

Kurt A. Sanftleben, ABAA, NSDA

Read'Em Again Books

Catalog 20-3 – Summer 2020

CLEVELAND AND MAHONING VALLEY RAILWAY CO.  
LIBERTY & VIENNA and NILES & NEW LISBON DIVISIONS.

To sundry persons as follows, for personal services during the Month of July 1879.

(30-3-2)

No.	NAMES	OCCUPATION.	TIME.	RATE.	AMOUNT.	DEDUCTIONS.	BALANCE DUE.
1	J. O'Neill	Eng. Dispatcher	40 1/4 mo	99.00	141.44	24.80	99.00
2	J. Dick	R. H. Engineer	4.4	2.00	8.80	30.20	62.00
3	P. Mulvey	Laborer	4.3	1.50	6.45		
4	J. Stokes	Coal Heaver	6.	1.35	8.10	35.26	40.36
5	H. Dill	Wiper	7.4		9.99	8.91	1.08
6					47.43		
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							
13							
14	J. Farrell	Eng. Dispatcher	2 1 mo		90.00		
15	M. Clunk	R. H. Engineer	1 "		45.00		
16	M. Clunk	Wiper	31	1.35	41.85		
17	J. Muir	Wiper	31	1.50	46.50		
18							
19							
20							
21							
22							
23							
24							
25							

Total, 270.83 ✓

We, the undersigned, do hereby certify that all the persons whose names appear opposite their names except those whose names appear in red ink have been paid the several amounts herein set forth.

187

Jas. O'Neill

J. M. Fuller

G. M. M.

G. M. M.

9. A vivid piece of ledger art depicting a warrior and his horse standing over a dead cavalry guidon-bearer whose right hand he has chopped-off. Unidentified artist, probably Cheyenne. Probably the Cheyenne and Arapaho Indian Reservation in the Indian Territory, or Fort Robinson in Nebraska, or Fort Keough-Tongue River Reservation in Montana: Circa 1880-1900.

Our focus is on providing  
unusual ephemera and original personal narratives including

## Diaries, Journals, Correspondence, Photograph Albums, & Scrapbooks.

We specialize in unique items that provide insight into American history, society, and culture while telling stories within themselves. Although we love large archives, usually our offerings are much smaller in scope; one of our regular institutional customers calls them “microhistories.” These original source materials enliven collections and provide students, faculty, and other researchers with details to invigorate otherwise dry theses, dissertations, and publications.

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Reciprocal trade discounts are extended for purchases paid by check, money order or bank transfer.

Institutions, established customers, and ABAA members may be invoiced; all others are asked to prepay. We appreciate institutional constraints when it comes to complying with acquisition rules, dealing with foundations, and courting donors, so we’re always willing to hold items for a reasonable time for you to meet organizational purchasing, funding, and billing requirements.

Any item may be returned for a full refund for any reason if the return is initiated within ten days of a purchaser’s receipt and the item arrives back to us in the same condition as when originally shipped. Prior notice of any return is appreciated. Return shipping costs will be paid by the buyer. All items are guaranteed as described. If a recognized authority finds an item or signature not to be genuine, the original purchaser may return the item at any time for a full refund including all shipping costs.

Regards, Kurt and Gail

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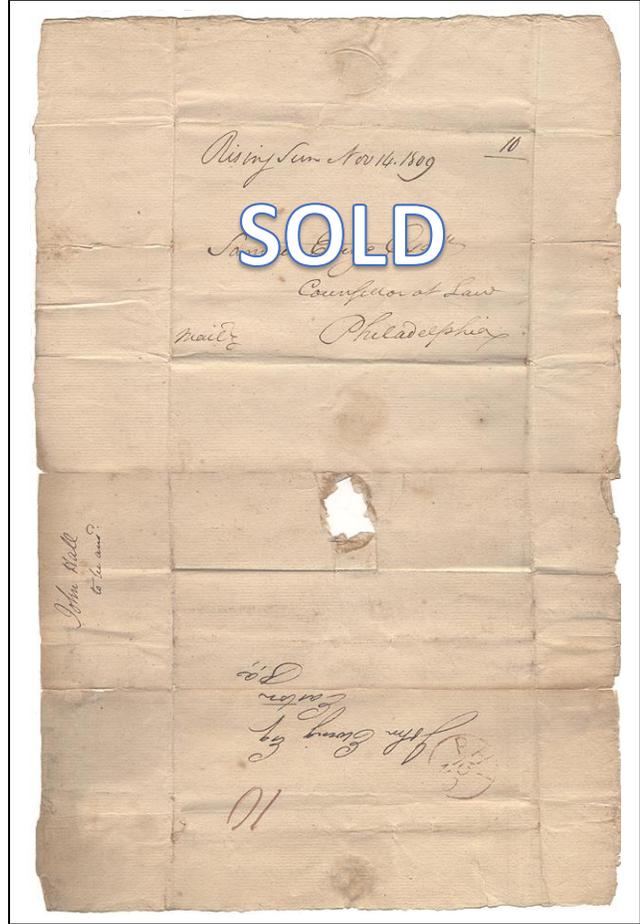
For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

1. [AFRICAN-AMERICANA] [PHILATLELY] [SLAVERY] A turned stampless letter regarding farmland in Kentucky and the possibility of purchasing a “Negro boy” – written in Octorora, Pennsylvania and posted at Rising Sun, Maryland, for delivery to Philadelphia and forwarding to Easton, Maryland. Jno Hall to John (Jack) Ewing via Samuel Ewing. Octorora to Rising Sun to Philadelphia to Easton: November 1809.

This stampless letter measures approximately 8” x 13”. It was datelined “Octorora Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> 1809” and addressed to Samuel Ewing in Philadelphia. It bears a manuscript “Rising Sun Nov 14. 1809” postmark and “10” rate mark. In compliance with Hall’s request within the letter, Samuel Ewing readdressed the missive to John (Jack) Ewing in Easton, Maryland. When reposted, it received a second manuscript “10” rate mark and a small circle Philadelphia postmark, “PHI / 16 / NO”. There are minor 1” splits at two mailing folds and a near invisible archival reinforcement along a third. There is a dime-sized hole in the center of the text from opening the wax-seal.

Hall intended the ultimate recipient of this letter to be Jack (John) Ewing, however he first sent it to Samuel Ewing for information and asked that he forward it to John. In the letter Hall discusses several issues regarding “our lands in Kentucky,” which he apparently owned partnership with the Ewings. However, its most interesting part is the advice provided about purchasing a slave,

“With respect to a Negro boy there is none to be had here, in Balto they are frequently advertised for sale, you had better get Jack Hall (must be a different person than the author) to buy you one.”



Octorora was (and still is) a small area in southeastern Pennsylvania that took its name from an Indian settlement along a creek near the present-day town of Parkesburg. Although a Presbyterian church was built there in 1720, contact with the outside world was limited to the nearby Philadelphia-Baltimore stagecoach road, and the closet postal drop was at the Rising Sun Tavern in Maryland, a major stopping point along the route.. Hall’s letter, no doubt, was carried to the tavern for dispatch by stage to Philadelphia where it was read by Samuel, who, in turn, forwarded it on to John (Jack) in Easton. (See “Origins of Rising Sun” at the Rising Sun town website, Futhey and Copes *History of Chester County, Pennsylvania*, and “History” at the Upper Octorora Presbyterian Church website.)

A nice example of an uncommon turned letter carried through what was then mostly unsettled wilderness; made even more interesting by its discussion of a slave purchase.

**SOLD Inv # 9630**

For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

**2. [AFRICAN-AMERICANA] [PHILATELY] [SLAVERY] [VIRGINIANA] A slave-carried letter from a future judge of what would become Virginia's Supreme Court to the slave's mistress, an elderly female member of a prominent Virginia family. R. C. L. Moncure to Mary A. Hooe. Stafford, Virginia to Buck Hall (Buckhall), Prince William County, Virginia: 1840.**

This one-page, stampless folded letter measures approximately 13" x 8" unfolded. It is datelined, "Stafford Sept. 4 : 1840" and addressed to "Mrs. Mary A. Hoole / Buck Hall / Prince William / V." It contains no postal markings, however "By Richard" appears in manuscript in the lower left corner of the cover. In nice shape with some light toning and a vertical storage crease. Transcript provided. The distance between the Moncure and Hooe plantations was approximately thirty miles.

In the text of this letter regarding the payment of a debt, Moncure, a Stafford County lawyer, informs 83-year-old Mrs. Hooe at Buckhall that he is using her slave, Richard, to carry this letter to her along with thirty dollars to tide her over until he can make a personal visit and deliver the rest of a payment that will settle her account.

"I have rcd by Richard your boy Dade's letter of the 3d instant saying that you were in need of money & requesting me to send some by the Bearer. I accordingly sent you by the bearer thirty dollars which I hope will answer your purposes until I can see you which will be at or before the Inferior Court of Prince William."

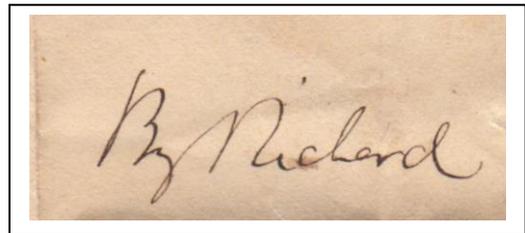
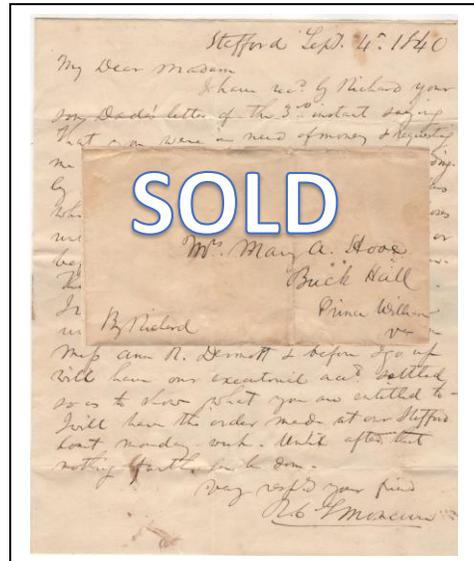
Richard Cassius Lee Moncure, a prominent Stafford County attorney who was eventually appointed to what would become the Supreme Court of Virginia, was a member of one of the "First Families of Virginia". He was born and grew up on the Claremont Plantation, just above Aquia Spring in Stafford County, Virginia, on land that was later seized by the federal government to enlarge Quantico Marine Corps Base during the early years of World War Two. At the time of this letter, Moncure and his wife owned Glencaire, a 1,000-acre plantation, just north of the Rappahannock River near the present town of Falmouth. (See Tyler's' *Dictionary of Virginia Biography* and Scott's *Stafford County* for more information.)

Mary A. Hooe, was a member of a prominent colonial family that settled in Virginia during the mid-1600s and established a large plantation, Hazel Plain, at Buck Hall (Buckhall) in Prince William County, Virginia. (*Genealogies of Virginia Families* indexed by Judith McGhan show that Mary Ann Hooe was born at Buckhall on 7 Nov 1756.) Today, Buckhall, a wealthy suburb of Manassas, is a part of the Washington DC exurbs. The Dades were another prominent early family.

Richard was one of the Hooe family slaves of which several online sources report there were "dozens".

Quite a statement of its time. Slave-carried mail is very scarce. We have only sold three others over the last twenty years. At the time of this listing, there are no others for sale in the trade, and OCLC shows none are held by institutions (although one is in the collection at Brown University). No auction records are listed at the Rare Book Hub, however one slave-delivered military envelope without contents has been sold at a philatelic auction.

**SOLD Inv # 9606**



For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

3. [AFRICAN-AMERICANA] [CIVIL WAR] [FREDERICK DOUGLAS] [JOHN BROWN] [LIBERIAN COLONIZATION] [PHILATELY] A letter expressing hope that Frederick Douglass will not be arrested for his role in John Brown's famous raid on Harpers Ferry Virginia sent by the President of Liberia to an important Philadelphia abolitionist and member of the American Colonization Society. President Stephen Allen Benson. Monrovia, Liberia: 23 January 1860.

This signed letter from Liberian President Steven A. Benson is datelined "Government House / Monrovia Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> 1860". It is enclosed in a stampless envelope addressed to "Benjamin Coates Esqr / Philadelphia / U.S.A." The envelope is annotated "M. C. Stevens" in the lower left corner. It has a black, circular "Baltimore Md." receiving postmark dated "Mar 5" with matching "SHIP" and "5" handstamps. The letter has near-invisible archival mends to some folds. Transcript provided.

In this letter, Benson updates Coates, a member of the American Colonization Society, on his schedule which includes meetings with inland tribal chiefs who were hostile to and occasionally attacked the Liberian settlers:

"I expect to proceed to Cape Mount next week . . . for the purpose of having a general Convention of the Chiefs, settling all their balances, breaking down all their barricades, & establishing peace in that entire section of the Country. I hope to & shall try hard to effect it by pacific means. . . ."

Most interesting is Benson's concern for Frederick Douglass who had allegedly promised to lead a band of raiders to join in John Brown's attack on Harpers Ferry:

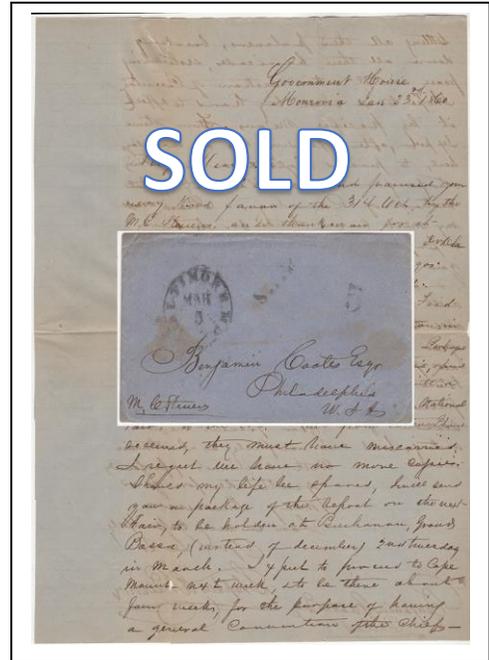
"I shall regret very much in Case Fred Douglass is arrest[ed] for imprecations in the Harpers' Ferry insurrection. Perhaps he will yet find his way to Liberia & find a resting place at last."

Today, most historians accept Douglass's denial that he had committed to aid Brown. However, after an incriminating note was found, Douglass fled to Canada. Adding to the tension were comments by some of Brown's associates and family accusing Douglass of reneging on his promise. Northern, southern, and abolitionist newspapers alike (e.g., *Weekly Anglo-African*, *New York Herald*, *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, and *Richmond Daily Dispatch*) also suggested—some more strongly than others—that, at the last moment, Douglass abandoned his pledge. (For more information, see the Frederick Douglass Papers at the Library of Congress and Hamm's "When Frederick Douglass Met John Brown" in *Jacobin Magazine* 11 Jan 2017.)

Benson, the second President of Liberia, was born at Cambridge, Maryland in 1816 to free-born African-American parents. His family was among the earliest Americans to return to Africa, having moved there in 1822. At the time of Benson's expression of concern, Douglass was an ardent opponent of Liberian colonization, and it is inconceivable that he would have ever considered an invitation to live there.

The *M. C. Stevens* was a packet ship named in honor of Mary Caroline Stevens, the daughter of Marylander John Stevens who donated the vessel to the American Colonization Society to provide transportation for free African-Americans that wanted to emigrate to Liberia.

Letters from President Benson are scarce and only infrequently appear for sale or auction. This example is especially interesting for its connection to John Brown, Harpers Ferry, and Frederick Douglass.



**SOLD** Inv # 9612

For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

4. [AFRICAN-AMERICANA] [CIVIL WAR] [PHOTOGRAPHY] [PROPAGANDA] [SLAVERY] Twelve different cartes-de-visite picturing white slave children from New Orleans who and been freed when General Benjamin Butler occupied the city and were then put on display by the Freedman's Bureau to bolster flagging northern support for continuing the Civil War. Six photographs by Chas. Paxon, four photographs by M. H. Kimball, and two without attribution. New York: 1863-1864.

Twelve photographs of the four white children included in a group of eight emancipated slaves that were taken North in November and December of 1863 on a publicity tour to shore up flagging support for the Civil War. The inclusion of white slave children was considered to be essential as, except for in abolitionist circles, the majority of white northerners had little empathy for enslaved blacks. The trip—partially sponsored by the National Freedman's Relief Association and the American Missionary Association—was coordinated by Colonel George Henry, the Superintendent of the Union Army's Bureau of Negro Labor, and his Assistant Superintendent for Freedmen, Philip Bacon. The tour was a partial success, but it did not sway everyone; Henry was attacked when he visited Bridgetown, Connecticut. While in New York City, the entourage visited two important photographers, M. H. Kimball and Charles Paxon, who produced souvenir cartes de visite, which on the reverse contain the text:

“The nett proceeds from the sale of these Photographs will be devoted exclusively to the education of colored people in the Department of the Gulf, now under the command of Maj. Gen. Banks.”



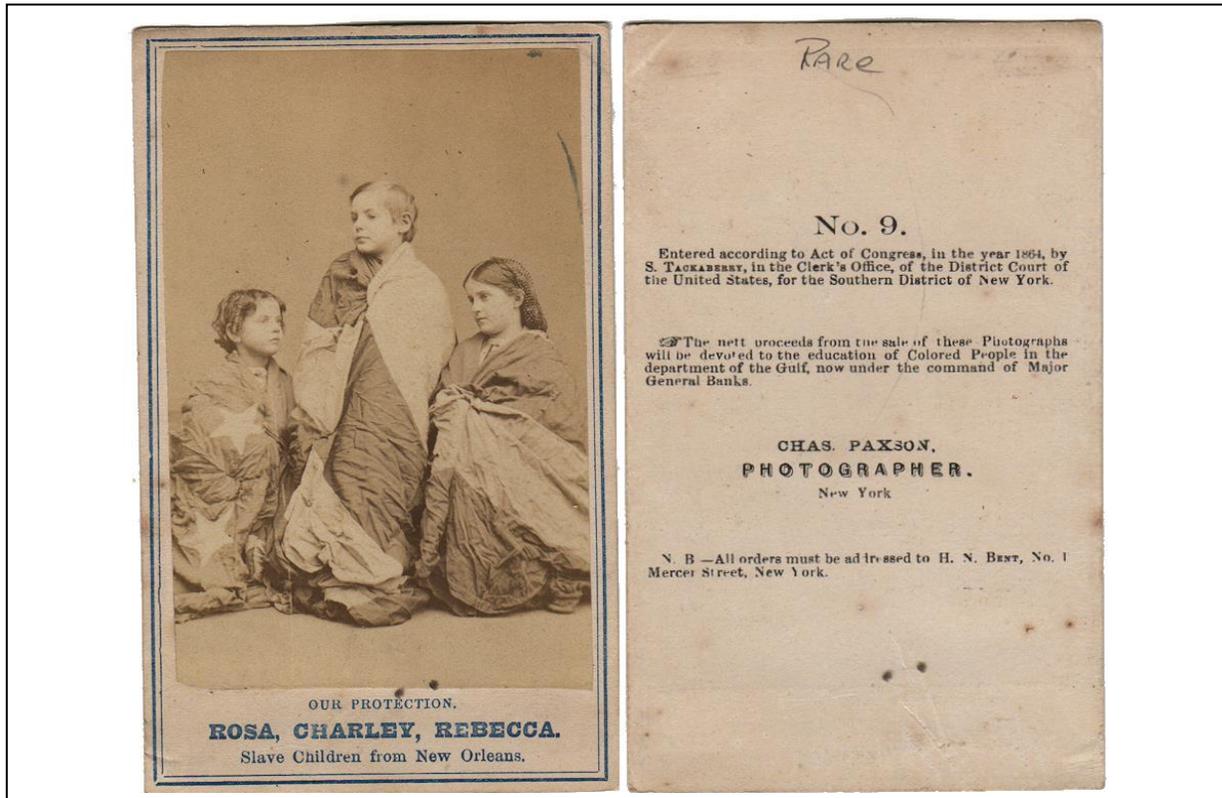
The cards in this group show the four white children individually and in groups of three. A letter advertisement in the January 30, 1864 edition of *Harper's Weekly* identifies the children as follows:

“Rebecca Huger is eleven years old, and was a slave in her father's house, the special attendant of a girl a little older than herself. To all appearance she is perfectly white. Her complexion, hair, and features show not the slightest trace of negro blood. In the few months during which she has been at school she has learned to read well, and writes as neatly as most children of her age. Her mother and grandmother live in New Orleans, where they support themselves comfortably by their own labor. The grandmother, an intelligent mulatto, told Mr. Bacon that she had ‘raised’ a large family of children, but these are all that are left to her.”

“Rosina Downs is not quite seven years old. She is a fair child, with blonde complexion and silky hair. Her father is in the rebel army. She has one sister as white as herself, and three brothers who are darker.

For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

Her mother, a bright mulatto, lives in New Orleans in a poor hut, and has hard work to support her family."



"Charles Taylor is eight years old. His complexion is very fair, his hair light and silky. Three out of five boys in any school in New York are darker than he. Yet this white boy, with his mother, as he declares, has been twice sold as a slave. First by his father and 'owner,' Alexander Wethers, of Lewis County, Virginia, to a slave-trader named Harrison, who sold them to Mr. Thornhill of New Orleans. This man fled at the approach of our army, and his slaves were liberated by General Butler. The boy is decidedly intelligent, and though he has been at school less than a year he reads and writes very well. His mother is a mulatto; she had one daughter sold into Texas before she herself left Virginia, and one son who, she supposes, is with his father in Virginia. These three children, to all appearance of unmixed white race, came to Philadelphia last December, and were taken by their protector, Mr. Bacon, to the St. Lawrence Hotel on Chestnut Street. Within a few hours, Mr. Bacon informed me, he was notified by the landlord that they must therefore be colored persons, and he kept a hotel for white people. From this inhospitable establishment the children were taken to the "Continental," where they were received without hesitation. . ."

"Augusta Boujey is nine years old. Her mother, who is almost white, was owned by her half-brother, named Solamon, who still retains two of her children. . ."

One of the cards bears a blue 2-cent U.S. Internal Revenue Proprietary stamp (Scott #R13) on the reverse. Overall, the cards are in nice shape. One has clipped lower corners, several have minor soiling, one has a hard-to-see light crease, and one has a severe scrapbook-mounting-scuff on the reverse.

**SOLD Inv # 9627**

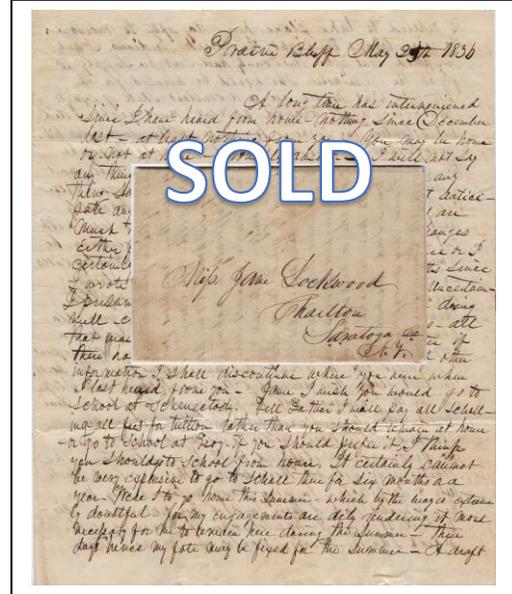
You can view all of the cards at our website. Cards may be purchased separately; please contact us for individual card prices as they vary.

For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

5. [AMERICAN INDIANS] [THE CREEK] [CREEK WAR] [PHILATELY] [WESTWARD EXPANSION] A letter from an early Alabama settler expresses outrage that unscrupulous white land speculators have cheated many Creeks but resolves himself to going to war against the tribe since it has indiscriminately massacred white settlers instead of those responsible for its suffering. E. Lockwood to Jane Lockwood. Prairie Bluff, Alabama to Charlton, New York: May 25, 1836.

This three-page stampless folded letter from "E. Lockwood" measures 15.5" x 9.75" unfolded. It is datelined "Prairie Bluff May 25<sup>th</sup> 1836" and addressed to "Miss Jane Lockwood / Charlton / Saratoga Co. / N.Y." No postal markings; delivered by a friend. Transcript included. The letter reads in part:

"A draft is ordered to take place . . . to raise troops to fight the Creek Indians. . . . How long the contest will continue is unknown. . . . I cannot well leave without sacrificing much. . . . But when our country calls we must go out to battle! The Creeks are strong – their force is estimated [to be] ten thousand warriors . . . they will give Alabama a hard struggle. The mail has ceased to run for some time. . . . The last stage was stopped . . . all the passengers except one murdered. . . . [The Creeks] are dissatisfied . . . . The Whites have got all their lands & they are left destitute & desperate. In very many instances they have been cheated out of their lands & they know & are disposed to revenge themselves for the knavery of the whites which . . . would be not more than strict justice provided they would kill none except those who had practised the most rank frauds upon them. . . . The white land speculators are very much the cause of this war – their acts have been the most unwarrantable & unjust . . . & the Indians in order to satiate their revenge are waging war with every white man they can find. I can tell you more . . . if I should survive. . . ."



Lockwood's letter summarizes the causes of the Second Creek War and typifies the empathy felt by many Alabamans until some Creek bands began indiscriminately massacring whites. Some Creeks were dissatisfied with the treaties signed by their leaders following the First Creek war where the tribe received \$350,000 in exchange for much of their tribal land, and each family received at least a half-square-mile homestead in return. Compounding the tension, land speculators began buying up the Creek homesteads below their market value and reselling them to white settlers. Worse, squatters flooded the area as well. President Andrew Jackson sent Francis Scott Key to investigate. Key confirmed the reports were worse than reported, however the situation was out-of-control and could not be stopped. Outrage in some Creek bands exploded into indiscriminate warfare. Farms were razed, families were slaughtered, and an entire town was massacred and burned to the ground. The Alabama militia fought skirmishes with the Creek war parties until General Winfield Scott arrived with Army regulars and along with the Upper Creek Nation, defeated the warring bands. By 1837, the war was over, and President Jackson ordered the Army to march 15,000 Creeks from Alabama to the Indian Territory, a distance of 750 miles, and over 3,500 perished along the route. (For more information see Ellisor's *The Second Creek War*. . . , and Kane's "Second Creek War" at the *Encyclopedia Alabama*.)

A very scarce sympathetic, but resolute, first person account about the origin of the Second Creek War. At the time of this listing, there is nothing similar for sale in the trade, the Rare Book Hub shows no nothing similar sold at auction, and OCLC identifies only one institution with some similar letters.

**SOLD Inv # 9625**

For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

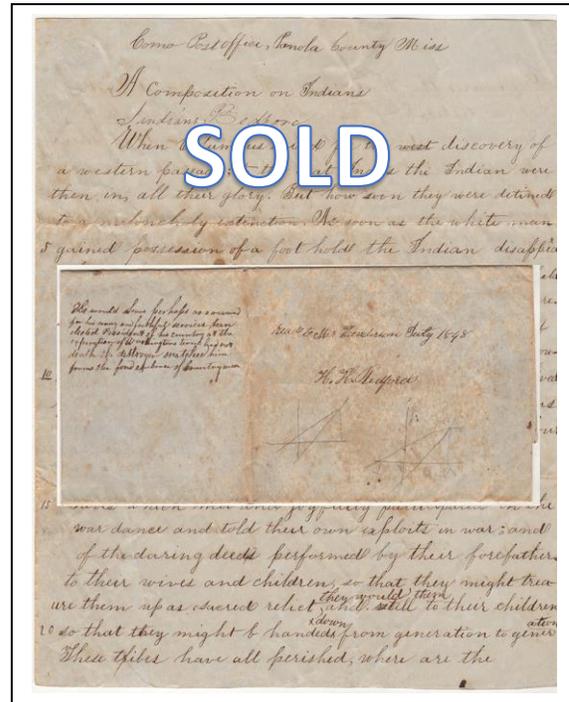
6. [AMERICAN INDIANS] [EDUCATION] [WESTWARD EXPANSION] – A student, who would begin study at University of Mississippi the following year, castigates white men for their treatment of Native Americans in his “Composition on Indians.” H. H. [Henry Hill] Bedford. Como, Mississippi: 1848.

The two-page essay measures 15” x 8” when opened. It is dated, “Como Post Office, Panola County, Miss” and titled, “A Composition on Indians” Docketing includes text reading, “Read to Mr. Henderson July / H. H. Bedford”, a pencil geometry proof, and the statement “He would have perhaps as a reward for his many and faithful services been elected President of his country at the expiration of Washington’s term had not death the destroyer snatched him from the fond embrace of Countrymen”. Transcript provided. The composition reads in part:

“ When Columbus sailed for the discovery of a western passage; to the East Indies the Indian were then in all their glory. But how soon they were detained to a melancholy extinction. As soon as the white man gained possession of a foot hold the Indian disappear when the west Indies were discovered, the Indians held command over this land. They have gone from there. . . They have gone all have gone, the powerful tribes which once lived here and which lived farther east. The tribe which returned victorious from the battle field bringing trophies of their valour. The tribes which threated to drive our forefathers from this dear land and waged war upon them. Tribes which met and joyfully participated in the war dance and told their own exploits in war: and of the daring deeds performed by their forefathers to their wives and children so that they might treasure them up as sacred relict. . . Where are the Delaware the Hurons the Mohegans and host of other tribes. They have all gone no more shall their discendants visit the burial grounds of their progenetors; no more shall war dance be engaged in, slowly they have died away and those which did not die or get killed were forced to pass beyond the Mississippi River. it may well be said that the white man was the cause of their bad misfortunes treatments upon the poor Indians. The approach of the white man brought corruption . . . and blotted out their existence. What corruption did the white man bring. What powerful agency did he employ . . . to destroy the most warlike of the human race. . . it was a devastating war.”

Bedford graduated from the University of Mississippi in 1853 at the age of 19, which suggests he entered college as a 15-year-old in 1849, the year after the school first opened. It is unclear if Bedford’s composition was part of his regular studies, was preparation for admission, or met an admissions requirement. Regardless, its rough construction indicates that admission standards at the University were not especially rigorous. However, it also exhibits his empathy with the Eastern Tribes that had been displaced. No doubt, Bedford was associated with the Whig Party—led by Davy Crockett, Henry Clay, and Daniel Webster—which opposed the draconian Indian Removal Act championed by the Democratic Party and Presidents Andrew Jackson and Martin Van Buren that evicted over 100,000 American Indians from their homes and killed over 15,000 tribe members from exposure, exhaustion, and starvation during a forced march of over a thousand miles on the Trail of Tears to resettle in the Indian Territory

**SOLD Inv # 9626**



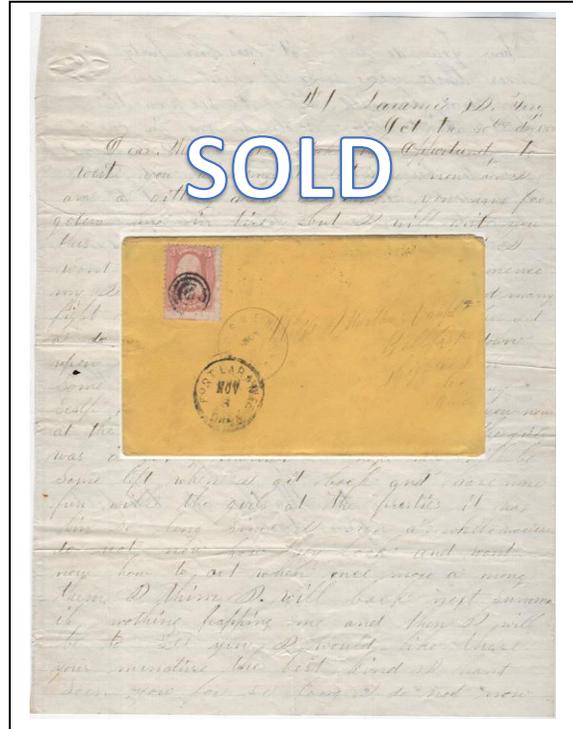
For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

7. [AMERICAN INDIANS] [THE CHEYENNE] [PHILATELY] [PLAINS INDIAN WARS] [THE SIOUX] [WESTWARD EXPANSION] A flirty letter from a soldier stationed at Fort Laramie to the girl he left behind describing his isolated life and the ongoing battles with the Sioux and Cheyenne. James Butler, Fort Laramie, Dakota Territory (now Wyoming): 1865.

This letter is datelined "Ft. Laramie, D. Tery., Oct. the 20<sup>th</sup> 1865" and franked with a 3-cent Washington stamp (Scott #65). It bears a scarce "Fort Laramie Dak" postmark. Faint writing. Transcript provided.

Excerpts from Butler's letter express his loneliness and stoic bravado with regard to the Sioux and Cheyenne:

"I think you have forgotten me entirely but I will write you this letter. . . . I commence my Indian story. We have had a good many fights with them and have escaped so far, yet I do not know when they will run down upon me. If they do, I will give them some Spencer balls before they take my scalp. . . . It has been so long since I saw a white woman, do not know how they look and won't know how to act when once more among them. I think I will be back next summer if nothing happens to me. . . . I haven't seen you for so long, I do not know how you do look. It has been pretty near three years since I have seen you. . . . When this you see, remember me and I will you. Direct your letter to Ft. Laramie in care of Lieut. S. B. White of Company G, the 11 Regiment O.V.C.."



With the outbreak of the American Civil War, regular army units were transferred from western posts to fight in the east, and state regiments took their place defending the western trails. This letter is from a trooper assigned to the 11<sup>th</sup> Ohio Volunteer Cavalry Regiment, which deployed to the Dakota and Idaho Territories to protect telegraph lines and the Oregon, Overland, and Bozeman Trails from attacks by the Sioux and Cheyenne. Its companies were stationed at Fort Laramie and dispersed among other camps along the Sweetwater and North Platte Rivers. The 11<sup>th</sup> was constantly engaged in battles including: South Pass, Sweet Water Bridge, Rush Creek, Camp Marshall, Sage Creek Station, Platte Bridge, Powder River, Tongue River and many more. (See the Center for Archival Collections: Northwest Ohio in the Civil War.

Butler would, indeed, have been able to "give them some Spencer balls." Spencer repeating carbines were early American lever-action firearms adopted by the Union cavalry. They were accurate, reliable under combat conditions, and could fire more than 20 rounds per minute.

Letters from the Dakota Territory in the 1860s are scarce, and those from the famous 11 Ohio Cavalry that mention fighting with the Cheyenne or Sioux even more so. At the time of this listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade. Rare Book Hub shows no auction results for similar items. OCLC shows the Denver Public Library holds the papers of Colonel William O. Collings, the commander of the regiment, otherwise no similar items are in institutional collections.

**SOLD**    **Inv # 9617**

For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

8. [AMERICAN INDIANS] [LATTER-DAY SAINTS] [MORMONS] [PHILATELY] [PLAINS INDIAN WARS] [THE SNAKE] [WESTWARD EXPANSION] Two flirty, lonely-hearts, pen-pal letters from a young infantry sergeant stationed at Fort Bridger to a woman he has not met expressing his thoughts about life at Fort Bridger, the Snake Tribe, Brigham Young and his wives, and his less than favorable impression of “the style of the Mormons” . Sgt. Harry Vincent (a pseudonym). Ft. Bridger, Utah Territory (now Wyoming): 1869.

Two letters, both sent to Brimfield, Massachusetts; one datelined “Fort Bridger, U.T. Jan. 30th 1869”, the other, “Fort Bridger Mar 9<sup>th</sup>, 1869”. One is enclosed in an envelope franked with a 3-cent stamp (Scott #65) and bearing a faint circular fort postmark with cork killer. Transcripts provided.

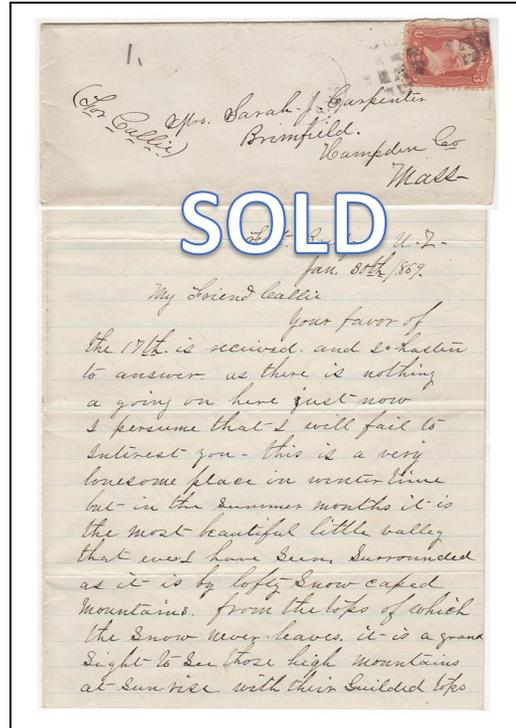
In these letters, Vincent describes his life at Fort Bridger, heavy snow, delayed trains, Snake Indians, the mail, his impression of Mormons, and Brigham Young and his wives:

“This is a very lonesome place in wintertime but in the summer months it is the most beautiful little valley that I have seen surrounded by as it is by lofty snow capped mountains from the tops of which the snow never leaves. . . . I do get weary sometimes of army life [and] have been very lonesome for the last month on account of getting no mail the Road has been snowed up that the trains couldnt run . . . there is no Ladies here excepting a few of the officers wives and their servant girls. I have seen B Young and some of his lovely wives. He has (I believe) sixty five wives in all. I don’t think that he would know them all if he would see them all together. Ft

Bridger is not a town and the nearest R.R. is eight miles. . . . I have been to the city of Salt Lake it is a very nice place situated in a lovely valley. The streets are very wide with shade trees on either side of the streets and some beautiful buildings but I dont approve of the style of the Mormons at all in fact I would think my self very much degraded if found in company with one, but different people have different views of religion. . . . We have had no church here for nearly two months as our Chaplain is on furlough and wont be back for some time. We have a library here and I spend the most of my unoccupied time at the reading room. I have been away on a hunting excursion and got back yesterday had a very pleasant time. There was fifteen of us (soldiers) and five Indians there is about five hundred Indians camped near the fort but they are very peacable this is the Snake tribe they are lazy and very filthy.”

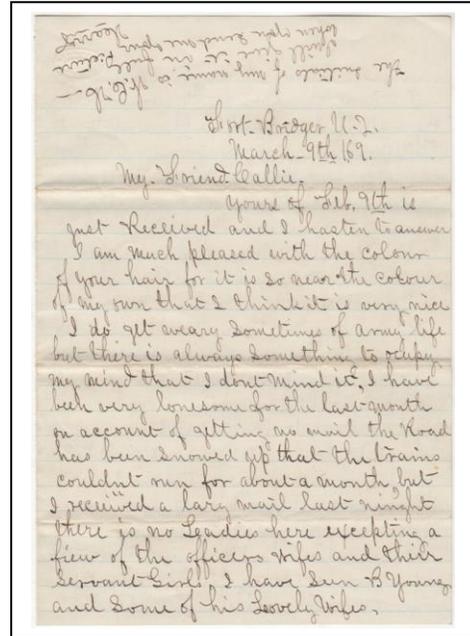
Interestingly, Vincent has never met Callie, the woman to whom he writes through their mutual friend Sarah J. Carpenter, and he tells her up-front that he will use a pseudonym until she sends him a photograph. Much of the letter is filled with interesting ‘get acquainted’ banter, including his response questions from Callie about marriage and propriety:

“Your favor of the 17th is received and . . . as for my Photograph . . . I would like to comply with your wishes, but unfortunately we have no artist here and I can’t get any taken at present but I am a going to take a trip to Salt Lake City next week & I shall get some then if you will promise me yours in return I will send you one but I can favor you with a lock of my hair & also a description I am from Pittsburg Pennsylvania am 21 years & one month eleven days old – medium hight – light complexion blue eyes – weight one hundred & forty three lbs – have been in the army since I was sixteen years old.



**For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #**

As to our getting married – it is not impossible yet hardly probable that is one thing that I never as yet thought much on & don't expect to until I am out of the army which I am happy to say is but eleven months more. You say you think it is rather improper to write to a stranger now. I cannot see any harm in this way of passing a long evening as for the letters I assure you that no one sees them but myself and perhaps my confidential friend Ed Lee. . . . H.V. is not my true name . . . as you wish E.L.'s picture along with mine I will send both on one card and I want you to make a guess which is mine and then I will tell you if you are right. . . . I do not use tobacco or indulge in drink stronger than coffee. I was taught by pious parents to abstain from all such evils as these. . . . The initials of my name is W.C.H. I will give it in full when you send me your picture. . . .”



Strangely, although Vincent promised that he would not share their communications with anyone except possibly his best friend, his letters are written in two different hands, and on one

occasion Callie is mistakenly referred to as Carrie. Despite a claim to frequent the post library, perhaps he was illiterate or possibly his penmanship was so embarrassingly atrocious that he asked others for assistance. Possibly, he was helped by officers' wives as the handwriting and, at times, the content seems somewhat feminine. Regardless, these missives must have been important to Callie as she saved them. Public records available through ancestry.com identify a Sarah J. Carpenter as well as several young women named Callie living in and around Brimfield in Hampden County at the time of these letters.

In 1842, Jim Bridger, a fur-trapping mountain man, established a trading post along a fork of the Green River in what today is southwest Wyoming that became an important supply point for wagon trains on the Oregon, California, and Mormon Trails. With the arrival of the Latter-Day Saints in 1842, conflicts arose between the Mormons and Bridger over the price of his goods and his alcohol sales to local tribes. After chasing Bridger away, the Latter-Day Saints 'bought' his trading post for \$8,000 in a questionable agreement overseen by William Adams Hickman, the notorious Mormon assassin who had been John Smith's bodyguard. As relations between the government and the Latter-Day Saints deteriorated, the Army was ordered to escort a new governor to the Utah to replace Brigham Young. Despite violent resistance by the Mormons, the Army prevailed and established a military presence at Fort Bridger that would intermittently continue until 1890. (For more information, see "Fort Bridger State Historic Site" at Legends of America, "Fort Bridger" at Wikipedia, and Hickman's autobiography, *Brigham's Destroying Angel: Being the Life, . . . of the Notorious Bill Hickman, the Danite Chief of Utah.*)

Following the Civil War, the 18th Infantry Regiment was sent west to protect settlers and pioneers heading to the Pacific Coast. Its companies deployed to various camps and garrisons throughout Nebraska, Dakota, Utah, and Colorado. Its most infamous engagement was the annihilation of a patrol led by the overly-confident Captain Fetterman into an ambush by a combined force of more than a thousand Plains warriors. All 81 members of Fetterman's patrol were killed, stripped naked, and horribly mutilated . . . not necessarily in that sequence.

These letters provide an overview of military-life in the Utah Territory, a 'gentile's' view of the Latter-Day Saints, and insight into the manners of budding relationships during the mid-1800s.

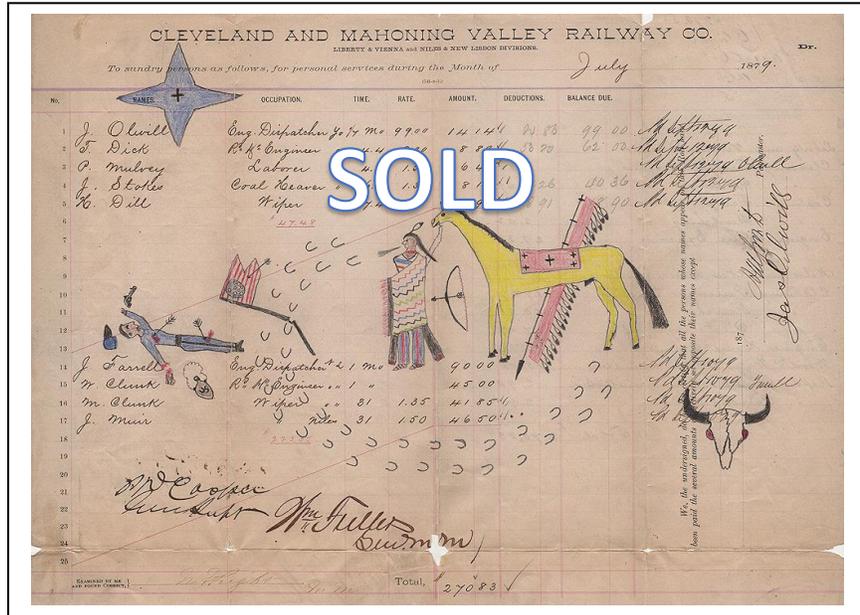
**SOLD Inv # 9616**

For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

9. [AMERICAN INDIANS] [LEDGER ART] [PLAINS INDIAN WARS] [WESTWARD EXPANSION] A vivid piece of ledger art depicting a warrior and his horse standing over a dead cavalry guidon-bearer whose right hand he has chopped-off after killing him in battle. Unidentified artist, probably Cheyenne. Probably the Cheyenne and Arapaho Indian Reservation in the Indian Territory, or Fort Robinson in Nebraska, or Fort Keough-Tongue River Reservation in Montana: Circa 1880-1900.

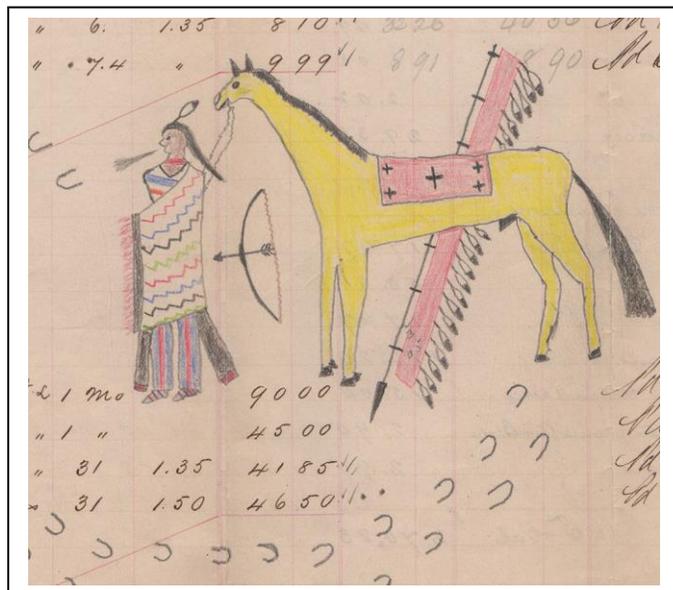
This ledger leaf from the Cleveland and Mahoning Valley Railway Company dated 1879 measures 11" x 14". The drawing is done in colored pencil. Colors remain vivid, and the drawing is in nice shape, although the page shows some wear, and several fold separations have near invisible archival mends.

The work's style, coloring, and depicted dress and weapons match those of Cheyenne art ledgers at the University of California San Diego's Plains Indian Art Project.



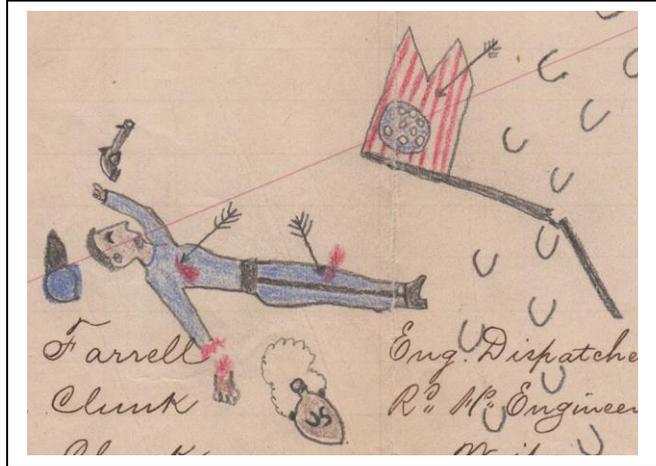
Its focal point is a warrior and his horse in the center of the page. The warrior is wrapped tightly in a multicolored trade blanket that covers most of his black breechcloth and blue leggings made from captured cavalry trousers. This, plus the frosted breath coming from his mouth, suggest that the fight took place during cold weather. His bow and arrow lie nearby and his war lance with black-tipped eagle feathers (attached by a strip of red cloth) stands upright next to his buckskin stallion. The horse is unpainted with its tail unwrapped and furnished simply with only a blanket and lariat-loop war bridle. It stands still, as trained to do, when its reins were lifted over its head and allowed to hang loose.

The paucity of hoofprints in the scene suggest that it does not depict a major battle but rather one of the hundreds of minor skirmishes with the Army that took place in the upper plains.



For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

The dead soldier, bleeding from arrows that pierced his chest and knee, is surrounded by his cap, pistol, canteen, guidon, and severed right hand. The soldier's minimal mutilation is significant. As noted by historians and cavalry officers, perimortem and postmortem mutilation of enemies was not only done to inflict pain or terror; it also had a spiritual purpose. The Plains tribes generally believed that people would enter the afterlife just as they were when they died. Thus, warriors mutilated victims to hinder them in the spirit world should they try to seek vengeance. The mutilations were usually severe, but here, the warrior has



only chopped off the soldier's right hand. There are reports from both soldiers and warriors that only minimal mutilation might be done if an enemy had fought valiantly. In this case, while the soldier's spirit would not be able to pull a trigger or wield a sabre, it could otherwise enjoy its post-worldly existence.

Two symbols complete the drawing, a blue "morning star" in the upper left and a buffalo skull in the lower right. The morning star, one of several styles, symbolizes courage, purity of spirit, and, for Ghost Dance believers, the restoration of the dead warriors to fight with the living and destroy the white colonists, bringing peace and prosperity. Buffalo skulls signify self-sacrifice and the promises of blessings.

Ledger art provides first-person narratives of Western history from a Plains Indian perspective. The drawings were done by warriors for themselves and their own use, and the scenes declare, "I was there, and this is what happened." First-person artworks produced by the warriors who fought during Plains Wars almost all share several characteristics: a lack of perspective with no frame of background reference, movement from right to left, and, most importantly, egocentrism with the artist-author being the focus of the drawing. Horses appear in most works, testifying to the men's lives as horsemen. Many works focus on hunting and courtship, but the most prized center on "glory-days" memories of warfare and a warrior's deeds and exploits, e.g., attacking, killing, and counting coup.

Plains warriors began creating these works in the 1860s when Buffalo herds diminished, and hide painting was replaced by works on paper, cloth, or canvas. By the 1880s, when reservation-life became prevalent, former warriors had much time on their hands, and Indian agents encouraged them to create these works to fill their days. The most prevalent source materials were old or new ledger books, ink, colored pencils, and watercolors provided agents, traders, and the army.

For more information on ledger art and Plains warfare, see the USCD Plains Indian Art Project online, "Ledger Art in Historical Context" at the Texas Beyond History website, "Keeping History: Plains Indian Ledger Drawings" at the Smithsonian Institution online, "Native American Symbols" at the Native American Tribes website, Haynes's UNLV master's thesis, *Massacre, Memoir, and Myth. . .*, Scott's *Uncovering History: The Legacy of Archaeological Investigation at the Little Bighorn Battlefield. . .*, Mooney's *The Ghost Dance Religion. . .*, "Sacred Buffalo" on-line at the Akta-Lakota Museum, and "Buffalo Skull Meaning" online at Skull Bliss.

Many ledger art examples are held by institutions and private collectors; however, demand exceeds supply, especially for less-common scenes like this one that exalt in a warrior's victory over a mutilated white soldier.

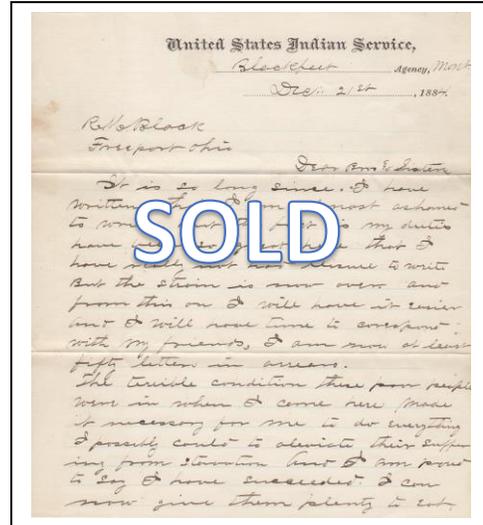
**SOLD** Inv # 9621

For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

**10. [AMERICAN INDIANS] [MILITARY & WAR] [RESERVATION LIFE] [WESTWARD EXPANSION] A self-congratulatory letter from the U.S. Army Indian Agent credited with saving most of the Piegan Blackfeet Tribe following the “Starvation Winter” that killed a quarter of its members -sent by Major Rueben A. Allen to family in Ohio describing life at Montana’s Blackfeet Agency. December 21, 1883.**

This five-page letter is datelined “United States Indian Service / Blackfeet Agency, Mont. / Dec: 21<sup>st</sup>, 1884.” It is addressed to Major Allen’s family at Freeport, Ohio. There is no accompanying envelope. In nice shape. Transcript provided.

An exceptional letter from the army major credited with saving most of the Piegan Blackfeet following the departure of Agent John Young, who was unjustly blamed for the “Starvation Winter” of 1883 during which nearly 600 members (a quarter of the Piegan band) died following the failure of their annual buffalo hunt. Young left under a firestorm of vilification by the Blackfeet, local whites, the Indian Bureau, Congress, and the press who accused him of, at best, disinterest, and, at worst criminal malfeasance. Historians followed suit until 1958 when Helen West discovered an archive of documents at the Museum of the Plains Indians that absolved him of blame.



While the story is too long to include, West’s article, “Starvation Winter of the Blackfeet” in the 1958 Winter issue of *Montana: The Magazine of History* provides the details. Regardless, Major Reuben Allen arrived to take over in March of 1884. Youthful, energetic, and engaging, he became the darling of the tribe, local whites, and the press. It also did not hurt that federal provisions began to simultaneously roll-in, spurred by press reports about “Starvation Winter”. When Allen penned this letter in late December of 1884, it was 30 degrees below zero with 20 inches of snow. However, the crisis was over:

"The terrible condition these poor people were in when I came here made it necessary for me to do everything I possibly could to alleviate their suffering from starvation and I am proud to say I have succeeded. I can now give them plenty to eat."

He then lists the abundance of supplies he has to feed the tribe for the next month including 26,000 pounds of bacon, 272,000 pounds of beef, 295,000 pounds of flour, 36,000 pounds of potatoes, 24,000 pounds of turnips, 8,500 pounds of coffee, as well as blankets, shawls, hats, pants, shirts, shoes scarves, mittens, and much more, noting somewhat smugly: “The Indians are well satisfied and I have their entire confidence. They will do anything I ask of them. . . . I would not pass through again what I have in the past six months . . . not that I feared any personal danger but to witness the suffering from starvation of these poor creatures and being powerless to help them. But as I am credited by the people and press of Montana of helping them out & am now satisfied.”

Finally, he relates that during a severe snowstorm, 100 head of Agency’s cattle escaped, and “it became necessary to get them back. . . . I took what force I could spare from here [and] found them scattered [over] 130 miles. . . . I stayed in the saddle for 8 days . . . and during the time I was out . . . I never saw a human being except our own party. . . .

Quite scarce, other than Young’s papers at the Museum of the Plains Indians and Allen’s files at the University of Montana, OCLC reports nothing similar held by institutions. Neither is anything similar for sale in the trade, nor does the Rare Book Hub identify auction sales of other similar items.

**SOLD Inv # 9628**

For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

11. [CHINA MISSIONARIES] [MARITIME] [PHILATELY] [RELIGION] [WOMEN] [WORLD WAR TWO] [YWCA] Letter from an American missionary to her brother, written while aboard the Swedish repatriation ship *MS Gripsholm*, informing him she is sick, but recovering, after having been released from Japanese internment in China. V. Grace Clapper to Henry Clapper. Near Rio de Janeiro to Omak, Washington: December 1943.

This two-page airmail letter, sent by an American missionary, is written on "Motorship Gripsholm" stationery and datelined "Nearing Rio de Janeiro S. A. / Nov. 12, 1943." The envelope is franked with an orange 6-cent Presidential Series stamp (Scott #81) canceled by a New York City "Church Street Annex" machine postmark before forwarding to Omak, Washington. "Examined By" censor tape "#7996" seals its left edge. Docketing reads, "your letter to 'Rio' rec'd & appreciated. v.g.c." In nice shape. A transcript will be provided.

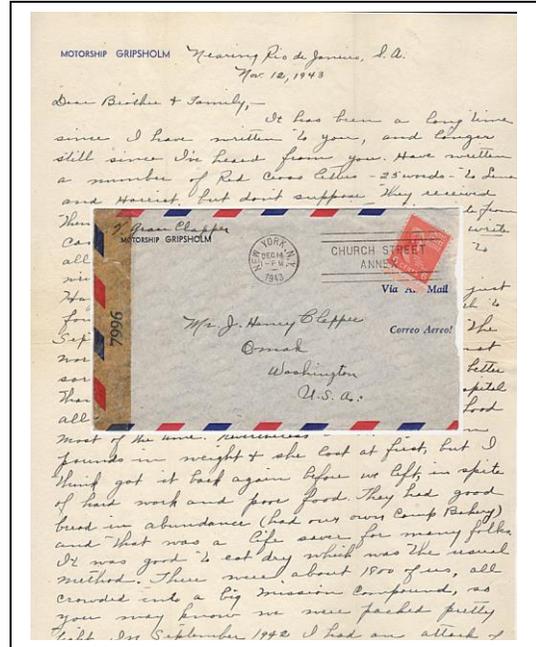
In this letter, Grace informs her brother of her internment and repatriation experience.

"Have written a number of Red Cross letters – 25 words. . . . These we were permitted to write from camp Wei Hsien, Shantung. . . . I had it better than Hazel, being kept in the Camp Hospital . . . where we had quite good food most of the time. Nevertheless I lost about ten pounds in weight . . . hard work and poor food. They had good bread in abundance . . . and that was a life saver for many folks. . . . There were about 1900 of us . . . so you may know how we were packed pretty tight. In September 1942 I had an attack of Bacillary dysentery. . . . I was put to bed in my own house . . . till May 12th when I too, had to go to Internment Camp. . . . While in Camp Hospital I seemed to make no improvement and just before we left for Shanghai they found I also had an amoeba of the intestines. [We've had] a wonderful trip so far, and this is a great boat – 1500 of us on board, just about as compact as we were in Camp . . . and we surely have good wholesome food, and free chocolate bars. . . . We're all taking vitamin tablets furnished by Uncle Sam, and we invalids get injections of vitamin C. . . ."

Grace spent over 25 years at the Church of the Brethren's Show Yang Girls School in Shansi Province. When the Japanese overran Shansi, three of her friends disappeared, never to be seen again. Grace survived and was held at Peking before being transferred to the Wei Hsien internment camp in Shandong Province. (See "China Missionary. . . ." in the *Meyersdale Republican*, May 19, 1949.)

Immediately after Pearl Harbor, the United States contacted Japan and proposed the exchange of diplomats and civilians caught abroad. Japan agreed, and both countries chartered vessels to affect the transfers. The U.S. contracted with the Swedish ship *M.S. Gripsholm*, and for this voyage (the second exchange) the Japanese used the Nippon Yusen Kaisha liner *Teia Maru*, which after departing Yokohama, stopped at Shanghai where Grace boarded. The ships met at Mormugao in Portuguese India where repatriates from the two vessels passed on the quay as they disembarked at the stern of one vessel and embarked at the bow of the other. (For more information, see Fiset's *Detained, Interned, Incarcerated*.)

A rare piece of World War II postal history; see Fiset's "Relative Scarcity" table, made all the more valuable by being sent airmail and the use of Gripsholm stationery by a returning missionary internee.



\$1,750

[Inv # 9624](#)

For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

**12. [CIVIL WAR] [PHILATELY] [VIRGINIANA]** An early Civil War ‘turned’ envelope from a prominent Virginia family that was reused and mailed twice, the first time with U.S. postage, the second using a Confederate stamp. Sent from Richmond, Virginia to Whittle’s Mills and on to Charlottesville: April 1861.

This 3-cent U.S. stamped envelope (Scott #U10) was sent from Richmond to Dr. Conway Whittle at Whittle’s Mills and bears a Richmond postmark dated 28 April 1861. Whittle turned it inside-out, franked it with a Confederate 10-cent stamp (CSA #12), and mailed it to Charlottesville. This second post bears a manuscript “Whittle’s Mills” postmark dated “Oct 18”; the stamp has a pen cancel. The cover has been split on two sides so both postings can be seen. The backflap is torn. No letter.

When the cover was first mailed, the use of a U.S. stamped envelope was appropriate. When it was re-used, Confederate postage was required. Virginia succeeded from the Union on 17 April 1861 and became an independent state. It did not join the Confederacy until May 7<sup>th</sup>. Despite its secession, Virginia post offices continued to work with the U.S. Post Office using U.S. stamps and stamped envelopes until the Confederate Post Office took over operations on June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Whittle’s Mill was built in 1756 on the bank of the Meherrin River not far from present-day South Hill. The mill passed through several owners until purchased by Colonel William Davis, a hero of the Revolution. His daughter married Fortescue Whittle, a wealthy refugee from the Irish Rebellion, and the property remained in family hands for nearly a century. The Whittles owned a nearby plantation, tavern, granary, distillery, and store in addition to running the local post office. They had 14 children including Commodore William Conway Whittle, Senator James Murray Whittle, Dr. Conway Davies Whittle, and Bishop Francis M. Whittle. Their youngest son, Colonel Powhatan Bolling Whittle, commanded the 38th Virginia Infantry during Pickett’s Charge at Gettysburg when it set the famous “High Water Mark of the Confederacy.” Commodore Whittle’s son, William C. Whittle, Jr., was the executive officer of the CSS *Shenandoah*, which destroyed the Union whaling fleet in Arctic waters and fired the final shots of the Civil War. (See “Max Bagley Crowder Memorial Park at Whittle’s Mill” at the Southern Virginia Homefront website.)

An uncommon, mixed-use turned cover from a prominent Virginia family in the early days of the Civil War.

**SOLD Inv # 9631**



For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

**13. [CIVIL WAR] [EDUCATION] [PHILATELY] A letter from a University of Alabama student informing his cousin about the newly formed Corps of Cadets in the midst of the school's transition from its rowdy pioneer past into the "West Point of the South" at the beginning of the Civil War. Thomas B. Hall to Marie L. Elmore. Tuscaloosa to Montgomery, Alabama: 29 Sep 1861.**

This letter is datelined "'Camp Beauregard' Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> 1861". It is enclosed in a stampless envelope addressed to Miss Marie. L. Elmore at Montgomery in "Care of Col. Jno a. Elmore". It bears a circular "Tuscaloosa / Oct 2 / Al." postmark and "Paid 5" rate mark, both in black. In nice shape. Old stamp dealer's pencil docketing on the reverse. Transcript provided.

In this letter, Hall, who arrived at the University about two weeks before, provides his "Cousin Marie" with a report on the arrival of students at the University of Alabama for the fall term of 1861-1862 and the recent requirement for all students become members of the Corps of Cadets.

"I believe honestly that Tuscaloosa is the prettiest place I ever laid my eyes on. . . . Every street has a row of tall evergreens extending from one end to the other. They are exactly in the middle of the streets and about twenty or thirty feet apart. They make the town look so cool and pleasant. The streets are also very level and not sandy at all. . . . The Cadets are almost crazy to be ordered down on the coast this winter [for] it is generally thought that Mobile will be attacked this winter. If so, our chances are splendid, and I cannot help almost wishing (excuse me) that it would be attacked. Then wouldn't the Cadets make their mark. We are learning to drill very fast. I tell you . . . we undergo as much hardship as soldiers. . . . We are State Troops and . . . are enlisted for twelve months and every fellow before he is a Cadet, is compelled to sign a pledge to remain here one year. If he does not, then he does not remain here as a Cadet. . . ."

Hall also provides information about "Hops . . . . Oh! I had glorious times the other night with the young ladies," and his roommates, "I am very glad to get in with them for they are said to be about the most quiet and studious boys in College."

The University of Alabama was founded in 1831 to provide a classical education and prepare young men for service to church, state, and society. However, Alabama was a rough, frontier state and the sons of its pioneers did as they pleased, ignoring the school's rules and regulations with impunity. Drinking, gambling, and rowdiness took precedence over studies. After a fatal gunfight on campus, the then president, Landon C. Garland, had enough and began a campaign to institute an academic military structure like West Point and the Virginia Military Institute.



For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

Eventually Garland's effort paid off, and a Corps of Cadets was established in August of 1860. The change on campus was almost instantaneous. After the cadets were reviewed by the governor in January of 1861, the corps became the darlings of not just Montgomery but the entire state. Shortly after, the Civil War began, and students found themselves performing military duties along with their studies including serving as wagon guards and teaching



volunteer companies the basics of drill and military life. Notably, the Corps repulsed Union raiders in 1864 and served in the defense of Mobile during the winter of 1864-1865.

On April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1865, the Union's 6<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Cavalry approached Tuscaloosa, and, after assembling at the Rotunda, 300 cadets marched to meet them at the intersection of University Boulevard and Greensboro Avenue. After a heavy exchange of gunfire when it became clear the Cadets were outnumbered and outmatched in firepower, the students withdrew and marched south from Tuscaloosa. The Union troops then burned the University.

During the Civil War, the university became known as the "West Point of the South," providing the Confederacy with seven generals, 25 colonels, 14 lieutenant colonels, 21 majors, 125 captains, 273 other commissioned officers and 294 private soldiers. In June of 2020, memorials to the Corps of Cadets were removed from their place of honor in front of Gorgas Library. For more information about the University of Alabama's Corps of Cadets, see University of Alabama Army ROTC History: "Alabama Cadets Call to Battle. . . ." and Center's "The Burning of the University of Alabama" at the Tuscaloosa Sons of Confederate Veterans, both online.

A fine testament to not just the University of Alabama's Corps of Cadets but to American civil-military education. (For more information about civil-military education, see Sanftleben's William & Mary dissertation, *A Different Drummer, the Forgotten Tradition of the Military Academy in American Education*.) The University of Alabama holds another letter from Hall to his cousin, written 12 days before.

**SOLD Inv # 9622**

For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

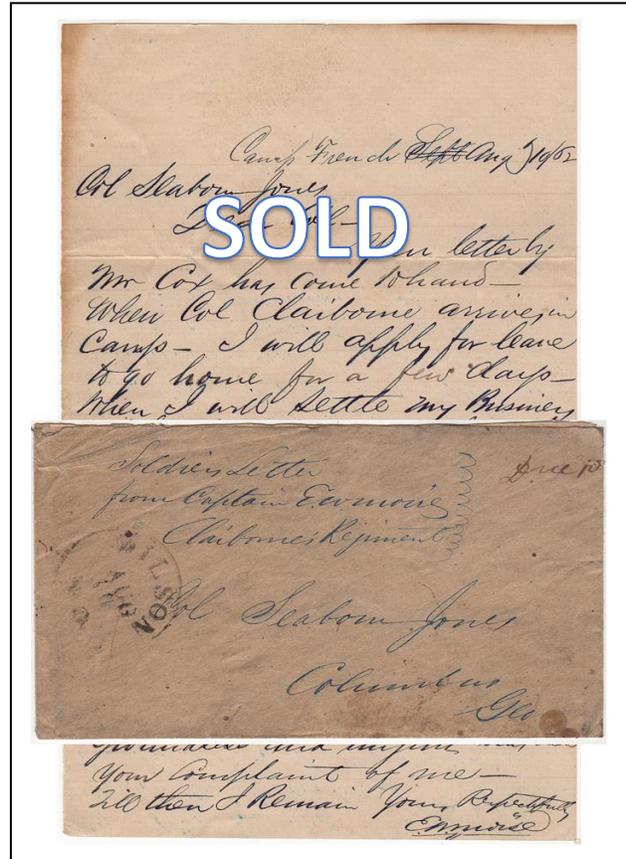
**14. [CIVIL WAR] [JUDIACA] [PHILATELY] A short, but threatening, letter sent by a prominent Jewish Confederate cavalry officer to a lawyer in his hometown of Columbus, Georgia promising that he will soon pay a visit to “settle my business with you . . . for the manner which you have acted towards me.” Captain Edwin Warren Moise to Colonel Seaborn Jones. Camp French [near New Hanover, North Carolina] to Columbus, Georgia: 1862.**

This one-page letter is datelined, “Camp French Aug 10/62”. It was sent by Captain Edwin Warren Moise to Colonel Seaborn Jones at Columbus, Georgia. It is enclosed in its original mailing envelope which has a blue manuscript endorsement “Soldiers Letter / from Captain E. W. Moise / Clairborne’s Regiment” and a black manuscript “Due 10” rate mark. There is a handstamped circular postmark that reads “Wilson / Aug / 10 / N.C.” near the left margin. In nice shape with some minor soiling. Transcript included.

Captain Moise’s letter reads in part:

“Your letter by Mr Cox has come to hand. . . . I will apply for leave to go home for a few days when I will settle my Business with you. . . . I can see no reason for the manner which you have acted towards me. You have shewn a distrust of me – which I never deserved.

I hope you will now remain in peace until I come, which will be in two or three weeks and then I will shew you – how groundless and unjust has been your complaint of me.”

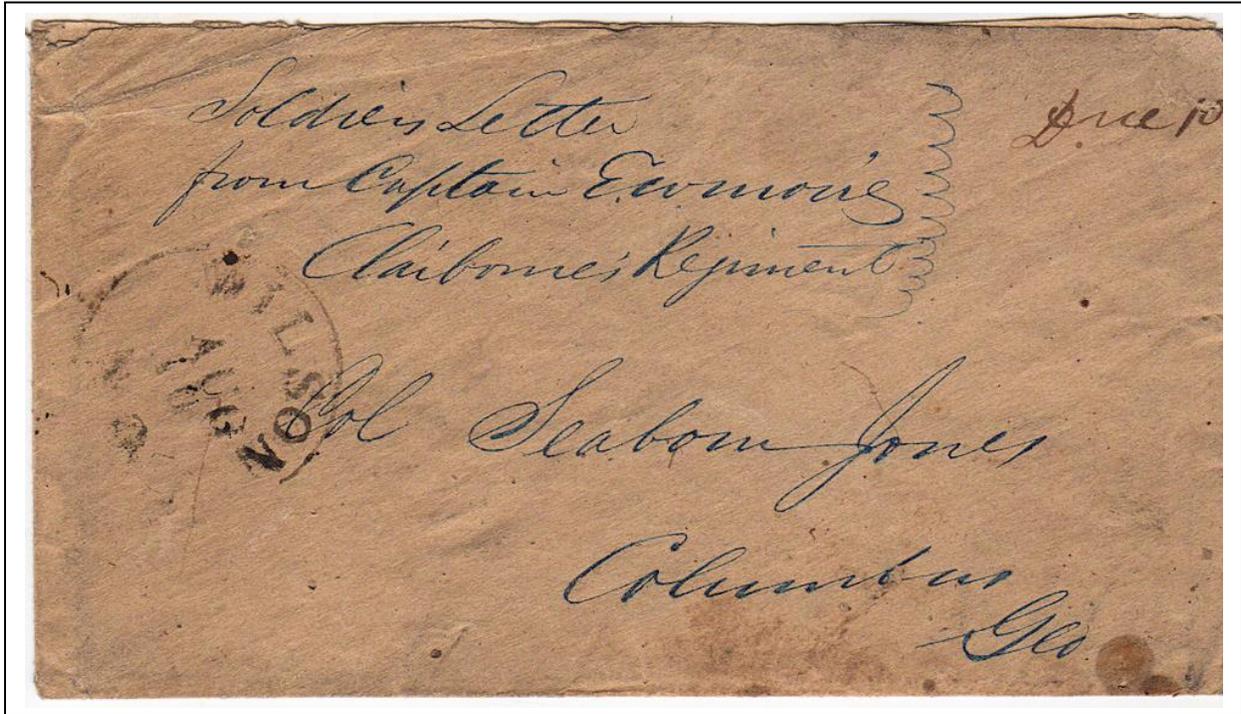


It is unclear from the letter exactly why Captain Moise felt slandered by the much older and non-serving Col Sanborn, however before the war both men had been influential members of the Columbus community, so perhaps antebellum animosity bubbled-over after Moise had funded his own cavalry unit a month earlier and joined it with the Confederate Army. It is also unclear whether the men settled the issue amicably or with a duel.

Edwin Moise was born into a prominent Sephardic Jewish family in Charleston, South Carolina in 1832. After his marriage to Esther Lyon of Petersburg, Virginia in 1854, the couple settled in Columbus, Georgia, where he studied law under his uncle, Raphael J. Moses, while assisting in the management of Moses’s plantation and flour mill. Although Moise was a staunch Unionist, once war came, he volunteered for Confederate service and organized a local cavalry company, named Moise’s Rangers. While a number of Jews served in the Confederate Army, not many possessed the horsemanship skills needed to become cavalymen, and only a few units of any type in the Confederate Army were organized by Southern Jews.

Moise’s Rangers totaled 120 men—50 of whom Moise mounted and equipped at his own expense, completely depleting his entire fortune of \$10,000. They soon joined with Claiborne’s Regiment of Partisan Rangers, and once the units formally entered the Confederate Army, they were renamed. Claiborne’s Partisans became the 7<sup>th</sup> Confederate Cavalry, of which Moise’s Rangers was Company A. In 1863, Moise was promoted to Major and was one of the leaders of the famous “Beefsteak Raid” that

For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #



captured more than 2,000 head of Union cattle to feed the besieged Confederate garrison at Petersburg, Virginia. By the end of the war, Moise was awaiting a promotion to Colonel for his performance at the Battle of Burgess Hill that had been approved by General Robert E. Lee.

Penniless after the war, Moise resettled in Sumter, South Carolina, where he became a successful attorney and farmer. A moderate on racial issues, while serving as the state's Adjutant General during the last half of the 1870s, he integrated the South Carolina Militia.

Moise's Uncle Raphael, a major during the war, served as the Commissary Officer for the state of Georgia and executed the last official order of the Confederate government; he withdrew \$40,000 in gold and silver bullion from the Treasury and, heavily protected by trusted guards, distributed it among the defeated Confederate soldiers as they straggled home. (For more information see the *South Carolina Encyclopedia*, the *Jewish Encyclopedia*, the *New Georgia Encyclopedia*, and Fold3; all are available online.)

Seaborn Jones, born in 1788, was a wealthy Columbus attorney and ally of Andrew Jackson who served two terms as a Representative in Congress. While Jones's title as 'Colonel' was honorary, he may have been appointed as a Confederate officer late in the war.

Exceptionally scarce Judaic and Confederate military history. At the time of this listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade. OCLC identifies only one similar item; the Ullman Family Papers, jointly held by the Library of Congress and the Western Reserve Historical Society, includes a letter from a Jewish Confederate soldier who was tried as a smuggler and spy by the Union Army after attempting to sell two bales of cotton in Memphis. The Rare Book Hub reports only one auction of a similar item, a diary/record book kept by a Jewish soldier in the Black Hawk Rifle Company of the 22nd Mississippi Infantry Regiment that sold at auction in 2004 for \$14,850 (equivalent to about \$20,200 today).

**SOLD**

For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

**15. [CIVIL WAR] [PHILATELY] [RAILROADS] [WESTWARD EXPANSION]** A letter from a recently discharged officer in the “Army of California” informing a friend that he had become an early employee of the **Union Pacific Railway Company Eastern Branch** after being promised a job as the conductor of its second train. **Grove Watson**. Wyandotte, Kansas: Office of the Contractors of the Union Pacific Railway Company, Eastern Division, 1863.

This letter on the stationery of the Union Pacific Railway Company, Eastern Division is datelined, Wyandotte, Kansas, November 7, 1863, and enclosed in a mailing envelope which bears a circular Wyandotte, Kas Dec 7 postmark and a manuscript “Due 6c” rate mark. In nice shape. A transcript will be provided.

Watson reports that since he

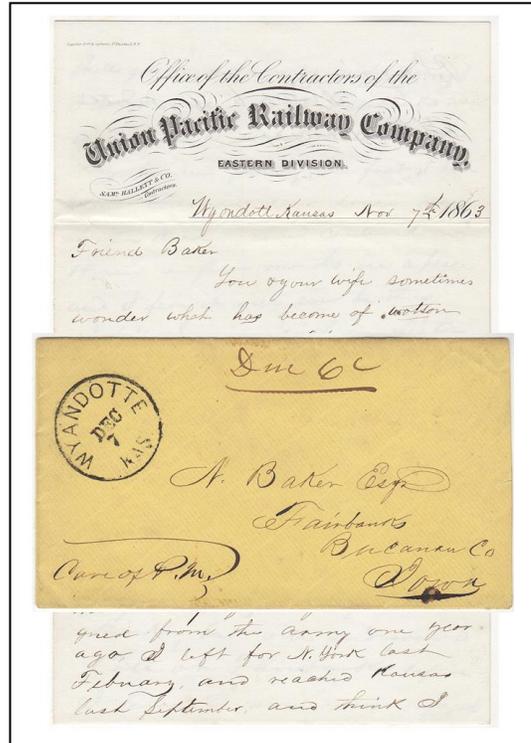
“wrote the last letter while in the Army of California. I resigned [and] am now engaged in the office of the R.R. Co. heading this letter. We have some 1,000 hands to work to work and pay them \$1.50 per day, cash, every 30 days. Very good wages for the western country. . . I now get \$75 dollars per month and boarded. . . I am promised the 2<sup>nd</sup> train as conductor, if I will remain on the road.”

Although named similarly to the Union Pacific Railroad, the Union Pacific Railway Company, Eastern Branch was a separate firm. It began in 1855 as the Leavenworth, Pawnee, and Western Railroad, however in 1863, after a consortium of investors were joined by the Pennsylvania Railroad, the line received a charter from Congress to begin a parallel route across Kansas, south of the Central Pacific – Union right-of-way which ran from Omaha to Sacramento. When funding ran short, the railroad—by then renamed the Kansas Pacific Railroad—decided to route its tracks north after reaching Kit Carson, Colorado and join up with the Union Pacific near Denver. Despite the Golden Spike Ceremony at Promontory Point the year before, this connection in 1870 marked the true completion of the transcontinental railroad, as passengers on the northern route were forced to leave their trains between Council Bluffs, Iowa, and Omaha, Nebraska, to cross the Missouri River by boat. Track-laying, which was through the Plains tribes’ hunting grounds, began in September 1863, not long before Watson penned this letter, and was protected by the 38<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment. During the construction, the railroad hired Buffalo Bill Cody to shoot buffalo to feed its large work crews. (For more information see “Union Pacific Railroad” at the Kansas Historical Society’s *kansapedia* website.)

Watson had formerly been a lieutenant in the 2<sup>nd</sup> California Infantry Regiment, which was used to replace regular Union units at California and Oregon garrisons so those soldiers could return east and fight in the Civil War. Watson’s detachment served at Fort Umpqua, Oregon, and was instrumental in suppressing attacks on settlers by the Wailaki during the Bald Hills War.

A nice testament to early Kansas railroading which opened up homesteading and the settlement of the Central Great Plains.

\$850 [Inv # 9615](#)



For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

**16. [EDUCATION] [KELLOGG'S SANITARIUM] [MEDICINE & NURSING] [PHILATELY] [RELIGION] [SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS]** Postal advertising for Battle Creek College. Battle Creek, Michigan: March 24, c[1884-1888].

This Battle Creek College mailing envelope features an illustration of the school, a description of its mission, and a short summary of its instructional programs. It is addressed to Bristol Center, New York and franked with a brown, 2-cent Washington stamp (Scott #210) which was in use from October 1883 to 1887. It bears a Battle Creek postmark dated March 24<sup>th</sup> with no year date. No contents.



The building image is of the original school before its expansion in 1888. As a Seventh Day Adventist college, the text notes,

“The founders of this Institution aimed to establish a college where reverence for God and his word should be inculcated, in connection with the arts and sciences.”

It also notes that

“The Departments of Instruction include: 1. Primary Course of four years. 2. Grammar Course of four years. 3. Collegiate Course, Including an English Course of two years, a Scientific Course of three years, and a Classical Course. 4. Biblical Course of three years. 5. A Special Course, for such as wish to pursue only particular studies. . . .”

In the mid-1850s, Ellen G. White—an Adventist visionary and prolific author—and her husband were invited by a group of Adventist believers in Michigan to move their new publishing house to Battle Creek, Michigan. In time, the Adventist movement grew, and in the late 1860s, the community established the Western Health Reform Institute, better known as Battle Creek Sanitarium, based on the principles of proper diet, fresh air, and exercise. In the mid-1870s, Dr. John Kellogg became its superintendent about the same time that White led the founding of Battle Creek College adjacent to Sanitarium. In the early 1880s, Kellogg began establishing a series of other schools at his Sanitarium based on Adventist teachings: a school of nursing, a school of health and home economics, and school for teaching physical education. Eventually, Kellogg purchased the Battle Creek College campus from the Seventh Day Adventist Church and consolidated his three school programs there. At that time, the arts and sciences programs were moved about 80 miles west to Berrien Springs where, after several renamings, it remains today as Andrews University.

See “Battle Creek College” at [lostcolleges.com](http://lostcolleges.com) and “A Brief Biography” at the Ellen G. White Estate online.

A seldom seen illustrated college advertising cover.

**SOLD Inv # 9632**

**For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #**

**17. [LUMBERING] [PHOTOGRAPHY] [MARITIME] [RAILROADS] 18 cabinet card photographs detailing the operations of the A. C. Tuxbury Lumber Company, a New York business, as it began to strip bare the virgin lowland forests near Charleston during the South Carolina lumber boom..** Unidentified photographer. Charleston, South Carolina: circa 1905.

18 card-mounted albumin photos detailing operations of the Tuxbury Lumber Company in Charleston, South Carolina. Ten images, measuring 4.5" x 3.5" are mounted on dark grey cards measuring t 6.5" x 5.5". Eight images, measuring y 5" x 3" are mounted on white cards measuring 7" x 5". "AC Tuxbury Lumber Co" is written on the reverse of one card. The cards are stored in a box, and "A. C. Tuxbury Lumber Co. / pictures" is written on the top in the same hand. No captions. The photos are in nice shape. The cards have some warping.



The photographs include :

Six images of the virgin lowland swamp forest including a company building, officials, and railroad tracks.

Two images of a Forney 0-4-4 locomotive purchased by Tuxbury in 1906 per *The Railway Age*, April 1906 issue. One image shows white company officials and workmen posing in front of the locomotive while its black engineer and fireman look down on the group for the cab. The other shows the locomotive in operation in conjunction with a steam hoist—perhaps a McGiffert loader.

Five images of the company's mill complex in North Charleston including the sawmill, storage facilities, small stored equipment, and a partially loaded boxcar.

One image of a company official with a felled tree; "1086 ft" has been written in pencil on the tree.

One image of the company's steam tugboat, *Victory*.

Two images of three-masted schooners moored at the company's North Charleston mill complex. One image shows a single vessel. The other shows two schooner and a steam tug.

One image of mansions along Charleston's Battery.

The Tuxbury Lumber Company operated mill complexes along the Atlantic Seaboard. In 1905, Charles Hill and Fred Davies built a large sawmill at Shipyard Creek near Charleston's old naval yard. In addition to using schooners to ship it products, the company had connections will all of the major southern railroads including the Southern Railway, Seaboard Air Line, and the Atlantic Coast Line. At the time of these photos, Tuxbury lumbering operations were centered along the Ashley and Cooper Rivers where cut logs were simply floated to the mill or first hauled on tramways by locomotive power to the river. After depleting forests in Michigan, lumbering companies shifted operations to the southern Atlantic coast. Tuxbury, a New York firm, operated one of the largest lumbering operations in South Carolina until the timber tract were stripped bare. The Charleston mill shut down in 1938, and Tuxbury went out of business in 1939. During its 34 years of operation, the company cut 715 million board feet of lumber.

For more information see Fetter's *Logging Railroads of South Carolina*, "Swamp Fox Passage (Palmetto Trail) History" online at TrailLink, and Hester's "Establishing the Francis Marion National Forest . . . 1901-1936" in the 2011 Spring/Fall issue of *Forest History Today*.

**SOLD Inv # 9629**

For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

**18. [MEXICAN-AMERICAN WAR] [PHILATELY] A letter from Governor Albert Gallatin Brown to General George Brooke arranging for Mississippi volunteers to be mustered into federal service for the war in Mexico. Governor Albert Gallatin Brown. Jackson, Mississippi to New Orleans, Louisiana: 1847.**

This one-page stampless autograph letter signed (ALS) was sent by Mississippi Governor Albert Gallatin Brown from the "Executive Chamber" in Jackson to George Mercer Brooke, the Commanding General of the Western Division of the U. S. Army, at New Orleans. The letter is dated "2 Aug. 1847", and has manuscript rate marks and a blue 'Paid' handstamp in the upper right corner of the cover; a circular blue Jackson Mississippi postmark dated August 3<sup>rd</sup> in the upper left. Text is faded but legible.

In this letter Brown replies to a query from Brooke regarding the mustering of a battalion of Mississippi volunteers into the service of the United States. In it, Brown clarifies that the organization, support, and funding of the event was an army responsibility:

"Yours of 27 ult inquiring at what time an officer of the Army will be needed at Vicksburg to muster into the Service of the Battalion under the late regulation of the President has inst. come to hand.

My present impression is that such an officer need not report himself at Vicksburg before the 1st of September. Should his services be required at an earlier day you will be informed.

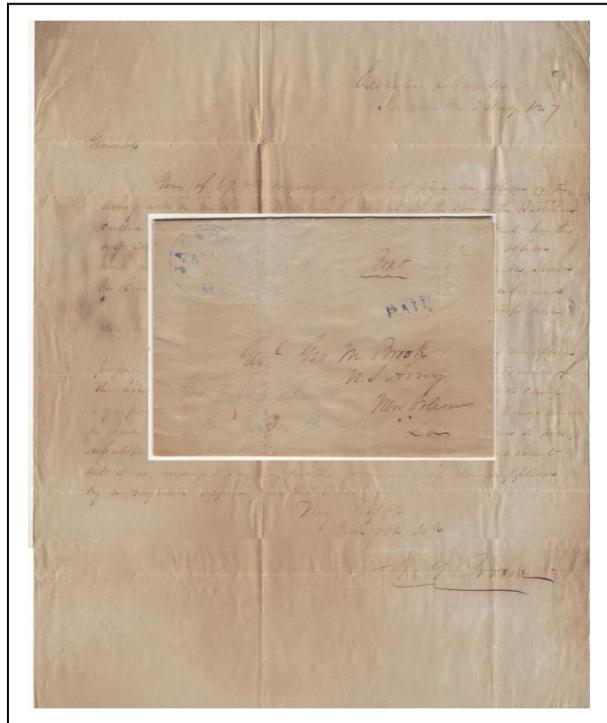
Your suggestion concerning the clothing of the troops has been noted and will receive proper attention.

It will fan trouble in the Settlement of accounts if the officer properly authorized were not to Vicksburg a few days in advance of the arrival of the troops there (say by the 20th of August) with camp equipage and other necessary means of subsistence. These things must be here and if not immediately supplied when demanded it gives dissatisfaction. I have been heretofore purchasing them on my own account but it is needless to say they cost the government less when supplied by a regular officer from govt stores."

The five companies raised during this muster were collectively organized as the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion of Mississippi Rifle Volunteers and sent by Brooke to serve with the Army of Occupation commanded by Major General Zachary Taylor and subsequently Brigadier General John E. Wool. Arriving in Mexico after the Battle of Buena Vista, the battalion participated in the suppression of guerilla activities within the Army of Occupation's area of responsibility, the Mexican states of Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, and Tamaulipas. (For more information see "U.S. Army Order of Battle, 1847" at *World Imperialism* online, Robard's *Mexican War Veterans: A Complete Roster of Regular and Volunteer Troops in the War . . . from Official Sources*, and Spahr's Doctoral Dissertation, *Occupying For Peace, The U.S. Army In Mexico, 1846-1848.*)

A nice piece of Mississippiana and Mexican-American War history.

**SOLD Inv # 9611**



For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

**19. [PHILATELY] [PLANTATIONS] [RIVERBOATS]** Two letters carried by the famous Mississippi riverboats, *Natchez* and *Princess*, from New Orleans cotton brokers to the owner of a large Mississippi plantation informing him of the status of cotton bales awaiting shipment to Europe and the state of the European cotton market. Buckton, Stanton, & Newman to Dr. Walter Wade. New Orleans, Louisiana to Rodney, Mississippi: 1856 and 1857.

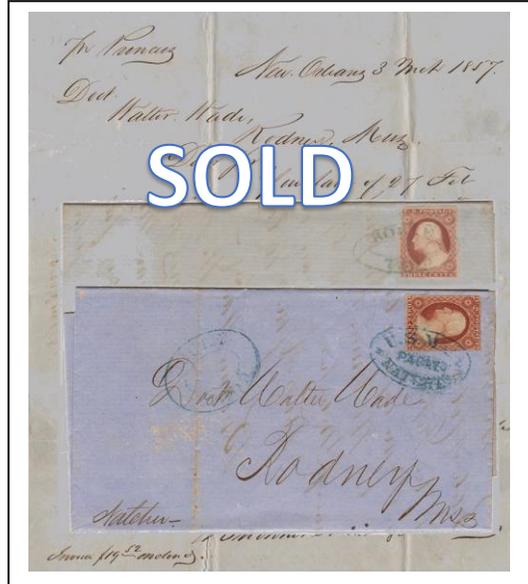
Both one-page letters measure 9" x 11" unfolded. One is datelined "For Natchez / New Orleans 9 Feb 1856" and the other, "For Princess / New Orleans 3 Mch 1857." Both are franked with imperforate, three-cent dull red Washington stamps with full frame-lines (Scott #11). One has a pencil annotation in the lower left corner that reads "Princess", and its stamp is canceled with a blue double-line narrow oval steamship handstamp reading "Route / 7309". The other has a "Natchez" ink annotation in the lower left corner, and its stamp is cancelled with a blue double-line wide oval steamship handstamp reading "U. S. Mail / Packet / Natchez" with a second blue double-line wide oval handstamp reading "Route / 7309". Both are in nice shape; the *Princess* letter stamp is trimmed inside one frame-line.

In the letters, the merchants inform Wade that 37 of the 57 bales of cotton awaiting shipment belong to him. They also inform him that the latest "European News" about cotton pricing had been "favorably" received in New Orleans. The letters were sent up-river from New Orleans to Wade's large "Rosswood" plantation at Rodney, Mississippi. The *Natchez* was commanded by Thomas Leather, who owned Contract Route 7309. The *Princess* was commanded by his most trusted captain, Truman C. Holmes. Leathers also employed the riverboats *Capitol* and *R. W. McRae* on the route. Together, they made three weekly round trips between New Orleans and Vicksburg. The *Princess* was one of the fastest boats on the river; it was a large and luxurious vessel featuring lavish services and four gourmet meals daily. On February 27, 1859, the *Princess* carried about four hundred passengers headed south to celebrate Mardi Gras in New Orleans. Because the boat was late, it sailed under high pressure after second engineer Peter Hersey declared that it would reach New Orleans on time "if he had to blow her up." At Conrad's Point, a teenager reported, "A great column of white smoke suddenly went up from her and she burst into flames." All four boilers had burst. Hersey and as many of 200 others were killed either in the initial blast of scalding steam or the raging fire that followed when the upper cabins, state rooms, and hurricane deck collapsed. (See Feldman's *U.S. Contract Mail Routes by Water*. . .and Ouchley's "Steamboat Princess Disaster" online at *64 Parishes*.)

Dr. Walter Wade's Rosswood Plantation at Rodney, Mississippi, a little more than 30 miles north of Natchez was a large plantation of about 1,250 acres with a 14-room Greek Revival mansion. Over 100 slaves labored in Wade's cotton fields. Today, Rodney is a ghost town, as the river changed course in 1870, and it was bypassed by the Natchez, Jackson & Columbus Railroad. (See "Rodney, Mississippi – From Prominence to Ghost Town" online at *Legends of America*.)

Excellent examples of riverboat mail bearing three scarce postmarks from two famous Mississippi riverboats. At the time of this listing, Stamp Auction Network reports only six sales of mail carried by either the *Natchez* or the *Princess*.

**SOLD Inv # 9604**



For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

**20. [PHILATELY] [RAILROADS] A BUSINESSMAN IN SAN FRANCISCO INFORMS HIS BROTHER IN GREAT BRITAIN ABOUT THE PENDING COMPLETION OF THE TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR CROSS-COUNTRY TRAVEL AND SHIPPING. A letter from British businessman in San Francisco to his brother in Liverpool informing him about the pending completion of the transcontinental railroad and it implications for cross-county travel and shipping - franked with a black 12-cent E grill stamp and accompanied by a Philatelic Foundation Certificate. Red. McKnight to George McKnight. San Francisco, California to Liverpool, England: April 23, 1869.**

This one-page folded letter is franked with a 12-cent black Washington stamp embossed with an E-grill for postal security (Scott # 90). The stamp is canceled by a fancy radial cork handstamp. It bears a magenta San Francisco paid exchange circular date stamp and a manuscript "pr Overland Mail" endorsement. It was carried by the *S.S. Donau*, a ship belonging to Norddeutscher Lloyd (North German Lloyd Line), see Hubbard and Winter's *North Atlantic Mail Sailings 1840-75*, p. 246), leaving New York on May 6<sup>th</sup> and arriving in Southampton on May 17<sup>th</sup> as testified to by a red London Paid transit circular date stamp with a backstamp showing it arrived in Liverpool later that day. In nice shape. Transcript and Philatelic Foundation Certificate of Authenticity will be provided.

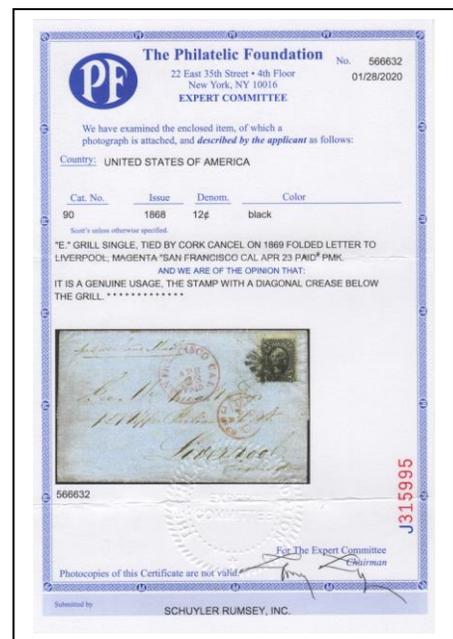
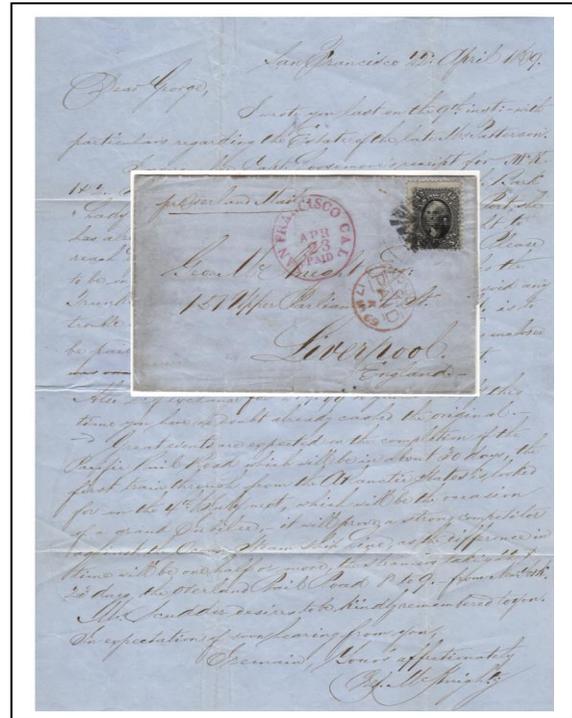
In this letter, McKnight reports that the American Transcontinental Railroad is nearing completion and that will be the beginning of the end for ocean shipping from New York to California:

"Great events expected on the completion of the Pacific Rail Road which will be in about 30 days, the first train through from the Atlantic States is looked for on the 4th of July next, which will be the occasion of a grand Jubilee – it will prove a strong competitor against the Ocean Steam Ship Line as the difference in time will be one half or more, the steamers taking 22 & 23 days the overland Rail Road 8 to 9 from New York. . ."

McKnight over-estimated the time needed to complete the railroad. It was finished only 17 days later on May 10<sup>th</sup> when the ceremonial "Golden Spike" was driven at Promontory Point, Utah, joining the tracks of the Central and Union Pacific Railroads.

A certified example of a scarce stamp used properly to send a letter overland from San Francisco to New York and on to England. Made all the more valuable for its reference to the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad and prescient prediction that cross-country railroad transportation would soon eclipse the much slower travel and shipping by sea.

**\$850** [Inv # 9619](#)



For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

**21. [PHILATELY] [RANCHING] [WESTWARD EXPANSION] A letter from the Territorial Governor of Montana encouraging a man from Illinois to emigrate soon and start a cattle or sheep ranch. B. F. Potts to Joseph Barber. Virginia City, Montana to Richview, Illinois: 1872.**

This letter is written on official "Territory of Montana. Executive Department" letterhead, dated November 13, 1872. It is accompanied by its official "Executive Department / Montana Territory" mailing envelope which is franked with a three-cent green Washington stamp (Scot #147) and cancelled with a circular Virginia City postmark (also dated November 13) and cork killer. The envelope had been roughly opened—but later repaired—causing minor damage to the stamp; however, the cover is quite attractive. The letter is bright and fresh. Transcript included.

In this letter, Governor Potts answers a query from an Illinois man about the possible to relocate to Montana. An unabashed promoter of his state, Potts responds with vigor and excited encouragement:

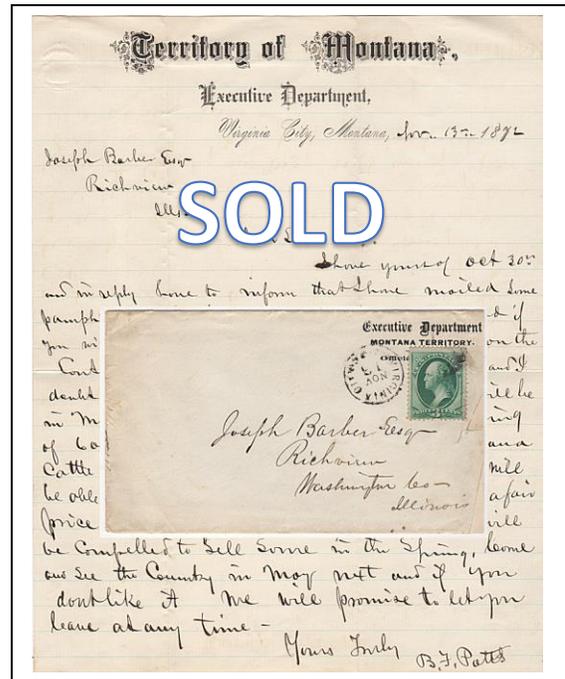
"If you wish to enter the stock business no place on the Continent can offer you better advantages and I doubt if as good as Montana. The N.P.R.R [Northern Pacific Rail Road] will be in Montana next year and during the building of 600 miles of the Road through Montana Cattle and Sheep will bring a good price. You will be able to purchase Stock here in the Spring at a fair price as many have large herds and will be compelled to sell some in the Spring. Come and see the Country in May next and if you don't like it we will promise to let you leave at any time."

Before his appointment as governor by President Ulysses S. Grant, Benjamin Franklin Potts, a former Union General Officer, was an Ohio lawyer and Senator. He initially refused the appointment because his vote for the 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment—which prohibited States from denying the right to vote based upon a person's "race, color, or previous condition of servitude"—was crucial to its passage. Potts served as governor from 1870 to 1883 and was heavily involved with Indian affairs during that time, reducing both lawlessness and vigilante justice, and promoting the growth of frontier towns including Missoula.

A great early Montana document and superb example of Governor Potts enthusiasm in promoting his territory.

Official letters from Governor Potts appear to be rather scarce. At the time of listing, none are for sale in the trade, and Rare Book Hub and eBay records show only one having ever been sold at auction. OCLC shows the only institutional collection of his letters to be in the Benjamin Franklin Potts Papers held by the Library of Congress.

**SOLD Inv # 9583**



For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

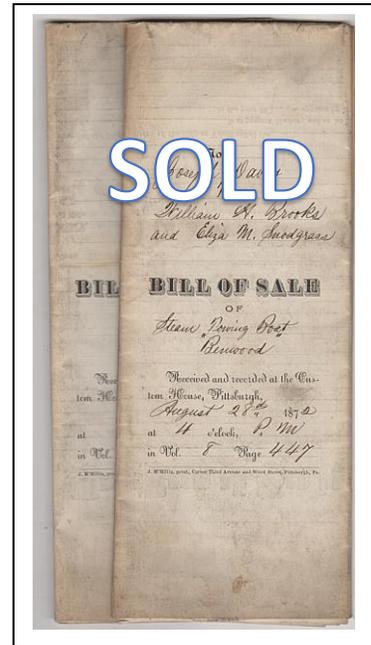
**22. [PHILATELY] [RIVERBOATS] Two large and impressive Bills of Sale for the Steam Tow Boat, *Benwood*. Joseph Davey (Davy?), John & Eliza Snodgrass, and William H. Brooks. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania: 1872-1873.**

Both partially-printed certificates measure 15.5" x 21". They are printed on heavy, stiff paper (almost like a faux parchment). Both are in nice shape with storage folds.

The 1872 certificate records the sale of the *Benwood* from Joseph Davey (perhaps Joseph Davy, an early Allegheny river boat captain who lost his life in a steamboat explosion in 1882) to Eliza Snodgrass and William H. Brooks for \$1,800. The certificate has a plain embossed Pittsburgh Notary Public handstamp and bears a pair of green and black \$1 Internal Revenue stamps (Scott # R144). A 12" x 14" "License of a Vessel Under Twenty Tons to carry on the Coasting Trade for One Year. District of New Orleans, Port of Pittsburgh" is attached.

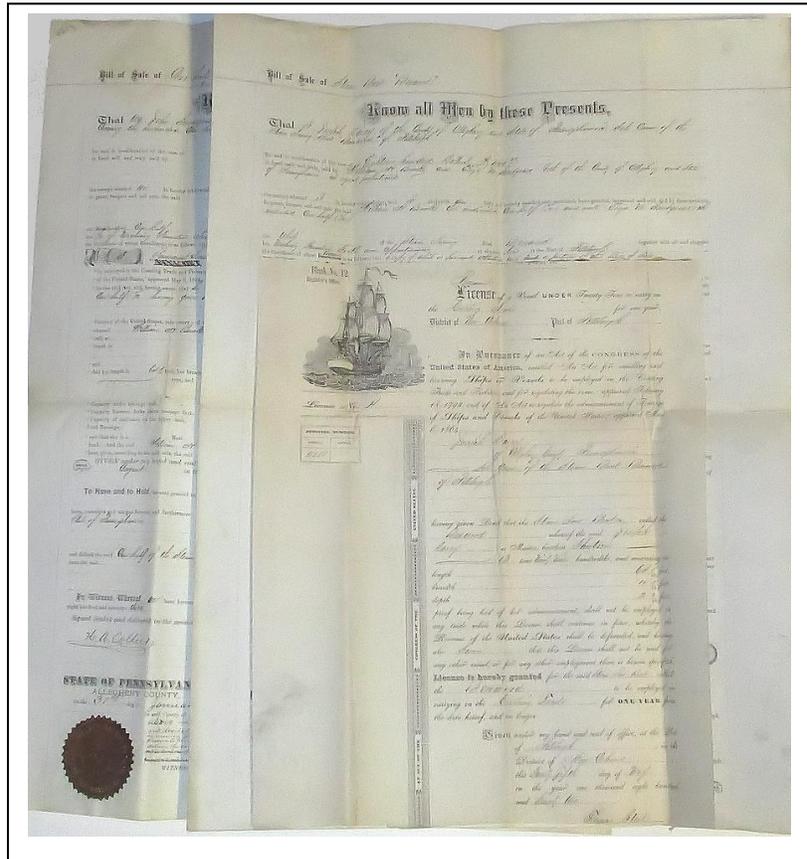
The 1873 certificate documents the follow-on sale of Eliza's interest in the riverboat to William H. Brooks. This document has a foil Pittsburgh Notary Public seal attached with an embossed handstamp.

The *Benwood*, a sternwheel steam tow boat, was built in 1871 at Wheeling, West Virginia. A picture postcard of the boat (not included) shows that it was still in service around 1920.



Scarce. As of 2020, there are no riverboat bills-of-sale for sale in the trade nor are there any auction records listed at the Rare Book Hub. OCLC shows that three similar bills-of-sale are held by institutions.

**\$200 Inv # 9549**



For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

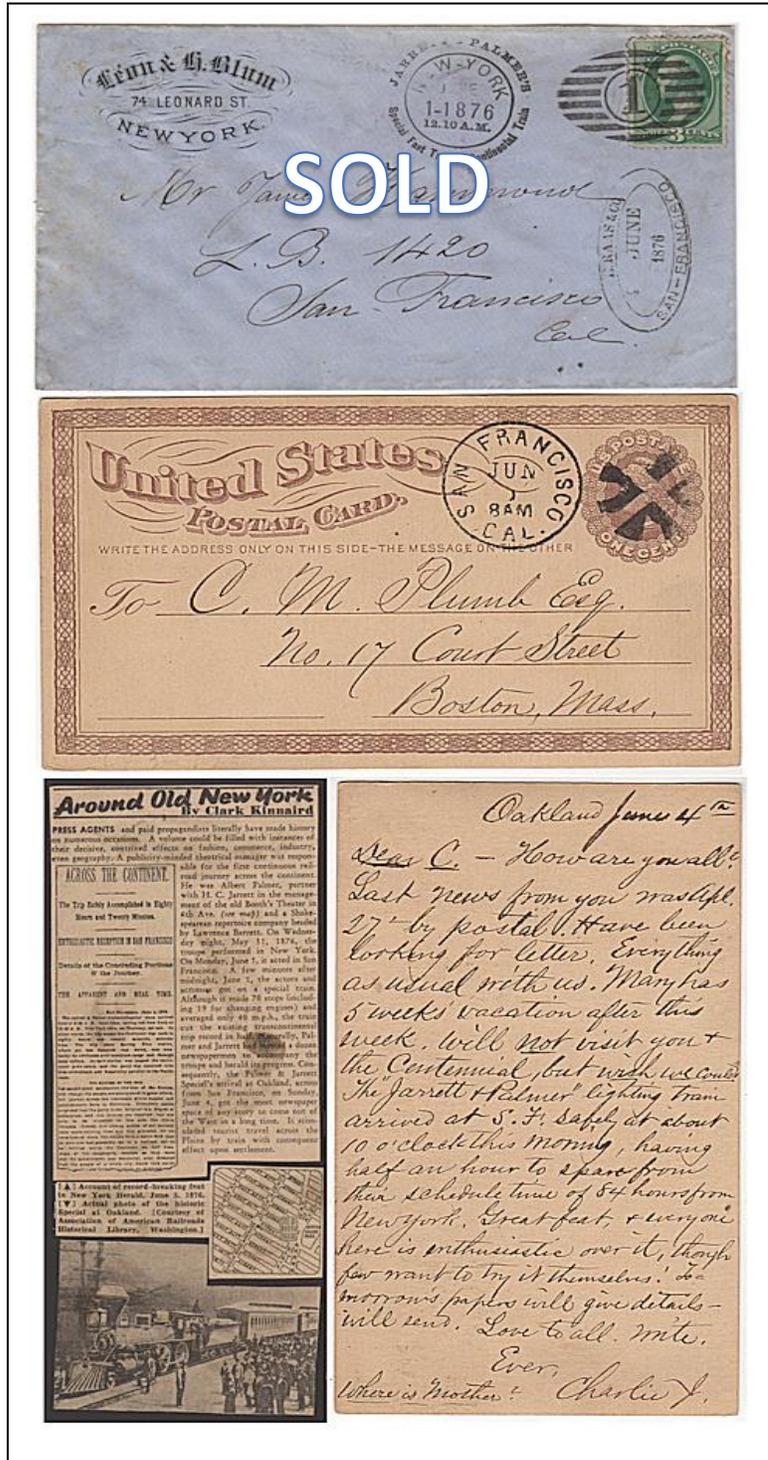
23, [PHILATELY] [RAILROADS] [THEATER] A small archive relating to Jarrett & Palmer's famous non-stop transcontinental *Lightning Express* train that set a then-incredible record while transporting their SOLDtheatrical company from New York to San Francisco in under 84 hours and just in time for opening night. Various: June 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>, 1876.

This group of items includes a rare cover (envelope) that was carried by the *Lightning Express* from New York to San Francisco, a postal card from Oakland describing the arrival of the *Lightning Express*, and a newspaper clipping about the *Lightning Express*.

The transcontinental cover is franked with a 3-cent green Washington stamp (Scott #158) that has been canceled with circular postmark that reads "Jarrett - Palmer's / Special Fast Trans-Continental Train" and is dated "New York / June / 1-1876 / 12.10 A.M." It bears an oval "4 June / 1876) receiving handstamp from "E. Rass & Co. / San-Francisco". There is an advertising corner card from Leon & H. Blum, a New York City dry goods merchants.

The postal card (Scott #UX3) reports the arrival and reception of the *Lightning Express*. It is dated "Oakland June 4<sup>th</sup>" and canceled with a 'circle of Vs' handstamp and a San Francisco postmark.

The newspaper clipping, perhaps from the late 1950s or early 1960s, contains a reproduction of an original newspaper article, information about the trip, a map showing the location of Jarret and Palmer's Booth Theater across from Madison Square Park, and a half-tone photograph of the train after it arrived in Oakland. The article was authored by Clark Kinnaird, a long-time newspaper reporter who also wrote a syndicated 'history' column for the *New York Journal-American*.



While the envelope contains no content, the text of the postal card reads in part:

**For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #**

“Will not visit you and the Centennial but wish we could. The ‘Jarrett & Palmer’ lightning train arrived at S.F. Safely at about 10 o’clock this morning, having half an hour to spare from their schedule time of 84 hours from New York. Great feat, & everyone here is enthusiastic over it, though few want to try it themselves! Tomorrow’s papers will give details – will send.”

Excitement generated by the train’s journey and arrival in Oakland was incredible and not to be again matched until Charles Lindbergh landed the *Spirit of St. Louis* in Paris fifty years later.

“In 1876, . . . seven full days and nights with changes of cars at Chicago and Omaha, were



conventional time between New York and the Pacific Coast. When, therefore, a specially chartered train filled with theatrical celebrities . . . made the passage from coast to coast in the record time of eighty-four hours, Americans followed the magnificently publicized event with awed enthusiasm. . . The *Lightning Express* was chartered by Henry Jarrett of Jarrett & Palmer, managers of the Booth Theater in New York, to transport the celebrated Lawrence Barrett and a distinguished supporting cast in time for opening night of *Henry V* at McCullough’s California Theater in San Francisco. The project instantly caught the fancy of the public and fantastic newspaper coverage was accorded the train’s departure . . . over the rails of the Pennsylvania [and then] the Chicago & North Western--Union Pacific—Central Pacific route to California. The actors rode in ornate splendor aboard the Pullman Palace Hotel Car, *Marlborough*, while a commissary car carried appropriate food and drink and the scenery rode in a conventional baggage car. All across the continent the train’s passing was the occasion for the wildest excitement and at Reno, nearing the end of its run, its approach was greeted with an exclamatory display of rockets and other *artifices de feu*. The run over the Central Pacific from Ogden to Oakland, a relay of 875 miles, including the High Sierra crossing, was accomplished by a single engine and a single engineer, Hank Small, at the driver’s side. No. 149, a sleek 4-4-0, achieved immortality overnight. The sooty actors, weary but triumphant, were met at San Francisco by Warren Leland, the manager of the eye-popping Palace Hotel and taken to a breakfast of grilled, salmon, cucumber salad, filet of Beef Bearnaise, cutlets of Minden lamb, escalloped veal, partridges sautéed in champagne, grilled Mallard duck, asparagus, strawberries and three kinds of eggs, shirred, with mushrooms, and rum omelets. . .” (Lucius Beebe from *The Age of Steam*)

On the evening of June 4<sup>th</sup>, Jarret & Palmer’s *Henry V* opened in San Francisco on schedule, to a sold-out house.

Materials related to the *Lightning Express* are extremely scarce and when found, quite expensive. Broad­sides, tickets, passes, stereoviews, and especially carried mail appear only infrequently for sale or at auction, and when they do, they generally bring prices between \$3,000 and \$12,000.

**SOLD Inv # 9587**

For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

**24. [PHILATELY] [PRISONERS OF WAR] [WORLD WAR TWO] Mail sent by a wife to her civilian husband who, after being shot in the back and paralyzed during the invasion of Guam, was imprisoned in a Japanese POW camp. Florence Perry to Frank Perry. San Francisco to Shikoku Island, Japan via New York City: 1945.**

This legal-size envelope is addressed to "Frank Perry, American Civilian Internee Held by Japan / in Zentsuzi War Prison Camp / Zentsuzi, Shikoku Island, Japan / Via: New York, N.Y." The return address on reverse is "Mrs. Florence E. Perry 77 Carmelita St. / San Francisco, California".

It is franked with a pair of 3-cent Presidential Series horizontal-coil stamps (Scott #842) canceled with a New York city machine postmark dated 17 March 1945.



U.S. "Examined By" censor tape with purple text reading "11877 / U.S. Censor" has resealed the left edge of the envelope.

A Japanese blue censor handstamp with three Japanese characters reading Ken'etsuzmi (censored) and an additional orange-red oval Wada censor mark are applied below the address.

No contents; envelope only.

Perry was an American civilian radio operator who worked on Guam at the time of the Japanese invasion which began on 8 December, the day after the infamous sneak attack on Pearl Harbor. During the assault, Perry was shot in the back by Japanese soldiers and paralyzed from the waist down. After being treated at the captured American Naval Hospital on Guam, Perry was shipped to the Zentsuji Prison Group complex near Hiroshima and survived the war.

A photostatic copy of a reference document accompanying this envelope states that, "This item was bought from Tom Jackson. It was given to him in the camp in Japan." Jackson was a former British airman who had been captured on Java and imprisoned at Zentsuji Sub Camp No. 2, Innoshima Island.

At their peak, the Zentsuji camps held about 5,500 British, Australian, and American prisoners during the war. Little has been published in English about them, however the Gibbs Report states that prisoners worked as laborers in nearby ship building facilities.

(For more information, see Mansell's *Capture: The Forgotten Men of Guam*, Niiyama's "British POW Leaves Diary. . . at *The Chugoku Shimbun*, Hiroshima Peace Media Center online, Center for Research: Allied POWs Under the Japanese: Zentsuji Camp Shikoku 1942-1945 and Hiroshima POW Camp #5-B Innoshima, Department of the Army All -Japan POW Camp Group History, and *Gruenzner's Postal History of American POWs. . . .*"

Quite a scarce item documenting the imprisonment of a paralyzed American civilian in a Japanese prisoner of war camp.

**\$500** [Inv # 9623](#)

For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

**25. [MENTAL HEALTH] [WOMEN] A pair of diaries kept by a disturbed young woman recording delusions of being stalked by demons, rantings about the New World Order and 9-11, descriptions of bulimic episodes, numerology computations, anxiety about rival lovers, graphic descriptions of sexual activity, confessions of self-loathing, and more. "Jessie".** Unknown location: no date but probably circa 2005 based on her 9-11 denial and references to texting.

The diaries were kept in spiral-bound notebooks measuring 5"x7" with a total of about 290 pages filled with text, drawings, and doodles. Eight items are laid-in including a therapy appointment reminder, letter, two photos purportedly showing her demonic stalkers, and two drawings of male genitalia (one engorged and erect, the other amputated at the base of the shaft).

"Jessie" has titled her diary *Jessica's Bullshit Writings About Life: Anxiety Doom Anger Sad Pain Hide* on the inside of the rear cover. Some of her entries include:

Descriptions, drawings, and photos of her encounters with "feeders of light" and her demons, one of whom she identifies as Erebus (the primordial Greek god of darkness). "I felt his breathing on my neck . . . a weird electricity ran through my body. . . I wanted him to take me away to whatever dimension he came from to just swallow me whole and keep me protected from this world. . ."

Obsessions about a Yellowstone volcanic eruption/earthquake and the "Pole Shift" that will result in radiation, blackouts, infertility, and mass death.

Romantic anxieties over her simultaneous supportive relationship with male roommate and sexual relationship with a married man.

Numerology computations and references to Kabbalah.

Nightmares about sinkholes.

Panic attacks, anxiety attacks, OCD, and Prozac

Description of sexual activities including masturbation, receiving oral sex, and intercourse including a double-page sketch of an erect penis in addition to the laid-in drawings.

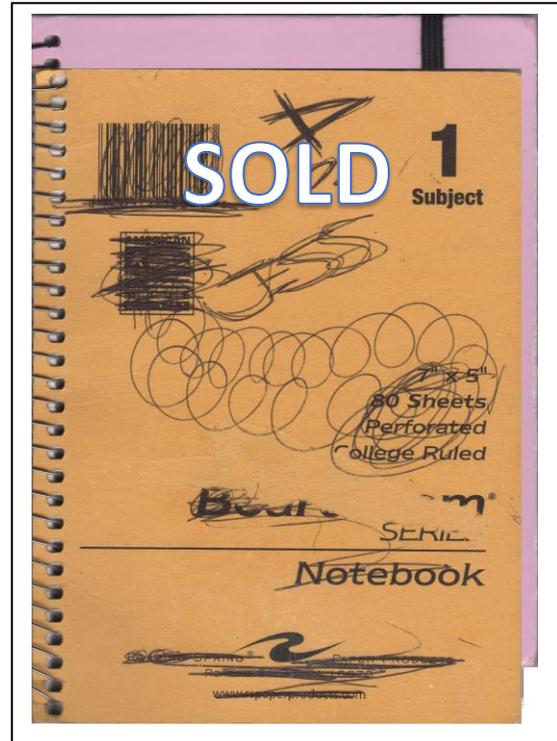
Rantings about the 9-11 Twin Towers attacks being an "inside job" by the Bush administration, the New World Order, and 1450 military bases that she believes are hidden underground.

Gastrointestinal issues including stomach pains and bulimic episodes of "ravenous" overeating followed by forced vomiting.

Lyrics from the Doors hit, *People Are Strange*.

A disturbing window into the inner turmoil of an intelligent, but delusional, young woman who is crying out for help.

**SOLD Item # 9633**



For additional or larger images, click on the first image or Inventory #

Please [let us know](#) if you would like to receive our electronic catalogs of diaries, letters, ephemera, postal history, photographs, and sometimes even books.



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