

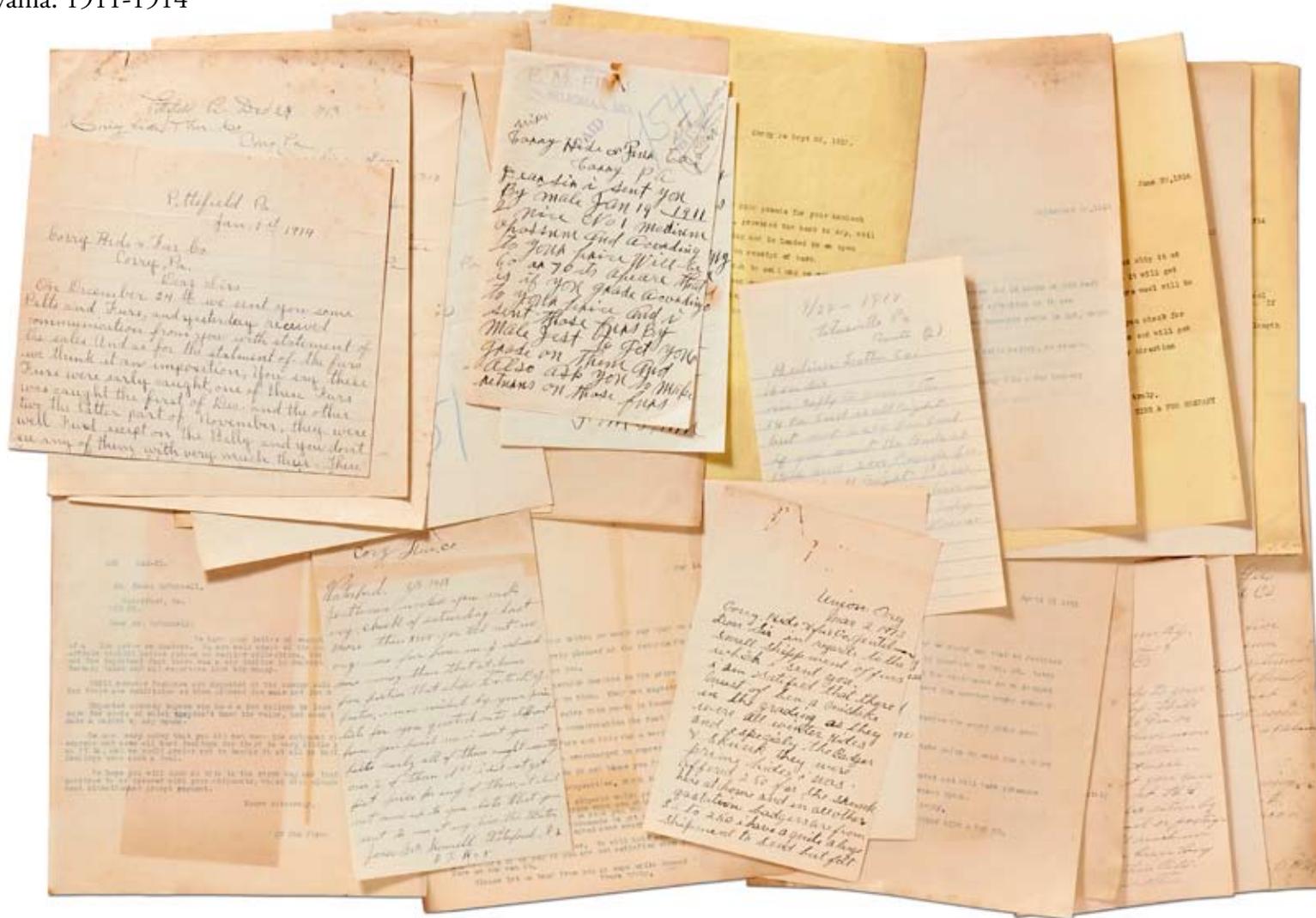
BETWEEN THE COVERS RARE BOOKS

112 Nicholson Rd, Gloucester City, NJ 08030 (856) 456-8008 betweenthecovers.com

[Letters]: Corry Fur and Hide Company

Corry, Pennsylvania: 1911-1914

\$400



A collection of 48 typed and handwritten letters concerning the Corry Fur and Hide Company out of Corry, Pennsylvania between 1911 and 1914. Overall near fine with some edgewear, tiny tears, and faint spotting. An archive of letters of correspondence to and from the Corry Fur and Hide Company addressing shipments, fur trades, and unhappy trappers. A letter dated March 10, 1914, to a Mr. Willie Moore, regarding his latest shipment to the company reads, "We are sorry we have no satisfied you but you should know better than to send such poor stuff and keep your good furs...[we] will promptly return your moth eaten skunk and cats."

Many of the letters address the fall in favor of muskrat pelts which had sold poorly in January of 1913 in London. "We have your letter of recent date complaining of a low price on muskrat. We are well aware of the fact that this article brought better prices on earlier collections, but we must point out the important fact that there was a big decline in muskrat at the London January sales and all exporters lost big money." The Corry Fur Company began in 1866 after Meyer Berliner moved there from New York and started the company with his son, Jacob. After Meyer's death in 1895 Jacob took over and changed the business plan to that of a mail order fur and hide company. He advertised in local papers that they, the Corry Fur and Hide Company, guaranteed "cash for fur" and thus spent most days writing to disgruntled trappers who disputed the amount of "cash" that had been offered for their goods. E.B. Lindsay writes, "I am satisfied that there must of been a mistake in the grading as they were all winter hides and especially the badger and skunk they were prime hides."

An intimate look at the fur business of the period.

[BTC#399220]

MJB MAR-22.

Mar. 4, 1913.

Mr. James McDonnell,
Waterford, Pa.
120 26.

Dear Mr. McDonnell:

We have your letter of recent date complaining of a low price on Muskrat. We are well aware of the fact that this article brought better prices on earlier collections, but we must point out the important fact there was a big decline in Muskrat at the London January Sales and all exporters lost big money.

Still greater declines are expected at the coming sales in March for there are multitudes of them offered for sale and few buyers.

Unposted country buyers who have a few dollars to lose may offer more for goods of which they don't know the value, but such offers do not make a market by any means.

We are very sorry that you did not have the shipment returned at our expense and save all hard feelings for there is very little profit in it as it is, and we would prefer not to handle it at all to having any hard feelings over such a deal.

We hope you will look at this in the right way and that we shall continue to be favored with your shipments, which will always have our best attention and prompt payment.

Yours sincerely,

Of The Firm.

Corry Fur Co
Waterford. 3/3 1913
Gentlemen, unless you make
my check of Saturday last
more than \$7.00 you will not see
any more fur from me. I refused
four parties that at-home
parties, I was misled by your price
lists for you quoted me to different
from your price and I sent you 10
pelts nearly all of them caught recently
over 1/2 of them at 11 I did not get
first price for any of them, at what
not come up to your lists that you
sent to me at any time this winter
James M. McDonnell Waterford, Pa.
P. J. H. S.