

THIS 'N THAT



Ogden M. Pleissner (1905–1983), *Jimmy's Pool on the Restigouche*, oil on canvas. Estimate: \$60,000 to \$90,000, sold for \$240,000.



The Purnell-Muller Ward Canvasback Pair, The Ward Brothers. Estimate: \$50,000 to \$80,000, sold for \$129,000.



The Mackey Cobb Feeding Brant, Nathan F. Cobb, Jr. (1825-1905). Estimate: \$100,000 to \$150,000, sold for \$186,000.

Sporting Art and Decoys Auction Approaches \$5 Million

COPLEY FINE ART AUCTIONS recently completed its most successful Winter Sale ever, realizing \$4.9 million in total sales, flying past the auction's high estimate of \$4.6 million. The auction surpassed the company's previous record Winter Sale high of \$3.4 million. In this major sale, single-owner collections and estates led the day with the three top collections each surpassing their high estimates.

The two-day, 600-lot auction, live-streamed February 19 and 20, was 98

percent sold by lot, extending Copley's unrivaled track record in the industry. The largest number of participants in the firm's history filled both days with energetic bidding via phone, absentee bids, the Copley Live app and two online platforms, Bidsquare and Live Auctioneers. There was robust bidding across all categories, including antique and contemporary decoys, decorative carvings, paintings, prints, folk art, canes and Americana. Established collectors

and dealers competed against bidders who were new to the field, resulting in a high number of new buyers and seven lots achieving six-figure prices.

Copley's owner and principal Stephen B. O'Brien, Jr. reports that the bidding on all platforms was "strong" and with an "unprecedented number of new buyers" coming away with lots, which is a good sign for the future growth of the decoy and sporting art market. ■