

The Westvaco Christmas Classics

(Westvaco American Classics Series)

1980-2003



JCH Books

www.jchbooks.com

The Westvaco Christmas Classics (aka Westvaco American Classics Series)

The West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company was founded in Piedmont, West Virginia in 1889 and was known for its brilliant white paper. After WWII, the company turned to producing packaging materials and a line of high quality printing papers. Starting in 1958, to advise the quality of its paper, Westvaco started producing a Christmas annual of important American classic works. Printed in a limited edition these volumes were presented by Westvaco salesmen to their best customers as a Christmas gift. Each volume was designed solely by Westvaco employees. These volumes were issued yearly until 2008, by which time Westvaco had merged with the Mead Paper company to become Mead-Westvaco, which still exists today.

In the 25th anniversary volume in 1982, John C. Callihan explained his motivation for this series: “We sought to bring back from America’ rich repertoire of the printed work some of the most favored classics written by Americans. We also wanted to publish and preserve some lesser-known volumes which are part of our heritage In retrospect, publishing the series was natural thing for Westvaco to do. We are a major manufacturer of fine quality printing papers. We are close to the commercial book publishing field. What would be more logical than to publish a book each year to present to our friends during the holiday season?”

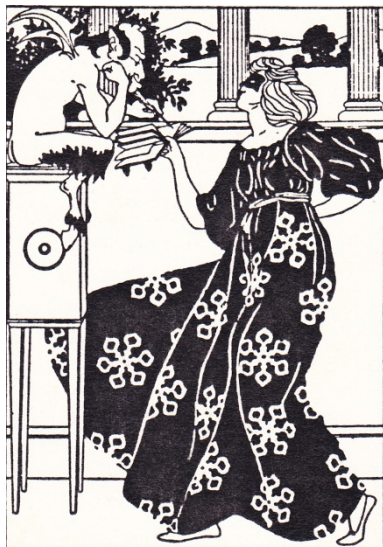
Each volume is an octavo (9 ½” by 6”) in a decorated slipcase with decorated end papers. All are illustrated and contain an original forward. All say limited edition but the actual limitation is never stated.

All books are in fine, as new condition. Occasional very slight fading on slip cover front edges.

John Hughes

John.c.hughes@gmail.com

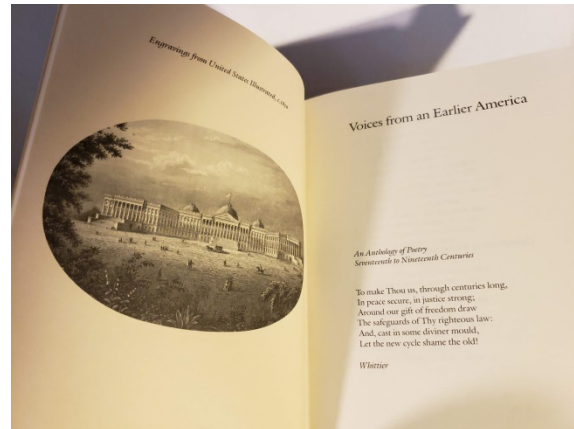
www.Jchbooks.com



[1980] various authors, **Voices from an Earlier America, An Anthology of Poetry Seventeenth to Nineteenth Centuries**, Westvaco, np, 308 pages. Printed by Meriden Gravure Co on Tradelith Antique Natural paper. Bound in orange cloth covered boards with gilt text on the spine and with illustrated end sheets.

Forward by John C. Callihan. An anthology of American Poetry illustrated throughout with contemporary steel engravings from *United States Illustrated*, NY, c.1950.

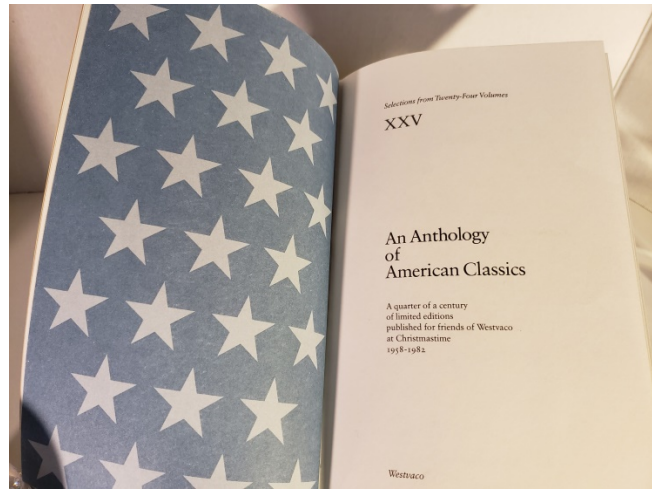
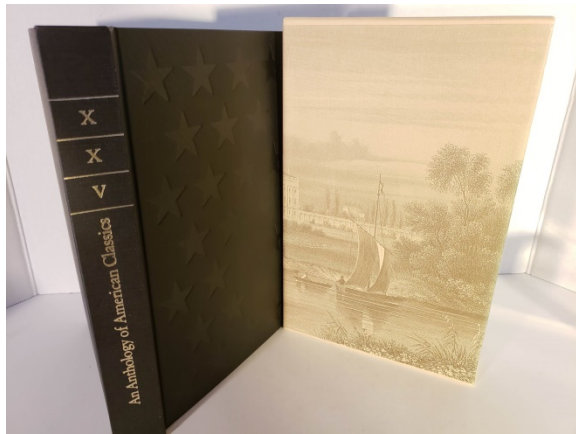
[\$15]



[1982] various authors, **An Anthology of American Classics, Selections from Twenty-Four Volumes**, Westvaco, np, [343pages]. Printed by the Meriden Gravure Co. on Clear Sprint Vellum Offset paper. Bound in black cloth covered boards with gilt text on the spine, blind embossed with 25 stars (for the 25 volumes of the series) on the front board and illustrated end sheets.

Forward by John. C. Callihan. A selection from the first 24 volumes of the Westvaco Christmas series. Each selection includes the original Colophon, an illustration and a chapter of the text.

[\$25]



[1984] various authors, **America: An Affirmation of Faith**, Westvaco, np, 286 pages. Printed by the Meriden-Stinehour Press on Westvaco Clear Spring Offset Vellum paper. Bound in dark blue cloth covered boards with gilt text on the spine and with blind embossed military medals on the front board.

Forward and selections by John. C. Callihan. A collection of American inspirational writing. Illustrated with 4 color plate reproductions of Norman Rockwell's Four Freedoms and additional black and white reproductions of contemporary steel plate engravings.

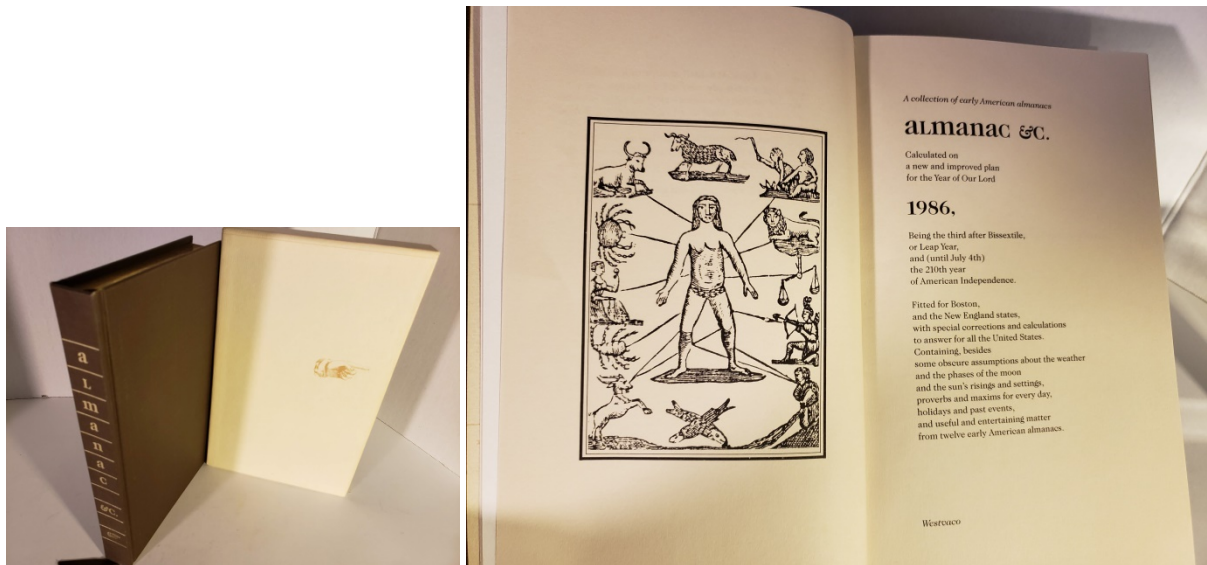
[\$15]



[1985] various authors, **Almanac etc.**, Westvaco, np, 294 pages. Printed by the Meriden-Stinehour Press on Westvaco Clear Spring Offset Vellum paper. Bound in brown cloth covered boards with gilt text on the spine.

With a forward by John C. Callihan. A collection of monthly chapters of 12 early American almanacs, 1758-1877, one for each month. Illustrated throughout with reproductions from various almanacs and period publications.

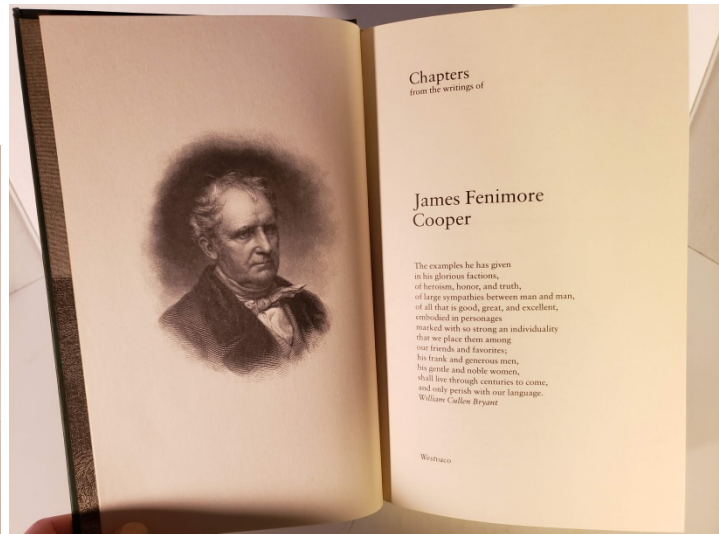
[\$25]



[1986] James Fenimore Cooper, *Chapters from the writing of James Fenimore Cooper*, Westvaco, np, 343 pages. Printed by the Meriden-Stinehour Press on Westvaco Clear Spring Offset Vellum paper. Bound in dark green cloth covered boards with gilt text on the spine with illustrated end sheets

Forward by John C. Calliham. A selection of chapters from various novels of Cooper – 5 Leather-Stocking Tales chapters and 16 from Other Tales.

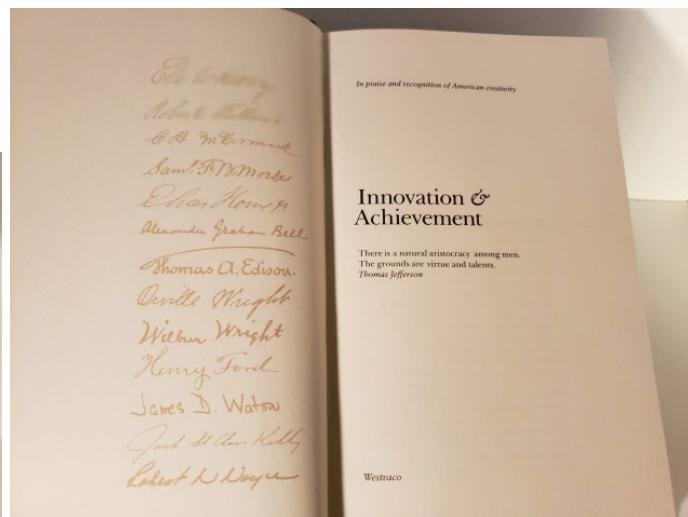
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[1987] various authors, **Innovation & Achievement**, Westvaco, np, 271 pages plus 3 unnumbered pages. Printed by the Meriden-Stinehour Press on Westvaco Clear Spring Offset Vellum paper. Bound in 1/4 dark blue leather and tan paper covered boards with gilt text stamping on the spine and gilt text on the front board.

A collection of short essays on various American inventors, from Eli Whitney to Jack Kilby and Robert Noyce. Each essay is preceded by a leaf with the subject's facsimile signature. Forward and selections by John. C. Calliham. Five pages of quotations and one page on the design of the book.

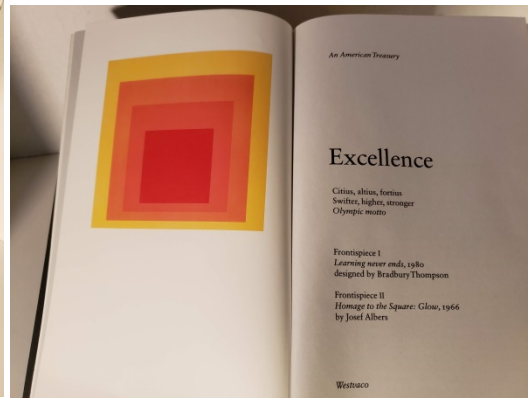
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[1988] various authors, **Excellence: An American Treasury**, Westvaco, np, 260 pages plus 3 unnumbered pages. Printed by the Meriden-Stinehour Press on Westvaco Clear Spring Offset Vellum paper. Bound in grey paper covered boards with gilt text stamping on the spine and embossed design on the front board.

An interesting collection of American essays centered vaguely on a theme of excellence. The text is set to resemble verse rather than prose. Forward and Afterwards by John C. Callihan. Two color frontispieces by Bradbury Thompson and Joseef Albers.

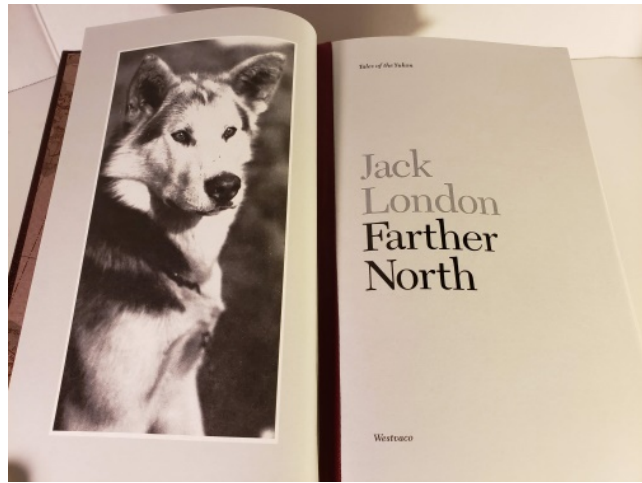
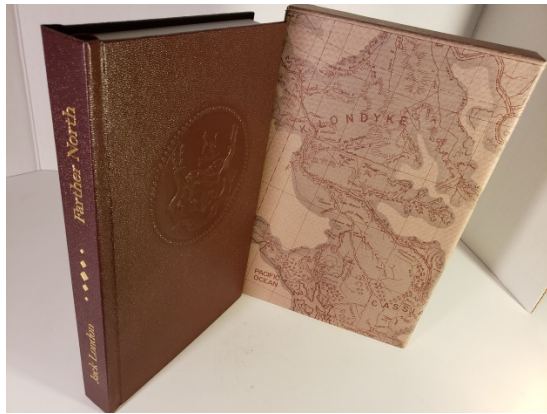
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[1989] Jack London, **Farther North (Tales of the Yukon)**, Westvaco, np, 309p. Printed by the Meriden-Stinehour Press on Westvaco Clear Spring Offset Vellum paper. Bound in marbled, maroon cloth covered boards with gilt text on the spine, an embossed seal on the front board

Forward by John C. Callihan. Text consists of a London Chronology, The Call of the Wild, & London short stories, with an Afterwards and Acknowledgements. Illustrated by reproductions of early 20th century Yukon photographs.

[\$20]



[1990] Anne Morrow Lindbergh, **Listen! The Wind**. Westvaco, np, 276 pages. Printed by the Monroe Litho Inc. on Westvaco Clear Spring Offset Vellum and Westvaco Celesta Dull papers. Bound in blue paper covered boards with gilt text on the spine. Slipcase, end paper and folding frontispiece illustrations by Daniel Pelavin.

Preface and map drawings by Charles A. Lindbergh. Forward by John C. Callihan.

[\$25]



[1991] J. T. Headley, **Washington and His Generals**, Westvaco, np, 257 pages. Printed by the Monroe Litho Inc. on Westvaco Clear Spring Offset Vellum and Westvaco Celesta Dull papers. Bound in olive green cloth covered boards with gilt text on the spine.

Forward by John C. Callihan. This volume is a selection from the original 1847 edition of Headley's work. Reproduction of the portrait engravings from the original are found throughout. Illustrations for the slipcase and endleaves are from *Battles of the United States* by Henry Dawson, published in 1858.

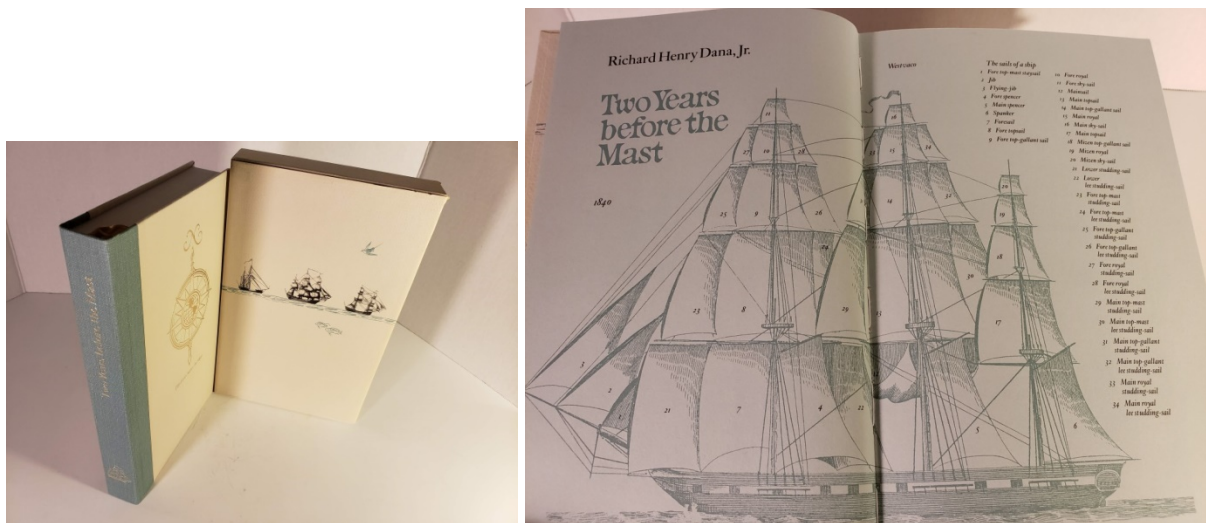
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[1992] Richard Henry Dana Jr. , **Two Years Before the Mast**, Westvaco, np, 370 pages. Printed by the Monroe Litho Inc. on Westvaco Clear Spring Offset Vellum and Westvaco Celesta Dull papers. Bound in 1/4 cloth and decorated paper covered boards with gilt text on the spine, a gilt decoration on the front board.

Forward by William P. Fuller III. Based on the text of the 1840 first edition without the concluding chapter which Dana had removed for the 1869 edition. The frontispiece is from Dana's *The Seaman's friend* of 1841. Reproductions of 19th century engravings by unknown artists precede each section of the book.

[\$15]



[1993] Frank Forester, **Complete Manual for Young Sportsmen**, Westvaco, np, 277 pages. Printed by the Stinehour Press on Westvaco Clear Spring Offset Vellum paper. Full gray-green buckram cloth covered boards with gilt text stamping on the spine and front cover.

Forward by H. Lea Lawrence. Illustrated throughout with steel engravings by Frank Forester and John Bumstead. from the original 1856 edition. Complete with a listing of the Westvasco American Classic Series through 1993 bound in at the end.

[\$35]



[1994] Ring Lardner, **You Know Me Al, A Busher's Letters**, Westvaco, np, 286 pages. Printed by the Stinehour Press on Westvaco Clear Spring Offset Vellum paper. Bound in orange cloth covered boards with gilt text on the spine and a blind embossed image of a baseball on the front board.

Forward by William P. Fuller III. Lardner's letters from Jack Keefe to his friend Al Blanchard is one of the the classics of early 20th century baseball writings. Illustrated with reproductions of early baseball cards.

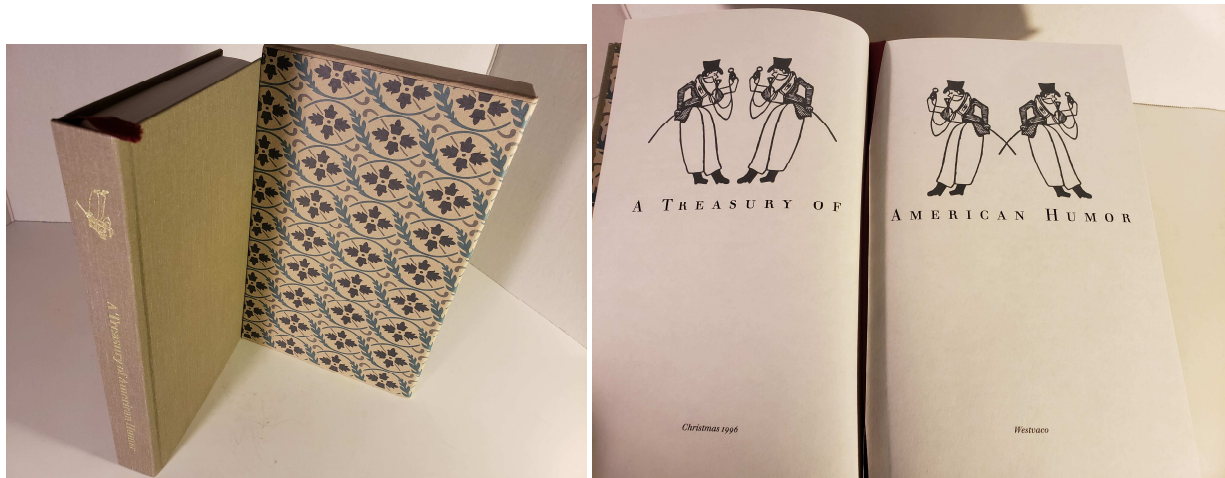
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[1996] various authors, **A Treasury of American Humor**, Westvaco, np, 322 pages. Printed by the Monroe Litho, Inc. on Westvaco's American Eagle Offset Vellum. Bound in light gray cloth covered boards with gilt text on the spine and illustrated end sheets.

Forward by William P. Fuller III. A collection of short stories, prose and poetry by ten famous American humorists including Robert Benchley, Irvin Cobb, Will Cuppy, Clarence Day, Don Marquis, Ruth McKenney, Ogden Nash, S.J. Perelman, Will Rodgers and James Thurber.

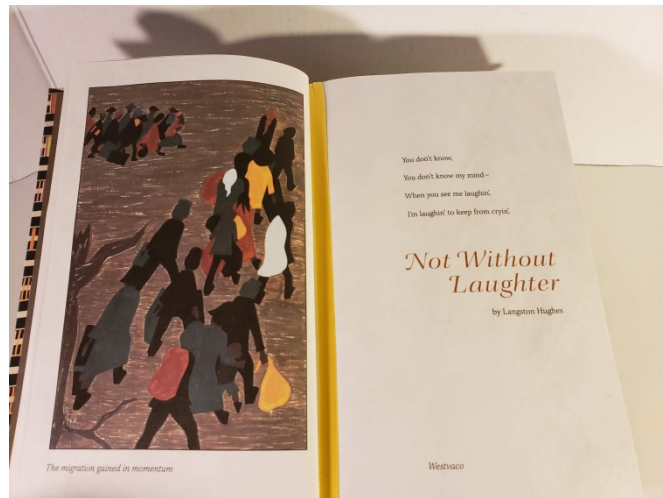
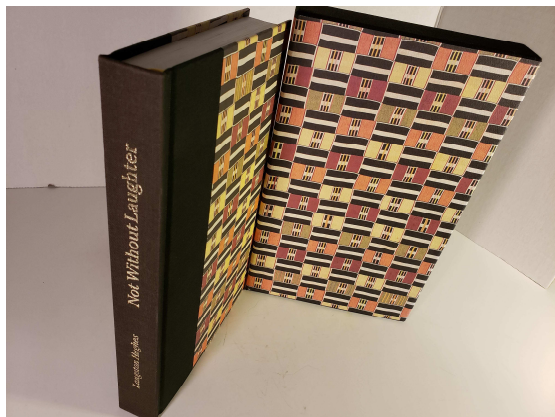
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[1997] Langston Hughes, **Not Without Laughter**, np, Westvaco, 326 [vii] pages. Printed by the Monroe Litho, Inc. on Westvaco's American Eagle Offset Vellum. Bound in 1/4 black cloth and illustrated paper covered boards with gilt text on the spine. Slip case printed with a pattern found in Men's cloth, Ewe, Ghana. Illustrations for end papers and frontispiece by Jacob Lawrence from his Migration Series (1942).

Forward by Henry Louis Gates Jr. Hughes' semi-autobiographical novel about growing up black in small town Kansas. Originally published in 1930.

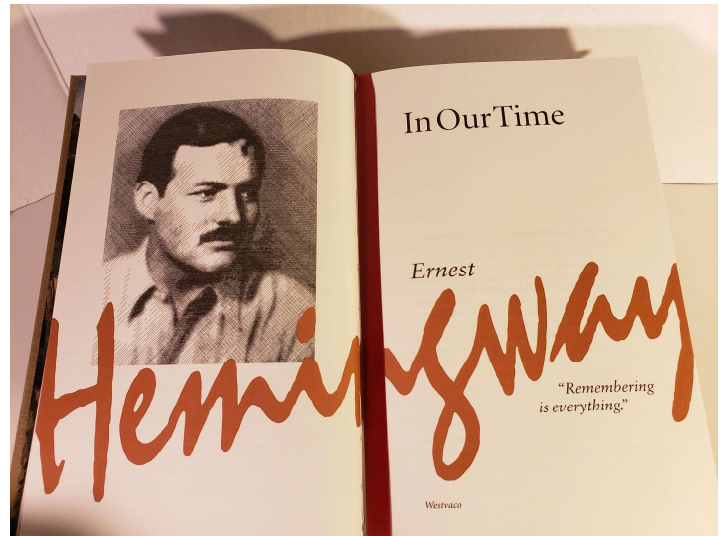
[\$35]



[1998] Ernest Hemingway, *In Our Time*, np, Westvaco, 198[iv] pages. Printed by the Monroe Litho, Inc. on Westvaco's American Eagle Offset Vellum. Bound in light brown cloth covered boards with gilt text on the spine. Front and back endleaves and slipcase warp reproduce *Mont Sainte-Victoire and the Viaduct of the Arc River Valley* by Paul Cezanne. Frontispiece reproduces a photographic portrait of Hemingway by Roberto Herrera Sotolongo.

Forward by William P. Fuller III. Hemingway's first collection of short stories, published in 1925.

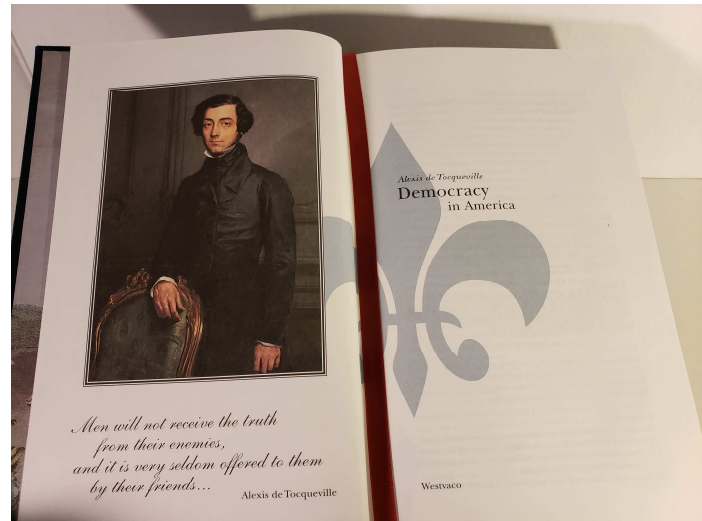
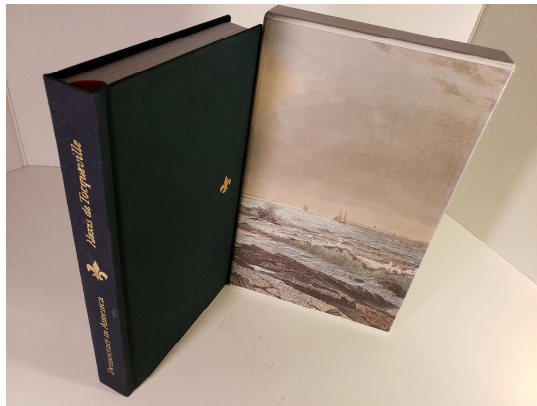
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[1999] Alexis de Tocqueville, **Democracy in America**, np, Westvaco, 293 pages. Printed by the Monroe Litho, Inc. on Westvaco's American Eagle Offset Vellum. Bound in dark blue cloth covered boards with gilt text on the spine and a stamped gilt Fleur-de-les on the front and rear board. Illustrated throughout with reproductions of period engravings, including a 2 page map of the United States c.1830.

Forward by Wendel L. Willkie II.

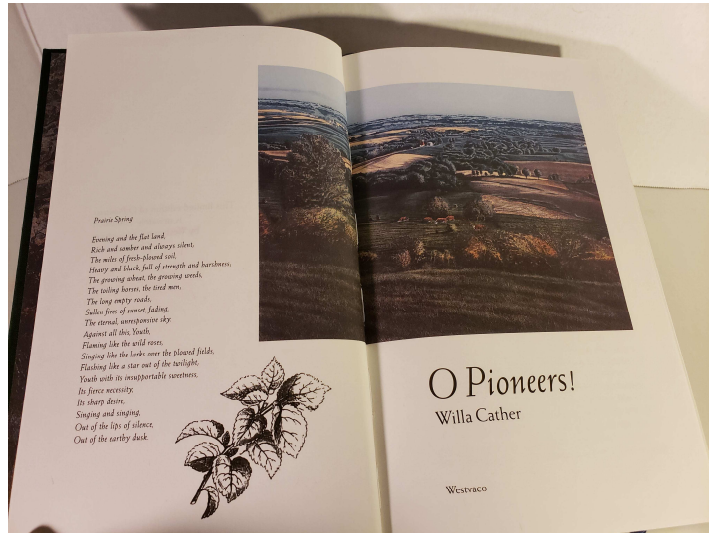
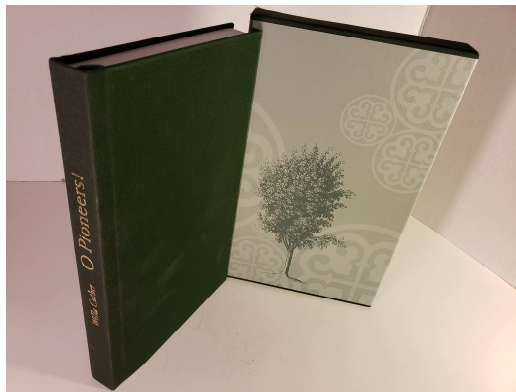
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[2000] Willa Cather, *O Pioneers!*, np, Westvaco, 262 pages. Printed by the Monroe Litho, Inc. on Westvaco's American Eagle Offset Vellum. Bound in dark green cloth covered boards with gilt text on the spine and with illustrated end papers. Frontispiece and end leaves by James D. Butler.

Forward by Wendel L. Willkie II.

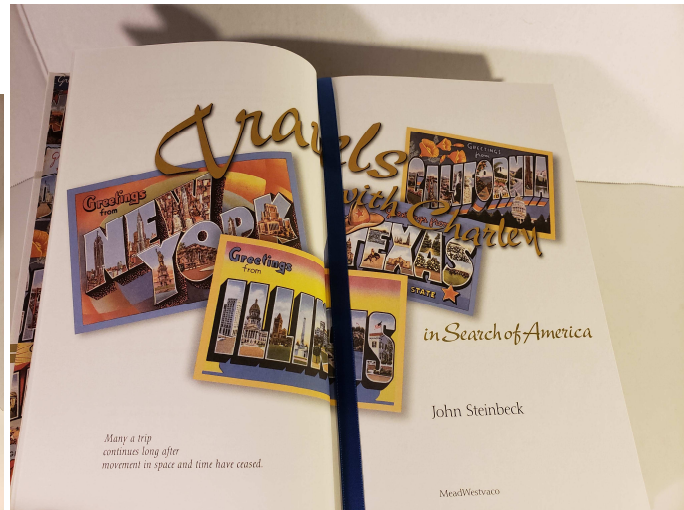
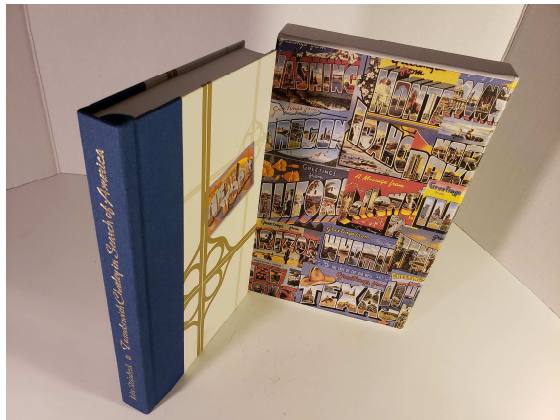
[\$15]



[2002] John Steinbeck, **Travels with Charley in Search of America**, np, Westvaco, 298 pages. Printed by the Monroe Litho, Inc. on MeadWestvaco Offset Vellum. Bound in ¼ blue cloth and illustrated boards. Slipcase and end leaves illustrated with reproductions of period postcards from the Curt Teich Postcard Archives.

Forward by John C. Callihan.

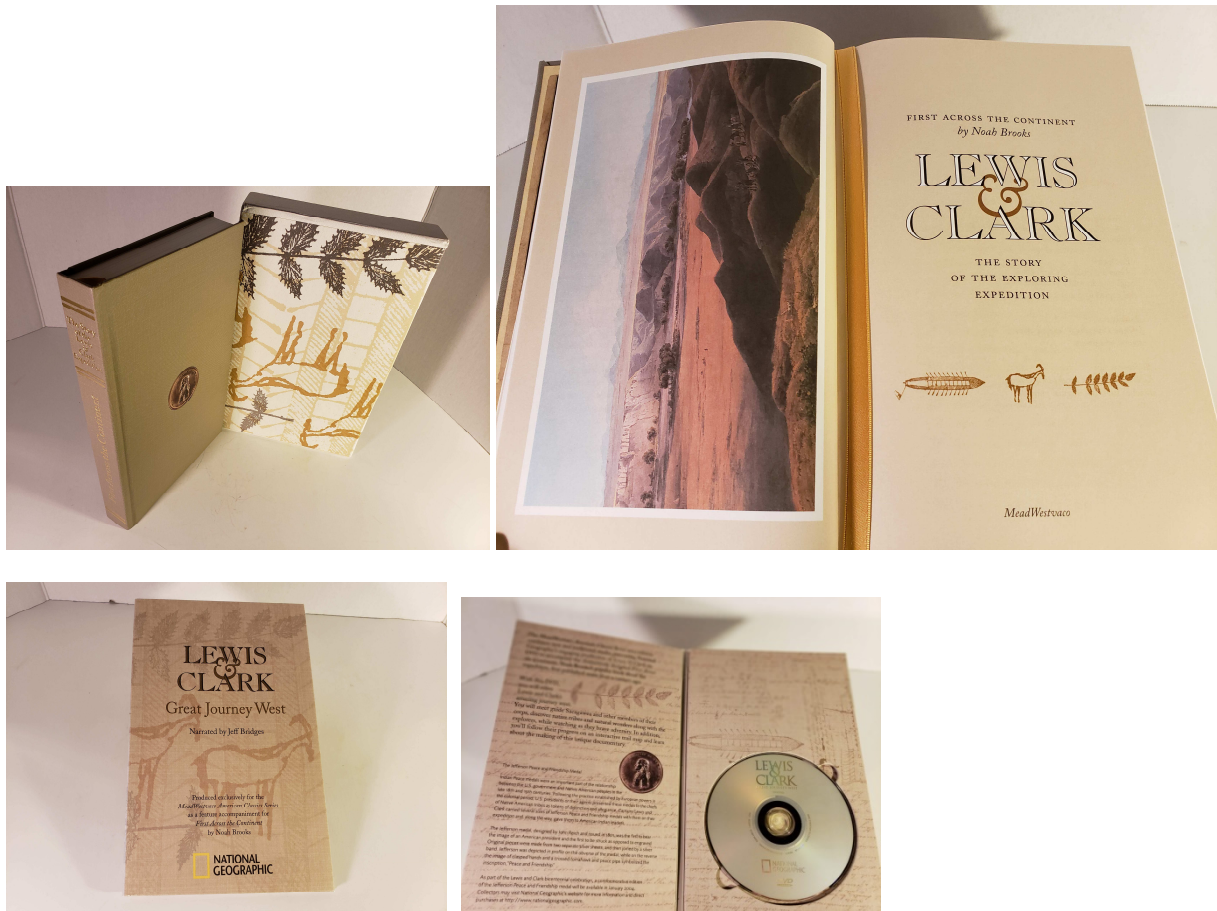
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[2003] Noah Brooks, **First Across the Continent, Lewis & Clark, The Story of the Exploring Expedition**, np, MeadWestvaco, 346 pages. Printed by the Monroe Litho, Inc. on MeadWestvaco Offset Vellum. Bound in gray-tan cloth covered boards with gilt text on the spine and inlaid medal reproduction on front and rear covers. End leaves reproduce Clark's original map.

Forward by John A. Luke, Jr. With a companion DVD, *Lewis & Clark Great Journey West*, produced by National Geographic and narrated by Jeff Bridges, housed in a separate folder in the slipcase. Laid in is a presentation bookmark. Brooks book was first published in 1901.

[\$40]



All items are offered subject to prior sale and orders will be acknowledged and filled in the order received. All items are as described and may be returned for any reason, within 7 days of receipt. Notification of a return is appreciated and requested.

Payment for purchases may be made by personal check (USD and drawn on a US bank, please) or PayPal.

Shipping and handling are additional and will be added to invoices. Shipping is by made by USPS Priority Mail, insured. Other carriers and means may be arranged, please inquire.

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