

Miller & Miller's Canadiana & Historic Objects Auction on Feb. 9 is packed with 499 lots of mostly Canadian collectibles

A significant Morton & Company water cooler from the early 1850s, a practice mask said to have been worn by hockey legend Jacques Plante are expected top lots.

NEW HAMBURG, ONTARIO, CANADA, January 28, 2019 /EINPresswire.com/ -- NEW HAMBURG, Ontario, Canada – A significant Morton & Company water cooler from the early 1850s, a practice mask said to have been worn by hockey legend Jacques Plante and a circa 1890 "sample model" canoe attributed to John Stephenson are just a few of the items up for bid in Miller & Miller Auctions, Ltd.'s 499-lot Canadiana & Historic Objects Auction now online.

The live auction begins Saturday, February 9th, at 10 am Eastern time, in the Miller & Miller Auctions gallery located at 59 Webster Street in New Hamburg, Ontario. Online bidding is open now, on LiveAuctioneers.com and Invaluable.com, as well as the Miller & Miller website, at www.millerandmillerauctions.com. Phone (519-662-4800) and absentee bids will be accepted.



Significant Morton & Company water cooler from the early 1850s, made by Justus Morton in Brantford, Ontario, elaborately decorated with applied figures (est. CA\$15,000-\$18,000).

The auction is a treasure trove of Canadian history and includes signs and advertising, historical photographs and ephemera, clocks, folk art, decoys and primitives, early pottery, fruit jars and stoneware, sports memorabilia, paintings, heirloom furniture and more. Much, but not all, that's in the sale is specific to Canada, hence the title Canadiana & Historic Objects Auction.

The nucleus of the sale, and the inspiration for it, were the items pulled from the estate of Joseph Hergott. "We were called in to view a nearly two-century-old estate that retained its settler-era furniture. It was astonishing," said Ethan Miller of Miller & Miller Auctions, Ltd. "It included the family schrank that effectively served as a three-dimensional journal spanning generations."

Mr. Miller added, "This is the most exciting part of what we do - seeing history untouched and in

place. Needless to say, this sale captures the fresh, seen-for-the-first-time spirit of the Hergott estate. People viewing the catalog will feel the same thrill we felt when opening the cellar door at the Hergott farm. Now, those never-before-seen treasures will all be sold to the highest bidder."

Schrank is a Pennsylvania Dutch term for a two-door clothes cabinet, one side having drawers and shelves, the other side an open space for hanging clothes. Examples in the auction include one tulip-inlaid masterpiece made in Upper Canada (Hanover or Gray County) in the second half of the 19th century and attributed to John Klempp (est. \$9,000-\$12,000); and one made in the 1860s in Waterloo County, Canada (est. 2,000-\$3,000), for Joseph Hergott. (all prices quoted are in Canadian dollars).

The early 1850s Morton & Company water cooler, made by Justus Morton in Brantford, Ontario, is elaborately decorated with applied figures including a man wrestling with lions with fish-like heads, a man smoking a

Circa 1890 "sample model" miniature canoe

Circa 1890 "sample model" miniature canoe attributed to John Stephenson (Peterborough, Ontario), known as the "grandfather of the Peterborough canoe" (est. CA\$9,000-\$12,000).

pipe, a woman taking snuff and others with Greek, Roman or biblical origins, unusual for utilitarian pottery. Morton left Lyons New York in 1849 to found Canada's first stoneware factory. The 12-inch-tall water cooler should hit \$15,000-\$18,000.



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The circa 1960 practice mask allegedly used in practice by Jacques Plante was never used in an actual NHL game. In a 1963 legend confirmed by Boston Bruins' John Ferguson, Jr., Plante, upon hearing the news he'd been traded from the Montreal Canadians to the New York Rangers, emptied the contents of his locker in the trash. Teammate John "Fergie" Ferguson, Sr. salvaged the trash, including the mask (est. \$9,000-\$12,000).

The miniature canoe, made around 1890 and attributed to John Stephenson (Peterborough, Ontario), is one of only

four known "sample models" attributed to Stephenson, known as the "grandfather of the Peterborough canoe". His groundbreaking experimentation with canvas, textile and bark veneer coverings was decades ahead of his time. The canoe is expected to hammer for \$9,000-\$12,000.

A candidate for top lot of the auction is an Egmondville master stein, one of the few advertising objects to surface in early Canadian pottery. The 11 ³/₄-inch-tall clay stein reads, "Smoke Daisy Cigar, Kraffts Special, Berlin Choice" and beneath, "Mfg by H. Krafft Berlin Ont" (est. \$14,000-\$16,000).

A spectacular, early Canadian architectural open dish cupboard, made in the 1840s or 1850s by Lunenburg (Nova Scotia), 84 ½ inches in height, borrowing elements of the Germanic tradition, having three drawers/two doors, has an estimate of \$6,000-\$9,000. Also, an honest, elegant and well-formed early Markham County dish dresser manufactured around 1850, having early lap drawers above two thick doors and the excellent original surface, should garner \$4,000-\$6,000.

A monumental, English tall case clock with moonphase dial signed "Ryrie Birks, Toronto", 104 inches tall, complete and functioning, with correct eight-bell, three-weight-driven movement, is estimated to bring \$4,000-\$6,000.

A pair of advertising lots have identical estimates of \$2,000-\$3,000. One is a rare early Canadian railroad poster signed "Toronto Lithographing Co" and titled "The Globe Special Train, Passing Dundas". The other is a 1912 horse racing carts advertising banner (saving

Practice mask allegedly worn by Montreal Canadians hockey legend Jacques Plante, salvaged from the trash in 1963 by teammate John "Fergie" Ferguson, Sr. (est. CA\$9,000-\$12,000).

"Baden-Rodney and Houghton-Sulky / Greatest Money Winners / 1912"), signed "J.F. Harvey / Amsterdam, N.Y." Also, a rare, Canadian-made 1930s-era Schneider's porcelain sign boasting an early version of the iconic 'Dutch Girl' graphic and with superb color and gloss, 22 ½ inches by 46 ½ inches, should hit \$3,000-\$5,000.

Collectors love old Canadian license plates. The auction boasts an intact run of early Ontario license plates, including two lots with \$3,000-\$5,000 estimates. One is for a pair of 1910 rubber Ontario plates, with serial number "9215", each one 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches by 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches, with no cracks. The other is a pair of Ontario temporary plates from 1916, rare and made from cloth-bound cardboard because of the metal shortages of World War I.

Previews will be held on Friday, February 8th, at 6 pm Eastern time, and on Saturday, the date of auction, February 9th, from 8:30 am until the first gavel falls at 10 am Eastern. People can prebid live right now online at the Miller & Miller website: www.MillerandMillerAuctions.com.

Miller & Miller Auctions, Ltd. is a seller of high-value collections between \$200,000 and \$3 million. Individual items of merit are always considered. It is Canada's #1 trusted place for collectors to buy and sell. The firm is always accepting quality merchandise for future auctions.

To consign a single piece, an estate or a collection, you may call them at (519) 573-3710 or (519) 716-5606; or, you can send an e-mail to info@millerandmillerauctions.com. To learn more about Miller & Miller Auctions, Ltd. and the Feb. 9 auction, visit www.MillerandMillerAuctions.com.

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Tulip-inlaid masterpiece schrank made in Upper Canada (Hanover or Gray County) in the second half of the 19th century and attributed to John Klempp (est. CA\$9,000-\$12,000).



Egmondville clay master stein, one of the few advertising objects to surface in early Canadian pottery, 11 ¾ inches tall and reading, "Mfg by H. Krafft Berlin Ont" (est. \$14,000-\$16,000).

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