MEDIA ADVISORY for 11/14/2012
Contact: Tara Theune Davis, Senior Vice President
Marketing & Communications FREEMAN'S c: 917.566.5819

One Bidder Buys All

to Keep Muhlenberg Family Treasures Together

and in the process sets auction record

November 14, 2012 (Philadelphia, Pa) - Thanks to one great history lover who snapped up every single lot in this evening’s sale, the treasured legacy of one of Pennsylvania’s great families, the Muhlenberg’s remains intact.

Samuel M. ‘Beau’ Freeman II, Freeman’s Chairman was the auctioneer at tonight’s historic sale. One paddle rose again and again, without fail. All 27 lots will now enhance an important private collection of Revolutionary War materials. The Muhlenberg Family history’s new steward couldn’t be more pleased with the outcome “Shocked and delighted!” were their exact words.

The auction entitled Historic Muhlenberg Property from a Private Collection including The Grand Division of Color of the 8th Virginia included not only that very rare flag, which achieved a stunning $422,500, but other great treasures as well. This collection, from a Muhlenberg descendant, includes an extensive manuscript archive representing the public and sometimes private lives of this leading Pennsylvania German family, from the period of the American Revolution through the Civil War.

Lot 2, the General Order and Brigade Order book, kept by General Peter Muhlenberg’s orderly from May through November, 1777, a period that encompasses the battles of Brandywine and Germantown, quickly shot to $98,500, setting an auction record, as this private collector matched phone bidders from all around the country every step of the way. Every lot, it was the same thing: This bidder’s steadfast resolve drove nearly every lot well above its estimate. The final tally: $646,063.

"This collector is my hero!" said Lisa Minardi, author of Pastors & Patriots: The Muhlenberg Family of Pennsylvania and Assistant Curator at Winterthur, "It's amazing that these items descended in the family and are now staying together in a single collection."

ABOUT FREEMAN'S:

Founded in 1805, Freeman’s has upheld an exemplary role as America’s oldest auction house and achieves record-setting prices for clients around the world. Located on Chestnut Street, Freeman’s offers over 30 auctions a year in categories including: American Furniture, Decorative & Folk Arts, English & Continental Furniture & Decorative Arts, Asian Arts, Fine American & European Paintings & Sculpture, Modern and Contemporary Art, Rare Books, Oriental Rugs, Fine Jewelry & Watches. For more information, visit www.freemansauction.com or contact 267.414.1229.
Lot 1: Rare 'Grand Division' Color of the Eighth Virginia Regiment commanded $422,500

Auction Record: Lot 2. General Peter Muhlenberg's General Order & Brigade Order Book sold for $98,500