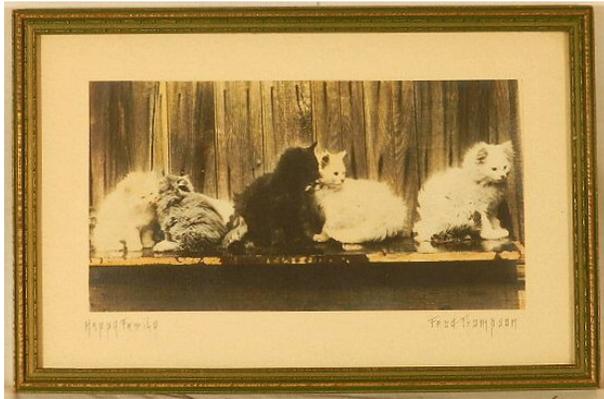


Fred Thompson Hand-Colored Photo Tops \$3500 at Ivankovich Auction



Allentown PA: The market is what it is today but the best-of-the-best still usually commands strong prices. And at Michael Ivankovich's recent Auction a Fred Thompson hand-colored photo more than tripled its previous Auction record, selling for an incredibly strong \$3,520.00.

Who in the world is "*Fred Thompson*"? Fred Thompson was a photographer from Portland ME who, like his contemporary *Wallace Nutting*, sold hand-colored photos during the early 20th century. As a matter of fact, Thompson even visited Nutting's Southbury CT home around 1905 and collaborated with the much better-known Wallace Nutting.

Like Nutting, Thompson sold primarily Exterior (outdoor) and Colonial Interior scenes. But this Auction featured a Fred Thompson picture that Ivankovich had never seen in nearly 40 years of collecting, "*Happy Family*", which featured five adorable young kittens on a table. "*Happy Family*" was very similar to Nutting's "*Dog-on-It*" (right), which featured seven puppies on a bench, and which Ivankovich had sold in the \$2500-\$3500 range numerous times over the years. But what would an extremely rare Thompson kitten picture bring in a down market?



Over the years Ivankovich has sold a few Thompson rarities in the \$1,000 range, but not very often. Most Fred Thompson pictures today sell in the \$50-\$150 range, with smaller or damaged pictures bringing even less. So we're not talking about a pricey collectible category here.

But in this case three extremely determined bidders pushed "*Happy Family*" to an unexpectedly strong \$3,520.00 (including the 10% Buyer's Premium), eventually selling to some serious midwest Nutting collectors, who happily hung it beside their copy of Nutting's "*Dog-on-It*".

Michael Ivankovich's next Auction will be held on May 16, 2014 in conjunction with the 2014 national Wallace Nutting Collectors Club Convention in Ft. Washington PA. For further details, or to consign to this Auction, contact Michael Ivankovich at 215-345-6094.