THE WEST INDIES
a short list e-catalogue

DONALD A. HEALD | RARE BOOKS
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ANTIGUA

The Laws of the Island of Antigua...vol. I[-III].

London: 1805–1818. Three volumes, quarto. [8], lxvii, 584; [4], xx, 636; [4], xxvii, 467pp. Library ink stamps and contemporary ownership inscription on titlepages. Light dampstaining, particularly to first leaves of second volume. Tape repair to p.301 in first volume. Twentieth century buckram, leather labels.

The laws of the island of Antigua from 1668 through 1817, also including the laws of the Leeward Islands from 1690 to 1798.

(#28897) $ 5,000
BARBADOS

Acts of Assembly, passed in the Island of Barbadoes [sic]. From 1648, to 1718


Laws of the island of Barbados, from the time of its early settlement by the English to 1718, with much on sugar and slaves.

(#28895) $ 3,750
BARBADOS

A pattern for governours: exemplify’d in the character of Scroop late Lord Viscount Howe, Baron of Clonawly; and Governour of Barbados as gratefully attempted by several of the most ingenious pens of that island, ... To which is added, a publick act of the Council and General Assembly, testifying their gratitude


Rare pamphlet eulogizing the Colonial Governor of Barbados.

(#33975) $ 3,500
WALFORD THOMAS BELLAIERS

Entrance into English Harbour Antigua, taken from Fort Charlotte


A beautiful and historically important image of the entrance to English Harbour (looking inland with a glimpse of Falmouth Harbour beyond) viewed from Fort Charlotte.

(#24270) $ 2,500
WALFORD THOMAS BELLAIRS

_Caranage [i.e. The Carenage, St. George's]_ Grenada


An important view of the inner harbour of St. George's, Grenada: the name 'Carenage' recalls a time when this calm, protected bay was where wooden ships were periodically 'careened' or beached to allow for the cleaning of barnacles from the hull.

(#24266) $ 1,250
RICHARD BLOME

A Description of the Island of Jamaica; with the Other Isles and Territories in America, to which the English are Related

London: T. Milbourne, 1672. 12mo. [8],192pp. Three engraved folding maps. (Small neatly closed tear to largest map). Contemporary calf, neatly rebacked, spine gilt, leather label.

Rare early work on Jamaica and the other American and British Caribbean colonies, published by British mapmaker and bookseller Richard Blome.

(#28594) $18,500
BENEDETTO BORDONE

Isolario di Benedetto Bordone Nel qual si ragiona di tutte l'Isole del mondo, con li lor nomi antichi & moderni, historie, favole, & modi del loro vivere, & in qual parte del mare stanno, & in qual parallelo & clima giacciono. Con la gionta del Monte del Oro novamente ritrovato

Venice: Nicolò d'Aristotile detto Zoppino, 1534. Small folio. Letterpress title in red and black, full-page diagram of a world map, 4 woodcut double-page or folding maps, 4 smaller double-page maps, 103 woodcut maps and plans scattered through the text. Expertly bound to style in contemporary vellum.

Early edition of this important geographical compendium with important New World maps and the earliest description in book form of Pizarro's conquest of Peru.

(#23568) $ 32,000
JOHN HERBERT CADDY

Scenery of the Windward and Leeward Islands


Very rare complete set of among the most desirable 19th century colour aquatint views of West Indian landscape.

(#31669) $ 52,500
LT. ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL

An East View of Fort Royal in the Island of Guadalupe... Drawn on the Spot by Lieut. Arch. Campbell Engineer


A fine and rare image of Guadalupe in the West Indies, taken during the English occupation of the island from 1759 to 1763.

(#3748) $ 2,400
MARK CATESBY

The Natural History of Carolina, Florida, and the Bahama Islands containing the figures of birds, beasts, fishes, serpents, insects and plants

London: printed for Benjamin White, 1771. 2 volumes, folio. Titles and text in English and French. 220 hand-coloured engraved plates by or after Catesby, double-page hand-coloured engraved map. Expertly bound to style in half diced russia and period marbled paper covered boards, spines gilt with raised bands.

"Catesby's Natural History is the most famous colour-plate book of American plant and animal life ... a fundamental and original work for the study of American species" (Hunt).

(#29658) $160,000
BRYAN EDWARDS

A New Atlas of the British West Indies, with a Whole Sheet General Map of the West India Islands, and a Whole Sheet Map of the Island of Hispaniola, or St. Domingo. Engraved to accompany the Philadelphia edition of Edwards's History of the West Indies.


A rare early American atlas.

(#32771) $ 8,500
WILLIAM FADEN

A Chart of the Gulf of Florida or New Bahama Channel, commonly called the Gulf Passage, between Florida, the Isle of Cuba, & the Bahama Islands

London: printed for W. Faden, 1 August 1794. Copper-engraved map, hand-coloured in outline. Good condition, with small neat repairs to fold and upper and lower margin, old light creasing. Sheet size: 24 x 30 1/4 inches.

A spectacular and rare sea-chart of southern Florida, the Keys, the north coast of Cuba and the Bahamas.

(#20525) $22,500
THOMAS GAGE

A New Survey of the West Indies ... The fourth Edition enlarg'd.


A classic account of 17th century Mexico and the West Indies.

(#28319) $ 1.750
A Statement of Facts, connected with the present state of Slavery in the British sugar and coffee colonies, and in the United States of America ... contained in a letter addressed to the Right Hon. Sir Robert Peel ... Second Edition ...


(#27367) $675
PIETER GOOS

Pascaert Vande Caribes Eylanden


Fine seventeenth century sea chart of the islands of the Caribbean, including Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and the Lesser Antilles.

(#27837) $ 1,750
LANSDOWN GUILDING

A series of three views of the Botanic Garden on the island of St. Vincent, West Indies.

[Glasgow: printed for R.Griffin & Company, 1825]. Set of three uncoloured lithographs, drawn on stone by J. Watson (?), from original drawings by L. Guilding, one cut to the edge of the image with loss to the artist's name, two cut to the edge of the image, all on early pink paper mounts within ink ruled borders. Sheet size: 6 1/4 x 8 7/8 inches, and smaller.

Three very early lithographic proofs of views of the island of St. Vincent in the West Indies.

(#15110) $ 1,500
JAMAICA

The Royal Gazette ... [Bound volume of 46 weekly issues of the Royal Gazette, each with corresponding issues of the Supplement to the Royal Gazette and the Postscript to the Royal Gazette].


Very rare bound group of 18th-century newspapers printed in Jamaica at the height of the slave trade.

(#34007) $15,000
THOMAS JEFFERYS

The Natural and Civil History of the French Dominions in North and South America

London: printed for Thomas Jefferys. 1760. 2 parts in one volume, folio (13 3/4 x 8 7/8 inches). Titles printed in red and black. [8], 168; [4], 246pp. 18 engraved folding maps and plans, by Jefferys. Expertly bound to style in half 18th century russia over period marbled paper covered boards, spine with raised bands in seven compartments, morocco lettering piece in the second, the others with a repeat decoration in gilt.

An important mid-18th century work on French Canada, Louisiana and the French colonies in the Caribbean: "A monumental geographical work important equally for its text as well as its maps" (Streeter).

(#28939) $ 28,000
LEEWARD ISLANDS

Acts of Assembly, Passed in the Charibbee Leeward Islands. from 1690, to 1730


Laws for the Leeward Islands, colonized by the British in the late 17th century, comprising Antigua, Montserrat, and the northern islands up to Puerto Rico in the Caribbean chain, such as Anguilla.

(#29153) $ 4,000
PETER MARTYR

*Summario de la Generale Historia de l'Indie Occidentali*

Venice: 1534. 3 parts in one volume, small quarto (7 7/8 x 5 1/2 inches), 1 folding woodcut map of Hispaniola, 4 woodcut illustrations (3 full-page, 1 half page). Bound to style in 18th-century dark red morocco, covers bordered in gilt, spine in six compartments with raised bands, ruled in gilt on either side of each band, lettered in the second compartment.

Important source for primary material on the New World.

(#25121) $ 45,000
MONTSESRAT

Acts of Assembly, Passed in the Island of Montserrat; from 1668, to 1740, Inclusive. [bound with]: Acts of Assembly, Passed in the Charibbee Leeward Islands, from 1690, to 1705


Laws of Monserrat and the Leeward Islands.

(#28896) $ 5,000
DOMINIC SERRES

A View of the Port of La Trinité and all the north side of Martinique, Taken by the Right Honble. Augustus Hervey Febry. the 11th. 1762

London: Torre, [circa 1769]. Copper engraving, by Peter Charles Canot, in very good condition. Sheet size: 16 5/16 x 28 1/8 inches.

An excellent image of the naval action in Martinique during the Seven Years War.

(#5683) $ 2,850
SLAVERY - THOMAS CLARKE

Autograph letter signed, to Benjamin Hawes, a lengthy letter concerning the abolition of slavery in the West Indies and the conversion of plantation slave labor into a free labor system.

Ipswich: 9 June 1842. 9pp. Early annotation at the top right corner.

An incredible content 9-page letter about the transition from slavery to free labor in the West Indies: "... you cannot force these to labour by the whip, as they are now free Men ..."

(#31578) $12,000
SOCIETY FOR THE ABOLITION OF THE SLAVE TRADE

At a Committee of the SOCIETY, instituted in 1787, for the Purpose of Effecting the Abolition of the Slave Trade [caption title].

London: 28 July 1789. 3pp., printed on a bifolium. Old folds. Lower right hand corner trimmed away from both leaves, not affecting text.

A newsletter and expense report from 1789 for The Society for Effecting the Abolition of the Slave Trade, signed in print by its chairman Granville Sharp.

(#33606) $1,000
ST. LUCIA

An original drawing with a Royal Navy warship firing her cannon out to sea, titled 'Pigeon Island from the Town of Gros Islet,' St. Lucia.

[St. Lucia: circa 1800]. Pen, ink and wash drawing within an ink-ruled border, titled in the margin beneath in ink in a contemporary hand. Image size: 6 5/8 x 9 7/8 inches; sheet size: 7 5/8 x 10 5/8 inches.

A fine early view recalling St. Lucia's turbulent past.

(#24262) $1,000