sale receipt from Memphis, Tennessee, with its blanks filled in, in manuscript, revealing a chilling association. Dated April 4, 1860, it recorded the payment of "fourteen hundred dollars" for a 16-year-old girl "of dark collor [*sic*]," and signed by Nathan Bedford Forrest. The planter and slave dealer was a Confederate Army general known for callous slaughtering of surrendering black troops. He was also a founder of the Klu Klux Klan. A collector paid $17,500 for the single octavo (approximately 6" x 9") leaf.

Photography lots went up in several sections of the sale. Among the best and most coveted was a circa 1867 carte-de-visite image of Frederick Douglass by the African American photographer James Presley Ball of Cincinnati. Douglass is shown to have been our most photographed 19th-century American in a new book, *Picturing Frederick Douglass* (2015), by Harvard professor of English and of African and African American studies John Stauffer. But this image by Ball, estimated at $3000/4000, is a rarity, and the price paid by a collector, $10,000, was declared to be "not nuts" by a longtime photography

aficionado I consulted.

Broadsides, posters, and other graphically arresting items, particularly rare ones, often do well at these sales. Such an item from the civil rights section was on the catalog's cover. It was a cardboard placard that sold to a collector for $25,000, more than double the high estimate. Its design consists only of bold lettering: "HONOR KING: END RACISM!" It was produced in Memphis some time after April 4 and before April 8, 1968. On the latter date, Martin Luther King Jr. had been scheduled to speak at a rally in support of the city's striking sanitation workers. The strike itself, organized after a long period of grievances by African American members of the city's sanitation force, wasn't particularly noteworthy. What has made it legendary is that it drew King to the city—and to his untimely death. The night after he gave a speech in support of the workers' cause, he was assassinated on the balcony of Memphis's Lorraine Motel (now the National Civil Rights Museum). Four days later, his widow, Coretta Scott King, led the crowd of mourners, who carried

the HONOR KING placards.

The placards that the sanitation workers had been carrying during their strike said, "I AM A MAN." An institution paid $23,750 (est. $6000/9000) for a torn example. Day said it was consigned by the daughter of the man who had carried it. Other "I AM A MAN" examples have sold at these auctions, the first at the department's second sale, in 1997, for $5200 on the hammer. The highest-priced example sold in 2010 to a Memphis-based collector for $40,800.

Reliably, Day gets Black Panther material from a woman in Oakland, California, who was involved with the party from its birth in 1966 until its demise in 1982. It was she who consigned a poster created in 1965 in Lowndes County, Alabama, that featured the famous big-cat logo for the first time. In the center of the poster a stylized black panther with oversize paws is set to pounce, claws extended. In all capitalized letters, half set above the image, the other half below, the poster's caption says: "MOVE ON OVER / OR / WE'LL MOVE / ON OVER YOU." This example, believed to

be the only one ever offered on the public market, sold to an institution for $12,500, just above the high estimate.

The panther symbol actually predates the Black Panthers. It was originally used by an organization founded by Stokely Carmichael and others who went down south to get voters registered during a period when that region of the country was what Day called "one of the most dangerous places in the world." "People walked down country roads wearing this exact placard," said Day, whose exhibition showed a photo of that very scenario. "It's really more of a civil rights piece than a Black Panther piece." When Carmichael and others—i.e., Bobby Seale and Huey P. Newton—went out to Oakland and formed what was officially known as the Black Panther Party for Self Defense, they adopted the same logo.

Several other Panther posters fetched between $4750 and $6750. Each was a scarce and desirable example designed by Emory Douglas, an artist who became the party's art director, then later its "Minister of Culture." Douglas was responsible for designing, illustrating, and producing the
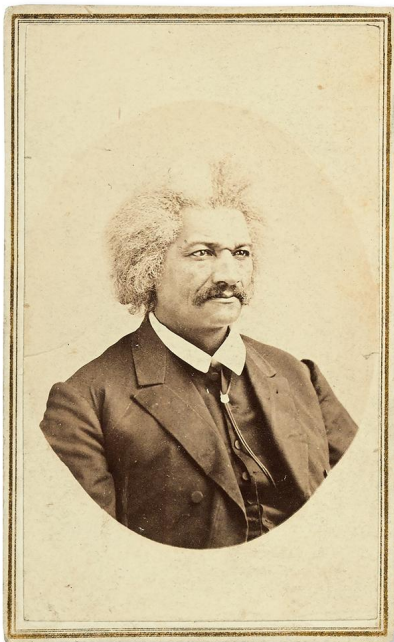

A circa 1867 carte de visite of Frederick Douglass by the African American photographer James Presley Ball of Cincinnati sold to a collector for $10,000 (est. $3000/4000).
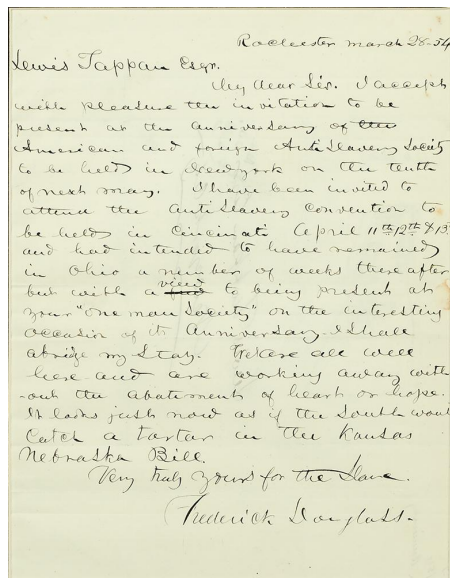

A letter by Frederick Douglass to his friend Lewis Tappan, a leading abolitionist, sold to an institution for $22,500 (est. $25,000/35,000). Douglass wrote the single page in Rochester, New York, on March 28, 1854, accepting Tappan's invitation to attend an event in New York City honoring the anniversary of Tappan's American and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society. "We are all very well here and are working away without the abatement of heart or hope," Douglass said.
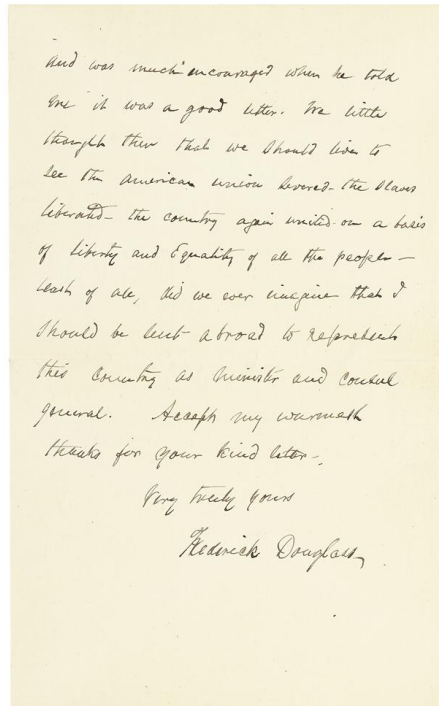

A letter by Frederick Douglass to a son of abolitionist Alphonso Janes of Providence, Rhode Island, sold to a collector for $45,000 (est. $40,000/60,000). Douglass wrote it on letterhead from his Washington, D.C., home, Cedar Hill, in the Anacostia section of the city, on July 6, 1889. It was a two-page response to Dr. Janes's congratulations on his appointment as ambassador to Hayti [Haiti]. The lot included a carte de visite of Dr. Janes.
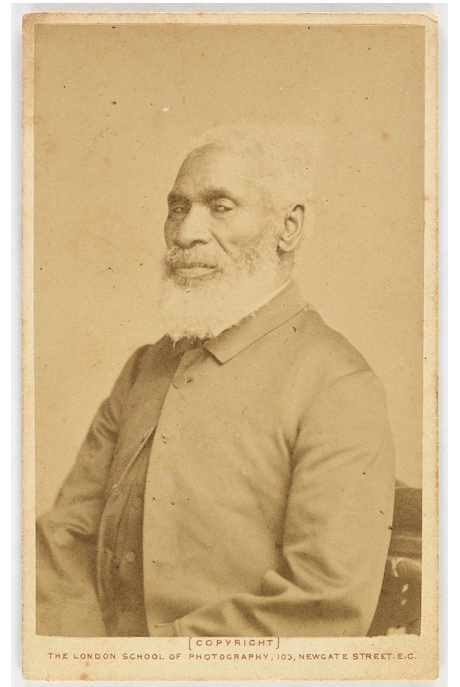
A phone bidder paid $1250 (est. $600/900) for this carte de visite of the Reverend Josiah Henson, believed to be the model for Harriet Beecher Stowe's Uncle Tom. The photograph was published in London by Bradshaw & Godart in the 1860s or 1870s.
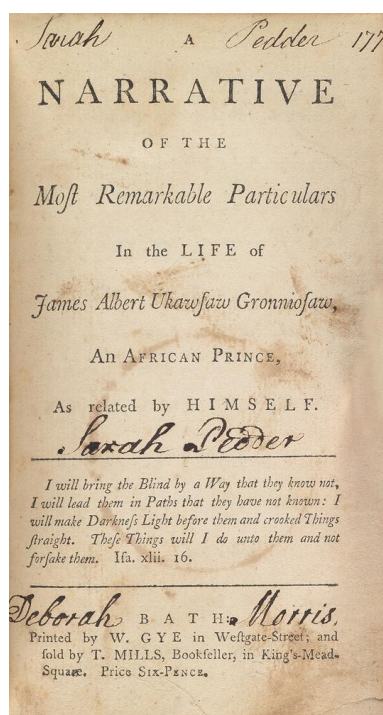
A Narrative of the Most Remarkable Particulars in the Life of James Albert Ukawsaw Gronniosaw, an African Prince, as related by Himself went to an institution for $11,875 (est. $8000/12,000). One of the earliest printed slave narratives, the autobiography was published by the Nigerian in Bath after he gained his freedom in 1747 and went to England. This copy was bound together with other 18th-century titles. Its title page was signed by two of its former owners, Sarah Pedder and Deborah Morris.
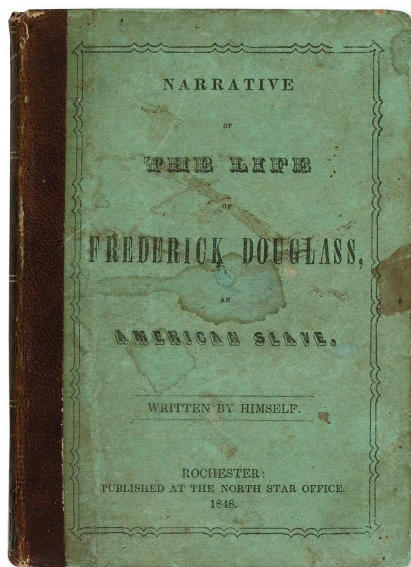
The first edition of Frederick Douglass's autobiography, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave,* was published in Boston in 1845. This copy was published in Rochester, New York, in 1848 from pages printed in Boston the previous year. It went to a collector in the room for $11,875 (est. $18,000/22,000).

A small mid-19th-century archive of materials (letters, photos, and documents) including those about slaves and by slaves from the Frazier family plantation in Edgefield, South Carolina, sold for $5250 (est. $2500/3500).