Glimpses of China...and Japan

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1. [ANCESTOR PAINTINGS] Two vintage ancestor portraits, hand painted on silk, artist initial-signed. Matted, but unframed. Matted sizes 11-½ x 14 inches, painting sizes 6x9 inches. Traditionally, these paintings were for use in ancestor worship. They were always painted in full frontal position, in carved chairs and wearing formal elaborate robes. Women’s feet were always hidden. Great care was taken to record an ancestor’s face accurately, otherwise prayers meant for them might go to the wrong person. The two paintings are delicate and detailed, colors bright, and in generally good condition. The empress portrait has a small blemish to the silk, top right, which is covered by the mat. $250

2. [BEIJING] Peking: A Historical and Intimate Description of its Chief Places of interest, by Juliet Bredon. Third edition published in Shanghai by Kelly and Walsh in 1931. With the handsome colorful dust jacket. Probably the most famous “guide book” – yet more than a traditional guide book – to old Peking, written by Bredon, who lived in Peking and was the niece of Sir Robert Hart, a powerful official and insider to the Imperial Court. Wonderful and comprehensive descriptions of the Forbidden City, Summer Palace, Tartar Wall, Western Hills and more. With 29 photographic illustrations including a frontispiece showing the Ming Tombs and seven foldout maps. 571 pages. Very good condition in a very good, lovely dust jacket. SOLD.
3. [BOXER REBELLION] Bombardment of Tientsin, China. Boxer Rebellion Stereo View Card, issued by Underwood & Underwood, New York/London/Toronto/Ottawa-Kansas, showing the destructive guns of H. M. S. Terrible and resulting burning of Tientsin, China in the distance. Copyright 1901.

The HMS Terrible was a British Royal Navy ship, built in the 1890s. It served in the China Station, notably participating in the Boxer Rebellion. The ship and its relief force reached the foreign quarter of Tientsin on June 24, 1900, where it defeated the Chinese Boxers in the middle of July. A second relief expedition followed to Peking in August. Captions in six languages on the back side. Very good condition. $35.

4. [BOXER REBELLION] A Yellow World, by Li Hung Chang III Son of Li Hung Chang. First edition, published by Frederick Brown in 1900. Hardcover, 4x7 inches, 60 pages, very good condition. Brown, the publisher, lived in Shanghai during the Boxer Rebellion, where he came across letters written to Viceroy Liu Kun-Yih by Li Hung Chang III, the son of the first secretary to the chief of the Boxers at Tsi-Nan.

The text from the letters explains in detail the Boxers’ philosophies, basically an excoriation of all whites and blacks. Despite the harsh sentiments of the letters, Liu did not follow the edicts of the Boxers to eliminate all foreigners. Uncommon. Some interesting excerpts:

Civilized humanity of human color (yellow) is engaged in a war to the death with the white and black barbarians, and this war cannot and shall not cease till the earth is cleansed of the last drop of their polluting blood...All immediate danger of aggression lies with the white skins...Their terrible passions and warlike instincts will, however, render them their own chief destroyers until, as a hopeless minority, they will one day be exterminated to the last man by the races they have so long abused.

Nothing proves the incapacity and childishly barbaric smallness of the Caucasian brain than the bombastic policy of race suicide pursued by that nation of pudgy braggarts known as Great Britain. So absurdly and pompously vain are these bleached-faced little descendants of the savages...their abdomens unduly extended...they imagine themselves the governors of the world, and the equals of the Chinese.

The pig-eating Americans think that they have acquired the Philippine Islands, because they send some soldier boys there to die under its scorching sun... SOLD
5. [BOXER REBELLION] **Military Order of the Dragon 1900-1911, published 1912.** Press of Byron S. Adams, Washington D.C. First edition. **Personal copy of Captain Abraham U. Loeb, 9th Infantry, with his signature.** The Military Order of the Dragon was a society for officers who served in the Boxer Rebellion in China. The book was prepared as a souvenir for members of the Order, to memorialize the Expedition (China Relief Expedition of 1900), which was organized for the relief of the foreign legation in Peking. The foreword contains a list and short description of the various campaigns of the Expedition that led up to the relief of the Legations. Includes the Constitution of the Military Order of the Dragon and listings of US Army, Navy and Marine Corps officers of the Order, staff and soldiers killed in action or dying in North China, as well as members from America, Austria, Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and Russia.

Contains scores of fascinating black and white photographic illustrations, including Boxer prisoners, the American and British Legations’ rubble and ruins, refugees, groups of officers of various countries, The Forbidden City, captured Chinese cannon, palace eunuchs, General Chaffee (Commander of the US Army’s Relief Expedition) and staff, many more. Chaffee was founder of the Military Order of the Dragon. 6 x 9-½ inch hardcover. Very good condition. **SOLD**

6. [CHINA VIEW BOOK] **Views of China P.P.I.E. 1915.** Hardcover view book published in conjunction with the Pan Pacific International Exposition. Text in English and Chinese. 10x7-½ inches. Contains 53 bordered black and white images of iconic landmarks in China, including The Great Wall in Southern Manchuria; Lama Tower at Jehol; Chin Temple Taiyuanfu, Shansi; The ‘Little Orphan’ in the Yangtse near Kiukiang; The Great Buddha’s Temple, West Lake, Hangchow, Chekiang; The ‘Cow-liver Gorge’ Ichang, Hupeh; Chain Bridge Yunghsien, Szechwan; A Bird’s Eye View of Swatow; Kwantung; and the Winter Palace Peking. Very good condition. **SOLD.**
7. [CHINESE SOLDIER IN WW2] Small archive of photos and ephemera documenting the experiences of a Chinese soldier on a U. S. military education tour at Pittsburg, Kansas during World War II. Three 8x10 photographs, one 6x10, and one 8x10 copy of a group photograph; May 1944 issue of *The Down Wind*, a newspaper for the 2560th AAF Base Unit and McFarland Flying Service, Pittsburg Kansas with an article about him and photograph; his 1942 transit pass dated June 17 for the S. S. Brazil (via Cape Town); and a program for his graduation party May 28, 1944 from flight school training class.

McFarland Flying Service out of Pittsburg Kansas Airport was a civilian-run pilot school that trained commissioned officers to become pilots. Lieutenant Chih Shih, a native of Manchuria, China, and Chinese army officer, was assigned to the pilot school for a period during 1943-1944 studying potential methods for driving the Japanese out of Manchuria. The photographs show Chih Shih alone, with American soldiers, one with a small American boy, several with planes in the background. One shows him with a group of American soldiers, presumably his training class (44-EL-10), and *on the back is a grid hand-signed by each man in the photograph*. The copy photo shows a group entitled Officers’ Motor Class No. 31, Section 1, 1943, with names of each soldier, including Shih. SOLD
8. [CHINESE-AMERICAN IN WW2] Archive of photos and ephemera documenting the experiences of Wah Lee, a Chinese-American man during and after his World War II service. An archive of photographs (both service- and family-related), Army “buddies memory book”, his handwritten manual containing B-29 airplane engine/electrical specifications and other information, post-WWII Veterans Administration correspondence, UC Berkeley school records, China War Relief Association letters (in Chinese) and other ephemera. 59 photographs (not all shown), most 3 ½ x 5 to 3 ¼ x 2 ¼ inches, one 5x7 and one 8x10. Nine of the images are military-related, the rest show Wah Lee and family members (including ten showing Lee in military uniform with family).

Wah Lee (b. Canton, China 1924, d. Sacramento, CA 2004) was born in China, but became an American citizen and lived in San Francisco. In 1943 at 19 years old he was drafted to serve in the Army, stationed at Amarillo Army Air Field, Texas and later flew in B-29s in the Asian Theatre. He also spent some time at Salina, Kansas Smoky Hill Army Air Field. Comments in his “service memory book” indicate he may have trained to be a pilot. Following WWII, he attended City College of San Francisco, graduating with an AA degree, and then attended UC Berkeley; he was in the real estate business in California for many years. In later life he was active in the Chinese community in the Bay Area, as grand president of the Chinese Benevolent Association of San Francisco, grand president of the Gee Tuck San Tuck Association (an organization with the mission of improving the welfare of the Chinese community), and commander of the 15th District VFW post. SOLD
9. [EMBASSY EXPEDITION] A Narrative of the British Embassy to China in the Years 1792, 1793 and 1794 containing the Various Circumstances of the Embassy with Accounts of Customs and Manners of the Chinese and a Description of the Country, Towns, Cities, &c. &c., by Aeneas Anderson, and published in 1795 for J. Debrett. First edition. Fascinating account of this first diplomatic mission to China in 1793 led by Earl McCartney and Sir George Staunton; Anderson was McCartney’s servant during the mission. Excellent first-hand account of China in the late 1700s. Contains a list of the men accompanying McCartney, an account of the voyage, as well as the city and embassy in Peking, the cities of Canton, Macau, and Jehol, plus a glossary of Chinese words. The author also added "the journal of the Lion and the Hindoostan from Chufan to Canton, as it contains much curious and useful information relative to the navigation of a long range of the coasts of China not generally known..."

Some excerpts:

...their heads [of the soldiers] are shaved round the crown, ears, and neck except a small part on the back of the head, where the hair, which is encouraged to grow to a great length, hangs down their backs in a plait and is tied at the end with a riband. They wear a shallow straw hat very neatly made...

The women at these places, of whom we saw great numbers, have their feet and ankles universally bound with red tape, to prevent, as it is said, their feet from growing of the natural size: so very tight is this bandage drawn round them, that they walk with great difficulty; and when we consider that this extraordinary practice commences with their infancy, it is rather a matter of surprize that they should be able to walk at all.

I shall not omit to mention that, this evening, two of the Chinese belonging to our junk stripped themselves naked, and, picking off the vermine, which were found in great plenty on their clothes proceeded to eat them with as much eagerness and apparent satisfaction, as if they were a gratifying and delicate food.

The streets of this city [Hoang-tchew] are very narrow, but well paved; and the houses, which are two and three stories high, being uniformly built of brick, have a very neat appearance...The warehouses of the merchants exceed any I ever saw, both for splendor and magnitude; while the shops are fitted up, both within and without, in a style of the greatest elegance.

Hardcover, bound in three-quarter leather, with gilt titles and five gilt-decorated raised bands on the spine and marbled boards. 9 x 12 inches. Good condition - boards are slightly scuffed, and pages are foxed to a varying degree -- some none or very little, and a few at the center more heavily. Former owner's name -- Joseph Davies -- written on title page. No illustrations. Firmly bound. A nice copy of a scarce first edition. $750.
10. [GRAVE] [WASHINGTON STATE] **Real photo postcard, showing a Chinese grave in Eastern Washington, c1930s.** On the back of the card is written, “Only the grave of a Chinese section hand. He was working on the tracks in Horse Heaven Hills and was bitten by a rattlesnake. His companions were too superstitious to carry his body on the train with them so they buried him in the sand among the sage brush and put up the board with the Chinese inscription to mark the grave. Notice the words ‘Dead Man’ on the board. Looks rather lonely even for a dead Chink doesn’t it?” Very good condition, unposted. Horse Heaven Hills is today one of Washington’s prime wine-growing areas. **SOLD**

11. [HISTORY] [LATTIMORE] **The Making of Modern China, A Short History, by Owen and Eleanor Lattimore.** Part of the Orientation Officers’ Reference Library, published by The Infantry Journal in 1944. Softcover, 5x7 inches, 178 pages, very good condition. Fighting Forces Edition, a special edition made available only to members of the Armed Services. Owen Lattimore (b. China 1900- d. 1989) was a “China Hand”, expert on China and Central Asia, a writer and educator, and an advisor to Chiang Kai-Shek and the American government. He was (wrongly) accused of being a spy during the McCarthy era. He and his wife, Eleanor, who was a writer herself, lived in China for many years and took arduous expeditions throughout the country. The book covers Chinese history, the Chinese Revolution and modern Chinese history, Manchuria, changes in China and its potential future. Contains several maps. **$40.**

12. [LUGGAGE LABELS] [GUANGZHOU] **Set of three colorful vintage luggage labels for the Bai Yun Hotel, Guangzhou, China.** A hotel by this name still exists in Guangzhou and is located on East Huanshi Road in the city’s business district. Labels are unused, 2-½ x 3-¾ inches. **$25.**
13. [MAP, JAPAN] **Map of Japan for Sightseers. Illustrated map of Japan, c1946**, apparently just following WWII, which is interesting, considering Japan's situation at the time. 44x10 inches unfolded, paper. Text is in English and Japanese. A series of panels on one side show Tokyo and Yokohama; Osaka, Kobe and Nagoya; and Hokkaido; on the reverse the islands of Honshu, Shikoku and Kyushu. Explanatory notes at bottom inform that the map indicates electric railways, local railways, state and local buses, skating rinks, skiing, hot springs, historic places, ancient battlefields and more. Nice design in color. Very good condition. **SOLD**

14. [MATSUSHIMA ISLAND] **Two antique hand-colored photographs of Japan.** Framed in wood under glass; frames have carved beading around the edges. Framed size 11-½ x 14 inches; visible photograph size 7-⅞ x 10. One image shows a pagoda on Matsushima Island, Japan (this is marked on the back along with something that looks like “Godai church”); the other image is of a Japanese sailing craft with two people at the bow (marked on the back “Japanese junk”). **$175.**
William Hector Park (1858-1927), was an American Methodist missionary physician who founded the Soochow Hospital in 1883. He was born in Georgia to a slave-owning family. Dr. Park and his wife spent more than forty decades in China. The memoir recounts his early years (including several pages on his recollections of family slaves) and lengthy reflections on the American Civil War, although most of the book deals with his call to mission work in China, arrival and early days in Soochow, efforts to become part of the community, the anti-foot-binding movement, and his medical experiences including medical trips to other communities. The Soochow Hospital he founded became renowned for its medical practices and for academic training of medical assistants. Park was a member of the Anti-Opium League along with Hampden Du Bose; he solicited opinions from physicians practicing in China on the advantages and disadvantages of opium and used them to influence the governments of the U.S. and Britain. The President of China, Yuan Shi Kai, presented Dr. Park with the highest decoration in his power. Very good condition with former owner’s name written on front cover, first blank end paper and first title page, moisture mark to back of front cover and blank end paper. SOLD
was a nurse, however she died suddenly in China just a few years after they married. Contains ten black and white photographic illustrations showing various views of the hospital, the staff, patients, the dispensary and a view of Foochow. Interesting narrative, some of which documents unusual patient problems dealt with and their resolutions and changes to the hospital and neighborhood following the Revolution. Several additional items are laid in, including a donation request form; a small advertisement listing number of patients treated in 1898, average cost per patient and reasons why the hospital is needed in the community; an address by Dr. Wellington Koo, Columbia University, given in Peking as part of a Union Prayer Service; and a 3-page flyer entitled “Have You Read this Pamphlet?” discussing the Hospital’s work and requesting donations. Very good condition. SOLD

17. [MISSIONARY MAP] Map of China Showing the Stations of the China Inland Mission, published in London by The China Inland Mission, Newington Green, 1905. 18-½ x 21 inches unfolded. Color map on linen backing showing the locations (underlined in red) of resident missionary stations throughout China. The map also shows railways and other landmarks. Brown covers with black titles. Small inset map bottom left corner showing the environs of Peking and one showing England and Wales in upper left corner. Very uncommon.

The China Inland Mission was an interdenominational Protestant missionary group, founded in England in 1865. In 1900 during the Boxer Rebellion attacks on the missionaries of the organization were widespread; many adults and children were killed, and missions destroyed. This map dates from shortly after that siege. Excellent condition. $650
18. [OPIUM] The Last Days of the Poppy – Interviews with Viceroy and Governors: The German Government Approves: When Seventy Years are Accomplished: The Death and Burial of Opium. The Annual Report of the A. O. L., by Hampden C. Du Bose (Chairman of the Anti-Opium League). Published by the Methodist Printing House, Shanghai, 1909. Staple-bound paper wraps, 18 pages, 5-½ x 8-½ inches. Du Bose (1845-1910), an American Presbyterian missionary, came to China in 1872 to start the Soochow Mission and remained in China for 38 years. He worked to draw international attention to the perils of the opium trade and its negative impact on the country, including founding the Anti-Opium League, enlisting the support of President Roosevelt and presenting a petition to the Chinese emperor signed by 1000 missionaries. This booklet presents the anti-opium viewpoint – which includes closing opium dens, stopping poppy cultivation and requiring officials to “abandon the pipe” -- and chronicles efforts of the group. Very good condition, with (light) library stamp on the front cover; small split about one inch from bottom of spine. SOLD

19. [PEOPLE AND CULTURE] China and the Chinese, by the Rev. John L. Nevius. Published by Harper & Brothers in 1868. First edition. Hardcover, 456 pages, with 50 illustrations including a fold-out map of China. A discussion of the country and its people, religion and social institutions, interactions with other countries and prospects. Nevius (1829-1893) and his wife were Presbyterian missionaries in China for 40 years, in Ningbo, Chefoo and other locations. He studied and was particularly interested in spirit possession and the supernatural, and one of the chapters of the book deals with that subject. Interesting narrative on orphanages, asylums, animal asylums, society for suppression of immoral books, beggars, widow relief. $165.

open Japan to the West, one of the most important diplomatic missions ever undertaken by an American naval officer, the goal of which was to force Japan to end its isolationist policies and enter diplomatic and trade relations with the U.S. He did this with a show of naval force and, at the time, Japan had no navy with which to counter. More Western nations followed suit and massive changes ensued, eventually sealing the fate of Japan’s feudal system. On his return Perry worked jointly with Hawks on the report. The daguerreotypist E. Brown, Jr. went on the expedition and took what were probably some of the earliest photographic images of Japan, many of them reproduced lithographically here. Profusely illustrated set. Vol 1 has 89 lithographic plates, most in color, including three color “facsimiles” of Japanese woodblock prints (2 folding), several maps and charts (2 folding), and more than 75 woodcuts in the text. Vol 2 has 4 lithographs of Chinese scenes, 2 uncolored natural history engraved plates, 5 hand-colored bird lithographs, 10 hand-colored steel engravings of fish, and 5 lithographs of shells (2 hand colored), 16 diagram plates of winds and currents, a 14-page facsimile of the Japanese version of the U.S.-Japan treaty, numerous maps (2 folding) and charts, and many woodcuts within the text. Vol 3 has woodcut star charts throughout.

Three large, heavy 9x12 inch hardcovers handsomely bound in later brown half calf and marbled boards. Spines with gilt titles and gilt rules. Significantly, this copy includes the nude bathing scene (Vol 1, page 408) which is not included in the list of plates and not issued in all copies, as it was suppressed in some. Very good condition, a handsome set, with light wear to edges of boards.

$2750.

22. [STUDENT GUIDE] Social Life in America, by J. M. McCaleb, published by The Commercial Press Ltd., Shanghai, 1917. Student’s Library Series. 4x6 inch softcover, 196 pages. Tips, guidance and suggested ‘conversations’ and idiomatic expressions for Chinese students either planning a trip to the United States or imagining what such a trip would be like. Some of the contents include preparation for the voyage, going ashore, boarding a train at San Francisco, traveling from California to Tennessee, scenes along a country road, a horseback ride, entering a country home, a walk about the farm, a coon hunt, and more. Fair condition, cover page coming loose about half way down, chipping to title page, and notation in pencil on the title page, closed tear to first two pages. In a protective mylar cover. $125.

23. [XENOPHOBIA] [PORTLAND, OR] Original newspaper clipping discussing a xenophobic letter to the Portland, Oregon Evening Telegram, 1879. Titled “Chinese Lovers”, the letter had been sent by a reader to the newspaper on August 25, 1879. The writer requests other readers to help him or her find a Protestant sect in the city of Portland that does not encourage, protect and actually love the Chinese. The writer is annoyed because his/her pastor said he would preach to 150 Chinese expected to attend on Sunday, and if the “white audience retire in consequence, he would preach to the Chinese”. The writer calls the Chinese pagans. $40.
24. [YELLOW PERIL] The Yellow Peril: Fact or Fiction, published by New China Youth, c1970. 16-page paper pamphlet. The narrative’s stated aim was to dispel misleading and xenophobic beliefs that Americans had about China, the Chinese “menace” to the Western world, and Chinese people. Reproductions of photos and illustrations show what is termed misleading cartoons, erroneous translations of Chinese characters in American publications, and incorrectly captioned photographs of bodies purported to be Chinese. 5-⅛ x 8-½ inches. Very good condition. **SOLD**