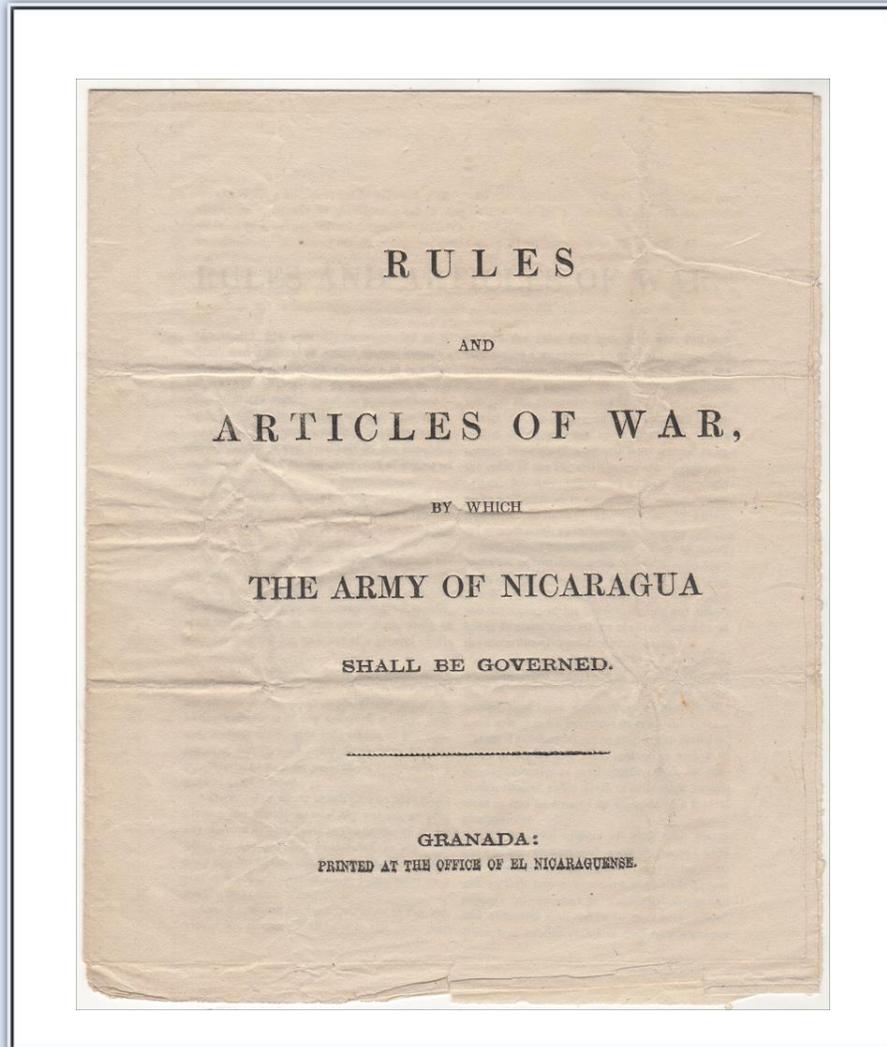


Kurt A. Sanftleben, ABAA, APS Dealer, ASDA
Read'Em Again Books and Paper
Catalog 21-4 – November 2021



14. "CALVIN, HALF FRANTIC . . . FOR A BROTHER'S LOSS . . . BAREFOOTED AND IN HIS SHIRT SLEEVES, LEAPED ON HIS HORSE, AND . . . DASHED INTO THE MIDST OF THE ENEMY. . . ." A Family archive honoring two brothers killed during William Walker's attempt to conquer Nicaragua. Probably assembled by their sister, Cornelia O'Neal (O'Neil). Nicaragua and California: 1855-1857.

The collection contains of 30 items including letters, newspaper clippings, a broadside, a broadsheet, a pamphlet, and a map.

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 collectors and researchers with 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.

Terms of Sale

Prices are in U.S dollars. When applicable, we must charge sales tax. Unless otherwise stated, standard domestic shipping is at no charge. International shipping charges vary. All shipments are sent insured at no additional charge. Any customs or VAT fees are the responsibility of the purchaser.

If you are viewing this catalog on-line, the easiest way for you to complete a purchase is to click on the Item # or first image associated with a listing. This will open a link where you can complete your purchase using PayPal. We also accept credit cards, checks, and money orders. Bank transfers are accepted but will incur an additional fee.

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

If institutions add on a surcharge for payments they make by direct deposit, credit cards, ACH, etc., we will modify our invoice to reflect that added cost to the total amount due. Such surcharges are part of an institution’s business model, not ours.

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 are 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

Kurt and Gail Sanftleben
Virginia Beach, VA 23454
Email: info@read-em-again.com Phone: 571-409-0144
Website: read-em-again.com



The Manuscript Society

*The
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America*

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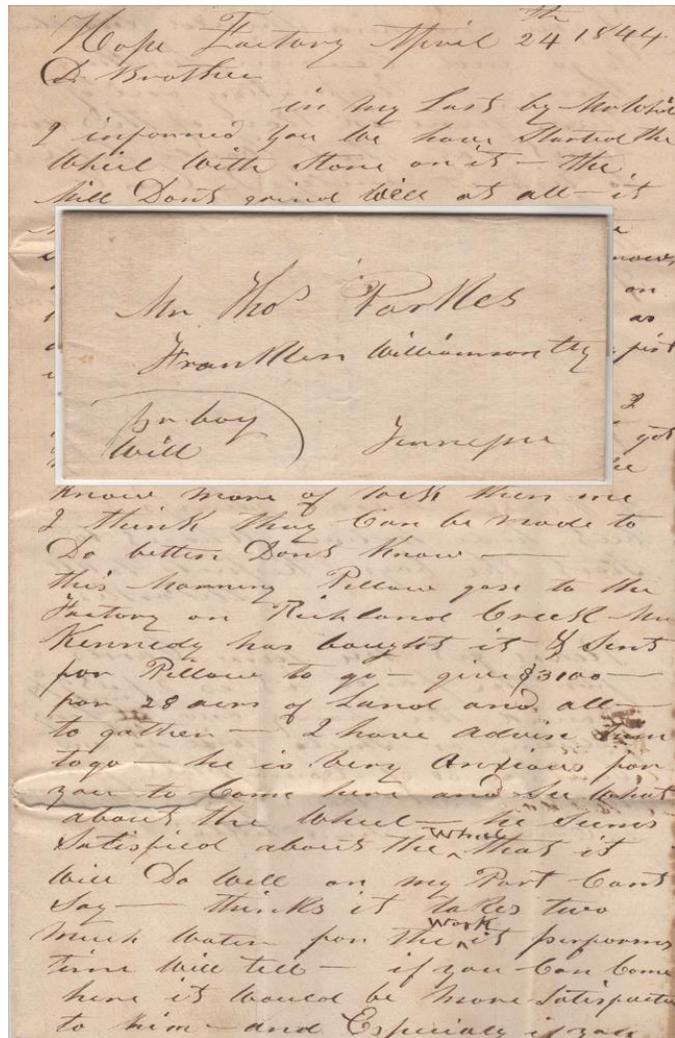
Click on an item's first image or its inventory number to view more images.

1. [AFRICAN-AMERICANA – SLAVERY] [BUSINESS & LABOR] [COTTON] [PHILATELY] “PER BOY WILL” – Slave-carried-letter between the owners of a Tennessee textile and grist mill. W [William] to Tho [Thomas] Parkes. Hope Factory to Franklin, Tennessee: April 24th 1844.

This two-page stampless folded letter measures 15” x 12” unfolded. It was hand-carried by a slave between two brothers who owned a textile-grist mill complex and is annotated “Per boy Will” in the lower left corner of the address panel. In nice shape. A transcript will be provided.

This letter, discussing problems with their mills reads in part:

“We had started the wheel with stone on it – the mill don’t grind well at all [but] it makes flour & hommany at the same time – Weather the furnaces are too deep [I] cant say [but I] can put my fist into it [so] the furnace is soft in places – had I seen it – I would not have bought it. . . This morning Pillow [has] gone to the factory on Richland Creek [bought by] Mr. Kennedy. . . he is very anxious for you to come here and see what about the wheel – he seems satisfied about the wheel that it will do well [but] on my part can’t say – think it takes too much water for the work it performs time will tell – if you can come here it would be more satisfaction to him – and especially if you and him should conclud to go and commence something [new] . . . cant say that [I] would like to risk it unless I can be convinced of the quantity of water it uses. . .”



Following iron-making, cotton manufacturing was the second largest industrial activity in antebellum Tennessee with the highest concentration of mills located in Lawrence County. The most important was Hope Factory, established in 1823 by William and Thomas Parkes. The Parkes established a second nearby mill, Glen Factory, in the 1840s and, as discussed in a slave-carried letter between them that I sold a number of years ago, built a Rope Factory in 1838. White laborers and black slaves worked together in the Parkes factories. (For more information see Wells and Green’s *The Southern Middle Class in the Long Nineteenth Century*.)

Although we have sold several examples over the past 20 years, slave-carried mail is exceptionally scarce. When encountered, it is inevitably annotated with the slave’s name on the cover which served as evidence that the he (or she) had permission to be traveling alone. As of 2021, no slave-carried mail is listed in OCLC, and the Stamp Auction Network shows only two have appeared at auction in the last 25 years. At the time of listing, there are no others for sale in the trade.

\$1,500

[#9783](#)

Click on an item's first image or its inventory number to view more images.

2. [AFRICAN-AMERICANA – BLACK-ON-BLACK VIOLENCE] [CRIME & LAW] [GUN VIOLENCE] [MURDER] [PHILATELY] “THE DARKEYS HAD A PARTY . . . AND ONE RECEIVED THREE SHOTS FROM A PISTOL IN THE HANDS OF ANOTHER DARKEY FROM WHICH HE HAS SINCE DIED.” Letter from a rural Kentucky town noting that “nothing of interest” had occurred despite mentioning two murders. From Alex to Cousin Emma Wiseheart. Samuels Depot, Kentucky to Jeffersontown, Kentucky: 1888.

This four-page letter is enclosed in its original envelope which is franked with a 2-cent green Washington stamp (Scott #213) canceled with a target handstamp. The envelope bears a circular Samuels Depot postmark. Backstamps indicate that the letter was routed through Louisville before it was forwarded to Jeffersontown. (The Samuels Depot post office closed in 1894.) Both letter and envelope are in nice shape; the envelope show a little postal wear. A transcript will be provided.

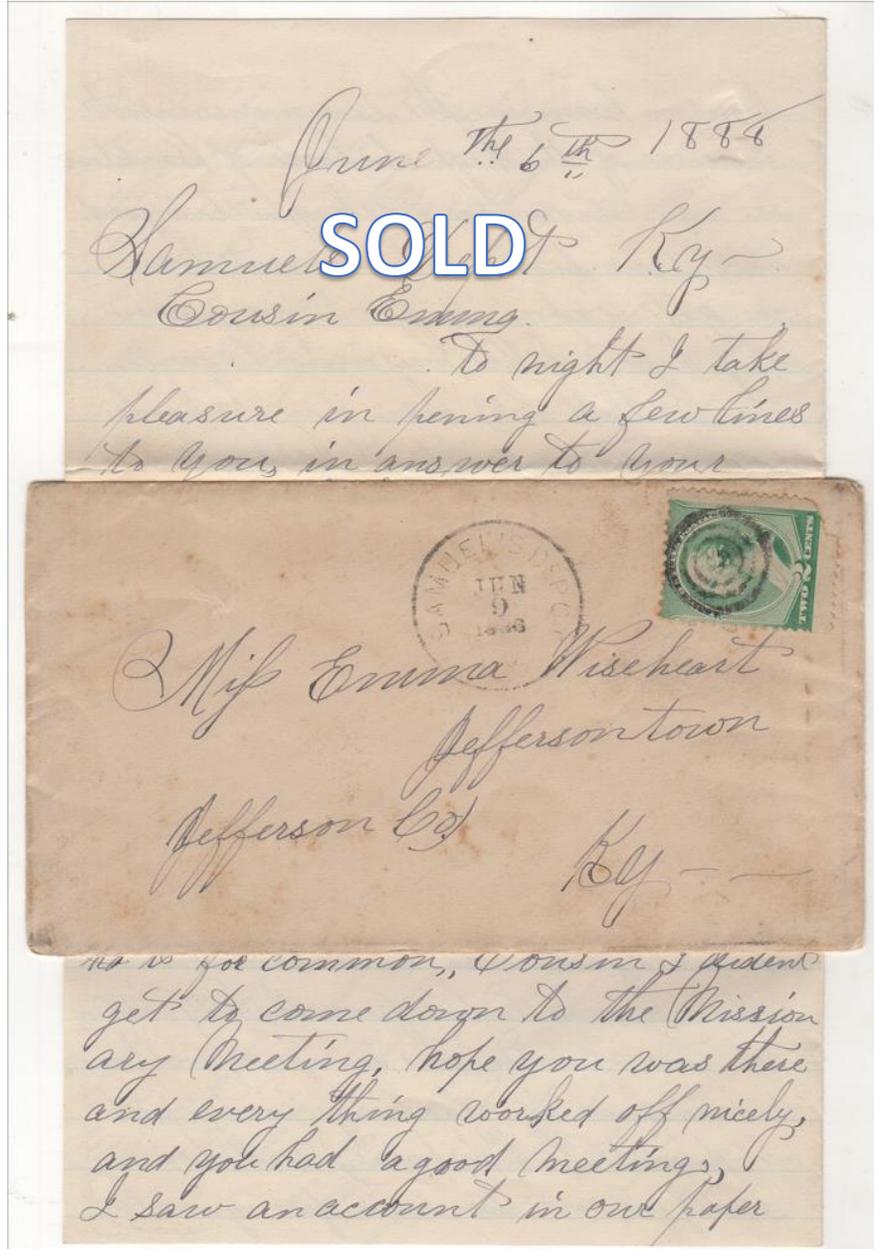
In this slightly flirty letter, Alex explains that “nothing of much interest” has happened around Samuels Depot since “the literary and temperance meetings have played out . . . although occasionally there is a little fuss.”

“Reese Simmons was killed. was shot by his Nephew Nat Simmons. he shot and killed in self defense, Reese was a pretty bad fellow. while Nat was a peacible and quiet boy [also]

“The darkeys had a party about 2 miles from here last Saturday night they got up a disturbance and one received three shots from a pistol in the hands of another darkey from which he has since died. Old Nelson still keeps her record in killing, even or a little ahead.”

An interesting late 19th century letter describing two deaths from gun violence which from the tenor of the writing was apparently not particularly uncommon among both blacks and whites.

SOLD #9784



Click on an item's first image or its inventory number to view more images.

3. [AGRICULTURE] [BUSINESS & LABOR] [IMMIGRATION] "WILLIAM BRYSON'S BOOK . . . A NATIVE OF IRELAND ARRIVED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NOVEMBER 7TH . . . ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY THREE." An account book kept for over forty years by the son of an Irish immigrant farmer. James Brison. Lancaster County, Pennsylvania 1832-1873.

This half-leather account book with wall-paper covered boards measures 8" x 13". It is almost entirely filled and contains approximately 185 pages of indexed entries as well as twenty laid-in receipts, bills, notes, etc. The account book and its pages are generally in nice shape; there are some dampstains toward the rear of the book (the last dozen leaves are the worst), but there does not appear to be any active mildew. Some of the laid-in items show wear.

James' father, William Brison (Bryson) Sr., immigrated to the United States in 1783 and established a farm in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, which online genealogical records suggest the men ran together.

A note, that may have come from an earlier account book, is loosely affixed the first page; it reads: "William Bryson's Book A Native of Ireland Arrived in the United States of America November 7th in the year of our Lord One Thousand Seven hundred and Eighty Three"

A book plate inside the front cover reads, "The Property of James Brison".

There are several entries in the book that reference William Brison and his wife, Marthe (Martha) Brison, and there are several entries that recorded loans to and payments by several family members.

One laid-in item is a tax notice from the Lancaster County's Dunmore Township.

Ledger entries reference payments for planting corn, hauling, and spreading stones for "rode" work, mowing, cradling oats, binding, thrashing, hauling grain and dung, plowing, harvesting, husking corn, haymaking, carpentry, carding, purchasing livestock, etc.

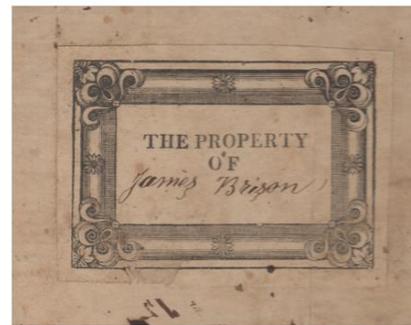
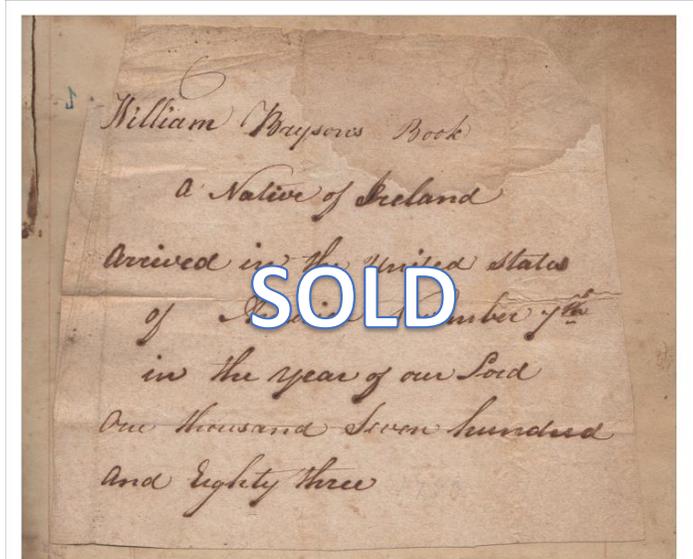
They also record the selling of farm goods like wheat, potatoes, butter, cords of wood, corn, apples, cider, apple butter, hides, vinegar, brooms, as well as other items like pantaloons, fur hats, tobacco, mackerel, candles, thimbles, and umbrellas.

Finally, there are two pages of recipes including "To kill Rats or Crows", "Remedy for Ringworm", "Cure for film in the eye of a horse or ox", "Turkey red or scarlet" dye, "Lamp Wicks", "Blood Stopping", "Cure for Collick", "Egg Cakes", "Cup Cakes", and "Ginger Cookies".

A fine record of a prosperous 19th-century Pennsylvania farm started by an Irish immigrant in 1783.

SOLD

#9785

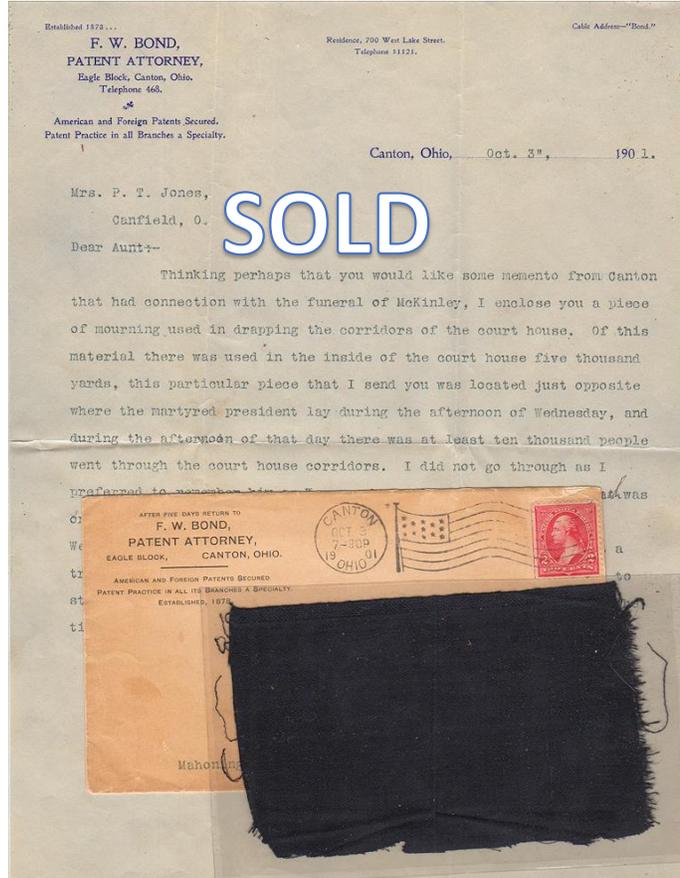


Click on an item's first image or its inventory number to view more images.

4. [ANARCHY] [ASSASSINATION] [CRIME & LAW] [FAIRS & EXPOSITIONS] [PRESIDENTS] "THINKING PERHAPS THAT YOU WOULD LIKE SOME MEMENTO . . . THAT HAD CONNECTION WITH THE FUNERAL OF MCKINLEY. . ." A piece of mourning cloth from the walls of the Stark County Courthouse rotunda where President McKinley's body lay in state before his funeral the following day. Collected by F.W. Bond. Canton, Ohio: 1901.

This piece of mourning cloth measures 5" x 2.75". It was removed from the Stark County Courthouse in Canton, Ohio, where the body of President McKinley lay in state the day before his funeral on 19 September 1901. Included is a letter from Bond to an aunt in Canfield, Ohio describing the cloth and the events of the day.

"Thinking perhaps that you would like some . . . that had connection with the funeral of McKinley, I enclose you a piece of mourning used in draping the corridors of the court house. Of this material there was used in the inside of the court house five thousand yards, this particular piece that I send you was located just opposite where the martyred president lay during the afternoon of Wednesday, and during the afternoon of that day there was at least ten thousand people went through the court house corridors. I did not go through as I preferred to remember him as he was when I last talked to him, what was only a short time before he went to Buffalo."



On 6 September, President McKinley was shot twice in the abdomen at point-blank range by Leon Czolgosz, a leftist disciple of the anarchist leader Emma Goldman, while he was visiting the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, New York. One bullet was deflected by a jacket button, but the other penetrated his stomach. McKinley's wound was not immediately fatal, but infection set in and the President lingered painfully for eight days until he died on 14 September. After a formal state funeral at the Capital on 17 September, McKinley's funeral train departed for Canton, Ohio that evening, arriving around noon the following day when his casket was taken to the Stark County Courthouse, where he had practiced law for years. Thousands of people filed through the courthouse until 9 pm to pay their last respects. On 19 September, following a second funeral service at McKinley's First Methodist Church he was buried in a family plot at West Lawn Cemetery. McKinley was reinterred at the McKinley Memorial in Canton following its completion in 1907.

A scarce memento of President McKinley's assassination. McKinley mementos are less common than those related to other presidential assassinations; even the Smithsonian's American History Museum notes, "we don't have quite as many objects that commemorate the assassination of William McKinley as for his predecessors." (see Murphy's "Artifacts of assassination, Pt. 2 " at the National Museum of American History online.)

SOLD

#9786

Click on an item's first image or its inventory number to view more images.

5. [BALLOONING] [MILITARY & WAR – AVIATION / BETWEEN THE WARS] "A GRANDSTAND SEAT" - New England Photograph Album featuring an Army Balloon Company at Boston during the 1920s. Unidentified Compiler. Various New England Locations: 1920s.

This album contains 58 snapshots, most measuring approximately 2.5" x 4.5". Most of the photographs are in nice shape and attached to the page with corner mounts; a few have light corner creases. Album and pages have some minor wear.

The highlight of the album is a group of 19 photographs of a post-WWI Army Balloon Company. Photos include unit members holding an American flag, a balloon being inflated, soldiers climbing into a balloon's basket, a balloon ascending, a balloon in flight and bird's-eye views taken from the balloon. One of the photographs is annotated "531st BC" on its reverse, which would stand for the 531st Balloon Company.

Other sections of the album contain earlier photographs of Groton School (St. John's Chapel, campus grounds, crew practice, a baseball game, etc.), an auto trip (western scenery, very muddy roads, two autos stuck in the mud, etc.), a farm (hay stacks, corn field, cargo truck), and several street scenes (marked New Bedford on the reverse) showing a book and shoe store, hotel, tobacco and fruit store, and millinery.

With the United States entry into World War One, patriotic fervor ran high, especially among college students and many enlisted along with friends rather than wait to be drafted. Aviation units were especially popular, and while a group of Yale students were discussing possibilities, one suggested joining "the Balloon Service" to serve as the "eyes of the war." Eight other Yalies joined him and became the first of the 'gasbaggers'. At the time of the Armistice, 35 U.S. balloon companies were serving in France, and more had been activated at home. Following the war, most of the army's balloon observation balloon assets were transferred to the reserves. For more information see LeBow's *A Grandstand Seat: The American Balloon Service in World War I*.

An online search identified the 531st Balloon Company as a 1920s Boston reserve unit. It is listed in Clay's *US Army Order of Battle 1919–1941* as organizing on 31 March 1924 and demobilizing two years later. Clay, however does not reference Boston, reporting instead only that although San Antonio was designated as the location of the 531st's headquarters, the unit was never assigned there. However, Clay also notes that a similar reserve unit, the 562nd Balloon Company, was located at Boston from 1921 to 1927. Perhaps the two units were somehow related.



SOLD

#8221

Click on an item's first image or its inventory number to view more images.

6. [BANKING & FINANCE] [BUSINESS & LABOR] [FOOD & DRINK – WINE] [MARITIME] [PHILATELY] [TRAVEL] “THERE IS AN OBJECT WHICH STRONGLY OPERATES AGAINST YOUR ISLAND [and] OUR SHIPMENTS WILL BE MUCH CURTAILED.” A letter from Norfolk, Virginia exporters to commercial agents in Portuguese Madeira. John and James Reid to Messrs Newton, Gordon, Johnstone, etc. Norfolk, Virginia via the ship *Jolly Tan* to Madeira, 27 March 1791.

This two-page stampless folded letter was carried to Madeira off the coast of northwest Africa at a privately-determined rate by the ship captain. It measures 16” x 10” unfolded and bears a manuscript annotation reading “P The / Jolly Tan / Captn Livingston”. Docketing reads “Norfolk / 27 March 1791 / Jno & Jas Reid / Recd 28 July / and ans’d Aug’t 91 / duplicate”. In nice shape; missing a small marginal piece (not affecting text) where the wax seal was broken upon opening. A transcript will be provided. The letter reads in part:

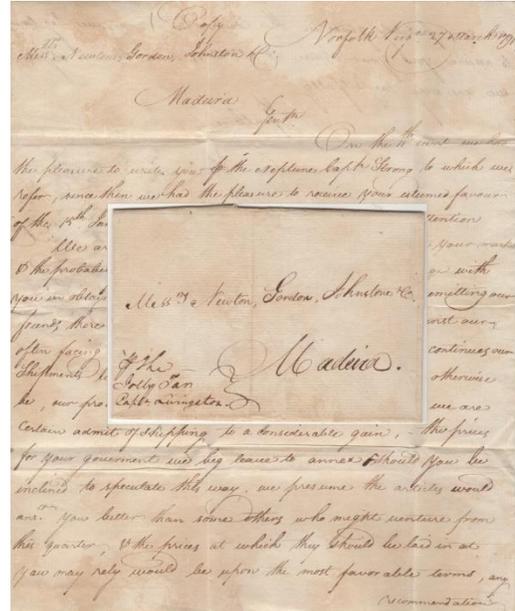
“We are obliged to you for a quotation of prices [however,] the disadvantage with you in obtaining bills upon London for the purpose of remitting our funds . . . is an object which operates strongly against our often facing your Island with produce & . . . our Shipments will be much curtailed to what they would otherwise be. . .”

The Reids were prominent exporters in Norfolk, the most important seaport in colonial Virginia, which was destroyed by fire during the Revolution. Following the war, citizens rebuilt, and by 1790, the export of corn and wheat (the “produce” mentioned in the letter) thrived at the port. No doubt that after selling their cargo, the ships would return to Norfolk fully loaded with Madeira wine, one of (if not the) most popular drinks in the United States. In the same year as this letter, the Reids joined with a select group of “Merchants, Traders and other Citizens of the Borough of Norfolk” to obtain a branch of the controversial Bank of the United States in an effort to improve trading and exchange opportunities. Competition among Virginia cities was stiff, however only Norfolk was selected.

The firm of Newton, Gordon, and Johnstone was established in Madeira in the late 1740s by expatriates who fled Scotland after fighting for Charles Edward Stuart (Bonnie Prince Charlie) in the failed Jacobite Rebellion of 1745. There they soon became successful wine traders, eventually branching out into other staples such as flour, corn, rice, pork, beef, etc.

(For more information see Costa’s dissertation “Economic Development and political authority: Norfolk Virginia merchant-magistrates,” Siener’s dissertation “Economic development in revolutionary Virginia: Fredericksburg 1750-1810,” and “The Bank of the United States: Petitions of Virginia Cities and Towns for the Establishment of Branches 1791” in *The Virginia Magazine of History and Bibliography* (Jan. 1901).

The University of Michigan holds a collection of 105 incoming letters sent by the Newton, Gordon, and Johnstone firm to American merchants, and Penn State holds an archive of 39 outgoing letters to the company, mostly from Philadelphia traders. Outside of the Penn State collection, examples of correspondence from the United States to Madeira is quite scarce. No auction records for similar letters are found at the Rare Book Hub, and the Stamp Auction Network reports only nine between the United States and Madeira have appeared at auction in the last 21 years.



\$450

[#9787](#)

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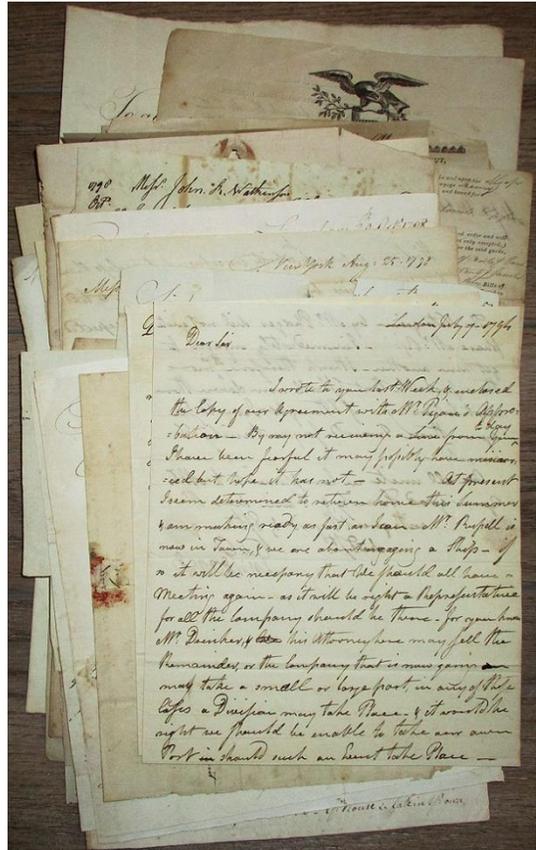
7. [BUSINESS & LABOR] [IMMIGRATION] [THE NEW NATION] [PHILATELY] [TEXTILES] “THE SAID SHIP MINERVA PRIOR TO . . . HER INTENDED VOYAGE . . . BURNT IN THE RIVER THAMES [CAUSING THE EMIGRANTS] TO BE DEPRIVED OF THEIR PASSAGE TO BOSTON.” An exceptional archive documenting the immigration of a family of British dissenters who were instrumental in establishing the textile industry in Connecticut. The Samuel Watkinson Family. Various locations, primarily Connecticut and New York: 1794-1827.

This archive contains 46 manuscript and partially-printed receipts, invoices, ship registrations, letters, and similar items. It begins with a 1794 letter from an agent in London to the family patriarch, Samuel Watkinson Sr., concerning the purchase of property in the United States and continues with several items related to the family's subsequent immigration in 1795. The remainder of the archive documents the Watkinson's business activities that were key to developing the textile industry in and around Middletown, Connecticut. All are in nice shape. The letters are franked with a variety of British and U.S. rate stamps and postmarks including many scarce New York City “clamshell” handstamps.

Samuel Watkinson, Sr., and his Scottish wife, Sarah, settled in Lavenham, Suffolk, England where they began to raise a family of 12. Samuel Sr. became a successful woolcomber and joined a Dissenting Society composed of tradesmen, craftsmen, and merchants that was often at odds with the Anglican Church. As Dissenters, the family was persecuted for suspected disloyalty during the French Revolution. In 1795, the entire family immigrated to the United States and settled in Middletown, Connecticut. They soon began a thriving textile business, and four of the brothers (Samuel, Jr., Richard, David, and William) established business offices in New York City. There all four contracted Yellow Fever during the epidemic of 1798 and Samuel, Jr. and Richard died. David returned to Connecticut where he became a noted printmaker, banker, businessman, and philanthropist. He founded Trinity College to include its Watkinson Library, the Watkinson Farm School, the Watkinson Prisoner's Aid Society, the Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford Hospital, and what would become the Hartford Library. His contribution to the Hartford orphanage was also considerable. Another brother, John, went on to produce woolen textiles and equipment in Middletown where he founded the Pameacha and Sanseer Manufacturing Companies. (For more information, see the Watkinson family papers at Trinity College and Siskind's *Rum and Axes: The Rise of a Connecticut Merchant Family*.)

A few of the highlights include:

Letters regarding the purchase of land in the United States, assembling a party of emigrants to make the journey with them, hiring a ship for their voyage, and their departure - “I wish the emigrants a safe and pleasant passage tho' am rather surprised. . . . It must have been a trying Scene at parting. May You and Yours be under the Direction & Blessing of that Providence who causeth all Things to make for the good of the People.”



Click on an item's first image or its inventory number to view more images.

A large (9.75" x 15") and impressive legal "Award, Order, and Determination" (on heavy laid paper with an embossed five shilling revenue stamp) directing that as "The said Ship Minerva prior to her sailing had been burnt in the River Thames [causing the passengers] to be deprived of their passage out to Boston . . . Richard Crownenshield [the ship's owner and commander] shall . . . at Lloyds Coffee House London . . . well and fully pay and return back unto the said Samuel Watkinson [and his fellow emigrants] all Sum and Sums of Money so paid by them. . ."



Other letters receipts, and invoices regarding

The latest news from England – "Ireland being in a disturbed state perhaps a revolutionary one. . . Country gentlemen are reported very poor. Hilliers have quite left Lantham & let their premises to an Irish Emigrant. . . The unpleasant situation of Wm Cook, Debts up to 3000 L & little to pay, sequestered his Preston [property] to liquidate his debts Furniture sold. [At least] you still have yr lands. . . I shall be very cautious that Mr. Pitt [not] have me under particular control – it is sufficient to have our pockets pick'd & Trade destroyed. I will guard my little property from his capricious encroachments, as well as the ravaging French. I detest both."

Efforts to import "East India Goods" and acquire Chinese tea, Irish linen, and pepper, and take advantage of a new booming business in New York City – "Military coats are very much in fashion & making the Accoutrements the principal trade in the City a Chief topic of conversation."

Bad beef in the city – "General merchants in Pearl Street in looking over their Beef in the Cellars have found a great deal to be bad, Fifty barrels . . . were thrown . . . into the East River."

Condolences for the hard times that had befallen the family (i.e., the Yellow Fever deaths of the two brothers),

Purchases, sales, and shipping of "East India Good", "clean flax", muslin, gingham, quilting, linen, hats, "pickled beef", glass, and Congo (Congou) tea from China, tobacco, hemp, indigo, flour, wool, evenly colored blue cloth, and "black printed fancy device mugs & jugs",

An investment in the New York Insurance Company, and

The purchase of weaving mill reeds, searing machines, and napping machines.

A partially-printed document emblazoned with a federal eagle regarding the purchase and registration of the *Ship Rolla* and a receipt for the "recaulking and graving (scraping and cleaning a vessel's hull)" of the *Ship Industry*,

A partially-printed customs form documenting the purchase of 300 gallons of rum,

This is an exceptional archive of both historical and philatelic value documenting the success of an immigrant family in the early United States. At the time of this listing, there is nothing similar in the trade. Trinity College holds a collection of Watkinson family papers mainly consisting of John Watkinson's business documents from the 1800s.

\$3,500

[#9788](#)

Click on an item's first image or its inventory number to view more images.

8. [BUSINESS & LABOR] [MARITIME] [PHILATELY] [TRAVEL] "I AM VERY SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE YOU EXPERIENCED IN THIS AFFAIR." A letter from a Norfolk, Virginia exporter to commercial agents in Portuguese Madeira. Anthony Pomar to Messrs Newton, Gordon, Murdock & Scott. Norfolk, Virginia via the ship *Trisnifor* to Funchal, Madeira, 15 August 1828.

This one-page stampless folded letter was carried to Funchal, Madeira off the coast of northwest Africa at a privately-determined rate by ship's captain. It measures 16" x 10" unfolded and bears a manuscript annotation reading "via Azores p Trisnifor(?)". Docketing reads "Norfold Virginia / 15 August 1828 / Anthony Pomar / recd 3 April and 6th 1829". 228 days in transit. In nice shape.

This business letter discussing problems with a previous transaction reads in part

"I have received your favour 16th April last with a/c sale . . . also advising your having remitted the balance. . . I am very sorry for the trouble you have experienced in this affair and am myself satisfied. I have sent your account to the owner [of the Brig Enterprise] . . . who had written me nothing concerning them & therefore suppose he found the correct. . ."

Norfolk, Virginia was one of the few major early 19th century ports in the American South, and by 1810 was primarily exporting corn, wheat, and flour to Great Britain and the West Indies. However, it also did a brisk trade with Portuguese Madeira where after delivering their cargo, ships would return to the United States loaded with Madeira wine, which was one of (if not the) most popular drinks in America.

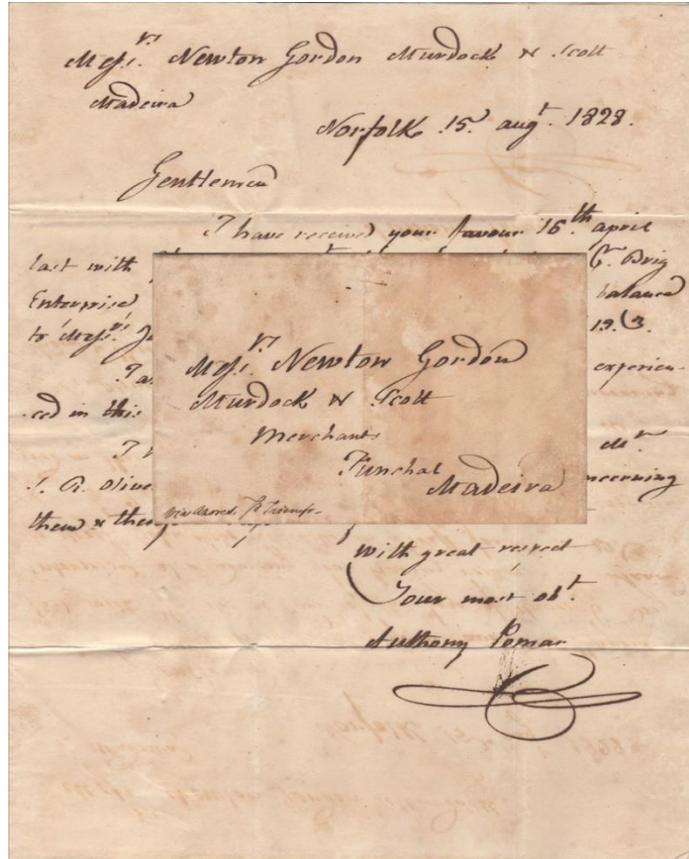
The firm of Newton, Gordon, Murdock & Scott was established in Madeira in the late 1740s by expatriates who fled Scotland after fighting for Charles Edward Stuart (Bonnie Prince Charlie) in the failed Jacobite Rebellion of 1745. There its first partners soon became successful wine traders, eventually branching out into other staples such as flour, corn, rice, pork, beef, etc.

(For additional information see Costa's dissertation "Economic Development and political authority: Norfolk Virginia merchant-magistrates," and Siener's dissertation "Economic development in revolutionary Virginia: Fredericksburg 1750-1810".)

The University of Michigan holds a collection of 105 incoming letters sent by the Newton, Gordon, and Johnstone firm to American merchants, and Penn State holds an archive of 39 outgoing letters to the company, mostly from Philadelphia traders. Outside of the Penn State collection, examples of correspondence from the United States to Madeira is quite scarce. No auction records for similar letters are found at the Rare Book Hub, and the Stamp Auction Network reports only nine between the United States and Madeira have appeared at auction in the last 21 years.

\$350

[#9789](#)



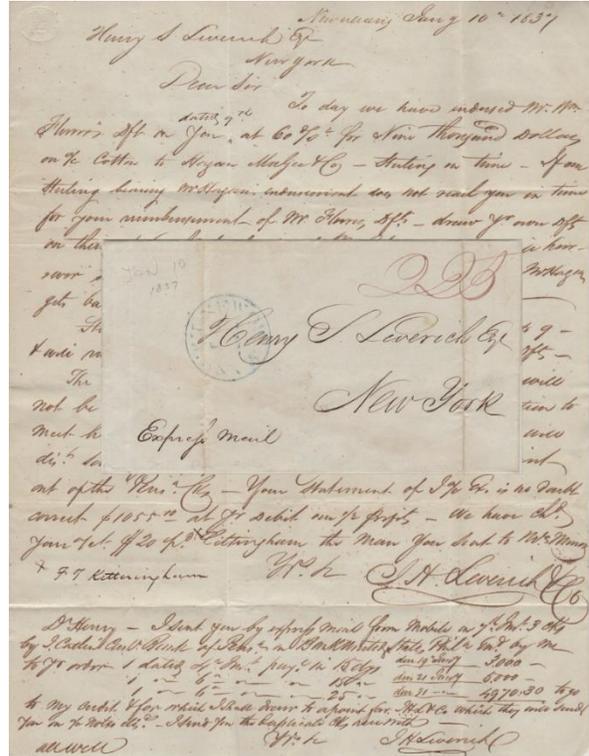
Click on an item's first image or its inventory number to view more images.

9. [BUSINESS & LABOR] [COTTON] [PHILATELY] "TO DAY WE HAVE ENDORSED Mr. WM FLEMMING'S DFT TO YOU . . . FOR NINE THOUSAND DOLLARS ON A/C COTTON TO HEYAN MACGEE. . ." An uncommon, triple-rate Express Mail letter used to provide timely and detailed purchasing instructions in the rapidly fluctuating cotton market. J. H. (James Henry) Leverich to Henry S. (Stanton) Leverich. New Orleans to New York City: 10 January 1837.

This two-page stampless folded letter was sent by U.S. Express Mail from New Orleans to New York City in January of 1837. It measures approximately 16" x 10.5" unfolded and bears a manuscript \$2.25 rate mark, a manuscript "Express Mail" annotation, and a blue New Orleans postmark.

The letter contains detailed information and instructions regarding a number of intended cotton transactions including a \$9,000 endorsed draft referenced in its first sentence. James Henry informs his brother, Henry Stanton, that he had sent three additional checks totaling \$12,970.30 by Express Mail from Mobile, Alabama.

Leverich & Company was a commercial firm established in the 1820s by four brothers. Charles Palmer and Henry Stanton Leverich operated out of New York City as shipping merchants, commission agents, and investment bankers, primarily for Southern sugar, cotton, and molasses planters and producers. James Harvey and William Edward Leverich worked out of New Orleans. Charles P. Leverich later became president of the Bank of New York.



The \$2.25 triple-express rate (3 x 75 cents) charged by the post office indicates that this one-sheet folded letter would have contained two inserts, likely the nine-thousand-dollar draft it mentions plus another check or draft, and that it was sent a distance of over 400 miles. As Milgram notes in *Express Mail of 1836-1839*, "Even in our day of postal inflation, these triple charges would be astronomical and are even more so when one considers the purchasing value of the dollar in 1837." However, this express service was worth the cost when cotton fortunes hung in the balance as it ensured letters from New Orleans would reach New York City perhaps as much as two weeks before regular ship mail.

As noted by Milgram, this letter would have been carried by ship from New Orleans to Mobile, Alabama. From Mobile, it would have been carried by horseback rider through Georgia and South Carolina to Blakely Station in North Carolina where it would have been loaded onto a railroad train bound for Petersburg, Virginia. From Petersburg, it would have once more been carried by horseback to Philadelphia where it would complete the rest of its journey to New York City by train. The entire trip would have taken 6 days and 23 hours.

An uncommon triple-rate Express Mail letter regarding incredibly valuable cotton transactions. The Stamp Auction Network reports no triple-rate Express Mail letters were offered at auctions in the past 25 years. Additionally, Milgram's study identifies only two triple-rate letters; one from New Orleans to Hartford, Connecticut and one from Cuba to New York via Charleston, South Carolina.

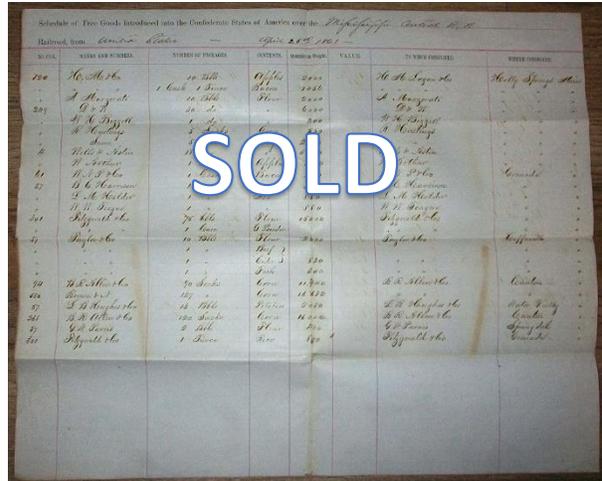
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Click on an item's first image or its inventory number to view more images.

10. [BUSINESS & LABOR] [MILITARY & WAR – CIVIL WAR] [RAILROADS] [TAXES & CUSTOMS] “APPLES, BACON, FLOUR, . . . CORN, HAY, . . . ICE, G POWDER, . . . BEEF, CIDER, FISH, . . . POTATOES. . .” *Schedule of Free Goods introduced Into the Confederate States of America Over the Mississippi Central R.R. from United States. April 25th 1861.*

This large customs document measures 17” x 13.75”. The heading reads: “Schedule of Free Goods introduced into the Confederate States of America over the Mississippi Central R.R. Railroad from United States – April 25th 1861-” It is docketed in ink, “Schedule No 1 / Free goods / April 25”.

It identifies 25 shipments of Union products carried by the Mississippi Central's trains on that day. The shipped goods include apples, bacon, beef, cider, corn, fish, flour, gun powder, hay, ice, potatoes, and rice. The goods were delivered to customers in Canton, Coffeyville, Grenada, Holly Springs, Springdale, and Water Valley, Mississippi



Trade between the United States and the Confederacy did not stop with the establishment of the Confederate States of America on 4 February 1861, South Carolina's attack on Fort Sumter on 12 April 1861, or even President Lincoln's proclamation directing the blockade of Southern ports on 19 April 1861. In the North, trade with the South was not officially prohibited until 16 August 1861, when Lincoln issued Proclamation 86, following an Act of Congress passed a month before. In the South, the Confederate Congress never outlawed trade with the United States, although on 19 April 1862, it did prohibit the transport of cotton to any Confederate port occupied by Union forces.

The Mississippi Central Railroad, one of the most important railroads in the South, was chartered in 1852 to operate between Canton, Mississippi and Grand Junction, Tennessee. Eventually the line expanded to provide services from Winona, Mississippi to Jackson, Tennessee. At Grand Junction, the line joined with the Memphis and Charleston Railroad, providing access to the Atlantic ports in the east and the Mississippi River in the West.

Although the origin of the Union goods listed in the customs document is not specified, they could have been brought by the Mississippi Central from Charleston, however, since the product list includes rice, it is more likely that came down the Mississippi by river boat, perhaps making part of their journey via the Illinois Central Railroad, as the only rice-growing region in the Union was in the bootheel of southeastern Missouri near Cairo, Illinois.

(For more information see Johnson's "Commerce Between Northeastern Ports and the Confederacy, 1861-1865" and "Trading with the Union: The Evolution of Confederate Policy" in *The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, June 1967 and July 1970, Lincoln's *Proclamation 86*, "Where Rice Grows in the U.S. at usarice.com, and Wikipedia articles on the Mississippi Central, Illinois Central, and Memphis and Charleston Railroads.)

A very scarce document. At the time of listing, there are no other examples for sale in the trade or listed at the Rare Book Hub or OCLC. There is, however, one similar partially completed document that does not specify a shipping railroad held at the University of Southern Mississippi titled "Schedule No. 20" and dated 18 May 1861.

SOLD #9791

Click on an item's first image or its inventory number to view more images.

11. [BUSINESS & LABOR] [MINING] [PHILATELY] [WHALING] "Sperm Oil – Winter Bleached" Advertising broadside for Miners' Oil Company enclosed in its original illustrated mailing envelope. Miners' Oil Company. New York, New York to Roseboom, New York, circa 1880.

This wholesale advertising broadside for the Miners' Oil Company of New York measures 8.5" x 11". The envelope features a blue illustration of a miner with pick and shovel leaning against three barrels, a factory, a workman, a ship, and a train in the background. The envelope was franked with a 1-cent blue Franklin stamp (Scott #182) to pay the printed matter rate, which has been cancelled with an oval New York post mark. The broadside has mailing folds and is in nice shape. The envelope is in very good shape with some minor postal wear and toning.

The broadside advertises about fifty of the company's different oils: Sperm, Whale, Elephant, Cod Fish, Neatsfoot, Cotton Seed, Paraffine, Tallow, Naphtha & Benzine, Miners' Lamp Oil, Mineral Spermene, Sperm Compound, Engine Oil, Machinery Oil, Wool Oil, Castor Oil, and many more.

The broadside notes that while the company's oils were usually sold by the barrel, they could also be "put up in ten gallon cans and half barrels if desired."

SOLD #9792

MONTHLY PRICE CURRENT.

MINERS' OIL COMPANY,

MANUFACTURES AND WHOLESALE DEALERS IN

OILS,

Office, No. 139 Maiden Lane, NEW YORK.
STOREHOUSE, NO. 19 FORT HERBERT ST., FACTORY, NEWTOWN CREEK.

We are offering the Trade, Country Dealers, Railroads and Manufacturers a fine assortment of OILS unsurpassed for their purity, uniformity, and adaptation for Lubricating purposes. An experience of many years in the business has given us advantages for meeting the wants of consumers, and successfully competing for a share of the trade.

We would beg leave to call your attention to several new and economical Oils for Lubricating purposes, at the very lowest prices, which have been thoroughly and practically tested by Railroads, Steamships and the largest Manufacturing concerns throughout the country, who recommend them as giving entire satisfaction.

We guarantee all Oils pure; can be returned if not satisfactory. Samples and quotations sent any time upon application. Soliciting your orders, We remain, yours,

MINERS' OIL CO.

SPERM OIL, Winter Bleached	\$ 1 15	EXTRA IXL ENGINE OIL	\$. 50
WHALE " " California	54	A Perfect Lubricator, being a compound of the best	
ELEPHANT OIL, Winter Bleached	48	Lubricating Oils known, and especially adapted for	
FISH " pressed	65	Paper, Cotton, Woolen Mills, Factories, Machine Shops,	
" " unpressed	35	Ac., &c. This Oil has received the highest testimonials	
LABRA	33	from all who have used it.	
STRAI		EXTRA INT. MACHINERY OIL	40
BANK			
LARD			35
NEATS			30
YELLA			
OLIVE			35
ELAIN			
PARAL			
TALL			
ROBIN			65
NAPH			
GASOL			
TEMP			
NATU			8
Ex			
pi			14
in			68
th			64
			7.00
			03 1/2
			40
			02
			05

139 Maiden Lane, NEW YORK.

*H. Howland
Roseboom
N.Y.*

PUT UP IN TEN GALLON CANS AND HALF BARRELS IF DESIRED. SEND SHIPPING DIRECTIONS WITH ORDER.
NO CHARGE FOR BARREL PACKAGES.

Click on an item's first image or its inventory number to view more images.

12. [CIPHER BOOKS] [EDUCATION] [MATHEMATICS] "JOHN ECKMAN HIS BOOK / STEAL THIS NOT FOR FEAR OF SHAME: FOR ABOVE THIS STANDS THE OWNER'S NAME." John Eckman's Mathematical Cipheryng Book. John Eckman. Probably Lancaster County, Pennsylvania: circa 1800..

This impressively titled, homemade cipheryng book measures 8.25" x 13.5." It contains 90 pages of cipheryng work. It is in nice shape with a lightly soiled cover and some edgewear to its pages.

Eckman has proudly written his name and a warning to possible thieves on the cover.

"John Eckman his book Steal this not for fear of shame: for above this stands the owner's name."

He has also signed several of the exercise pages as well including one inscription that reads,

"John Eckman's Book God give him grace wherein To look like wise to born and to understand for Learning is better than house and land when property are gon and Mony are Spent I am most Ecelent."

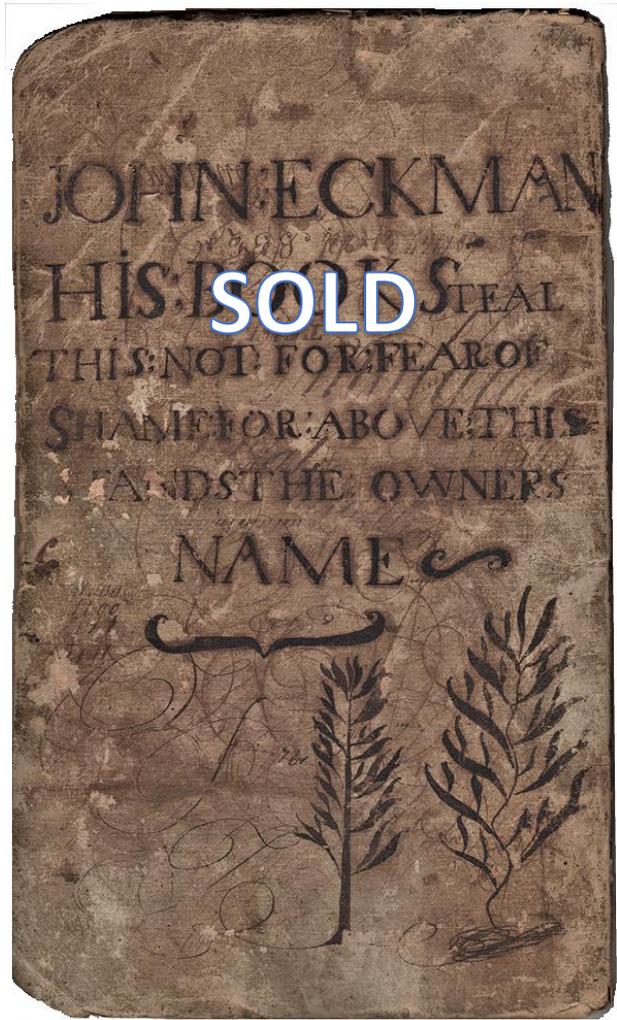
Unfortunately, Eckman did not provide his age, his location, the dates of his work, nor any additional information about himself as a young adult.

Cipheryng books were prepared as part the basic mathematical training of relatively well-off American students, usually boys. Most, like this one, contain examples of the Numeration, Addition, Subtraction, Compound Multiplication, Reduction, Compound Reduction, Rule of Three, Indirect Proportion, Vulgar Fractions, Compound Proportions, The Double Rule of Three, Time, Land Measure, etc. These are all present in Eckman's cipheryng book as are other exercises suggesting that he was preparing mercantile trade: Money, Avoirdupois Weight, Troy Weight, Long Measure, Cloth Measure, Dry Measure, etc.

This cipheryng book, which came from Pennsylvania Dutch Country was likely prepared in or around Lancaster, as Ancestry.com and Find-A-Grave identify several different John Eckmans with birthdates suggesting they would have prepared cipher books sometime between 1780 and 1820.

Late 18th-century and early 19th-century American cipheryng books are scarce as the overwhelming majority of extant examples date from the early 1820s into the mid-1850s. For more information about cipheryng books, see Ashley K. Doer's master's thesis: *Cipher Books in the Southern Historical Collection*. University of North Carolina: Chapel Hill, 2006.

A very nice cipheryng book, probably made by Eckman during the late 18th or very early 19th centuries that is especially appealing as a result of the decorative cover.



SOLD

#9793

Click on an item's first image or its inventory number to view more images.

13. [CIPHER BOOKS] [EDUCATION] [MATHEMATICS] "2 PINTES 1 QUART 4 QUARDS 1 GALLON 31½ GALLONS 1 TIERCE 63 GALLONS 1 HHD (HOGS HEAD) 82 GALLONS 1 PIPE OR BUT . . . 4 HHD – TUN". An Early 19th Century Cipher Book. Cornelius Conover. Probably Monmouth or Middlesex County, New Jersey: circa 1820-1825.

This ciphering book measures 8.25" x 13.5". It contains 106 pages of ciphering work. Three receipts are laid in, including one dated 1822 and another 1823. The book is in nice shape with a lightly soiled cover and some edgewear to its pages. It looks like one signature may have become loose and been tipped back into place. Conover has written his name seven times on the last page. The cover of this homemade book appears to have been made from stenciled oilcloth lined with gingham.

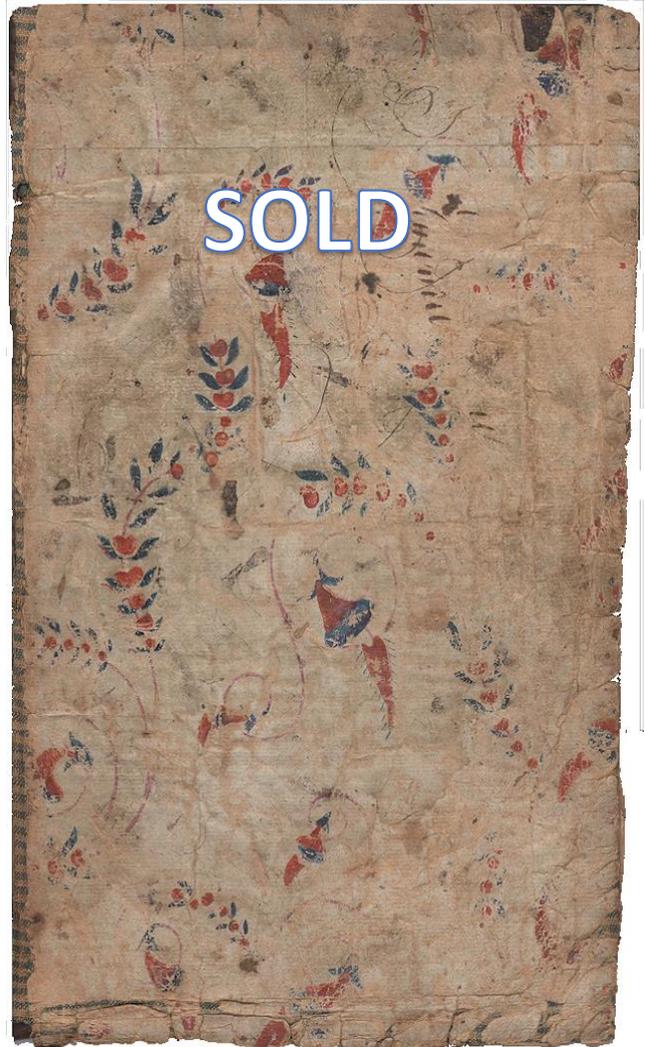
Unfortunately, no entries in the ledger include Cornelius's age, his location, or additional information about him as a young adult. However, one of the laid-in receipts mentions Mathias Conover. Online genealogy sites indicate that a number of Conovers (shortened from Covenhoven), including several named Mathias and Cornelius, lived in New Jersey's Middlesex County during the early 19th-century. It seems likely that one of the Corneliuses, who was born on 9 Mar 1808 in Monmouth County, was probably the author of this cipher book.

Ciphering books were prepared as part the basic mathematical training of relatively well-off American students, usually boys. Most, like this one, contain examples of the Numeration, Addition, Subtraction, Compound Multiplication, Reduction, Reduction, Rule of Three, Indirect Proportion, Vulgar Fractions, Compound Proportions, The Double Rule of Three, Time, Troy Weight, Apothecaries Weight, Avoirdupois Weight, Wine Measure, Cloth Measure, Long Measure, Land Measure, etc. These are all present in Conover's ciphering book as are sections addressing Interest, Compound Interest, Commission, Brokage, etc. Additionally, the book several contains less-common tables including Wine Measures, British Money, and conversion rates for exchanging U.S. Dollars for Portuguese Johnannes, French Crowns, and Spanish Pistareens which suggests Cornelius was preparing for the mercantile trade.

Late 18th-century and early 19th-century American ciphering books are scarce as the overwhelming majority of extant examples date from the early 1820s into the mid-1850s. For more information about ciphering books, see Ashley K. Doer's master's thesis: *Cipher Books in the Southern Historical Collection*. University of North Carolina: Chapel Hill, 2006.

A very nice ciphering book probably from Central New Jersey during the first quarter of the 19th century.

SOLD #9794



Click on an item's first image or its inventory number to view more images.

14. [FILIBUSTERING] [MILITARY & WAR – INVASION OF NICARAGUA] [PROGRESSIVE IMPERIALISM] [WILLIAM WALKER] “CALVIN, HALF FRANTIC . . . FOR A BROTHER’S LOSS . . . BAREFOOTED AND IN HIS SHIRT SLEEVES, LEAPED ON HIS HORSE, AND . . . DASHED INTO THE MIDST OF THE ENEMY. . .” A Family archive honoring two brothers killed during William Walker's attempt to conquer Nicaragua. Probably assembled by their sister, Cornelia O’Neal (O’Neil). Nicaragua and California: 1855-1857.

This archive is contained in an old leather album (9.5” x 12.5”) with a debossed title in gilt that reads “Nicaragua / 1855-1857”. It consists of 30 items (letters, newspaper clippings, a broadside, a broadsheet, a pamphlet, and a map) related to the Brothers O’Neal (O’Neil) who fought with William Walker in his American Phalanx in Nicaragua as he attempted to seize that country and establish himself as its ruler. Highlights include:

A rare, uncut 7-page pamphlet – *Rules and Articles of War, by Which the Army of Nicaragua shall be Governed*, Granada: Printed at the Office of El Nicaraguense [no date]. Neither the Rare Book Hub nor OCLC locate any examples of this document, however there is another example in the Fayssoux Collection of William Walker Papers in the Latin American Library of Tulane.

A letter from J. C. O’Neal (acting as the second for Colonel E. J. Sanders) to Major A. F. Rudder (acting as the second for Colonel I. S. Piper) accepting Piper’s challenge to a duel.

A rare broadside (7” x 15.5”) – *Supplement to El Nicaraguense: Inauguration of Wm. Walker as President*. [1856]. The broadside includes Walker’s Inaugural address printed in both Spanish and English. Apparently the only extant example as none is listed at the Rare Book Hub, OCLC, or within the Fayssoux Collection finding aids. (There are old tape repairs on the reverse)

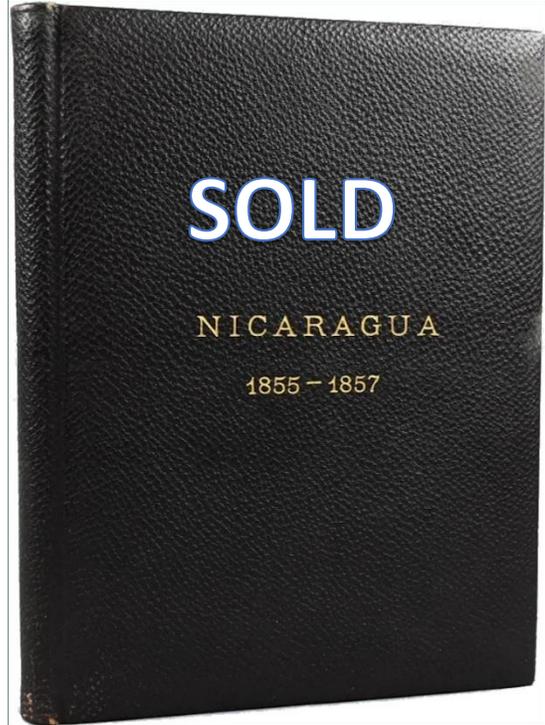
A trimmed frontpage from the September 20, 1856 edition of *El Nicaraguense* with listings of deserters and resignations from Walker’s Army as well as a notice that a 500-acre land grant to J. C. O’Neal had been lost or stolen.

A rare undated broadsheet (11.5” x 18”) – *Extra! By Magnetic Telegraph to the San Joaquin Republican* containing several news updates from Nicaragua. Again, this is likely the only extant example of this broadsheet. Some of the articles include:

“It seems that Gen. Walker was in a desperate position surrounded by nearly the whole country in passion of the Costa Recans and their allies. . .”

“The Tennessee [with] 400 recruits for Walker, and the Texas sailed from New Orleans . . . with 500. . .”

A long newspaper essay about Costa Rica beginning its campaign against Walker with considerable detail about the defeat of a filibuster force at Hipp’s Pointe and a follow-on attack at Greytown where the Costa Rican forces seized three American steamers before trapping Walker and his army near La Virgin bay.



Click on an item's first image or its inventory number to view more images.

Also, there is an article about the result of the Supreme Court's infamous Dred Scott decision.

Articles from various newspapers with titles like "Narrative of Walker's Recent Battles and Disasters on the Isthmus," "Affairs in Nicaragua," "The War in Nicaragua," and "Important News from Nicaragua;: History of the Filibuster Proceedings."

A cdv photograph of a young man taken at the Moyston & Bro Star Gallery in Memphis. The card is annotated on the reverse "Will. Walker. Torry / Mohammedan." Perhaps an image of a young Walker of a member of the Torry (Torrey) family who fought with Walker in Nicaragua. The Torreys are identified as friends/relatives of the O'Neals in some of the newspaper articles. Two of the Torreys died of cholera in Nicaragua.

Multiple newspaper clippings describing the deaths of the O'Neal Brothers,

An old typewritten extract about the deaths of the O'Neal Brothers from William Walker's 1860 book, *The War in Nicaragua*,

Three newspaper clippings contain poems in honor of the O'Neal Brothers: *Lines on Death of Lieut. Ben. O'Neal*, *The Gallant Brothers O'Neal*, and *The Gallant Brothers*,

Col. J. C. O, Neal's obituary in *The Pacific Methodist*, published on 6 March [1857] at Stockton, California,

Several articles about the presentation of Col. O'Neil's sword to his father along with other "war trophies" including the dress uniform "Court Coat" that belonged to General Mora, the President of Costa Rica who led the campaign against Walker. The "most gorgeous" coat with "one mass of gold embroidery" was captured by Col. O'Neil. One article notes it was then valued at over \$2,000.

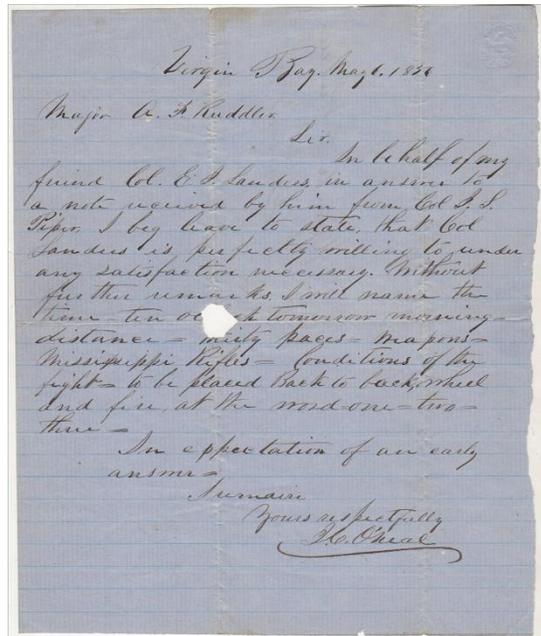
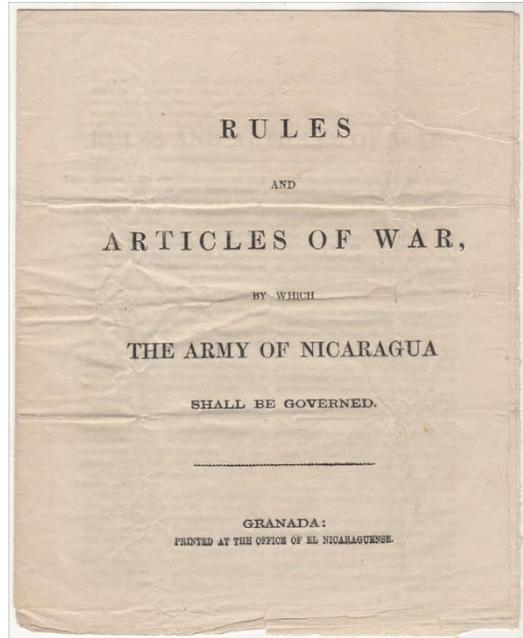
A letter and card sent by "the Survivors of the American Phalanx in Nicaragua" presenting the O'Neal's sister, Cornelia, with two "tablets" honoring their actions.

A 22" x 16.5" map, *Mapa de Estado de Coloma Mexico*. Undated: Lithographia de Britton y Co. San Francisco, California.

All of the items are in nice shape with some minor wear.

The larger items have storage folds. Most items have been loosely inserted into document protectors which a former owner placed between the album's pages. A few have been attached to pages with easily removeable glassine hinges.

Between 1855 and 1857, William Walker attempted to seize control of Nicaragua. While there is no doubt that he intended to become both powerful and wealthy, he also was a true progressive imperialist



Click on an item's first image or its inventory number to view more images.

believing only Anglo-American governance could dispel the horrendous violence, instability, disease, and corruption that ran rampant in Nicaragua and threatened America's Manifest Destiny. After he arrived in Nicaragua in June of 1855 with 58 men to stabilize the region, his mission acquired some support from disaffected Nicaraguans and much more within the United States and hundreds of U. S. volunteers soon joined his American Phalanx. Although initially successful, an alliance of Central American forces led by Costa Rica challenged his 'right' to the Nicaraguan presidency and the resulting war against overwhelming odds made it impossible for Walker to simultaneously defend Nicaragua and keep the country sanitary and stable. As reported in a news article from the 22 December issue of the *San Francisco Evening Bulletin*, (which included in this archive), after the collapse of country's economy coupled with Walker's treatment of the locals, whatever Nicaraguan support he initially encountered was replaced by "universal" hostility.

"He make slaves of us. . . I have been for six months in this hell. . . Before el Jeneral came here . . . a man could liver here for a dime a day; and now only last week I paid twenty dollars for that half-barrel of flower. Now there is nothing in the country, absolutely nothing!

Americans, too, had become disenchanted with Walker and his campaign, and his flow of volunteers dried up, first forcing him to retreat to the Gulf South, and eventually abandon the country. However, Walker retained enough popular support in the United States that he was able to gather enough followers to launch three more Nicaraguan expeditions before he was captured and executed in Honduras in September of 1860.

Colonel John Calvin O'Neal and Lieutenant Benjamin O'Neal were the sons of Colonel John W. O'Neil, a Forty-Niner who had become one of the most prominent citizens of Stockton, California, serving multiple terms as the Clerk and Sheriff of San Joaquin County. They were also among Walker's early supporters. As noted in the November 1 edition of Walker's Nicaraguan newspaper, *El Nicaraguense*, John Calvin was commissioned as the Major (Executive Officer) of the Phalanx's 1st Regiment of Rifles on March 1, 1856 and Benjamin was commissioned as one of that regiment's lieutenants later that year on October 4th. One of the articles in this archive reports that

"Col. O'Neil was among the first of the young adventurers who enlisted under Walker's banner, and had taken an active part in every battle that had been fought, having been wounded several times, winning for himself a proud name for invincible courage and bold daring. He was ever found in the in the thickest of the fight gallantly leading his men.

J. C. O'Neal was also involved in a duel while in Nicaragua. There is a letter in the archive in which he, while acting as a second for Col E. J. Sanders, his regimental commander, replied to the second for another colonel as follows:

"Sir, On behalf of my friend Col E.J Sanders in answer to a note received by him from Col J.S. Piper. I beg to have to state that Col Sanders is perfectly willing to, under any satisfaction necessary without

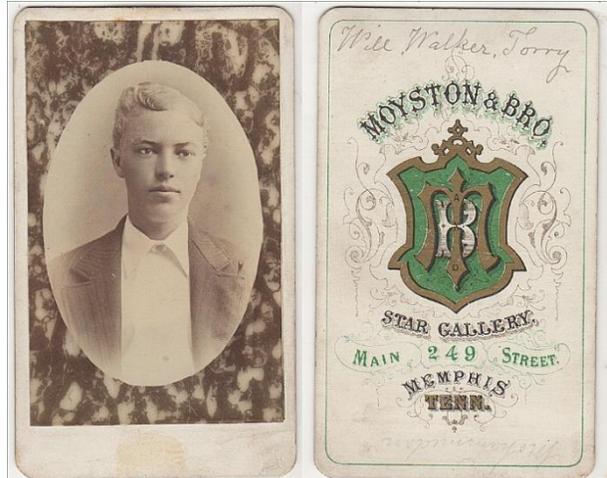


Walker's Nicaraguan newspaper, *El Nicaraguense*, John Calvin was commissioned as the Major (Executive Officer) of the Phalanx's 1st Regiment of Rifles on March 1, 1856 and Benjamin was commissioned as one of that regiment's lieutenants later that year on October 4th. One of the articles in this archive reports that

Click on an item's first image or its inventory number to view more images.

further remarks. I will name the time - ten o'clock tomorrow morning - distance - thirty paces - weapons - Mississippi Rifles - conditions of the fight - to be placed back to back - and fire at the word one, two, three - In expectation of an early answer - yours respectfully, J.C. O'Neal."

In his *Reminiscences of an Officer of the American Phalanx*, James Carson Jameson provided a little more information about the duel: "Colonel Piper and Colonel Sanders threw down the glove at La Virgen, Colonel Piper, I believe, sending the challenge, which permitted Sanders to name the distance and the weapons. He chose rifles, and fixed the distance at five paces [actually 30 paces per O'Neal's letter], a grim and deadly ultimatum. 'When the proposal was laid before Colonel Piper he declined to accept it, and immediately resigned his commission in the army, and left on the first steamer for the United States.'"



In addition to providing extensive first-hand details about Walker's defensive campaign against Costa Rica and its allied forces, the clippings in this archive contain extensive coverage of the O'Neil Brothers' deaths.

"Lieut Ben. O'Neil . . . was killed in a charge upon the enemy during the siege of Granada while at the head of his company. . . . At two o'clock Nov 24th the enemy appeared above the Jaltaba Church, and back of the San Francisco Church. . . . Lieut. Colonel O'Neil, [and thirty men] were to keep the enemy in check. . . . Meanwhile, the enemy had surprised the Guadalupe Church, massacred 20 of the sappers and Capt. Green's company; and . . . the gallant Dr. Price. Col. O'Neil charged a body of three to five hundred men; the enemy were broken and pursued for more than a quarter of a mile with immense slaughter. Lieut. O'Neil fell in the charge and two rifles were wounded. The enemy had sixty dead, and one hundred and fifty wounded in this affair."

"Soon after . . . Lieut. O'Neal had fallen . . . his brother Calvin, half-frantic from the loss, [requested permission] to charge the enemy forming near the church of San Francisco. The allies were between four and five hundred strong; but O'Neal in his fury thought not of numbers. . . . O'Neal, barefooted and in his shirt sleeves, leaped on his horse, and calling on his Rifles to follow, dashed into the mist of the allies as they formed near the old church. . . . The enemy were entirely unprepared for O'Neal's sudden, dashing charge, and they fell as headless travelers before the blast of the simoon. The slaughter made by the thirty-two Rifles was fearful. . . . When they returned it was through streets almost blocked with the bodies of the Guatemalans they had slain. . . ."

For more information, see Walker's *The War in Nicaragua*, digital copies of some issues of *El Nicaraguense* online at latinamericanstudies.org, San Francisco Genealogy online, Mangipano's dissertation "William Walker and the Seeds of Progressive Imperialism: The War in Nicaragua and the Message of Regeneration, 1855-1860", Bolanos' *William Walker, The Gray-Eyed Man of Destiny* Jameson's *With Walker in Nicaragua*, and Greene's *The Filibuster*.

An incredible family collection of rare and unique items related to William Walker's first invasion of Nicaragua. At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade, and the Rare Book Hub identifies no other similar items as having been sold at auction. OCLC only identifies one similar archive which is held at the Library of Congress, and another archive of Walker material is held at the Latin American Library of Tulane.

SOLD #9795

Click on an item's first image or its inventory number to view more images.

15. [GOLD RUSH] [MINING] [PHILATELY] A GOLD MINER'S HAND-SEWN LEATHER "POKE" NO DOUBT USED TO MAIL GOLD DUST OR NUGGETS FROM CALIFORNIA TO PHILADELPHIA. Plus, an antique vial containing small gold nuggets and flakes. Sent to Thos. Anderson. San Francisco, California to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. 20 December [1856] to 4 August 4, 1857.



This hand-sewn leather pouch measures 4" x 3.75". The original stitching remains intact on two edges; it has been removed along the other two edges, no doubt to empty its contents. The pouch is franked on one side with seven single 10-cent green Washington stamps, Types II and III (Scott #14-15) arranged in two rows and cancelled with four strikes of a circular San Francisco postmark dated 20 December. An address label affixed to the opposite side contains a partial San Francisco circular post mark also dated 20 December, a Philadelphia delivery address, and two different Philadelphia Dead Letter Office handstamps. One of the Dead Letter handstamps is circular and dated Jun 30; the other is oval with a manuscript date of "Aug 4 57" inside. The edges of the address label are worn and chipped.

The postal rate of 70 cents indicates that the pouch would have carried almost 3.5 ounces of gold.

I wish I could claim that the vial containing 1.4 grams of gold nuggets and flakes came with the poke, but, alas, it did not. It has been passed down to us through several family members from a distant relative who ventured to California in the late 1850s to try his luck in the mines. Apparently, his luck wasn't very good if this is all he had to show for his travel and labor. An acid purity text of the largest nugget indicates it ranges in purity from 18-22K. This tracks nicely with a Wikipedia article that states the purity of most California gold nuggets was between 20-22K. The gold and vial are in nice shape; the original cork stopper is missing and was replaced by rolled paper many years ago.

One cannot help but wonder if the gold in the pouch ever made it to the addressee or was removed before or while the pouch sat unclaimed in the Philadelphia Dead Letter Office.

Exceptionally rare and historically, philatelically, and monetarily valuable. At the time of listing there is nothing similar for sale in the trade; Rare Book Hub and the Stamp Auction Network show no other similar items have come up for auction, and OCLC shows no similar items in institutional collections.

\$3,500

[#9796](#)

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16. [EDUCATION] [MILITARY & WAR – MEXICAN-AMERICAN WAR and WEST POINT] [PHILATELY] “MY SON WAS IN ALL THE BATTLES FROM VERA CRUZE TO CERA GORDE.” A request made to Captain Brewerton from a father trying to find information for his son about U. S. Military Academy life at West Point. From John Moorhead to Captain Brewerson. New York City to West Point, New York: 1848

This one-page stampless folded letter measures approximately 16" x 9.75". It was sent by John Moorhead in New York City, to Captain Brewerson, an engineer stationed at West Point. The letter bears a manuscript annotation "Post Paid," a red "Paid" handstamp, and an indistinct circular "5 cts" circular New York postmark also in red. There is a small circular hole, not affecting any text, created by the wax seal when the letter was opened. In nice shape.

In this letter, John Moorhead attempts to gather information for his son about attending West Point.

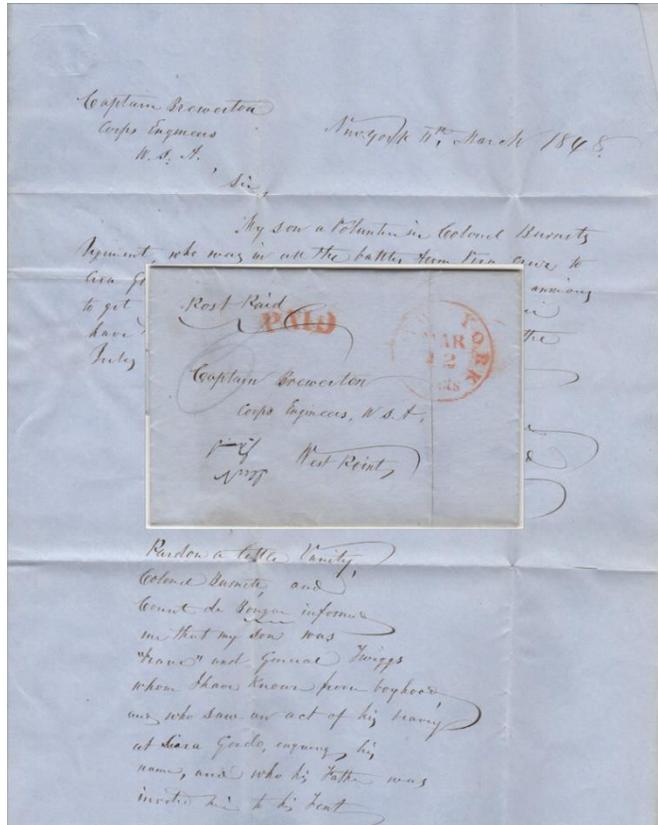
"My son a Volunteer in Colonel Burnett's Regiment [the Second Regiment of New York Volunteers] who was in all the battles from Vera Cruz to Cera Gordo [Cerro Gordo], where he was slightly wounded, is anxious to get into the West Point Academy. Would you have the kindness to send me . . . the Rules and Regulations of that Institution. . ."

"Pardon a little Vanity, Colonel Burnett and Count de Bongar (Gustave de Bongar) informed me that my son was "brave" and General Twiggs . . . saw an act of his bravery at Siera Gordo [and] invited him to his tent."

Apparently, the young Moorhead chose not to attend West Point (or perhaps did not finish) as no Mooreheads from this timeframe appear in the U.S. Military Academy's roster of graduates.

However, Colonel Burnett did serve with distinction during the war. A former West Point graduate who became a civilian engineer, Burnett was commissioned as a Colonel to command the 1st New York Volunteer Infantry (later redesignated as the 2nd). He led the regiment during the Siege of Vera Crus, as well as at the Battles of Cerro Gordo, Contreras, and Churubusco, where he was severely wounded. He was brevetted Brigadier General for gallantry in 1848, and later awarded a gold medal by the City of New York for valorous service.

General Twiggs, too, was an important leader during the war. He commanded a regiment at the battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, and after being promoted to brigadier general in 1846, Twiggs commanded a division at the Battle of Monterrey. He later led the 2nd Division of Regulars in all the battles form Veracruz through Mexico City where he was wounded during the assault on Chapultepec and subsequently served as the military governor of Veracruz. Twiggs was awarded a ceremonial sword by Congress in 1849.



\$250

#9797

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17. [MILITARY & WAR – CIVIL WAR] [PHILATELY] “THE FIGHTING WILL BE ALL DONE BY THE FIRST OF JUNE . . . AS FAR AS GEN MCCLELLAN BEING SO SLOW THE ENEMY HAVE GREAT REASON TO WISH HE WERE SLOWER.” Collection of three content-rich letters on patriotic stationery from a Union soldier in Hampton Roads, Virginia. Private William McMurphy. 1st Michigan Volunteers at Camp Hamilton, Fortress Monroe and Newport News, Virginia: March – April 1862.

Three letters totaling 18 pages of optimistic text. Two of the letters are written on patriotic stationery; one titled “Headquarters 1st Michigan Vol.” shows Lady Liberty, the other the “U. S. Patent Office. Two letters are enclosed in their mailing envelopes. The last letter is incomplete. In nice shape. Transcripts will be included.

McMurphy, a private in the 1st Michigan Volunteers, spent the early war years guarding Washington waiting for General McClellan's long-delayed Peninsular Campaign that Northerners had expected to end the war quickly. As the Union Army approached 120,000 men, McMurphy expected the war to end soon. His letters read in part:

“They . . . have retreated Back to Bethel . . . there is 100,000 men here now. . . I had a Pass the other Day and I came to a Bridge where there was a guard I went up and Presented my Pass and they would not let me cross when an officer rode up and asked me where I was going. . . He looked at my Pass and told the guard to let me Pass I thanked him and he rode on the guard then told me it was little mac. . .

The Bay in front of our camp is lined with Ships of war and that Steam Battery Monitor that beat the Merrimac is here. . . she looks like a cheese Box on a Plank But she is too much for the Rebels. . . We are called the Best Regt in the Service we had a grand review the other Day the whole Division was out Gen Wool was the reviewing officer I think he is to old to have anything to Do with the army But still he is as smart as a steel trap. . .

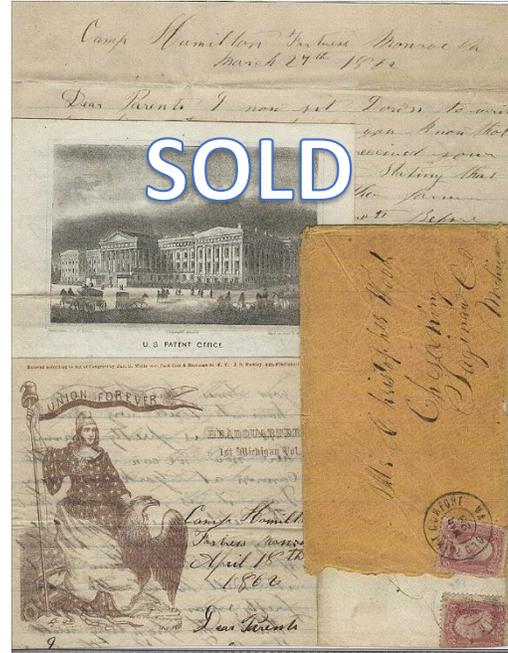
“I think the fighting will Be all Done By the first of June if not. . . You speak of Gen McClellan as though the People up north thought he was a traitor there is no Danger of that it is a Party of Democratic Secessionists that gets up these yarns . . . and as far as his Being so slow the enemy have great reason to wish he were slower than he is. . . If those miserable scamps would come Down here and fight instead of staying to home and grumbling they would Do Better I shall hurt some of their faces when I get there if I hear them say a word against little mac. . .

“We are at the mouth of the James river the frigate Cumberland lays sunk by the Merrimac about 80 rods from our camp and we see the rebel gun Boats . . . sometime they come Down here and throw a few shells but they Dont hurt any Body the Merrimac is expected out every Day now [so] we will in all Probability get a close view of her maybe closer than some of us will want. . . I guess the war will soon close now everything goes Prosperous now and they are getting whipped at every Point. . .”

McMuphy and his regiment would get a three-year dose of reality shortly after he penned these letters. The 1st Michigan Volunteer Infantry would go on to fight in 39 battles and skirmishes before the end of the war with 16% of its officers and men killed, wounded or missing.

A very fine group of patriotic letters, rich in optimistic patriotic content.

SOLD #9798



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18. [MILITARY & WAR – CIVIL WAR] [PHILATELY] "SHEATH ME NOT WHILE A TRAITOR LIVES". A full unused half-sheet of "Union Mottoes", patriotic Labels designed for Union soldiers and their supporters to use when sealing the back flaps of their mailing envelopes. C. Y. HAYNES & COMPANY, Philadelphia circa 1861.

This entire half-sheet of Union labels measures 3.5" x 4". It contains 24 different motto labels, each with a different patriotic motto, and many with an additional small patriotic logo. The sheet, which is printed in blue, is in excellent condition.

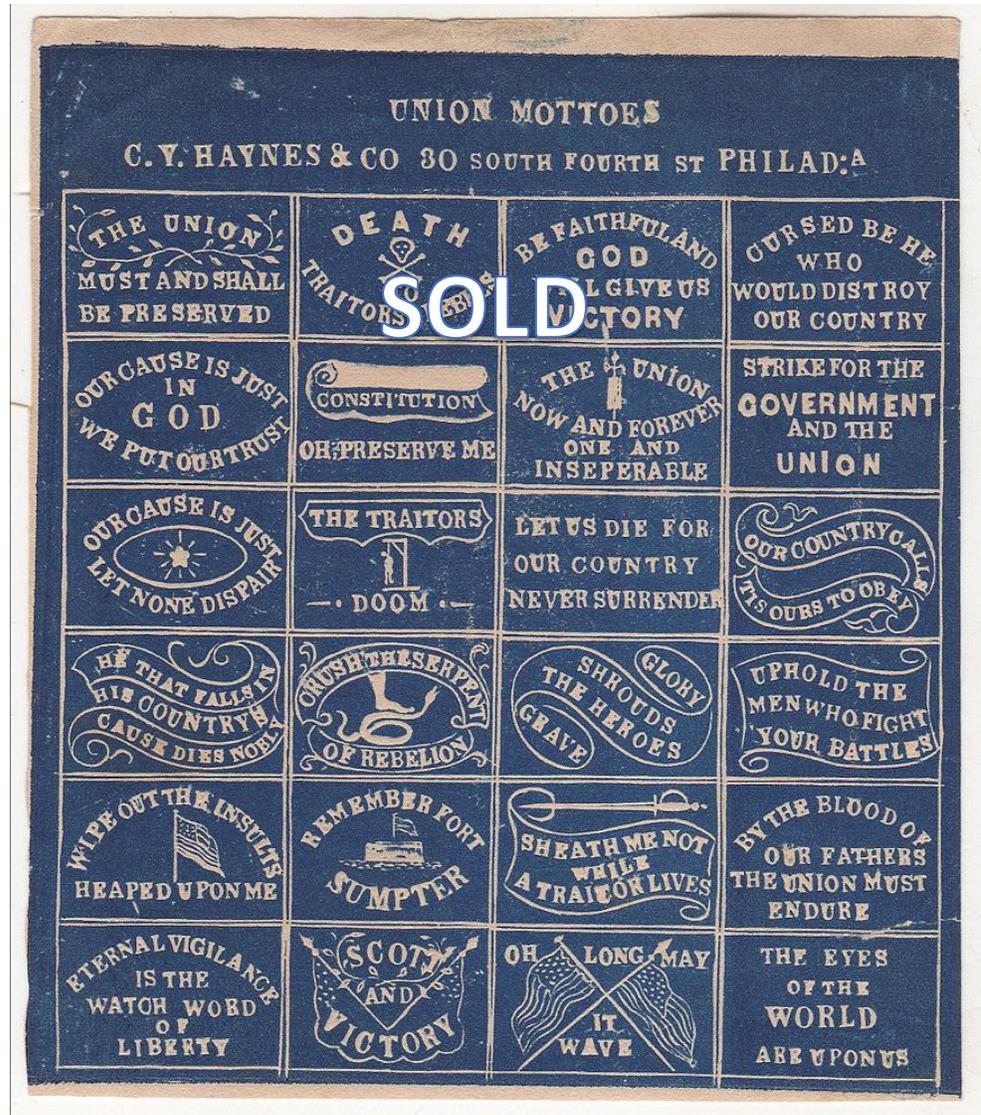
The labels were published and sold by C. Y. Haynes & Company of 30 South Fourth Street in Philadelphia. Full sheets of 48 labels were printed in two identical tete-beche groups of 24. Each of the 24 labels contain a different patriotic Union motto; Many of the labels also contain a small illustration. They are found in four different shades: red, green,

blue, and gold. The labels were usually sold in half-24-motto sheets (like this one) intended to be cut apart and pasted on letters and envelopes.

The mottoes include slogans like "Death to Traitor Davis" with an illustration of skull and crossbones, "The Traitors Doom" with an illustration of a dead man hanging from a gallows, "Crush the Serpents of Rebellion" with an illustration of a foot stepping on a snake, "Sheath Me Not While a Traitor Lives"

The sheets periodically appear in philatelic auctions. At the time of listing, one green sheet is for sale in the trade at \$795. OCLC reports that Columbia University holds two examples, one of which is "mutilated." The Library Company of Philadelphia has six sheets within its collection.

SOLD #9799



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19. [MILITARY & WAR – WORLD WAR II] [PACIFISM & PEACE STUDIES] [PHILATELY] “ON THE SOIL . . . IN HOSPITALS . . . IN THE FORESTS . . . IN PUBLIC HEALTH . . . IN TRAINING FOR RELIEF [AND] AT THE FARM AND COMMUNITY SCHOOL.” An extensive archive documenting the Civilian Public Service program for religious Conscientious Objectors during World War Two. Compiled by Houghton Sanguinetti and Stephen L. Suffet. Various locations throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. 1942-1947.

This archive contains 200 letters, newsletters, journal articles, pamphlets, and covers from 87 of the 151 different Civilian Public Service (CPS) work camps and detachments established for Conscientious Objectors (COs) throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands during World War Two. One of the compilers notes that this collection contains items “from more than 75 sites, the most reported in any collection”. The material provides detailed information about many individual camps; information that is not otherwise available. Everything is in nice shape with some minor toning and edgewear to some items.

(A number of reference items accompany this lot including three contemporary publications “Original Research into Civilian Public Service Mail” by Houghton Sanguinetti, a “Directory of Civilian Public Service Camps” by the National Service Board for Religious Objectors, and “Three Years in Civilian Public Service” by the Mennonite Central Committee.)

The U.S. Selective Training and Service Act of 1940 exempted from combat training and service anyone “who, by reason of religious training and belief, is conscientiously opposed to participation in war in any form.” During World War II about 25,000 COs served in non-combatant position within the U.S. military for which they received full and worthy acclaim, and 6,000 COs went to federal prison for which they received public scorn. However, just under 12,000 COs joined the CPS for which they received almost no recognition, good or bad.

Except for three CPS units administered by the Selective Service System, all others were placed under the control of a single coordinating agency, the National Service Board for Religious Objectors. Each of those camps or detachments was run by one of the historic “peace churches” or religion-based antiwar groups: American Baptist Home Mission Society, American Friends Service Committee, Association of Catholic



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Conscientious Objectors, Brethren Service Committee, Disciples of Christ, Commission on Christian Social Action of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, Mennonite Central Committee, and the Methodist World Peace Commission.

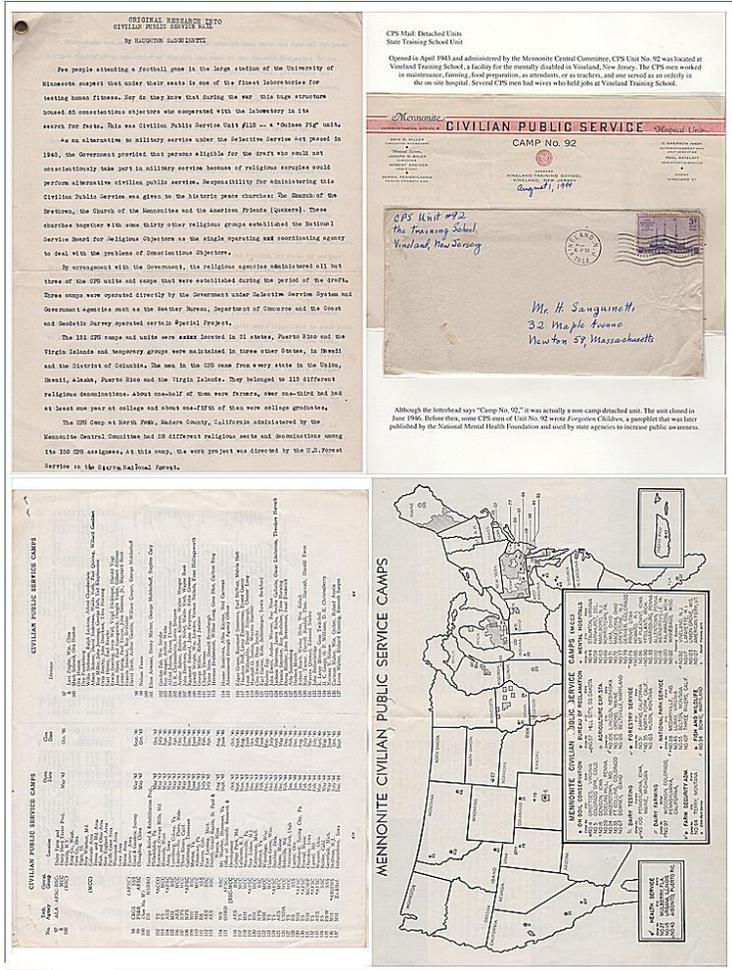
The first CPS camp opened in May, 1941 and the last camp closed in May, 1946. All of the 12,000 CPS men were required to serve for the duration of the war plus six months. About 1,600 worked for the U.S. Forest Service fighting fires, planting trees, building roads and lookout towers, improving timber stands, and assisting in forestry experience. 1,100 men worked with the U.S. Soil Conservation Service improving farmlands, fighting erosion, and building irrigation ditches. 600 men worked for the National Park Service building roads and recreation facilities and on preservation and beautification projects. 300 men worked with the Farm Security Administration converting unused land to farm purposes, and 150 worked for the General Land Office mapping, surveying, and protecting homestead lands. Other men did

research work for the Department of the Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service. There were also a number of other detached men who staffed mental hospitals, reform schools, general hospitals, and "epileptic colonies" One of the most interesting camps, #103, was located at Hanson Montana, housing "Smoke Jumpers" who parachuted into remote forests with their firefighting equipment.

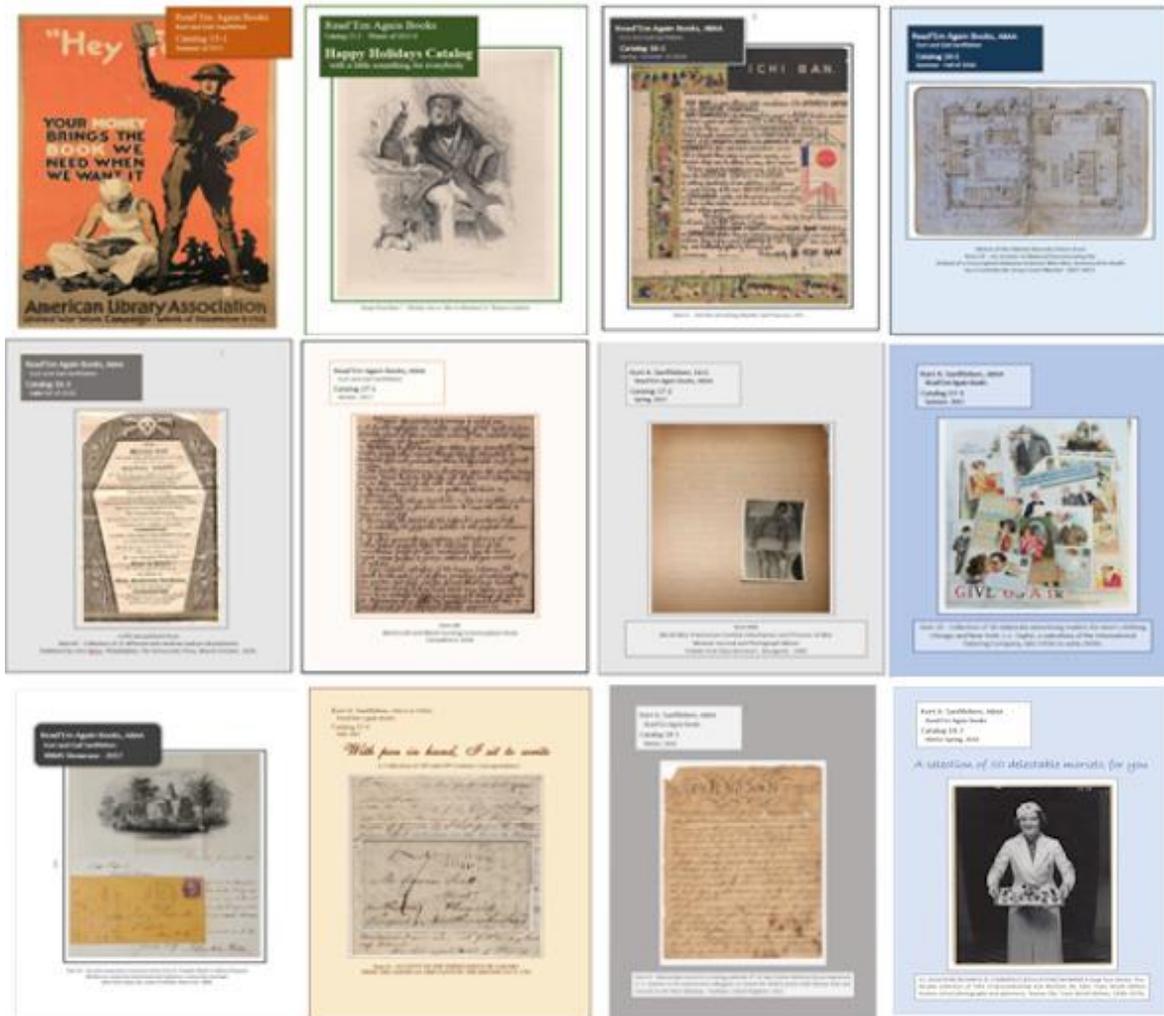
In contrast with men in the Armed Forces, CPS men received no pay for their work, although some religious agencies provided them with \$2.50 as "pin money". They received between \$10-15/month for incidentals from which they were required to purchase their own clothing, and they received no dependency allowance for wives or children.

Material from the CPS camps is exceptionally scarce, and far less common than items from the 120,000 West Coast Japanese-Americans who were interned in the ten infamous concentration camps at the same time. The overwhelming majority of items in this archive were acquired by Haughton Sanguinetti as the result of his direct requests made to camp administrators during their years of operation. At the time of listing, there is no CPS material available for sale in the trade and no auctions for similar material are found at the Rare Book Hub. OCLC reports that a number of CO oral histories are held at two institutions, and the two institutions hold several camp newsletters. Only the Swarthmore College Peace Collection holds a collection similar to this archive.

SOLD #9800



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