

☛ BENJAMIN FRANKLIN ANTIQUARIAN

[NOTE: Please contact us at thekaykramers@charter.net with any questions you may have.]

1. AUSTEN-LEIGH, RICHARD ARTHUR. *The Story of a Printing House: Being a Short Account of the Strahans and Spottiswoodes*. Spottiswoode & Co. London, 1912.
Second edition, revised. Cloth-backed boards. Fine. \$45
2. BACHE, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN. *Truth Will Out! The Foul Charges of the Tories Against the Editor of the Aurora Repelled by Positive Proof and Plain Truth and His Base Calumniators Put to Shame*. Benj. Franklin Bache. [Philadelphia, 1798].
The editor of the anti-Federalist Philadelphia *Aurora* was one of the chief targets of the Sedition Law of 1798. In this pamphlet he accuses the Adams administration of studied attempts to curb the press." McCoy Among others, William Cobbett "urged suppression of the *Aurora* and that Bache be treated as a 'a Traitor, a Jew, a Jacobin, or a Dog.'" Id. Bache was arrested in June 1798 for libeling President Adams, but died three weeks before the trial began. This, the first issue, does not have the type ornament at the base of page 12. Disbound. A very good copy. \$450
3. BARCLAY, ROBERT. *An Apology for the True Christian Divinity as the Same is Held Forth, and Preached, by the People, called in Scorn, Quakers*. James Franklin. Newport, 1729.
Printed by Benjamin Franklin's brother. A very nice copy in contemporary paneled calf. \$1200
4. BIGELOW, JOHN. *The Life of Benjamin Franklin, Written by Himself*. J. B. Lippincott & Co. Philadelphia, 1874.
First edition. Three volumes. Bindings are all in excellent condition. The pages are clean and bright. No inscriptions or bookplates. Pebbled cloth over beveled boards. A fine set. \$1800
5. BIGELOW, JOHN. *Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin. Edited from His Manuscript with Notes and an Introduction*. J. B. Lippincott & Co. Philadelphia, 1868.
First complete edition of Franklin's autobiography, containing the first appearance of the previously un-published (part four) conclusion found in manuscript form years after Franklin's death. "In it one sees him as a typical though great example of 18th-century enlightenment, a Yankee Puritan who could agree with Rousseau and Voltaire, and use the same language of Defoe and Addison with a general homely twang." HART Very nice copy in pebbled cloth over beveled boards. \$750
6. BURDICK, WILLIAM. *An Oration and the Nature and Effects of the Art of Printing. Delivered in Franklin Hall, July 5, 1802, before the Boston Franklin Association*. Munroe & Francis. Boston, 1802.
First edition. Modern cloth with slipcase. Fine. \$150
7. *The Charters of the Province of Pensilvania and City of Philadelphia. WITH A Collection of All the Laws of the Province of Pennsylvania: Now in Force. WITH An Appendix, &c.* B. Franklin. Philadelphia, 1742.
First edition of Benjamin Franklin's printing of the laws of colonial Pennsylvania. The need for a correct edition of the laws of Pennsylvania was recognized in 1737, near the end of Franklin's first year as clerk of the Assembly. Early in 1739 "the Assembly requested . . . a revision of the whole body of the laws. . . . On August 12, 1741, the Assembly passed the resolution authorizing the new edition . . . with the stipulation 'that One Hundred and Twenty Copies be bound for the use of the Publick . . .' [Franklin] finished the presswork in the spring of 1743 . . . one year later than the date on the imprint." MILLER. Contemporary sheep. A very good copy. \$11,500
8. FISHER, SYDNEY GEORGE. *The True Benjamin Franklin*. J. B. Lippincott Company. Philadelphia, 1899.
Second edition. Originally issued the preceding year. Handsome three-quarter bound tan morocco with marbled paper sides. A very fine copy. \$150
9. FRANKLIN, BENJAMIN. *An Historical Review of the Constitution and Government of Pensylvania, from its Origin*. R. Griffiths. London, 1759.
First edition. Authorship attributed to Franklin for many years, but was more likely written by his co-agent in London, Richard Jackson, with Franklin's advice. The work, in reviewing the history of the province, argues for the rights of the of the Assembly over the Proprietors. Handsome period-style binding. A fine copy in modern paneled calf. \$1500

10. FRANKLIN, BENJAMIN. *Political, Miscellaneous, and Philosophical Pieces; Arranged Under the Following Heads*. . . . J. Johnson. London, 1779.
First edition containing a number of Franklin first printings. Only edition of Franklin's writings, other than scientific, published with his knowledge and consent during his lifetime. It was published in London during the Revolution while he was serving as American ambassador to France. Franklin writes concerning national and provincial politics, the Stamp Act, wealth, smuggling, spelling, lightening, weather, and the Aurora Borealis. His famous epitaph is printed prior to a lengthy appendix, an index, and Franklin's Addenda & Corrigenda. Engraved frontispiece portrait of Franklin, three engraved plates with one folding. Contemporary calf with spine chipped at head and foot. Text block solid. Front cover detached but present. \$6750
11. FRANKLIN, BENJAMIN. *The Way to Wealth or Poor Richard Improved*. Printed for Ant. Aug. Renouard by P. Causse, Dijon. Paris, 1795.
First edition thus. Engraved frontispiece portrait after Duplessis. Includes: "The Way to Wealth," "La Science du Bonhomme Richard," "Lettres de Franklin," Avertissement," "Lettre a Madame," "Dialogue entre la Goutte et Franklin," "Quelques Mots sur L'Amérique. . . ." and a separately paginated 28-page section "Observations sur les Sauvages du Nord de L' Amérique." Contemporary magenta paper over boards. Slightly rubbed, but internally a fine copy. \$2750
12. FRANKLIN, BENJAMIN. *The Way to Wealth, as Clearly Shewn in the Preface of an Old Pennsylvania Almanack, Intituled Poor Richard Improved*. Brightly and Donkin. Bermondsey, Surry, 1819.
Separated from a collection of pamphlets. A very early effort to print with a cylinder press was patented by Charles Brightly a printer and Bryan Donkin a well known engineer in 1818. From ATF library where it was listed as probably unique. A very good copy. \$450
13. FRANKLIN, BENJAMIN. *The Works of the Late Dr. Benjamin Franklin*. . . . Longman, Hurst, Rees, and Orme, London, 1806.
Early edition. Two volumes. This collection contains 35 of Franklin's popular essays and a retranslation of his autobiography (first published in French in 1791) with a continuation of his life by Stuber and extracts from his will. Three essays appear for the first time: "Sketch of an English School," "On the Theory of the Earth," and "Loose Thoughts on an Universal Fluid." FORD 464 Howes F323. Sabin 25600. Copper engraved frontispiece portrait in Volume I. Early twentieth-century full calf gilt handsomely bound by Zaehnsdorf. Morocco owner bookplate. A fine pair. \$850
14. FRANKLIN, BENJAMIN. *The Works of the Late Dr. Benjamin Franklin*. . . . E. Duyckinck, J. C. Totten, printer. New York, 1807.
A collection of popular essays by Franklin, edited by Benjamin Vaughn, that are "humourous, moral, and literary essays, chiefly in the manor of the Spectator." Copper engraved frontispiece portrait by Maverick and a retranslation into English from the French edition of Franklin's autobiography with a continuation of his life by Stuber. Modern period style quarter calf with marbled paper boards. A very nice copy. \$400
15. FRANKLIN, BENJAMIN. *The Life of Benjamin Franklin Written by Himself*. D. Mallory. New York, 1825.
This book was first published in the United States under this title in 1794. Small 16mo. Very good copy in contemporary calf. \$75
16. FRANKLIN, BENJAMIN. *Memoirs of Benjamin Franklin Written by Himself and Continued by His Grandson and Others*. M'Carty & Davis Philadelphia, 1834.
Two volumes. Speckled calf. Hinges rubbed else a fine pair. \$275
17. FRANKLIN, BENJAMIN. *The Works of Dr. Benj. Franklin, Consisting of Essays, Humorous, Moral, and Literary, with His Life, Written by Himself*. J. and B. Williams. Exeter, 1835.
Standard gift edition of Franklin's works. Original binding. Later bookplate pasted over 1836 bookplate. Small 16mo. A very good copy in contemporary calf. \$140
18. [FRANKLIN, BENJAMIN] *A Sketch of the Origin, Object, and Character of the Franklin Fund for the Benefit of Young Married Mechanics of Boston*. Alfred Mudge and Son, City Printers. Boston, 1866.
City Document, No. 89, City of Boston. A summary of Benjamin Franklin's will. Printed wrappers. A fine copy. \$100

19. HOLLEY, O. L. *The Life of Benjamin Franklin*. G. G. Evans Publisher. Philadelphia, 1860.
Original pebbled cloth. Backstrip loose, but internally fine. \$140
20. LIVINGSTON, LUTHER S. *Franklin and His Press at Passy*. The Grolier Club. New York, 1914.
First edition. One of 300 copies on Van Gelder paper plus three additional copies on Alton Mill paper. With 43 reproductions including a terra-cotta bust of Franklin, views of Franklin's house at Passy, and numerous title and opening page reproductions of the 'Bagatelles' issued from the press at Passy. Designed by Bruce Rogers. Without slipcase. Quarter cloth and printed marbled boards. Fine. \$300
21. LOGAN, JAMES. [TRANSLATOR] *M. T. Cicero's Cato Major, or Discourse on Old Age . . . with Explanatory Notes by Benj. Franklin, LL.D.* Fielding and Walker. London, 1778.
First British edition reprinted from the Philadelphia edition printed by Franklin in 1744. Logan's "name was dropped, the engraved frontispiece carried a portrait of Franklin, his preface was carefully pruned to make it appear that he had done the translation, and on the title were the words 'with Explanatory Notes by Benj. Franklin'" MILLER Later half morocco. Fine. \$400
22. M'NEILE, HUGH, REV. *A Lecture on the Life of Dr. Franklin . . .* W. E. Painter. London, 1842.
Second edition. Illustrated with an engraving of a press at which Franklin worked when a journeyman in London, printed, on a detached page, at that identical press. Yellow wrapper. Fine. \$150
23. NEWTON, A. EDWARD. *Mr. Strahan's Dinner Party, A Comedy in One Act with Prologue and Epilogue by A. Edward Newton and a Note by Edward F. O'Day*. Book Club of California. San Francisco, 1930.
Number 301 of 350 copies. Newton's play describes a mythical meeting between Dr. Franklin and Dr. Johnson at the printer William Strahan's house. Signed by the author. Printed by John Henry Nash. A nice copy. \$150
24. ROSENBACH, A.S.W. *The All-Embracing Dr. Franklin*. Privately Printed. Philadelphia, 1932.
Number 143 of 198 copies. Rosenbach felt that if Franklin's adventures in love "were as well known as his experiments in electricity or his feats of statesmanship we would be even prouder of him then we are today." Distributed by The Rosenbach Company as a Christmas keepsake. This copy was sold to John W. Hancock. A letter to Hancock from Percy E. Lawler, an employee of Rosenbach's for over 30 years, a mailing label, and New York Times book review are laid in. With slipcase. Quarter calf. Fine. \$475
25. SACHSE, JULIUS FREDERICH. *Benjamin Franklin as a Free Mason Compiled at the Request of the Right Worshipful Grand Master of Pennsylvania. . . .*, Philadelphia, 1906.
Edition limited to 200 copies of which this is copy "A". Gilt medallion of Franklin on cover, portrait frontispiece of Franklin, and 18 plates with illustrations and facsimiles in the text. Printed paper spine label, red ribbon bookmark, and top edge gilt. Red cloth. Fine copy with slipcase. \$450
26. *A Fragment of the Chronicles of Nathan ben Sadi*. Philobiblon Club, 1904.
One of 150 copies on hand-made paper. This is a 1904 facsimile re-issue of the original 1758 printing. Twelve pages of introductory text written by Samuel W. Pennypacker, plus the facsimile itself, which consists of 15 plates. Light brown paper over boards with light chipping along the spine. \$100
27. SMITH, JOHN. *The Doctrine of Christianity, as Held by the People Called Quakers, Vindicated: in Answer to Gilbert Tennent's Sermon on the Lawfulness of War*. Benjamin Franklin and David Hall. Philadelphia, 1748.
Some interior staining else a nice copy in modern quarter cloth and marbled boards. \$250
28. SMITH, WILLIAM, D.D. *Eulogium on Benjamin Franklin, L.L.D.* Delivered March 1, 1791. Benjamin Franklin Bache. Philadelphia, 1792.
First edition. Smith delivered this eulogy, later reprinted in London, before the American Philosophical Society, of which Franklin had been president; and he reviews Franklin's distinguished career. On the verso of the second leaf. Smith acknowledges the assistance of David Rittenhouse, Thomas Jefferson, Jonathan Williams, and Benjamin Rush. The appendix contains some of Franklin's papers referred to in the "eulogium." A fine copy in modern marbled wrappers. \$850

29. WOLLASTON, WILLIAM. *The Religion of Nature Delineated*. S. Palmer. London, 1725.

Third edition. Preceded by a small private printing and the first Palmer printing. Engraved frontispiece portrait of Wollaston. This edition was typeset by a young Benjamin Franklin. In London in 1724, Franklin found employment at Palmer's printing house and writes in his autobiography: "At Palmer's I was employed in composing the second edition [second Palmer printing, actually the third edition of the work] of Wollaston's *The Religion of Nature Delineated*. Some of his reasonings not appearing to me well founded, I wrote a little metaphysical piece in which I made remarks on them. It was entitled 'A Dissertation on Liberty and Necessity, Pleasure and Pain.' I inscribed it to my friend . . . [and] printed a small number." Alexander Pope is said to have taken some thoughts from *The Religion of Nature Delineated* into his *Essays on Man*. Contemporary brown calf, raised bands, gilt spine, elaborately blind-tooled and gilt-decorated, gilt inside dentelles, marbled endpapers, and all edges gilt. A fine copy. \$1500

☞ **OTHER FRANKLIN-RELATED ITEMS**

30. "State of Franklinia."

The State of Franklin, which existed as an independent state for about four years from 1784, was initially supposed to be the fourteenth state. It was located on territory that is now the northeastern part of Tennessee. (Davy Crocket wasn't born on a mountain top in Tennessee in 1786. He was actually born in the state of Franklin.) On this map, "Franklinia" is shown between Tennessee and North Carolina. Titled "The United States of America Confirmed by Treaty 1783," this map was published February 10, 1806 by R. Wilkinson, No. 58, Cornhill, London. Nicely hand colored. 12-5/8" wide x 10" high. \$325



31. CHAPMAN, J. *Benjamin Franklin*. J. Williams. London, 1806.

Framed and matted color stipple engraving by J. Chapman in excellent condition, with good margins. Below the oval is a remarque of a large and a small building. Above them is a lightning storm. Two are figures flying a kite. Text below the oval indicates J. Chapman Sculp. Text below the remarque says Benjamin Franklin, L.L.D. "London Published as the Act Directs May 24TH 1806 by J. Wilkes" Engraving size: 8" h x 6" w; oval 4-1/2" h x 3-1/2" w; (overall frame size: 14" h x 12" w). \$600



32. NINI, JEAN BAPTISTE. *Profile Portrait in Terracotta Medallion of Benjamin Franklin.*

Jean Baptiste Nini's circular terracotta medallion, 3-1/2 inches in diameter (overall frame size: 9-3/8" h x 9-1/2" w) showing Franklin wearing his trademark fur cap. In old, if not period, fruitwood frame. Imprinted around the perimeter: B. Franklin Americain. Inscription beneath the left shoulder: NINI/F 1777/1777 and crest. This medallion was created at the height of Franklin's popularity in France. In Paris in October 1776, after he returned from England to the colonies where he participated in the ratification and signing of the Declaration of Independence, Franklin resumed his diplomatic service abroad, this time in France. Franklin became an instant celebrity in Paris and in early 1777 Franklin achieved his greatest diplomatic success, the promise of French assistance in the war against Great Britain. \$3000



33. AUGUSTIN DE ST. AUBIN. *Benjamin Franklin.*

Framed and matted copper engraving by Augustin de St. Aubin after C. N. Cochin. Published by Cochin and St. Aubin, Paris, 1777. Panel below the portrait: Benjamin Franklin, né à Boston dans la Nouvelle Angleterre le 17 Janvier 1706. Below the engraving: Dessiné par C. N. Cochin Chevalier de l'Ordre du Roi en 1777 et Gravé par Aug. de St. Aubin Graveur de la Bibliotheque du Roi. Se vend à Paris chés C. N. Cochin aux Galleries du Louvre; et chés Aug. de St. Aubin rue des Mathurins. *Journal de Paris* announced the publication of this print and the court paper *Le Mercure de France* discussed it. Franklin sent one to his family in the summer of 1777. It shows him with a fur cap that he wore in the winter of 1776-77. This headgear attracted the notice of the French public, who associated it with a hat worn by the French philosopher, Jean-Jacques Rousseau (1712-1778). In part because of favorable early French reactions to his simple manner of dressing, Franklin did not adopt the more formal costume of an ambassador, except for court appearances. Some related his garb to that of French men of letters and others to American Quaker clothing. Engraving size: 8-3/4" h x 6-1/4" w (overall frame size: 14-1/4" h x 9-3/4" w). \$500



34. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN 1794 engraving by GRAINGER (1765-1809)

Appearing below the image:

“W. Grainger. Sculp^t”

“Benjn. Franklin”

“London. Published by H. D. Symonds; Patternoster Row.

September the 25 1794”

Nicely matted in a heavy mat hinged on the left.

Overall mat size: 8-1/2" w by 10" h.

Engraving size: 2-3/4" x 3-3/4" oval.

Sheet size: 5" w b 8-1/4" h

\$125

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35. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN 1863 engraving

Appearing below the image:

Franklin facsimile signature

“From the original painting by Chappel in the possession of the publishers”

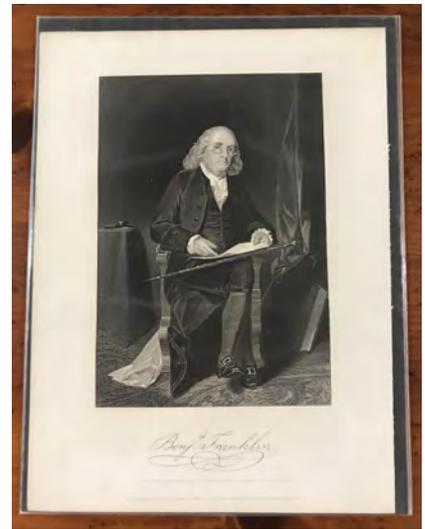
“Entered according to Act of Congress AD 1863 by Johnson, Fry & Co,
in the clerk’s office of the southern district of N.Y.”

Engraving size: 5-1/8" w x 7-1/2" h.

Sheet size: 8" w by 10-3/4" h

\$25

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36. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN 1780 engraving by POLLARD (1755-1838)

Appearing below the image:

“Pollard Sculp^t”

“B. Franklin, L.L.D., R.R.S.”

Nicely matted in a heavy mat hinged on the top. Overall mat size: 11" w by 14" h.

Engraving size: 3-3/4" w x 5-3/4" h.

Sheet size: 5" w by 8-3/8" h

\$85

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01/01/2022