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LIBRERIA OTTO LANGE = FIRENZE

FLORENCE, May 11, 1923.

Via Serragli, 132.

Miss Gertrude Krausnick, Librarian

Minnesota Historical Society

Saint Paul, Minn.

Dear Madam,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of April 20 and regret to say that the report of your Society which you say you are sending under separate cover has not reached me. Please be good enough to send me an other copy if possible by registered book-post. *another copy sent*

Within a few days I shall send you a prospectus of Lewis, Das illustrierte Mississippiatal. The book has been reprinted from the copy in the Berlin State Library. In German Libraries there are 2 copies one in Berlin and one in the University Library in Göttingen, besides there is an uncomplete copy (parts 1-3) in the State Library in München.

If you are interested in our reprint I shall be glad to send you a copy on approval. As first volume of our reprints of Rare Americana has been published Harris, Biblioteca Americana Uetustissima, as second Maximilian v. Wied, Reise in das Innere von Nordamerika. Both works are advertised in the Lewis prospectus.

Very truly yours

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MAY 25 1923

Minn. State Historical Association

Dear Sirs-

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In my family is a picture that the state should have. It is the original painting of St. Anthony Falls. The artist is Lewis of St. Louis who painted the Indian pictures at the Smithsonian Institute Washington. Lewis went to St Paul on the steamboat Senator 1848 Capt. D.S. Harris captain and owner. Lewis sold the picture to Capt. Harris who was my grandfather. The picture is in Chicago, but I have the selling of it. Will sell for \$600.00 although it ought to bring more. It is one of the few relics that the state ought to have

Yours very truly

Chatfield Minn

Madora O.F. Morrill (m)

5-24-23

June 7, 1923

Mr. J. Christian Bay
John Crerar Library
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Sir:-

Having seen an announcement that you are editing or have edited for Otto Lange, Florence, a reprint of Lewis, Das Illustrierte Mississippithal, I wondered whether or not you have seen copies of this work in both the editions or issues.

A few years ago I collected copies or photostatic reproductions of the title-pages of seven or eight copies of this work in America for the purpose of comparing them with the title-page of the copy in our library. All of them except ours appeared to be exactly the same, but the arrangement of the phrases on the title-page of our copy differs from that of the others, and it contains the date, 1858, whereas they are undated. I have not had an opportunity to compare our copy throughout with one of the others so cannot say what other differences, if any, there may be.

You may be interested to know that we have in our museum two oil paintings of the Falls of St. Anthony, 1848, by Henry Lewis, which were presented to the society by James J. Hill. Neither of these pictures, however, is the same as the plate entitled "The Falls of St. Anthony" opposite page 30 of the book.

The other day we received a letter from Mrs. Medora O. F. Morrill of Chatfield, Minnesota, offering to sell us "the original painting of St. Anthony Falls" by Lewis. In her letter she states that "Lewis went to St. Paul on the steamboat Senator 1848, Capt. D. S. Harris, captain and owner. Lewis sold the picture to Capt. Harris who was my grandfather. The Picture is in Chicago, but I have the selling of it."

We also have in our collection a photograph labeled "Fort Snelling, Head of Navigation on the Mississippi, 1858. From an Oil Painting H. Lewis. Düsseldorf Prussia. Size of canvass 31 1/2 X 23 1/2 In. 26 Alexander St." The photograph is similar to, but not identical with, the plate of Fort Snelling opposite page 22 of the book. Neither, by the way, is a very accurate reproduction of the way Fort Snelling actually looked. We possess also an etching made from this painting or a similar one by Charles W. Post, and another of the painting which is reproduced opposite page 43 of the book, with the title "St. Paul's im Menesotah Territorium." The original oil paint-

J. C. B. 6/7/23--2

ing of this scene appears to have been in the possession of the society at one time, having been presented by Mr. T. B. Walker of Minneapolis. It is noted in a list of the society's pictures compiled in 1907, but since that time the collection has been packed, stored, moved, and unpacked, with the result that several pictures, including this one, are now missing. The etching of St. Paul we reproduced in the first volume of Dr. Folwell's History of Minnesota, opposite page 24.

I have been very much interested in Lewis's book ever since I first came across a copy about twelve years ago, and look forward with interest to the reprint. I take it that the text is to be reproduced in the original German. I wish that it might have been possible to have included an English translation also.

Sincerely yours

B/P

June 7, 1923

Mr. Otto Lange
via, Serragli, 132
Florence, Italy

Dear Sir:-

Your letter of May 11 addressed to our librarian was duly received, and the copy of our report which you desired has been sent. We have also received the prospectus of Lewis, Das Illustrierte Missionspithal, and an order for this publication will be sent to you in the near future.

Enclosed herewith you will find a copy of a letter which I have just written to Mr. Bay which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours

B/P

June 7, 1923

Mrs. Medora O. F. Morrill
Chatfield, Minnesota

Dear Madam:-

We are in receipt of your letter of May 24 with reference to a painting of St. Anthony Falls by Lewis. I am very glad to know about this painting for I have been much interested for some time in Lewis's work. I regret to say, however, that the Minnesota Historical Society has no funds available for such purposes, and is not in a position to consider the purchase of the picture. I find, moreover, that we already have two oil paintings made by Lewis in 1848 of different parts of the Falls, which were presented to the society some years ago by James J. Hill. Neither of these is the same, however, as the picture reproduced in Lewis's book, Das Illustrierte Mississippithal, and it may be that the painting about which you write is the original of that picture.

You may be interested to know that this book, which is very rare, is being reprinted by a bookseller in Florence, Italy, under the editorship of Mr. J. Christian Bay of the John Crerar Library, Chicago, who has written a sketch of Lewis to accompany it.

I wonder if you have any further information about Lewis, and especially about his trip up the Mississippi in 1848; also if you have any letters, diaries, or records, kept by your grandfather. If so, such documents might be valuable contributions to our knowledge of Minnesota history.

Very truly yours

B/P

*app. 1848
Car. Falls
Ed. Falls*

THE JOHN CRERAR LIBRARY

JUN 22 1923
JUN 22 1923

Chicago, June 22., 1923.

Dear Dr. Buck:.. Your kind favor, received a moment before my departure for Ann Arbor, where I attended the inauguration of the Clements library, gave me great pleasure. I sent at once a few copies of the sample plate just received with some circulars, pertaining to the new edition of Lewis. In a short while I shall be able to send you a copy of the separator of the biographical sketch of Henry Lewis.

I never saw a copy of the Mississippithal with a date on the title-page; but the date is correct: the final fascicle was issued in that year.

The paintings in your possession I should like to see, of course; and I may have an opportunity in August as I go West for a short trip. The various other prints &c. which you kindly mention, as indeed everything else connected with Mr. Lewis and his work, are very important to me as I have begun the unraveling of the mysteries seemingly enveloping this good man's life and fate.

The (German) text of the new edition was printed before I was asked to contribute my biographical sketch & the portraits, — otherwise I should have tried to produce an English text by selecting contemporary accounts of the various localities — as

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THE JOHN CRerar LIBRARY

far as obtainable — and to add a number of notes. As it
is, my efforts toward a biography, and the re-issuing of
the plates, probably will serve to stimulate the interest
centering on Mr. Lewis and evidenced in your kind letter.

Sincerely yours,

Christian Bay

REPRINTS of Rare Americana N.º 1

HENRY HARRISSE,
Bibliotheca Americana Vetustissima

A description of works relating to America published between
the years 1492 and 1551. New York 1866.

\$ 20.

This most important bibliography of early Americana has been out of print for many years. To every collector of Americana, to every library and Antiquarian the work is indispensable and as it has almost completely disappeared from the market a reprint of this famous work will be hailed as a boon by the many who have in vain tried to obtain a copy. Our reprint for which a newly invented process has been applied, is not to be distinguished from the original. — Only a limited number of copies are issued. — The price of our edition is 20.- Dollars bound in half Morocco, postage included. One of the few copies offered for sale during the last years fetched 100.— Dollars, and our new edition is therefore remarkably cheap.



Copies of the
Reprint of the Additions published in Paris in 1872 are to be
had for 5.— Dollars.

REPRINTS of Rare Americana N.º 2

American book lovers will welcome the appearance of a new impression of that most famous of American travel-books

Prince Wied's Travels in the Interior of North-America

The original edition has long been out of print and the few copies which have come into the market of late years have been quoted at \$ 100.— and more. It is not the letter press but its magnificent plates which makes this work so prized by collectors. These are reproduced from pictures by the famous Swiss painter Carl Bodmer, who accompanied Prince Wied on his three years expedition. The illustrations are reprinted from the original plates and in all respects as fine as those of the original edition. They are of rare artistic merit and beautiful reproduced. They consist of more than eighty large size plates of nature subjects and Indian types. The atlas is in two portfolios, one containing the large plates No. 1-48 the other containing the small plates No. 1-33. Specimen plates will be sent on request free of charge with the understanding that if they are not returned, one dollar will be charged. This edition it is confidently anticipated, will soon be out of print and then only be attainable at a much higher price. Price of the work, text and atlas, in two portfolios in buckram 70 Dollars. The text of which we have bought the remainders, comprises 2 volumes in quarto with many illustrations.

Two copies with all plates coloured by hand are offered at \$ 250.— each.

The most complete and elaborate work ever prepared upon this region. It is much to be regretted that it is so inaccessible to the public. The atlas of plates is one of the most interesting publications ever issued from the press; the details of the various tribes of Indians, their warlike and musical instruments, smoking apparatus, etc., are given with the utmost minuteness; the bison, dog, scalp, and other dances with their huntings, are represented in the most spirited manner, and the extraordinary natural features of the country are delineated with the greatest truth by an artist who accompanied the Prince in his travels conveying the most vivid and faithful impression of the scenery of the West between the Mississippi and the Rocky Mountains". *Chittenden.*

LIBRERIA OTTO LANGE
VIA SERRACLI 132, FLORENCE, ITALY

LIBRERIA OTTO LANGE
VIA SERRACLI 132, FLORENCE, ITALY

After careful preparation we beg to announce the issue of the third volume of our

REPRINTS of Rare Americana N.º 3

Lewis H., Das illustrierte Mississippithal

dargestellt in 80 nach der Natur aufgenommenen Ansichten vom Wasserfalle zu St. Anthony an bis zum Golf von Mexico: Nebst einer historischen und geographischen Beschreibung der den Fluss begrenzenden Länder mit besonderer Rücksicht auf die Indianerstämme. 4.º Düsseldorf, Arnz & Co., 1855-57. 431 SS. Text.

With two portraits of Henry Lewis and an introduction by J. Christian Bay.

Lewis, The illustrated Mississippi valley with 80 hand-coloured plates from the Falls of St. Anthony to the Gulf of Mexico, a distance of about 2,300 miles. Illustrated with a Series of 80 Original Views painted on the spot. By H. Lewis, a Landscape Painter of St. Louis, Mo. Together with a Historical and Geographical Description of the country, and a Particular Dissertation upon the Indian Tribes Inhabiting the Upper Mississippi. Bound in half morocco \$ 25.—

No other book equals the work of Lewis in the faithful portraying of Mississippi River landscape and scenery, no where else so many interesting early views of the cities along the Mississippi are to be found. Each of the 80 plates is a reproduction in colour of the paintings which Lewis depicted from life. The book which has completely disappeared from the book market, is without parallel in American literature. It is a corner-stone of Western-history and no American library can miss it on its shelves. The book will now be within the reach of the many collectors to whom the price so far has been prohibitive.

Mr. Lewis who lived in St. Louis traveled in 1846 by boat to Fort Snelling and then drifting down the Mississippi, made sketches of all points of interest ending his tour in New Orleans.

The text, though originally written in English has only been printed in German and though the chief interest lies in the plates, it has not been altered because it is contemporary and was published to accompany the plates.

The introduction by Mr. J. Christian Bay explains why the book has become so excessively rare, not even 20 copies are known and of these about 14 in the United States. Our reprint is no photographic or anastatic reproduction but the whole of the original German text has been reset and the pictures are executed by the same lithographic process as the original and coloured by hand. An introduction by Mr. J. Christian Bay and two portraits of Lewis now in the possession of Mr. Lewis's relatives in St. Louis are added to our edition. The execution is in every respect worthy of the subject.

Lewis, The illustrated Mississippi-Valley.

List of the pictures.

Historical Views.

Battle of Bad Axe.
Cotton Plantation.
General Taylor's Plantation.
St. Louis, The great fire May 17, 1849.
The artist's encampment.
The camp of the United States troops.
The Mormon temple.
The Steamboat Grand Turk.

Indian Life.

Dog Dance.
Hunting the deer by moonlight.
Indian Deputation.
Indians Spearing fish.
Scalping scene on the Mississippi.
The grand Council.
The Indian Camp.
The Indian Cemetery.
The Indians lookout.
Travelling Hunting party.

Rivers and Landscapes.

Arkansas-River.
Mouth of the Arkansas.
Ballustrade Bluffs with the grand staircase.
Chippeway-River.
Mouth of the Chippeway.
Fever-River.
View on the Fever-River.
Great Muscadine prairie, Iowa.
Lake Pepin.
Mississippi-River.
Bayou Sarah.
Mouths of the Mississippi.
Pilots Station.
The Mississippi.
View of the Mississippi near Quincy.
Missouri-River.
Mouth of the Missouri.
Piasa Rock.
Prairie on fire.
Red-River.
Mouth of Red River.
Red Rock Prairie.
Rolling prairie.

St. Croix-River.

The mouth of the River St. Croix.
St. Peters Valley.
Tête de Mort River.
The little Waterfalls.
The Maiden Rock.
The Rapids.
The waterfalls of St. Anthony.
Wisconsin-River.
Mouth of the Wisconsin from Pikes Hill.

Views of towns.

Alton, Ill.
Baton Rouge, La.
Bellevue, Iowa.
Berlin, Ill.
Burlington, Iowa.
Cairo, Ohio.
Carandolet or Vide poche, Mo.
Cassville, Wisc.
Clarksville, Mo.
Convent du Sacrament near Baton Rouge, La.
Dubuque, Iowa.
Fort Armstrong on Rock Island, Ill.
Fort Madison, Iowa.
Fort Snelling, Minn.
Galena, Ill.
Hannibal, Mo.
Herculaneum, Miss.
Jo-hay-pehah-me-nee, Minn.
Keokuk, Iowa.
Louisiana, Mo.
Medicine Bottle Village.
Memphis, Tenn.
Muscadine, Iowa.
Natchez, Miss.
Nauvoo, Ill.
New Madrid, Mo.
New Orleans, La.
Port Byron, Iowa.
Prairie du Chien, Wisc.
Quincy, Ill.
Red wing's Village, Minn.
Savannah, Ill.
St. Louis, Mo.
St. Paul, Minn.
Vicksburgh, Tenn.
Warsaw, Iowa.

June 28, 1923

Mr. J. Christian Bay
John Crerar Library
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Bay:-

I want to thank you for the
copies of the plate entitled "St. Paul's"
in the Lewis book. We have sent in an order
for the book, but are very glad to have
these extra copies of this plate.

I shall be very glad to re-
ceive a separate of the biographical sketch,
and I shall hope to have the opportunity of
showing you our paintings and our copy of
the book when you go west in August. If you
will let me know just when you expect to be
here, I shall make it a point to be in my
office if possible. Should you happen to come
when I am not here, however, Mr. Babcock, the
curator of our museum, and Miss Krausnick, our
librarian, will be glad to show you the ma-
terial.

Sincerely yours

B/P

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