

Description

[Charles, Heinrich], compiler. Our Patriotic President: his life in pictures, famous words & maxims, anecdotes, biography. Illustrations and photographs. New York, Elite Art Press, 1904. Oblong 8vo. Color pictorial wraps, bound with cord. Cover illustration signed Friederang. [56pp]. Cover soiled and lightly foxed, edges of cover and pages toned and soiled.

Two bench stamps (V002-DC-00000003; DEK 227870) are affixed to the lower right corner of cover, removal of which will damage the paper. As of the mid-1997 date of this appraisal, the bench stamps were not present and so have not been considered as defects in the valuation.

This book, about Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919), was compiled from a number of sources for the popular audience, rather than as a serious biographical work. It is of interest as an early biography of President Roosevelt. The First Edition was published by the Elite Art Press in 1901 and there were three subsequent editions, all in 1904. Two, from the Columbia Press and one other, of which this is an example, from the Elite Art Press. One of the Columbia Press editions was distributed by the Republican National Committee for President Roosevelt's 1904 Presidential Campaign for his second term and had campaign slogans printed on the back cover. The other Columbia Press edition, like this last Elite Art edition were published without such additions. The overall condition of this book, especially considering the fragility of paper wraps as binding, is Very Good.

Copies of this book are listed in the collections of only three libraries, the Library of Congress, the New York Public Library and Harvard University and there have been no recorded sales of the work in the past eight years. Similar works in similar condition are reportedly sold on average for less than \$25.00 in area used book stores. As might be expected in publications of this type, sales of this book have not appeared in any public auction records, local, regional or national. The current popularity of Presidential biographies, campaign-related memorabilia and the scarcity of this book would support better than average price.

Fair Market Value

\$35.00.

DC-DC-00000004

Wilson, James Grant, Ed. The Presidents of the United States 1789-1898. Multi - authors, Illustrated with steel engraved plates by Girsch, Hall and others. New York, Appleton, (1898). Small 4to. Engraved portraits with tissue guards, of each U.S. President from Washington to McKinley, facsimiles of signatures, letters and wood engravings throughout the text. Gilt stamped 3/4 brown morocco over marbled boards, teg. 532 pages, unopened except pages 34-35 slit roughly. Corners bumped, slight rubbing to front hinge, lower back hinge separated about a quarter inch. A few scratches to marbled boards, head chipped and lacking two small pieces. Some toning and soiling to ffep.

Two bench stamps (V002-DC-00000471; DEK 228327) are affixed to front inner paste-down, removal of which will cause tearing. As of the mid-1997 date of this appraisal, the bench stamps were not present and so have not been considered as defects in this valuation.

The book contains biographies of the first 25 U.S. Presidents and their families and is indexed. The list of authors includes John Fiske, Carl Schurz, Robert C. Winthrop, Daniel C. Gilman, William Walter Phelps, George Ticknor Curtis, George Bancroft, John Hay and others. "Several of the monographs were especially prepared for this work, while the larger number were written for *Appleton's Cyclopædia of American Biography*." (National Union Catalog). The 25 portraits of the Presidents are bright, intact and well-executed, the overall appearance of the volume is attractive and its condition is Very Good, despite the minor defects to the binding.

The First Edition of this work was 1894, and there were four subsequent editions, of which this volume is the second. This 1898 edition is the only one reported to have been bound in three-quarter leather, while the others were in blue cloth bindings. A leather binding is an element of value, typically increasing the price of a book. Even so, as a second edition, sales of this book have not been reported in any local, regional or national public auction records. Sales in the current used book market have been more frequent for the first and fifth editions, but one copy of this edition is currently available in Massachusetts for \$45.00. Consultations with book dealers and an auction house owner concerning this book generated estimated prices somewhat above that amount. The elements contributing to the value of this 1898 edition include the binding, the quality of the engraved presidential portraits and the current local interest in presidential biographies.

Fair Market Value

\$85.00

DC-DC-00000005