100 Selected Items from the Collection

1. Ming Dynasty note 1368-1399
2. Land grant issued by William Penn to William Stanley for 5,000 acres in “Pensilvania,” signed and sealed, William Penn, 1682
3. French “Rentes Viageres,” circa 1690-1788. (These bonds had a fixed rate of return to be paid for the lifetime of the holder. This form of financing was used by the French Royal Court from about 1650 until the French Revolution in 1789.)
4. South Seas Company receipt, 1720
5. South Seas Company receipt of Conrad de Gols for L41,297.76 from the Treasury (Lord William Cowlett, one of the four tellers), with three witness signatures, December 5, 1721
6. Colony of Rhode Island 10-year loan certificate, 1744
7. Massachusetts loan certificate, 1755
8. John Hancock signed receipt, 1760
9. British tax stamp (one of the causes of the Revolutionary War) for two shillings and four pence, circa 1765
10. New Hampshire bill of exchange, 1767
11. Library Company of Philadelphia membership certificate, 1769
12. Massachusetts Bay bond signed by James Pitts, Thomas Cushing and Samuel Adams (committee) and H. Gray (treasurer), 1773
13. Province of Massachusetts bond certificate signed by Samuel Adams, 1773
14. Certification by George Wyllys of Yale University appropriations, endorsed on the back by Roger Sherman, 1774
15. South Carolina currency 30 shilling note, 1775
16. Letter written by Jonathan Trumbull (1710-85), governor of Connecticut from 1769-84, about ordering bombs and hand grenades to Hartford, 1775
17. Document signed by Mordeci Sheftal (the highest ranking Jewish officer in the colonial forces), Savannah, February 4, 1776
18. Massachusetts $8 note, 1776
19. Massachusetts bond certificate, 1777
20. Richard Stockton (signer of Declaration of Independence) receipt for forage in the public services, July 1778 (Princeton, NJ)
21. French broadside about the American Revolution, 1778
22. Virginia Loan Office certificate for confiscated (sequestered) British property; signed by Patrick Henry, March 2, 1779
23. Bill of exchange to pay George Washington $1,200; signed by Francis Hopkinson (Treasurer of Loans) and endorsed on verso by George Washington, John Huston and William Bingham, December 20, 1779
24. Massachusetts broadside – with printed names of John Hancock (speaker) and John Avery – ordering committee to receive loans from people in each town more than 20 miles from Boston, 1779. Only one other known copy, at the Massachusetts Historical Society.
25. Continental Loan Office (Delaware) certificate, 1780
26. State of Massachusetts Bay bond, 1780
27. Counterfeit hand-written first style Vermont hard money order warrant for six pounds, seven shillings and four pence, April 17, 1782
28. Pay Table Office certificate signed by Oliver Wolcott, Jr. and endorsed on back by Roger Sherman, to whom it is made payable, January 17, 1783
29. US Loan Office certificate signed by Francis Hopkinson, Treasurer of Loans, April 13, 1783
30. Pay order by Governor Robert Morris, 1784
31. Order to pay Michael Ealey interest on depreciation certificate signed by Benjamin Franklin, November 5, 1785
32. Bank of North America check, 1786. This is the earliest known bank check in the public domain.
33. Vermont hard money order, March 6, 1787
34. Interest certificate for Maryland Loan Officer (US) R. Potts, June 3, 1788
35. Certificate entitling four Dutch investors to a share of the liquidated debt of the United States of America, November 1, 1789
37. United States Loan Office receipt, 1790
38. Letter from Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton to Gulian ver Planck, Esq., president of the Bank of New York, dated September 7, 1791
39. Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures stock certificate, 1791
40. US bond certificate signed by President George Washington, from the first federal bond issue, January 17, 1792
41. US bond certificate signed by Patrick Henry, 1792
42. Philadelphia and Lancaster Turnpike stock certificate thought to be first share certificate to feature a vignette, 1792
43. Pennsylvania Population Company stock certificate signed by Jno. Nicholson (president) and Tench Francis (treasurer), and payable to Aaron Burr (endorsed on the back), 1792
44. Maryland loan certificate, 1792
45. Account of the Receipts and Expenditures of the United States, 1792
46. Documents concerning the Marquis de Lafayette’s finances, 1793
47. Pennsylvania Population Company stock certificate signed by Jno. Nicholson as president, 1793
48. New Jersey Copper Mine stock certificate, 1793
49. Aaron Burr letter regarding Pennsylvania Population Company shares, 1794
50. Bank of the United States check signed by Alexander Hamilton, 1794
51. Bill of exchange for $1,600, Robert Morris, 1794
52. Robert Morris and John Nicholson signed document, April 20, 1795
53. State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations treasury certificate for $22.34, October 20, 1795
54. Two US Treasury proof of bond ownership certificates, 1795
55. Philadelphia and Lancaster Turnpike Road Company stock certificate signed by William Bingham, 1795
56. Lehigh Coal Company stock certificate, 1796
57. Baltimore Library Company stock certificate, 1796
58. Baltimore Insurance Company stock certificate, 1796
59. Connecticut Assumed Debt certificate, 1797
60. Third Massachusetts Turnpike Corporation stock certificate, 1797
61. Rufus Putnam part-printed document regarding land sale of land patented to Putnam and three associates by President George Washington in 1792, dated November 1797
62. Blodget Canal Company stock certificate, 1799
63. Pay order from Alexander Hamilton to Caleb Swan, signed by Hamilton as a major general of the Army, circa 1799-1800
64. Pay order for John Jay's $937.50 salary as governor of New York; notice of receipt of funds, signed by John Jay, April 26, 1800
65. Union School House stock certificate signed by Noah Webster, 1802
67. Letter from Aaron Burr to Colonel Charles Williamson, 1804
68. Signed document by fur trader John Jacob Astor subscribing to 400 shares of capital in the Second Bank of the United States, July 23, 1816
69. Federal land grant signed by Andrew Jackson, 1830
70. Oregon Settlement stock and Oregon settlement society document, circa 1830s
71. Daguerreotype of George Washington featuring the portrait on the $1 bill, circa 1843-1863
73. Bond certificate No. 7 of the Accessory Transit Co. (of Nicaragua) for $5,000 with 7% interest, made out to Thomas Lord and James M. Cross and signed by Cornelius Vanderbilt, February 9, 1857
74. Military scrip for $25 issued to Joseph Avent and signed by William Walker, Republic of Nicaragua, March 17, 1857
75. Oldest photographic print of Wall Street, circa 1860-1870
76. Edison Universal Stock Ticker produced by the Western Union Telegraph Co.
77. Stock certificate, 550 shares in the Lebanon Springs Railroad Company, New York, issued to and signed by C. Vanderbilt, May 4, 1868
78. Erie Railway Company stock certificate issued to Henry Cooke and signed by Jay Gould as company president, 1869
79. Life-size plaster proof of the Carl Conrads statue of Alexander Hamilton commissioned by Hamilton’s son, John C. Hamilton, as a gift to the City of New York, 1880
80. Standard Oil Company of New York check signed by John D. Rockefeller, 1884
81. Certificate of Indebtedness signed by William McKinley as Ohio governor, 1884
82. Connecticut Fire Insurance Company stock certificate issued to and signed by Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain), 1888
83. Standard Oil Company check for $450,400 payable to W.D. Grand and signed by William Rockefeller, April 28, 1892
84. United States Steel Corporation $100,000 gold bond certificate issued to Andrew Carnegie, 1901
85. Stock certificate for The Ford Motor Company of Canada, Ltd., signed by Henry Ford, dated February 10, 1908
86. The Harding Publishing Company stock certificate signed by Warren G. Harding, 1909
87. Northampton County National Bank check signed by Calvin Coolidge, 1916
88. $50 Liberty Loan of 1917 bond certificate with 50 coupons attached
89. Henry P. Davison bronze bust on stone base signed Jo Davidson (1883-1952), 1920. Henry P. (Harry) Davison was a banker at JP Morgan and US Trust and was also head of the Red Cross.
90. Letter signed by Franklin D. Roosevelt, then governor of New York, concerning the sale of securities he owned during the Great Crash, October 23, 1929
91. Stock ticker tape from The Great Crash, October 29, 1929
93. US Treasury War Finance Committee unissued bond illustrated with Walt Disney characters and marketed to parents to buy war bonds for their children, 1940s
94. United States war savings bond (Series E), 1943
95. Dow Jones News Service ticker machine, circa 1950s
96. Silver bar from the New York Assay Office, 1952
97. Blank check signed by President John F. Kennedy that was held by a Secret Service agent during the trip to Dallas on which he was assassinated, 1963
98. Photograph of Martin Luther King, Jr. at a rally in Selma, Alabama and signature of Martin Luther King, Jr., 1965
99. First edition copy of Free to Choose, autographed by Milton Friedman and Rose Friedman, 1980
100. Enron Corporation stock certificate, 2002