



## Books and Manuscripts (1706)

May 20, 2021 EST, Freeman's

### Lot 5

**Estimate:** \$5000 - \$8000 (plus Buyer's Premium)

**[Americana] [Franklin, Benjamin] Cicero, M(arcus). T(ullius). Cato Major, or his Discourse of Old-age: With Explanatory Notes**

Philadelphia: B. Franklin, 1744. First edition, second issue (with misprint "ony" on page 27 corrected to "only"). 8vo. viii, 159 pp. Translated and edited by James Logan, and with his cut signature on vellum, mounted to verso of front free endpaper. Inscribed by Dr. John Archibald Ashburner to his half brother John Forbes Jr., 1820, on second free leaf. Title printed in red and in black. Fine example of an American early nineteenth-century (ca. 1820) brown straight-grain morocco binding, stamped in gilt, front and rear joints rubbed; all edges gilt; gilt dentelles; red endpapers; mounted portrait of Logan and previous cataloguer's notes on front free endpaper verso; previous cataloguer's description in pencil on first free leaf, blindstamp of *Castle Newe Strathdon Aberdeenshire* on same; small chip at top pp, iii/iv; scattered toning to top edge of text leaves; final blank loose. Miller 347; Evans 5361.

"Next to the almanacs the *Cato Major* is probably Franklin's best known publication: many think it his most handsome piece of printing, and for a large number of important collectors...it was the only Franklin imprint worth having in their collections" (Miller 347).

From the estates of Charles M. and Mary Elizabeth Meredith III, Bucks County, PA.