only the Bodleian and Schocken copies exist on blue paper. Renowned as a Tosafist, Eleazar of Worms was the last major figure of the Chassidei Ashkenaz Movement. According to legend, by exercising the esoteric conjointment of the Hebrew alphabet, R. Eleazar was transported by cloud to Spain to acquaint Nachmanides with the mysteries of the Kabbalah. See I. Zinberg, A History of Jewish Literature (1973), vol. III, p. 24.

*[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE LEFT]*

105 **EMDEN, JACOB.** (Liturgy). Paltin Beth El - Amudei Shamayim.


Altona, By the Author: 1745-47. $4000-6000

An unusually fine, uncut and unopened copy. With rare textual variant: Much of the text of f. 318a-b in Volume I pertaining to the Avodah of the High Priest contains variances from other copies.

*[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM LEFT]*

Lublin, Kalonymus ben Mordechai Jaffe: 1590. $2000-3000

RARE. One of the author’s most popular works. It is used extensively especially by Rabbis (of the Old School) for orations on the occasion of life-cycle events.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE LEFT]


* Bound with: Ayil Meshulash [mathematics - especially, the properties of triangles and the rules of astronomy and algebra]. Edited by Samuel ben Joseph of Luknick. FIRST EDITION. Numerous woodcut mathematical textual diagrams. ff. 7, 51. [Vinograd, Vilna 278; Vinograd, Vilna Gaon no. 862]. Vilna and Horadna, Menachem Mann-Simcha Zimel, 1833. Together, two works bound in one volume. Some browning and staining, previous owners’ marks, scattered marginalia. Later calf-backed boards, rubbed, 4to.

v.p. v.d.. $1000-1500

* The commentary of the Vilna Gaon on Mishlei was the Gaon’s first book published following his death. Second work: The Gaon of Vilna drew on his extensive knowledge of mathematics and the natural sciences. He viewed such knowledge as an aid to Torah study and disapproved of the lack of interest in secular sciences that was widespread among Talmudic scholars of the time.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION TOP RIGHT FACING PAGE]

108 EPHRAIM (SOLOMON) OF LUNTSCHYTZ. Klei Yakar [hymnical commentary on the Pentateuch]. FIRST EDITION. Title within architectural arch. Signature and lengthy geneological inscription on final leaf, the previous owner signs himself: “Yaakov... ben Yehudah Ha-nikra Leib Brandes Ish Meling, mishalsheth hayichus Ha-gaon R. Chaim ben Ha-gaon hagadol R. Yitzchak Meling (one of the Roshei Yeshivoth and Av Beth Din of Prague for over thirty years, d. 1583). ff.153. Browed and stained, upper margin shaved affecting a few headnotes. Modern moocco. Sm. folio. [Vinograd, Lublin 79].

Lublin, Kalonymus ben Mordechai Jaffe: 1602. $2000-3000

* The author (1550-1619) studied under the tutelage of R. Solomon Luria (MaHaRSha”L), he later served as Chief Justice of the rabbinical court of Prague. He is best known for this Klei Yakar (“Precious Vessel”), a popular hymnical commentary to the Pentateuch included in most editions of the Mikra’oth Gedoloth.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE RIGHT]


St. Petersburg, 1906-13. $200-300

110 (ETHICS OF THE FATHERS). Masecheth Avoth. With the commentary by Elijah Sarahsohn, Maggid of Lomzi and Sivalk and later, Jerusalem. Revised by Chaim Michal Michlin. Second edition. Contains many approbations of important Rabbinic leaders including: Rabbis Jacob Ettlinger, Yitzchak Elchanan of Kowno, Israel Salanter, etc. Published by the Author’s grandson Yecheskel Sarahsohn of New York. ff. 5, 102. Lightly browned, one leaf marginally frayed. Contemporary boards. 8vo.

Jerusalem, n.p.: 1913. $120-180

111 EYBESCHUETZ, DAVID SOLOMON. Levushei Serad [commentary to Shulchan Aruch, Orach Chaim]. Appendixed: Bi‘ur Binyan ha-Bayith di-Yechezkel [the Third Temple as described by the Prophet Ezekiel with accompanying diagrams embedded in text]. ff. 37. Title loose. Light stains, wormed (with slight loss of text). Later cloth. 8vo. [Vinograd, Mohilev-on-the-Dniester 26 / Vinograd, Sudylkow 76].

Mohilev, Tzvi Ze’ev Rabenstein: 1818. $400-600

• It has been suggested that “Mohilev, 1818” on our title is a false imprint, and that the book was in fact printed in Sudylkow in 1825. See “Ha-Defus ha-Ivri be-Mohilev,” Kiryath Sepher, Vol. XXIII (1946-1947), pp. 309-323, no. 21.

R. David Solomon Eybeschutz is most famous for his homiletic work on the Bible, “Arvei Nachal.” Rabbi of Soroka, he settled in Safed in 1809, where he died shortly thereafter. See N.Z. Friedmann, Otzar Harabanim 5214.


Oxford, Sheldon Theatre: $600-900

• The Igereth Orchoth Olam is a pioneering work on geography. First published in Ferrara in 1524, it is the first Hebrew book to contain a description of America (chap. 29). Besides its rudimentary description of the “Erets Chadasha” (New World), the book also contains a valuable reference to the enigmatic personality David Reubeni (chap. 14).


According to the preface to the second work, Albert Bobowski was a Polish interloper in the Ottoman Empire who, in recognition of his linguistic ability, was given the title “Turjeman Bashi” (chief interpreter) by Sultan Mohammed IV. Bobowski recorded Muslim practices, including the hajj to Mecca and the Muslim rite of circumcision.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM LEFT]

Aix, by the Editor: 1855. $600-900

By the middle of the 18th-century, the town of Aix had become the last cultural center in which the traditions of the Comtat Venaissin communities were preserved. It was mostly through the efforts of the Crémieux and Milhaud families that this sacred patrimony was kept alive.

This prayer-book was based on Elijah Crémieux’s Seder HaTamid of a century earlier, with a wide selection of Piyutim for all the communities of the Comtat Venaissin. The publication was “more a labor of patriotism than piety, for within a generation it is doubtful whether there was any synagogue at which services according to that time-honored tradition were still regularly held.” (C.Roth, “The Liturgy of Avignon and the Comtat Venaissin,” Journal of Jewish Bibliography VII (1939), p.104). See also EJ, Vol. II, cols.475-6.

Of special interest are prayers for the local Carpentras “Purim” commemorating miraculous events that occurred in that community on the 9th Nissan 1681. See Vol. I, pp. 139-44.


Philadelphia, Jewish Publication Society: 1944. $400-600

This Prayer-book was issued for French-Jewish soldiers fighting alongside American troops for the liberation of France.

115 (GERMANY). GIKATILLA, JOSEPH. Sha’arei Orah [an exposition of Kabbalistic symbolism and the designations of the Sephiroth]. With Commentary of Matathias Delacrut. Third Edition, FIRST EDITION of commentary. Title within garlanded architectural columns. First word of text within decorative surround. ff. 115 of (116), lacking final leaf with printer’s mark (see Mehman 1058). f. 113 bound out of sequence between. ff. 36-37. Title laid down with small loss to frame, browned throughout. Next to last leaf has suffered a tear, one further leaf remargined. Contemporary blind-tooled calf, rebacked, rubbed. 4to. [Vinograd, Cracow 225; Mehman 1058].

Cracow, Isaac ben Aaron Prostitz: (1600). $600-900

An important introduction to the arcane wisdom of Kabbalah. Sha’arei Orah, has been a first-rate guide to the systematic presentation of the “Sephiroth,” or Divine Emanations, and their code names. The author, the early Spanish Kabbalist Joseph ben Abraham Gikatilla (Chiquatilla) (1248-c.1325) was a disciple of the founder of the school of “Prophetic Kabbalah,” Abraham Abulafia.


Berlin, George Jacob Decker: 1780 and 1785. $700-900

Two Edicts concerning Jewish trade in Berlin.


(Berlin, 1801). $400-600

Preparatory Edict in relation to the Emancipation Bill for Jews of Prussia, 1812.


Berlin, Georg Decker: 1812 and 1813. $1000-1500

EMANCIPATION OF PRUSSIAN JEWRY.

Regulations granting civil rights to Jewish residents of Prussia, although with the exclusion of maintaining judicial and administrative offices. An additional directive (p.17) stipulates that Jews must adopt family surnames.

Jena, Litteris Mullerianis: 1730. $200-300


Berlin, Otto Gröner: 1938. $100-150

This scarce facsimile edition of the Scroll of Lamentations, published by the Jewish Community of Berlin (Jüdische Gemeinde zu Berlin), gave symbolic expression to the grave persecutions besetting the community slated for destruction according to Nazi fiat.


Rome, Izak Deltash, Antonio Baldo & Samuel Sarfati: 1545-46. $1000-1500

Only seventy-seven responsa from this great commentator on Alfasi’s code are extant, and, similar to most compendiums of responsa, reflect the Jewish life of the period, especially the economic difficulties of the Jewish Community of Barcelona during the second half of the 14th-century.

Unlike Venice, only occasional and short-lived Hebrew printing presses arose in Rome; sporadic bursts of activity were marred by assaults of ecclesiastical intolerance. The Eternal City of Rome produced just eighteen Hebrew books throughout the entire 16th-century. Antonio Baldo was granted leave to print Hebrew books in Rome by the Papal Vicar in 1546 and the present Responsa of R. Nissim Gerondi was his first endeavor. His Jewish partner, Solomon ben Isaac of Lisbon assisted by Samuel Sarfati did the work of editing, proofing and marketing the books. The press issued just five books in the two years it was operative. For a chronicle of Hebrew printing in Rome see: D. Amram, the Makers of Hebrew Books in Italy (1909) pp. 235-51.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE LEFT]


Vienna, 1879. $120-180

An ingenious poetic rendering of Megilath Esther as alluded to in the five letters of the Hebrew word “Megillah,” read both forwards and backwards. Text based upon a manuscript penned by Moses Chaim Luzzatto’s (Rambcha”l) prime disciple R. Yekuthiel Gordon, the medical physician of the Lithuanian town of Brisk. See JE, Vol. VII, p. 92.


Venice, Giovanni di Gara: 1605. $800-1200

[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM LEFT]
Lot 124

GERONDI, JONAH. Sha’arei Teshuva [Gates of Repentance]. FIRST EDITION. Bound with:

* Hai ben Sherira Gaon. Musar Haskel BeMelitzah [Moral Lessons in Rhyme]. FIRST EDITION.


Together, three works (as issued) and printed without a title page. A clean copy with good margins. ff. (1 blank), 45. Previous owner’s marks, trace stained, corners rounded with few paper repairs. Modern calf, 8vo. [Vinograd, Fano 9; Mehlman 973].

Fano, Gershon Soncino: (1505). $20,000-25,000

RARE FIRST EDITION OF SHA’AREI TESHUVAH - A CLASSIC ETHICAL TREATISE.

This highly significant treatise on repentance by Rabbeinu Yonah (c.1200-1263) was the earliest work of ethical literature. It is divided into four portals: The first is devoted to a definition of repentance; the second to a description of the various ways by which a man should arouse himself to penitence; the third, a classification of the precepts and the punishments meted out for their transgression; and the fourth, a discussion of the conditions of forgiveness. See A.T. Shrock, Rabbi Jonah ben Abraham of Gerona: His Life and Ethical Works (1948), pp. 95-105.


[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE]

Venice, Marco Antonio Guistiniani: 1545. $1500-2500

* The First Hagadah Printed in Venice

Abrabanel brought to his commentary to the Hagadah the same style that made famous his commentary to the Torah, a richly conceptual approach.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE LEFT]

126 (HAGADAH). Hagadah. Commentary by Abrabanel and the printer, Jacob Marcaria. With laws and customs of both Sephardim and Ashkenazim. FIRST AND ONLY EDITION of commentary by Jacob Marcaria. ff. (34). Previous owners’ marks on the title, a handsome copy with only one slight marginal repair. Modern elegant tooled morocco within slip-case. Folio. [Yudlov 22; Yaari 19; Yerushalmi pl. 27].

Riva di Trento, Jacob Marcaria: 1561. $5000-7000

* A fine crisp copy of a rare edition. The only Hagadah published in Riva di Trento and the only Hagadah published in the year 1561.

Jacob Marcaria was a physician-scholar who printed a series of books covering all branches of Jewish scholarship, including Halacha and philosophic works. Marcaria added lucid and erudite prefaces of his own to all the Hebrew books he printed. This Hagadah contains not only a short preface by Marcaria, but also seven pages of commentary to the Seder. According to Yudlov, Marcaria’s additional commentary has never been republished.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM LEFT]


Venice, Daniel Zanetti: (1602-3). $1000-1500

[SEE ILLUSTRATION TOP LEFT FACING PAGE]


Bet Hashitah, Eretz-Israel, 1938. $300-500


Mantua, Rufinillo: 1557. $700-900
130 HALEVI, JUDAH. Sepher HaKuzari [philosophy]. With commentary Kol Yehudah by Judah Moscato. Third edition, FIRST EDITION with commentary. Title within garlanded architectural arch.


Venice, Giovanni di Gara: 1594. $1200-1800

R. Nathan Hakohen Adler of Frankfurt am-Main (1741-1800), referred to as “HeChasid ShebiKehunah” was the teacher of R. Moshe Schreiber, the Chatham Sopher. Known as HaNesher HaGadol, “The Great Eagle” (Adler is German for eagle), R. Nathan Adler’s impact upon German-Jewry lasted generations


[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE RIGHT]
EXCEEDINGLY RARE FIRST EDITION OF A FUNDAMENTALLY VITAL WORK OF JEWISH PHILOSOPHY BY ONE OF THE GREATEST HEBREW POETS AND PHILOSOPHERS OF THE MIDDLE AGES.

This celebrated philosophical exposition of the teachings of Judaism is one of just a very few book of Jewish philosophy written in the form of a Socratic dialogue. Halevi develops a philosophy of history in an attempt to show the insufficiency of theological conclusions arrived at by rationalistic means. His underlying principle is that God cannot be found or conceived by reason, God is to be conceived by intuition. It is this intuition (“Inyan Eloki”) which may bring one to the highest spiritual levels. The work has a polemical dimension as well and discusses the perceived inadequacies of Christian and Islamic theology and the superiority of Judaism. See: M. Waxman, Vol. I pp. 333-39.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE]
132 **HAPARCHI, ESTORI**. Kaphtor V'Pherach [on the geography and realia of Erez Israel]. **FIRST EDITION**. Printers device on title (Yaari, 14). Extensive polyglot scholarly marginalia in Hebrew, Arabic and European languages. ff. (182). Title laid down, several leaves with outer corners neatly repaired, few stains. Modern morocco, with slip-case. 4to. [Vinograd, Venice 361; Mehlman 772; not in Adams].

Venice, Meir Parenzo: (1549?). $800-1200

Estori ben Moses HaParchi (1280-1366) was the first topographer of Eretz Israel. Although he was born in Provence, the family hailed from the Andalusian town of Florenza, hence the family name “HaParchi,” a Hebrew translation of the Spanish “flor” (flower). The name “Estori” is a corruption of the title “Ish Tori” (Man of Touraine, France).

Kaphtor V’Pherach is an encyclopedia on all things related to Eretz Israel. It presents opinions and decisions on the agricultural laws, such as tithes (terumah and ma’aser), the Sabbatical year (Shemitah) and Jubilee year (Yovel). The Author delineates the borders of Eretz Israel as presented in the Bible and identifies the areas occupied by each Tribe. He describes Jerusalem and identifies Biblical and Talmudic sites. He also provides information on the differing religions and sects settled in Eretz Isael at the time. According to Zinberg; “Parchi’s work is a genuine treasure trove for the study of Palestine. He presents highly important information on the flora of the land, on measures and weights, on coins from various periods and on numerous matters connected with archaeology.” See I. Zinberg, A History of Jewish Literature, Vol. III, pp.152-3; and M. Waxman, A History of Jewish Literature, Vol. II, pp. 490-1.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION RIGHT]

133 (HEBRAICA). Group of Rabbinic works; c. 17 volumes (most 16th-century). Short-title list available upon request. Ex-library. Variously worn and incomplete. Variously bound. Sold not subject to return.

$2000-3000


Berlin, Soncino-Gesellschaft: 1932. $400-600

As the Nazis closed to Germany’s Jews all sources of livelihood, all Jewish publishing houses were forcefully shutted. Those books not seized by the Gestapo, were placed under the ownership of the “Jüdischen Kulturband.”

The present catalogue lists all those books held by the newly-formed organization and now offered for sale. A contemporaneous newspaper article reporting of this (the Jüdisches Nachrichtenblatt - copy provided in the lot), dramatically notes “though many of us will soon travel to distant lands, this cannot and must not be an obstacle for a Jew to acquire Jewish books...”.


Kovno, 1938. $100-150

Most of these books were issued by the Vaad Hatzalah Rescue Committee for the benefit of the Jewish Displaced Persons in Europe (She’erith Hapleitah), in Munich, Ferrenwald, Landsberg and other camps.
138 (HOLOCAUST). Palastina im Bild. 53 photographic plates, illustrating scenes of the new Jewish developments in urban and rural Palestine, with a further 5 text plates. Each of the plates are ink-stamped: “Zentralbuecherie, Theresienstadt.” Loose as issued in original pictorial portfolio, expertly repaired. 4to.

Vienna, Juedische Zeitung: n.d. $300-500

- The historic irony is heart-wrenching, wherein these images would have been viewed by Jews imprisoned by the Nazis in the Terezin concentration- (“show”) camp, and no doubt longing to flee to the Jewish homeland pictured - which of course they were destined never to see.


Sabbioneta, Tobias Fox: 1554. $800-1200

- Shem Tov ben Isaac ibn Shaprut of Tudela was a 14th-century Spanish philosopher, physician, and polemicist. He has been confused with Shem Tov ben Isaac of Tortosa who lived in the 12th-century. According to Di Castro (Biblioteca Espanola, I, no. 231), the latter was indeed the author of Pardes Rimonim.

140 IBN MACHIR, MOSES. Seder Hayom [kabbalistic commentary to the prayers, and the Book of Ecclesiastes]. FIRST EDITION. Title within architectural arch. Jf. 120. Marginal repair to title and some leaves, stained, closely shaved. Modern calf. 4to. [Vinograd, Venice 880; not in Adams].

Venice, Daniel Zanetti: 1599. $300-500

141 IBN SHAPRUT, SHEM-TOV. Pardes Rimonim [explanation to Aggadah]. FIRST EDITION. Title within floral border. Printer’s device (Yaari no. 21) at end. Jf. 51, (1). Slight staining, previous owner’s signatures on title, some marginalia in an Italian hand. Elaborately tooled modern morocco with matching slip-case. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Sabbioneta 23; Mehlman 1185].

Sabbioneta, Tobias Fox: 1554. $800-1200

- Shem Tov ben Isaac ibn Shaprut of Tudela was a 14th-century Spanish philosopher, physician, and polemicist. He has been confused with Shem Tov ben Isaac of Tortosa who lived in the 12th-century. According to Di Castro (Biblioteca Espanola, I, no. 231), the latter was indeed the author of Pardes Rimonim.

142 IBN YACHYA, JOSEPH. Pirush Chamesh Megilloth [commentary to the Five Scrolls, Psalms, Proverbs, Job, Daniel, Ezra & Nachamiah and Chronicles]. FIRST EDITION. Initial word of each chapter within decorative woodcut frame. Previous owner’s colorful handpainted cartouche with birds and floral patterns laid down on front flyleaf. Lengthy manuscript note in an Italian hand on final flyleaf, previous owners’ signatures in various Ashkenazic and Italian hands (one dated 1604) on title-page, previous owners’ bookplate on flyleaf. Signed by censors on title dated 1567 and 1589, some controversial passages censored (especially the anti-Christological portions of Daniel, f.112b.) Jf. 40, 121 (ie. 122). Some staining, wormhole along upper corner of final few leaves, small hole on penultimate leaf affecting a few words, final page laid down. Later boards, rubbed. Folio. [Vinograd, Bologna 11; Adams I-337].


- Contains fascinating conjecture concerning the return of the Jews to the Land of Israel by the year 5700 (i.e. 1940) (viz. Book of Daniel, f.110a-110b).

Joseph ben David ibn Yachya (1494-1534), a disciple of Judah Mintz in Padua, took sharp exception to Maimonides’ rationalist philosophy and universalism, aligning himself with Judah Halevi’s doctrine of the chosenness of the Jewish People as expounded in the Kuzari. Thus, it is little wonder that Church censors found ibn Yachya’s works to be pernicious. Joseph’s son, Gedalia ibn Yachya, author of Shalshelet HaKabbalah, a classic of Jewish historiography, relates that after his father’s passing, Church censors burnt the deceased’s unpublished manuscripts.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION LEFT]


Frankfurt a/Main, Raben, Feyrabend & Erben: 1563. $1000-1500


Venice, Giustinianini-Adelkind: 1545. $500-700
37


Dublin, Oct. 25, 1829. $800-1000

★ On p. ii is this curious Certificate written by the translator: “I certify that during the time I was translating and transcribing this Prayerbook for the use of the Christian Israelites that lest they should deem it an offence to use a book of prayer written by a Gentile, I abstained from eating anything forbidden by the Law of Moses, nor did I use any pens but new ones, that had not been used in any other writing.”

Before the exchange of populations between Greece and Turkey in the 1920s, Smyrna (Izmir) was home to a large and influential Greek Orthodox population. The inclusion of Greek in this prayerbook is rather obvious: It was the fervent hope of the missionaries that Smyrniote Jews, once converted to Christianity, would be absorbed into the local Greek population.


Constantinople, Eliezer Soncino: 1546. $2000-3000

★ One of the leading scholars of his day, R. Isaac ben Shesheth was a disciple of R. Nissim Gerondi and a colleague of Don Hasdai Crescas. His Teshuvot Harav contains 518 responsa, dealing with all phases of Halachic law and is particularly important for the social history of the Jews of 14th-century Spain and North Africa.

147 ISAAC BEN SOLOMON HAKOHEN. Sepher Iyov im Peirush [commentary to Book of Job with text]. FIRST EDITION. Title within typographic border. ff. 146. Signatures and inscriptions of previous owners in Italian hands on the title, including Shimshon Chaim Trani, Daniel di Castillo and others, according to one inscription the writer apparently acquired the book from the “hands of the author.” Some staining and slight marginal worming, two leaves apparently inserted from a shorter copy. Later half-calf. 4to. [Vinograd, Const. 185; Yaari, Const. 139 (this copy variant B); not in Adams].

Constantinople, Eliezer Soncino: 1545. $1500-2000

★ In his introduction, the author notes he followed the methodology of The Me’iri (R. Menahem Me’iri of Perpignan) (1249-1316). Isaac HaKohen’s work is an invaluable reference, for unlike Meiri’s commentaries to Proverbs and Psalms, his commentary to the Book of Job did not survive the passage of time.


[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE RIGHT]


Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1524. $600-900

★ Sympathetic to the movement to abolish capital punishment in Italy, Halevi shows how Jewish Law, though indeed providing for capital punishment, was so demanding in terms of testimony, that on the practical level, capital punishment was almost never administered.


Padua, Cescini: 1877. $150-200


Venice, Giovanni Dei Farri: 1544. $500-700

Augsburg, Chaim bar David, Yoseph bar Yakar, Yitzchak bar Chaim: 1540. $15,000-20,000

* JACOB BEN ASHER’S EUR. A RARE AND IMPORTANT GERMAN EDITION

A fundamental Rabbinic treatise embracing all the laws and customs incumbent both on the individual and the Community as a whole. Its over-riding authority has been recognised and accepted by Jewish scholars for generations.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE]
152 JACOB BEN ASHER. Arba'ah Turim. PRINTED ON BLUE PAPER. ff. 6, 9-53, (2), 54-80, 1-66, 1-42, 1-104 (mispaginated but complete). Lower portions of first thirty leaves repaired with different blue paper affecting text, plus other repairs on later leaves, some worming, trimmed. Morocco-backed marbled boards. Folio. [Vinograd, Riva di Trento 18; Adams 15].

Riva di Trento, Jacob Marcaria: 1560. $10,000-15,000

• DELUXE COPY PRINTED ENTIRELY ON BLUE PAPER.

This copy with the rare two leaves containing calculations pertaining to the calendar inserted between f. 53-54.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE]


Sabbioneta, Tobias Foa: 1559. $1000-1500

• Opening paste-down with inscription in English: “Rec’d June 25, 1805 (Gift of Mrs. Jacob Levie, New York).”


Venice, Giovanni di Gara: 1565. $500-700


Venice, Giovanni Griffio: 1566. $500-700


Venice, Giovanni Griffio: 1567. $500-700


Venice, Giovanni di Gara: 1574. $500-700


Venice, Juan Bragadin for Giovanni di Gara: 1595. $500-700

Venice, Asher Parenzo for Giovanni di Gara: 1590. $400-600

- R. Samuel Jaffe (d. late 16th century), was spiritual leader of the Aschkenazi community of Constantinople. Jaffe is famous for his commentaries to the Midrash Rabbah: Yefeh To’ar and Yefeh Einayim. According to the introduction to Yefeh Mareh, the author composed the commentary to the aggadoth in the Jerusalem Talmud because they oftentimes overlap the aggadoth in Midrash Rabbah, in doing so, Jaffe trod vigin soil. As he points out in his introduction, the only previous attempt to unpack these treasures of the Jerusalem Talmud was the minimal effort by the author of Ein Yaakov, R. Jacob ibn Habib. See EJ, Vol. IX, col. 1266.


Venice, D. Adelkind: 1549. $1000-1500

- Commentary on philosophical terms and concepts expounded by Moses Maimonides in his Moreh Nevuchim. The author states in the preface: “The Spirit of Grace (Ruach Chen) emanating from the Moreh Nevuchim has caused me to explore and unmask its closed gates.”

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE]

**161 JUDAH THE CHASSID.** Sepher HaChassidim [pietism]. FIRST EDITION. Few passages censored. ff. (27), (I),121(with the rare final blank). Upper corner of title-page removed, modestly stained in places. Modern calf, opening hinge split. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Bologna 10; Adams J-398].

Bologna, Silk Weaver’s Guild: 1538. $2000-3000

- Many of the passages in Sepher HaChassidim are homiletic and exegetic, explaining the philosophical or mystical meanings of Biblical verses and Talmudic sayings, nonetheless, it is primarily a masterwork of ethical instruction: Enjoining how to resist temptation and avoid sin; how to dress, speak, pray and work; how to choose a wife and select companions; how to harmonise the necessities of existence with the requirements of religious life and many other subjects. No other Hebrew work of ethics devotes such close attention to detail, rendering it an important historical source for the study of everyday Jewish life in medieval Germany. This first edition contains material not included in later editions.


Venice, Giovanni di Farri: 1544. $600-900

- Once thought to be an actual eyewitness report of events during the Second Temple era, the extensive research of the late Prof. David Flusser has proved that Yosippon, composed by “Joseph ben Gorion” (an apochryphal figure, not be confused with the authentic Josephus Flavius, a true denizen of the Second Temple era), was written in Southern Italy in the year 953 C.E. See EJ, Vol. X, cols. 296-298.

Di Farri (and Brother) were a well known firm of printers in Venice. In 1544 they hired Cornelio Adelkind from the employ of Daniel Bomberg, whereupon he printed some 14 Hebrew books for his new Master. However the Hebrew publishing venture ended its career in the same year in which it commenced. See Amram pp. 199-202.


Geneva, P. de la Rouvière: 1611. $300-500

**164 (JUDAICA).** Group of German, Latin, English and Hebrew works; c. 19 volumes. Short-title list available upon request. Ex-library. Variously worn, few incomplete. Variously bound. Sold not subject to return.

17th-19th Centuries. $1000-2000
Lot 165

An Illustrated and Early Hebrew Text on Kabbalah
Lot 165 (KABBALAH). ANONYMOUS. Sepher Yetzirah ["Book of Creation": cosmogony]. With traditional commentaries of Ramba’n and Ra’avad. FIRST EDITION. Title within woodcut architectural arch. Numerous spherical charts and Kabbalistic diagrams.

Usually there appears at the end of the volume an illustrated leaf containing important diagrams. In our copy, these volvelles have been cut out and mounted on the appropriate leaves (ff.10v., 33r. and 77r.). It is almost unheard of to find a copy of Sepher Yetzirah with the volvelles mounted. Wide-margined copy, ff. 105. Ex-library with all volvelles(?). Some worming in top margins, otherwise, an unusually crisp copy. Contemporary vellum. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Mantua 86; not in Adams].

Mantua, Jacob Cohen of Gazolo: 1562. $7000-9000

**A FINE COPY OF THIS IMPORTANT TEXT, INCLUDING THE TANTALIZINGLY ELUSIVE VOLVELLES, HERE INSERTED IN THE APPROPRIATE PLACES.**

*SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE*
166 (KABBALAH). YAGEL, ABRAHAM. Moshi’a Chosim [“Savior of those who take refuge”]. Contains Seder Pitum HaKetoreth composed by the Kabbalist R. Jehoseph ibn Shruga of Argenta (see below). The final leaf contains a poem in honor of the book by the Author’s colleague Jochanan Judah ben Solomon Allatini. ff. 35. Light stains, wormholes professionally filled. Modern vellum. 12mo. [Vinograd, Venice 707; Haberman, di Gara 89].

Venice, Giovanni di Gara: 1587. $1500-2000

Moshi’a Chosim was the first published tract of Abraham Yagel (1553-1623). It is tract advising how to survive an outbreak of plague.

Yagel divides the perception of material Reality into three parts: Elementary, Heavenly and Intellectual. Advice is offered how to combat the potential of sickness on each level of Reality. On the physical level, Yagel recommends proper diet, clean water and fresh air. On the Kabbalistic level, he recommends the burning of incense in order to evoke mystical power. Finally, on the Divine level, one should plead for God’s mercy by way of prayer and fasting. See D. B. Ruderman, Kabbalah, Magic, and Science: The Cultural Universe of a Sixteenth-Century Jewish Physician (1988), pp. 15, 32-34.

R. Jehoseph ibn Shruga of Argenta (d.1508-1509) was the doyen of Italian kabbalists of his day. His son-in-law R. Joseph ben Chaim Ya’avetz (known as “HeChasid Ya’avetz”) (d.1507), author of a trilogy on matters of belief, is famous for his anti-philosophical stance. The Seder Pitum HaKetoreth, - an example of “practical kabbalah” (“kabbalah ma’asith”) - is the only work printed by this great kabbalist, the rest of his literary oeuvre remains in manuscript. See EJ, Vol. X, cols. 243-244.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE LEFT]
169 KIMCHI, DAVID. [RaDa”K]. Sepher HaShorashim [“Book of Roots”: Biblical Lexicon]. Second Edition. Text in square Hebrew typeface, Biblical references in sidebars in Rabbincic type. ff. (143). Corners rounded, opening eight and closing five leaves remargined affecting text, slight marginal wormholes, some staining. Modern blind-tooled morocco. Folio. [Vinograd, Naples 12; Goff 39; Goldstein 72; Offenberg 105; Steinschneider, p. 873, no. 4821, 43; Thes. A66; Wineman Cat. 39].

Naples, Azriel ben Joseph Aschkenazi Gunzenhauser: 1490. $20,000-30,000

COMPLETE COPY OF THE SEIPHER HASHORASHIM. THE MOST INFLUENTIAL LEXICOGRAPHICAL WORK FOR THE STUDY OF HEBREW LANGUAGE

The foundation of Hebrew grammar and lexicography were laid by Sa’adiah Gaon in the 10th century. The formation of Hebrew grammatical rules was essential to facilitate the study and understanding of the Bible. According to Joshua Bloch, the Sepher HaShorashim with its “very rich collection of lexicographic material...increased the knowledge of the Hebrew language. This (Kimchi) accomplished with...numerous new etymologies as well as...new comparisons with post-biblical Hebrew.” Its popularity is evident from the fact that two editions appeared in Naples within a period of five months. See EJ, X col. 1002

The Gunzenhausers, pioneers in Hebrew printing, went to Naples from Gunzhausen in Southern Germany. There they established a press, assembled a talented team of typsetters and proof-readers (including Samuel ben Meir Latif, the proofreader and editor of this edition) and between the years 1487-1492 produced in sum twelve books.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE]

Salonika, Gershom ben Moses Soncino: (1534). $3000-5000

One of Only Two Books Printed by Gershom Soncino in Salonika. The rhymed colophon, composed by Elizeer Todros, sings the praises of the printer Gershom ben Moshe of the House of Soncino. According to the colophon, Gershom Soncino, already much advanced in age, saw the necessity to provide readers with accurate editions of Kimchi’s works: first, the grammar, Michlolo (published by Soncino the previous year in Constantinople), and second, the lexicon, the present Shorashim.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE LEFT]


Isny, Paulus Fagius: 1542. $2000-3000

The grammarian and Biblical exegete R. David Kimchi (1160?-1235?), known in Latin as Maistre Petit, was a native of Narbonne. Kimchi, as his father Joseph before him, excelled as a polemicist and his commentary to Psalms devotes several passages to Christian-Jewish polemics. The Teshuvoth HaRaDa’K LeNotzrim ("Responses to the Christians"), published as an addendum in very few copies, is an extract of these passages from the commentary to Psalms. See Frank Talmage, Apples of Gold in Settings of Silver (Toronto, 1999), p. 213; see also D. Berger, The Jewish-Christian Debate in the High Middle Ages (1979).

[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM LEFT]


Venice, Cornelio Adelkind for Marco Antonio Giustiniani: 1548. $700-900

The authorship and date of the Halachoth Gedoloth have been the subject of much study and has given rise to conflicting views. Generally speaking, medieval Ashkenazic authorities tended to the view that the author of the work was R. Yehudai Gaon, while their Sephardic counterparts believed the author was R. Shimon Kayara. Modern scholarship inveighs with the latter view. In the introduction, there is an enumeration of the negative and positive commandments. Whereas Maimonides’ Sepher HaMitzvoth veered away from such a reckoning, Nachmanides in his glosses to the work of Maimonides, upheld the Halachoth Gedoloth viewpoint. See EJ, VII, cols.1167-70 (illustrated).

Colmar, C. Decker: 1863. **$200-300**

Rabbi Shlomo Zev Wolf Klein (1815-1868) was the Chief Rabbi of Colmar and spiritual leader of the Jews of Alsace-Lorraine. He was a close friend and colleague of R. Samson Raphael Hirsch and, like Hirsch, Klein was an avid defender of Orthodox Jewry against Reform inroads. These Pastoral Letters and discourses include holiday sermons, as well as inaugurations of various synagogues and other institutions.

For a biography of Klein and his disagreements with the reformist tendencies of the central Consistoire in Paris and the Consistoire in Colmar, plus a historical overview of the Jewish communities in Alsace-Lorraine and a review of Klein’s scholarly output, see the introduction by E. Katzman to the collected Hebrew works of Shlomo Zev Klein, in S. & N. Schischa, Az Amar Shlomo (2009) pp. 5-30 and L. Jung, Leo, Sages and Saints (1987) pp. 219-30.

174 **KOPPELMAN, JACOB.** Ohel Ya’acov [commentary to the philosophical and mathematical passages of Joseph Albo’s Sepher Ikrim]. **FIRST EDITION.** Title within a typographic border. Numerous geometric and astrological charts and diagrams; woodcut illustration of two gentlemen travelling in a boat on f. 32b. ff. 34. Stained and browned in places, tear on f. 27 and burn holes on final leaf not affecting text. Modern tooled calf. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Freiburg 6; Mehlman 1208; Prijs 142; Adams J-27].

(Freiburg), Israel Sifroni for Ambrosius Frobin: 1584. **$3000-5000**

Born in the Baden town of Freiburg-im-Breisgau, the Talmudic scholar Jacob ben Samuel Bunim Koppelman, was distinguished for his broad knowledge of secular sciences. Indeed, on the title page of this work he is described as; “the encyclopaedic scholar and divine philosopher.” A child prodigy, and student of Mordechai Jaffe (author of the Levushim), Koppelman studied mathematics and astrology alongside intense occupation with the traditional Jewish course of study.

The Hebrew press at Freiburg came into existence as a result of the difficulties entailed with Hebrew printing in the Swiss border town of Basle. During the two years of its operation, Freiburg produced just seven Hebrew books. See also Lot 217.


Venice, Antonio Calioni: 1657. **$1000-1500**

R. Samuel Laniado (d. 1605), a celebrated sage of Aleppo, Syria, was known as the Baal HaKelim, after his rabbinic compositions all of whose titles commence with the word “Kli” (Kli Chemdah; Kli Yakar and Kli Paz). See D. Sutton, Aleppo: City of Scholars (2005) p. 2

Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1547. **$800-1200**

In this voluminous commentary to the Pentateuch, the Author initially examines the literal meaning of the text before expounding upon philosophical and moral maxims. Gersonides (1288-1344), lived in Provence and represents the Rationalist School within medieval Bible exegesis: He provided important contributions in such diverse fields as philosophy, mathematics, and astronomy. It is known that Gersonides was an eminent halachist, however the bulk of his halachic writings have been lost. See D. Horowitz, “Ralbag’s View of a Central Pragmatic Ethical Characteristic of Abraham,” in: Hazon Nahum, Studies Presented to Norman Lamm (1997), pp. 265-309.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE LEFT]

177 **LEVITA, ELIJAH BACHUR.** *Pirkéi Eliyah u* [“The Chapters of Elijah”- grammatical essays]. **FIRST EDITION.** Title within historiated border. ff. 19 (lacking final blank). Title remargined with minimal loss to border, slight marginal repair to following three leaves. Modern tooled calf with matching slip-case. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd Pesaro 52; Mehlman 1236].

Italy (Pesaro), (Gershom Soncino): 1520. **$4000-6000**

RARE. Collected essays by the celebrated grammarian focusing upon phonetics, particles, gender pronouns and prosody. The first part, Perek Shira, presents poetic examples of the grammatical lessons.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM LEFT]
178 **LEVITA, ELIJAH BACHUR.** Sepher Tuv Ta'am [on cantillation points and grammatical accents]. **FIRST EDITION.** Lengthy two page kabbalistic note in a Sephardic hand written on recto and verso of title. pp. 35. Few stains, small tear on final leaf. Modern blind-tooled calf. 8vo. [Vinograd, Venice 155; Mehlman 1234].

Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1538. **$1000-1500**

лот 182

* Levita put forth the theory that the Torah’s cantillation points (Trop) were not Sinaitic but rather post-Talmudic in origin. This novel idea, which contradicted that stated in the Talmud (see TB Nedarim 37b and commentaries) became the subject of much controversy. See EJ, Vol. XI, col. 134. This work proved to be so popular that it was immediately republished in Basle, 1539.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM RIGHT FACING PAGE]

179 **LEVITA, ELIJAH BACHUR.** Sepher Meturgamon - Lexicon Chaldaicum. **FIRST EDITION.** With the Author’s introduction in Hebrew and Latin (usually lacking). Woodcut device by Fagius on last leaf. Scattered marginalia throughout. ff. (6), 164, (2), (6 additional introduction). Some foxing. paper repairs to outer corners of final two leaves affecting few words. Contemporary blind-tooled vellum, rebound, new endpapers. Folio. [Vinograd, Isny 6].

Isny, P. Fagius: 1541. **$500-700**

лот 181

* A dictionary of the Aramaic words found in the Targumim: Jonathan, Onkelos and Jerusalem.


Isny, Paulus Fagius: 1541. **$500-700**

лот 180

* This work was printed simultaneously in two issues, one entirely in Hebrew and the present, Hebrew-Latin issue. This copy contains the rare page (151) discussing Christological issues that was excised from most all copies. See Heller, The Sixteenth Century Hebrew Book, Vol. 1, p. 261.


Isny, Paulus Fagius: 1542. **$1500-2500**

лот 181

* Grace After Meals for “Messianic Jews.” According to a note written by Mehlman in the JNUL copy, “but one other copy is known to exist”.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE RIGHT]


Venice, Giovanni di Gara: 1603. **$1500-2000**

лот 182

* Text of Birkath HaMazon corrected according to text of R. Shabbthai of Przemysl. With commentary to Birkath HaMazon by R. Nathan Spira, and commentary to Zemiroth by R. Solomon Luria.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM RIGHT]
183 (LITURGY). Selichoth mikol HaShanah [penitential prayers for the whole year]. According to Ashkenazi rite. Few decorative frames. ff. 131(i.e. 130), (ff. 117-120 twice duplicated ), (2, index). Few leaves neatly remargined, stains in places, marginalia on f.18b, f. 113 repaired affecting a few letters which are supplied in a neat square hand, censored in places, censors' signatures on final leaf, older previous owner's signature on title, crossed out, few leaves supplied from another copy. Modern calf. Sm.4to. [Vinograd, Venice 357; Mehlman 437; Habermann, Adelkind 213].

Venice, Cornelio Adelkind for Daniel Bomberg: 1548. $800-1200


Berlin, Jablonsky: 1700. $1200-1800


Venice, Bragadin: 1711. $800-1200

186 LöW, JUdAH ben BEZALEL. (MaHaRa”L of Prague). Chibur Be’er Ha’Golah [commentary to selected Aggadoth]. FIRST EDITION. Title within historiated woodcut border, geometrical astronomical diagramon f. 37b. Signatures of Yehoshua Kolon and Mordechai Chaim Todros on f.2, marginal note on f. 38a identifying the author’s target of literary attack (see below). ff. 46. Browned, slight staining, marginal paper repair to title. Modern morocco. Folio. [Vinograd, Prague 91; Adams J-410].

Prague, n.p.: 1598. $1000-1500

* The famed MaHaRa”L of Prague was one of the most original thinkers of Jewish philosophy. Chibur Be’er Ha’Golah includes a critical response to Azariah de Rossi’s Me’or Einayim (see Lot 97).


[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE LEFT]

1900-1500


Venice, Giovanni di Gara: 1593. $500-700


190 **MANOACH HENDIL BEN SHEMARYA.** Chochmath Mano‘ach [glosses to the Talmud]. *First Edition.* Published by the Author’s son. Title within four-part border. Large woodcut of King David with celestial figure on final page; numerous woodcut diagrams throughout text. ff.147. Lightly browned, trimmed, f. 146 slightly cropped, previous owners’ signatures. Contemporary tooled vellum, rubbed. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Prague 214; Mehlman 843].

Prague, Jacob ben Gershom Bak: 1612. $600-900

Includes annotations and corrections to all of the Talmud, and particularly to the Cracow edition of 1602-5. See C.B. Friedberg, History of Hebrew Typography in Poland (1932) pp. 21. Many of these glosses were incorporated into the standard Vilna Shas.

(See Illustration Above Right)

191 **MEIR BEN BARUCH.** (MaHaRa”M of Rothenburg). *Birkoth MaHaRa”M* [on the laws of benedictions]. *First Edition.* The Moses Gaster-Israel Mehlman Copy. ff. 18. Lightly stained, rehinged, slight marginal worming. Modern boards. 12mo. [Vinograd, Riva di Trento 5].

Riva di Trento, Jacob Marcaria the Physician: 1558. $3000-5000

This rare petite volume was widely quoted by later Codifiers. It’s scarcity is evident from the fact that Prof. Louis Ginzberg in his description of the Mahra”m’s literary activity (see JE) states that his work on the Blessings cited by his pupils, “is probably identical with the Birkoth Mahara”m issued in Riva di Trento.” Ginzberg evidently was unable to locate a copy in order to compare it with the citations he refers to.

Meir of Rothenburg (c. 1215-1293), was one of the noteworthy Tosafists of Rashi’s commentary on the Talmud and one of the great rabbis of the Middle Ages. He was born in Worms, and studied in Germany and France, where he wrote a eulogy after witnessing the burning of 24 cartloads of Talmudic manuscripts in Paris. He taught in several German communities, but is primarily associated with Rothenburg where he established a Yeshiva. In 1286, King Rudolf I declared the Jews to be servi camerac ("serfs of the treasury"), which had the effect of negating their political freedoms. Subsequently R. Meir left Germany with his family and followers, but was arrested in Lombardy and imprisoned in Alsace. Tradition has it that a large ransom was raised to release him, but R. Meir forbade such a maneuver for fear of encouraging the kidnapping of other rabbis. Thus R. Meir remained incarcerated and eventually died in prison. Ultimately a ransom was paid for release of his body, which was received for burial 14 years later.

(See Illustration Bottom Right)

192 **MENACHEM IBN ZERACH.** Tzaidah LaDerech [code of laws]. Second edition. Printer’s device on title (Yaari no. 26). Two folding Calendars at end (neatly taped). ff.261,(1). Some staining, marginal repair on f.17, censor’s signature on title. Recent half-vellum Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Sabbioneta 55; Adams M-1244].

Sabbioneta, Vicenzo Conti: 1567. $600-900

Rabbi-physician Menachem ibn Zerach was born in Estella in the northern province of Navarre, Spain to a family that fled France at the time of the Expulsion of the Jews in 1306. With the death of Charles IV, the French king who ruled over Navarre in 1328, anti-Jewish riots erupted. The author’s parents and four younger brothers perished although ibn Zerach himself escaped, eventually settling in Toledo, where he studied under Rabbi Judah, son of Rabbi Asher (RO”SH).

Tzeidah LaDerech carries an important introduction with valuable historical material concerning the Jews of France, Spain and Germany and the author presents much information relating to variations of customs among communities. Additional topics covered include medicine, astrology, pedagogy and eschatology. See EJ, XI cols.1303-4.


Berlin, Ch. F. Voss: 1778. $400-600

Written under the supervision of Chief Rabbi Hirschel Lewin of Berlin (previously Rabbi of the Great and Hambo Synagogues in London, 1758-70), this is an account of Jewish commercial and matrimonial law as they relate to property rights. The study was requested by the Prussian Government as a guide to Christian judges when arbitrating such cases between Jews. “Mendelssohn’s role in [the book’s] production was tantamount to that of author” see A. Altmann, Moses Mendelssohn: A Biographical Study (1973) p. 470.
194 (MIDRASH). Midrash Chamesh Megiloth [Aggadic compilation on the Five Scrolls]. FIRST EDITION. With rare half-title. Title and half-title within four-piece white-on-black woodcut border of Renaissance ornament - a favorite of Soncino. Letters of opening words within white-on-black decorative vignettes. ff. (100). Slight staining in places. Previous owner’s signature on title, censors’ signatures on verso of penultimate recto and verso of final leaf, slight marginal repair on a few leaves. Generally a fine, clean copy. Modern tooled morocco. Folio. [Vinograd, Pesaro 48; St. Cat. Bodl. col. 3754 (copied from Wolf); Haberman, HaMadpisim Bnei Soncino no. 67 (without seeing a copy, relying on Steinschneider)].

Pesaro, Gershom Soncino: 1519. $12,000-18,000

The collection of Aggadic material to the Five Scrolls are part of the Midrash Rabbah genus of Midrashic literature - denominated “large” (Rabbah) to distinguish it from the smaller collections on these Biblical books. The time of compilation of the Midrash Rabbah lasted many centuries, but the material itself is ancient. The predominance of the sayings, parables, interpretations of verses, stories and proverbs which comprise the Midrashic literature originates with the Palestinian sages although the wisdom of the Babylonian scholars is amply represented. Eichah Rabbah is the earliest of the group. It is prefaced by a long introduction consisting of 33 homilies to the initial verses of Lamentations. The dates of the remaining four works cannot be determined with accuracy though the consensus of scholarship places them earlier than the other Midrashim of the last four books of the Pentateuch.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE]

Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1545. $400-600


Venice, Cornelio Adelkind for Marco Antonio Giustiniani: 1545. $600-900

Attributed to Yose b. Chalaphta, the Seder Olam Raba was the first text to establish the era “from the Creation of the World” or, Anno Mundi. The Megilath Ta’anith is of Tannaitic origin and is particularly useful as a parallel to the historical accounts presented by Josephus. The Seder Olam Zuta probably dates to the early medieval period. Abraham Zacuto included large portions of it in his Sepher Yuchasin.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION RIGHT]

197 (MIDRASH). Midrash Tanchuma hanikra Yelamdeinu [Midrashic homilies to the Pentateuch]. Attributed to Tanchuma bar Abba. Second edition. ff. 98 (final leaf mispaginated “73” as in all copies). Marginal repair to title, previous owners signature and inscription on title in a contemporary, precise Ashkenazic hand (Aaron ben Yechiel), stamp of previous owner on final leaf (Chacham Yoseph ben David De-kahal Bachzecha), some staining, slight worming in places. Later half calf, rubbed. Folio. [Vinograd, Venice 243; Habermann, Bomberg 177].

Venice, D. Bomberg: 1545. $600-900

The Tanchuma-Yelamdeinu Midrashic cycle is one of the earliest collections of homilies wherein the Halacha is conjoined to the Agada. Commencing with questions of Halachic matter the discussion turns to Agadic and homiletic interpretation. The name given to the work refers to the numerous interpretations quoted in the name of Tanchuma, the son of Abba, a Palestinian Agadist who lived towards the end of the 4th-century. The second name, Yelamdeinu, arises from the fact that a large number of homilies open with the formula “Yelamdeinu Rabbeinu” (“May our master teach us.”).


Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1546. $300-500


Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1546. $500-700
Lot 200


Venice, Marco Antonio Giustiniani: 1546-7. $15,000-20,000

MOST UNCOMMON EDITION.

Practically all copies of Giustiniani’s Mishnah were destroyed by the Inquisition in 1553, pursuant to the Bull of Pope Paul IV that ordered all copies of the Talmud and related literature be consigned to flames. See M.J. Heller, The Printing of the Talmud (1992), pp. 217-28.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE]
201 (MISHNAH). With commentary by Moses Maimonides and Obadiah Bertinoro. Six parts bound in six volumes. Each part with own title-page within woodcut architectural border. Numerous woodcut text diagrams in Part V, including double-page plan of the Temple (tipped in at end from another copy), a detailed illustration of the Menorah (Candelabrum), Tractate Menachoth, £27r.), and Table and Showbread (ibid., £38r.).


Sabbioneta, Tobias Foa, 1559: and Mantua, Jacob Cohen of Gazolo: 1561-2. $3000-5000

* The first two Orders of this edition were printed by Tobias Foa in Sabbioneta; the last four Orders in Mantua by Jacob Cohen.

The Hebrew press at Sabbioneta escaped lightly from the storm of Papal condemnation of Hebrew books which was raging at the time in Venice and Rome. Indeed, the Sabbioneta Hebrew press flourished between the years 1551 and 1559, and Hebrew books never previously published - even those treating aspects of Christianity - were issued with considerable freedom. The decree of Pope Paul III in 1553 passed over the city without apparent effect - a tribute to the liberality and culture of the ruling prince of the province.

The Mantua volumes were the last books to be typeset by Jacob Cohen of Gazolo before he retired. He had served at the press of Foa in Sabbioneta and came to Mantua in 1556 where he established a reputation for splendid typographical work. See Amram, The Makers of Hebrew Books in Italy, pp. 288-293, 325.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE RIGHT]


Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1545. $800-1200


203 MIZRACHI, ELIJAH. Teshuvoth She’eloth [responsa]. FIRST EDITION. ff. 158 (of 160). Wanting, as all copies, ff. 109-110. Several leaves bound out of sequence. Marginal paper repairs to opening 4 leaves, dampstained, two loose leaves. Contemporary vellum, rubbed, gutter split. Sm. folio. [Vinograd, Const. 217 (records ff.158 complete); Mehlman 758 (likewise); Yaari, Const. 161; Adams M-1516].

Constantinople, Solomon ben Isaac Ya’abetz: 1560. $2000-3000

* Elijah Mizrachi (c.1450-1526) was one of the most outstanding Rabbinic authorities of the Ottoman Empire. His responsa are of great historic interest, written amidst the turbulence of the Spanish Inquisition and concerning the Jewish exiles who migrated to Turkey.

The cancelled leaves 109-10 (responsum 66) are extant in only two copies. They contain the author’s protestations and polemic with R. J. Algazi concerning his son’s alleged conversion to Islam.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM RIGHT]

Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1524-25. $30,000-40,000

A HANDSOME COPY OF AN EARLY UNCENSORED EDITION OF THE MISHNEH TORAH.

The first edition of the Mishneh Torah with Migdal Oz - together with the text for the entire work. The Migdal Oz by Shem Tov Gaon was previously published in the Constantinople edition, however only on the section of Sepher Ahavah. In his introduction, the editor elaborates his method of correcting the text. In certain cases he made no alterations, (even though he felt it was necessary), since he had in front of him five “sifrei Ramba"m” (i.e. manuscripts), all of which contained the same reading. The editor does however, present four examples of corrections made on his own initiative and the lengthy scholarly basis of his reasoning for doing so. This introduction has never been republished.

This copy contains the passage concerning the Messianic pretensions of Jesus in Hil. Melachim, end Chap. XI (f.763r.), subsequently censored, and restored only in recent editions of the Mishneh Torah.

Sabbionetta, Cornelio Adel-kind for Tobias Foa: 1553. $1500-2000

The Guide to the Perplexed, the final work of Moses Maimonides (1135-1204), had a troubled history, sparking centuries of Maimonidean controversies. Heavily influenced as it was by Greek - specifically Aristotelian philosophy, the work was thought by some to conflict with Judaic tradition. Tragically, and for different motivations, it was publicly burned by the Dominicans in Paris in 1232. It is said that R. Jonah Gerondi, one of those who agitated for the destruction of the text, later journeyed to Maimonides’ tomb in Eretz Israel to beg forgiveness. See: C. Roth, Jews in the Renaissance (1959), pp. 28-29, 236, 266; D. J. Silver, Maimonidean Criticism and the Maimonidean Controversy 1180-1240; and EJ, Vol. III, cols. 229-31.

206 MOSES BEN MAIMON (MAIMONIDES / RaMBa”M). (Moreh Nevuchim). The Guide to the Perplexed of Maimonides. Translated from the original and annotated by M. Friedlander. Three volumes. FIRST EDITION IN ENGLISH. Contains a scholarly introduction, discussion of translations in other languages, preface and biography of Maimonides, as well as many notes. Boards. 8vo.

London, Trubner & Co. 1885. $700-900

207 MOSES BEN NACHMAN (NACHMANIDES / RaMBa”N). Sha’ar HaGemul [on eschatology]. Third edition. Title within architectural arch with printer’s device of an armillary sphere resting on a scroll containing a verse from Psalm 130:5; repeated on last page. Extensive marginal notes throughout in an early Sephardic hand. ff. 26. Trimmed, stained in places. Modern calf. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Ferrara 45; Mehlman 1214].

Ferrara, Abraham ibn Usque: 1556. $2000-3000

Part of a larger work entitled Torath Ha’Adam, dealing with the laws of mourning, Sha’ar HaGemul, ("The Gate of Retribution") tackles the difficult issue of the Afterlife in which Nachmanides differs from Maimonides’ eschatological vision. Whereas for Maimonides the final state of man is a disembodied soul, in Nachmanides’ opinion it is precisely the rejoining of soul and body that is the ultimate state.

The final leaf of this work contains the famed historical letter penned by Nachmanides in Jerusalem to his son Nachman, describing the fearful living conditions in the Land of Israel following the invasion of the Tatar hordes in 1260. Nachmanides sums up the situation by saying: “The jist of the matter is, the holier the place, the more desolate...thus Jerusalem is the most desolate than all.”

[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM RIGHT]
Lot 208

208 MOSES OF COUCY. Sepher Mitzvoth Gadol (Sma”g) [“The Great Book of Commandments”: Enumeration of the 613 precepts]. Woodcut initials and incipit panels. Signatures of four censors on final page and censored in places. ff. 279. Complete (except for opening blank). Printed without a title page. Ex-library. Previous owners’ marks, small portion of final leaf repaired affecting a few words, minor marginal repair on f. 101, f. 278, few marginal wormholes, slight staining in places. Modern half calf. Folio. [Vinograd, Soncino 37; Goff 85; Thesaurus A-48; Goldstein 58; Offenberg 95; Steinschneider p.1797 no.6453.2; Wineman Cat. 28].

Soncino, Gershom ben Moses Soncino, 19th December, 1488. $40,000-60,000

According to I. Sonne (see Tiyulim...in: A. Marx Jubilee Volume (1950) pp. 209-235, the reason why the ‘trio’ - the Sema”g, together with the Tur and Maimonides’ Mishneh Torah, were the most popular Halachic works published during the incunable period - and indeed the first eighty years of Hebrew printing, was because they provided authoritative and comprehensive information for the various classes of the major streams of Spanish, French, German and Italian Jews. Although the Tur and the Rambha”n provided for the needs of the Sephardic and German Jews, the French and those of French origin in Northern Italy were not satisfied until they found their own French authority - R. Moses of Coucy. For detail concerning the author and his intentions regarding this work, see E. E. Urbach, Baalei Ha-Tosfot, pp. 384-95.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE AND FRONTISPIECE]
209 NATHAN BEN YECHIEL OF ROME. Sepher Ha’aruch [dictionary of the Talmud]. Third Edition. ff. 246. Trace stained, corner of title removed, generally, a clean copy. Recent boards. 4to. [Vinograd, Venice 148; Habermann, Bomberg 148; Adams N-60].

Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1531. $1500-2000

R. Nathan’s Aruch is “a manifestation not only of its author’s brilliance and deep acquaintance with sources, but also of his encyclopaedic knowledge. Indeed, in some instances it is the sole source for ancient traditions of Talmudic interpretation.” S. B. Linderman, Sefer Sarid Be’arachin (1972), introduction.

210 NATHAN BEN YECHIEL OF ROME. Aruch Hakatzur [abridged dictionary of the Talmud]. FIRST EDITION. Issued without a title-page. ff. 64. Extreme upper margin of first few leaves soiled not affecting text, some staining, scattered marginalia in an Italian hand, scholarly marginal note on f. 8a in a later Ashkenazi hand, censors’ signatures at end, though almost entirely uncesored. Modern calf. 4to. [Vinograd, Const. 33; Yaari, Const. 16; Mehlman 1245; Adams N-58].

Constantinople, Samuel ibn Nachmias: 1511. $5000-7000

Although often seen as a condensation of Nathan Ben Yecheil’s Aruch, this work in fact contains many words and expressions not interpreted in the original, lengthier version.

211 (NACHMANI, SHIMSHON CHAIM). Seder Bakashoth Lilmod Mishnah [prayers before and after the study of Mishna]. Composed for the Chevra Mishna of Modena, who took upon themselves the daily study of 18 chapters of the Mishnah. FIRST EDITION. ff. (1), 7. Modern calf. 16mo. [Vinograd, Mantua 333].

Mantua, Raphael Chaim d’Italia: 1726. $200-300


Venice, Giovanni di Gara: 1599-1600. $1000-1500

First appearance of Ya-h Ribon Olam (f.7r), one of the most popular Sabbath Zemiroth (table hymns), since set to innumerable melodies.

Israel Najara (1555?-1625?), rabbi of Gaza, was the first poet to compose and organize his piyutim according to the Near Eastern “maqam” style of musical composition. Najara’s compositions are distinguished by their deep religiosity, references to Jewish suffering, and yearning for redemption. Najara learned much from the great Jewish poets of the Spanish-Arabic period, yet also frequently employed original forms and themes. Despite the wide circulation of his poetry, particularly among Oriental communities, his occasional imitation of foreign styles and use of erotic terminology was attacked by Menachem di Lonzano and especially Chaim Vital who forbade the singing of Najara’s songs entirely. See I. Zinberg, The Jewish Center of Culture in the Ottoman Empire (1974), pp. 94-106; EJ, Vol. XII, cols. 798-9.


Leipzig, B. Elischer: 1909. $400-600

A practicing physician, Max Nordau (1849-1923) was, together with Theodor Herzl, co-founder of the World Zionist Organization. Nordau served as vice-president of the First through the Sixth Zionist Congresses and as president of the Seventh to Tenth Congresses. See EJ, Vol. XII, cols. 1211-14

Die Conventionellen Lugen was the first of a series of works by Nordau in which he analyzed the mental and moral pathology of modern civilization. See JE, Vol. IX, pp. 330-32; EJ, Vol. XII, cols. 1211-14.
214 **ORCHOTH TZADIKIM.** [ethics, according to the creed of the medieval Chasidei Ashkenaz]. Anonymous. **FIRST EDITION** under this title. Title within architectural pillars. Printers device on final leaf (Yaari, no. 40). Latin inscriptions on title, marginalia in a precise contemporay Ashkenazic hand citing sources and cross-references from the Zohar. ff. (58). Browned. Modern calf. 8vo. [Vinograd, Prague 41].

Prague, Mordechai ben Gershom Katz: 1580-81. **$1000-1500**

[Cherished ethical work seeking to instruct man how to train the forces of the soul in such a way that one’s actions tend toward the good and inculcate the fear of God. The work is divided into twenty-eight She’arim (portals or sections) elaborating on various specific moral qualities e.g. anger, envy, truth and falsehood, modesty, repentance, etc.


Paris, Robert Estienne: 1548. **$300-500**

[As announced in the publishers’ foreword, the Toldoth Aaron was prepared in order to serve as an addendum to Froben’s 1581 edition of the Meir Nathiv. However the printing took longer than expected and so the Toldoth Aaron was issued in Freiburg two years later. See Ziphroni’s cryptic colophon on the final leaf of the Toldoth Aaron. “I will announce in the future the reason for the delay in printing: Two Jews (one residing in Prague and one in Poland) should be ashamed and disgraced for causing our failure, may God pay them back for their actions.”]

216 (PERIODICAL). **JÜDISCHES FAMILIENBLATT.** Bi-weekly family-magazine. Seven years of issues bound in four volumes. Covers an exceptionally broad perspective of international Jewish news. Contemporary boards. Sm. folio.

Pressburg, C.F. Wigand: November,1926-April,1933. **$600-900**

217 **PESARO, AARON.** Toldoth Aaron [Biblical concordance to the Talmud]. **FIRST EDITION.** ff. (39, lacking final blank). Browned, some staining, slight marginal worming repaired in places, final two leaves slightly shorter (apparently inserted from a different copy). Modern calf. Tall folio. [Vinograd, Freiburg 5; Prijs, Basle 141; not in Adams].

Freiburg, Israel Ziphroni for Ambrosius Froben: 1583-84. **$3000-5000**

[As announced in the publishers’ foreword, the Toldoth Aaron was prepared in order to serve as an addendum to Froben’s 1581 edition of the Meir Nathiv. However the printing took longer than expected and so the Toldoth Aaron was issued in Freiburg two years later. See Ziphroni’s cryptic colophon on the final leaf of the Toldoth Aaron. “I will announce in the future the reason for the delay in printing: Two Jews (one residing in Prague and one in Poland) should be ashamed and disgraced for causing our failure, may God pay them back for their actions.”]

Riva di Trento, Jacob Marcaria: 1560. $700-900


Berlin, Chevrath Chinuch Ne’arim: 1788. $200-300

* The Author states that he wrote this commentary to Masecheth Kallah, since so very few commentaries exist to the Tractate at all, therefore he hoped the present work would encourage more scholars to study the original Tractate. Of interest, the author notes that it was the custom among the pious of Lithuania, to study and make a Siyum to Masecheth Kallah prior to every meal, thus demonstrating that the act of eating was not just to fill the stomach, but that every meal would become a Seudath Mitzvah.

220 PORTALEONE, ABRAHAM. Shiltei ha-Giborim [“Shields of the Mighty”]. FIRST EDITION. Four parts in one. Three divisional titles all within a decorative typographical border. ff. (12), 186. Few stains, stamps. Later boards, shaken. Folio. [Vinograd, Mantua 196].

Mantua, Vicenzo Gonzaga: 1612. $1000-1500

* An encyclopedic work on war, music, numismatics, weaponry, architecture - all discussed in order to elucidate the composition of the Temple in Jerusalem. “Portaleone’s treatment is so discursive as to make the work a compendium of all branches of science known in his day, in which all of the ten languages he knew were amply used.” EJ, Vol. XIII, cols. 908-9. See also Alessandro Guetta, “Avraham Portaleone: From Science to Mysticism” in Jewish Studies at the Turn of the Twentieth Century, II (1999); and Samuel S. Kottek, “Jews between Profane and Sacred Science in Renaissance Italy: The Case of Abraham Portaleone” in Religious Confessions and the Sciences in the Sixteenth Century (2001).

221 PORTO, ABRAHAM. Chavoth Yair [lexicon of abbreviations]. FIRST EDITION. Spanish inscription on the verso of title records that this copy, was purchased from Haham Mercado and donated by Pena Gabay and Mose Rodrigues to the Library of Bet El in the year 1691. ff. 40. Light stains, trimmed. Modern boards. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Venice 1180].

Venice, Bragadin: 1628. $400-600

222 RAPA, ABRAHAM MENACHEM HAKOHEN OF PORTO. Minchah Belelau [commentary on the Pentateuch]. FIRST EDITION. Title in typographical border. First word in each of the Five Books of Moses surrounded by a rich vignette. On f. 207v escutcheon of Rapa, consisting of a raven (“rappe” is the Middle High German word for raven), two hands extended in priestly benediction (symbol of the Kohen), and two mermaids. ff. (3), 208, (1). Title laid down, dampstained in places. Contemporary finely tooled calf over heavy wooden boards with clasps and hinges, recased. 4to. [Vinograd, Verona 3; Heller,The Sixteenth Century Hebrew Book, pp. 828-9].

Verona, Francesco dalle Donne: 1594. $800-1200
223 RECANATI, MENACHEM. Peirush al HaTorah al Derach Ha'Emeth-Sepher Recanati [commentary to the Pentateuch]. FIRST EDITION. Initial words of Leviticus and Numbers within woodcut borders. ff. (156) Complete with blanks. Slight staining in places, previous owner’s signatures on title, scattered marginalia, title repaired, trimmed. Recent calf. [Vinograd, Venice 85; Habermann, Bomberg 84; Mehlman 1113; Adams M-1243].

Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1523. $2000-3000

Recanati was the foremost Italian Kabbalist and Halachic authority of the 13th century. This commentary to the Pentateuch is the very first of its kind and is permeated with the early Kabbalists’ new conceptions. It is the first to quote the Zohar and the Bahir, from which a large number of citations together with their interpretations are provided. For a full appreciation of the importance of the author, see M. Idel, Menachem Recanati Hamekubal (1998) pp. 79-80 quoting Prof. Y. Ta-Shema concerning otherwise unknown scholars cited by Recanati.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE LEFT]


Hagenau, Thomas Anshelm: 1517. $5000-7000

A FINE COPY OF A CLASSIC OF CHRISTIAN KABBALAH

Born in Pforzheim, Baden in 1455, Johannes Reuchlin was one of the foremost figures of German humanism and the pioneer of Greek and Hebrew scholarship in Germany. He first turned to the study of Jewish literature in 1473 and his main interest was Kabbalah. Reuchlin sensed an affinity between the neo-Platonic elements in Kabbalistic teaching and the basic conceptions of the great German Platonic philosopher, Nicholas of Cusa, whom he deeply admired. It was no doubt Reuchlin’s devotion to his Kabbalistic studies that was the motivating factor behind his defence of Jewish literature against the apostate Johannes Pfefferkorn during the so called “Battle of the Books.”


[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM LEFT]


Warsaw, Isaac Goldman: 1877. $150-200

A SUMMARY OF THE RUSSIAN LAWS OF COMMERCE, FOR USE BY JEWS TURNING TO THE RUSSIAN CIVIL COURT. PREPARED FOR A NEW ERA WHEREBY JEWISH LITIGANTS WERE NO LONGER ABLE TO HAVE THEIR DISPUTES LITIGATED BY THE LOCAL RABBI, BUT HAD TO TURN TO THE SECULAR COURT SYSTEM.
226 SABA, ABRAHAM. Tzeror HaMor [“Bundle of Myrrh”: commentary to the Pentateuch]. Third edition. Title bearing printer’s device, with early signatures of members of the Oppenheim Family. ff. 165. Few stains. Later marbled boards. Sm. folio. [Vinograd, Venice 551].

Venice, Giorgio di Cavalli: 1567. $300-500

227 SAMEGAH, JOSEPH. Mikra’ei Kodesh [Kabbalistic exposition to the Festivals and precepts]. FIRST EDITION. Two parts in one. Printers’ device on title. (See Ya’ari, Hebrew Printers’ Marks 18). The Solomon of Dubno Copy, with his signature on the title-page. ff. 6, 116. Light stains, inscriptions on title. Modern blind-tooled calf 4to. [Vinograd, Venice 693; Habermann, di Gara 82; Adams S-225].

Venice, Asher Parenzo for Giovanni di Gara: 1586. $300-500

228 SAMSON BEN ISAAC OF CHINON. Peirush HaGet [treatise on the Bill of Divorce]. FIRST EDITION. Printed without a title page. On final page, numerous inscriptions of Church censors, including: “Revisto per mi Fra[te] Luigi da Bologna, 1601.” (See Popper, pl. IV, no. 1). ff. 25-27 (Baba Metzia) affecting some text, small hole on ff. 15-16 (of Baba Metzia) affecting a few letters, lower corner of final leaf repaired affecting some text, some staining. Modern calf. Folio. [Vinograd, Cracow 396].

Constantinople, (1515). $4000-6000

R. Samson ben Isaac of Chinon (14th-century), one of the last of the Tosaphist School of France, is most famous for his Sepher Kerithuth (Constantinople, 1515), a comprehensive exposition on Talmudic methodology. See EJ, vol. XIV, col. 779.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE RIGHT]

229 SCHOR, ABRAHAM CHAIM. Torath Chaim [novellae to Talmud Tractates Baba Kama, Baba Metzia and Baba Bathra]. FIRST EDITION. Title within historiated woodcut architectural border incorporating printer’s device. ff. 46, 45, 52. Opening six leaves remargined not affecting text, previous owners’ signatures and inscriptions on final leaf, stamp on title, paper repair on ff. 25-27 (Baba Metzia) affecting some text, small hole on ff. 15-16 (of Baba Metzia) affecting a few letters, lower corner of final leaf repaired affecting some text, some staining. Modern calf. Folio. [Vinograd, Lublin 154].

Lublin, Tzvi Jaffe: 1624. $3000-5000

The author’s Talmud novellae are appreciated for their original interpretations - oftentimes disagreeing with both Rashi and Tosphoth and generally following the school of thought propounded by Maimonides.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION MIDDLE RIGHT]

230 SCHOR, ABRAHAM CHAIM. Torath Chaim [novellae to Talmud Tractates Eiruvin, Sanhedrin, Shavuoth, Avodah Zara, Chulin and Pesachim]. FIRST EDITION of these Tractates. Title within historiated woodcut architectural border incorporating printer’s device. Scattered marginal notes in Ashkenazic hands (on ff. 38b, 59b, 65b). ff. 2, 163. Some staining, previous owner’s signature on title, final nine leaves remargined touching a few letters (final leaves apparently from another copy). Modern calf. Folio. [Vinograd Cracow 396].

Cracow, Menachem Nachum Meisels: 1634. $3000-5000

[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM RIGHT]


Venice, Cornelio Adelkind for J. de Farri: 1544. $700-900

Sepher HaYashar, probably written in the 13th century, was one of the most popular ethical works of the Middle Ages. It is often ascribed to the Tosaphist Jacob (Rabbeinu) Tam, as he authored an Halachic work under the same title. The style and language conform to the contemporary philosophies of the time with references to Aristotelian terms and concepts, yet some of the main ideas conflict with conventional philosophy to the extent that some scholars attributed the authorship to a kabbalist not wishing to reveal the full scope of his mystical beliefs. Others find similarities between the work and the ethical concepts of the Ashkenazic Hasidic (pietist) movement which peaked in the 13th century. As of yet, no critical edition of this work has been published and until the correct text is ascertained, the questions regarding it’s authorship and underlying philosophical thought are still in doubt. For a fuller discussion of the structure and contents of Sepher HaYashar, see M. Waxman, vol. II, pp. 276-8.

Mantua, Meir b. Ephraim of Padua and Jacob ben Naphtali Hakohen of Gazolo: 1558-60. **$10,000-15,000

FIRST EDITION OF THE BIBLE OF JEWISH MYSTICISM.

The most sacred and influential of all Kabbalistic works, the Zohar is the preeminent classic of world mystical literature, a quest for Divine unity and a search for insight into the mysteries of the Torah. A textually inferior but more esthetic reprint by Vincenzo Conti of Cremona immediately followed this Mantua edition, nonetheless, Kabbalists such as R. Moses Zacuto (Rama”z), doyen of Italian kabbalists, more highly esteemed the Mantua edition for its precision, and eventually, the pagination of the Mantua edition became the standard in all subsequent editions.

Vol. II of this copy contains numerous scholarly marginalia. One particularly interesting marginalium to Shemoth f.15v. reads: “I heard from reliable sources that in India there is a tree whose fruit becomes a bird. And they say that on the coast of England, small birds come out of the tree; before they mature they are suspended, and upon maturity fall into the waters and move about. Aristotle wrote this in his book...” The gloss comes to clarify the passage in Zohar, “When Rabbi Abba saw one tree whose fruit became a bird...”

In Mishpatim, f.118v. the marginalium offers an original explanation, based on Zohar, why it is the custom - according to Sepher ha-Kaneh - not to wear Tefillin during Musaph of the New Moon (“...since tephillin are [the sephirah of] Tzadik, and Musaph is also [the sephirah of Tzadik]”).

Our anonymous glossarist quotes (e.g. Terumah ff. 153r. and 168r., and Pekudei f.237v.) from “Sepher Toledoth Adam,” attributed to R. Joseph from Shushan (or Hamadan). Our present knowledge of Sepher Toledoth Adam is at best fragmentary. See G. Scholem, Kabbalah (1974), pp. 60-61; E. Gottlieb, Kiryath Sepher, Vol. XLVIII (1972-3), pp. 173-178. (Not to be confused with the much later arrangement of Lurianic Kabbalah that R. Jacob Tzemach called by the name “Toldoth Adam,” now popularly known as Mevo She’arim.)

There abounds material attributed to [Joseph] Gikatilia. In Vayakhel, f.208v. mention is made of the legendary kabbalist [Joseph] de la Reina. In Vayakhel, f.209v., we have “Sepher ha-Me’oroth, called Berith Menuchah.” The latest source cited is from the sixteenth century: Cordovero’s Pardess Rimonim (Sha’ar Mehuth), see the gloss to Terumah, f. 167v.

These marginalia warrant scholarly attention with an eye to ferreting out early lost works of Kabbalah embedded therein.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE]
233 SHIMON B’R YOCHAI. Sefer HaZohar. Three parts in one volume. Title within woodcut architectural arch. Opening word of each part within ornamental woodcut letters within a typographical border. Occasional marginalia.  ff. 132; 122; 146. Mispaginated as in all copies, but complete (in addition to pages, columns are also numbered in this edition). Previous owners’ signatures on title, first leaf and verso of final leaf. Including: R. Asher Lemil Ha-Levi of Glogau (1705-89, author of Chut HaMushulash BeShearim), Yissachar Ber of (?), Abraham ben Mordechai and others. Brownd and stained, corners rounded, several leaves remargined, various paper repairs with some loss in places. Modern tooled morocco. Folio. [Vinograd, Lublin 147; Mehlman 1069].

Lublin, Tzvi ben Abraham Kalonymus Jaffe: 1623. $7000-9000

EXREMELY RARE EDITION. BOTH JNUL AND MEHLMAN COPIES ARE INCOMPLETE.

The present edition of the Zohar, the most classic of Jewish mystical texts, is the second printed in the format of the Zohar Gadol (as per the Cremona edition) - the format favored by the Polish and German Kabbalists until the beginning of the 18th-century. However, the editor, Nathan ben Yitzchak Shapiro states in the introduction that he compared and noted the differences of the texts of both previous editions (Cremona and Mantua), citing “Nusach Acher” or “Sepharim Acheirim.” See also Scholem’s extensive article in EJ Vol. XVI, col.1194-1212.

SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE RIGHT

234 SHIMON B’R YOCHAI. Sefer HaZohar. Four parts in three volumes. Four title pages. pp. (6), ff. 251,(19); 280; 311,(12). Previous owner’s marks, lightly stained in places. Recent boards. 8vo. [Vinograd, Amsterdam 2338].

Amsterdam, Yochanan Levi Rophé and Son: 1805. $500-700

This Amsterdam edition of the Zohar were renowned amongst Chassidim. Indeed the Chozeh of Lublin exhorted his Chassidim to use no other edition.

235 SHIMON B’R YOCHAI. (Traditionally attributed to). Zohar [Chadash]... Umedrash Hane’elam [kabbalah]. FIRST EDITION. Title within decorative floral border. Divisional title. Two parts in one volume. Early signature and inscription of previous owner in a Sephardic hand on f. 2 stating that the book should never be sold. ff. 6, 112, 36, 48. Lightly browned and stained, few leaves supplied from another copy, title slightly repaired, scattered marginalia. Modern blind-tooled calf. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Salonika 144 (JNUL copy incomplete); not in Adams].

Salonika, Joseph Abraham Bat-Sheva: 1597. $3000-5000

Contains an insightful introduction contributing to the debate surrounding the identity of the compiler of the Zohar Chadash and providing an historically significant account of how the text was prepared. The compiler of the Zohar Chadash is identified as Abraham Halevi Beruchim (author of Tikunei Shabbath), a disciple of Moses Cordovero and Isaac Luria. The introduction also recounts how the caves in and around Safed were searched in order to possibly discover lost Zoharic texts. Also includes an account of the failed attempts to publish the Zohar Chadash until it met with fruition in the present edition.

This work was published and financed by Moshe di Medina, the son of the Maharsha’dam, Samuel di Medina. See Y. Mehlman, Genuzoth Sefarim pp. 74 and 81.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM RIGHT]
239 SHEM TOV IBN SHEM TOV. Sepher Ha’emunoth [“Book of Beliefs.”] FIRST EDITION. Title set within woodcut architectural arch with the printer’s device of an armillary sphere resting on a scroll a verse from Psalm 130:5 (Yaari no. 22). Device repeated at end.

Previous owners’ signatures on title including: JONAH BONDI and WOLF HEIDENHEIM, plus R. TEVELE SCHEUER on f. 5a. Scattered marginalia, final flyleaf contains notes and comments apparently in the hand of Heidenheim concerning the scholars and Kabbalists cited in the work. ff.116. Dampstained in places worming on title and first four leaves, title laid down, lower corner repair to first few leaves. Modern calf. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Ferrara 37; not in Adams].

Ferrara, Abraham ibn Usque: 1556. $1500-2500

A work that opposes the philosophy of Jewish rationalists such as Abraham ibn Ezra, Levi b. Gershom (RaLBa’G) and Isaac Albalag - but especially that of Maimonides. A witness to the persecutions and conversions of late 14th- and early 15th-century Spain, the Author believed that the philosophical approach was fundamentally incompatible with religious tradition. He viewed Maimonidean intellectualism to be responsible for facilitating apostasy. This anti-Maimonidean polemic was vehemently attacked by Moses Alashkar in his work Hassagoth (1557). See EJ, VIII, col.1198 and Carmilly-Weinberger, p.44.

Sepher Ha’emunoth is important for the study of early Kabbalah and Zohar. It contains explanations of many Kabbalistic concepts including the inner world of the sephiroth. Shem Tov restores the demons (shedim) to the universe after Maimonides denied their existence (Part V); he also puts forth the argument for reincarnation (gilgul) (Part VII).

An interesting association copy. R. Tevele Scheuer (1711-83) served as a Dayan in Frankfurt and later Rabbi of Bamberg and Mainz. (See M. Horovitz, Frankfurter Rabbinen (1972), pp. 322-23; N.Z. Friedmann, Otzar Harabanim no. 5136). R. Jonah Bondi was also the Rabbi of Mainz, who married R. Tevele Scheuer’s granddaughter. Wolf Heidenheim (1757-1832), a student of R. Nathan Adler in Frankfurt, was a most diligent and punctilious Masoretic scholar, grammarian as well as Hebrew printer.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION LEFT]

Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1519. **$5000-7000**

�行 The compiled at the beginning of the 12th-century, not by Rashi himself but by Shemayah, his pupil, although contains a large number of Rashi’s decisions and responsa. The work deals with the entire field of religious law with only a few remarks on certain phases of civil law. It contains selections form Gaonic Responsa and other codes, as well as Midrashic texts.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION TOP RIGHT]


Piotrokow, 1926. **$500-700**

�行 This volume was presented to Rabbi Friedman of Pittsburgh, during Rabbi Shapiro’s visit to America to collect funds in order to establish his Yeshiva Chachmei Lublin. R. Meir Shapiro (1887-1937) is celebrated for instituting the Da’Yomi Talmud study-program.


Basle, n.p. (Nicolaus Köllner): 1768. **$3000-4000**

�行 An unsurpassed (and unbiased) chronicle of Jewish life in Switzerland from the 13th-century until 1760. Johann Caspar Ulrich (1705-68), a Swiss Protestant theologian, studied Hebrew and Rabbinics in Bremen with a Jewish apostate, Christian Gottlieb Fromman and later in Lengnau with Jacob Guggenheim. His Sammlung Juedischer Geschichten is the most comprehensive history of the Jews of Switzerland, with special emphasis on Zurich and the city’s relations to its Jewish residents. Ulrich, who preached tolerance of the Jews writes in his Foreword: Nehmet denn, acheinu Bnei Israel, liebe Israeliten, dieses Buch, von einem Mann der Euch liebet...Mein Absehen gehet nur dahin, Euch zu zeigen, wie es euern Voraltern in der Schweitzerischen Golus ergangen sene [“Accept this book, dear Israelites, from a man who loves you...My view is only to show you how your forefathers fared in the Swiss Exile.”] See Vol. XV, col. 1527.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM RIGHT]

Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1520. $10,000-12,000

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE LEFT]


Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1521. $15,000-20,000

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE RIGHT]


Pesaro, Hieronymo Soncino (i.e. Gershom Soncino): 1512. $1000-1500

There is some question as to when the Roman geographer Solinus lived. Although he is assumed to have flourished in the middle of the fourth century historian Theodor Mommsen places him a century earlier.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM LEFT]
Lot 247


Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1522. $30,000-40,000

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE]

Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1522. $8,000-10,000


Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1521. $12,000-18,000

250 TANUGI, ISHMAEL HAKOHEN. Seph HaZikaron [Halachic summaries in order of the Talmudic Tractates]. FIRST EDITION. ff. (216). Some staining, slight marginal worming in places, scattered marginalia in a Sephardic hand, slight repair to verso of title. Later reversed calf. 4to. [Vinograd, Ferrara 34; Mehlman 721].

Ferrara, Abraham ibn Usque: 1555. $3000-5000

★ The author was one of the greatest halachic scholars of Tunisia.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION TOP LEFT]


$200-300

★ In the Summer of 1959, Rabbi Joel Teitelbaum visited Eretz Israel from New York. So that he would not be forced to take advantage of the transportation services of the Zionist State, a private train was arranged by his followers to journey from the port of entry of Haifa to the city of Jerusalem.

252 (TREVES), ISAAC BEN MORDECHAI GERSHON. Shlom Esther [commentary to the Book of Esther]. FIRST EDITION. Scholarly marginal notes, some of a kabbalistic nature in a Hebrew Sephardic hand, some in a later Italian hand in Latin. ff. (32). Some light staining, slight marginal worming. Signed by censors on final page Modern calf. 12mo. [Vinograd, Const. 254; Yaari, Const. 225; Mehlman 663; not in Adams].

Constantinople, (Solomon & Joseph Yavetz: c. 1575). $4000-6000

★ Isaac Treves was a respected member of the Venice Beth Din and for more than thirty years a proof-reader for various printing-houses in Venice. See the exchange of articles concerning Isaac Treves between I. Sonne and D. Tamar in Kiryath Sepher, vol. XXXIII (1958) pp. 377-8 and vol. XXXIV (1959) p. 136.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM LEFT]


Venice, Daniel Bomberg: 1546. $400-600
254 YA'AVETZ, JOSEPH. Or Hachaim [Philosophical polemic]. FIRST EDITION. Title set within architectural arch with the printer’s device of an armillary sphere resting on a scroll with a verse from Psalm 130:5 (illustrated EJ, XIII col. 1094 no. 7). ff.(28). Previous owners inscriptions, trimmed, light stains in places. Modern half-vellum. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Ferrara 23].

Ferrara, Abraham ibn Usque: 1554. $2000-3000

• The author was among those expelled from Spain, and for his remaining years (d.1507) sought in his writings to find meaning in the catastrophe that had befallen Spanish Jewry. The present treatise asserts that philosophical rationalism was the cause whereby so many Spanish Jews chose to embrace the Church rather than a life in exile. Ya’avetz blames a distorted version of Maimonidean intellectualism that in turn led to rationalism, and thus a weakening of religious observance and commitment to personal religious sacrifice.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE LEFT]

255 YA'AVETZ, JOSEPH. Ma’amor Ha’Achduth BeSharashei Ha’Emuna [philosophical polemic]. FIRST EDITION. ff. 15 (of 16, lacking f.2). Small marginal repair on title and first few leaves. Modern calf. 4to. [Vinograd, Ferrara 27].

Ferrara, Abraham ibn Usque: 1554. $1200-1800

256 YECHIEL MICHEL B. YEHUDAH LEIB OF KALVERIA. Pce’erei Halachoth [novellae]. FIRST EDITION. Wide margined copy. ff. 40. Slight staining, lower margin of f. 15 and 37 cut not affecting text, few margins slightly frayed, last two leaves loose. Unbound. 4to. [Vinograd, Shklov 106].

Shklov, 1798. $120-180

257 ZARKO, JUDAH. Yephei Nof [stylistic formulae of documents, with kabbalistic prayers and hymns by Ramba’n, Moshe Alshakar, Isaac Luria, etc.]. FIRST EDITION. ff. 36 (i.e. 46). Previous owner’s signature on title. Modern calf. 4to. [Vinograd, Venice 584; Habermann di Gara no. 23 (who based the year of publication as following the death of Isaac Luria in 1572)].

Venice, di Gara, circa: 1572. $1000-1500

• Includes the first appearance of the mystical “Azamer Bishvachin.”

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE RIGHT]


Vienna, Jacob Dux for Vereines “Erez Israel”: 1898. $700-900

• The Official Transcript of the Proceedings of the First Zionist Congress.

Contains an interesting appendix with names of persons worldwide who sent telegrams of congratulation upon the opening of the Congress.

Warsaw, Halter And Eisenstadt: 1896. $2000-3000

FIRST HEBREW EDITION OF HERZL'S HERALD OF MODERN ZIONISM. Theodor Herzl founded political Zionism in this slim tract. An epochal call for the establishment of a Jewish State as a National Home for the Jewish People.

“Herzl’s Der Judenstaat has remained the single most important manifesto of modern Zionism and is one of the most important books in the history of the Jewish People.” See Michael Heymann, Bibliotheca Rosenthaliana-Treasures of Jewish Booklore (1994) no. 46, pp.102-3 (illustrated).

[SEE ILLUSTRATION LEFT]


Jerusalem, 4th September: 1929. $500-700

On August 23rd, 1929 an Arab mob attempted to attack the Jews in Jerusalem following a ten-month build-up of tension over the disputed rights of Jews to pray at the Western Wall. The outbreak of violence spread to other parts of the country and on the following day, the Arabs murdered some seventy Jews in Hebron. In the week of bloody violence that ensued, there were attacks in Tel Aviv and Haifa, and 18 Jews were killed by an Arab mob in Safed. Before the week had passed, large detachments of British troops were brought in before order was restored.

In this Emergency Decree, the British High Commissioner for Palestine, Sir John Chancellor announced special powers were to be given to the Courts in conducting the trials of those arrested. The aim being to ensure a fair trial and to determine whether the attacks were spontaneous or premeditated. Sir John also announced the formation of a Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry to be headed by Sir Walter Shaw to inquire into the immediate causes of the outbreak of violence. Finally, he concludes, the incidents will not alter British Government policy with regard to Palestine as laid down in the 1917 Balfour Declaration, namely to establish in Palestine a National Home for the Jews.
261 (BERNSTEIN, LEONARD). Abel Pann. The Five Books of Moses. 47 (of ?) color illustrated plates. WITH WARM INSCRIPTION IN JEWISH TO LEONARD BERNSTEIN, FROM THE PALESTINE (EREZ-ISRAEL) PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA. Tel Aviv, 10th May, 1947 - (Occasioned by Bernstein’s first visit to Israel and the beginning of a life-long association with the Tel Aviv Philharmonic). Loose as issued in original portfolio, broken and chipped. Folio. Jerusalem, n.d. $120-180


263 (BUDKO, JOSEPH). Heine, Heinrich. Der Rabbi von Bachera. ONE OF 120 NUMBERED COPIES. Five full-page woodcuts by Budko, each signed in pencil by the artist below image. Woodcut title-page and pictorial initials. Contemporary gilt-ruled mahogany morocco binding by Hübel & Denck, with central gilt-tooled geometric design inlaid with blue morocco on upper cover, spine in compartments, gilt morocco spine labels, touch rubbed. Sq. 8vo. Berlin, Euphorion Verlag: 1921. $700-1000


268 (JEWISH ART). RUBENS, ALFRED.
* With: Supplementary Volume. LIMITED EDITION OF 650 COPIES. Thousands of caption illustrations. Original boards, with slip-case. Sm. folio.

London, Nonpareil: 1981. $600-900


269 (LIEBERMANN, MAX). HEINE, Heinrich. Der Rabbi von Bacherach. ONE OF NUMBERED 100 COPIES. With 16 original lithographs, an extra suite on Japan paper and one additional lithograph all signed by Liebermann in pencil below the image. Original yellow morocco with gilt and black inlay on upper cover, head and foot of spine lightly rubbed, slightly discolored. Folio.

Berlin, Propyläen Verlag: 1923. $1200-1800


Uniform contemporary blind-tooled vellum with cartouche in center. Folio.

Amsterdam, Hermanus Uytwerf: 1727-1738. $4000-6000

- Picart’s panoramic view of the world’s religions is certainly one of the most striking illustrated books of the 18th-century. Picart’s plates present an invaluable pictorial record of Jewish life in 18th-century Holland.


Leipzig-Prague, K. André: 1922. $1200-1800

- A Rare and Lavish Production. Hauschner tells a fanciful tale set in sixteenth-century Rudolfine Prague of astronomer Tycho Brahe and a wonder-working rabbi - a “Baal Shem.”

So enamored of his native city was the artist Hugo Steiner, he hyphenated his surname, becoming Steiner-Prag. This soulful Czech Jew achieved fame as a graphic artist and book illustrator. In 1907 he was appointed Professor of Art at the State Academy of Leipzig, only to be dismissed from his long-held position by the Nazis in 1933. Thereafter he founded an art school in his beloved Prague, which he was forced to flee in 1939, arriving in New York a refugee. He died in 1945. See EJ, Vol. III, col. 611.

Berlin / Jerusalem, 1930. $100-150

273 (RYBACK, ISSACHAR BER). Eigens [literary annual]. Volume II (all published). Includes writings of Hostein, Bergelson, Markish, Der Nister, etc. Calligraphic and illustrated Table of Contents executed by Ryback tipped in at rear (see Shmeruk, number 3508 - illustrated). **Bronnen. Later boards, 4to.**

Kiev, Kultur-Lige: 1920. $150-200

274 STRUCK, HERMANN. Aus Schierke: Und Braunlage. **ONE OF 30 NUMBERED COPIES** (this copy marked by Struck: “Probendrucke.”).

17 lithographs, each titled and signed by Struck in pencil below the image. Each plate tipped to individual mat. Loose as issued in pictorial portfolio. **Title leaf and portfolio foxed. All images entirely clean. Folio. Publisher’s slip-case.**

n.p. circa 1912. $1200-1800

★ A beautiful portfolio of winter scenes. Seldom appears at auction. [SEE ILLUSTRATION TOP RIGHT]

275 STRUCK, HERMANN. Venedig. Verses by Robert Hamerling. Illustrated by Hermann Struck. **ONE OF 100 NUMBERED COPIES.** Twenty-three etchings, each signed by Struck in pencil below the image. Initial letters in red. Patterned endpapers. **Original reverse-calf, rubbed, spine worn with some loss. Folio.**

Berlin, 1920. $1000-1500

★ A finely illustrated volume of Struck’s travels in and around Venice. [SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM RIGHT]


New York, 1931. $300-500


New York, 1941. $200-300


Concerns money owed to the Philadelphian Jew, Moses Franks, supplier of “victuals” to the British Army. See E. Wolf and M. Whiteman, The History of the Jews of Philadelphia from Colonial Times to the Age of Jackson (1957) p. 86.


Kingston, Jamaica, 1868. $5000-7000

A RELIGIOUS HEBREW GUIDE TO FUNERAL RITES FOR THE JEWS OF JAMAICA

The title reads: “This Book was written by Aaron Cohen Henriques and presented to the Kaal Kadosh Shahar Ashamaim for the use of the Burial Ground, Kislev 1, 5629, corresponding with Sunday, 15th November, 1868.”

The Spanish-Portuguese Synagogue “Shaar HaShamaim” was erected in Kingston in 1744. By 1871, shortly after this manuscript was composed, Jews represented 13% of the white population of Kingston. Henriques was one of the most prominent Jewish families on the island. See M. Arbell, The Jewish Nation of the Caribbean (2002), pp. 239-240, 243, 244, 256.

[SEE ILLUSTRATIONS BELOW]
**283 (AMERICAN JUDAICA).** Cohen, David. Sephirath Ha’Omer [Chart for Counting of the Omer]. Multicolor Micrography. Red, blue and brown sepia inks on paper. At top Tetragrammaton; below ornate crown borne aloft by two eagles; below Decalogue flanked by lions; below seven-branched Menorah, flanked by two harts; flower motif surrounds entire chart. All amidst dense Hebrew inscriptions.

At the base of the Menorah reads in Hebrew: “This Holy Work was Completed on the 23rd of the Month of Adar Sheini in the Year 1883, Here in Portland, by David Cohen.” Chipped, lacking portions from top and right margin, fragile. 22 x 28 inches. [Israel Museum Catalogue: Micrography as Art (1981), pl. 89; Jewish Museum Catalogue, Jewish Heritage in American Folk Art (1984) pp. 79-80, nos. 60-62].

Portland, (Oregon), 23rd Adar Sheini, 1883. $10,000-15,000

A MOST SURPRISING DISCOVERY: AN ILLUMINATED MICROGRAPHIC SEPHIRATH HA’OMER CHART FROM 19TH-CENTURY OREGON.

Though the express purpose of this Chart is the traditional counting of the forty-nine days between Passover and Pentecost (each day represented in a separate orb), it is likely this design would have been hung on the Eastern Wall of the synagogue, thus doubling as a “Mizrach.”

In N.L. Kleeblatt and G.C. Wertkin, The Jewish Heritage in American Folk Art (1984), are noted a small handful of other Mizrachim (or Decorations for the Eastern Wall) roughly from this era which share some of the iconography and intricate detail of our Sephirath Ha’Omer chart. Two in particular stand out in terms of their remarkable architectonic design. Both were executed by one Zelig Abe Goldsmith, the first in Denison, Texas in 1896, the second in Troy, New York before 1909.

Preliminary curatorial research at the Oregon Jewish Museum has indicated that one David Cohen was involved with newspaper publishing in Portland toward the close of the 19th-century, however a David Cohen with an association with Jewish arts is not as yet known.

Jews first settled in Portland, Oregon in 1844. Portland’s first synagogue, Congregation Beth Israel was established in 1858; a permanent structure was erected the following year. See S. Lowenstein, The Jews of Oregon (1988).

Bahia (Brazil), 14th August, 1844. $4000-6000

Isaac Amzalak, a Portuguese Jew, arrived in Bahia, Brazil sometime between 1829 and 1832. In 1827, he had received from the Municipality of Lisbon a medal of gratitude for services rendered during the epidemic of yellow fever, however he travelled to Brazil on the advice of his doctors who recommended a tropical climate to cure his rheumatism. In Bahia, the able Amzalak advanced rapidly in society. In years to come, Amzalak would play a pivotal part in the life of the Brazilian Jewish community, moving as he did in the circles of the Imperial Court in Rio de Janeiro.

The marriage of Isaac Amzalak and Grazia (Hanna) Levi took place after the bride arrived in Bahia from her home in Trieste, Italy, after a sea voyage of three months. The appearance of Italian in the Kethubah was for the benefit of the Italian-speaking bride.

(Biographical information supplied via: www.sefarad.org noting this very Kethubah).

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE LEFT AND BACK COVER]

(ANGLO-JUDAICA). Petition from Elijah Jacobs, formerly of Manchester, presently of Jerusalem, to Sir Moses Montefiore. Hebrew in petite square characters. pp. (1) + 3 integral blanks. Black ink on paper. 8 x 10 inches.

Manchester, 30th Shevat, 1870. $600-900

In 1856, Elijah was sent by his father Solomon Jacob Jacobs from his native Manchester to Jerusalem. After spending 13 years in intense study of Torah, the erstwhile Englishman was sent by Kollel Ungaren back to England on a fund-raising mission. (Plans to continue on to America were scuttled by Chief Rabbi Dr. Adler.) Having left his wife and three children behind in Jerusalem without appropriate living conditions, Jacobs requests that Sir Moses allow them to take up residence in “Kerem Moshe V’Yehudith,” a neighborhood in Jerusalem recently established by the munificence of Sir Moses and Lady Judith Montefiore.


Late 19th-century. $800-1200

A ledger of pledges designed with incisions as a means of recording donations on the Sabbath when writing is not permitted. The Pinkas enumerates seven categories indicating the form of synagogue-aliyah received and the range of donation pledged. Each page is designated for a member of the synagogue. Many of the 38 members recorded have listed both German as well as Hebrew first names.

$3000-4000


Jerusalem, 16th December, 1968. $400-600

* Begin assures the addressee he will do all within his power to re-establish the ancient town of Modi’in (ancient home of the Macabees). At the time the letter was written, Begin was Minister without Portfolio. (Modi’in continues to develop into a bustling metropolis situated on the rail-line between Tel Aviv and Jerusalem).


Tel Aviv, 14th December, 1928. $3000-4000

* The Histadrut, the Labor Union of Israel, was founded by Ben-Gurion in 1920. Indeed Ben-Gurion’s membership-book notes he joined the Histadrut “from the day of its establishment” (mi-yom hivasdah).


Sdeh Boker, 14th January, 1954. $1000-1500

* Relations between Ben-Gurion and the Israeli Rabbinate being rather strained, one notes here the wit in the Prime Minister’s statement: “Certainly I will find in [the book] several matters to which it is impossible to agree, as well as others to which I shall willingly accede. Both are dear to me, for there is room among the People of Israel for differing opinions and viewpoints, provided that they are bound by the love of Israel.”

291 BEN-GURION, DAVID. Typed Letter Signed, in Hebrew, on Stationery of the Prime Minister of Israel, to the Nobel-Laureate, S.Y. Agnon, concerning Israel’s position vis-à-vis its Arab neighbors. (cc. to Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett). One page. Folds and punch-holes.

Jerusalem, 10th April, 1956. $1500-2000

* Written as tensions heightened between Israel and Egypt (culminating in the Suez Campaign), Ben-Gurion expresses his thoughts on the situation: “I do not know whether there exists such a thing as historical borders, I have undertaken much research into the subject and I deny that there are. However should one assume that indeed there were, and that we have reached the [edge of these] borders - in terms of our security, the fact remains that some seventy million Arabs sit on the other side of our borders...and thus Israel has a severe problem, to which there are but two solutions: military readiness and an unceasing quest for peace, for war is the failure of diplomacy.”


Sdeh Boker, 28th Iyar, 1968. $1500-2000

* In this heartfelt letter Ben-Gurion applauds the work of the Chabad Movement in organizing a mass Bar Mitzvah celebration held in Kfar Chabad for the sons of soldiers who were killed in the Six Day War. Ben-Gurion writes: “I understand your pain and sorrow and the greatness of your soul in dedicating much time to your fellow widows.”
293 **(CHASSIDISM). LIPSCHITZ, YECHIEL MEIR OF GOSTYNIN.** Autograph Letter Signed in Hebrew, on paper. Tape repair along fold. 10th Ellul, n.y. $8000-10,000


✶ In the foreword, the Author, presumably Heinrich Josephsohn (based on the information provided by the Censor’s inscriptions), writes that he is emulating the example of Moses Mendelssohn’s Bi’ur to the Pentateuch. Though convinced of the value of David Friedlander’s German translation of the Haphtaroth, it did not fit the needs of this edition. (Friedlander was a disciple of, and in some sense, successor to Mendelssohn.) Each chapter of this manuscript is sub-divided in two: The Judeo-German translation is followed by the pure Hebrew Bi’ur to that chapter. That the author would have obtained the imprimatur of Prague’s censor Carolus Fischer, indicates the work was being readied for print, however no bibliographic record exists of it.


✶ The petitioner asks his Rebbe for healing of soul and body, and almost poetically, “to illumine from the midst of the darkness and to purify his thoughts” (leha’ir mi-toch ha-chasheichah u-letaher ra’ayonav). Almost as an afterthought, he adds: “and success in business.”


✶ Dayan commences this letter by saying that although he does not regard himself as a connoisseur, he has always had an appreciation for art. In particular, he sought out views of Jerusalem and the surrounding Judean Desert, regarding which Dayan sees Blum to be the very best of painters.

297 **(DAYAN, MOSHE).** Printed Admission-ticket to the Funeral of His Late Majesty King George VI, with manuscript additions. (London), 1952. $700-900

✶ On this official invitation-ticket the original names inserted were “Mme. Salman, Israeli Embassy” and “Mme. Seeve, Finnish Legation.” These names have been deleted and replaced with “Brigadier M. Dayan” and “R[uth] Dayan.”

Dayan spent the first three months of 1952 at England’s Senior Officers’ School at Devizes. Among his instructors was Field Marshal Montgomery, famous for defeating Rommel’s Afrika Korps at El Alamein, Egypt during World War II - thus halting the German advance on Palestine.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION BELOW]

298 **EBAN, ABBA.** Autograph Draft of Speech, likely to be delivered at the United Nations. In English, on stationery of the Savoy Plaza Hotel in New York. Unsigned. 3 pages. New York, Early 1950’s. $4000-5000

✶ South African-born and Cambridge-educated Abba (Aubrey) Eban (1915-2002), simultaneously served as Israel’s Ambassador to the United States and as Israel’s Chief Delegate to the United Nations between the years 1950 and 1959. Eban was noted for his brilliant oratory and linguistic ability.

In this draft of a speech, Eban holds the Arab nations responsible for the failure to protect, the sanctity of the Holy Places of Jerusalem.
299 **EINSTEIN, ALBERT.** (Physicist and Noble Prize winner. 1879-1955). Sepia-toned silver print portrait photograph by the Los Angeles photographer Aaron Tycko (signed by him lower left). *Signed and inscribed by Einstein on the mount. Finely framed alongside calligraphic quotation by Einstein. 18 x 29 inches.*

(Los Angeles), 1932. **$6000-7000**

[SEE ILLUSTRATION RIGHT]

300 **GIBRALTAR.** Haphtaroth of Passover with bilingual translation, Aramaic and Judeo-Espanol; followed by Piyutim [religious poetry] in square Hebrew letters, followed by additional piyutim added later in Ma'aravic cursive script. On the final leaves are several inscriptions. “Este libro es del S[enor] Chaim ben Silos, Gibraltar; / Senor Yitzchak ben Silos bar Chaim; / G. Mario, 1861; / Solomon Bocasis” ff. (115), (15 blanks), (4). Brown sepia ink on paper. Foxed and stained. Contemporary calf, top portion of spine missing 8vo.

(Gibraltar), 19th-century. **$600-900**

The Sephardic community preserved the original custom of translating the readings the Haphtaroth into Aramaic. In addition, they added a Judeo-Espanol (Ladino) translation, for by this time, the Aramaic vernacular was no longer comprehensible to the masses.

The exotic Jewish community huddled at the base of the famed Rock of Gibraltar -- with its four synagogues and a population just in the few hundreds -- has an illuminating history. After the Expulsion of 1492, no Jews were permitted to reside in Spain or its territories. Thus when in 1713 England came into dominion of what had been the Spanish possession of Gibraltar by the terms of the Treaty of Utrecht, it was expressly stipulated that Jews not be admitted to settle there. However, according to a subsequent agreement between England and the Sultan of Morocco signed in 1729, the Sultan's Jewish subjects were indeed allowed entry into Gibraltar, for the purposes of trade. A generation later, the legal right of Jewish settlement in Gibraltar was recognized - much to the chagrin of the Spanish. The Jewish settlers were mostly from the northern cities of Morocco and being Spanish exiles, retained elements of Iberian language and culture. In a sense, their entry into Gibraltar was a homecoming.

301 **HOLOCAUST.** German Administrative Order to enforce punitive labor. Typed on stationery of Plaszow Concentration Camp (corrected to “Transit Camp”) and signed by the Hauptscharfuhrer. *Brown ed. Two punch-holes. 6 x 8 1/2 inches.*

Plaszow Concentration Camp, 2nd October, 1943. **$2000-3000**

Plaszów was a Nazi slave-labor camp located in the suburbs south of Cracow, Poland. Commanding the camp was Amon Göth, an SS commandant from Vienna who was known for uncommon sadistic cruelty. Göth personally oversaw the liquidation of the Cracow Ghetto, forcing those Jews deemed capable of work into Plaszów where they supplied manpower to several armament factories as well as a stone quarry. The death rate in the camp was exceptionally high due to typhus and starvation and was infamous for both individual and mass shootings that were carried out there.

Plaszów is featured in the Steven Spielberg motion-picture “Schindler’s List” about the life of Oskar Schindler.

The present document notes that, Israel (sic) Kramer, (born 1874 in Tarnow), is to be punished for insubordination, for using a rag to wrap his bare feet.


* Rabbi Solomon Halberstam writes (1960) to the philanthropist Yechiel Reinhold, noting that he read the kvittel (petition) on the yahrzeit of his martyred father (R. Benzion Halberstam). The Rebbe prays that his father’s merit will protect all of his chassidim who were close to him throughout his lifetime.

Rabbi Benzion Halberstam was murdered by the Germans in Lemberg on 4th Av, 1941. His son Solomon, lost his wife and two of his children in the Holocaust. Solomon and his son Naftali Tzvi, escaped from Galicia to Hungary and later to Romania. After the war, Rabbi Solomon settled in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn and in 1967, moved his “court” to Borough Park, which remains the center of Bobov Chassidism today.

Rabbi Benzion’s paternal grandmother Beila was the daughter of Rabbi Eliezer of Dzhikov. Benzion’s father Rabbi Shlomo Halberstam I (1847-1905), orphaned from youth, was raised by his maternal grandfather, the Rebbe of Dzhikov.


303 (ITALY). Two Manuscript Hebrew broadside Prayers from Mantua: Tephilah LeRibuy Geshamim [prayer for rain], 1772. * Tephilah Ne’esethah [regarding the plague in the city of Livorno], 1801.

$300-500

304 (ITALY). Prayer on behalf of the congregation to be recited by the spiritual leader on Festivals. Single-sided leaf. 23 lines. Black ink on paper. Trace foxed. Folds. 8 1/2 x 10 1/4 inches.

Ferrara, 19th Adar, 1850. $200-300

* The preamle to this prayer reads: The committee of K.K. Ashkenazim of the City of Ferrara has decided that on all Festivals, the spiritual leader of the synagogue shall stand upon the Tevah and bless the congregation by the following formula...

305 (LITURGY). Group of 24 Hebrew manuscript prayers and mystical incantations for various occasions, (8 on vellum, 16 on paper). Includes prayer that cattle not succumb to disease; prayers for the sick; prayer for rain; prayer for salvation from cholera and other form of plague; expiation for “crib death” of an infant; the blessings of the Scroll of Esther; the blessings on the phylacteries; and a Sabbath hymn composed by Mordechai Dato [Davidson, Thesaurus of Medieval Hebrew Poetry, Vol. II, no. 215]. The kabbalistic incantations include: Pitum ha-Ketoreth (the recitation of the Holy Incense in the Temple); atonement for nocturnal emission; a Shamirah (Protection) for the home; an adjuration of the Sar ha-Chalom (“Master of Dream”); meditations before blowing the shofar; and the Thirteen Attributes of Mercy.

v.p. 19th-century. $800-1200

306 (LITURGY). Prayer of thanks upon the completion of writing a Sepher Torah. ff. (3), 20 lines per page. Sepia on coarse paper. Modern boards. Sm. 4to.

n.p., 19th-century. $200-300

* Touchingly, the scribe writes: “I know that if Your great hand would not have come to my assistance, I would not have been able to rise night after night, to shake slumber from my eyes, in order to write.”


19th-century. $500-700


308 RABIN, YITZHAK. (Prime Minister of Israel, 1922-95). Autograph Letter Signed, in Hebrew, on stationery of Royal Garden Hotel, London. Written immediately prior to becoming Israel’s Ambassador to the United States.


* Written by Rabin during a working-vacation in London on the way to Washington, this letter, displays a rare personal warmth. Often perceived as rather austere, Rabin heartily thanks his host for the gracious hospitality provided. He also shares his recent experience in Paris, wherein his visit happened to coincide with that of the Iraqi President Arif. Rabin found it amusing how the French wooed the Iraqi apparently without receiving any tangible results in return.

309 (SHIVITH). Group of three Shivithi plaques. Black scribal ink on vellum.

19th-century. $200-300

310 SHAZAR, ZALMAN. (President of the State of Israel, 1889-1974). Autograph Letter Signed in Hebrew, on stationery of the President of the State of Israel, to “Ruth and Walter,” announcing his travel-plans to Denmark to attend the funeral of the Danish King, which Shazar sees as an opportunity to meet with other Heads of State.

Folds and punch-holes.

Jerusalem, 21st January, 1972. $1000-1200


Circa, 1900. $500-700

* Provenance: A demolished synagogue, Revere, Massachusetts.
312 MEIR, GOLDA. (Prime Minister of the State of Israel, 1898-1978).
n.d. $2000-2500

Golda Meir regrets her inability to attend the birthday celebration of long-time friend Baruch Zuckerman due to her hospitalization with thrombosis of the leg. Baruch Zuckerman was an East-European who immigrated to the United States in the early years of the 20th-century and then made Aliyah after World War I. Besides holding high office in the Labor Zionist Movement, Zuckerman was one of the founders of the American Jewish Congress. (See EJ, Vol. XVI, cols. 1228-9.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE]


Franco-Germany, 13th-century? $2000-3000

This manuscript contains variants of the Talmudic text and deserves careful scholarly attention.

314 WEIZMANN, CHAIM. (First President of the State of Israel, 1874-1952). Typed Letter Signed in Hebrew, on stationery of the President of the State of Israel. Birthday wishes to an old friend. Light stains, central fold.

HaKiryah, 23rd March, 1951. $1000-1500

In wishing a happy eighty-fifth birthday to Mr. A. Berlin of Tel-Aviv, President Weizmann ruminates that he too has reached old age and seldom travels.

315 (YEMEN and North Africa). Group of 41 Hebrew and Judeo-Arabic manuscripts from Yemen and North Africa. Laws of Shechitah; laws of testimony (eduth); liturgy; religious poetry (piyutim); sermons; Sepher HaTekuphoth; works on the Jewish calendar; Mishnah Avoth; Mishnah Yoma; the Legend of Hannah and Her Seven Sons; a Book of Amulets (kame’oth); Bible (Three Megilloth of Song of Songs, Ruth and Ecclesiastes, with Targum and Rashi); Haphtaroth; etc. Some wear. Many in modern elegant bindings, some with slipcases. v.s.

19th-20th centuries. $1000-2000
316 HUVY. (Ahuva Elisha. Israeli, b. 1927). Chassidic Wedding. Oil on canvas. Framed. 20 x 26 inches. $18000-22000

- A luscious painting, lyrically set in the hills above Jerusalem.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE LEFT]


Metz, Fabriques d’Estampes de Ganzel, circa: 19th-century. $800-1200

- Purporting to be a polite table-game, the inference has a mocking tone toward Jews.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION MIDDLE LEFT]


1915. $600-900

- Ephraim Moses Lilien was the first Jewish artist to absorb himself within the nascent Zionist Movement. He was active in early Zionist Congresses stressing the need to foster Jewish culture. He maintained a particularly close relationship with Theodor Herzl and their collaboration resulted in some of the most enduring images of early Zionism (viz. Herzl on the balcony of the Drei Konige Hotel, Basel 1901). Together with Boris Schatz, Lilien aided in establishing the Bezalel School of Art in Jerusalem. He visited Palestine four times, between 1906 and 1918 - the last occasion as a lieutenant in the Austro-Hungarian army during World War I.

With Aubrey Beardsley among his influences, Lilien’s etchings show a crisp elegant line and a strong contrast between black and white areas. Nahum Sokolow wrote of Lilien’s art: “Ephraim Moses Lilien has brought forth light from darkness, from the servitude of matter he has set us onto redemption. He is indeed the painter of the Redemption. It is his passage into the Hall of Muses.” (Hazefirah, no. 63).

[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM LEFT]

318 (PHOTOGRAPHS). Wonderful collection of c.120 black-and-white photographs.


Late 19th-early 20th century. $3000-4000

---

Lot 316
Lot 316A
Lot 317
Lot 318

$5000-7000

This exceptionally large, impressive map of the Holy Land orients to the east, showing the divisions of the Twelve Tribes of Israel on both sides of the River Jordan. The coastline runs from Sidon, Lebanon at left, to Rhinocorura, Egypt at right. Offshore, not far from the port of Jaffa, one spies a ship holding Jonah about to be cast into the jaws of the whale. There are two cartouches: The one at top left contains the Wanderings of Abraham (“Peregrinatio Abrahae”); the other at top right, the Journies and Mansions of the Desert (“Itinera et Mansiones Deserti”), i.e. the wanderings of the Israelites in the Sinai Wilderness.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE]

320 (PORTRAITS). Lithograph, depicting group portraits of Moses Mendelssohn; Jonathan Eybschüzer; Abraham Stern, mathematician in Warsaw; and Dr. Hitzig, Criminal Director in Berlin. pp. (1). race foxed, bottom margin torn. 9 x 11 1/4 inches.

(Warsaw?), 19th-century. $500-700

[SEE ILLUSTRATION RIGHT]

321 (POSTER). 100 Contemporary Prints at the Jewish Museum. Signed by Edmond Casanella, with limitation 51/100. Framed. 28 x 40 inches (to mat).

New York, 1964. $150-250
322 NODEL, SOL. Book of Grace. Twelve individual exquisitely illuminated panels of the Hebrew Birchat HaMazon (Grace after Meals). Each panel with Hebrew text set amidst dense illuminated and historiated surround. Accomplished in ink and gouache. Each 6 x 8 inches. Each individually framed.

The panels seamlessly combine the tradition of illumination alongside a contemporary imagery.

“Sol Nodel is considered by...leading authorities on illumination, to be the foremost living exponent of this ancient art form.” See Exhibition Catalogue, The Art of Illumination by Sol Nodel, Klutznick Exhibition Hall, B'nai B'rith, Washington D.C. (1968) no. 28 a-l

Accompanying this lot is a copy of the catalogue in which these twelve panels were exhibited. It is not known if the artist produced further such panels, thus completing the text of the Grace after Meals in full. The panels were have yet to be published.

Lot 322

[SEE ILLUSTRATIONS ABOVE]

American, mid-20th century. **$400-600**

324 **RUTHERSTON, ALBERT.** Moses at the Burning Bush. Watercolor. An original image from Rutherston’s sumptuous Passover Hagadah issued by the Curwen Press in 1930. 8 x 10 inches.

(1929). **$1000-1500**


325 **RYBACK, ISSACHAR BAER.** The Accordian Player. Pencil on paper. Signed. Approx. 7 x 9 inches.

$500-700

[SEE ILLUSTRATION MIDDLE RIGHT]

326 **RYBACK, ISSACHAR BAER.** “Der Rov.” Pencil and charcoal on paper. Signed and titled by Ryback. Approx. 12 x 14 inches.

$600-900

[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM LEFT]


$500-700

Ryback died just a few short weeks after this visit to London where he dined with the Yiddishist Joseph Leftwich and his wife. [SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM MIDDLE]

328 **STRUCK, HERMANN.** Group of five etchings. Portraits of religious bearded men. Each signed by Struck. All but one with limitation noted. Four etchings: 6 x 7 inches and smaller (image size). Plus one larger: 12 x 20 inches.

$600-900

[SEE ILLUSTRATION BOTTOM RIGHT]

$400-600

330 STRUCK, HERMANN. Group of three portraits of artists: Marc Chagall. * Max Liebermann. * Max Reinhardt. Each signed by Struck. First etching, others lithograph. Last portrait also signed by Reinhardt. 8 x 11 inches (sheet size) and smaller.

$400-600
[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE LEFT]


$500-700
[SEE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE RIGHT]
332 **ITALIAN CERAMIC PLATE WITH JEWISH COAT-OF-ARMS.** Plate with fluted rim, painted after firing with crest of the Forti Family in center, and the Hebrew Chazak (i.e., Forti). Diam: 13 inches.

$600-900

* From the Collection of Daniel M. Friedenberg, with his curatorial note on verso of plate.


$500-700

334 **TALL WOODEN MEZUZAH CONTAINER.** Carved with four vignettes displaying Jewish Holy Sites in Eretz-Israel. Length: 10 inches.

$300-500

335 **RARE TORTOISE-SHELL AND HORN SNUFF-BOX** Eretz Israel, circa 1880. Inscribed in Hebrew around base: “If I Forget thee, O Jerusalem...” (Psalms 137:5.). Old City scene carved on hinged lid. Small chips at corner. Length: 3 1/2 inches.

$700-1000

* Most unusual to be fashioned in this format and not in the far more common form of olive-wood.

336 **PETITE BRASS VASE** Eretz-Israel, circa 1930. A. Salzman.

$400-600

337 **(ZIONISM).** (London), 1900. Ribbon with stick-pin and medal emblazoned with the Hebrew word “Zion” within a Star of David, surrounded by the words: “Fourth Congress, 1900/5660, Delegate.”

$400-600

* The Fourth Zionist Congress was held in London, August 13-16, 1900.
**Lot 338** **GERMAN SILVER ETHROG CONTAINER.** Of fruit-form, chased in form of citron. Hinged lid with appropriate Hebrew inscriptions. Length: 7 inches.

$1500-2000

**Lot 339** **CONTINENTAL SILVER HAVDALAH COMPENDIUM.** Of circular-form, with four-sectioned drawer for spices. Four vertical rods above, with central sliding element to hold candle. Height: 7 ½ inches. Marked.

$2000-2500


$3000-5000

*Provenance: Christie’s, The Michael Collection Lot 159.*

**Lot 341** **GERMAN SILVER CHANUKAH LAMP.** Openwork backplate with rampant lions supporting cartouche with Star-of-David and removable servant-light above. Length: 8 ½ inches. Height: 8 ½ inches. Marked.

$1500-2000


$1500-2000

**Lot 343** **POLISH BRONZE CHANUKAH LAMP.** Of classic dense regional design. Length 9 inches. Height: 11 inches. Lacking original screws.

$3000-5000

--- END OF SALE ---
مقتطفات شفرات عربية نشرت في المصفوفة بكتابة

1. سفر التوبة، يهودا، ريف
2. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
3. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
4. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
5. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
6. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
7. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
8. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
9. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
10. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
11. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
12. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
13. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
14. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
15. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
16. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
17. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
18. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
19. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
20. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
21. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
22. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
23. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
24. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
25. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
26. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
27. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
28. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
29. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
30. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
31. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
32. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
33. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
34. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
35. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
36. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
37. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
38. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
39. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
40. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
41. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
42. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
43. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
44. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
45. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
46. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
47. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
48. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
49. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
50. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
51. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
52. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
53. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
54. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
55. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
56. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
57. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
58. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
59. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
60. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
61. سفر نوح، يهودا، ريف
I desire to place the following bid(s) toward Kestenbaum & Company Auction Sale Number Forty-Four, Fine Judaica, to be held June 25th, 2009. These bids are made subject to the Conditions of Sale and Advice to Prospective Purchasers printed in the catalogue. I understand that if my bid is successful a premium of 23% will be added to the hammer price.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOT NUMBER</th>
<th>FIRST WORD</th>
<th>$Bid (Excluding Premium)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*IN ORDER TO AVOID DELAYS BUYERS ARE ADVISED TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS BEFORE THE SALE FOR PAYMENT. IF SUCH ARRANGEMENTS ARE NOT MADE, CHECKS WILL BE CLEARED BEFORE PURCHASES ARE RELEASED.*

*TRADE REFERENCE OR 25% DEPOSIT REQUIRED IF BIDDER IS NOT KNOWN TO KESTENBAUM & COMPANY.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOT NUMBER</th>
<th>FIRST WORD</th>
<th>$BID (EXCLUDING PREMIUM)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Property is offered for sale by Kestenbaum & Company as agent for the Consignor. By bidding at auction, the buyer agrees to be bound by these conditions of sale.

1. All property is sold “as is,” and any representation or statement in the auction catalogue or elsewhere as to authorship, attribution, origin, date, age, provenance, condition or estimated selling price is a statement of opinion only. All interested parties should exercise their own judgement as to such matters. Kestenbaum & Company shall not bear responsibility for the correctness of such opinions.

2. Notwithstanding the previous condition, property may be returned by the purchaser should such property prove to be defective, incomplete or not genuine (provided such defects are not indicated in the catalogue or at the sale). Written notice of the cause for return must be received by Kestenbaum & Company within fourteen (14) days from the date of the sale of the property, and the property must be returned to Kestenbaum & Company in the same condition as it was at the time of sale. Any lot containing three or more items will be sold “as is” and is not subject to return.

3. The highest bidder acknowledged by the Auctioneer shall be the buyer. The Auctioneer has the right to reject any bid and to advance the bidding at his absolute discretion and, in the event of any dispute between bidders, to determine the successful bidder or to reoffer and resell the article in dispute. Should there be any dispute after the sale, the Auctioneer’s record of final sale shall be conclusive. On the fall of the Auctioneer’s hammer, title to the offered lot shall pass to the buyer, who shall forthwith assume full risk and responsibility for the lot and may be required to sign confirmation of purchase, supply his/her name and address and pay the full purchase price or any part thereof. If the buyer fails to comply with any such requirement, the lot may at the Auctioneer’s discretion, be put up again and sold.

4. Kestenbaum & Company reserves the absolute right to withdraw any property at any time before its actual final sale.

5. All lots in this catalogue are subject to a reserve, which is the confidential minimum price acceptable to the Consignor. No reserve will exceed the low presale estimate stated in the catalogue.

6. The purchase price paid by the purchaser shall be the sum of the final bid and a buyer’s premium of 23% of the first $150,000 of the final bid on each lot, and 18% of the final bid price above $150,000, plus all applicable sales tax.

7. All property must be paid for and removed from our premises by the purchaser at his expense not later than ten days following its sale. If not so removed, storage charges may be charged of $5.00 per lot per day. In addition, a late charge of 1½% per month of the total purchase price may be imposed if payment is not made.

8. Kestenbaum & Company accepts no responsibility for errors relating to the execution of commission bids.

9. Kestenbaum & Company is not responsible for unsold lots left on our premises 90 days from their date of sale.
1. Prospective purchasers are encouraged to inspect property prior to the sale. We would be pleased to answer all queries and describe items in greater detail.

2. Those unable to attend the sale, Kestenbaum & Company will execute bids on the buyer’s behalf with care and discretion at the lowest possible price as allowed by other bids and any reserves. Commission bids must be received no less than two hours before the auction commences. Successful bidder will be notified and invoiced following the sale.

3. Bidding may also be placed via telephone. The number of telephone bidding lines is limited, therefore all such arrangements must be made 24 hours before the sale commences.

4. In order to avoid delays, buyers are advised to make arrangements before the sale for payment. If such arrangements are not made, checks will be cleared before purchases are released. Invoice details cannot be changed once issued.

5. We have made arrangements with an independent shipping company to provide service. Please inquire should this be required.

6. We are not responsible for purchases left on our premises 90 days from their date of sale

Kestenbaum & Company undertakes Collection Appraisals for insurance, estate tax, charitable and other purposes. Relevant fees will be refunded should items be subsequently consigned for sale.

We are currently accepting consignments for future auctions. Terms are highly attractive and payment timely.

To discuss a consignment, please contact:

Daniel E. Kestenbaum
Tel: 212 366-1197 • Fax: 212-366-1368
ANNOUNCING OUR FORTHCOMING JUDAICA SALES

July 16th, 2009
(Shelf-Sale)

September 10th, 2009

December, 2009

— Sale dates subject to change —

Detailed illustrated Catalogues are available approximately 3 weeks prior to each sale and may be purchased individually or at a special subscription rate.
Kestenbaum & Company

Auctioneers of Rare Books, Manuscripts and Fine Art

12 West 27th Street, New York, NY 10001 • Tel: 212 366-1197 • Fax: 212 366-1368