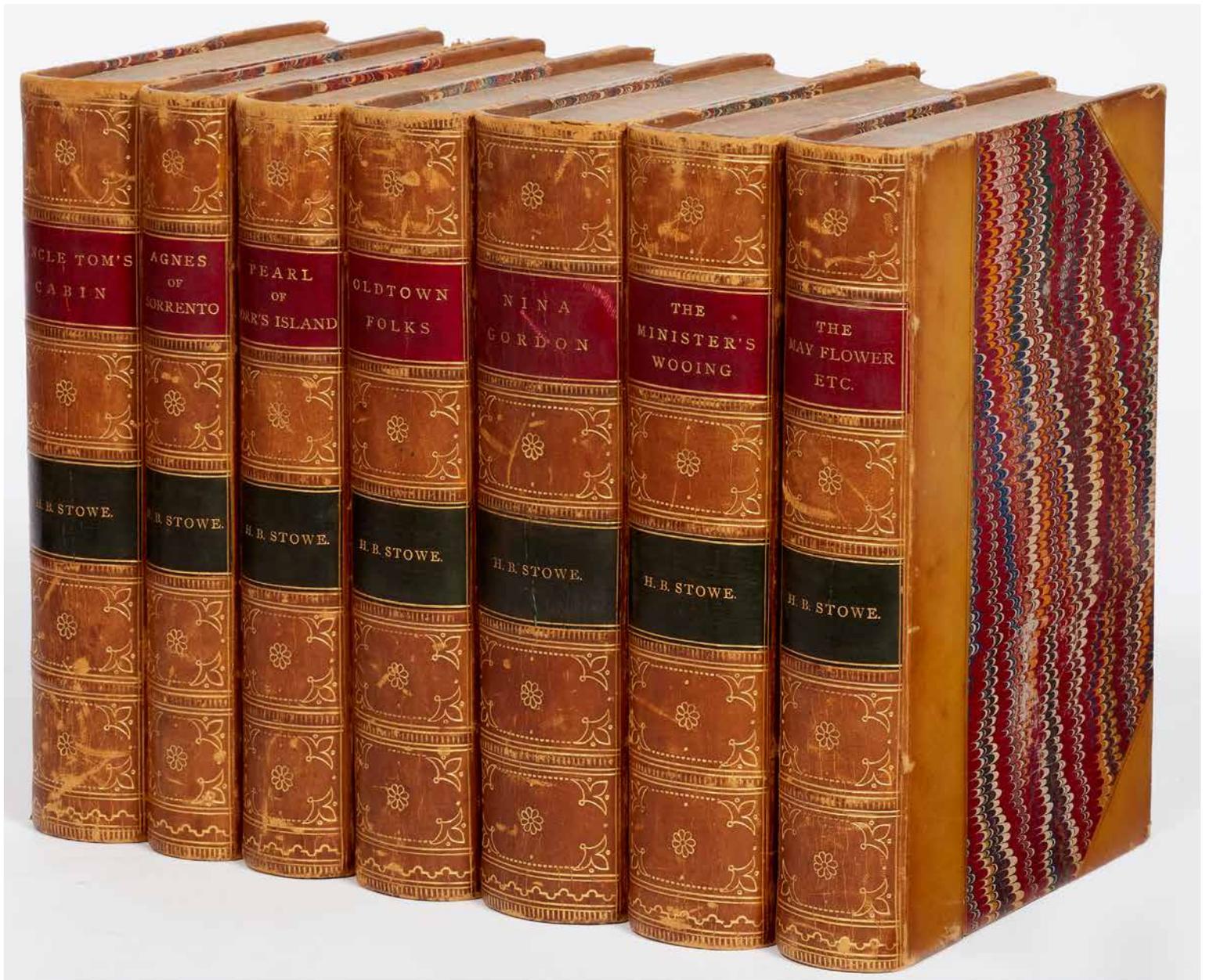


Harriet Beecher Stowe

Presentation Set of Seven Volumes with an Inscription in the first volume, and with two Autograph Letters Signed and a Holograph Invitation tipped in, as well as a stereo card of Stowe's home in Florida, also inscribed on the verso

Boston: Fields, Osgood & Co (1872, etc.)

\$12,000



Seven volumes. Early reprints. Octavos. Uniformly bound in three quarter tan calf and marbled paper boards. The set of seven novels include: *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (1869); *Agnes of Sorrento* (1869); *Nina Gordon [Dred]* (1870); *Old Town Folks* (1870); *The May Flower Etc.* (1871); *The Minister's Wooing* (1871); and *The Pearl of Orr's Island* (1872).

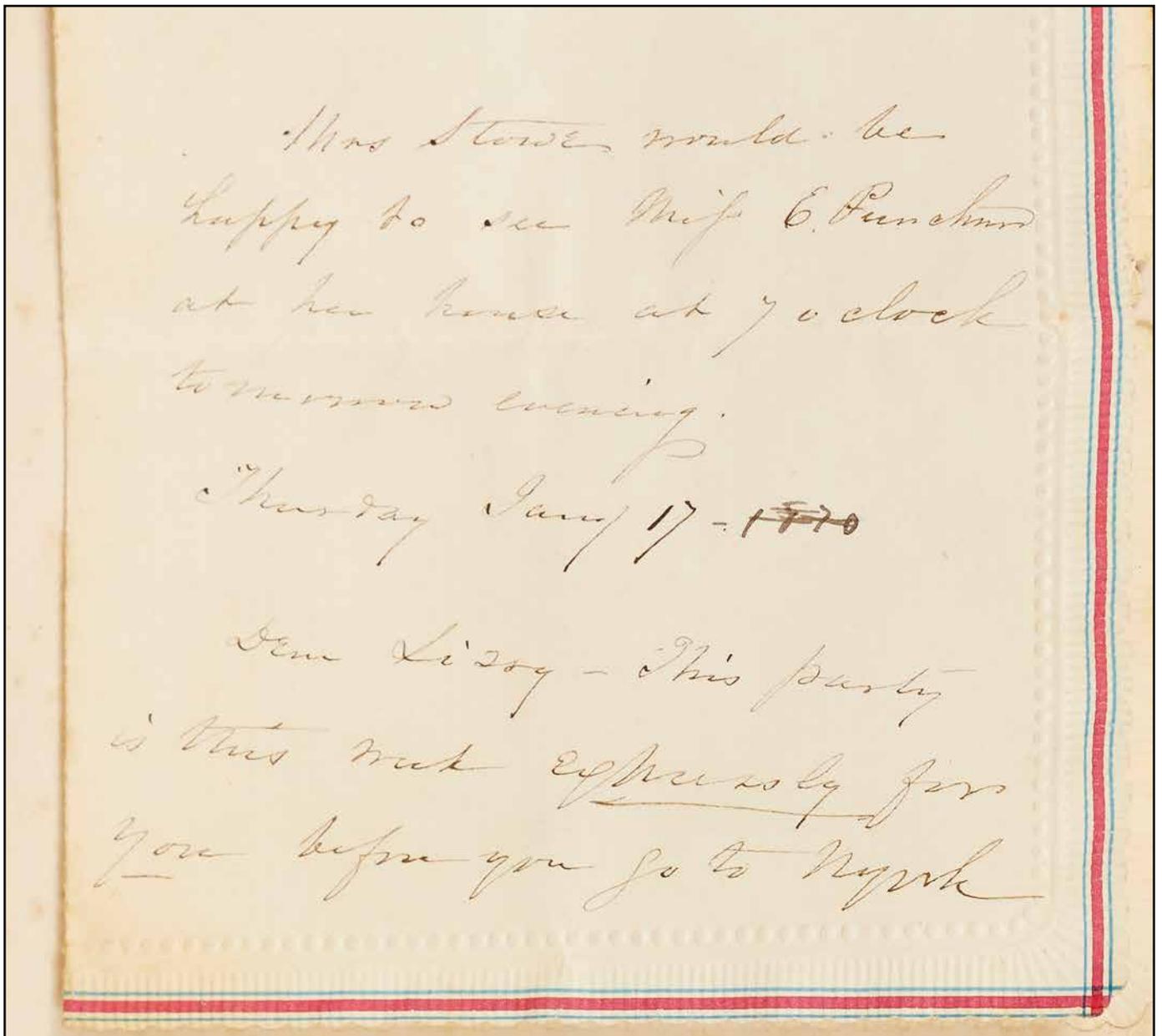
A Presentation Set custom bound as a wedding gift from Harriet Beecher Stowe to a close friend on her wedding day with *The Minister's Wooing* Inscribed: "Elizabeth PUNCHARD from Harriet Beecher Stowe, February 22nd 1870." Additionally, *Uncle Tom's Cabin* has two Autograph Letters Signed and a Holograph Invitation by Stowe tipped-in. The set is further accompanied by a stereo card of the Stowe family on the porch of their house in Florida, Inscribed on the verso by Stowe. All items very good or better with edgewear and some rubbing; the front fly leaf of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* is loose but present and with a tiny chip.

Elizabeth PUNCHARD
from
Harriet Beecher Stowe

February 22nd 1870

From 1852 to 1864 Stowe and her family lived in Andover, Massachusetts, where her husband Calvin was a professor at the Andover Theological Seminary. Among the more prominent members of the Andover community was Martha PUNCHARD, the widow of the wealthy banker and notable town benefactor Benjamin H. PUNCHARD, who bequeathed \$50,000 to Andover for the purpose of founding its first public school. As Benjamin and Martha were childless, they adopted Elizabeth, the recipient and of these books, who married Hall Faile Baldwin on February 22, 1870. Although by that time the Stowe's had moved to Hartford, the present collection makes it clear that a lasting friendship had been formed.

Tipped into the copy of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* is an invitation and two Autograph Letters Signed dated on February 14, 1870. The invitation, in Mrs. Stowe's hand, is addressed to "Miss Punchard," reading: "Mrs. Stowe would be happy to see Miss E. Punchard at her home at 7:00 January 17, 1870. Dear Lizzy - This party is this week expressly for you before you go to Nyack." In the first letter, Stowe congratulates Elizabeth on her wedding, sends regrets for not being able to see the couple before their departure to Europe, and mentions this set of books: "I am sorry. I am so far off for were I near I should certainly come. I shall add to your present a few copies of my works which I have sent + requested to have bound for you but they cannot get to you in time for your wedding."



Mrs Stowe would be
happy to see Miss E. Punchard
at her house at 7 o'clock
tomorrow evening.
Thursday Jan 17 - 1870
Dear Lizzy - This party
is this week expressly for
you before you go to Nyack

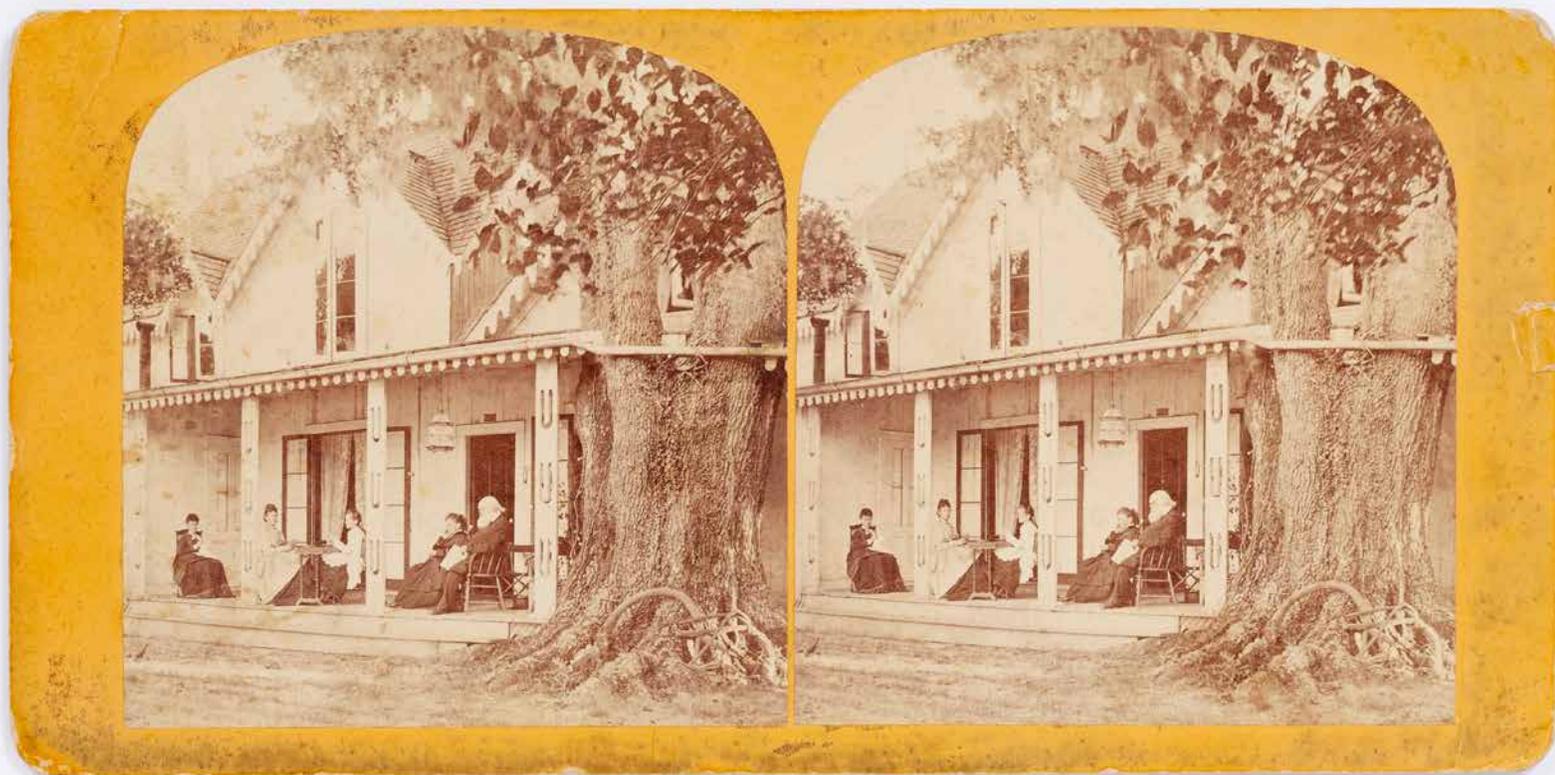
The second letter is addressed to Elizabeth's mother, Martha: "My dear Mrs. Punchard, I am sorry that I shall not be able to come help you give away Lizzie - what a good woman you must be to give her to anybody and how grateful somebody ought to be to you as well as to her. Dear friend, I know it is a troubled joy we mothers feel in giving what is dearest to us to be had & held by another. It is the most disinterested thing-only we can't help ourselves. Well we will console with each other & meanwhile I wish you a sunny day and all manner of kind & sunny influences upon your wedding. May you have a bright day & the smile of the sun & God bless you. Your loving friend, H. B. Stowe."

Feb 14 1870

My dear Mrs. Punchard

I am sorry that I
shall not be able to ^{come} help
you give away Lizzie - What
a good woman you must
be to give her to any body
I know grateful somebody
ought to be to you as well
as to her -

Dear friend I know it is
a troubled joy we mothers
feel in giving what is dearest
to us to be had & held by
another - it is the most



Additionally included is a stereo card of the Stowe house in Florida, showing Calvin and Harriet and the girls sitting on the front porch, that is inscribed on the verso in Harriet's hand: "Mrs. H.B. Stowe's cottage at Mandarin Florida / Prof. and Mrs. Stowe."

A wonderful Presentation Set from a prominent Massachusetts family. [BTC#432020]

Mrs H. B. Stowe's cottage at Mandarin Florida

Prof & Mrs Stowe