

Kurt A. Sanftleben, ABAA & ASDA

Read'Em Again Books and Paper

Catalog 22-3 – Mid-Spring 2022



11. [COMMONPLACE BOOKS] [FOLK ART] [MILITARY & WAR – PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN WAR] [PORNOGRAPHY]

Circa 1899-1901 – A patriotically-illustrated sailor's pornographic commonplace book created while on board the USS *Castine* during the Philippine-American War.

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Regards, Kurt and Gail

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The Manuscript Society

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Catalog Number Index

By Location

Alabama: 4
Arizona: 6
Arkansas: 3
Arkansas Territory: 3, 9
California: 8,19
Choctaw Nation: 9
Connecticut: 18, 26
District of Columbia: 21
Florida: 17, 20
Georgia: 12, 28
Hawaii: 6
Illinois: 2, 21
Kentucky: 2
Maine: 16
Massachusetts: 2, 11, 30
Mississippi: 3, 9
New Mexico: 5
New York: 7, 17, 18, 20, 24, 28, 30
North Carolina: 3
Ohio: 27
Pennsylvania: 14, 17
South Carolina: 20
Tennessee: 9
Texas: 3, 5
Vermont: 12, 15
Virginia: 1, 29
Washington: 25

MS *Gripsholm*: 24-25
USS *Castine*: 11
USS *San Jacinto*: 23

Brazil: 24
Canada: 15
Ceylon: 23, 30
China: 24-25
Great Britain: 29

Hong Kong: 24
Mauritius: 23
Mexico: 5, 20, 22
Sweden: 7, 24-25

By Topic

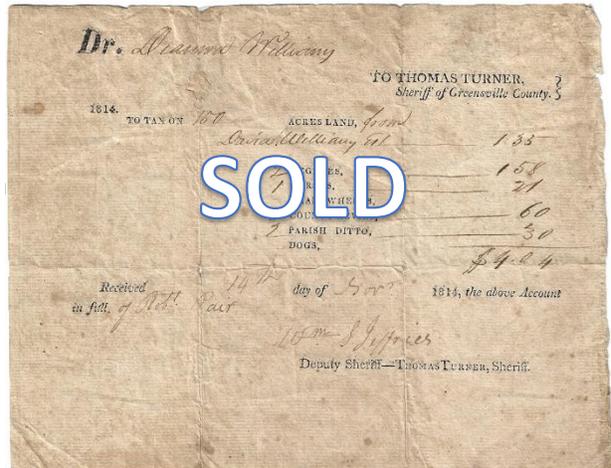
Accounting: 1
African-Americana: 1-5
Asian-American - Japanese: 6
Assassination: 7
Bookbinders: 8,
Business & Labor – Alcohol: 2,4
Business & Labor – Cattle: 9
Business & Labor – Cotton: 3, 7
Business & Labor – Petroleum: 24
Business & labor – Sugar: 7, 2
Business & Labor – Tobacco: 2
Commonplace Books: 8, 10-11
Concentration Camps: 6
Crime & Law: 4,
Debtor's Prison: 12
Education: 13-14
Folk Art: 11, 15-17
Friendship Albums: 18
Gambling: 4
Genealogy: 15
Gold Rush: 19
Great Raft: 9
Immigration: 15
International Relations –
 Floridiana:: 20
International Relations –
 Torture: -21
Maritime: 7, 12, 20, 22-25
Medicine & Nursing: 13-14, 16, 26
Military – Civil War: 29

Military – East Indian Squadron: 23
Military – First Mexican Empire: 22
Military – Mexican Border: 5
Military – Napoleonic Wars: 7
Military – Northwest Frontier: 27
Military – Philippine-American War: 11
Military – Pirates: 20, 22
Military – Revolutionary War: 7, 12, 13
Military – War of 1812: 12, 28
Military – World War Two: 6, 24-25
Mining: 19
Philately: 3, 6-7,9, 12-13, 17, 20, 22, 24-26, 28, 30
Plantation Life: 3
Politics: 21
Postcards: 17
Pornography: 11
Religion – Buddhism: 23
Religion – Cults: 30
Religion – Hindu: 23
Religion – Missionaries: 25, 30
Servitude – Coolie Labor: 23
Servitude – Slavery: 1-4
Sports – Boxing & Wrestling: 8
Torture: 21
Travel & Exploration: 19, 23
Westward Expansion: 9, 19, 27
Women: 1, 10-11, 18, 25, 28

1. [ACCOUNTING] [AFRICAN-AMERICANA] [SERVITUDE – SLAVERY] [WOMEN]

1814 – A curious fiscal document that appears to show “Doctor” Deanna Williams owed a rural Virginia county \$1.58 property tax for her two African-American slaves.

This partially-printed tax receipt measures 8.25” x 6.25”. It was issued by Thomas Turner, the Sheriff of Greensville County, Virginia, to Dr. Deanna (sometimes Dianna or Diana) Williams on the “14th day of Novr 1814” and signed by Wm S Jeffries, the Deputy Sheriff. Greensville County is located in rural southeastern Virginia along the North Carolina border. In nice shape



The document shows that in 1814, Dr. Deanna Williams owed property tax totaling \$4.04 property for 150 acres of land, 2 Negroes and 1 Horse.

The 1820 Census identified Dianna Williams as an over-45-year-old “Head” of a family that included three other white people under the age of 25. It also shows that three of the family members, presumably the three younger people, were “engaged in agriculture.” Finally, it shows that Deanna owned two slaves. While it was not rare for a single head-of-family white woman to be a slave-owner and own a farm, neither was it especially common.

What is especially interesting is that Deanna is identified in this 1814 document as a “Dr.” since the first female medical doctor in the United States was Elizabeth Blackwell who graduated from Geneva Medical College in 1849, 35 years after this document was signed. And, the first woman to earn an academic doctorate in the United States was Helen Magill, who earned her Ph.D. in Greek from Boston University in 1877, 63 years after this document was signed. Also, although Deanna (sometimes Dianna or Diana) Williams appears in several on-line genealogical documents, never is she referred to as a “doctor” of any type.

The reason no other records refer to her as a doctor is, of course, because she wasn’t.

There is a very sound explanation as to why the document was addressed to “Dr.” Deanna Williams. It was because Deanna owed property taxes to the county that she had not yet paid, and, therefore, the county considered her a “Debitor” or a “Dr.” Although the abbreviation is no longer used for this purpose today, W. Richard Sherman discovered that it had been commonly used by bookkeepers in the 18th century and later to refer both to someone who owed money (debits) as well as debit entries in an accounting ledger.

This county tax form was not addressed to Doctor Deanna Williams: it was addressed to Debitor Deanna Williams.

(For more information about the derivation of the words debit, credit, debitor (debtor), creditor, and their abbreviations, see Sherman’s “Where’s the “R” in Debit?” in *The Accounting Historians Journal*, Vol. 13, No. 2)

SOLD #9871

2. [AFRICAN-AMERICANA] [BUSINESS & LABOR – ALCOHOL] [SERVITUDE – SLAVERY]

1727 – An attractive ledger leaf from a New England grog shop showing “Rum Sold & Deliver’d to Sundry persons this month [and a payment] To Ebenezer Chamberlin . . . for 12½ Months and 3 days Service of his Negro Man Toney.”

This leaf, comprising pages 331 and 332 measures 7,75” x 12.5”. Page 331 lists expenditures and is titled “Boston New England Janry 27th. 1727/8.” Page 332 lists expenditures and is dated on the 31st. In nice shape.

This ledger was kept by Cornelius Waldo (known from similar leaves that have sold at auction). In it, he kept entries for sales of rum, and his sales were significant.

For the month of January 1727, the ledger notes at the bottom of page 332, he sold “15½ bbls [barrels], 9 Tierces & 39 hhd [hogsheads] cont. 5765¾” gallons.”

Page 331, lists Waldo’s payment for supplies and labor including casks, carting boards, sand, lime, stones, etc.

Of particular interest, is his payment “To Ebenezer Chamberlin for 12½ Months & 3 days Service of his Negro Man Toney. . .” who likely helped manufacture rum within Waldo’s distillery.

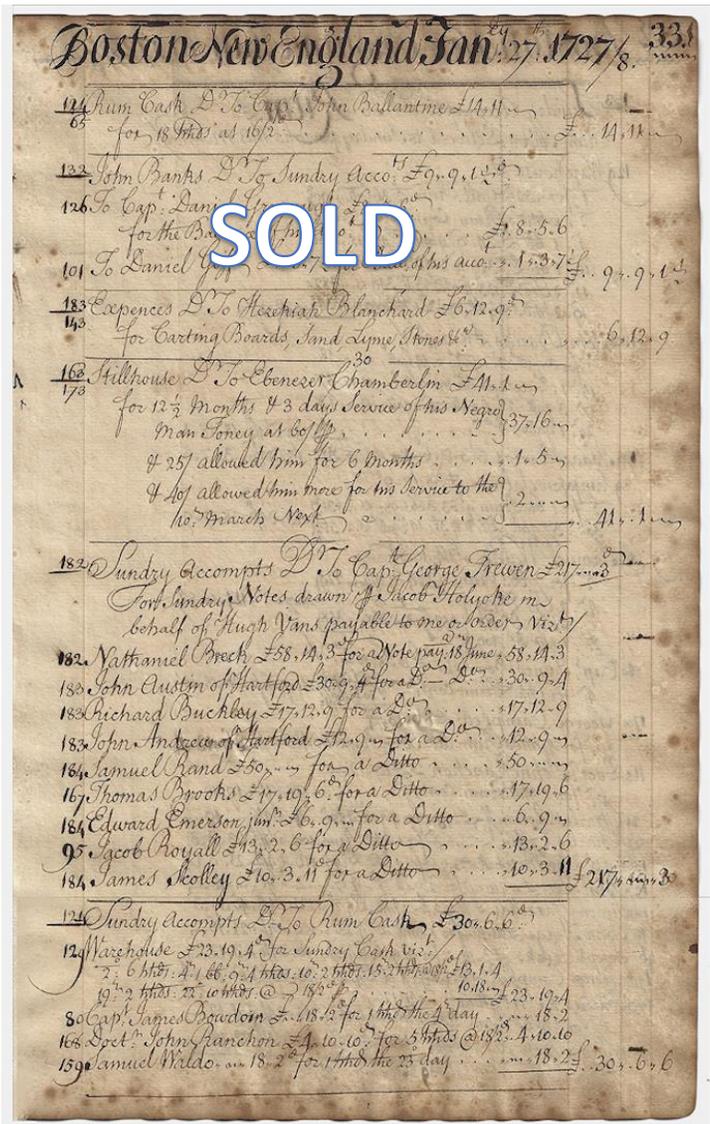
Online information about the Waldo liquor business is available online. Cornelius began selling imported “Canary Wines . . . Pipe or Quarter Cask” with a partner in Boston in 1721, and in 1734, he and a cousin began selling Madeira wine which they imported from St. Kitts. Waldo also began distilling and selling rum in Boston, and by 1843 he had built a substantial “Rum House and Engine” that incorporated a horse-operated pump to bring water to his distillery.

Waldo was also a land speculator and acquired a substantial fortune in Maine and Massachusetts real estate.

An unusual and attractive ledger leaf documenting the Waldo family’s rum business made all the more significant by its reference to hiring a slave to serve as one of the distillery’s workers.

Somewhat scarce, however leaves from this ledger occasionally appear for sale on eBay, although usually without any reference of enslaved workers.

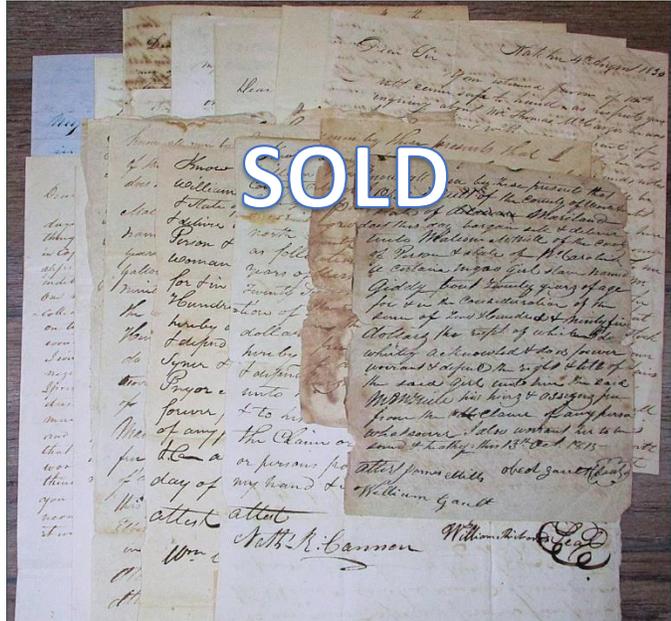
SOLD #9869



3. [AFRICAN-AMERICANA] [[BUSINESS & LABOR – COTTON] [PHILATELY] [PLANTATION LIFE] [SERVITUDE - SLAVERY]

1813-1850 - An antebellum archive of documents and correspondence kept by the patriarch of one of the South's most prosperous plantation owners including information about slave auctions and traders, hiring overseers, slave provisions and health, runaway slaves, crop damage, and more.

This archive contains 18 items: six documents and 12 letters totaling 36 pages of text. The earliest is from 1813 and the latest 1850; most are from the 1820s and 1830s. Two of the letters bear rare postal markings: an early manuscript postmark from Memphis, Tennessee and a circular date stamp from Hempstead Court House, Arkansas Territory. All are in nice shape. Transcripts will be provided.



This archive documents many aspects of plantation ownership. A very few examples include:

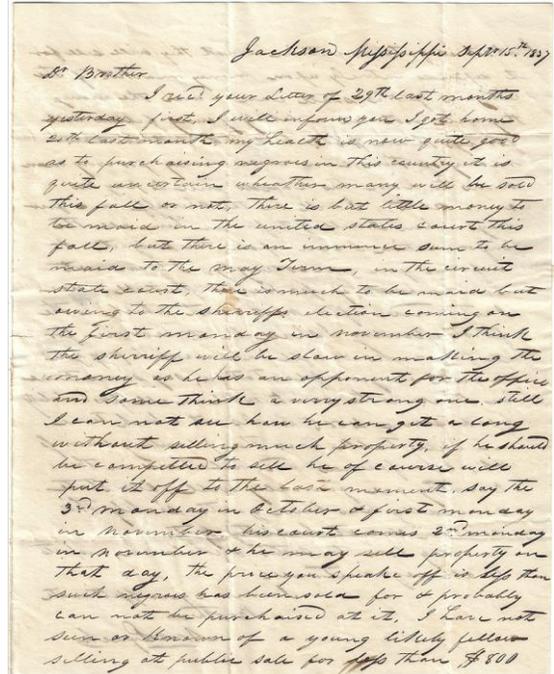
Slave traders and public slave auctions – Receipts for the first twelve slave purchases made by Malcom and his brother, Pryor, between 1813 and 1818, in apparent preparation for their move to land in Kentucky. Also, correspondence between family members: “As to purchasing negroes [at auction] in this country it is quite uncertain wheather many will be sold this fall or not. There is but little money to be maid in the . . . courts this fall . . . owing to the sheriffs election. . . The price you speak off is less than such negroes has been sold for & probably can not be purchased at it. I have not seen or Known of a young likely fellow selling at public sale for less than \$800 but it is quite uncertain what they will sell for. . . Mr. Thomas McCargo, [an itinerant slave trader] was here this spring with negroes part of which he cashed and part he sold on time. I have now in my hand, notes of his to about \$12,000, which will be due next winter. . . Mr. McCargo will be here early in the fall say 1st November. . .”

Financial squabbles over slave ownership – “I omitted to mention any thing in relation to the two negroes we purchased in copartnership, as I have taken the negroes and appropriated to my own use. . . In taking those negroes I perhaps may have done wrong but I presumed that you had more than your proportion . . . and I required them. . . I am willing to pay whatever you may think or deem correct. . .”

Hiring overseers – “Smally is anxious to oversee for us this year. He will not do. I employed [another] overseer, some time since at \$1000. . . Besides being a good and decent manager of negroes, he is a fine Physician. The price of an overseer should be no object, when we find one to suit. . .”

Slave provisions and health – “We will need 500 or 600 bushels of corn. . . I shall purchase molasses when I go below. . . The meat is nearly out at Lake Charles I sent out last week the only two barrels of pork I had. I have a little bacon that may answer until you ship the pork. . . Your negroes have been and are now pretty healthy. . . Shadrick, Parthenia, and Sylvia are now over having been sick for some time [and] I’ll not look upon any of them dangerous save Shadrick who . . . I hope is now a little better. . . Shadrick says he is a fraid [so] he is now at my house. . .”

Selling slaves and runaway slaves – “When at the plantation last, I tried Mark, in the shop. I think, he is a pretty good plantation smith. Let is of no use on the plantation [and] seldom does any work. I do not think she could be sold as a sound negro [but], she ought to be sold by all means. . . . Get some person who knows my runaway boy Dick, to go after him for me. There are a great many persons who know him in your neighborhood as he was bought not far from you. . . . These are the directions. Leave the boat at Williams Landing 50 miles above the mouth of the Ohio River. Get a horse there and ride to Vienna a distance of 25 miles. Enquire for Jesse Cannaday, who will show him the negro. . . . He may deposit him in jail any where . . . probably it would be better in Memphis. . . .”



Insect damage – “The crop with us will be light. . . . The bole worms set in early. . . . The armyworms or caterpillars then set in. . . . The crops . . . have been injured about 1/3 within the last ten days.”

Banking risks – “As to what you had best do with your Bank stock I would advise you to keep it. . . . It is most certainly true that it placed itself in an awkward position the last fall & winter by extending her loans to too great [but] the difficulty with the Bank . . . will make them more cautious. . . .”

Dealing with borrowers’ excuses – “Having been thwarted & disappointed in every attempt to meet my pecuniary engagements . . . I am unable to do so. . . . I had made an arrangement with one of the dealers in provisions with steam boats to take their mutton of me. Before I had sold ten mutttons disease & death laid hold of my sheep . . . & what survived were unfit for market.”

In 1772, Henry I. McNeill settled in North Carolina where he established a 300-acre farm. His son, Malcom, took charge of the family business in 1813 and began to purchase slaves in advance of the family’s relocation to Christian County, Kentucky in 1818 where they prospered growing tobacco. There, Malcom built the family’s plantation house, Hemphill, in 1827. He, his brother, and sons expanded their holdings and, by 1850, owned thousands of plantation acres in Kentucky, Mississippi, Arkansas, and Texas. Malcom also purchased investment property at Chicago, Memphis, and Natchez. Several references refer to Malcom as the richest man in the county and his son as “the largest cotton planter in the South.” The combined holdings of the family must have made it one of the wealthiest in the country. Although, their plantation empire was destroyed by the Civil War, the family was far from financially ruined as the value of their urban investments was enormous. (For more information see online records at Ancestry.com, the *Biographical Cyclopedia of the Commonwealth of Kentucky*, Froom’s *McNeill and Allied Families*, entries at Reigel Roots, “McNeill, Angus” at the Texas State Historical Association, and “Terhune vs. Commercial Nat. Safe Deposit Co. et. al.” in the *Northeastern Reporter*, vol 92.)

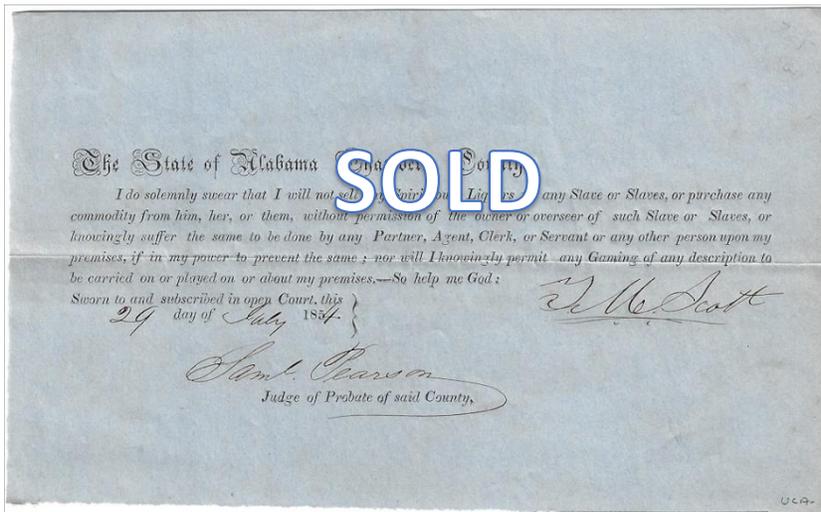
This archive is full of important and informative first-hand records of plantation life saved by one of the South’s most prominent planters. At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade. The Rare Book Hub shows no auctions for similar records. The University of North Carolina holds a collection of mostly post-war McNeill family papers, and OCLC shows a number of institutions hold plantation records, mostly financial ledgers, but it is doubtful more than a few are from such a prominent family.

SOLD #9870

4. [AFRICAN-AMERICANA] [CRIME & LAW] [BUSINESS & LABOR – ALCOHOL] [GAMBLING] [SERVITUDE – SLAVERY]

1854 – Promissory Note signed by an Alabama innkeeper pledging not to sell alcohol to slaves, not to buy property from slaves, and not to permit any gambling on his premises.

This partially-printed promissory note issued by “The State of Alabama Chambers County” measures approximately 8” x 5” and is dated 29 July 1854. It was signed by T. M. Scott and attested to by “Saml. Pearson / Judge of Probate of said County.” An exceptionally nice example. The document reads,



“I do solemnly swear that I will not sell any Spirituous Liquors to any Slave or Slaves, or purchase any commodity from him, her, or them, without permission of the owner or overseer of such Slave or Slaves, or knowingly suffer the same to be done by any Partner, Agent, Clerk, or Servant or any other person upon my premises, if in my power to prevent the same “ nor will I knowingly permit any Gaming of any description to be carried on or played on or about my premises. – So help me God.”

In the earliest days of slavery in the American colonies, slaves were permitted to use alcohol and beer in ceremonies and rituals that they had practiced in Africa. However, as their numbers increased, colonial governments began passing laws regulating the practice. By the middle of the 18th century most colonies were severely limiting slave’s access to liquor “based on the notion that Blacks were too irresponsible to be trusted with the use of alcohol or fear that Blacks would be less accepting of the conditions of their servitude, more difficult to control, and more prone to violence. [Concern regarding] mass drunkenness and potential revolt was heightened following Nat Turner’s and Denmark Vessey’s revolts.” (See Christmom’s “Historical Overview of Alcohol in the African American Community” in the *Journal of Black Studies*, Jan. 1995.)

In 1776, Alabama passed a law forbidding retailers to give, sell, or deliver any beer, ale, cider, wine, rum, brandy. or spirituous liquor to slaves without the permission of their owner or overseer. The following year, the legislature forbade liquor dealers from allowing slaves to drink or meet on their property. It also imposed a penalty of 40 shillings upon them if a slave or other black created any type of disturbance on their premises. Two additional, more stringent laws were passed in 1802 and 1805 which increased fines to ten dollars for the first offense and twenty dollars for each succeeding offence. (See Walton and Tylor’s “Blacks and the Southern Prohibition Movement” in *Phylon*, vol 32, no 3)

Rather scarce. At the time of listing, there are no similar documents for sale in the trade, and the Rare Book Hub shows only two similar documents (from other states) have ever been sold at auction. OCLC shows two similar documents (from other states) are held in institutional collections.

DOLD

#9872

5. [AFRICAN-AMERICANA] [MILITARY – MEXICAN BORDER]

1916 – Collection of photographs from the Mexican Border War including piles of dead bandits from Pancho Villa’s raid on Columbus, New Mexico, and an inexplicable photo of an African-American private assigned to the otherwise all-white 3rd Field Artillery Regiment.

This collection of 59 photographs was purchased as a lot from a woman who had removed them from a disintegrating family album that chronicled “Uncle Max” Mittag’s service as a cook in Battery A, 3rd Field Artillery Regiment during the Mexican Border War. All of the photos have scrapbook remnants, scuffs and thins on the reverse; many also have clipped corners, creases, tears, and chips. Most are snapshots and several are real photo post cards. There were a several loose, grimy captions which I transcribed.

Fort Sam Houston, Texas was the home of the 3rd Field Artillery Regiment from the unit’s 1907 organization until it departed for France in World War I. In 1916, the 3rd deployed to locations along the Mexican border in response to the attack on Columbus, New Mexico by the Mexican bandit-revolutionary, Pancho Villa, and elements of his *División del Norte*. The regiment patrolled from points along the border including Camp McIntosh (Laredo), Camps Duncan and Shafter (Eagle Pass), and Camp Stewart (El Paso).

An unposted RPPC, sent home by Mittag under separate cover, shows eight soldiers and reads in part, “We are on the Mexican border but we hike back to San Antonio Monday morning. . . . Max Mittag, 3 Field Arti. Battery A. Fort Sam Houston.”

Images include:

Cadavers at Columbus, New Mexico – Seven grisly RPPCs of dead Mexican bandits and horses that Pancho Villa left when his army fled back into Mexico. Three have copyrights of W. H. Thorne, the first photographer to arrive on-site, and four bear copyrights of “R R”. Some are captioned, e.g., “Dead on the Battlefield,” “Crowds looking at the Dead,” etc.

An African-American Private and other “comrades” – The photo, when enlarged, clearly shows the black soldier wearing collar insignia from Battery A, 3rd Field Artillery. (This is one of ten photos that probably went with a loose caption that read “Comrades of Max. None are identified.”)

At Fort Sam Houston

One posed image of twenty enlisted men and two officers and three of smartly uniformed soldiers riding their horses,

Three images of Mittag’s mess team: one in a kitchen, one in cooks’ whites, and one in fatigues.



Three images of soldiers, two of large trucks, and one a tracked caterpillar tractor,

Three stable pictures of soldiers, horses, and a mule,

One image of two members of the A Battery baseball team, and six of soldiers relaxing: shooting craps, feeding the famous deer that, still today, live on the Ft. Sam Houston quadrangle, etc.

On Border Duty

One image of a soldier by a border marker in the middle of a bridge, presumably the Rio Grande,

Two images of army aircraft flying over the desert,

One image of General Pershing and his staff visiting the unit.

Three photos of gunnery practice plus one of an artillery piece that had a breech failure. Another shows a civilian attending to a wounded soldier, possibly from the breech explosion.

One image of a work detail with a faded caption that (with photo manipulation) can be read, "Battery B, 3rd Regiment of Artillery, Camp McIntosh, Laredo, Texas",

A photograph of pistol practice,

Two photos of soldiers eating meals at a field kitchen; one is captioned "A Battery's Line up for mess."

Four photos of men relaxing outside of their tents including one with a cowboy in chaps and bandana,

Return to Fort Sam Houston - Two images of soldiers unloading equipment at a San Antonio railhead.

(For more information, see "3rd Field Artillery" in *Regiments of the Army 1984, Biographical Register of the Officers and Graduates of the U.S. Military Academy*. . . vol 6, "Camp Shafer" and "Fort Duncan" at the TSHA website, "Camp Stewart" at Portals to Texas History, and correspondence of Private H. E. Siegrist at Eagle Pass from Aztec Collectibles.)

A very nice collection of scarce and historically significant photos. The most important images, e.g., the Columbus cadavers, the integrated African-American artilleryman, and railhead photos are in nice shape Mexican Border War photo collections occasionally appear at auction and a number are held by institutions. However, few are from Regular Army regiments like the 3rd Artillery, and fewer contain even one image of dead Mexicans at Columbus. I know of no other pre-Cold War photograph of an African-American soldier assigned to an otherwise all white unit.

Condition issues, so priced accordingly.

\$1,750

[#9873](#)



6. [ASIAN-AMERICAN - JAPANESE] [CONCENTRATION CAMPS] [MILITARY – WORLD WAR II] [PHILATELY]

1945 – Two letters from a Nisei woman in Oahu to her husband’s parents who were imprisoned at the Gila River Gila River Relocation Center that describe V-J Day in Honolulu, a brother returning from 442nd Infantry.

These two three-page letters were sent by Irene [Morimoto] Niimi in Waialua, Oahu to her in-laws, Tokuichi and Yuri Niimi, who at the time were imprisoned at the Gila River Relocation Center in Arizona. One was written on 27 April, the other on 18 September. Both are franked with 15-cent airmail stamps (Scott # C28) which were canceled with duplex



Waialua, Hawaii postmarks and bear a “Via Clipper” handstamps indicating they were flown to San Francisco via one of the famous Pan-American Airways China Clippers. In nice shape.

Irene’s letters provide considerable information about family members and how they were doing including information about her husband’s draft reclassification. She provides updates on business at their gas station where it was booming and their convenience store where it was not. She provides information about rain and dust storms, strikes, and rationing, which had made all meats – except five pounds of pork per week – impossible to buy, and she discusses the end of the war.

“V-J Day in Honolulu was quiet. All the celebration was on the first notice of possible surrender. The victory parade on Labor Day wasn’t anything to rave about, it was a very long parade but nothing as colorful as they said it was going to be. My only thrill came when the disabled veterans of the Japanese group passed by. It made me teary, being proud of the boys and yet sad thinking if they were feeling as I was or bitter thinking was it worth all the sacrifice. . . .

“Grandma and Holo san took the surrender news bravely. I really give them credit. They must’ve been awfully bitter within.

“Any news of your home coming? Every body here are all anxiously waiting for the grand reunion. Lets hope it will be soon. My brother Kiyoji wrote to me that he expects to be on the mainland by Xmas. I hope its true. I bet they are all looking forward for their home coming, as much as you are thinking, too, of your home coming.”

While the draconian history of the mass incarceration of west-coast Japanese-Americans by President Franklin Roosevelt during World War II is widely known, that is not the case with regard to the relatively few Nikkei from Hawaii who were also confined in concentration camps. The circumstances behind each group’s imprisonment were considerably different.

As Imperial Japan began to militarily expand its empire during the 1930s, tension rose in the Roosevelt administration, and in August 1936 the President directed his Chief of Naval Operations that “every

Japanese citizen or non-citizen on the Island of Oahu who meets . . . [arriving] Japanese ships or has any connection with their officers of men should be secretly but definitely identified and his or her name placed on a special list of those to be first placed in a concentration camp in the event of trouble.” Additionally, membership in any of twelve ‘patriotic’ Japanese organization, e.g., the Kokoryukai (Black Dragon Society), would earn one membership on the list. (It wasn’t just the Japanese who were singled out by Roosevelt to be secretly monitored, he directed similar lists be created for German and Italian nationals and descendants.)

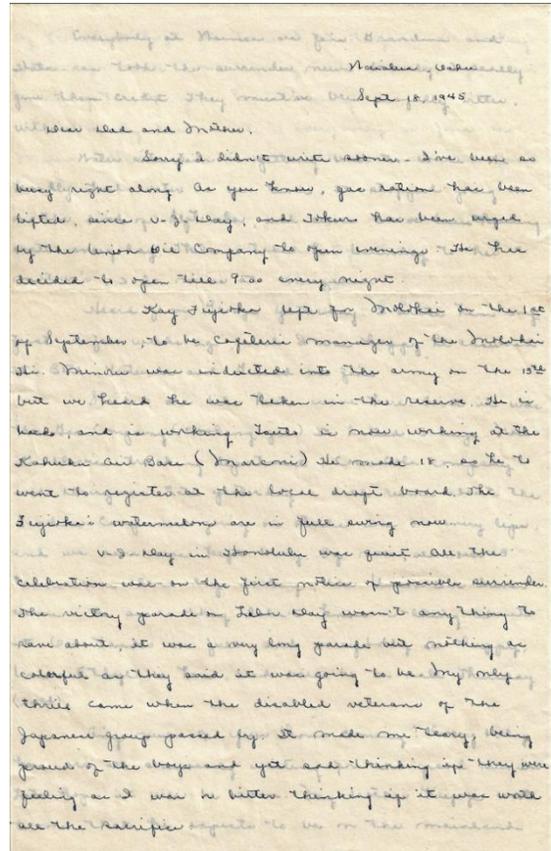
In Hawaii, as soon as the infamous Japanese sneak attack upon Pearl Harbor began, FBI and Immigration officials began collecting people on the list while the harbor was still in flames.

Irene’s Issei father-in-law, Tokuichi, was a Japanese citizen, and one of the first to be arrested, and after being held at Sand Island, Hawaii, he was sent to the mainland on the first internee transport ship to depart Oahu. Although, it was usual for these men to be relocated alone and leave their families at home, Tokuichi’s wife and children apparently were able to accompany him as records show all arriving together at the Jerome War Relocation Center in Arkansas on 5 January 1943. Later, they were together relocated to the Gila River Camp in June 1944 and, except for one son who likely joined the army, were returned to Hawaii in November 1945.

Irene’s brother Kiyoji Morimoto, whose homecoming she eagerly anticipated, had enlisted in the 442nd Infantry Regiment and fought with distinction in Europe. Online military records show that during his service he was promoted to Technical Sergeant Fifth Class and received the Bronze Star for valor when the regiment rescued the “Lost Battalion” of the 141st Infantry Regiment that had been cut off from American forces in the Vosges Mountains of France near the German border. (Kiyoki’s oral history of his wartime service is available online at the Japanese American Military History Collective.)

For more information see “Obituaries: T. Morimoto,” in *Hawaii Tribune-Herald* 27 April 1964 p. 4, Sugo’s *Life Behind Barbed Wire: The World War II Internment Memoirs of a Hawaii Issei*, *Final Accountability Rosters of Evacuees at Relocation Centers, 1942-1946*, the Sons and Daughters of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team website, the Go For Broke National Education Center website, and the Japanese American Military History Collective website.

Letters from west-coast Japanese-Americans who President Roosevelt interned *en masse* are scarce, but letters from Hawaiian Nikkei who were individually incarcerated due to specific, though likely unfounded, security concerns are rare. Even more rare are letters to those internees, and it is most likely that other than this example, such letters referencing V-J Day celebrations, disabled Japanese-American veterans, disappointed older family members who had hoped for a Japanese victory, and a brother in the 442nd Infantry who was decorated for bravery simply don’t exist.



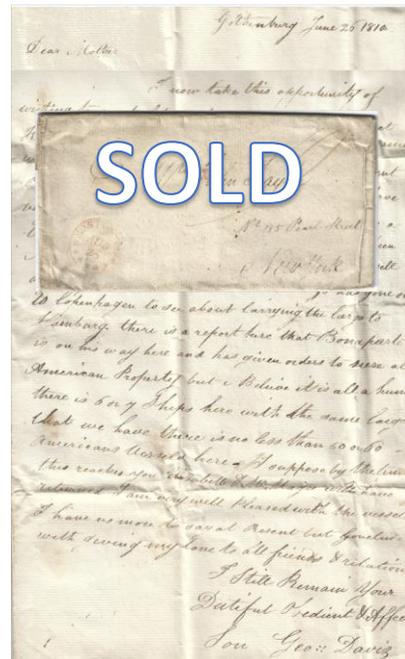
7. [ASSASSINATION] [BUSINESS & LABOR] [MARITIME] [MILITARY – REVOLUTIONARY WAR / NAPOLEONIC WARS] [PHILATELY]

1810 – A merchant’s letter from Sweden reporting the impact of the Napoleonic Wars upon American trade and the assassination of Count Axel von Fersen who had served at Yorktown during the American Revolution.

This stampless letter from George Davis, a merchant in Sweden, to his mother in New York measures 26” x 13” unfolded. It was datelined “Gothenburg June 26 1820” and privately carried to Boston where it was rated at 19 cents, 17 cents for inland postage plus a 2-cent ship letter fee. There is a red Boston postmark in the lower left corner. In nice shape. A transcript will be provided.

Davis reports difficulty selling his cargo, likely coffee or sugar, during Europe’s political turmoil and fear of Napoleon’s military campaigns which some thought directly threatened American merchants.

“We arrived in gothenburg. . . The King of Swedland has been Murdered in his Coach and [I can] not sell anything. Our Supercargo has gone on to Copenhagen to see about Carrying the Cargo to Hamburg. There is a report that Bonaparte is on his way here and has given orders to seize all American Property. . . There is no less than 50 to 60 American vessels here.”



It was not the Swedish King, who had been assassinated; it was Count Axel von Fersen. Sweden had been long beset by political violence, and in 1810, its physically incapacitated King gave control of the country to Crown Prince Christian August. Within a month, the Crown Prince died under mysterious circumstances, thought by many to be poisoning by von Fersen. As Von Fersen rode in the funeral procession, a mob pelted him with stones while the military escort turned away. Von Fersen tried to escape but was unmercifully beaten until Otto Johan Tandefelt jumped upon his chest, crushing his ribcage.

Von Fersen had served in the American Revolution as Comte de Rochambeau’s aide and was present at the Siege of Yorktown. Although Tandefelt was convicted of murder, the King allowed him to emigrate to America under the name of Pettersson. Sweden avoided Napoleon’s invasion by declaring war on Great Britain and turning over all British-owned property in Pomerania to France. The U.S. cargo ships anchored at Gothenburg were not unusual; the U.S. exported coffee, sugar, and cotton to Sweden during this time. Also, as many European import goods were not available during the Napoleonic Wars, some merchants purchased inexpensive Swedish iron rather than return home emptyhanded.

(For more information see "Charles XIII" in the 11th edition of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*. v 5.), “The Franco-Swedish War” at WordDisk online, and Fleisher’s “The beginning of the transatlantic market for Swedish iron” in *Scandinavian Economic History Review* v 1, n 2.)

An uncommon first-hand report on the impact of Swedish economic and political issues upon U.S. merchants. At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade. The Rare Book Hub shows no auctions of similar items, however two small collections of von Fersen papers were sold in 1923 and 1947. OCLC identifies no similar items held by institutions.

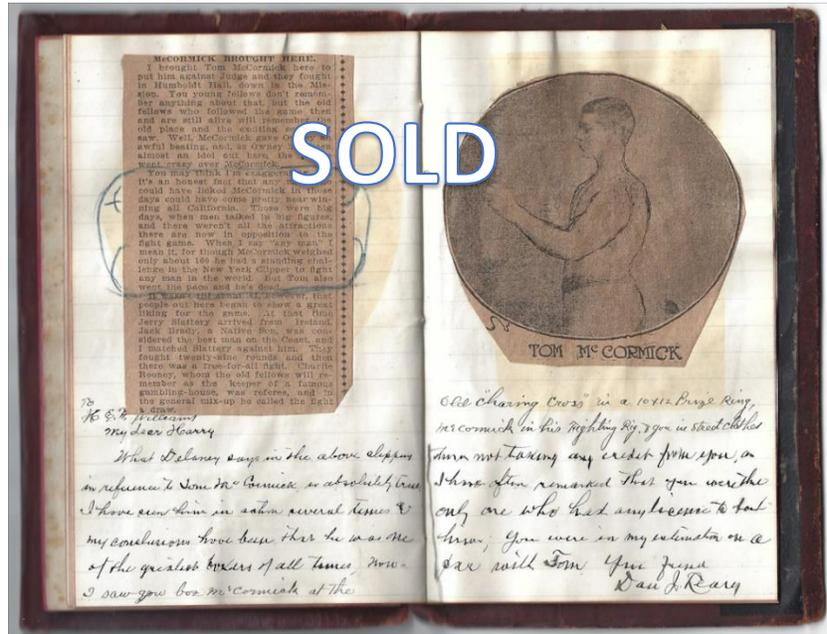
SOLD #9875

8. [BOOKBINDERS] [COMMONPLACE BOOKS] [SPORTS - BOXING & WRESTLING]

1877 – A leather commonplace book containing manuscript training instructions, newspaper clippings, a personal note, , and an illustrated boxing manual.

Henry E. F. Williams, a San Francisco bookbinder, printer, and amateur boxer signed the front-free endpaper of this notebook in 1877. It includes:

A ten-page manuscript, dated “Oct 11th 1879” and titled “Boxing as Taught by ‘Louis Gerichton’.” It includes sections on Position, Leads, Parries, Feet Movement, Dodges, Counters, Cuts, Feints, Wrestling, and much more.



How to Box: The Manly Art of Self-Defense Made Simple and Easy by [N.D. (Ned Donnelly, a “professional boxer”)] published by Frank Tousey. Donnelly’s book was first published in London and pirated by Tousey who reprinted it multiple times in the United States until the early 1900s. Williams did not include this example’s cover or title pages when he bound it into this booklet. It includes 37 illustrations.

An article from the *San Francisco Chronicle*, “The Trainer of Many Champions: Interesting Reminiscences in the Career of Billy Delaney. Handled World Beaters; Started in the Eighties and is Still in the Game.”

A personal note from Dan J. Leary that reads:

“What Delaney says . . . in reference to Tom McCormick is absolutely true. I have seen him in action several times & my conclusions have been that he was one of the greatest boxers of all times. Now I saw you box McCormick. . . . You were in my estimation on a par with Tom.”

Although little has been recorded about Williams, online Census records and San Francisco City Directories indicate that he worked as a bookbinder/printer from around 1877 until 1906. His boxing teacher, “Professor” Louis Gerichton, was an instructor at San Francisco’s Olympic Athletic Club, the first athletic club in the United States and still in existence today. Californians considered Gerichton to be “invincible.” In 1875, Theodore Bauer, who as The Masked Wrestler of Paris had beaten all-comers in France began a tour of the United States but found no one willing to wrestle in New York. So, he traveled to San Francisco where Gerichton accepted the challenge. The match was highly hyped and spectators expected a quick Gerichton victory. The match did end quickly, but it was Bauer who easily prevailed. The contest created a patriotic furor and soon, cities across America began to sponsor their best fighters to face Bauer, and wrestling’s popularity exploded.

(For more information, see genealogical sites online, San Francisco City Directories, especially the one for 1881, and “Recollections of Muldoon, the Solid Man, Whistler and All Those Once Famous Masters of the Mat” by Al Spink, originally published in the 8 March 1919, edition of *The Reno Evening Gazette*.)

SOLD #9876

9. [BUSINESS & LABOR - CATTLE TRADING] [THE GREAT RAFT] [PHILATELY] [WESTWARD EXPANSION]

1832-1833 – A long, detailed letter from a cattle-driving entrepreneur describing two years of his life spent in the Choctaw Nation, Arkansas Territory, and State of Mississippi.

This four-page cross-hatch stampless folded letter was written in two parts; the first is datelined "Fort Smith Arcansaw Territory / July 28th 1832," the second "Fort Towson, Choctaw Nation West of the Miss river (7 miles from The Publick



Landing on the Red River which is about 1300 miles from its mouth by water) Feb 1st 1833." It was sent by Hyde T. Avery to a friend back in Ohio. The front panel bears a rare manuscript postmark, "Fort Towson / Feb 5 / Paid 25." (ASCC vol 1 p 326) The letter measures 15.25" x 12.25" unfolded. A number of its mailing folds have been reinforced or repaired using archival tape or tissue. A transcript will be included.

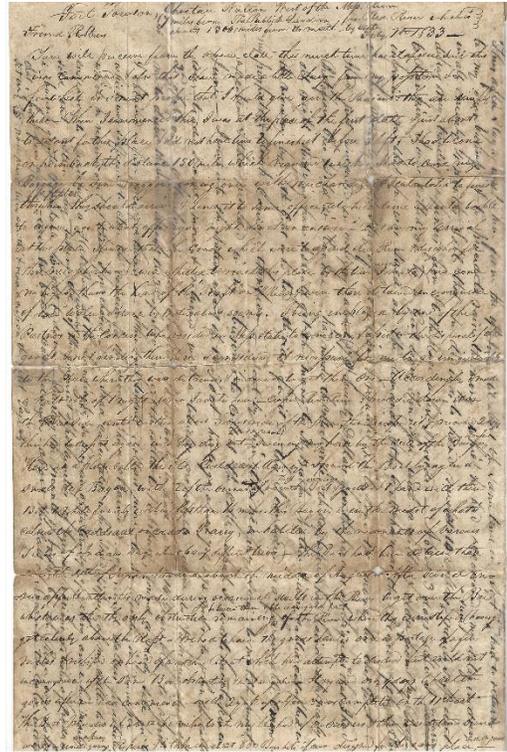
In this letter, Avery provides an exceptionally detailed account of his interrelated business efforts between May 1831 and February 1833 in the Choctaw Nation, Arkansas Territory, and Mississippi. Avery first hired on with Mississippi speculators attempting to export "goods" to Fort Towson, presumably to meet the needs of the Choctaw tribe which had begun its relocation to the Indian Territory. However, Avery's effort was seriously impeded by the infamous "Great Raft" log jam on the Red River.

"I had to send . . . some wagons coming over with merchandise . . . But on my arrival . . . I found that the goods which were to assend Red River . . . had come no higher than the head of the "Raft" . . . & were there detained. . . Not finding them here I considered it necessary for me to go immediately to the place where they were detained. . . Accordingly I made a halt only of 1 night . . . crossed Red river & proceeded down it on the Texas side until we were about 3 days ride of this place, then received it, & proceded 2 days and then had to cross it again in a log dug out – swimming my horse by the side of the Barque. . . I found the Boat lying in a small deep Bayou . . . in the midst of what is called the Caddeaux or Caddo Peary. . . The Boat had been detained there from the 11th of June until about the middle of August. After several unsuccessful attempts made during occasional swells in the River to get over the Bar . . . we had to have the goods hauled over a portage of a few miles and reshaped on board of another Boat. . . it required only 9 days to have the goods after we had commenced with 2 yoke of oxen & was completed on the 11th Oct. . ."

Next, the partnership hired Avery to escort a herd of cattle to the Choctaw Nation, and when the drive was postponed, Hyde decided to take the opportunity to enter into some trading himself.

"I had from the first weighed spending a part of the heet of summer with my Brother Nathan in Tennesie . . . hoping I might be [able] to make a pecuniary benefit . . . in procuring some goods to take into the

Nation [but I was not] able to get into the nation in season that fall to sell the cattle. I had to keep [my] goods until . . . this spring. . . I was to return in May or June but . . . I received a letter from J G Johnston requesting me to come immediately. . . He said he wished to place his goods in Yazoo Co. & gave me an interest in them as a partner and said he would pay my passage. . . I informed him by mail that my arrangements were such as to render it out of my power until I should have made the trip into the Nation. . . Not waiting for any answer he came on horseback to see me [and] persuaded on me to delay driving my cattle until fall, that he would spare me a hundred Dollars to meet my demands. [Later] he came to the conclusion not to take his goods to Yazoo [and] not to make any arrangement to my benefit. . . All that he did was to hand me about 10 dollars, nearly sufficient to defray my traveling expenses. . .”



This delay caused a serious problem for Avery as his note for the Tennessee goods had come due.

“ I was called on by a Gent from Tennessee with a Letter from my Brother informing me that he was sued on the demands, & [he] requested me to send the money by that Gent. [Fortunately,] I had just succeeded in realizing about (\$70) Seventy Dollars. . . This I considered a favorable omen [and] sent . . . the necessary sum . . . & then proceded in my business to collect the cattle which I was to have taken in June.”

After delivering the cattle, Avery purchased some for himself, intending to sell them in Vicksburg.

“After leaving the Nation I had only a lad of 14 years to assist me to drive them. About the 3rd of Nov I got the cattle to Vicksburg, found a ready sale for them at fair price for them. . . I had calculated when I had disposed of my cattle to endeavor to purchase a Flat Boat at the [Red River] Landing by taking [and then] taking the advantage of the frequent opportunities of bringing various articles of produce a business quite profitable might be done. . .”

In its heyday, Fort Towson was one of the most important forts on the western frontier, serving as a buffer between the U.S. and both Texas and the Central Plains tribes. It also protected the Choctaw and served as a receiving hub for other relocated tribes enroute to their allotted section of the Indian Territory. Built in 1824, its resupply was always tenuous as for centuries the Red River had been completely blocked by a gigantic log jam, the “Great Raft,” that had grown to more than 160 miles long by 1830 when the boat builder Henry Shreve (Shreveport’s namesake) began to systematically remove the obstacle until the river was clear enough by April 1838 to allow traffic all the way to Fort Towson.

An exceptionally early letter with a rare postmark documenting what are surely among the earliest efforts to capitalize on trading within the newly formed Choctaw Nation. At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade, although we have for sale a later Fort Towson letter about military operations. The Rare Book Hub shows no similar items have appeared at auction, and the OCLC notes on institution holds a small correspondence collection from a white settler in the Choctaw Nation between 1832 and 1836.

SOLD

#9877

10. [COMMONPLACE BOOKS] [WOMEN]

1830s – A young woman’s leather “Album” that was used as a commonplace book.

This book measures 3.5” X 4.5”. Although unpaginated, it contains approximately 130 pages filled with poems, notes, drawings, and illustrations. The handwriting is tiny and fine. There is an old neatly done paper repair to the front hinge that reattaches the front board of its black faux caoutchouc-gutta-percha cover. No owner’s name or location, however it was purchased at a Connecticut antique shop.



Popular for centuries, the origin of commonplace books can be traced back to the Renaissance when wealthy readers would copy their favorite passages from books into blank albums to create personal anthologies. Later, compilers often added notes, proverbs, adages, aphorisms, maxims, quotes, letters, poems, tables of weights and measures, prayers, legal formulas, recipes, and many other useful tidbits of information. Creators frequently organized and even indexed their contents, and young women from better families were encouraged by parents to create commonplace books as evidence of cultural sophistication and a well-rounded upbringing. (For more information, see Miller’s *Assuming the Positions: Cultural Pedagogy and the Politics of Commonplace Writing*.)

The first textual entry in this book, poetically explains its compiler’s intention:

“In truth it is not every book
That is suited to the mind.
In some forever you may look
And no amusement find.
But seldom does an Album fail to please both grave and gay.
It teems with many a mournful tale and many a merry lay. . . .”

The handwriting in this book is exquisite, perfectly-formed, tiny calligraphy. Spelling and grammar are correct. Drawings are well done, and printed illustrations are well-mounted and captioned. It is definitely the work of a well-bred young woman from a wealthy family as attested to by its first mounted illustration of a beautiful young woman wearing what she identified as “My Riding Dress.” The compiler had special affection for the works of Lord Byron and many are included, along with other authors’ poems (e.g., *Sonnet, Supposed to have been Addressed by a Female Lunatic to a Lady* by Henry Kirke White), ballads (e.g., *Auld Robin Gray* by Lady Anne Lindsay), and a riddle attributed to Hanna More. One of Lord Byron’s works is identified as being published after his death, which suggests this book was prepared in the 1830s.

Although commonplace books regularly appear at auction and for sale in the trade; this one is especially nice and was clearly created not just as a repository of favorite writings or useful information, but as a visual demonstration of social status, class, and wealth. Surely, this young woman’s girlfriends would have been intimidated and her suitors impressed.

\$750

[#9878](#)

11. [COMMONPLACE BOOKS] [FOLK ART] [MARITIME] [MILITARY – PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN WAR] [PORNOGRAPHY]

WARNING – STOP NOW IF YOU ARE OFFENDED BY THE SUGGESTION OF PORNOGRAPHIC MATERIAL

Circa 1899-1901 – A patriotically-illustrated sailor’s pornographic commonplace book created while on board the USS *Castine* during the Philippine-American War.

This notebook measures 6”x 8.5” and originally contained 298 pages although a number have been removed. About 155 of the remaining pages have been used. Some have ragged fore-edges suggesting they were once loose but have been tipped back in. The board covers are covered with sail-cloth and titled, “J. Johnson. / U.S.S. Castine. / U.S. N.” and one calligraphic emblem in the book includes the text “U.S. Navy / John Johnson”.

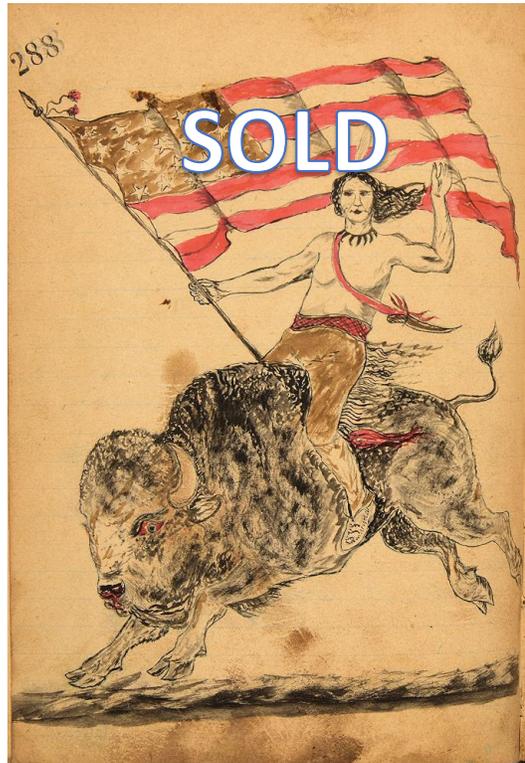
Popular for centuries, the origin of commonplace books can be traced back to the Renaissance when wealthy readers would copy their favorite passages from books into blank albums to create personal anthologies.

Johnston has roughly organized his book in sections containing popular song lyrics, pornographic poems and short stories, hand-drawn cartoons, and patriotic naval artwork. There are additional paintings and drawings interspaced through the book along with several pages of naval information. Photos of a woman and shipmates are laid in.

The cartoons primarily have a maritime theme, and the naval information includes paintings of admirals’ flags, a schematic of the *Castine*’s rigging, sailors’ contact information for shipmates, and a semaphore alphabet chart with an illustration of a signaling sailor.

Lyrics to over 30 songs. Most are from then popular titles including *Sweet Rosie O’Grady*, *On the Shores of Havana Far Away*, *There’ll Be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight*, *Coon Coon Coon*, *When You Were Sweet Sixteen*, *Bill Bailey Won’t You Please Come Home*, etc.

Drawings and watercolor paintings include tributes to the USS *Maine*, Admiral Dewey, Richard Pearson Hobson (the hero of Santiago) as well as ships (USS *Castine*, USS *Constellation*, HMS *Jajadan* (a Swedish naval training ship), and more. The other dozen or so illustrations include a sailor dancing with a proper young woman, a



148
So I reached down and took the old boy in my hand
And I raised myself to a better view
Then across his body my fingers I drew.
I squeezed his prick and rubbed and caressed.
And between my thighs his hand I pressed.
I tickled his balls and I kissed his head
Till I made it grow bigger and grow very red.
Like filling sponge it would fill and release.
And every moment I felt it increase.
At last it was standing the same grand prick
As proud as a peacock and as hard as a brick.
A model of comely beauty and worth,
The sweetest morsel on gods green earth.
Once more we rose and fondly embraced.
Then back on the pillow my head I placed.
And redisposed Venus in the days of yore -
Could not have shown her passion more.
But my sweet Melon's lent his fire.
For quiver my all Consuming desire.
My limbs dishevelled, my bosom compressed.
He gasps, flesh rending thrills of joy and glee.
He sob, a kiss that prick Oh where was he.
Those dear sweet balls even all that you could see.
You could not tell to whom they belonged he or me.

modified version of the British coat of arms featuring an unnamed ship, a winged monkey, and a flag-bearing American Indian riding a buffalo.

And lastly, a section of approximately 25 pornographic short stories and poems. Most likely, Johnson copied some of these from Victorian pornographic magazines like *The Pearl* or novels like *My Secret Life*, but many he proudly identified as his own creations. Titles include "Grace. Letter from Flora" (9 pages), "A Bride's First Night" (8 pages), "Two Boarding School Maids" (4 pages), "A Maiden's Companion" (4 pages), and "An Interesting Letter" (19 pages). These are not simply ribald; they are pornographic. I wonder if they made any sailors blush. The vivid descriptions of sex acts have been removed from this excerpt, but you get the idea.

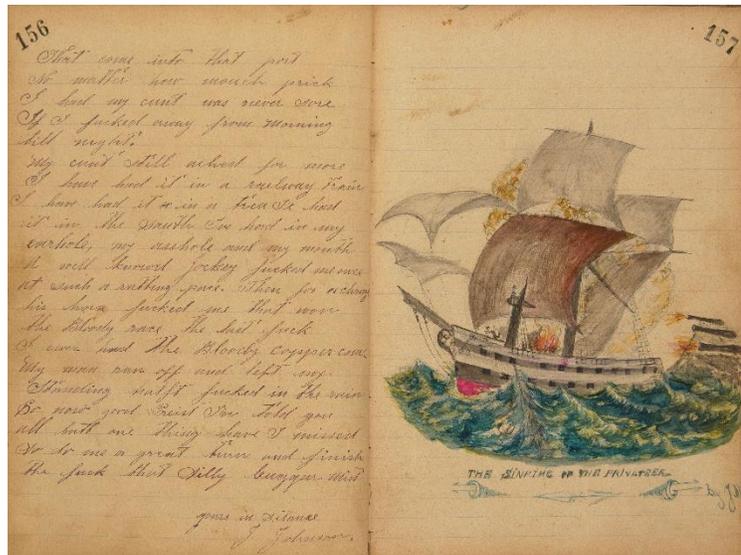
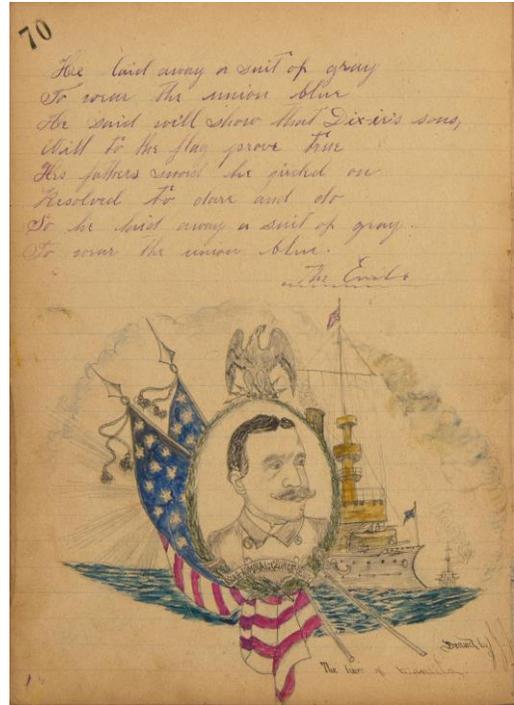
"He was about 28 and the best proportioned man I ever saw. He removed her dress and petticoat and drawers and. . . She pulled her stockings off. . . Oh! Grace, How he kissed and hugged her. . . Then he. . . and I kept wondering what I would do if a man did such things to me. . . Such an enormous. . . and a tremendous. . . I could not believe he. . . She kept . . . and then . . . commenced to move. . . on the bed . . . and cried out. . . She seemed to faint away. . . . I remember experiencing a thrill of pleasure and found my hand. . ."

During the time this commonplace book was made, the USS *Castine*, a naval gunboat, had just been released from the blockade of Cuba following the end of the Spanish-American War and was deployed to East Asia in support the U.S. Army's occupation of the Philippine

Islands to supervise the evacuation of the Spanish garrison at Zamboanga. After a cruise to Chinese ports, the *Castine* returned to the United States and was decommissioned at the Philadelphia Naval Yard in 1901.

Sailors' commonplace books are scarce. Sailors' commonplace books with impressive watercolor illustrations are rare, and, to the best of my knowledge, this sailors' commonplace book with impressive watercolors, and a collection of self-authored pornography is unique. At the time of listing, there is nothing remotely similar for sale in the trade or held by institutions per OCLC. Neither has any other similar item come up for auction per the Rare Book Hub.

SOLD #9879

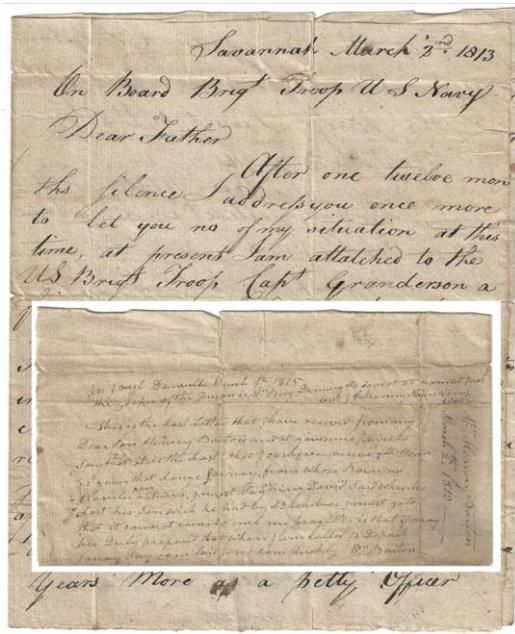


12. [DEBTOR'S PRISON] [MARITIME] [MILITARY – REVOLUTIONARY WAR / WAR OF 1812] [PHILATELY]

1813-1817 – Three letters related to the War of 1812 naval service and prize money for the capture of two British ships that was posthumously awarded to the son of a Revolutionary War hero who laments his loss while incarcerated in a Vermont debtor's prison.

This correspondence consists of three stampless folded letters. The first two letters were favor-carried and have no postal markings. The third has a circular Savannah, Georgia postmark and manuscript "75", three times the normal postage indicating it had two enclosures when mailed.

One letter, dated 2 March 1813, is from Henry Barton aboard the Brig *Troup* at Savannah to his father, General William Barton, who was held in debtor's prison in Danville, Vermont. In it, Henry informs his father that, despite his deteriorating health, he had rejoined the Navy.



“One year since I Obtained my Discharge in the Navy . . . and after macking one voyage to Madiera, on my return to Charlestown I entered the Service War being declared . . . I shiped for two years more as a petty officer On Board Barges in Charlestown sence which I have volenteerd to come in this Brig. . . I have been for 20 months past . . . much afflicted with rheumattick pains. . . Write me by mail Direct to me on board Brig Troop To the care of Capt Ganderson [actually Grandison]. The Brig is a prise tackin from the English and I hope we may be able to give a good account of her. . .”

General Barton has added a signed annotation to this letter.

“In Jayl Danville March 7th 1815. . . This is the last letter that I have received from my Dear Son . . . and it gives me pains to say that it is the Last that I can receive news for Him is goin [on] that Longe Jarney from whos Born no traveler can return. . . My prayer is that I may be Duly prepared that when I am called to Depart I may say com Lord Jeses com Quickly Wm Barton”

Two letters, dated 10 April 1815 and 23 June 1817, are from Jonathan Lilliabridge to General Barton regarding Henry's personal effects and the prize money he had been awarded.

“I now have the Satysfaction to Acquaint you that . . . I Obtained Two Certificates of Prize Money Due Your Son. . . I Enclose you the Prize Agent Advertisement by which you will Perceive its Close At Hand. I have not yet been able to obtain his Chest & Clothing but Expect I Shall Very Shortly. . .

“I Recd Your Son's prize Money amounting to One Hundd Forty One Dollars Seventy Eight Cts. . . . But I am sorry I am prevented from sending It on to you at Present There is two Persons here who has Presented their Accts Agt, yr. Son to me for Payment. . . My Old Friend & Fellow Soldier . . . Very Respectfully Dr. Sir Yr most Obt Friend & Servt. Jno Lillibridge”

In 1777, while William Barton was a major in the Rhode Island militia, he led a daring nighttime 44-man raid that crossed Narragansett Bay in whaleboats and captured the partially undressed Major General Richard Prescott at his headquarters. For his action, Barton was commended by the Continental Congress

and presented with a handsome dress sword. He was eventually promoted to Colonel and given a commission in the Continental Army. He was badly wounded while rallying militiamen to counterattack a British force that had burned parts of Bristol and Warren, Rhode Island. Although he never fully recovered, Barton later commanded a boat-mounted light infantry battalion and charged with defending Narraganset Bay for the rest of the War.

After the war, he founded the town of Providence, Vermont, which several years later, he renamed Barton. There he gained a reputation as a clever businessman, in fact too clever for his own good. He was caught selling the same plot of land to two different men, and sued by one, Johnathan Allyn, for \$3,000. Although he lost the case, Allyn was only awarded a little more than \$100 for court costs and damages. While the wealthy Barton could have easily paid, he refused to do so. Subsequently Allyn had Barton arrested and placed in debtor's prison at the age

of 63. Since the town had no jail, Barton was imprisoned at Danville and confined to the "jail yard" which was generously defined as all the land within a one-mile radius of the jailhouse on the town green. This was no Dickensian imprisonment; in fact, Barton probably lived in a nearby home rather than the jail. He remained 'incarcerated' until 1825, when his old wartime friend, the Marquis de Lafayette, visited America. Lafayette, after learning of Barton's imprisonment and probably picturing his 77-year-old comrade penniless and in jail, promptly wrote a promissory note for the small sum, and Barton was freed.

While not much is known about William's son Henry, he and the *Brig Troup*, apparently were able "to give a good account" of themselves as the ship captured two British vessels while he was aboard entitling him to a share of the prize money that Jonathan Lillibridge pursued. The *Troup* was, itself, a prize. It had been the merchantman, *Princess Amelia*, when captured by the American privateer, *Rossie*. The *Amelia* was taken to Savannah harbor where it was purchased for the Navy by Captain Grandison to add some teeth to his barge flotilla. It was renamed the *Troup* in honor of Georgia Congressman George Troup.

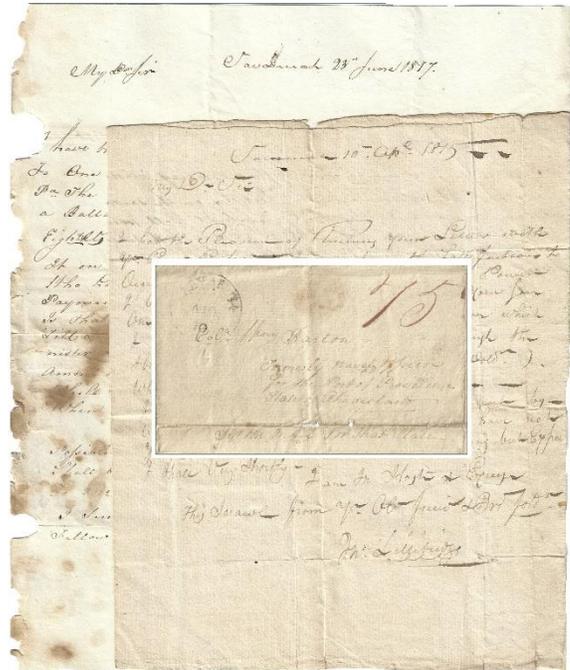
Lillibridge, was a long-time friend of William Barton's from his service as an Ensign with the Rhode Island militia during the Revolution.

(For more information, see Johnson's *America's Forgotten Hero: The story of William Barton, a Rhode Island Colonel in the Revolutionary War*, Bushnell's "Barton's enigmatic namesake – hero or swindler?" at the VTDigger website, Dudley's *Inside the U.S. Navy of 1812-1815*, Dudley & Ward's *The Naval War of 1812: A Documentary History*, and "Mrs. Mary Hope Eldridge 55453" in the *Daughters of the American Revolution Lineage Book* vol 56)

Scarce. A unique group of letters to William Barton that includes heartfelt note signed by him mourning for his son who had died during the War of 1812. At the time of listing nothing similar is for sale in the trade. OCLC shows that the library at Mount Vernon holds a draft of a letter sent by Bartholomew Dandridge on behalf of President Washington returning all testimonials received regarding William Barton. The Rare Book Hub and Worthpoint show that a half-dozen or so letters to William Barton have appeared at auction over the past ten years.

\$1,500

[#9880](#)

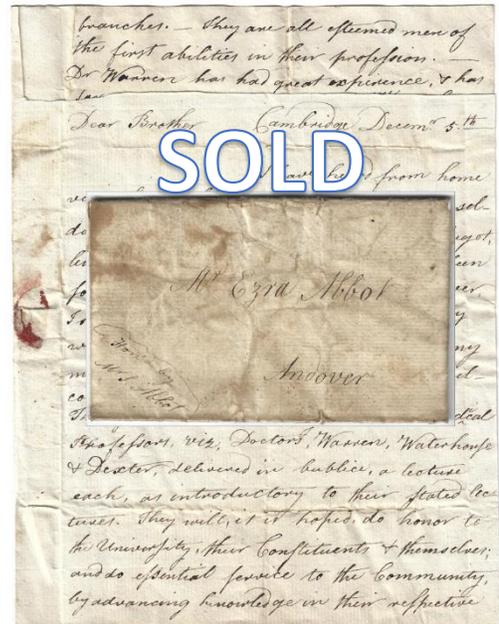


13. [EDUCATION] [MEDICINE & NURSING] [MILITARY – REVOLUTIONARY WAR] [PHILATELY]

1783 – A Harvard undergraduate reports on the opening of the university’s medical school with introductory lectures presented by each of its first three celebrated professors including John Warren, the famed Revolutionary War surgeon.

This stampless, folded letter, measuring 12.5” x 8” unfolded, is datelined “Cambridge Decemr. 5th”. It was written by John Abbot, who attended Harvard between 1781 and 1784, to his brother Ezra Abbot at Andover.. It bears no postal markings as it was privately delivered as attested to by the notation in the lower left of the front panel. In nice shape; trimmed the top of the first page perhaps to facilitate folding.

Although the Harvard’s Medical School was formally established in 1782, it took some time to become organized. By November 1783, the college’s president’s patience was wearing thin and November 8, 1783, he rudely prodded its first three professors.



“I have been expecting some time past to see an advertisement from the Medical Professors in the Newspapers. I should think that if they begin their lectures this fall, as I hope they will, that the sooner they advertise the better . . . lest the public begin to think the University were mere parade, and that the medical institution was likely to be attended with no utility. . . Upon letting the public know when they shall begin . . . I imagine . . . the professors will adjust according to their best disposition. . . .” (From Harrington’s *The Harvard Medical School: A History, Narrative and Documentary 1782-1905*.)

Apparently, the professors did quickly “adjust” to their best “disposition” as Abbot’s letter indicates they began to “advertise” the Medical School with their first introductory lecture on 5 December.

“This afternoon & evening, the three Medical Professors, viz. Doctors: Warren, Waterhouse & Dexter, delivered in public, a lecture each, as introductory to their stated lectures. They will, it is hoped, do honor to the University. . . They are all esteemed men of the first abilities. . . Dr Warren has had great experience, & has for some time been esteemed one of the greatest Anatomists & Surgeons in the State. Dr Waterhouse has had a regular Medical education at the University of Leyden, & studied with some of the most approved Physicians in Europe. Dr Dexter, tho’ a young gentleman, has distinguished himself, and become very famous as a Chymist.”

Waterhouse was selected to be the first professor of medicine for Harvard shortly after the school was established in 1782. Warren, who was also appointed in 1782 as the first professor of anatomy and surgery, was one of the famous patriot brother physicians who served in the Revolutionary War, and Dexter served as the professor of chemistry and *materia medica*.

Abbot went on to graduate in 1784 and joined with Bowdoin College at its establishment where he served as a librarian, trustee, treasurer and a professor of Ancient Languages and Classical Literature.

Scarce. At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade. The Rare Book Hub shows no similar items have been auctioned. OCLC shows that the Warren and Waterhouse papers are held at Harvard.

\$750

#9881

14. [EDUCATION] [MEDICINE & NURSING] [WOMEN]

1900 – A notebook compiled by a nursing student at the Phoenixville Hospital in Pennsylvania.

This 8"x10" journal 152 pages of which approximately two-thirds are filled with text. Four additional pages of text are laid in. The handwriting is legible, binding sound, and hinges intact. The reattached front free endpaper is inscribed, "M. Emilie Evans / Phoenixville Hospital / Penna. / Nov. 14, 1900." The cover is worn and soiled and the spine covering is missing. Overall, in nice shape.

In addition to technical matters, her notes include references to bedside manners as well, such as:

"Women in labor are very impressible, quick to observe and frequently wrongly interpret even trifling indiscretions of word or act. . . . It would be dreadful for a nurse to lose self control. . . ."

The Phoenixville hospital was founded in 1893 to expedite the treatment the large number of injuries that occurred at the Phoenix Iron Company in lieu of patients being transported to Philadelphia by train. The contents appear to primarily be notes recorded by Emilie from lectures that she attended. They include:

Anatomy and Osteology

Bacteriology

Care for mother and child during puerperium

Circulatory system

Contagious disease

Death

Delivery

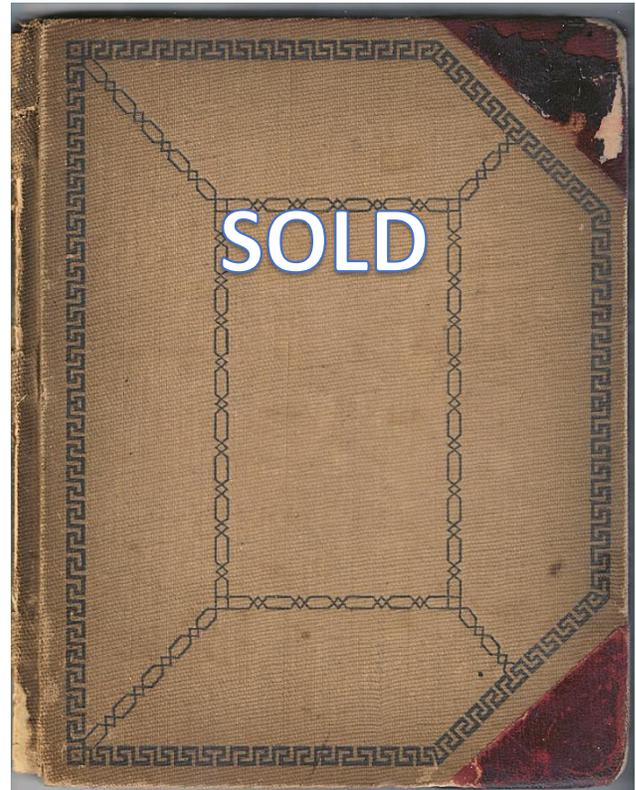
Diseases of skin

Digestion

Drugs and their uses,

Fevers and fever nursing,

Food and Digestion



General observations

Histology. Cells and cell tissue

Normal Labor

Obstetrics

The patient

Poisons and their antidotes,

Pregnancy

Splints

Sudden Insensibility

Surgical Cleanliness and Asepsis

Tuberculosis

Uncommon. At the time of listing, no similar nurse training journals are for sale in the trade. None are listed by the Rare Book Hub as having appeared at auction, and OCLC identifies three as being held by institutions.

SOLD #9882

15. [FOLK ART] [GENEALOGY] [IMMIGRATION]

1814-1840 - Self-bound manuscript containing hand-drawn birth certificates, genealogical notes, and favorite hymns for the Sager family who had immigrated to Colchester, Vermont from Saint-Armand-Centre in Quebec.

This 6" x 8" booklet was compiled by the Sager Family whose online genealogical records show immigrated from Saint-Armand-Center in Quebec to Colchester, Vermont in the 1830s. 15 leaves, most with text on only one side. The leaves are string-bound in a later card cover made from a circa 1900 advertisement for the *New York World* newspaper.

One page notes the children's parents Frederick and Lydia were married in 1813. Another identifies the birth dates of "Adam and Eve" Sager, probably Frederick's parents.

"Adam Sager was Born in April 3rd A.D. 1771. . . . Eve Sager was born in 77"

There are several pages of hymn lyrics as well.

The Sagers' first child was born in 1814 and their last in 1838. In between, Lydia gave birth to seven more including two who were still born. All but two of the births were commemorated with full-page decorative hand-drawn hearts containing each child's full name and birthday.

The decorative heart for one of the babies who died shortly after childbirth reads, "The babe Born And died Friday Dec. 14th 1827 – The active babe is gone to dwell with God on high and there to sing redeeming Songs to all eternity." A coffin is one of the symbols used to decorate this heart.

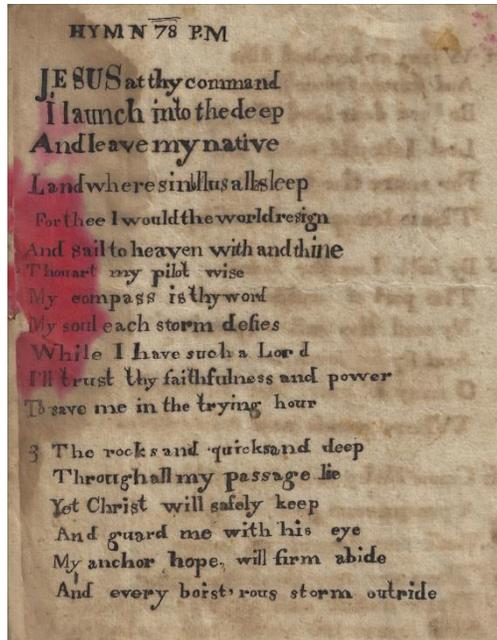
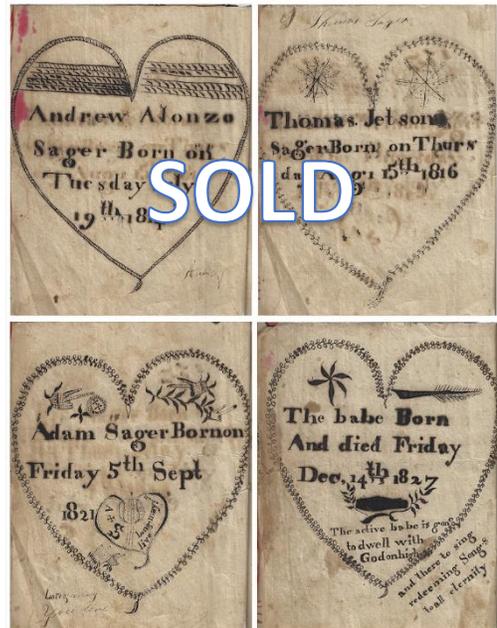
Two other hearts bear the legend "Long may you live."

Saint-Armand-Centre is situated right on the Canada-U.S. border, and Colchester is located about 45 miles south on the opposite bank of the St. Lawrence River along the border as well. Online genealogical records also suggest that Lydia had been born in the United States and was an American citizen at the time she married Frederick. She died in 1840, and later that year Frederick married Laura Hackett from Massachusetts, and together they had five additional children.

A charming booklet of primitive homemade folk-art birth certificates.

Folk art birth certificates like these appear to be considerably scarcer than hand drawn Pennsylvania Dutch *geburtsheins*. At the time of this listing nothing similar is for sale in the trade, and the Rare Book Hub shows no similar examples having been sold at auction. OCLC identifies one institution as holding a non-geburtshein folk art birth certificate from the mid-1800s.

SOLD #9883



16. [FOLK ART] [MEDICINE & NURSING]

<https://www.read-em-again.com/pages/books/009884/senior-edward-boltwood/1877-a-hopeful-and-charmingly-illustrated-letter-from-an-insurance-executive-who-was-dying-of-1877> - **A hopeful and charmingly illustrated letter from an insurance executive who was dying of tuberculosis to his young son.**

Four-page hand-illustrated letter from Edward Boltwood, Senior, the President of the Berkshire Life Insurance Company of Maine, to his eight-year-old son, "Ted," Edward Boltwood, Junior. The letter's dateline, "Big Five Island / July 30 1877", appears under a hand-drawn letterhead.

"Here is a picture of what we see from our windows looking seaward. There are six cottages, of which you see only two in the sketch. Away in the distance is a pogy steamer. There is no land to the south nearer than the West Indies. Our houses are close to the ocean, and we always hear its roar. . ."

Boltwood, who had been diagnosed with consumption, i.e., tuberculosis, traveled in hopes of improving his health. Although the sanatorium movement had not yet begun in earnest in the United States from his description and sketch, it appears this resort was designed to provide many opportunities for visitors to rest in the fresh air. This, of course, was the essence of sanatorium treatment.

Boltwood continues to describe and illustrate Big Five Island.

"On the point at the right stands Seguin Light. On foggy days the light keeper makes a fearful noise on a great steam fog horn. I hear it now nine miles off. This warns the ships to keep away from the reefs and cliffs which line the coast. Here is little Pauline Foss fishing. I had drawn her brother Leon and so she wished to be herself put into my letter. See Leon caching a fish. He is standing on the rocks. The fish is a cunner. Out from the shore . . . is a ledge of rock which stands up above the water, and throws the heavy seas high up over its head. It is called the Roaring Bull, because the surf roars so loudly over it when the tide is setting in. They have a nice sail boat here, as large as the Yachts at Nantucket. It looks something like this sketch. Its name is the Carrie Stanwood. . ."

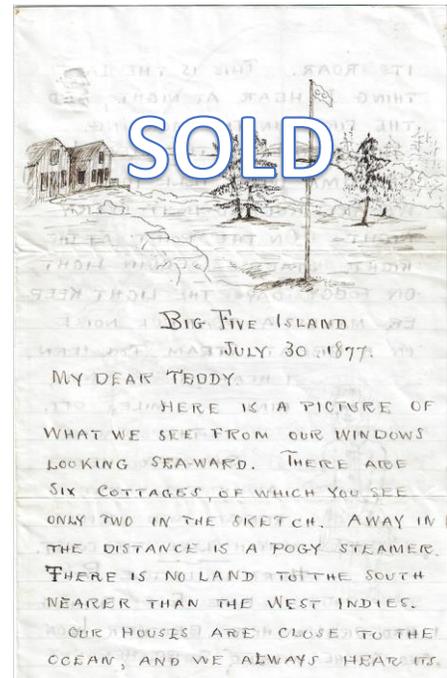
Boltwood then closes with a hopeful assessment of his health.

"I am gaining every day . . . If I can stay a week or two longer, hope to return as hearty as a buccaneer."

Unfortunately, Boltwood was not on the road to recovery. Several online obituaries and memorials, like the following from the *1877-1878 Obituary Record of Graduates of Yale University*, make it clear that his stay on Maine's Big Five Island was just one stop on his hoped-for road to recovery.

"The effect of too close attention to business, following on the death of his wife, was to develop tendencies to consumption which foreign travel failed to overcome. He spent the winter of 1876-77 in South Carolina, and on the approach of the next winter sailed for the south of France. He left Marseilles for Cairo, Egypt, on Jan. 10, but the exposure of the passage proved too great, and he rapidly declined. He died in Cairo on the 6th of February, 1878, in his 39th year."

An attractively illustrated, poignant letter of hope written by a young father to his son.



SOLD

#9884

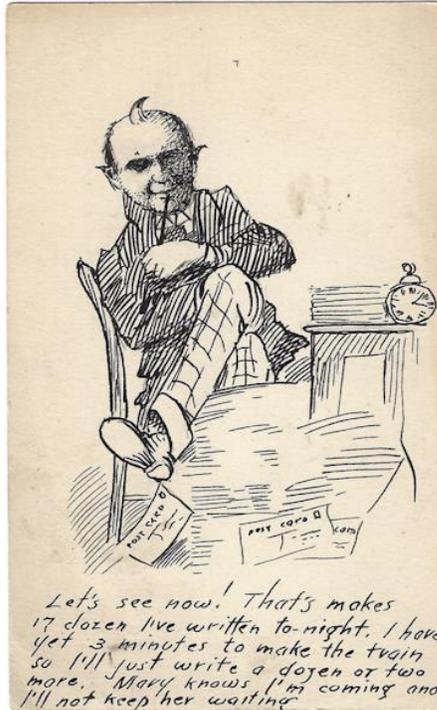
17. [FOLK ART] [PHILATELY] [POSTCARDS]

1914 - Three very well-done hand-drawn and colored humorously romantic post cards.

Each of the three exceptionally well-done postcards is sold separately. They are all addressed to Mary E. Whittlesly in Erie, Pennsylvania, presumably from her unnamed boyfriend.

17a. "Let's see now!" – Comic postcard done in black ink, presumably featuring Mary's named beau seated at his desk having already written "17 dozen" postcards to her that evening. Sent from Chautauqua, New York.

\$150 #9885



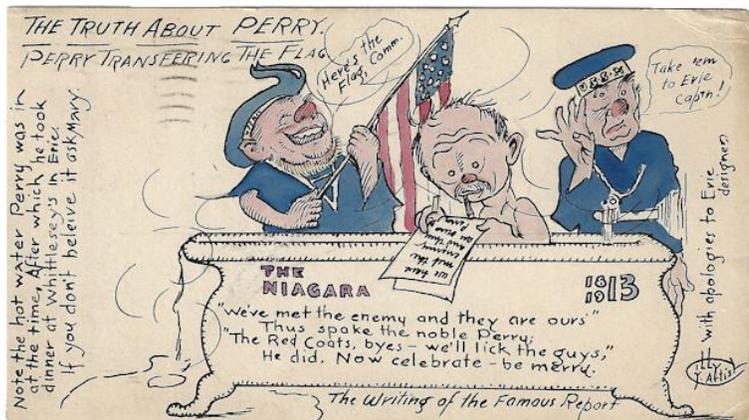
17b. "A Florida Serenade" – Comic postcard featuring a colorful illustration of banjo-playing alligator serenading Mary, "Oh, sing a song to Mary / 'Way up in Erie town. . ." Sent from Jacksonville, Florida

\$150 #9886



17c. "The Truth About Perry" – Comic postcard featuring a colorful illustration of Commodore Perry in a bathtub named The Niagara while writing his memoirs which begin "We have met the enemy and he is ours, Perry". Sent from Jacksonville, Florida

\$150 #9887



18. [FRIENDSHIP ALBUM] [WOMEN]

1830s-1840s - A young woman's *album amicorum*, i.e., her book of friends or friendship book.

This red leather-bound album with debossed gilt decorations measures 6.5"x8". Its owner's name, Lydia Orcutt, is debossed in gilt on the front cover. Genealogical records indicate Lydia was born in Liverpool, New York around 1810 and moved to Connecticut sometime between 1842 and 1850. Unpaginated but about 125 pages. Sound hinges. Some pages may have been tipped back into place.

Almost every page has an entry made by one of Lydia's friends or relatives. The earliest that I noted is from 1832 and the latest is from 1845.

One the first entries enjoins Lydia to

"See to your book young lady; let it be
An index to your life; each page be pure,
By vanity uncolored by vice unspotted;
Cheerful be each modest leaf. . ."

And another advises

"In joyous time , when on our hearts
Prosperity its influence sheds,
'Tis Friendship gives the sweetest zest,
And with most pleasure moves the heart. . ."

Some are personal notes, both long and short,

"Dear Lydia, In complying with the request to contribute something for your album, I find some little delicacy & some hesitation as to my subject. The delicacy I feel arises from my inability to write any thing which may be worthy a place in a book of this kind. Albums are usually filled with expressions of friendship & love, fine effusions of poetry, &c. But, pardon me Dear Lydia if I deviate from the usual custom & inscribe this page a memento in which you may trace the expression of my best wished that you may enjoy an eternity of blessedness. . ."

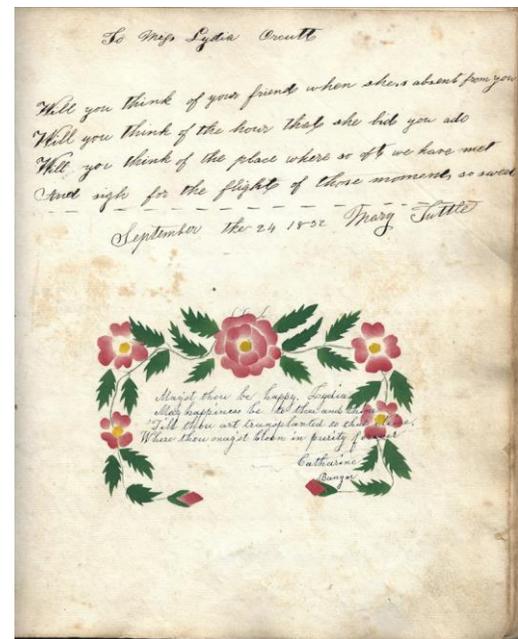
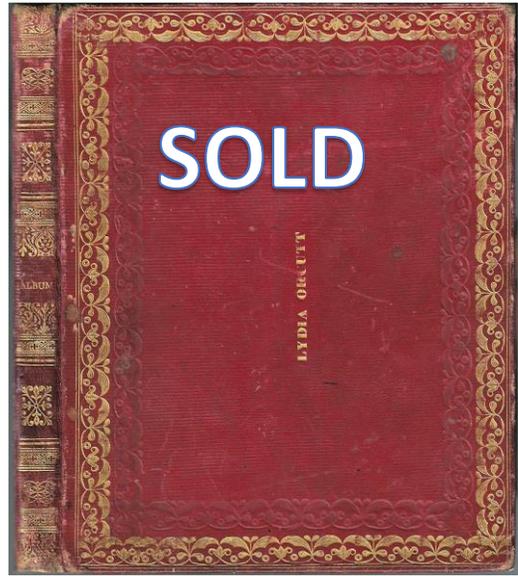
Several pages include hand-painted decorations and one friend attached a lock of her hair.

"Accept this hair dear friend
From fond affection given
Never may our friendship end
On earth or in Heaven."

An excellent example of a 19th century friendship album.

SOLD

#9888



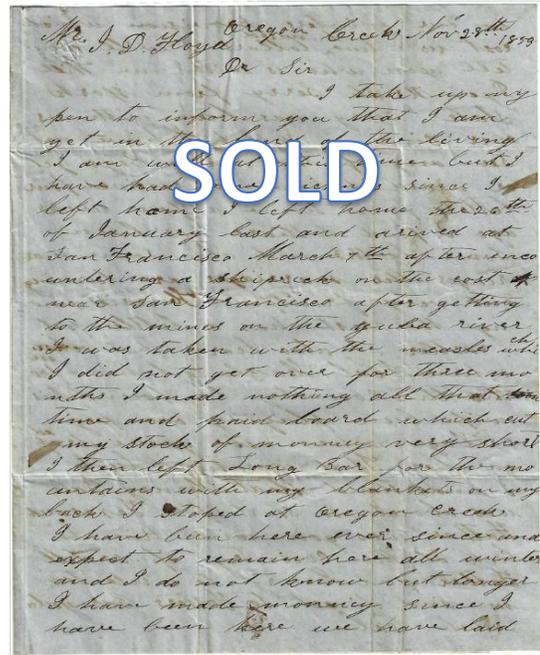
19. [GOLD RUSH] [MINING] [TRAVEL & EXPLORATION] [WESTWARD EXPANSION]

1859 – California Gold Rush letter from a miner who survived a shipwreck, overcame a serious bout of the measles, hiked up into the Sierra Nevada, and actually “made monney since I have been here.”

Three-page gold rush letter. No accompanying envelope. The letter is datelined “Oregon Creek, Nov 28th 1859”. It was sent by John J. Finnie to his brother-in-law at Union County, Kentucky. In nice shape. A full transcript will be provided.

In this letter Finnie reports to his sister, Susan, and her husband, J.D. (John David) Floyd.

“I arived at San Francisco March 7th after encountering a shipwreck on the cost near San Francisco after getting to the mines on the yuba river I was taken with the measles which I did not get over for three months I made nothing all that time and paid board which cut my stock of money very short I then left Long Bar for the mountains with my blankets son my back I stoped at Oregon Creek I have been here ever since and expect to remain here all winter and I do not know but longer I have made monney since I have been here we have laid in our winters provision which cost us two hundred dollars. . . I have not seen any of the Union Boys yet or heard of them I received four letters from home a few weeks ago I find thare has been Some deaths and also some marriages the marriages are turning out very fruitful Harriet among the rest has a little pot rastler I also learn that when Neal Hazle got home from this country he found his wife been playing one peg cribbage when the game dropped on her That was hard luck. . . Write to me and direct to Fosters Bar yuba County Cal. . .”



Multiple sources reference only two major shipwrecks occurring off the coast of California near San Francisco between January 1858 and March 1859, the *Zenobia*, a commercial vessel transporting ice from Alaska and the *Lucas*, a passenger ship from Victoria, British Columbia. It is unlikely that Finnie was on either. It is probable that his ship was one of the many hundred of lesser wrecks that occurred at Point Bonita in the Marin Headlands near the entrance to the Golden Gate.

Oregon Creek, which flows into the Middle Yuba River, is located about 40 miles northeast of Yuba City, in the heart of the Sierra Nevada, by far the richest of all the California gold regions. Finnie asked his mail to be directed to Foster’s Bar because that was the location of the nearest post office to Oregon Creek.

A ‘pot rastler’ or ‘pot wrestler’ was slang for a female cook. Since I could find no historical reference, one can only suppose what ‘peg’ Neal’s wife was fitting into what ‘whole’ when playing “one peg” cribbage.

(For more information see “Yuba River Gold” at goldrushuggets.com, Thomas’s “El Dorado: Land Use in California’s Mother Lode” at intimeandplace.org, and Finnie and Floyd genealogical records at ancestry.com; all available online.)

A very nice descriptive gold rush letter about a miner’s shipwreck on the way to California, his sickness upon his arrival, his hike to his claim in the Sierra Nevada, and, surprisingly, his “monney” making success.

SOLD #9889

20. [INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS - FLORIDIANA] [MARITIME] [MILITARY – PIRATES] [PHILATELY]

1817 - Letter from the French Consul in New York City to his counterpart in Charleston, South Carolina warning him that the infamous corsair, Captain Mourdeille, was enroute to reinforce Amelia Island just as the President James Madison’s patience with that piratical stronghold expired.

This two-page stampless folded letter measures 15.75” x 13”. It was sent through the U.S. mail by the French Consul in New York, Charles Louis Glu  D’Espinville, to his counterpart in South Carolina, Henry Buchet de Martigny. It is datelined December 10, 1817 when it was sealed with a “Consulat de France a New-York” handstamp. It bears a “25” manuscript rate, the cost to send a letter over 400 miles, and a circular New York postmark dated December 11th. In French; a translation will be provided. In nice shape with edge wear.

In this letter about Mourdeille, D’Espinville informs Buchet that

“Capt. Mourdeille, being aware that I was informed of his meeting with the pirates of Amelia, had been in hiding for eight to ten days, when I learned last Sunday, December 7, that he would embark on the schooner Maddison, going to Amelia with a crew of 20 or so recruited sailors and soldiers. . . It is said that there he will take command as a Corsair at Amelia. . . I am going to have a few lines about him inserted in the public papers. I enclose his description. . .”

Captain Jean-Fran ois Mourdeille and his more famous brother, Hippolyte, were pirate-privateers from Marseilles who operated in the Mediterranean, the Caribbean, and along the Spanish Main and American coast. Hippolyte most famously fought against Spain in the Spanish American Wars of Independence.

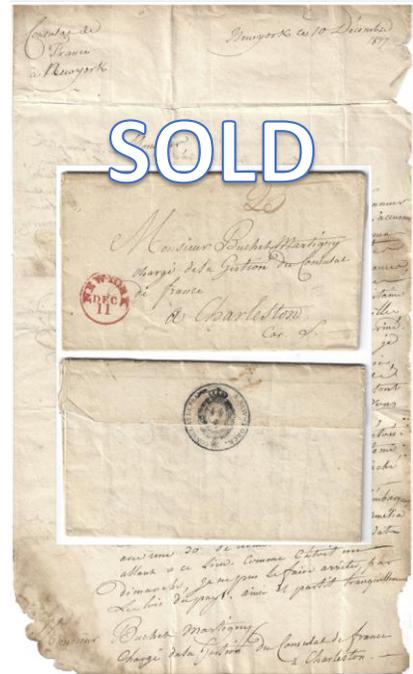
Although nominally under Spanish control, Amelia Island (just north of today’s Jacksonville, Florida) had long been a pirate stronghold where booty stolen from merchantmen and slaves stolen from Spanish and Portuguese slave ships were temporarily stored while awaiting sale.

By 1817, after the island was captured by the Scottish and French freebooters Gregor MacGregor and Louis-Michel Aury, who first declared it to be the “Republic of the Floridas” and later, part of the “Revolutionary Republic of Mexico,” President James Monroe took action. At the time, the United States engaged in negotiations with Spain to purchase all of Florida, and the piratical chaos on the island threatened their success. Monroe dispatched an American force, and after it appeared off Fernandina, the Amelia pirates, realizing their situation was hopeless, surrendered to Commodore J.D. Henley and Major James Bankhead on December 23rd, less than two weeks after this French Consul letter was posted. It is not recorded whether Mourdeille and his pirate band arrived before or after the surrender. Diplomatic discussions continued, and after acrimonious but ultimately successful negotiations, the U.S. agreed to hold Amelia Island “in trust” for Spain until the Florida Purchase Treaty was signed in 1819.

(For more information, see Lowe’s “American Seizure of Amelia Island” in *The Florida Historical Quarterly*, Vol. 45, No. 1 and Buti and Hrodej’s *Dictionnaire des corsaires et pirates.*)

An exceptionally rare piece of Florida history. At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade or has come up for auction per Rare Book Hub. OCLC shows there may be some correspondence regarding the pirates of Amelia Island in the Rogers Family Papers at the Pennsylvania Historical Society.

SOLD #9890



21. [INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS - TORTURE] [POLITICS]

1984-1986 – An archive of letters from a citizen to President Ronald Reagan and other politicians urging them to implement policies against “the abomination of torture,” along with responses he received from the State Department, Senator Alan Dixon, Senator Charles Percy, and Congressman Sidney Yates.

This archive consists of nine items.

Drafts and copies of letters sent by Ralph E. Works of Chicago, Illinois to President Ronald Reagan, Senator Alan Dixon, Senator Charles Percy, and Representative Sidney R. Yates, in which he vigorously urged them to support the United Nations’ 1984 *Convention Against Torture* which had grown out of Amnesty International’s Campaign Against Torture begun in 1974.

“Dear Mr. President . . . As you said in a recent speech there should be ‘increased respect for human rights everywhere. . . . I know you are promoting democracy which make societies in which torture is unlikely. But it is now, in many countries, by government.’”

Official response from President Reagan’s Department of State assuring Works that “The United States is profoundly and unilaterally opposed to any and all forms of torture.”

Responses from Senator Percy noting he had introduced an anti-torture bill in the Senate, Senator Dixon noting he had cosponsored that bill, and Congressman Yates noting that he cosponsored a companion bill in the House. In Yates’s letter, he also notes that President Reagan had signed the bill.

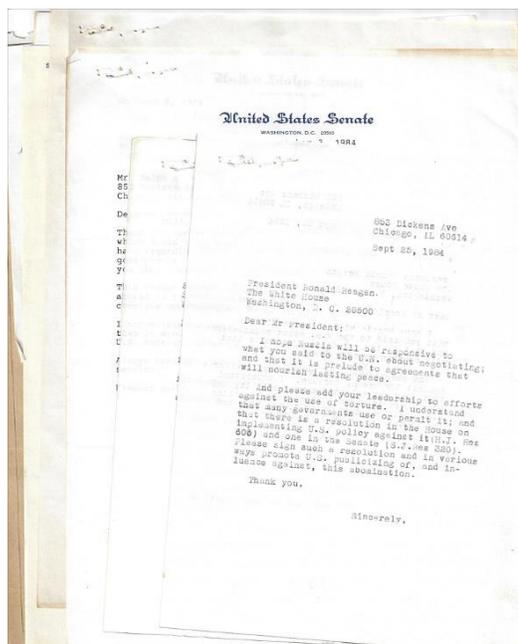
A page from the Congressional Record containing a Resolution by Senator Percy titled, “Opposing Torture in Foreign Governments.”

As confirmed by even his harshest critics in left-leaning publications like *Salon*, *The Atlantic*, and CNN, President Reagan was absolute in his opposition to torture in any form. As Reagan declared, when torture is found in any country, including the United States, it “is required either to prosecute torturers who are found in its territory or to extradite them to other countries for prosecution.” And, as written in the *Convention Against Torture* that he steadfastly championed, “No exceptional circumstances whatsoever, whether a state of war or a threat or war, internal political instability or any other public emergency, may be invoked as a justification of torture [to include] “other acts of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment which do not amount to torture as defined. . . .”

Of course, this was all pre-9/11 and the expansion of Islamic terrorism, which led Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama to look the other way when elements of the U.S. Government circumvented Reagan’s absolutism with legal arguments that allowed “enhanced interrogation techniques” in “ticking time-bomb” scenarios or when innocent lives are threatened.

(For more information see Dryer’s “The Truth About Torture” at *The Atlantic*, Greenwald’s “Ronald Reagan: vengeful, score-settling, Hard Left ideologue” at *Salon*, Bunch’s “Reagan, the myth and the man” at CNN, and Hentoff’s “President Reagan’s Torture Advice to President Obama” at the Cato Institute. All available online.)

\$200 [#9891](#)



22. [MARITIME] [MILITARY & WAR – FIRST MEXICAN EMPIRE & PIRATES] [PHILATELY]

1822 – A Ship Captain’s letter describing the discomforts and dangers of conducting business in Mexico including the possibility of being caught in battles between Spanish and Revolutionary forces and the ever-present threat from pirates.

This three-page stampless letter from Scott Lay, a ship’s master, to his sister in New York City. It measures approximately 15.5”x 9.5” and is datelined “Vera Cruz Novr. 24th 1822”. The letter was carried to New York City by Captain Boyer of the Schooner *Fly* as annotated in the bottom left corner of the front panel. In nice shape. A transcript will be provided. In this letter, Lay describes the hazards and problems of transporting cargo to Mexico.

“We shall Sail for Tampico tomorrow under the Convoy of the United States Ship John Adams which is fortunate for us as there are a number of Pirates on the Coast at present – we shall take in Cargo at Tampico for New York where I assure you I long to be I have seen quite enough of this Country as the Spaniards & Patriots are to Commence Fighting in a day or two and this port is to be shut in 48 hours. . . . I was also sorry to see by the Papers that New York has been so sickly this season . . . although it has been sickly in every Port we have been in I believe I am the only person on board that has not had a touch of it but they are all in good Health at present and would be in good spirits if were bound direct Home as Tampico is such a disagreeable Port every person dislikes going there. . . .

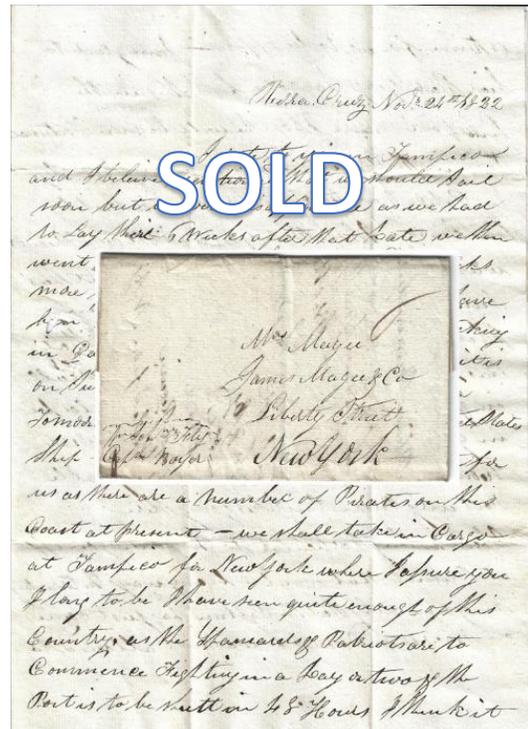
“The Captain has just come on Board and says he was not allowed to go into town or any person to come out so that I expect before tomorrow morning there will be some Round Balls Flying about our Heads to keep us from going to Sleep.”

At the time of this letter, the USS *John Adams* assigned to the West Indies Squadron after having fought in Quasi-War with France, the First and Second Barbary Wars, and the War of 1812. The West Indies Squadron was charged with defending American shipping from pirates that preyed on commercial vessels in the Caribbean, the Gulf of Mexico, and along the Spanish Main. She is best remembered for capturing the pirate stronghold Amelia Island off the east coast of Florida.

Political squabbles and violence had plagued Mexico since it achieved independence with the dissolution of the Spanish Empire following Napoleon’s invasion of Spain. Agustín de Iturbide was a Mexican officer in the Spanish army who, although initially loyal switched his allegiance to Mexican insurgents and after extensive political machinations declared himself the Emperor of Mexico in 1822. In addition to being beset by internal conflicts, Iturbide was also threatened by one remaining garrison of the Spanish Army at Fort San Juan de Ullua on a small island off the coast of Veracruz. The upcoming battle referred to by Lay was related to General Antonio López de Santa Anna’s feigned Mexican plan to entice the Spanish force to Vera Cruz where it could be ambushed and defeated while simultaneous backstabbing Iturbide and seizing control of the country.

An uncommon first-hand report of the risks in doing business in Mexico during the early 19th Century.

SOLD #9892



23. [MARITIME] [MILITARY – EAST INDIAN SQUADRON] [RELIGION] [SERVITUDE – COOLIES] [TRAVEL & EXPLORATION]

1856 – A long and marvelously detailed letter about life in Mauritius and Ceylon written by an officer assigned to the flagship of the U.S. East Indian Squadron including information about the British use of Coolie slavery.

Benjamin Franklin Isherwood, the Chief of the Naval Engineer Corps wrote this 10-page detailed letter to his mother between February 22nd and March 10th while serving as the Chief Engineer aboard the U.S.S Steam Frigate *San Jacinto*, an experimental screw frigate designed to test new propulsion concepts. The *San Jacinto* was the flagship of the U.S. East Indian Squadron and at the time engaged in an important three-year cruise that took it to Mauritius, Ceylon, Penang, Siam (Thailand), Japan, and China. A transcript will be provided. Throughout his letter, Isherwood assures his mother that

“The engines are at this moment working beautifully. I keep them in first rate order & they give me no trouble, . . .”

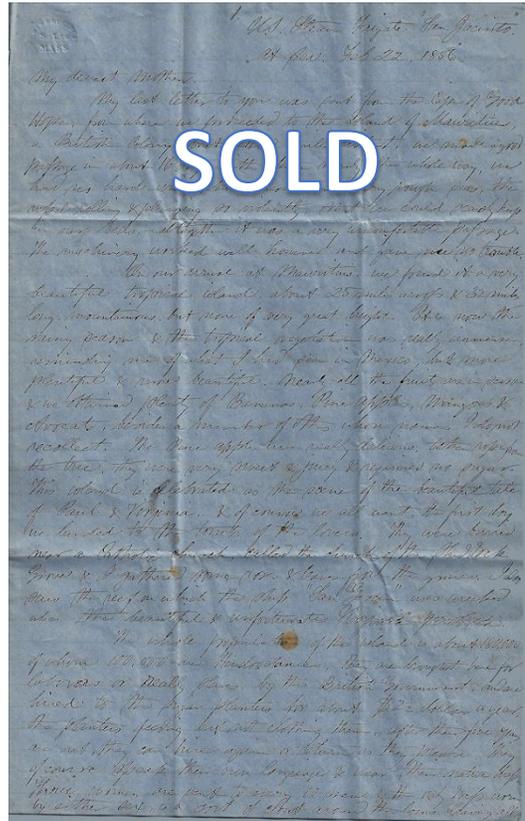
His most historically significant observation is with regard to the incredibly oppressive coolie labor system hypocritically employed by Great Britain in lieu of African slavery.

“The whole population of [Mauritius] is about 180,000, of whom 100,000 are Hindoostanees; they are brought here for laborers, or really slaves, by the British Government, and are hired to the sugar planters for about \$2½ a year, the planters feeding, but not clothing them. . . . They of course speak their own language & wear their native dress. Three women are sent to every 10 men. . . . They . . . have overseers who flog them as the slaves are flogged in the South. . . .”

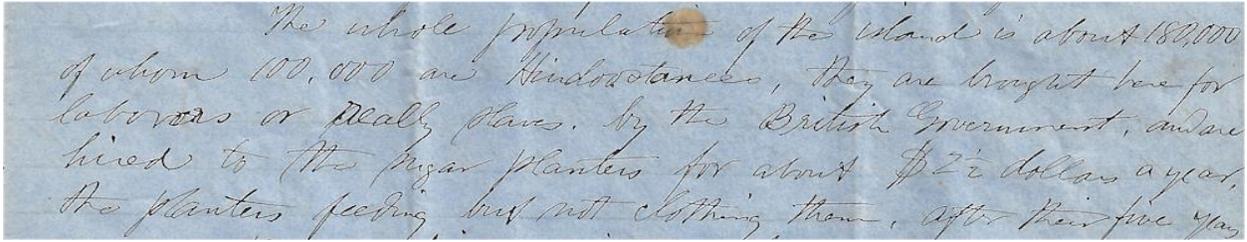
This is only the tip of this iceberg of a letter. Although written from a decidedly Western point-of-view Isherwood’s long, detailed descriptions of the people, culture, religion, geography, flora, and fauna of Mauritius and Ceylon are none-the-less captivating and encyclopedic. A few of his observations include:

“The town of Port Louis is very wretchedly built, there is not a single fine building in it. . . . I got a carriage & rode out a good deal in the country; it is magnificent, the only thing cultivated for exportation is sugar, & they ship off an immense quantity of it. . . . There are always 50 or 60 ships here either discharging guano or taking in sugar. . . . All the fine accounts we read of oriental magnificence has thus far turned out a mere humbug & I understand it is the same throughout the East Indies. . . .”

“We are now in the real East Indies, real Asia & everything looks like it. . . . The houses are all small & meanly built. . . . From the walls of town, the tropical forests extend for miles & miles in one dense mass of foliage . . . thick that even in noon day, it is a sort of twilight on the ground in the woods. The trees are filled with monkeys and birds, & the earth is covered with snakes. . . . The Copra Cassello is the most



dangerous . . . its poison is a sure death. . . . There are also many anacondas here of immense length, 70 & 100 feet; their bite is not poisonous, but they crush their prey in their folds. . . .”



The whole population of the island is about 180,000 of whom 100,000 are Hindoostances, they are brought here for laborers or Pealy slaves. by the British Government, and are hired to the sugar planters for about \$2¹/₂ Dollars a year, the planters feeding, but not clothing them, after their five year

“A few of the natives are Christians, a few Mohamedans, but the immense majority are Idolators & worshippers of Buddha. Yesterday, I visited one of the temples. . . . In the cell of the temple, which is handsomely decorated, are the idols; the principal one is a colossal image of Buddha in a sitting, or rather squatting posture; . . . If erect, would be about 50 feet high. . . . On the other side is the idol representing Vishnu, & opposite is another representing Siva. . . . The Buddhists believe that after death, the soul of man enters into various animals. . . . The kind of animal it goes into, the sufferings it experiences in those inferior shapes, & the length of time that elapses before it regains the shape of man, is proportioned to its vice or virtue. . . . The educated among them . . . say they do not worship the idols, but the Deities represented . . . and that they only use the idols as the Catholics do the images of Christ & the Virgin Mary. . . . but in practice, particularly among the lower & ignorant classes, the idols are really worshipped & the highfalutin part of the religion is but little understood. . . .”

“We have all the fruits, Bananas, Cocoa nuts, Shaddocks, Jack fruit, Bread fruit, Orange, Limes, Pine Apples, Mangoes & Manosteens, & a variety of others. . . . All the aromatic trees grow here, the cinnamon, allspice, pepper & variety of others, & the people at night are fond of burning them for the fragrance of the smoke. The cocoa nut tree, however, is the great standby of the people. They drink its milk, eat the kernel, use its leaves to thatch their huts, make their canoes out of its trunk & also oil from the fruit. . . . A man who owns twenty or thirty of these trees is considered well off. . . .”

Isherwood mailed this letter in Ceylon just before the *San Jacinto* departed for Penang where it picked up a recently appointed consul, Townsend Harris, who when the ship stopped at Bangkok, established diplomatic and commercial relations with Mongkut, the ruler of Siam who was made famous in the west by Rodgers and Hammerstein musical, *The King & I*. In Japan, Harris established the first official foreign diplomatic office permitted in the country and negotiated the treaty that opened Japanese ports to American trading. Before returning home, the ship was drawn into the infamous British Opium Wars in China in order to protect the small American community of merchants and missionaries at Whampoa (Huangpu).

(For more information see Mahmud’s “Benjamin Franklin Isherwood” at the ASME website and “San Jacinto I (ScFr)” at the Naval History and Heritage Command website.)

An exceptional letter from an important naval officer written while on a ground-breaking cruise of Asia.

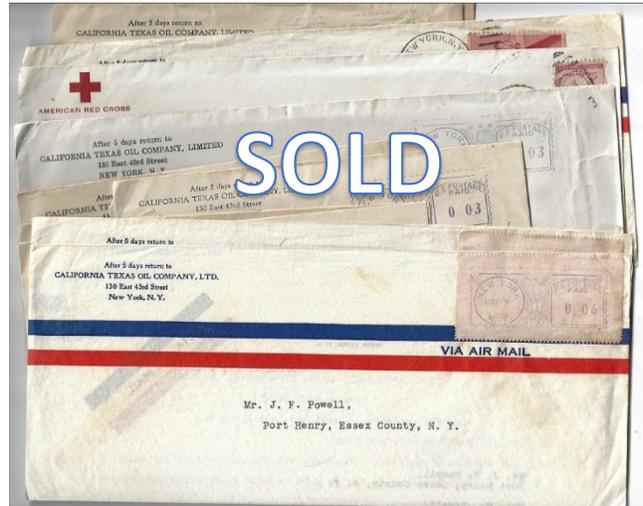
Very scarce. At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade. Nothing similar has appeared at auction per the Rare Book Hub. OCLC reports one institution holds a rather dry ship’s log from a later less important cruise by another ship as well as a diary kept between 1853 and 1856 by an East Indies sailor on a different ship.

SOLD #9893

24. [MARITIME] [MILITARY – WORLD WAR TWO] [PETROLEUM] [PHILATELY]

1941-1942 - A correspondence archive documenting the internment of an American oil company employee in Hong Kong by the Japanese army and his return to the United States on the MS *Gripsholm* Swedish repatriation ship.

There are 14 pieces of correspondence (13 letters and one telegram) in this archive. All were sent to either Mr. or Mrs. J. F. Powell of Port Henry, New York between 17 December 1941 and 9 August 1942 using a mix of postage. Most were sent by the Manager of the Asiatic Division of the California Texas Oil Company (CALTEX) from New York City. One was sent by the American Red Cross, and the telegram and one letter were sent by the Powell's son, who had been interned in Hong Kong. All are in nice shape. Transcripts will be provided.



As part of its attempt to conquer all of Asia during World War II, Japan launched its attack on Hong Kong on the morning of 8 December 1941 one day after its infamous sneak attack on Pearl Harbor. Outnumbered British, Canadian, and Hong Kong Defense forces were soon overwhelmed and the Japanese army crossed the Victoria Harbor on the 18th. The city officially surrendered a week later on Christmas Day.

Excerpts include:

15 December 1941 – As the Japanese prepared to assault Hong Kong, the Powell's son was able to send a Western Union telegram that simply stated, "Everything OK Don't worry".

17 December 1941 (the day before the Japanese crossed Victoria Harbor) – "We are glad to advise that we have to-day received advice from Hong Kong, by cable, that your son and the rest of our staff in Hong Kong are well and safe. . ."

26 December 1941 (the day after Hong Kong surrendered) – "For you information, your son is located in Hong Kong and a recent cable received from Hong Kong advised that all of our staff there are well and safe. . ."

11 February 1942 – "We have not had any word lately from our people in Hong Kong . . . but we are endeavoring to communicate with them through our government at Washington, and they believe some means will be established for communications. . . It is our belief that all of our people in Hong Kong are safe and well . . . and also our other employees who are in cities that have been captured by the Japanese. . ."

14 March 1942 – "We have had a message from Mr. Sumner Welles, Assistant Secretary of State . . . advising that they have been able to get in touch with our employees in Shanghai and Tientsin, and that our staffs are free, in good health, and living in their private residences. They are endeavoring also to get in touch with our people in Hong Kong. . ."

20 March 1942 – "We are just in receipt of a cable from our Chunking representative, Mr. J. M. Hanson, which reads as follows : 'Have information Hong Kong American staff safe.' . ."

1 April 1942 – "At the present time our people are confined to the Texaco Terminal quarters. . ."

25 April 1942 – “The New York Chapter of the American Red Cross has offered its services in endeavoring to transmit messages to any of our employees who are interned in China or the Philippines. . . . The attached Civilian Message Form should be filled out in detail. . . . Messages are limited to 25 words and should be of a purely personal nature. . . .”

4 June 1942 – “We are very glad to advise that we have a notification from the State Department in Washington that there will be an exchange of civilian prisoners in the near future, and that your son is on the list to come out of Hong Kong on the first boat. . . .”

7 July 1942 – “Swiss Legation Tokyo telegraphs detailed list American official personnel and American Nationals to be embarked on Asama Maru: John F. Powell’. We have been advised by the State Department that the passengers who embark on the Asama Maru will be transferred at Lourenco Marques to the Gripsholm and proceed to the United States. The date of arrival in this country is indefinite. . . .”

24 July 1942 – “We arranged for our South African Organization to detail a man to Lourenco Marques to meet the incoming vessel with exchange Americans on board from Hong Kong, and we have to-day received a cable from our people in Africa advising that you son has arrived at Lourenco Marques and was trans-shipping by the S/S “Gripsholm”, which will be returning to the U.S. A., and the latest information we have is that the “Gripsholm” will arrive in New York about August 25th. . . .”

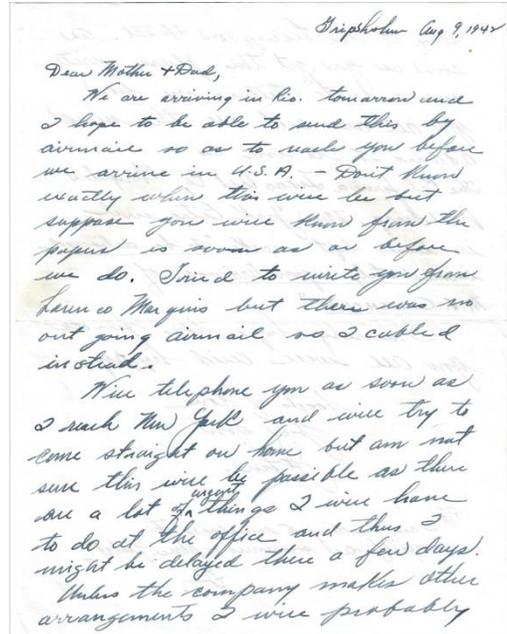
9 August 1942 – “Dear Mother & Dad, We are arriving in Rio tomorrow and I hope to be able to send this by airmail so as to reach you before we arrive in U.S.A. . . . Will telephone you as soon as I reach New York and will try to come straight on home but am not sure this will be possible as there are a lot of urgent things I will have to do at the office. . . . Unless the company makes other arrangements I will probably stay at the Lexington Hotel. As soon as you get this please write me a note telling me how you all are and all the news. Address it to me as - - The California Texas Oil Co, Chrysler Building, New York City and in lower left mark “To be delivered immediately upon arrival of M.V. Gripsholm”. . . .”

10 August 1942 – “The latest information we have is that the S/S ‘Gripsholm’ is now at Rio, and is expected to arrive in New York on approximately August 24th and to dock at Jersey City. We are arranging for two of our shipping people to meet the boat to assist in getting our employees through the customs and to advance them any money they may require. . . . There is going to be a Government Examination of all passengers and it is quite likely that it may take some of the passengers several days before they are permitted to leave the ship. . . .”

(For more information, see Fiset’s *Detained, Interned, Incarcerated*)

The California Texas Oil Company was formed in 1936 as a joint venture between the Texas Company (TEXACO) and Standard Oil of California (now Chevron) to market Saudi Arabian oil throughout Africa, the Middle East, Asia, Australia, and New Zealand. It still exists today as part of the Chevron Corporation.

A collection of original source material documenting the fall of Hong Kong, imprisonment of American civilians by the Japanese, and their eventual repatriation to the United States. Includes a rare letter sent by a confine from the Swedish repatriation ship, MV *Gripsholm*.



SOLD #9894

25. [MARITIME] [MILITARY – WORLD WAR TWO] [] [PHILATELY] [RELIGION – MISSIONARIES] [WOMEN]

1943 – 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.

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 embarking at the bow of the other. (For more information, see Fiset’s *Detained, Interned, Incarcerated*)

A rare piece of World War II history from a missionary who had been released from a Japanese internment camp in China written on ship stationery while aboard the *M.S. Gripsholm*

SOLD #9624



26. [MEDICINE & NURSING] [PHILATELY]

1848 – A long letter detailing the death of a young woman from smallpox and the terror it caused within the local community.

This four-page stampless folded letter measures 15"x10" unfolded. It was sent by "Cousin Nell" in Hartford, Connecticut to Anna L. Andrus at Harwinton. The letter is datelined "May 28'/48" and bears a faint circular Hartford postmark in red and a bold red "5" rate stamp. In nice shape; a transcript will be provided.

The letter describes the death of Ann Gaylord who became infected with smallpox while visiting Nell. Initially, she was suspected of simply having gastric distress and subsequently an outbreak of a rash and pimples. However, after Ann's blistery blemishes cojoined to cover her entire face and body, Nell recognized that her friend "had got the small pox."

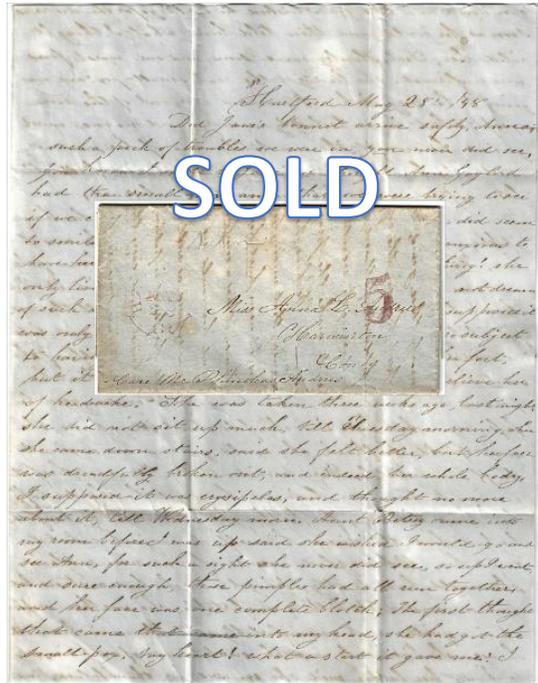
"Aunt Betsy . . . wished I would go and see Ann, for such a sight she never did see, so up I went. . . . Those pimples

had all run together and her face was one complete blotch. The first thing that came into my head , she had got the small-pox. My heart! What a start it gave me. . . . Doct Hawley came soon, and our worst fears were confirmed. . . . He ordered every [thing] out of the room except what was absolutely necessary, and no one must go near her, except the one to take care of her, and we must all be vaccinated immediately, as we had all been exposed, and that was our only safeguard. . . .

"We asked her how she felt about going home, she was rejoiced to think she could go. . . . Wm met her father coming to town on business, He said he should take her home directly for he thought she might go comfortably. He had had the disease himself, knew just what to do for her. O how glad we were, for we were so afraid she would have to stay, pa got a coach, had a straw bed put in, covered it with a comfortable, she was then wrapped up in a quilt, when as comfortable as if she was in the house, she lived only a week. . . . Mr. Gaylord said he laid Ann out, put her in the coffin, nailed it, and carried it out of doors, & followed her to the grave alone. No neighbor daring to venture near the house except the minister to make the prayer! Poor Ann, peace to her remains! . . .

"All the houses around were shut up tight for fear of infection, even now, when [our] house has been thoroughly cleansed, and, every thing washed and burnt that could contain the contagion, some are afraid to come near us, it is all over the city, scarcely a street but someone sick with it. I think I should have had it, for my arm was sore as if I had never been vaccinated, it made me sick for about a week, pa had all the hands in the shop vaccinated . . . making them sick. I really hope all of you will be careful, the doct. says it is in the air, and all over the country."

A scarce first-hand account of a smallpox death and the fear it visited upon the neighborhood. At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade. The Rare Book Hub identifies several Civil War letters noting smallpox outbreaks, although none approach the detail of this one. A handful of letters, primarily from Civil War soldiers and missionaries, mentioning smallpox outbreaks are held by institutions per OCLC, however most do so only in passing, and none apparently approach the detail of this letter.



SOLD

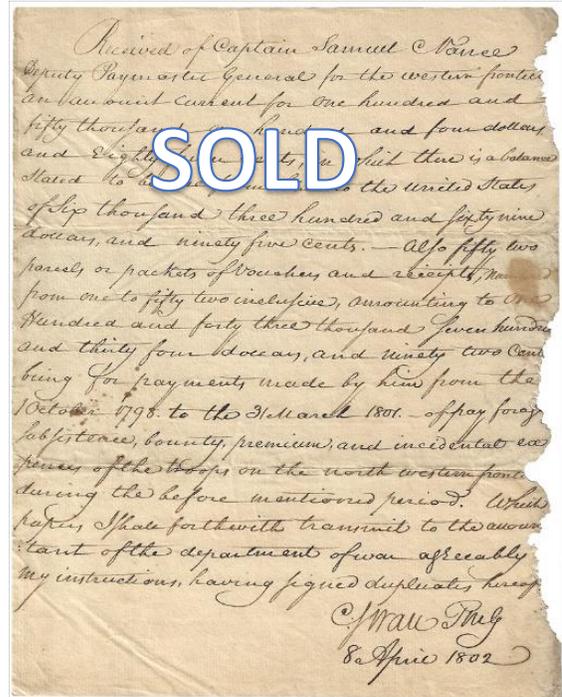
#9895

27. [MILITARY – NORTHWEST FRONTIER] [WESTERN EXPANSION]

1802 – Receipt from the Paymaster General of the U.S. Army acknowledging his deputy's accounts showing the total cost to defend the western frontier immediately before the Louisiana Purchase.

This receipt from Major Caleb Swan acknowledges that he had received the accounts documenting the total cost to defend the United States' western frontier for the years 1798- 1801 from his Deputy Paymaster, Captain Samuel Vance. Probably signed at Fort Washington, Ohio (now downtown Cincinnati about two blocks for the Red's Great American Ballpark).

"Received of Captain Samuel Vance . . . an account current for one hundred and fifty thousand one hundred and four dollars and eighty seven cents, in which there is a balance stated to be due from him to the United States of Six thousand three hundred and fifty nine dollars, and ninety five cents. – Also fifty two parcels or packets of vouchers and receipts, numbered from one to fifty two inclusive, amounting to one hundred and forty three thousand seven hundred and thirty four dollars, and ninety two cents being for payments made by him from 1 October 1798 to the 31 March 1801 of pay, forage, subsistence, bounty, premium, and incidental expences of the troops on the north western frontier."



In 1800, there were 3,429 soldiers serving in the Regular Army: four infantry regiments, two troops of dragoons, and two regiments of artillerists and engineers. Most were deployed along the western frontier and a few assigned to Atlantic seaboard garrisons.

Caleb Swan served in the Revolutionary War, first as an officer in Massachusetts regiments and later in the 1st American Regiment, which remained on active duty following the war. After serving as a clerk in the War Department's pay office, he became an Agent to the Creek Nation. He was appointed by George Washington as the paymaster for the Legion of the United States in 1792, and after that force transitioned into the United States Army in 1795, he was given the rank of major. The *Act of May 8, 1792* officially charged him with managing "the pay, the arrears of pay, subsistence or forage, due the troops of the United States," and after certifying accounts to be correct, issue warrants for their payment.

Samuel Vance had been a captain in the 1st Sub-Legion of the Army and later the 3rd Infantry Regiment. While in the 3rd Infantry, he was selected as the deputy paymaster for the Northwest Territory and was headquartered at Fort Washington, near Cincinnati, Ohio.

(For more information see Maas's *Defending a New Nation 1783-1811* and Ward's *The Department of War, 1781-1795*.)

A scarce financial record documenting the cost of providing for the defense of America's old western frontier during the two years immediately prior to the Louisiana Purchase. At the time of listing, no similar documents are for sale in the trade, and the Rare Book Hub shows only three have appeared at auction in the past 135 years. There may be similar documents located at the National Archives or the Arthur G. Mitten and Vance Family Papers collections at Indiana State University.

SOLD #9896

28. [MILITARY – WAR OF 1812] [PHILATELY] [WOMEN]

Letter celebrating the end of the War of 1812 sent by a woman in rural New York who was surprisingly aware of a British violation of the Treaty of Ghent soon after its signing.

This four-page stampless folded letter measures 15.5"x9" unfolded. It is datelined "March 4th 1815". It bears a manuscript Salem, New York postmark of the same date and a "25½" rate mark which includes a 50% surcharge added to the normal rate of 17 cents charge to mail a letter between 150 and 300 miles. In nice shape. A transcript will be provided.

It was sent by "M T" in Salem to her sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Magee, in New York City. Although filled with news of family and friends, its primary purpose was to joyfully announce the end of the War of 1812.

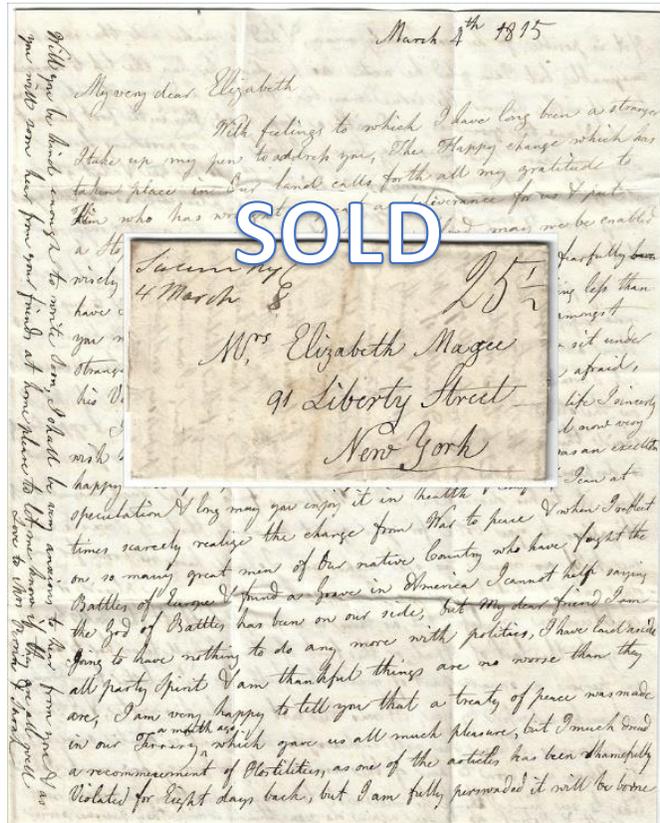
"The Happy change which has taken place in Our land calls forth all my gratitude to Him who has wrought so great a deliverance for us & put to stop the effusions of human blood. .

.. Fearfully have I anticipated the return of spring expecting nothing less than you would be obliged to leave your home for a shelter amongst strangers. . . I cannot help saying the God of Battle has been on our side. . . I am very happy to tell you that a treaty of peace was made . . . a month ago . . . but I much dread a recommencement of Hostilities, as one of the articles has been Shamefully Violated for Eight days back, but I am fully persuaded it will be borne if it is possible. . .

Will Scott & Robert go to sea again do you think, or will they pursue some other avocation. . . Dad ought to treat your mama & himself with a Voyage to England Scotland &c &c. I expect many will be going from all parts. I think our commissioners must have had a fine time of it, but they are heartily welcome since they have concluded with peace. . ."

After the U.S. Senate unanimously approved the treaty on 16 February 1815, President James Madison exchanged ratification papers with a British diplomat in Washington on 17 February, and the treaty was proclaimed on 18 February. Therefore, it seems odd that a woman in Salem, a remote New York town on the Vermont border, would have had knowledge of that before her sister in New York City. Even more surprising, she knew that the British had already violated one of its articles; on 24 February, at the Battle of St. Mary's, Rear Admiral Sir George Cockburn, the same British officer who directed the burning of Washington, D.C. in 1814, ordered a company of Royal Marines to attack American forces upriver near Folkston, Georgia, despite knowing full well that the war had formally ended.

SOLD #9897

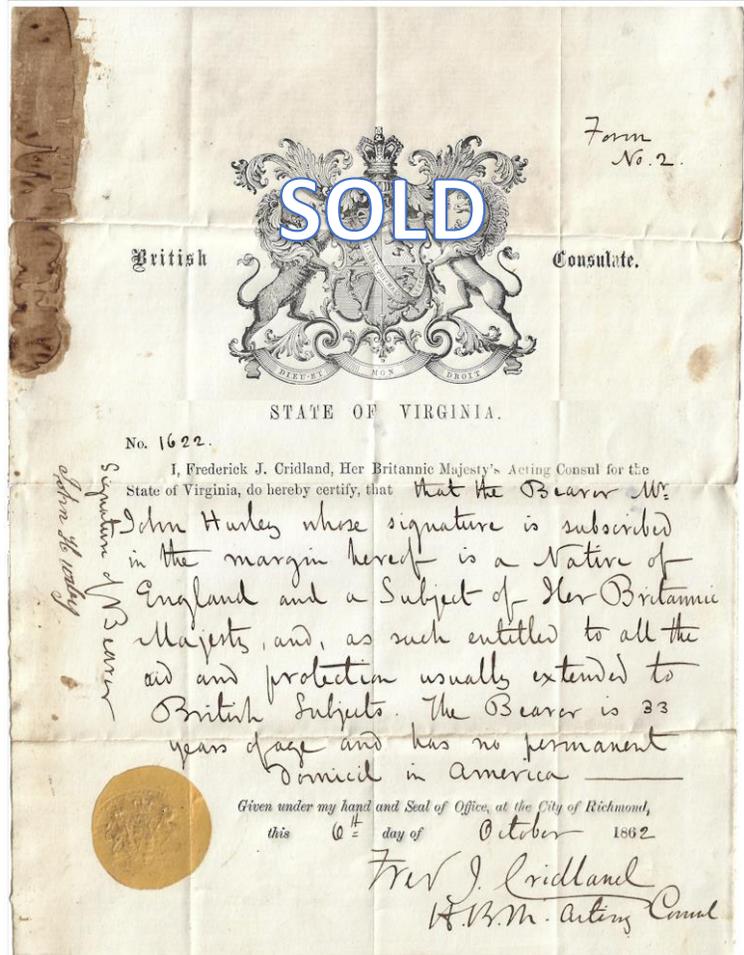


29. [MILITARY – CIVIL WAR]

Set of certificates documenting the enlistment of a British citizen to serve as a substitute in the Confederate Army as a member of the 59th Regiment of Virginia Volunteers, also known as the 2nd Regiment and Governor Wise's Legion.

Under the Confederate law, a draftee could evade service by hiring someone who was exempt from the draft to replace him, i.e., someone under or over conscription age, one whose trade or profession was exempted, or a foreign national. Generally, the 'principal,' as those supplying substitutes were called, paid a fee to the government and a large sum to his substitute. The cost to hire a substitute could approach as high as \$3,000 in specie and even higher in Confederate currency.

These three documents are in nice shape with stains along their upper left margins where they were once glued together. They are:



A certificate from the British Consulate at Richmond, dated 6 October 1862, declaring Hurley to be “a Subject of Her Britannic Majesty . . . entitled to all aid and protection usually extended to British Subjects [who have] no permanent Domicil in America.”

A certificate from the Clerk of the Eastern District of Virginia, dated 6 October 1862, that Hurley was “at present residing within the State of Virginia . . . with the intent to become a citizen thereof, and that he doth acknowledge the authority of the Government of the said Confederate States.”

A declaration by Hurley that “I have not received from or paid to any Agent money and am not a member of any Company whatever.” Hurley’s declaration is followed by a Confederate Surgeon certification that he had “carefully examined” Hurley and that Hurley was “competent and able to discharge military duty.” It concludes with certification by the Commander of “Co L, 59 Regt. Va / Wise Brigade”, G. A. Wallace, that George C. Pope of Southampton County, Virginia, a member of my Company of Infantry having furnished an able-bodied man, well clothed . . . as a substitute for the war, is this day discharged for said Company. . .” The action was approved by Colonel C. F. Henningsen.

These documents are listed in Muller’s *War Papers of the Confederacy* on page 17.

The 59th Virginia Infantry Regiment was commanded by General Henry A. Wise, a former Governor, and deployed to defend the North Carolina coast. There, it was soundly defeated when Union forces launched

an amphibious landing on Roanoke Island; over half the regiment, including Wise, were captured. Subsequently, the surviving forces were consolidated into the 26th Virginia Infantry Battalion. After Wise was exchanged, he returned to Virginia and worked tirelessly to reform his regiment. Hurley enlisted in the 59th, shortly before it was officially reconstituted on 1 November 1862.

Colonel Charles F. Henningsen, the Wise subordinate who approved this Hurley's substitution, was an infamous adventurer. Belgian by birth, besides joining the Confederacy, he fought with the Carlists in Spain, with the Circassians against the Russians, with the Hungarians against Austria, and as a filibuster with Walker in Nicaragua. Later, he provided support to Cuban revolutionaries.

(For more information see "Substitutes (Civil War)" at the North Carolina Encyclopedia online, Mahin's *The Blessed Place of Freedom: Europeans in Civil War America*, Sherwood and Weaver's *59th Virginia Infantry*, and "Charles Frederick Henningsen" at Wikipedia.

Although many Britons joined the Confederate army, extant supporting documentation is scarce. This set is especially appealing because of its association with Governor Wise and Charles Henningsen. At the time of listing, only one similar item has appeared at auction per the Rare Book Hub, and no similar items are for sale in the trade. OCLC shows no similar items held in institutional collections.

\$800 [#9898](#)

John Hurley a native of *England*, aged *33* years, this day declared on oath before me, Clerk of the District Court of the Confederate States of America, for the Eastern District of Virginia, that he is at present residing within the State of Virginia, and that it is bona fide his intention to reside within the Confederate States of America, with the intent to become a citizen thereof, and that he doth acknowledge the authority of the Government of the said Confederate States:

Given under my hand this *6th* day of *October* 1862:
 A true transcript from the records of the District Court aforesaid, *John N. Elliott, clk.*

In testimony whereof I hereto subscribe my name and annex the seal of the said Court on the day and year aforesaid.
John N. Elliott, clk.

I hereby declare, on oath, that I am ^{a non-}resident of the State of *Virginia*, and of the Confederate States of America, and am ^{not} a citizen thereof, and am *33* years of age.

I have not received from or paid to any Agent money, and am not a member of any Company whatever.
John Hurley

Sworn to before me, this *6th* day of *October* 1862
J. H. Beach, J.

1862.

I do hereby certify, that I have carefully examined *John Hurley* and find that he is competent and able to discharge military duty.

Given under my hand this *6th* day of *October* 1862
Surgeon
 P. A. C. S.

HEAD-QUARTERS,
October 6th 1862
 I do hereby certify, that *George C. Pope* of *Southampton* County, *Virginia*, a member of my Company of *Infantry* having furnished an able-bodied man, well clothed, in the person of *John Hurley* as his substitute for the war, is this day discharged from said Company, under the laws and orders regulating the same.

Approved
C. F. Henningsen
 Col. 59th Reg. Va. Inf.

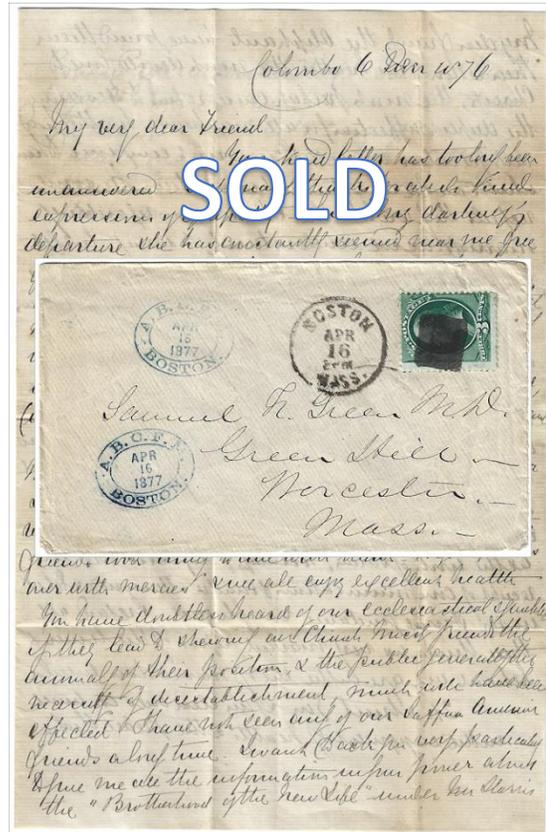
G. A. Outland
 Capt. 59th Reg. Va. Inf.

30. [PHILATELY] [RELIGION – CULTS] [RELIGION – MISSIONARIES]

1876 – Letter to one of Ceylon’s most important American missionaries from one of its most senior British civil servants who feared his lifelong friend – a famous author, diplomat, and Member of Parliament – had fallen under the spell of a mystical 19th century American religious cult.

This three-page letter from L. E. Leishing in Ceylon to Dr. Samuel H. Green sent via the American Board of Commissioners of Foreign Missions (A.B.C.F.M.) is datelined “Colombo 6 Dec 1876”. It is accompanied by a second letter written in Sinhala. Both are enclosed in the original mailing envelope which was favor-carried from Ceylon (today Sri Lanka) to the A.B.C.F.M. office in Boston for forwarding to Green in Worcester. The envelope bears two oval A.B.C.F.M. receiving marks and is franked with a 3-cent stamp to cover the forwarding cost. The stamp is cancelled with a black square Boston duplex postmark dated April 16. All are in nice shape. A transcript of the English letter will be provided. In nice shape.

After first relating family news and informing Green that he not lately heard from his fellow missionaries in Jaffna, Lieshing expresses concern for an old friend he fears has falling under the spell of a strange American religion.



“I want to ask you very particularly to find me all the information about the ‘Brotherhood of the New Life’ under Mr Harris. My dear friends, the Oliphants have joined them. Their letters . . . hold very peculiar views & I am most anxious to know what can be ascertained about them. . . . That they are deeply in earnest I have not a shred of a doubt, but they may be under some subtle delusion I aim to know more about. . . . Sadly O is my oldest and dearest friend. Harris while he condemns spiritualism in unmeasured terms as the work of Satan, himself professes to be in receipt of communications from the otherworld & be under Divine guidance & influence. I regard these things as very marked signs.”

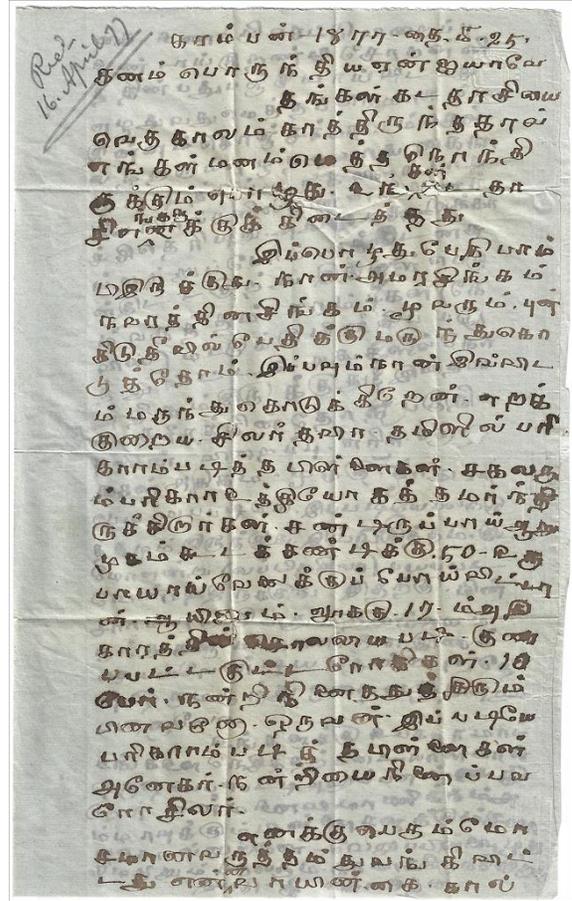
Dr. Samuel F. Green was a missionary who had graduated from New York’s College of Physicians and Surgeons. He served with the American Ceylon Mission in Jaffna from 1847 to 1873. While there, Green translated at least nine important medical texts in Tamil in order to train local doctors in their native language. He established the first academic medical hospital in Ceylon where he trained over 60 Tamil physicians. The hospital is still in existence today; it is a state-of-the-art medical center now known as the Green Memorial Hospital.

L. A. Lieshing served as an important British colonial civil servant in Ceylon for nearly forty years and wrote the classic *A Brief Account of Ceylon* which is still in print today.

The Brotherhood of the New Life was a mystical, religious, and communal American cult society led by Thomas Lake Harris. Records of its beliefs are muddled but believed to have incorporated some elements

of the Fox Sister's Spiritualism, Mormonism, and Swedenborgian mysticism. Within the Brotherhood community, located at at Brocton, New York, husbands were always separated from wives, and parents from their children. Instead, groups of three or four persons were formed, however if any affections developed within a group, it was broken up. Harris promoted the use of tobacco and made a special wine that he imbued with "divine breath" to neutralize all "noxious influences." Harris demanded complete surrender of both fortunes and moral judgement from his adherents, insisted upon marital celibacy, and taught that a special method of breathing would permit possession by Jesus Christ and result in immortality, which he claimed to have already achieved.

Laurence Oliphant, a long-time friend of Lieshing since childhood, was a British diplomat, member of Parliament, and an author, who, along with his wife, created a scandal when they became members of the Brotherhood of the New Life in 1868. Thirteen years later in 1881, the Oliphants broke free of Harris's control and eventually recovered thousands of pounds from him through successful lawsuits. Interestingly, although they had lost faith in Harris himself, they continued to adhere to many of the Brotherhoods teachings.



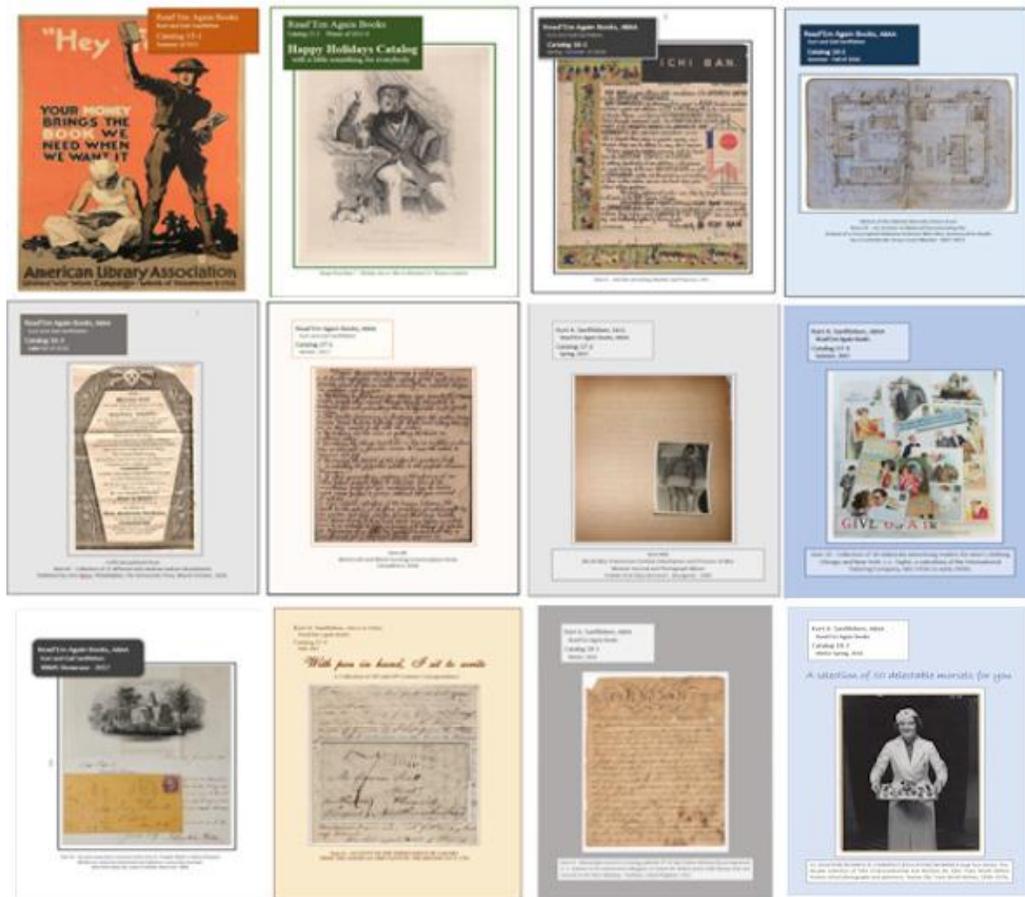
(For more information, see Sabaratnam's "Growth of Nationalism" in *Sri Lankan Tamil Struggle* at Iankai Tamil Sangam, "Brotherhood of New Life" in Stevens's *The Cyclopedia of Fraternities*, and "Harris, Thomas Lake" in the 11th edition of the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, all available online.)

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