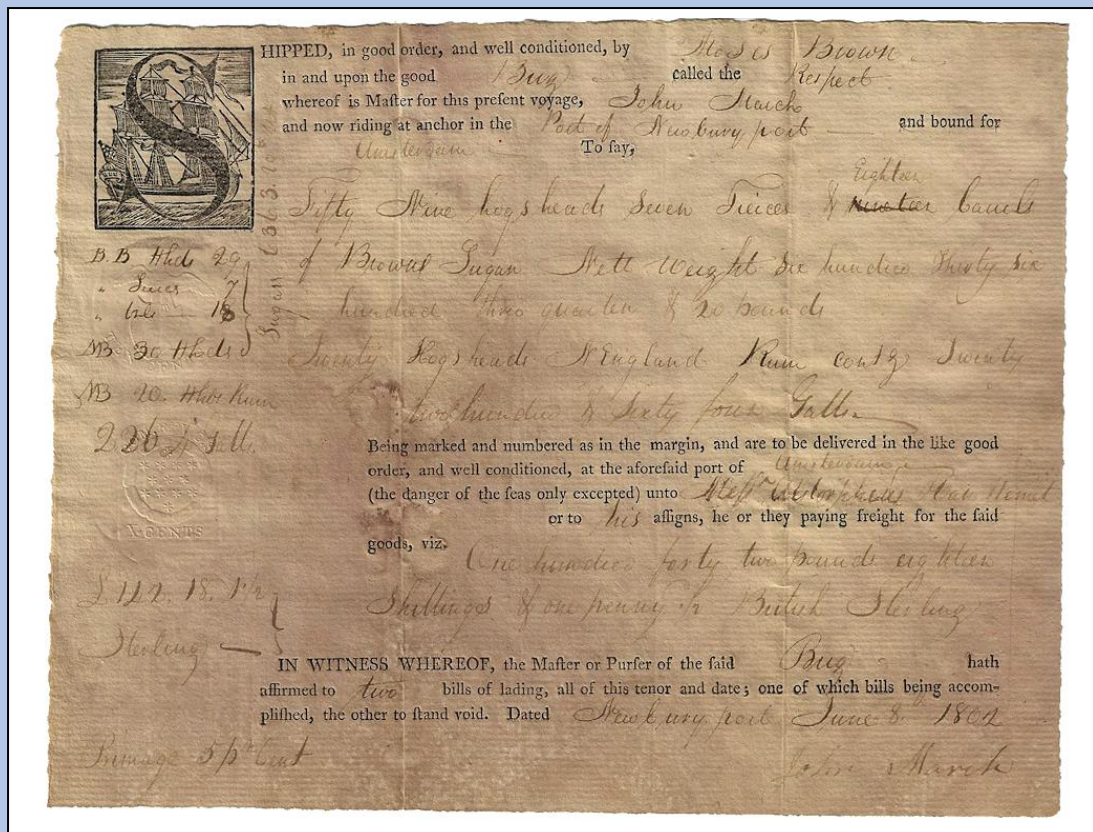


Kurt A. Sanftleben, ABAA and ASDA

Paper Americana and Postal History

Catalog 23-4 – August 2023



1. [BUSINES – SUGAR & RUM] [PHILATELY] [SLAVERY – TRIANGLE TRADE]

1802 – Illustrated manifest for the export of a shipment of rum and brown sugar to Europe on the “good Brig *Respect*”, commissioned by Moses Brown of Newburyport, Massachusetts, one of the wealthiest participants in the New England Triangle Trade that brought thousands of enslaved Africans to the Caribbean, South America, and United States. Franked with a colorless, embossed, two-part 20-cent tax stamp (Scott #RM261a) from the Second Federal U.S. Revenue Issue.

Diaries, Journals, Correspondence, Photographs and Ephemera

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Regards, Kurt and Gail

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The Manuscript Society

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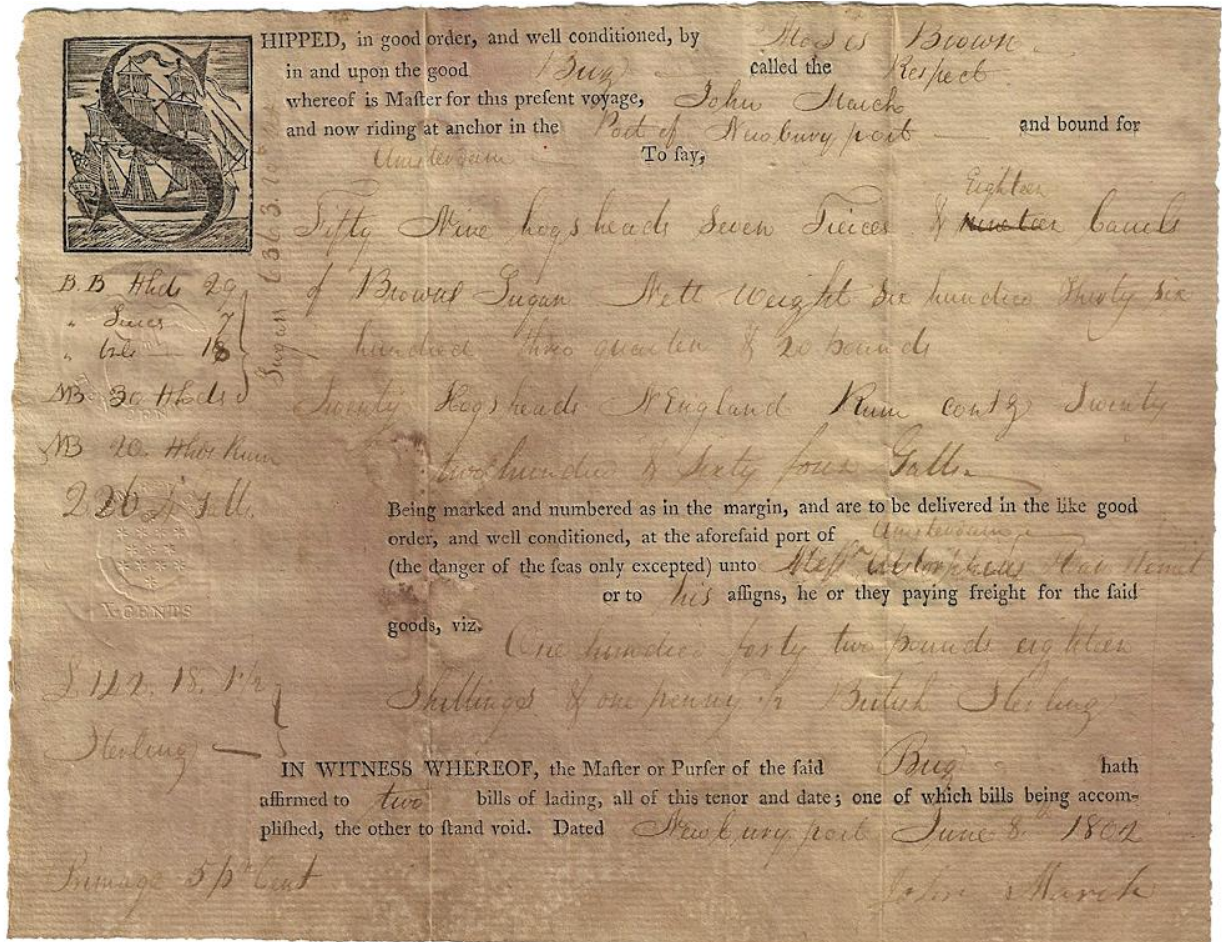
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1. [BUSINES – SHIPPING, SUGAR & RUM] [PHILATELY] [SLAVERY – TRIANGLE TRADE]

1802 – Illustrated shipping document exporting a shipment of rum and brown sugar to Europe commissioned by one of the wealthiest participants in the Triangle Trade



This partially printed shipping document dated "June 8th, 1802" measures 8" x 6¼". It is illustrated with a large capital 'S' that depicts an oceangoing ship in the background. In it, Moses Brown of Newburyport, commits to transporting rum and sugar to Amsterdam via the Brig *Respect*, captained by John March. In nice shape with some toning and storage folds.

Of note, the document is franked with a colorless, embossed, two-part 20-cent stamp (Scott # RM261a) from the Second Federal Revenue Issue, which was in use from 1 March 1801 until 30 June 1802. The first part of the stamp shows an eagle and shield and is denominated 10 cents. The second part, known as a counter stamp, shows a wreath with 13 stars; it is labeled "COM. REV. C.S." (Commissioner of Revenue Counter Stamp) and bears the denomination "X CENTS". Both parts appear along the left margin, under the S/Ship illustration.

The document reads in part:

"Shipped, in good order, and well conditioned, by Moses Brown in and upon the good Brig called the *Respect* whereof is Master for this present voyage, John March and now riding at anchor in the Port of Newbury port and bound for Amsterdam To say,

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

Fifty five hogsheads, Seven Tierces & Eighteen barrels of Brown Sugar Nett weight six hundred thirty six hundred three quarter & 20 bound

Twenty Hogsheads N England Rum cont & Twenty to hundred & Sixty four Gallons. . .

Freight for the said goods, viz, One hundred forty two pound eighteen Shillings & one penny ½ British Sterling. . .”

Moses Brown was one of the wealthiest merchants in the United States and the second wealthiest person in Newburyport. He was a prominent landowner, shipbuilder, distiller, and owned a series of wharfs. He was also a notorious participant in the Triangle Trade that brought African slaves to the Americas. Although Brown neither traded nor shipped slaves, his huge business was an integral part of the other two-thirds of the Triangle Trade (sugar/molasses and rum). A plaque in the city’s public square, Brown Square, in the city reads,

“Brown became wealthy and helped the development of Newburyport based on his profits from the ‘Triangle Trade,’ the economic engine that drove much of the slave trade in the 18th and 19th centuries.”

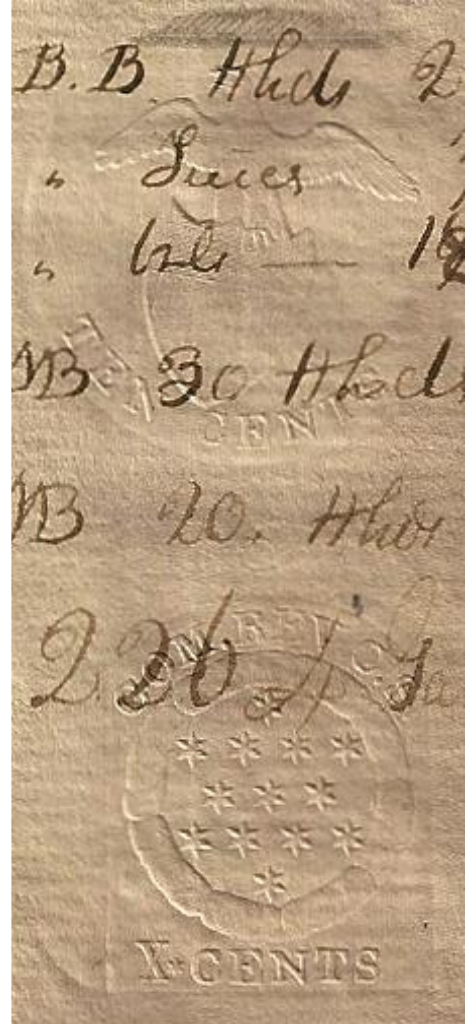
Ironically, a statue of one of the most important American abolitionists, William Lloyd Garrison, stands in Brown Square, and Brown’s former residence, located along the square, has been converted into a hotel, the Garrison Inn.

Much of New England’s economy was built upon the slave trade, and Newburyport was a significant beneficiary. Prior to emancipation numerous families in the relatively small community owned slaves of their own. Many prominent families, besides Brown built or invested in ships that supplied the slave trade, knowing full-well the vessels were used to transport slaves purchased from rich and powerful African kings and merchants along the continents coast. Between 1734 and 1858, Newburyport citizens (mariners, merchants, ship owners, ship builders, carpenters, rum makers, innkeepers, etc.) profited mightily from the trade. Between 1734 and 1858, the 47 slave ships built in Newburyport were used to transport over 22,600 Africans over the brutal Middle Passage; more than 3,500 hundred of them died during before reaching the slave pens of the Caribbean, South America, and the United States.

(For more information, see Hendrickson’s “The economics of slavery” online at the Newburyport *Daily News*, “Your Ancestors Stayed with Us” at the Garrison Inn website, and “Brown Square” at the Newburyport Clipper Heritage Trail website.)

One of the nicest and most definitive Triangle Trade shipping documents we have seen documenting New England’s prominent role in the African Slave Trade. Collections of Moses Brown papers are held at several institutions including the Harvard Business School, University of California-Davis, and the University of South Carolina.

\$1,500 [#10091](#)



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

2. [ABOLITION – GRADUAL EMANCIPATION] [AFRICAN-AMERICANA] [SLAVERY – ABOLITION]

1816 – Indenture regarding the transfer of ownership of an enslaved servant girl and her young daughter that illustrates how “Gradual Emancipation” was practiced in Connecticut beginning in 1784

In 1780, the Pennsylvania legislature established *An Act for the Gradual Abolition of Slavery*. Although decreeing that all persons already enslaved remained so for the rest of their lives, it also prohibited the importation of slaves and declared that although children born to slaves after that date were also free, they were required to work as indentured servants for their mothers’ masters until the age of 28.

In 1783, Connecticut, which at the time had more enslaved workers than any other northern state, passed a similar law, the *Gradual Abolition Act* declaring all slaves born after March 1, 1784, would become free upon attaining the age of 25 for men and 21 for women. It did not, however, free those already enslaved. The practical result was that slavery was allowed until 1848.

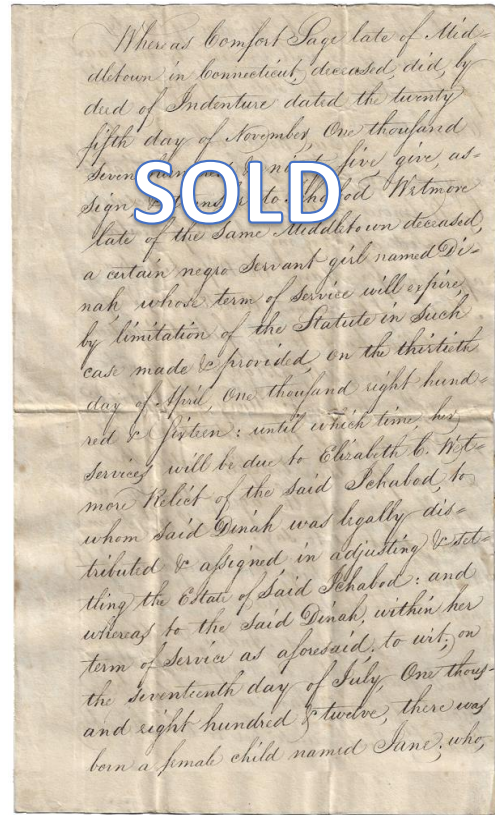
This document clearly shows how the state’s system of gradual abolition was practiced. It reads in part:

“When Comfort Sage late of Middletown in Connecticut, deceased, did . . . give, assign, & transfer to Ichabod Wetmore [now] deceased, a certain negro Servant girl named Dinah, whose term of service will expire by limitation of the Statute . . . on the thirtieth day of April, one thousand eight hundred & fifteen: until which time her Services will be due to Elisabeth C. Wetmore . . . to whom Said Dinah was legally distributed [by] the Estate of Said Ichabod. . . . On the seventeenth day of July, One thousand eight hundred & twelve, there was born [to Dinah] a female child named Jane; who, until she arrives at the age of twenty one years, is & will remain, by the Laws of this State, the sole property of Said Elisabeth. Now . . . I the said Elisabeth . . . do give, grant, sell, assign, & confirm for the Said Andrew & Mary his Wife & to their assigned, the said Jane, in Service for their benefit, until she shall arrive at the age of twenty one years; that is to say; until the Seventeenth day of July, One thousand eight hundred & thirty three. The Said Andrew & Mary shall provide for the comfortable support of said Jane in Sickness & in health; shall cause her to be instructed, if capable of learning, in reading & righting. [Further, they must] dismiss Said Jane decently clad, at the age of twenty one years, in conformity of the requisition of the Statute. . . .”

(For more information see, Stannard’s “Slavery in Connecticut. . .” in *The Middleton Press* 19 June 2020, “Connecticut Abolitionists” at the National Park Service website, and Hink’s “Gradual Emancipation. . .” at the Connecticut History website.)

An exceptionally scarce document. At the time of listing, nothing similar documenting the gradual emancipation process in a New England state is for sale in the trade. The Rare Book Hub shows only one similar document that has ever appeared at auction, and OCLC identifies one similar document held by an institution.

SOLD #10092



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

3. [DISEASE – MUMPS & DYSENTERY] [PHILATELY]

Circa 1820 – Stampless letter from a young woman in Middletown, Connecticut to her father in Southbury describing an outbreak of the mumps

This one-page stampless letter, measuring approximately 7 ½" x 12" is undated, but its distinctive Middletown postmark was only used between 1819 and 1822. It was sent by "Daughter Aletta Thompkins" to her father, "Shadrack Osborn / Postmaster/Southbury". It bears a scarce 36 x 30 mm rimless oval "MIDDLETOWN / CON." postmark in red (see ASSC, page 32) along with a red "FREE" handstamp. In nice shape.

In this letter, Aletta informs her father about the poor health of Middletown including an outbreak of mumps and a death from dysentery.

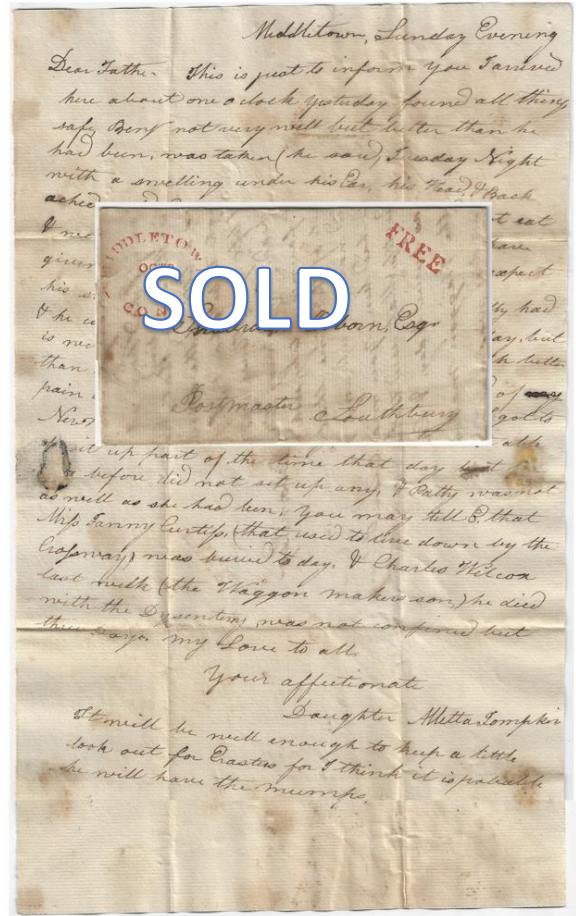
"Benj [who] was taken (he said) . . . with a swelling under his Ear, his Head, & Backache, cold Chills [that] ran over him, could not eat. . . I expect his swelling is the same kind that Erastus & Sally had & he complains a little of the other side today, but is well enough to be without. I feel much better than when I left your House riding carried of pain in my head. I ws very tired when I got to New Haven & found Betsey sick abed but able to sit up part of the time that day . . . before did not sit up any, & Patty was not as well as she had been. You may tell B. that Miss Fanny Curtiss . . . was buried today. & Charles Wilson . . . (the Waggon makers son) he died with the Dysentery, was not confirmed but three Days. . . It will be well enough to keep a little look out for Erastus for I think it is probable he will have the mumps."

Shadrack Osborn was a general merchant in Southbury who was known as a "wheeler-dealer" in the pork trade. He served as a commissary sergeant during the Revolution, and achieved local fame for ensuring several hundred barrels of pork were hidden so as to not fall into the hands of the British Army. He also served as a selectman of the town and its postmaster, which entitled him to free frank his mail. Mail, like this letter, could also be sent to him free of charge.

Although mumps was primarily a children's disease, it often afflicted adults as well. Although seldom fatal, it caused significant painful swelling of the saliva glands under the chin and made it difficult for sufferers to swallow. Few cases of mumps occur today as the Measles, Mumps, and Rubella vaccine has been routinely administered to infants since its development in 1971.

There are business papers collections of the Shadrack Osborn family located at Yale and New Haven Colony Historical Society.

SOLD #10093



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

4. [BUSINESS – FARMING] [GENEALOGY – PAUL A. OLIVER FAMILY] [MARITIME] [PHILATELY]

1830-1852 – Correspondence archive pertaining to the family of sea captain Paul Ambrose Oliver including letters to, from, and about his wife Mary Van Deusen Oliver and children

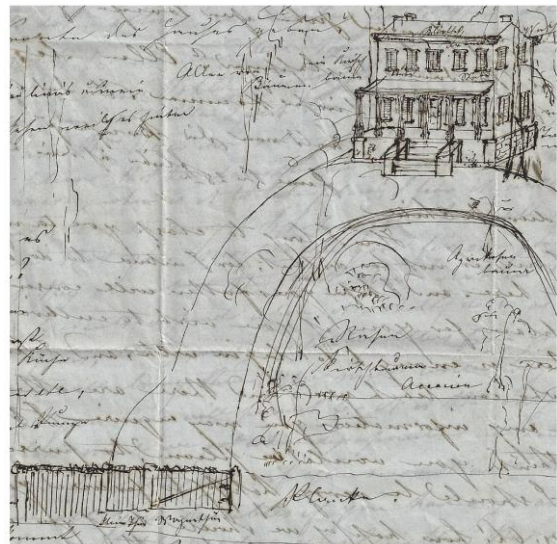
This fascinating archive contains 29 distinct letters and documents on 22 leaves. While ranging from 1830 to 1852, most are related to business in 1840 and from 1844-1846 while the family was focused upon the education of Paul Ambrose Oliver, Jr in Hamburg. These stampless letters were sent from and to a variety of locations and bear postal markings and rates from Anvers (Antwerp), Altona (an independent Danish borough in Hamburg), Gothenborg, Hamburg, Havana, Boston, Charleston, Fort Hamilton, Memphis, New York, and Philadelphia. In nice shape. An annotated inventory with partial transcriptions will be provided.



One of the letters contains two hand-drawings: an annotated sketch of a ship sailing in the English Channel, and a Star-Map of the Eastern Sky. Another letter contains an exceptionally well-done sketch of the family's new home at Fort Hamilton, New York.

Some of the highlights include discussions about

The impact of the Mexican-American War and the Opium War of 1840 on the family business. "My Idea is that as England will be at war soon with China America and other nations will be able to do good business in the trade as the article is already rising & will no doubt continue so. . . I think the best you can do now as to send me [George Washington Oliver] to the East Indies to get a Cargo of tea. . ."

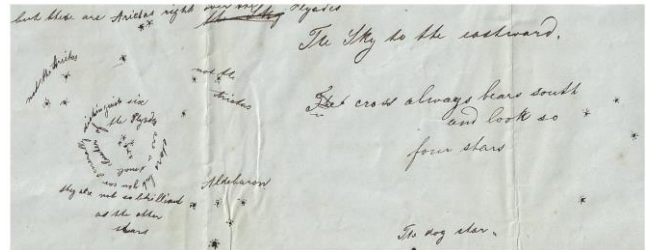
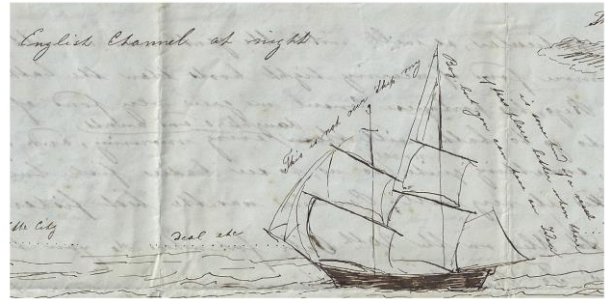


The difficulty of obtaining freight contracts during the depression that followed the Panic of 1837. "I called on every Spanish shipper in the place [Havana] . . . but nothing decisive [until] Messers Felser Piccard & Co . . . offered to take up the ship to load at Matanzas. . . There are so many vessels in port that we would gladly gone for less. . ."

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

Crew problems. "Our Steward is good for nothing, so if your Family comes home in the Ship, if you possibly can prepare yourself with one, it will contribute much to their comfort on a dreary passage. . . . The mate is certainly a smart little fellow but like most people, rather over estimates his abilities. . . ."

Presents for customers and associates. "I recd you very kind letter announcing the shipment of birds as a present to my wife & have since by the kindness of Mr. Cunningham recd them in good order Mrs Cook desires me to thank you for them as nothing could have been more acceptable & as an evidence of your feelings though at a distance of thousands of miles they are inestimable. . . ."



Captain Paul A. Oliver, Sr.' trip to Memphis , Tennessee, and his opinion of the city

A family voyage from Hamburg to Rio de Janeiro via St. Ubes (Setubal, Portugal),

The family's new homestead at Fort Hamilton, New York, and especially

Paul Ambrose Oliver, Jr.'s education in Hamburg and his future plan to become a farmer which horrified his father:

"But what is this abt farming. Do you know what a farmer is in this country? To be a farmer you must be practible you must work – bodily hard labour a farmer here . . . can do nothing unless he labours himself. Where & how are you to learn farming. . . . My opinion is that, if you cannot as you say be a doctor either of Law or Medicine, that you had better be a Merchant. . . . From where you got your strange ideas about Learned men or at least the learned professions. . . . Why did [we] not know that you would [wanted to] follow the plough trail & pick up potatoes. . . . Rural ideas are a fine in theory but I never knew an American Farmer that liked to work for 50 cents per day, or \$6 per month. . . . what to make of you perhaps a Lawyer, a Doctor, a Trader, Architect, an Engineer all of the professions are good very good in this country [but] I can hire a good practical farmer on my estate for 100 to 150 \$ a year. . . ."

The senior Oliver died in 1848, after which Paul, Jr. settled in New Orleans and entered the cotton trading business with his brother, George. Eventually Paul, Jr. joined his mother and sisters at Fort Hamilton. and during the Civil War he served in the 12th New York Infantry Regiment. Later, he became an aide to Generals George G. Meade and Joseph Hooker and was promoted to Brigadier General before the end of the war. After the war, Oliver founded gunpowder mills at Wilkes-Barre and Luzerne, Pennsylvania. He died on May 18, 1912.

(For more information, see "Oliver, Paul Ambrose," in *The National Cyclopaedia of American Biography*, genealogical records at Ancestry.com, and "Paul Ambrose Oliver" at the Find-A-Grave website.)

A significant group of original source material providing fascinating details about an American maritime mercantile family. A 50-item archive of Oliver family material (mostly earlier) appeared at auction in 2012, and a collection of Oliver family items (mostly later) is held at the University of Michigan.

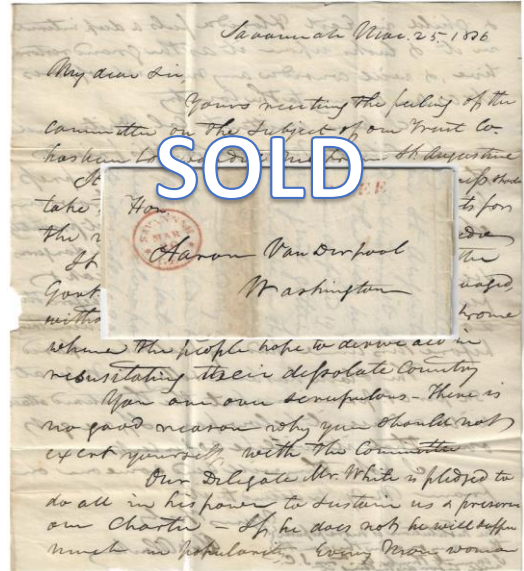
SOLD #10094

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

5. [BUSINESS – BANKING & FINANCE] [FLORIDIANA] [MILITARY – SEMINOLE WARS] [PHILATELY]

1836 – Letter from a founder of one of the “Big Three” Florida territorial banks berating a New York Representative for Congressional attack upon his bank’s charter while East Florida’s Seminole attacks on plantations and settlements had created an economic depression

This four-page folded letter, measuring 15½” x 10” unfolded, contains two text pages. It is from Lot Clark to “Aaron Van Derpool” (elsewhere Vanderpoel and Vanderpool), a New York Congressman. The letter is dated March 25, 1836, and bears a circular ‘SAVANNAH / GEO’ postmark in red dated March 26 along with a “FREE” handstamp. The letter is in good shape with several small splits along its mailing folds; two have tape mends. A transcript will be provided.



Lot Clark was a prominent East Florida banker and founder of the Southern Life Insurance & Trust Company which was located at St. Augustine. He also was a leader of the nine-member “Committee of St. Augustine” established to press Congress for protection from the Seminoles who were destroying the unprotected plantations, farms, and settlements of East Florida, both terrifying settlers and destroying the economy. In this letter, Clark berates Vanderpoel for jeopardizing his banks charter:

“It seems strange to me that Congress should take this peculiar time to stifle efforts for the introduction of capital into Florida. It would seem to be enough for the Govt. to permit our country to be ravaged without drying up the only source from where the people hope to derive aid in resuscitating their desolate country. You are over scrupulous. There is no good reason why you should not exert yourself with the Committee. Our Delegate Mr. White is pledged to do all in his power to sustain us & preserve our Charter – If he does not, he will suffer much in popularity. Every Man . . . & child in East Florida feels a deep interest in it & looks upon it as the grand restorative [and] will consider any man who opposes it as an enemy to the Country. . . . The institution is more popular than any one in the South I cannot think ye will be for disturbing it L.C.”

As Seminole attacks continued to alarm the populace, Florida’s economy contracted even further as settlers abandoned their plantations and farms, fleeing to St. Augustine. Additionally, an outbreak of citrus scale devastated the orange crop. After the national Panic of 1837 rolled into a long-term depression, the Southern Life Insurance and Trust Company along with the other two major banks suspended specie payments, crushing the economy which remained stagnant until after the Civil War.

(For more information, see *Hostile Indians in Florida* H.R. Doc. No. 80, 24th Cong., 1st Sess. (1836), President Van Buren’s Message to the Senate of May 19, 1840, regarding “The Bonds issued under the authority of the Legislature of Florida”, and “The ‘Big Three’ Banks” in Dovell’s *History of Banking in Florida 1828-1954*, all available online.)

Scarce. At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade; the Rare Book Hub identifies nothing similar having ever appeared at auction, and OCLC shows nothing similar held by an institution. However, obsolete bank notes and bonds issued by the Southern Life Insurance and Trust Company occasionally appear on eBay and at numismatic and scripophilic auctions.

SOLD #10095

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

6. [ALCOHOL – CIDER] [HOLIDAYS – 4TH OF JULY] [POLITICS - PRESIDENTIAL]

1840 – An illustrated letter sheet listing subscribers who have pledged money for the annual Whig Fourth of July celebration and William Henry Harrison's campaign for president

The bifold letter sheet (Milgram WH-8) measures 8" x 9¾" folded. It is datelined "Salem June 1840." It features a portrait of a long-faced, dour Harrison with a rustic log cabin scene alongside. Two soldiers and a civilian are drinking cups of "hard cider" drawn from a barrel sitting next to the cabin's door. A plow, symbolizing simple hard-working farmers stands next to the men. An imprint under the scene reads "Sold by Peter C. Jones, 110 State St., Boston."

Beneath the illustration, the unnamed donation coordinator has written,

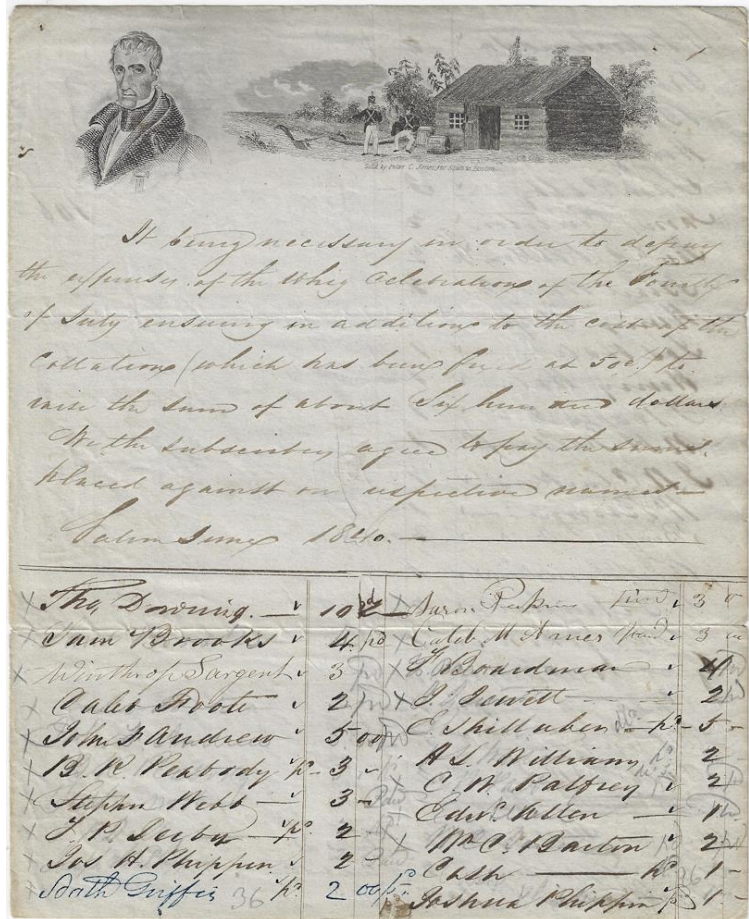
"It being necessary in order to defray the expenses of the Whig Celebration of the Fourth of July ensuring in addition to the cost of the collations [probably food, drink, and fireworks] which has been fixed at 50c to raise the sum of about Six hundred dollars We the subscribers agree to pay the sums placed against our respective names."

Forty-seven Whig subscribers signed the pledge on two pages, and the list of names includes several prominent Salem citizens, e.g., Caleb Foote, Winthrop Sergeant, Stephen Webb, Joshua Phippin, B.R. Peabody and Thomas Downing.

The election occurred during the worst depression that the United States had then yet experienced, and the public blamed the incumbent, President Martin Van Buren. Harrison campaigned as a "log cabin – hard cider" man of the people, while portraying Van Buren as indifferent to the public's pain. After Harrison was elected, he gave an inauguration speech that lasted almost two hours in cold and inclement weather. He contracted pneumonia and died one month later.

(For more information, see Milgram's *Presidential Campaign Illustrated Envelopes and Letter Paper 1840-1872* and Lot 176 in Bonham's 11 April 2016 Caren II auction.)

At the time of listing, no Harrison campaign letter sheets are for sale in the trade, and OCLC does not identify any in institutional holdings. However, they occasionally appear at auctions. The Rare Book Hub and Stamp Auction Network show six have appeared at auction including this specific item which sold at a 2016 Bonhams auction.



\$375 [#10096](#)

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

7. [MILITARY – MEXICAN-AMERICAN WAR] [PHILATELY] [TRAVEL] [WESTWARD EXPANSION]

1846 – Letter describing the celebrations in Nashville, Tennessee as “Vollenteers” began to form companies to fight in the Mexican-American War

This four-page stampless folded letter with two pages of text measures 16½” x 10” unfolded. It was sent by Charles M. King in Nashville to Miss Anna Louisa Bockins of Philaladelphia. The letter is dated May 13, 1846, and bears a circular Nashville postmark dated May 24. In nice shape. A transcript will be provided.

Charles reports that war fever that had gripped Nashville and describes his trip from Philadelphia.

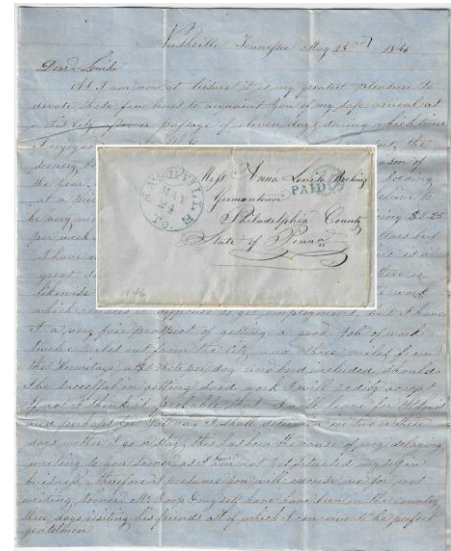
“There was a large war meeting held at the Court house on the 19th inst on which occasion governor Brown . . . addressed the citizens a great strain of eloquent war speeches, the excitement here is very great on last evening the requisition arived . . . calling for 3 regiments of Vollenteers amounting to twenty eight hundred & fifty men there are three companys of vollenteers ready formed & parading through the City daily, playing Yankee doodle, hail Colombia and various other airs. . . The drums are continually ringing through my head. . . On the passage here we Stopt at . . . Louisville in Kentucky which is one of the most beautiful places that I have seen. . . After a passage of eleven days during which time I enjoyed good health & every convenience of . . . I took bording at a private house with a Mr. Butler, whom I believe to be very much of a gentelman, the price of bording, being \$2.25 per week, the wages variaing from eight to ten dollars but I have not yet engaged. . . There is a great deal of building here . . . likewise a great number of hands to perform the work which renders it difficult to get employment, but I have a very fair prospect of getting a good job of work twelve miles out from the City . . . \$1.75cts per day and bord included should I be successful . . . I will redily accept If not I think it probable that I will leave for St Louis and perhaps for Galena, I shall determine in two or three days wether I go or stay, this has been the cause of my delaying writing to you Sooner. . .”

In 1846, the United States went to war with Mexico due to a combination of reasons including boundary disputes, attacks upon U.S. Army patrols, bitterness over Texas’s joining the Union, and an ever-growing belief in Manifest Destiny. As the U.S. Army consisted of only 9,000 soldiers, President Polk realized that the country would need to rely upon volunteers from the slates. So, the Secretary of War, William Marcy, sent calls to each of the states. Tennessee was asked to provide two regiments of infantry and one of cavalry totaling around 2,800 men. When Governor Brown broadcast the call, over 30,00 Tennesseans enthusiastically volunteered to fight in the war, earning the sobriquet, the “Volunteer State” and making it necessary to conduct a lottery to fairly determine who would be allowed to serve.

(For more information, see “Mexican-American War” at the *Encyclopedia Britannia*, “The Mexican-American war in a nutshell” at the National Constitution Center, and Johnson’s “Mexican War” at the *Tennessee Encyclopedia*, all available online.)

Scarce, no similar first-hand descriptions of the celebrations to provide volunteers to fight in Mexico are for sale in the trade. OCLC identifies no similar items, although some may be held in two or three collections of personal papers from Tennessee volunteers who served in the war.

\$450 [#10097](#)

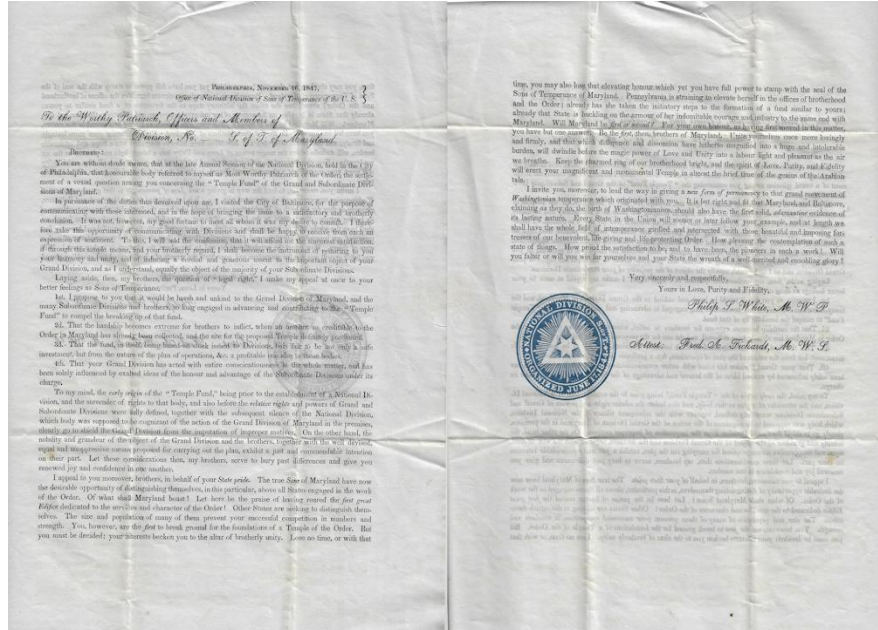


Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

8. [ALCOHOL – TEMPERANCE] [FRATERNAL – BENEVOLENT SOCIETIES] [INSURANCE] [PHILATELY]

1847 – Circular addressing a conflict between the “Grand and Subordinate Division of Maryland” and National Division of the Sons of Temperance which was sent to a “Brother” in Maine with a cover letter discussing the location of the society’s next quarterly meeting

This four-page folded letter contains a two-page printed circular with a blue Sons of Temperance seal and a one-page manuscript letter. The circular is signed in print by Philip L. White and Fred. A. Fickhardt and datelined “Philadelphia, November 16, 1847”. The letter is datelined “Phila. Dec 7/47” and signed by White. It bears a blue “10 Cts” Philadelphia postmark also dated December 7th and was sent to the Reverend J. P. Weston, leader of Maine’s temperance movement, in Gardiner.



The Sons of Temperance, a semi-secret organization dedicated to “free the intemperate from the Slavery of King Alcohol,” was divided into Subordinate, Grand, and National Divisions. It was established in 1847 on the bones of a prior temperance group, the Washington Temperance Society which had fractured into ungovernable pieces over prohibition, religion, politics, and abolition. To become a Son, members had to pledge not to manufacture, sell, or drink any intoxicants. Before being accepted for membership, an applicant’s lifestyle was thoroughly investigated and had to be approved by a panel of members. One of the biggest benefits of membership was the organization’s beneficial services which provided insurance in case of illness, unemployment, or death. These were funded by a two-dollar initiation fee and six-cent per week dues. While this might initially seem insignificant, by 1850, the Sons had over 230,000 members, so its coffers must have been full.

This circular addresses attempts to mollify members of the Maryland Grand Division who were apparently dissatisfied with management of the benevolent fund. The letter informs Weston that the next quarterly meeting would not be held in Waterville and alludes to the resolution of some undescribed controversy.

(For more information, see Beattie’s “Sons of temperance: Pioneers in total abstinence and ‘Constitutional’ prohibition,” Chapman’s “The Mid-Nineteenth-Century Temperance Movement in New Brunswick and Maine,” and *One Hundred Years of Temperance: A Memorial Volume of the Centennial Temperance Conference Held in Philadelphia, Pa., September 1885*, all available online.)

Scarce. At the time of listing, no similar circulars are for sale in the trade. The Rare Book Hub shows none have appeared at auction. OCLC shows none held by institutions, however some libraries hold reprints or digital copies of a Sons of Temperance circular distributed in Nova Scotia.

\$150 [#10098](#)

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

9. [BUSINESS – FABRIC] [SLAVERY – CLOTHING] [FASHION] [PHILATLEY]

1848 – Business letter from two prominent North Carolina planters to purchase cloth and buttons from a New York merchant to make clothing for their enslaved workers

This one-page stampless letter was sent as an enclosure by HF (Henry F) Bond and J C (John C.) Washington of Lenoir County, North Carolina to Messers Hoffman Allen & Company at Pearl Street, New York City. It is dated April 19, 1848. The outer sheet bears a circular Kinston, North Carolina postmark also dated April 19, two “Paid” markings (one manuscript and one handstamped), and a handstamped “10” rate mark. In nice shape.

In this letter, the planters request Hoffman Allen & Company to send them another shipment of cloth plus a large quantity of buttons. It reads in part:

“Your letters of 8th & 11th Instant and the goods sent also arrived. Payment will be remitted next week which will be as early as we shall be able to obtain a check on your city. We thank you to send us a bale of “Charter Run Extra Orznaburgs” such as you sent to us the first of Febry, that sent instant is rather light, a heavier article though it may not be quite so wide [is] best. Send in also if you can get them into the bale with the Orznaburgs [several gross of buttons.] Ship as before and both will be paid soon after its receipt.”

Orznaburg or *Osnaburg* was an inexpensive, but very durable fabric originally made in Osnabruck, Germany. The cloth, which until well-worn was rough and scratchy, was frequently bought in bulk and turned into slave clothing at the plantation, often by female members of planters’ families, or in the case of larger plantations by female slaves under the supervision of the planters’ wives or hired tailors and seamstresses. Although, commonly referred to as “Negro cloth,” it also was used for clothing worn by white laborers. Later, during the first half of the 20th century, Osnaburg was to fabricate a wide variety of colorfully patterned feed sacks which, in turn were commonly used by rural women to make clothing for themselves and their children.

In 1850, the plantations owned by Bond and Washington were valued at \$10,000 and \$46,000 respectively, and together they owned a combined total of 170 enslaved Blacks, and the annual clothing allocation would likely have been large enough that it would have been made from the bulk Osnaburg by hired professionals or a group of supervised female slaves.

(For more information, see “Material Culture” in Miller & Smith’s *Dictionary of Afro-American Slavery*, “Clothing and Adornment of Enslaved People in Virginia” at the online *Encyclopedia Virginia*, Shaw’s “Slave Cloth and Clothing Slaves” at the online Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts, “Osnaburg the Great – Feedsacks on Our Backs” at The Fabrics.net Blog, and online genealogical records for Henry F. Bond and John C. Washington.)

An uncommon letter documenting the purchase of bulk fabric and buttons by a pair of prominent planters to make clothing for their enslaved workers. At the time of listing, nothing similar if for sale in the trade. None have appeared at auction per the Rare Book Hub nor are held by institutions per OCLC.

SOLD #10099



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

10. [BROADSIDE] [IMMIGRATION] [MARITIME]

1850 – German broadside advertising transportation for immigrants bound for the United States

This broadside, illustrated with two ship vignettes, was published by Muller & Zehner of Wurzburg, Germany on April 27, 1850, with authorization of the *Central-Verein für Auswanderung in Coln and Dusseldorf*. In nice shape with some light foxing. A loose translation reads in part:

“Central Association for Emigration in Cologne and Dusseldorf constituted under the protection of the approval of Royal Prussian, Royal Bavarian, Royal Saxon, Grand Ducal Hessian, Electoral Hessian, and Nassau State Governments.

“Regular transportation of emigrants and travelers to America:

- 1) from established collection points to destinations in America, California and Australia;
- 2) with and without food;
- 3) including all expenses such as bounty and hospital money. . .
- 4) also transport from seaports into the interior of America by means of railroad and steamboats. . .
- 5) Provide full medical care in case of illness. . . Everything is under guarantee up to the point of departure. . .

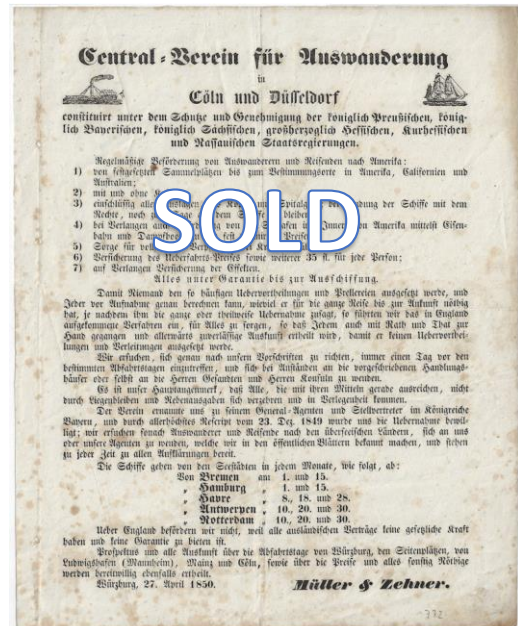
“Everyone can find out exactly how much he needs for the whole journey up to the start. . . We ask that you follow our directions exactly, always arrive one day before the specified departure days. . . The association appointed us its general agent and deputy in the kingdom of Bavaria [on] December 23, 1849, . . . we therefore ask emigrants and travelers to overseas countries to contact us or our agents, whom we make known in the public papers, and we are ready at all times for all clarifications.

“The ships depart from the sea towns each month as follows: From Bremen on the 1st and 15th / From Hamburg on the 1st and 15th / From Havre on the 8th, 18th and 28th / From Antwerp on the 10th, 20th and 30th / From Rotterdam on the 10th, 20th and 30th. . .”

Although Germans had lived in North America since the founding of Jamestown in 1608, it was not until the failed revolutions of 1848 that the exodus of immigrants from the German States exploded. More than a million arrived in the United States, fleeing the unrest and its resulting economic hardships. Unlike the Irish, who arrived at about the same time, many German immigrants were wealthy enough to continue their journey to the Midwest in search of farmland and work with the largest concentrations found in and around Cincinnati, Milwaukee, and St. Louis. (See “Irish and German Immigration” at ushistory.org.) Little information about the *Central-Verlein für Auswanderung in Coln und Dusseldorf* is available online, however its abbreviated advertisements appeared in several German newspapers between 1848 and 1850.

Quite scarce. At the time of listing, nothing similar appears for sale in the trade; OCLC shows no similar items held by institutions, and the Rare Book Hub lists no similar items as having appeared at auction. However, Google searches reveal that a similar broadside has appeared in a German auction, and another is held by Germany’s Bundesarchiv.

SOLD #10100

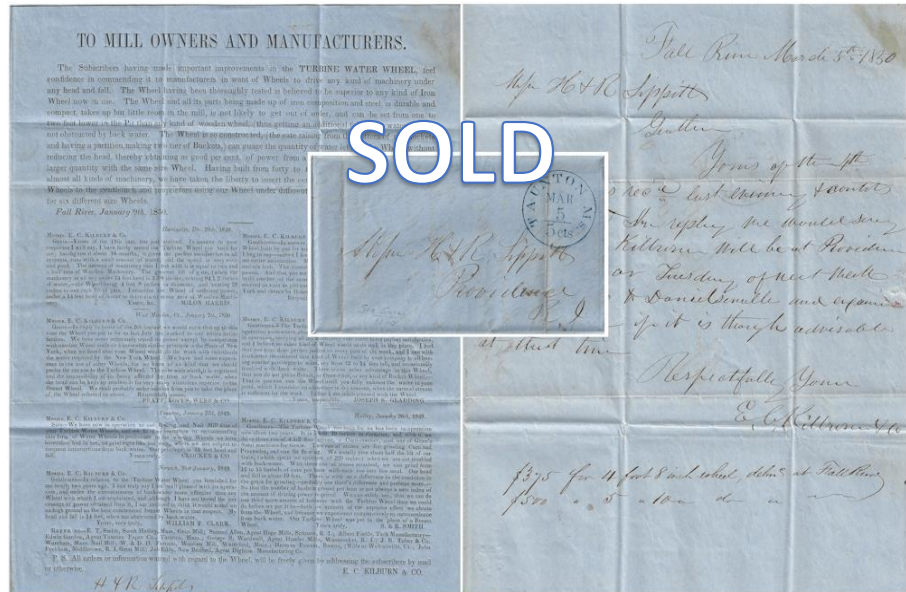


Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

12. [ADVERTISING] [BUSINESS – WATERWHEELS] [INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION – WATER POWER] [PHILATELY]

1850 – Circular advertising America's first and most important turbine water wheel that powered industries in New England as well as in the East and South

This four-page circular and letter sheet measures 16" x 9¾" unfolded. It includes a one-page printed advertisement and one-page manuscript letter. It was sent by E. C. Kilburn & Company in Fall River, Massachusetts to Messers H & R Tippitt at Providence, Rhode Island. The circular is dated January 9th, 1850, and signed in print by E. C. Kilburn and J. T. Lincoln. The letter is datelined "Fall river March 5th 1850." It bears a circular "5 cts" Taunton, Massachusetts postmark dated "Mar 5". In nice shape.



The circular is addressed "To Mill Owners and Manufacturers." The first third contains a blurb about the company and its water wheels, which is followed by seven testimonials. It reads in part:

"The Subscribers having made important improvements in the TURBINE WATER WHEEL, feel confidence in commending it to manufacturers in want of Wheels to drive any kind of machinery under any head and fall. The Wheel having been thoroughly tested is believed to be superior to any kind of Iron Wheel now in use. The Wheel and all its parts being made up of iron composition and steel is durable and compact, takes up but little room in the mill, and is not likely to get out of order. . . . The Wheel is so constructed [for] obtaining as good percent of power from a small quantity of water as from a larger quantity with the same size Wheel. . . . We have patterns for six different size Wheels."

E. C. Kilburn & Company was founded in 1846 at Fall River by Elijah C. Kilburn, Mrs. John J. Kilburn, and Jonathan T. Lincoln. The Fourneyron water wheel was developed in France and discovered by E.C.'s master mechanic brother during a visit to Europe in 1844, and together they developed a prototype for their wheel in 1846. Between then and 1869, the company's Fourneyron Wheels were the company's best-selling product. They were purchased by mills and factories throughout New England, the Middle Atlantic, and even as far away as Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee. After the Civil War, the Fall River textile industry grew rapidly. Simultaneously, other companies began incorporating newer technologies into their waterwheels. So, rather than devote resources to improving the Kilburn-Fourneyron wheels, the company switched to the manufacture of power looms.

(For more information, see "Kilburn Lincoln Machine Company. . ." at the Smithsonian's Lemelson Center
SOLD #10101

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

13. [BUSINESS – SHANGHAI INTERNATIONAL SETTLEMENT] [MILITARY – DEFENSE OF SHANGHAI & TAIPING REBELLION] [PHLATELY]

1854 – Letter from a tea merchant in China reporting details about the first attack by Imperial Chinese forces upon the international community at Shanghai and its decisive defeat by an ad hoc amalgam of Anglo-American military units and Shanghai Volunteers

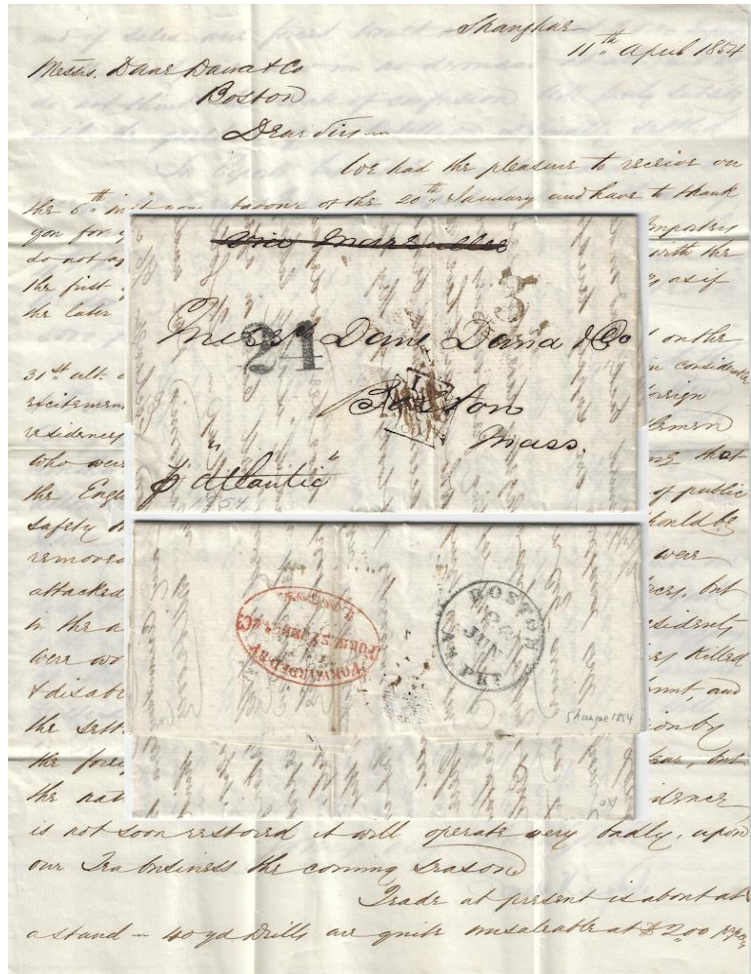
This two-page stampless folded letter between merchants measures approximately 16" x 10" unfolded. It was sent from Smith, King & Company in Shanghai to Dane, Danet & Company in Boston. It is datelined "Shanghai / 11th April 1854" and bears a bold "24" rate marking along with a London District postmark on its front evidencing its transport from Shanghai to London via the ship *Marseilles*. Subsequently it was sent to Boston via the ship *Atlantic*; a London forwarding agent handstamp and Boston receiving postmark are on the reverse. In nice shape. A transcript will be provided.

In this letter the Smith, King & Co. agent relates the excitement that had occurred in Shanghai's recently established foreign business community as the Taiping Rebellion was rollicking China.

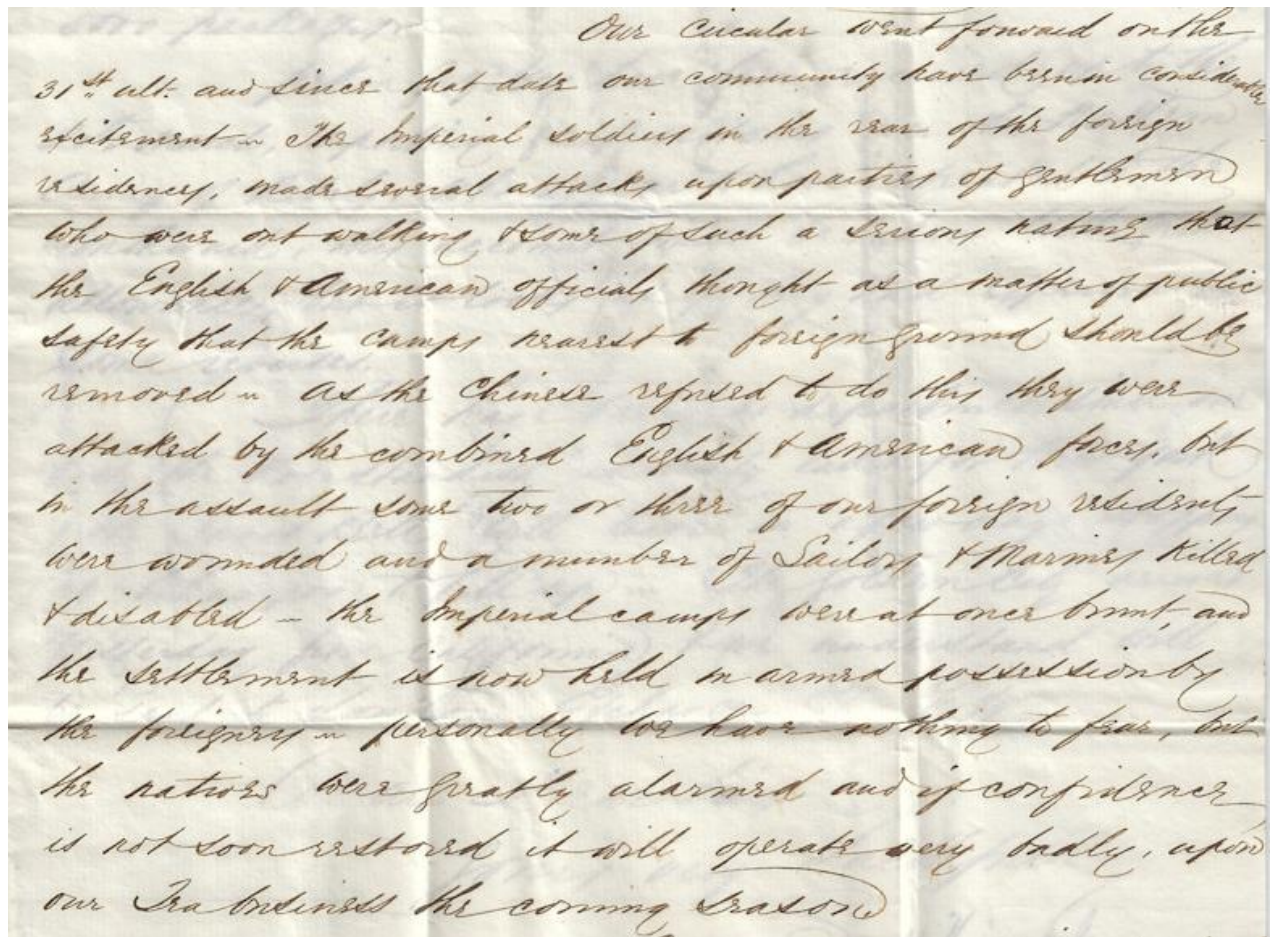
"Our community has been in considerable excitement. The Imperial soldiers in the rear of the foreign residences made several attacks upon parties of gentlemen who were out walking & some of such a serious making that the English & American officials thought as a matter of public safety that the camps nearest to foreign ground should be removed. As the Chinese refused to do this they were attacked by the combined English & American forces, but in the assault some two or three of our foreign residents were wounded and a number of Sailors & Marines killed & disabled. The Imperial camps were at once burnt, and the settlement is now held in armed possession by the foreigners . . . personally we have nothing to fear, but the natives were greatly alarmed. . .

"Pekin gazettes have been received up to the 20th March, reporting great victories over the Northern Army of Rebels, who appear to have retreated to the Southward, this account must be taken with great allowance, but it looks as if they had experienced some reverses. . .

He also notes how the rebellion has affected foreign merchants in Shanghai.



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.



Our Circular went forward on the 31st ult. and since that date our community have been in considerable excitement - The Imperial soldiers in the rear of the foreign residency, made several attacks upon parties of gentlemen who were out walking & some of such a serious nature that the English & American officials thought as a matter of public safety that the camp nearest to foreign ground should be removed - as the Chinese refused to do this they were attacked by the combined English & American forces, but in the assault some two or three of our foreign residents were wounded and a number of Sailors & Marines killed & disabled - the Imperial camp was at once burnt, and the settlement is now held in armed possession by the foreigners - personally we have nothing to fear, but the natives were greatly alarmed and if confidence is not soon restored it will operate very badly upon our Tea business the coming season

"Trade at present is about at a stand - 40 yd Drills are quite unmarketable at \$2.00 prpc and if sales are forced would not realised \$1.80. Imports of all kinds are now in no demand at all and we do not think this state of compression will fairly subside until the question of the Rebellion is finally settled.

"In Exports but little has been done, and no receipts of Green Teas are reported since the date of our circular. Chops that were closest hand on the 4th have been turned back, and under any Circumstances we do not think our supply hereafter will be over 5000 packages.

"There have been no departures since our last the "Rose Standish" is nearly laden for New York & the "Jacob Bell" will leave in a few days stopping at Whampon to fill up. The Golden City arrived yesterday from California & we understand will be sent to London Exchange. ..."

As reported in "The Battle of Muddy Flat" which was originally published in 1890 by the *North-China Herald* at Shanghai,

Although the city was first opened to foreign trade in 1843, by 1853 there were only about 375 foreigners living in the port. At the time, China was in the midst of the Taiping and other smaller rebellions. One such smaller group of rebels, the Small Swords Society and the Triads dominated Shanghai. After the Imperial Army captured Nanking and Chingkianfu, it was clear that it would next head to Shanghai to reestablish Imperial control. In anticipation that it would soon be caught in the middle of a civil war, the British and Americans living in the city established a joint Shanghai Volunteer Defense Force to augment the small contingents of national forces protecting the community.

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

Eventually, a large force of 10,000 Imperial soldiers arrived, set up camps along the western border of the international enclave, and began to skirmish with the rebels. On April 3rd, an Imperial patrol attacked a foreign couple, severely wounding the husband, before being driven off by the Volunteer Corps. Subsequently, the leaders of the foreign community demanded that the Imperial army move their camps and refrain from attacking or drawing fire upon it. When the Imperial commander refused to do so, on April 4th British and American military contingents and the Volunteer Corps attacked and routed the much larger Imperial Army, driving them away from Shanghai. Losses to the Imperial Army are unknown, however the Shanghai foreigners suffered 18 casualties, two deaths and 16 wounded, two of whom eventually died.



The battle was significant for several reasons. It was the first time British and American forces ever fought together on a battlefield. It also established the precedent of Chinese armies ignoring the international settlement although fighting with opposing forces in and around the city. And, it fomented a desire for vengeance among both Imperialists and some rebels for the humiliating defeat of the Chinese army.

Smith, King & Company was one of the first American export firms to operate from Shanghai.

Dane, Dana & Company was a Boston, Massachusetts based import and export merchant operated by Samuel Turner Dana, Mortimer C. Ferris and J.T. Hayward. The company engaged in the China trade exporting cotton goods, lead, wood and coal and importing tea, silks and chinaware from Hong Kong and Shanghai. The firm also imported pepper from Penang, rattan from Singapore and indigo and coffee from Manila. Dane, Dana & Co. owned some of their ships and were part owners of others." (from Harvard's Baker Library)

Exceptionally rare, far more so than Boxer Rebellion material. This appears to be the only known first-hand original source account of the battle. At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade. The Rare Book Hub, Worthpoint, and other meta-databases identify nothing similar as having ever appeared at auction. OCLC shows nothing similar in any institutional collection, although monographs of the 1904 newspaper article are held by the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, the British Library, Trinity College, Harvard University, and the Peabody Essex Museum.

\$6,000 [#10102](#)

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

14. [AUTOGRAPHS – J. EDGAR THOMSON] [MAPS – PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD] [PHILATELY] [RAILROADS – PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD]

1857 – A letter from the President of the Pennsylvania Railroad to the British agent for the Illinois Central Railroad regarding the payment of dividends written on an exceptionally rare, illustrated letter stationery illustrated with a map of the system and containing a printed shareholder circular

This four-page lettersheet measures 19" x 11.5" unfolded. It contains a one-page manuscript letter written by J. Edgar Thomson, the President of the Pennsylvania Railroad, at Philadelphia to William Ferguson, the British agent for the Illinois Central Railroad in New York City. It also includes a one-page shareholders' circular explaining why no dividends would be paid that year. The lettersheet is franked with a dull red 3-cent Washington stamp (Scott #26) canceled with a circular Philadelphia postmark. In nice shape with some minor edgewear and pinholes at intersecting mailing folds. A transcript of the manuscript letter will be provided.

The map, titled *Pennsylvania Rail Road and its Connections*, shows the railroad system extending from New York in the east to Council Bluffs, Iowa and St. Joseph, Missouri in the west, and from Madison, Wisconsin in the North and continuing past Danville, Kentucky in the south.

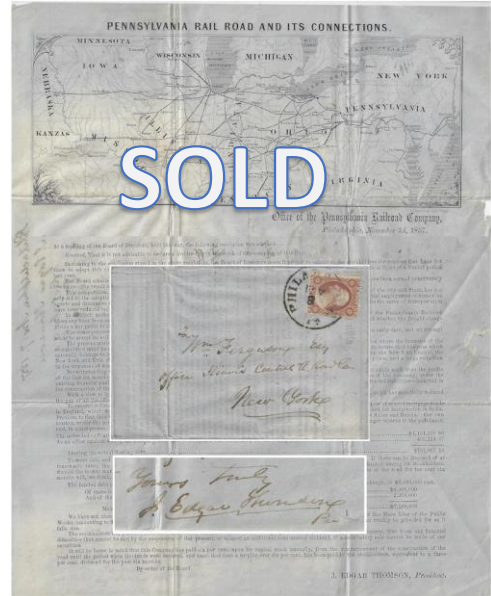
The printed circular provides Thomson's explanation as to why no dividends would be paid during 1857 which are tied to cut-throat competition with other east-west railroads, numerous "unremunerative tariffs," and a "fixed State 'duty upon tonnage.'" It also mentions an attempt to collectively control rates through an agreement with the New York Central, the New York and Erie, the Baltimore and Ohio Railroads as well as its recent purchase of Pennsylvania's Mainline of Public Works. His manuscript letter to Ferguson provides amplification as well raises a concern that the Crimean War might affect the money market. It reads in part:

"We have received some letters from our English Shareholders who protest against our paying any dividends while we have a floating debt. This is now the prevailing sentiment here, but I advocate the policy of a limitation of the debt, say not to exceed two or three percent upon capital stock of the company paid in – and with that views I intend to apply to the next Legislature to amend our Charter so that limit shall not be exceeded hereafter. I have always been opposed to a considerable floating debt, but the peculiar state of the money market since the Commencement of the Russian war. . . . It serves the company you report now. . . . I will meet you in New York on Tuesday morning. . . ."

Thomson was the railroad's first chief engineer and became its third president in 1852. Under his guidance, the railroad became the largest in the world with 6000 miles of track and famous for generating steady dividends for investors through high quality construction, continuous technological improvements, and innovative management techniques. The Rare Book Hub and other auction databases suggest that Thomson autographed letters and documents are uncommon.

This lettersheet is especially scarce. It is unlisted in Milgram's *American Illustrated Letter Stationery 1819-1899*, examples have never appeared at auction, and OCLC reports only two institutions hold examples (neither used, much less signed by Thomson).

\$750 #10103



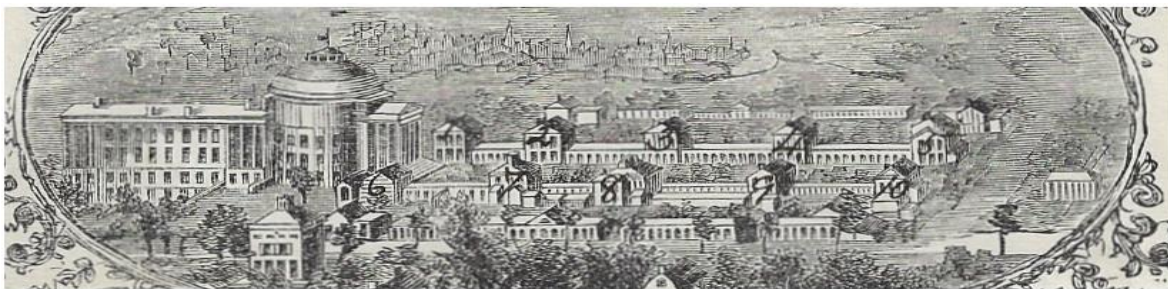
Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

15. [ARCHITECTURE – THOMAS JEFFERSON] [EDUCATION – UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA] [MAPS] [VIRGINIANA]

c1860 – University of Virginia pictorial stationery featuring an annotated bird's-eye view of the Rotunda and Academical Village surrounding the campus lawn

This leaf of university stationery measures 5" x 8" and features a bird's-eye view of Thomas Jefferson's Academic Village. The ten faculty houses within the Village have been annotated to identify the then current residents. Unsigned. In nice shape.

In 1825, Thomas Jefferson opened his University of Virginia based on Palladio and Greco-Roman architecture. His plan for the school included a 200' wide lawn surrounded by trees. A large Rotunda, the school's first library, occupied the quadrangle's north side. Ten two-story faculty residential houses (known as Pavilions) stood along the lawn's east and west sides. They were joined together by rows of single-story student rooms. Brick-walled gardens and additional one-room dwellings, the East and West Ranges, stand behind the Pavilions.



Each of the Pavilions is annotated with a number tied to a key on the leaf that identifies its faculty resident. Based on the residents' dates of faculty service, this annotated view was likely created in 1859 or 1860. The faculty residents of the Pavilions are identified as

Pavilion 1 – probably James Lawrence Cabell, a professor of anatomy, surgery, and physiology

Pavilion 2 – Maximilian Schele De Vere, a professor of modern languages

Pavilion 3 – George Frederick Holmes, a professor of history, political economy, and the science of society. Two other professors boarded with Holmes in this house: William E. Peters (Latin) and Stephen O. Southall (Law)

Pavilion 4 – Socrates Maupin, a professor of Chemistry

Pavilion 5 – J. B. Minor, a professor of Law

Pavilion 6 – Basil L Gildersleeve, a professor of Greek and Hebrew

Pavilion 7 – Gessner Harrison, a professor of Ancient Languages. Harrison was the first university graduate to join the faculty.

Pavilion 8 – Frances H. Smith, a professor of Natural Philosophy

Pavilion 9 – John S. Davis, a professor of Medicine

Pavilion 10 – William H. McGuffey, a professor of Moral Philosophy, most famous for creating the series of McGuffey Readers

An unusual piece of ephemera that combines a birds-eye map, education, and architecture.

SOLD #10104

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

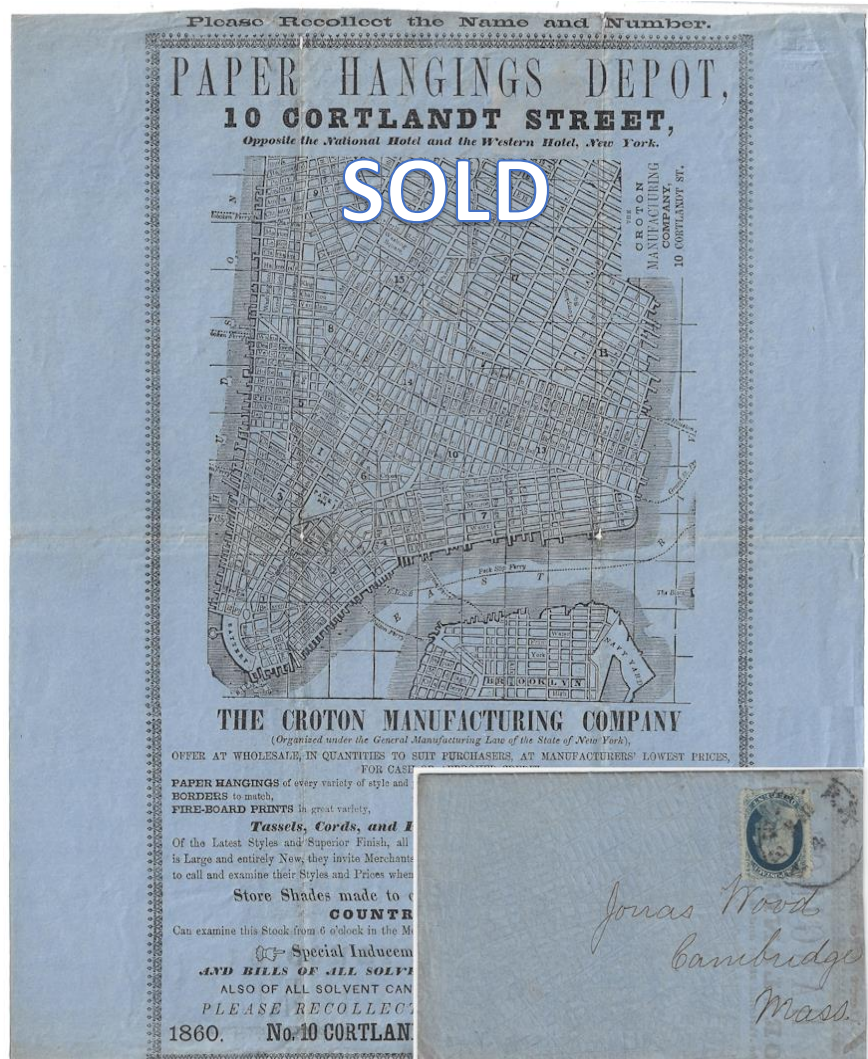
16. [ADVERTISING] [BUSINESS – HOME DECOR] [MAPS] [PHILATELY]

1860 – Street map of lower Manhattan and Brooklyn on a mailed advertisement for window treatments

This 9.25" x 10.5" handbill, issued in 1860, is printed on blue paper and features a map of lower Manhattan and Brooklyn and was sent by the Croton Manufacturing Company in New York City to a potential Cambridge, Massachusetts customer. It is franked with a one-cent blue Franklin stamp (Scott #24) that has been canceled with a circular New York postmark. Trimmed for mailing, but in nice shape.

The handbill included a map to assist customers in locating its "Paper Hangings Depot [at] 10 Cortland Street. Opposite the National hotel and the Western Hotel. . ."

The Manhattan map includes the area from the battery north to 17th Street. The Manhattan streets are labeled, but only some of the Brooklyn streets are named. The map also identifies several ferry routes.



As noted in the handbill, The Croton Manufacturing Company specialized in making wall and window treatments: Paper Hangings (wallpaper), Borders,, Fire=Board Prints, Window Curtain Papers, Transparent Window Shades, Oil Painted Window Shades, Tassels, Cords, and Shade Fixtures. They focused on the business market with a customer base of Merchants, Booksellers, Druggists, Painters, and Wholesale Dealers.

An unusual pre-Civil War advertising map handbill sent through the U.S. Post Office and franked with a relatively scarce stamp.

SOLD #10105

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

17. [MILITARY – CIVIL WAR] [POLITICS – NULLIFICATION & SECESSION] [PHILATELY] [PROPAGANDA – PATRIOTIC ENVELOPES]

1861 – The most spectacular anti-secession patriotic envelope published during the Civil War

This unused patriotic propaganda envelope is known as “the Snake of South Carolina.” It was produced and sold by Harbach & Bro. of Philadelphia early in 1861.

The design is printed in five colors: red, blue, brown, green, and purple. It features a bald eagle in the midst of killing a nest of vipers while standing in front of the National Colors and upon a ripped and torn Confederate flag. Fort Sumter can be seen in the distance along with small portraits of President Andrew Jackson and his Vice-President John C. Calhoun. Text on the reverse reads in part:

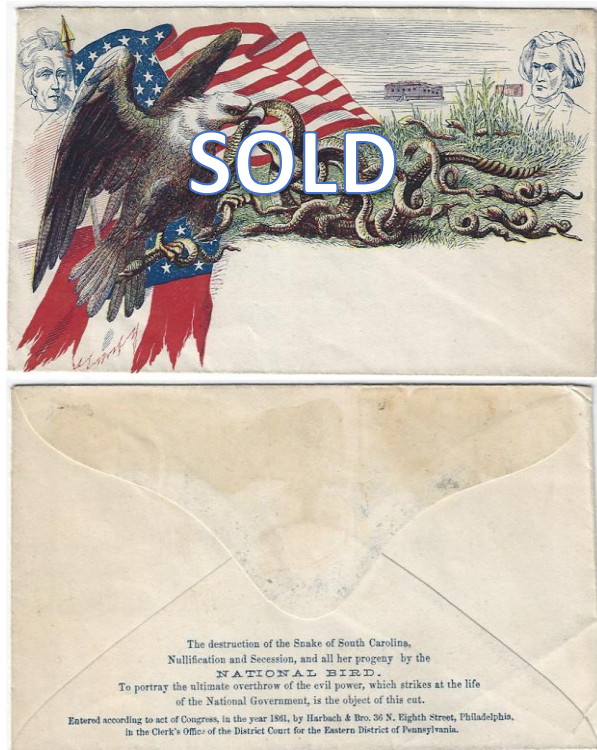
“The destruction of the Snake of South Carolina / Nullification and Secession, and all her progeny by the / NATIONAL BIRD. / To portray the ultimate overthrow of the evil power, which strikes at the like / of the National Government, is the object of this cut. . .”

The use of Jackson and Calhoun images along with the term “nullification,” harkens back to Jackson’s tumultuous presidency which presaged the Civil War. While too complex to detail here, the pair soon came to detest each other shortly after their inauguration over spats between their wives, social insults, pork barrel politics, and the revelation that during the First Seminole War Calhoun had led an attempt to relieve Jackson from his military duties. However, it was Calhoun’s support of states’ rights and Jackson’s disavowal of the same that fractured the Executive Branch. In 1828 and 1832, Congress passed two laws imposing tariffs that aided the North’s economy while harming that of the South. Calhoun resigned his position as Vice-President to campaign against the tariff acts and urging their nullification by the Southern States. Under his leadership, South Carolina passed an ordinance declaring those acts unconstitutional and ordering no such taxes to be collected in the state. In response President Jackson deployed several warships and an army force under the command of General Winfield Scott to Charleston to ensure federal laws were enforced, after which, South Carolina suspended its nullification ordinance. Precedence had been set by force; all states were required to enforce federal laws even if they found some detrimental to their interests. Jackson’s actions prevented bloodshed over states’ rights, but only until the issue boiled over thirty years later with regard to slavery.

This envelope is exceptionally scarce and considered the most desirable patriotic cover issued during the Civil War. A postally used example, one of only a few known, sold at a 2016 Seigel philatelic auction for \$14,000. While unused examples are not so rare, they only infrequently appear at auction or for sale.

(For more information, see Long’s “Jackson vs. Calhoun” at the Ohio State University’s eHistory website, Lane’s American Philatelic Society Handbook “The Harry F. Allen Collection of Black Jacks,” and auction results at the StampAuction Network, all available online.

SOLD #10106



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

18. [MILITARY – CIVIL WAR & GENERAL GRANT]

1861 (1911) – A veteran of the 21st Illinois Volunteer Infantry provides first-hand personal observations about Ulysses S. Grant's earliest Civil War service as the colonel commanding that regiment

This three-page letter was written by A. C. McKittrick in response to a friend, J.W. Boos. It is datelined "May 31st 1911. / Sandyville W. Va." and details the first few weeks of then Colonel Ulysses S. Grant's first eight weeks of command of the 21st Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiment in the spring of 1861. A note in the extreme left margin of the first page reads, "I want to have sheets bound on the ends." The binding sheets are no longer present; however, the typed transcript of the letter is still attached in the rear. In nice shape.

The letter reads in part:

"I was with the regt only two months when shot through the neck by the accidental discharge of a gun . . . discharged early in 1862.

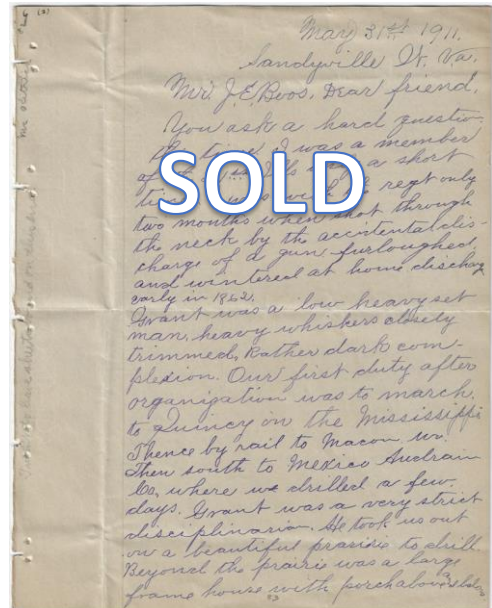
"Grant was a low heavy set man, heavy whiskers closely trimmed, Rather dark complexion. Our first duty after organization was to march to Quincy on the Mississippi.

Thence by rail to Macon Mo. Then south to Mexico in Audrain Co. [Missouri], where we drilled a few days. Grant was a very strict disciplinarian. He took us out on a beautiful prairie to drill. Beyond the prairie was a large farm house with porch above and below. Our drill ground was right in front of that house. On one occasion a lady came out on the upper porch dressed in white and seated herself on a chair. She was a conspicuous figure with her feet on the banisters. Of course she drew our attention . . . Grant called the company officers to him lectured them. Finally he drew us up with the left wing toward the house. And instead of dressing to the right we wanted to dress to the left. . . Grant caught on and he yelled out as wicked as a wild cat "Eyes right off of that woman, G-d d---- it." .. Then he drilled us for about a half hour. Sun up in 90 degrees. Oh were glad when we were sent to our quarters. . .

"He was an inveterate smoker. He always had a cigar in his mouth. Upon a certain occasion when we were down the Mississippi Grant had occasion to lecture a raw recruit about his duty when he was on guard at his headquarters. shortly after, this same recruit was on guard on board of a steam boat laden with powder &c. with orders not to allow any one to come nearer than fifty feet with a lighted cigar while on guard, he saw General Grant coming puffin a cigar. At a certain distance he called our "halt." At the same time he brought his gun to his shoulder. Grant stopped. He said I have orders to allow no one on this boat with a lighted cigar. Grant looked at him dropped the cigar in the water. The guard brought his gun to a salute. Grant passed on to the boat. . ."

An uncommon first-hand description of Grant's first Civil War command from a private in the regiment. At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade. Also, nothing similar has come up for auction per the Rare Book Hub, nor is held by institutions per OCLC. However, both databases indicate that a number of autographed letters signed by Grant as the commander of the 21st have been sold at auction and are in academic collections.

SOLD #10107



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

19. [MILITARY – CIVIL WAR & GENERAL GRANT] [PHOTOGRAPHY] [PUBLISHING – SPURIOUS]

1862 – Spurious photograph of Major General Ulysses S Grant published by news magazines and sold as CDVs sold shortly after his victories at Forts Henry and Donelson

This *carte de visite* (cdv) photograph measures 2 5/8" x 3 5/8". It is annotated "Maj Gen Grant" on the reverse in pencil. In nice shape.

At the beginning of the Civil War, General Grant, a veteran of the Mexican War, was appointed as the Colonel commanding the 21st Illinois Infantry Regiment. Promotions came quickly and he was soon appointed as a brigadier general of volunteers and sent to Cairo, Illinois to command the District of Southeastern Missouri.

While in Cairo, he had a portrait made by a local photographer, while his beard was much longer

and bushier than he normally wore it. (It is said when his wife, Julia, saw the image, she immediately ordered him to severely trim his beard to its old style.) By happenstance, at about the same time, a meat contractor, named William "Bill" Grant was having two photographs (one portrait and one mounted) made by the same photographer while inexplicably wearing the uniform of a Union major general.

After General Grant won the first two Union victories of the war at Fort Henry on the Tennessee River and Fort Donelson on the Cumberland, his name became as well known as any Union general, save perhaps Generals Winfield Scott and George B. McClellan. Caught off guard, the most popular news magazines of the day, *Harper's Weekly* and *Leslie's* scrambled to obtain images of Grant that they could use in their articles, and somehow confused the images of Bill and Ulysses, even using them on their covers. At the same time, photography shops began to sell cdvs of the portrait image, often attributed to themselves or even Matthew Brady. Even soldiers assigned to units under Grant's command purchased them believing they were images of the general.

Interestingly, these spurious images infrequently appear on eBay today, and when they do, they are almost always identified as photographs of General Grant rather than Bill Grant the meat contractor.

(For more information, see Davis's "Grant Under Fire" in *Cosmopolitan* 14 (1895), "False portraits of U.S. Grant" at the Antique Prints Blog, "CDV Ulysses S Grant Civil War Photo Young Photo Original Charles Tabor Co." at the Civil War Generals website, and Kelsey's "Ulysses S. Grant: Portrait of an Unknown Soldier" in *The Grant Network Newsletter* Fall 2001, all available online.)

At the time of listing, no others are for sale in the trade. While the Rare Book Hub shows none have ever appeared at auction, these cdvs infrequently appear at eBay, almost always misidentified. OCLC shows none held by institutions.



SOLD #10108

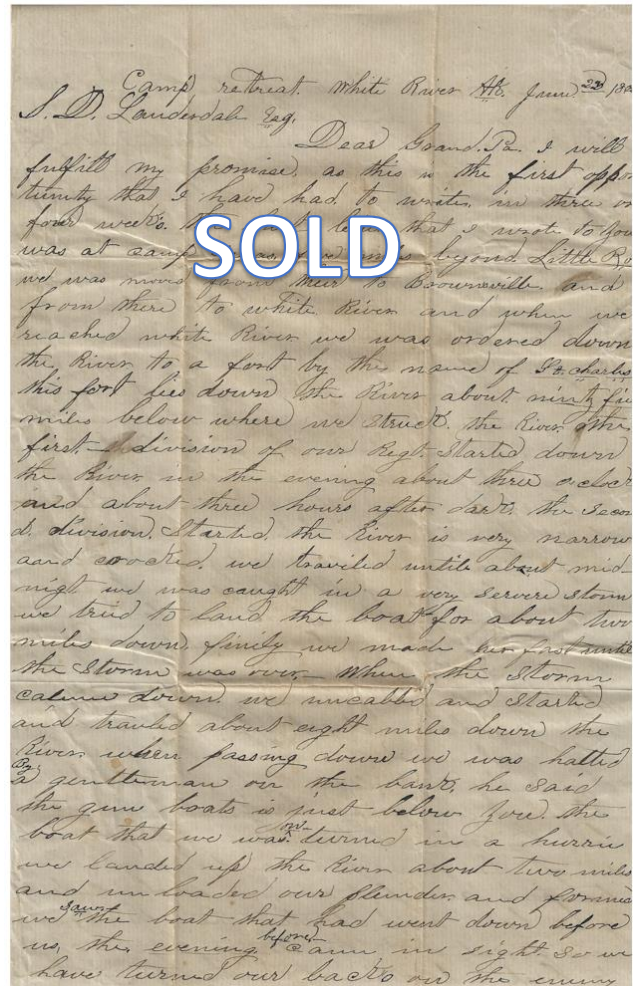
Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

20. [MILITARY – CIVIL WAR & RIVERINE WARFARE] [TEXIANA]

1862 – Letter from a Texas soldier describing his part the riverine battle for control of the White River in Arkansas

This three-page letter was written by Corporal James J. Scales of the 10th Texas Infantry to his grandfather. It is datelined "Camp retreat. White River Ak. June 22 1862". No mailing envelope. In nice shape. A transcript will be provided.

After Union Brigadier General Samuel R. Curtis drove Southern forces from Missouri at the Battle of Pea Ridge in March of 1862, morale within the Confederate Army's Trans-Mississippi Department, headquartered in Little Rock, was running low. However, with the arrival of the 10th Texas Infantry Regiment hope was rejuvenated. General Thomas C. Hindman deployed the Texans to DeValls Bluff in support the Confederate Navy's defense of the White and Arkansas Rivers, which were critically important for the movement of soldiers and supplies. As Union gunboats moved up the White River, three companies were dispatched down river to defend a fort at St. Charles and block the Union advance. Although the Union force captured the fort, it was a pyrrhic victory, and it soon withdrew as the Union gunboat USS *Mound City* was destroyed by "the deadliest shot of the war" when a single artillery round pierced its steam drum. 105 men were scalded to death and another 25 were seriously injured by the steam. Scales's letter details the movement of his infantry unit as well as the cat-and-mouse movements of Confederate and Union vessels on the river. It reads in part:



S.D. Camp retreat. White River Ark. June 22 1862
S.D. Grandfather. Dear Grandfather I will
fulfill my promise as this is the first opportunity
that I have had to write in three or
four weeks. I have been that I wrote to you
was at camp near Little Rock and was moved from
there to White River and when we
reached White River we was ordered down
the river to a fort by the name of St. Charles
this fort lies down the river about ninety five
miles below where we struck. The river after
first division of our Regt. started down
the river in the evening about three o'clock
and about three hours after dark the second
division started. The river is very narrow
and crooked. we traveled until about mid
night and was caught in a very severe storm
we tried to land the boat for about two
miles down finally we made her fast until
the storm was over. When the storm
calmed down we uncabled and started
and traveled about eight miles down the
river when passing down we was halted
by a gentleman on the bank, he said
the gun boats is just below you. The boat that
we was on turned in a hurry we landed up the
river about two miles and unloaded our
plunder and hid it. we took our knapsacks and
blanket a piece and started up the river
about two miles and camped. the Col. sent
two cavalry down the river to fight the gun
boats until we could get fixed above. however
[when] they was going down the gun boats
came in and took the fort that we was going
to. those cavalry companies and a few citizens
would lie in ambush. and the transports
would come they would fight them until the
gun boats would come back and whip them off.
they fought this way until they got up to where
we got off the boats. they enquired for Nelson's
Regt.

"When we reached white River we was ordered down . . . to a fort by the name of St. Charles . . . about ninety five miles below. . . The River is very narrow and crooked. we traveled until about midnight we was caught in a very severe storm we tried to land the boat [and] finally we made her fast until the Storm was over. When the Storm calmed down we uncabled and started and traveled about eight miles down the River . . . and was halted By a gentleman [who] said the gun boats is just below you. The boat that we was on turned in a hurrie we landed up the River about two miles . . . and unloaded our plunder and toated it off in the Brush and hid it. we took our knapsacks and blanket a piece and Started up the River . . . about two miles and camped. the Col. Sent two cavalry down the River to fight the gun Boats until we could get fixed above. however [when] they was going down . . . the gun boats came in and took the fort that we was going to. those cavalry companies . . . and a few citizens would lie in ambush. and the transports would come they would fight them until the gun Boats would come back and whip them off. they fought this way until they got up to were we got off the boats. they . . . enquired for Nelson's Regt.

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

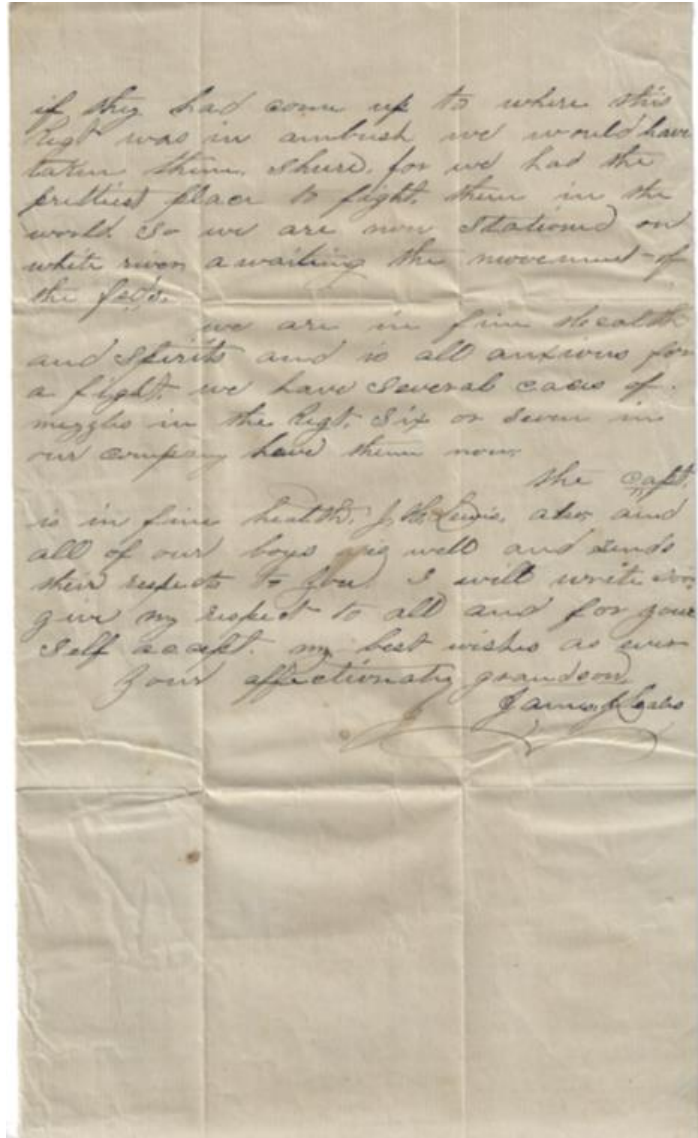
they told them that was going back to Little Rock, but they knew better. . . they took one of the gun Boats and two of the transports and put one on each side of gun boat and started the other gun in front, but the Texas boys got to bush whackin it with the gun Boats and they turned back. If they had come up to where this Regt was in ambush we would have taken them shure for we had the prettiest place to fight there in the world. So we are now stationed on white river awaiting the movement of the feds. . ."

Interestingly, Scales does not mention the destruction of the Union gunboat USS Mound City. Probably, his unit did not witness the explosion while hidden upriver preparing to ambush the flotilla.

(For more information, see Bearss' "The White River Expedition June 10-July 15, 1862" in *The Arkansas Historical Quarterly* (Winter, 1962), "Brigadier-General Allison Nelson" in *Confederate Military History* vol XV online, and Hamilton's "Tenth Texas Infantry" at the Texas State Historical Association website.)

A rare first-hand confederate soldier's account of an important, but often forgotten riverine battle for control of the Arkansas rivers that were crucial to the Confederate defense of that state. At the time of listing, there is nothing similar for sale in the trade. The Rare Book Hub identifies one auction of a Union soldiers diary with a brief entry about the battle. There are no similar institutional holdings per OCLC.

\$750 [#10109](#)



if they had come up to where this
Regt was in ambush we would have
taken them shure for we had the
prettiest place to fight there in the
world So we are now stationed on
white river awaiting the movement of
the feds.
we are in fine health
and spirits and is all anxious for
a fight we have several cases of
muzzles in the Regt. Six or seven in
our company have them now
The Capt
is in fine health. J. H. Lewis also and
all of our boys are well and send
their respects to you I will write you
give my respect to all and for your
Self accept my best wishes as ever
Your affectionately grandson
James H. Scales

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

21. [BUSINESS – SHIP PAINTING] [MARITIME] [MILITARY – CIVIL WAR]

1862 – A long and exceptionally detailed letter from an experienced ship painter divulging the secrets of his trade to his brother who had recently joined the U.S. Navy to become one too.

This eight-page letter is datelined "Boston Nov 18th, 1862. It was sent by William Ford to his brother, Eben, who was aboard the U.S. Steamer *Colorado* at the Portsmouth New Hampshire Naval Yard. Six pages are written in ink and two in pencil. The letter is in nice shape. Its mailing envelope is worn, and the postage stamp was removed.

Online military records show that at the time Eben was a "Landsman" who had enlisted in the Navy on 30 September 1862, and was assigned to the USS *Colorado*.

William twice explains to Eben that he would likely be working "under the Carpenter and he don't know any more than you." William also advises Eben, "Don't let anyone know you do not know about this. . . ." and "You had better not let this [letter] be seen." William notes that as a former "carriage painter," Eben "will not have too much trouble about it."

William's long treatise on ship painting begins with an extensive discussion about paints that Eben will be using.

"Your paints are ground when you get them and will be mixed as oil colors not flat. Litharge [lead oxide] is . . . used in ship painting instead of Japan, it is dirty yellow powder heavy as red lead. . . . You had better grind it with oil when you want to use it for nice work. . . . Lamp black wants more dryer than other paint always mix it with boiled oil and Litharge. . . ." He continues at length describing how to make glossy finishes, when and how much spirits to use, the use of Zinc and varnish, mixing paints and colors, keeping pots and brushes clean, etc."

William further cautions his brother to always

"Keep a scrupulous account of every thing [and to] keep in with the yeoman . . . keep [your] account square with his if you keep in with him you can keep [your paints] in the store room and have a good many favors but don't let him boss you. . . . Sailors they will steal paint to mark their clothes and paint their coats & store it way under the guns and in the tops. [Be sure] to keep your Shop clean. Scrape the floor of all oil and paint. . . ."

William also updates Eben on the status of their friends, some of whom were in the military:

"I have had a letter from Dan he set it by Ben Graves who has come and died since he lived ten days after getting home. . . . Curly has come home but I have not seen him yet. Joe got Marching Orders as soon as he arrived at Newberne and was in a fight under Gen Foster . . . says they were marching along . . . Billy be damned and the first they knew they had a volley from the rebels hid in the woods. . . . they attacked and beat them [but] they had some killed. . . ."

Overall, a fascinating letter with details about Civil War ship painting that may not exist elsewhere. Likely the only extant example on the subject.

SOLD #10110



"as he has been there I may get hold of something that will suit your case"

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

22. [GAMBLING – PLAYING CARDS] [MILITARY – CIVIL WAR] [PHILATELY]

1862 – Complete deck of patriotic Union Playing Cards with partial box bearing an appropriate revenue tax stamp.

This deck of Union Playing Cards is complete; it contains all 52 of its original 2½" x 3½" cards. The cards were first published in 1862 with the imprint of Benjamin W. Hitchcock's American Card Company located in New York. The front and rear panels of the cards' box are present and bear two signatures of B. (Blanche) M. Wilson of New Port, Vermont, the wife of Martin Wilson, perhaps the same Martin Wilson who served as a member of the storied 1st Regiment of Vermont Cavalry that fought from Mount Jackson in 1862 through Appomattox in 1865. (See the National Park Service's *U.S., Civil War Soldiers, 1861-1865* online database. The box has only its front and rear panels; it is missing its top, sides, and bottom. The cards are worn and soiled; several have scuffs, pressed-out creases, or clipped corners.



Clearly, this deck provided countless hours of enjoyment. There is considerable charm in visualizing cavalymen sitting around a campfire night after night, playing vingt-et-un, euchre, or poker as their deck got grubbier with time and its box began to fall apart.

The front panel features the bottom of an illustration of Lady Liberty surrounded by text that reads "National Emblems Some [thing New In The Card World / Time For A Change / Foreign Emblems Used Long Enough In The U.S. / Nationality Everything!!" It bears a blue 2-cent Washington "Bank Check" revenue tax stamp (Scott #5) with an American Card Company overprint, "Am. C. Co. / June 1864".

The rear box panel contains text that reads, "[THE AMERICAN CARD CO. Confident that the introduction of NATIONAL EMBLEMS in place of Foreign, in PLAYING CARDS, will be hailed with delight by the American People, take pleasure in presenting the UNION PLAYING CARDS.] As the first and only Genuine American Cards ever produced, in the fullest confidence that the time is not far distant when they will be the leading Card in American market. / The Union Cards are calculated to play all the Games for which the old style of Playing Cards is used. The suits are EAGLES, SHIELDS, STARS, and FLAGS, GODDESS OF LIBERTY in place of Queen, COLONEL for King, MAJOR for Jack. In playing with these Cards, they are to be called by the names the emblems represent, and as the Emblems are as familiar as household words, everywhere among the American people, they can be used as readily as the first occasion as Cards bearing foreign emblems."

The ace of Eagles has a large ornate design including the company name, address, and copyright.

(For more information, see The Dawson's *Hochman Encyclopedia of American Playing Cards* and Willshire's *Descriptive Catalogue of Playing and Other Cards in the British Museum*.)

At the time of listing, there is another complete set of cards and box in very good condition priced at \$4,500. The Rare Book Hub and Worthpoint show that complete decks occasionally appear at auctions where they usually sell for \$1,100 to \$8,500 depending upon condition. OCLC shows similar sets held by Harvard and the American Antiquarian Society.

SOLD #10111

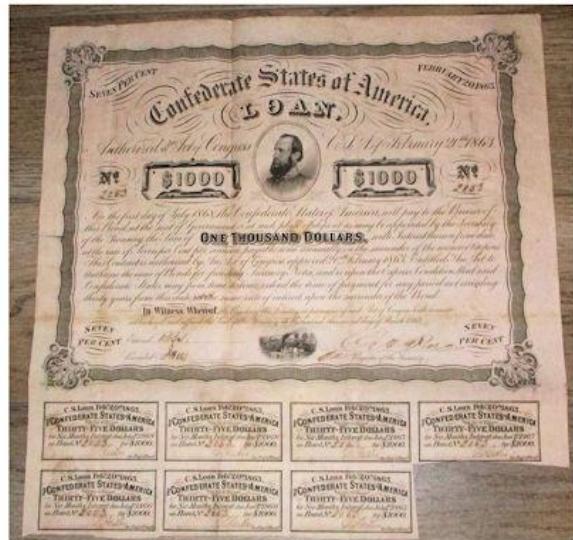
Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

23. [BUSINESS – BANKING & FINANCE] [MILITARY – CIVIL WAR] [SCRIPHOPLY]

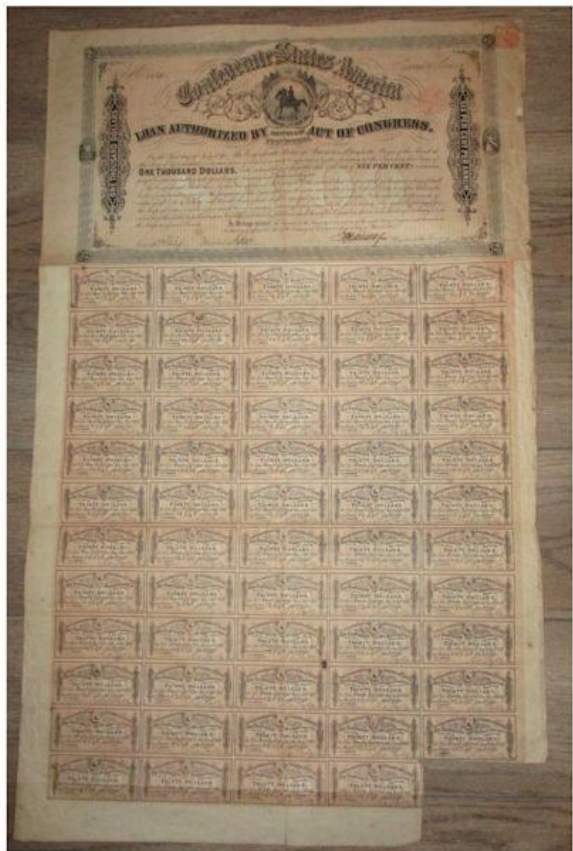
1863-1864 – Two different \$1,000 Confederate States of America Loan certificates

This lot contains two partially printed \$1,000 bond certificates (Criswell #122 and #144A) for the Confederate States of America War Loans of 1863 and 1864.

The first is dated February 20, 1863. It measures 14" square and was printed on pink paper. It was lithographed by Archer & Daily of Richmond, Virginia and features an illustration of General Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson who would die from friendly fire at the Battle of Chancellorsville three months later. It is hand-numbered "2053" and bears manuscript initials and a signature. The bond paid 7% interest. Eight \$35 coupons originally were printed below the main certificate, each dated as to when it could be cashed. Once all the coupons had been clipped and cashed, the large certificate would have been turned in for \$1,000. As is the case with nearly all surviving examples of these certificates, one of the coupons (for January 1, 1865) has been clipped and likely cashed. In nice shape with some light edgewear and storage folds.



The second is dated March 1, 1864. It measures approximately 17" x 28" and was printed in orange and black. The bonds were engraved by J. Archer of Richmond, Virginia and printed by Evans & Cogswell of Columbia, South Carolina. The bond paid 6% interest. The certificate is identified as being from the "Second Series." It features an illustration of an equestrian statue of George Washington, Confederate flags, and the motto of the Confederacy, "Deo Vindice" (God as our Defender). It is hand-numbered 8548 and bears manuscript initials and a signature. Sixty \$30 coupons originally were printed below the main certificate, each dated as to when it could be cashed. Once all the coupons had been clipped and cashed, the large certificate would have been eligible to exchange for \$1,000. A red Confederate treasury hand stamp is in the upper right margin. As is the case with most surviving examples of these certificates, one of the coupons (for January 1, 1865) has been clipped and likely cashed. In nice shape with some edgewear and storage folds.



\$350 for the pair [#10112](#)

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

24. [MILITARY – CIVIL WAR]

1864 – Letter from a woman in the heart of the western North Carolina mountains where guerilla warfare raged between Union and Confederate partisans providing her cousin an update on the area's most recent casualties

This partially cross-hatched four-page letter from “the Globe” region of Calwell County, North Carolina, is datelined “Mulberry Valley / Sept. 5th 1864”. It was written by “Lill” to her cousin “Mollie.” No mailing envelope. In nice shape. A transcript will be provided. Lill’s letter reads in part:

“Pinck came home wounded on last Friday, a flesh wound in the right side and arm, between the elbow & shoulder. This wound is doing very well, & he has every hope of being well very soon. . . . He was wounded on the 15th of Aug. & was very sick for several days afterwards but is very well now. . . . There was a good Southern man killed by the tories about twelve miles from here on last Sunday was a week ago. His name was Coffey. He was treated very unkindly by them before they killed him. I understand the Home Guard have been hunting them up for more than a week and hope they will get them. Only three made their appearance. Capt. Bingham’s men wounded one of the tories & were still in pursuit when we last heard . . . Dr. Glass is . . . now helping to take up deserters – will be gone twenty days. I think we need all the men we can “rake & scrape” in own county to drive back the invaders from the mts. They have threatened to kill every Southern man in the Globe or vicinity. Those they have threatened to kill are afraid to stay at home. They stay in the bushes during the day & slip home at night. This is a dreadful state of affairs! We may be in danger but I don’t feel at all afraid. . . .”

The ugly partisan warfare that Lil describes occurred in these mountains throughout the war. Although officially part of the Confederacy, Calwell and Watauga Counties were rife with Unionists who evaded conscription into the Confederate Army, assisted Confederate deserters, and functioned as guides for escaped slaves and Union prisoners of war. The state established a Home Guard to combat the problems and also root out Union sympathizers, and some of the Unionists formed equally untrained partisan bands. Worse, bands of brigands robbed, assaulted, and terrorized Confederate and Union sympathizers alike. Compounding the turmoil, many on both sides took advantage of the war to settle longstanding personal or family grudges. Such was the case with the Coffeys Lill mentioned in her letter. The Coffey family split its allegiance, and brothers on both sides were murdered. The film classic, *Cold Mountain*, is an especially accurate, fictionalized portrayal of the partisan warfare surrounding Lill.

(For more information, see Arthur’s *A history of Watauga County, North Carolina* and Hardy’s series of blogs about Caldwell County and the Blalocks at “Looking for the Confederate War” website.)

An uncommon first-account of North Carolina’s partisan warfare from a woman who lived at its center. At the time of listing, no similar accounts are for sale in the trade, and none have appeared at auction per the Rare Book Hub. OCLC show a collection of nine letters from a man serving in a western North Carolina partisan unit is held at Appalachian State University.

SOLD #10113



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

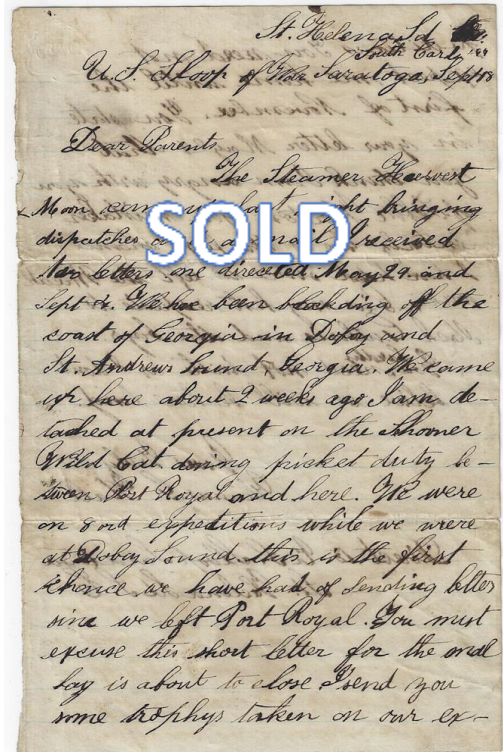
25. [MARITIME - BLOCKADES] [MILITARY – CIVIL WAR] [PHILATELY]

1864 – Letter from a sailor with the Union’s South Atlantic Blockading Squadron reporting he and his shipmates had conducted eight or nine land raids into coastal Georgia

This partially cross-hatched two-page letter from seaman Thomas G. Hall aboard the U.S. Sloop of War *Saratoga* at St. Helena Island to his parents in New York is datelined “South Carolina / Sept 18”. It is enclosed in its original mailing envelope which bears a 3-cent Washington stamp (Scott #65) and a double-ring “Port Royal / SC” postmark dated October 1, 1864. The letter is in nice shape. The envelope shows some postal wear.

Hall’s letter reads as follows:

“The Steamer Harvest Moon came up last night bringing despatches and a mail. I received two letters one directed May 29th and Sept 4th. We have been blockading off the coast of Georgia in Doboy and St. Andrews Sound, Georgia. We came up here about two weeks ago. I am detached at present on the Schooner Wild Cat doing picket duty between Port Royal and here. We were on 8 or 9 expeditions while we were at Doboy Sound. this is the first chance we have had of Sending letters since we left Port Royal. You must excuse this short letter for the mail bag is about to close. I send you some trophys taken on our expeditions You need not expect me home until the first of November. You state in your letter May 29 that you think I am angry with you of Libbie Horton your mistaken entirely this is the first chance I have had since we left the Break water. . . . You hardly need not write as I dont believe we will be here long.”



The raids conducted by the sailors of the *Saratoga* should not be confused with the looting and complete destruction of the undefended Georgia port town of Darien by two African-American Union regiments, the 2nd Carolina Colored Infantry commanded by Colonel James Montgomery and the 54th Massachusetts Infantry commanded by Colonel Robert Gould Shaw which had occurred a year prior.

Rather, Hall is referencing the *Saratoga*’s legitimate military raids that occurred in August and September of 1864 and were led by the ship’s captain, U.S. Navy Commander George Musalas "Colvos" Colvocoresses. These boat raids captured over 100 Confederate soldiers and more than 20 cavalry horses. It also freed over 70 slaves and confiscated large quantities of ammunition, ordnance, and supplies. Additionally, Colvocoresses’s raiding parties destroyed an important salt works and strategic bridges.

(For more information, see Smeltzer’s “The Burning of Darian” online at the Civil War Bookshelf and Winifred Ledoux’s “George M. Colvocoresses” at the Vermont in the Civil War website.)

. At the time of listing, no letters regarding the USS *Saratoga*’s raids into coastal Georgia are for sale in the trade. None have appeared at auction per the Rare Book Hub. OCLC shows none held by institutions, however there may be some in in the Colvocoresses family papers at Norwich University.

\$750 #10114

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

26. [BROADSIDES & HANDBILLS] [MILITARY – CIVIL WAR] [POLITICS – RECONSTRUCTION]

Probably 1865 – Broadside advertising the requirements for former Confederates to be eligible to take an oath in order to receive a full pardon and restoration of all rights of property except slaves

This broadside announcing the requirements for former Confederates to have their rights as a U.S. citizen restored by taking an Amnesty Oath under the provisions of President Andrew Johnson's "Proclamation 134: Granting Amnesty to Participants in the Rebellion, with Certain Exceptions" issued on May 29, 1865, measures approximately 7" x 9". It is in nice shape; some storage folds, one with a two-inch split. On its reverse, the flyer is annotated, "From the C. Lucian Jones Scrapbook Presented by Mr. Geo W. Malpass."

Although no printer is identified, this flyer was likely posted and distributed in and around Wilmington, North Carolina, as that is where C. Lucian Jones resided from the time he was paroled after the capitulation of General J. E. Johnston at Greensboro, North Carolina on May 1, 1865, until he relocated to Savannah, Georgia in 1874. It reads,

"IF YOU CAN ANSWER THESE / Questions in the Negative, you can / take the Amnesty Oath.

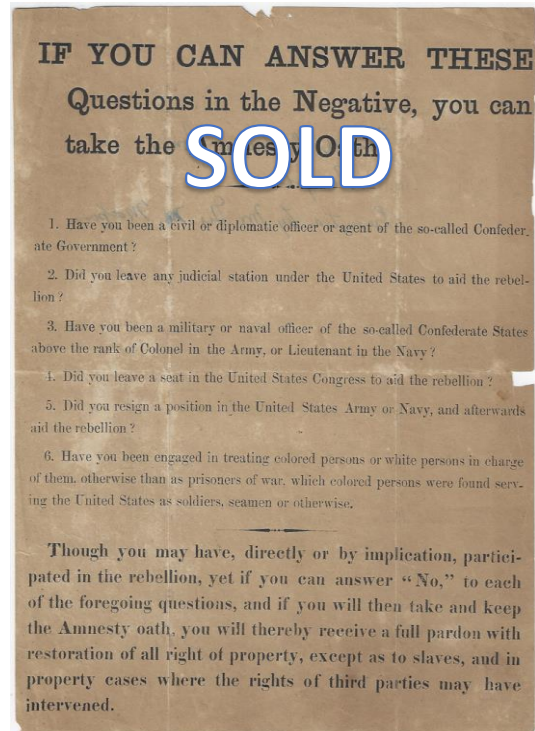
1. Have you been a civil or diplomatic officer or agent of the so-called Confederate Government?
2. Did you leave any judicial station under the United States to aid the rebellion?
3. Have you been a military or naval officer of the so-called Confederate States above the rank of Colonel in the Army or Lieutenant in the Navy?
4. Did you leave a seat in the United States Congress to aid the rebellion?
5. Did you resign a position in the United States Army or Navy, and afterwards aid the rebellion?
6. Have you been engaged in treating colored persons or white persons in charge of them, otherwise than as prisoners of war, which colored persons were found serving the United States as soldiers, seamen or otherwise.

"Though you may have, directly or by implication, participated in the rebellion, yet if you can answer 'No,' to each of the foregoing questions, and if you will then take and keep the Amnesty oath, you will thereby receive a full pardon with restoration of all right of property, except as to slaves, and in property cases where the rights of third parties may have intervened."

(For more information, see "C. Lucian Jones" in Evans's *Confederate Military History: Georgia* and "Proclamation 134—Granting Amnesty to Participants in the Rebellion, with Certain Exceptions" at the American Presidency Project, both online.)

A rare reconstruction broadside. At the time of listing nothing similar is for sale in the trade. Rare Book Hub identifies nothing similar as ever having appeared at auction, and OCLC shows nothing similar held by any institution.

SOLD #10115



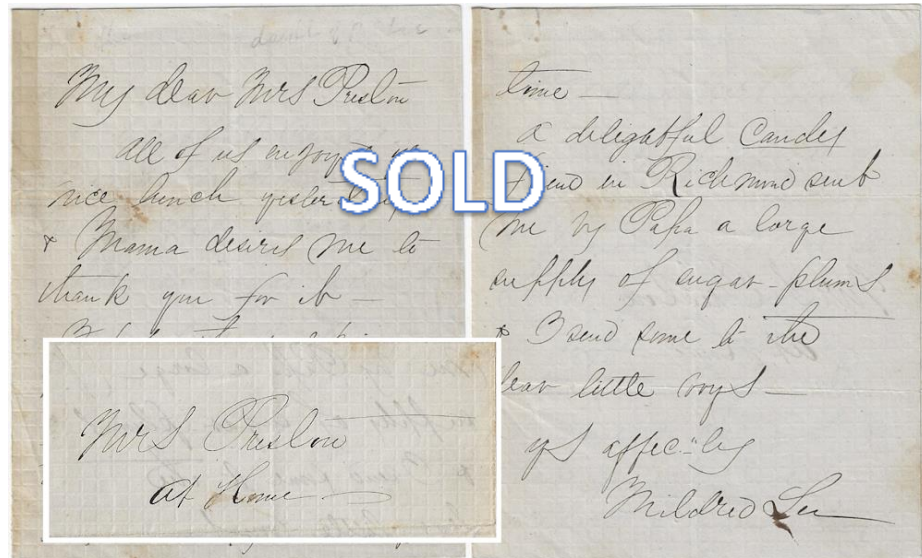
Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

27. [AUTOGRAPHS – MILDRED CHILDE LEE] [EDUCATION – WASHINGTON & LEE UNIVERSITY] [MILITARY – CIVIL WAR] [WOMEN & GIRLS]

Circa 1865-1870 – Thank you letter from General Robert E. Lee's daughter, Mildred to Mrs. Preston, probably the daughter of a former President of Washington College and wife of the founder of the Virginia Military Institute

This undated luncheon thank you note, signed by Robert E. Lee's daughter, Mildred Childe Lee, was hand delivered to "Ms. Preston / At Home". It is in nice shape with light toning and a short tape repair to split along a fold.

In this letter Lee thanks Preston for a luncheon and remarks that she desires to share a gift of sugar plum candy received from her father, Robert E. Lee, with Mrs. Preston's boys.



"My dear Mrs Preston

All of us enjoyed yr nice lunch yesterday & Moma desired me to than you for it. I hope the walking will permit you soon to come & see us & that you will come prepared to spend a long time.

A delightful Candy friend in Richmond sent me by Papa a large supply of sugar plums & I send some to the dear little boys.

Yrs affec'ly

Mildred Lee"

As Mildred Lee was living in Lexington, Virginia at the time while her father was serving as the president of Washington College (today Washington & Lee University), Mrs. Preston was undoubtedly Mrs. Margaret Junkin Preston, the daughter of a former president of Washington College and the second wife of one of the founders of the Virginia Military Institute, which is also located in Lexington. At the time of this letter, Mrs. Preston had two young boys, George and Herbert.

Mrs. Preston, an associate of Robert Browning, Lord Tennyson, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, and Christina Rossetti, was known as the Poet Laureate of the Confederacy. She was an important southern apologist and champion of "The Lost Cause" who authored the oft quoted and widely anthologized work, *Beechenbrook: A Rhyme of the War*, and wrote extensively for popular magazines and newspapers.

(For more information, see Carrino's "Lee's Daughters, Part 5: Mildred Childe Lee" at the Cleveland Civil War Roundtable website and "Margaret Junkin (1820-1897)" at the Joseph Junkin Family Tree website.)

The Rare Book Hub shows this letter was sold at a University Archives auction in 2022.

\$150 #10116

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

28. [BUSINESS – SAILING MASTER] [MARITIME]

1867-1874 – Three letters from one of the worst (or unluckiest) sea captains who later established one of the most popular and long-lived ship chandleries on Martha's Vineyard

These three letters were all written by Edward ("Santa") St. Croix Oliver to family members during his time as a sea captain; one also includes a letter from his wife Sarah ("Sallie") Jane Johnson St. Croix. Two of the letters are in nice shape, and one has some insect/rodent predation that affects a very small amount of text. One is enclosed in a heavily worn mailing envelope from the Canary Islands that bears a manuscript annotation "African Mail", a Liverpool "Paid" transit mark, and a New York City "U.S. Currency" postmark. The other two letters are from Guanape, Peru and Leghorn (Livorno), Italy Transcripts will be provided.

Oliver ran away from his Boston home in 1850 at the age of 17 to become a sailor for the next thirty years. He captained three different ships, all with disastrous results.

His first ship, the *Harry Bluff*, struck South Shoal off Nantucket and ruptured its hull while carrying a cargo that included 1,200 tons of salt. As the salt began to quickly dissolve, Oliver and his 17-man crew were forced to abandon the top-heavy vessel. Two crewmembers drowned. The other 16 men spent hours drifting in an open longboat; two of them froze to death.

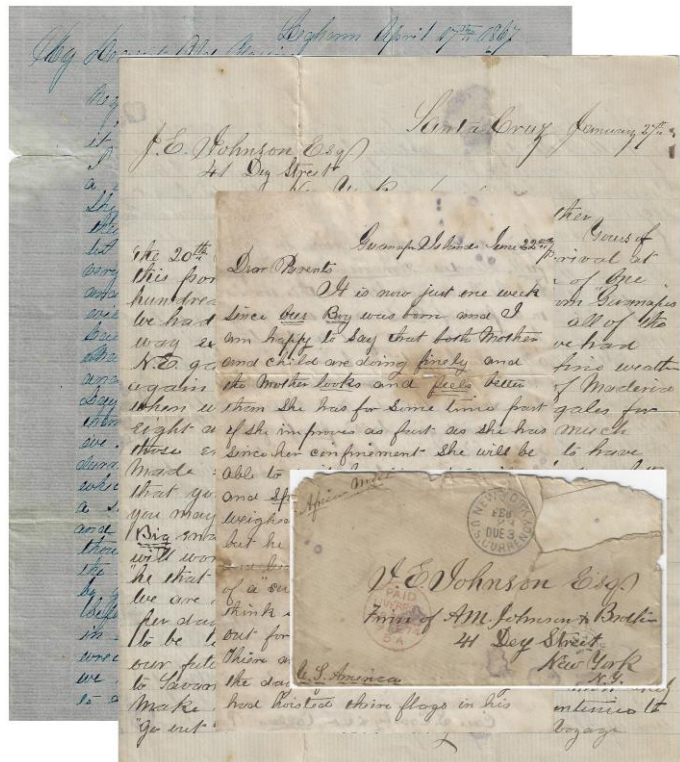
His second ship, the *Garnet*, lost its rudder and split its stern post while rounding Cape Horn; the ship was lost but the crew rescued.

Oliver's last captaincy of the *Cashmere* ended with his arrest for allowing his First Mate to beat a crewmember to death with a belaying pin and sanctioning other cruel punishments as well. Although criminal charges appear to have been dismissed, Oliver was dismissed by his employer and blackballed from ever captaining another vessel.

Subsequently, he and Sallie settled in the port of Vineyard Vines and in 1882 opened a combination ship chandlery, grocery, general store, and bathhouse where Steamship Authority now stands. Their business became a popular gathering spot for sailors and captains to swap yarns and exchange the latest maritime news. Oliver retired and sold his store in 1907 after which he wintered in Bermuda until his death seven years later.

Oliver's letters are especially entertaining and include stories about the birth of his son aboard ship while loading guano off the coast of Peru, a devastating storm that destroyed the harbor at Valencia, and the astonishment of Europeans over a monitor when pulled into port. They read in part:

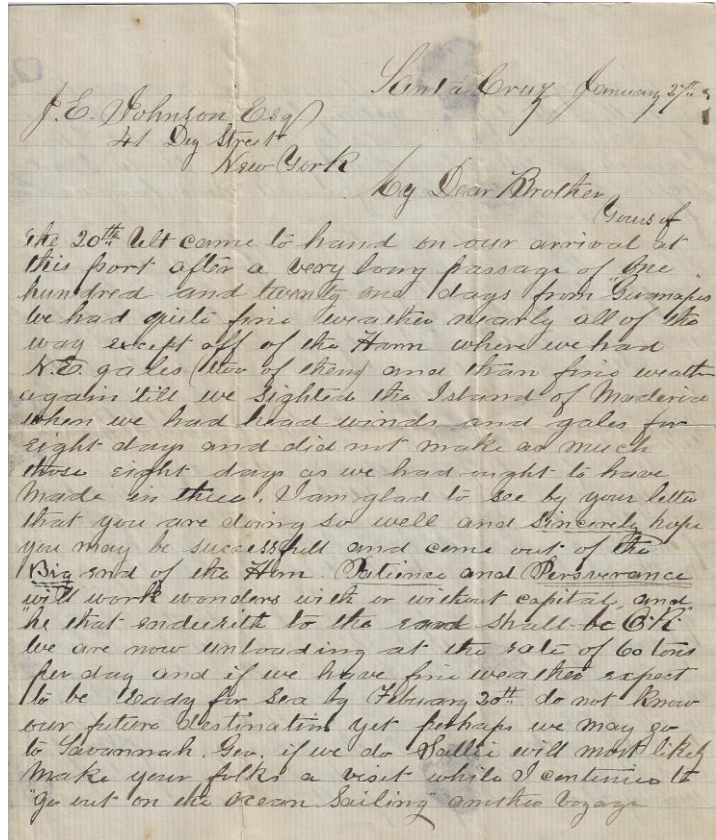
"We had a Splendid run to Gibraltar making the passage in eighty five days and besting every thing on the road we Lay at that port a week for Orders since then proceeded to Valencia in Spain where we lay fifty days discharging our cargo during which time we had a fearfull gale which drove three the Large



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

Ships, a Brig and a Schooner ashore Staving them all to pieces and losing about fifty lives in Sight of thousands of people who could not render the least assistance the "Henry Bluff" just escaped by getting inside of the Breakwater the day before the gale came on had she not got in on that day She would have been a wreck on the next. . .

"The Man of War Steamer "August" accompanied by one of our double turreted Monitors has just left here for Rome I tell you Ned it makes the people up this way Stick their eyes out when they think what we Yankeys can do I Suppose there was not a Man Woman or Child in Leghorn that [didn't go] on board of the Monitor. . . One of the Officers of her told me that She had Surprised them at every port at which they had touched. [They] say that the Yankees have some dealings with the Devil to get up a thing like her. . .



J.E. Johnson Esq.
41 Dey Street
New York

Dear Brother

Yours of the 20th ult came to hand on our arrival at this port after a very long passage of one hundred and twenty one days from Guanapes we had quite fine weather nearly all of the way except off of the Horn where we had N.E. gales (two of them) and then fine weather again till we sighted the Island of Maderia when we had head winds and gales for eight days and did not make as much those eight days as we had ought to have made in three. I am glad to see by your letter that you are doing so well and sincerely hope you may be successful and come out of the Big end of the Horn. Politics and Providence will work wonders with or without capital, and he that undertakes to the end shall be O.K. We are now unloading at the rate of 60 tons per day and if we have fine weather expect to be ready for sea by February 20th. do not know our future destination yet perhaps we may go to Savannah. Geo. if we do Wallis will most likely make your folks a visit while I continue to "go out on the ocean sailing another voyage"

"It is now just one week since Our Boy was born and I am happy to Say that both Mother and child are doing finely. . . He is hearty as a Buck and lungs in him like the Boatswain of a 'seventy four'. . . twice There are about 60 Ships here and the day after he was born they all had hoisted their flags in his honor . . . he is a true full blooded American of the first water. You may think it strange but he had not been this world an hour and a half before he had on a pair of Boots and was going = never mind where, we saw his intentions and put a stop to any thing of the sort, as we do not allow the boat to be lowered Sundays Since which time he has not been so forward and never thinks of going out without saying "By your Leave". . . we have to Stay on board Ship all of the time as we cannot go on Shore or we could go if we wished but there is nothing to See but Guano and dirty-Chinamen a digging of it. . .

"After a very long passage of One hundred and twenty one days from "Guanapes" We had quite fine weather . . . except off of the Horn where we had N.E. gales (two of them) and then fine weather again 'till we Sighted the Island of Maderia when we had head winds and gales for eight days and did not make as much those eight days as we had ought to have made in three. . . We are now unloading at the rate of 60 tons per day and if we have fine weather expect to be ready for Sea by February 20th. do not know our future destination yet perhaps we may go to Savannah, Geo. . ."

(For more information, see Baer's "This Was Then, Narrated: St. Croix Oliver: Washashore with a checkered past" in the *Martha Vineyard Times* – 14 April 2014, Baer's "E. St. Croix Oliver's Home" at the Martha's Vineyard Museum website, and various online genealogical sources including Ancestry.com)

At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade. Rare Book Hub shows no Edward St. Croix Oliver material has ever appeared at auction, and OCLC shows none is held by institutions.

\$950 [#10117](#)

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

29. [BUSINESS – IMPORTS & STEEL]

1875 – An impressive invoice from the preeminent English steelworks to a Philadelphia bed and furniture factory

This illustrated partially-printed invoice on thin paper measures approximately 10" x 15.5" unfolded. It was prepared by William Jessop & Sons, Steel Manufactures of Sheffield, England for crucible steel sold to J. C. Hand & Company in Philadelphia. The document is dated February 7, 1875. It is annotated in black and red ink in a hand different from the drafter. A partially-printed two-page import certificate measuring about 5.5" x 9" is attached. It is signed by C. B. Webster, the United States Consul at Sheffield. This certificate bears a red wax/paper seal attached to a short green cord. Both documents are attached to a plain green trifold file cover sheet that reads in part: "Mch 15 75 / J C Hand & Co / Str 'Kennelworth' / from Lpool. . . ." In nice shape with a little wear. There is an old tape repair to the reverse of the green cover. The billhead is not stained; the paper is very thin and the cover shows through as a shaded area.

The invoice billhead contains three illustrations:

One shows a factory titled "Park Works / Sheffield"

A second show a factory titled "Soho Mills / Sheffield"

The third which is larger than the other two shows a great complex of factories sitting astride a waterway and is titled "Brightside / Works / Sheffield"

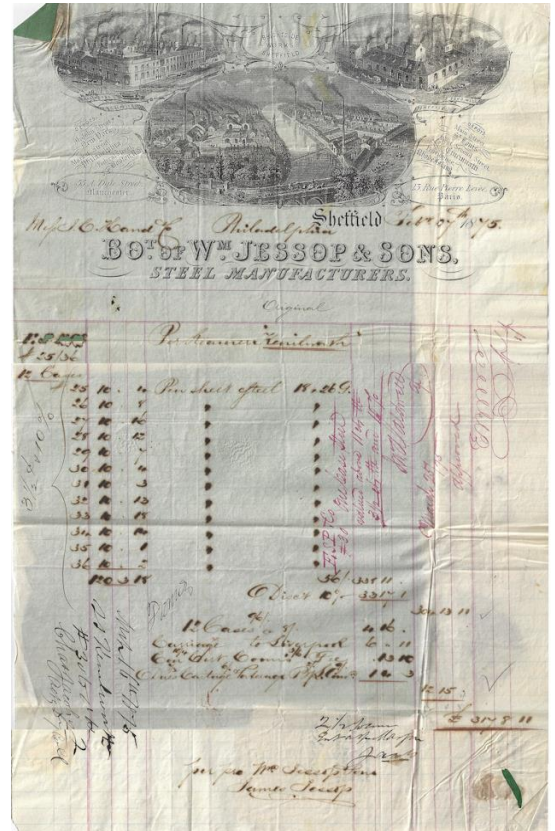
Additionally, the billhead notes that the company has offices in Manchester and Paris, and that Jessop Depots were located in New York, Philadelphia, Boston, St. Louis, Cincinnati, and Rhode Island.

Thomas and William Jessop began their steel business with other family members in 1830 just as the market for crucible steel in the United States began to increase. The family moved its business to a location in Sheffield's Brightside area that included the site of a water works, and eventually encompassed 30 acres. Sheffield steel was highly regarded, especially by industries that required a high quality, especially pure, and exceptionally strong product. It dominated the US market until after the American Civil War when the combination of Great Lakes iron ore, cheap water transportation, and a seemingly limitless supply of Pennsylvania coal, iron caused the American steel industry to explode. Between 1875 and 1900, American steel production increased from one million to more than 10 million tons, and by 1910, the United States produced nearly 25 million tons each year, far more than any other country in the world.

(For more information, see "A Brief History of the American Steel Industry" at the National Material Company website, "The Brief History of Steel in Sheffield" at the DH Scaffold Services website, and "A History of 'Steel City'" at the Sky History website.)

An impressive remnant from the days of Britain's domination of the steel industry just before it was rapidly eclipsed by the United States.

\$200 [#10118](#)



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

30. [LITERATURE – POETRY] [RELIGION – UNITARIAN]

1883 – Six months communication documenting the collaboration between a lawyer and a minister to have their amateur poetry published as a monograph or in a national periodical

This lot consists of 15 letters from Henry Edmund Ravenel, a South Carolina attorney from Keowee, to George Leonard Chaney, a Unitarian minister in Atlanta, sent between January and July of 1883. The letters are enclosed in mailing envelopes franked with common 3-cent stamps canceled with a Keowee postmarks. The letters are in nice shape; some postal wear.

Ravenel was a member of a prominent family of South Carolina rice planters that lost most of it land and wealth after the Civil War. This Henry Ravenel is not to be confused with a distant relative, the famous botanist Henry William Ravenel, although he did purchase Henry William's 12,000 specimen research collection which he donated to Converse College in Spartanburg. He also published a genealogical record of his family, *Ravenel records. A history and genealogy*. . .



Chaney was a well-known Harvard-educated Unitarian Minister and a graduate of the Meadville Theological in Pennsylvania. His first assignment was as the successor of the exceptionally popular Starr King at the Hollis Street Church, a near impossible task. He resigned his Hollis Street position in 1877 and spent several years traveling, including a year in Hawaii, and authoring popular books for boys. In 1884 settled in Atlanta, and in two years established a thriving Unitarian church, while continuing his social commitment; he helped Booker T. Washington establish the Tuskegee Institute and served as one of its trustees for twenty years. He retired from that position in 1896, after which he returned to his wife's farm in Salem and wintered in Florida or Jamaica.

Some of the content in these letters suggest that these men may have been related; perhaps through a link between Ravenel and Chaney's wife.

"Mrs. Chaney's note to Mamma arrived this A M. & I openend it before saw who it was for, then read it as Mamma is away. . . It is so disappointing not to have her come. . ."

One also suggests that the men may also have vacationed together in Massachusetts, perhaps to avoid hot Southern summers.

"I've given up the idea of taking a trip to Leo[minster, Massachusetts] this summer. . . So-o! – our pictures of two men enjoying books and exchanging minds under the skies, lying on the green grass, or stretched in the breeze hammocks of Monoosnock, are torn & veiled this year. . . No New England antiquities, no Boston, no Harvard, no Cape sands, no Massachusetts sea-breeze. . ."

Regardless, their creative appetites must have been whetted by their earlier publications, as the men committed themselves to study, create, and publish poetry in a national magazine. To achieve their goal, they continuously shared their compositions and freely provided critiques of each other's work.

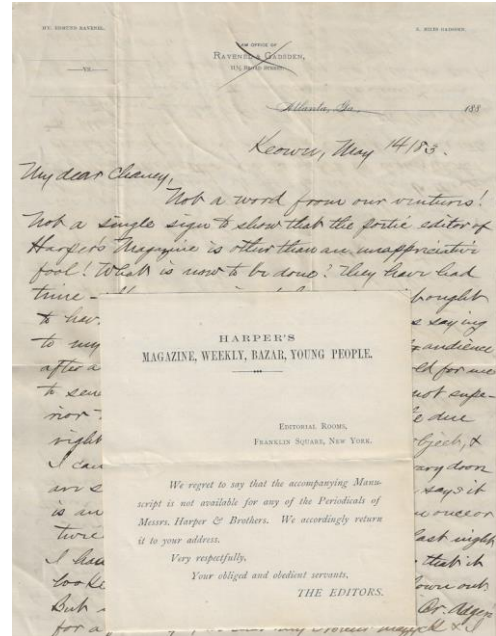
Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

"This poem is very good, & shows cleverness. I don't like the figure of the coal. It seems to me to want fitness . . . for there is no analogy or rationale in it that I can see. The moral at the end is decidedly force too. I would clear it out and end differently. . . . Don't abandon the Muse. . . .

"I dislike 'spewed' in the 1st stanza too. Say 'raised' or 'broke' instead! I do not think we have another word that conveys the idea of spew. . . ."

"I write my first stanza as follows:

"This worn as I wish when this river ran,
The silent, wintry river,
And saw when the frost had raised the sod,
But vanished again before the Sun God,
But vanished again before the Sun God,
I thought, 'the frost is like new.'
It comes in a night: it dies in a day;
To tell it hath been and hath passed away
Forever, . . . forever!"



At last, in May, Ravenel submitted their poems to *Harper's Magazine*, and anxiously awaited a response.

"Not a word from our ventures! Not a single sign to show that the portic editor of Harper's Magazine is other than an unappreciative fool! What is now to be done" They have had time – If we are going to hear at all, it ought to have been before this. . . . You are my only audience . . . for me to send my poetry to. . . . If fame comes, I should like to be its object & I can not be quite content when literary doors are slammed in my face. . . ."

Finally, in mid-June, the men received an answer.

"I enclose a printed slip received from Harper & Brothers this morning. I did not write them again. . . . The slip accompanied the two poems we sent. There is no explanation of the delay. . . . I am sorry for the event. It would have been encouraging to meet with success. . . ." The very brief rejection letter said simply, "We regret to say that the accompanying Manuscript is not available for any of the Periodicals of Messrs. Harper & Brothers. We accordingly return it to your address."

The rejection apparently not only dampened the men's spirits but ended their collaboration as well. The last letter in this group that Cheney received from Ravenel, was dated July 13th.

(For more information, see "Chaney, George Leonard (1836-1922)" at Harvard Square Library online, "Caroliniana Columns - Fall 2014" online at the University of South Carolina Libraries, and genealogical files at online sites including Ancestry. com.)

An unusual first-hand account of two post-war Southern professionals attempting to create publishable poetry. At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade, and the Rare Book Hub shows nothing similar as having ever appeared at auction. It is possible that there may be some related material in the "Samuel Prioleau and Margaretta Fleming Ravenel family collection, 1807-1950" held at the University of Michigan's Clements Library.

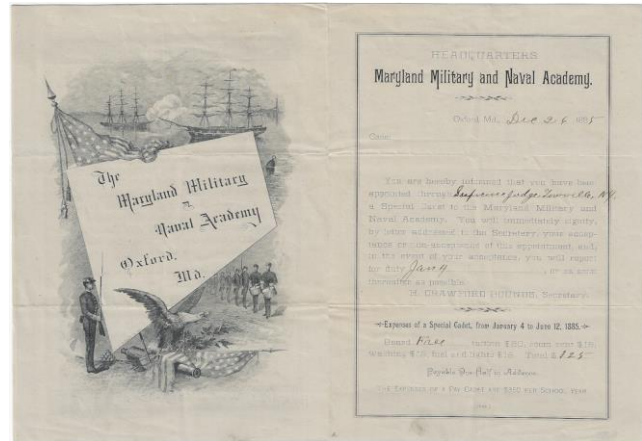
SOLD #10119

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

31. [BROADSIDES & HANDBILLS] [CRIME – EMBEZZLEMENT] [EDUCATION – MILITARY SCHOOLS]

1885 – Illustrated flyer offering board-free enrollment at the Maryland Military and Naval Academy that was beset by scandal

This four-page, partially printed handbill, measuring 5½" x 8¼", offering board-free enrollment as a "Special Cadet" at the Maryland Military and Naval Academy is datelined "Oxford, Md. Dec 26 1885. The name field is blank. A large patriotic illustration titled "The Maryland Military & Naval Academy / Oxford. Md." Decorates the cover. Storage folds.



The application reads in part: "You are hereby informed that you have been appointed through Supreme Judge, Towville, NY, as a Special Cadet. . . You will immediately signify by letter . . . your acceptance or nonacceptance . . . and in the event of your appointment . . . report for duty Jan 4. . . / Expenses of a Special Cadet, from January 4 to June 12, 1885 / Board Free, tuition \$80, room rent \$15, washing \$15, fuel and lights \$15. Total \$125 . . The Expense of a Pay Cadet are \$350 per School year."

An internal page of requirements reads in part: "The applicant must be at least thirteen years of age. . . The Special Cadet will also be required to provide himself with the uniform of the Academy. . ." and a long list of clothing and equipment that were required to be purchased from the academy.

The academy, a preparatory school for West Point and Annapolis, was established by ex-Confederate Colonel Otto Tighman. It was based upon a similar institution at Oxford that had been destroyed by fire in 1885. It had an excellent facility, first-class faculty, and two vessels (a schooner and clipper ship). Its first class attracted over 250 students from prominent families from thirty states.

However, the school was quickly beset by financial problems and after its cooks and servants quit because they had not been paid, the school's 180 cadets were not fed. Subsequently, four cadets got drunk on hard cider and attacked the assistant superintendent at home and cut off his beard with shears. Afterward fifty cadets went to a local restaurant for a celebratory meal.

The next January, the superintendent, B. J. Burges, convinced a retired Army major to purchase the academy. After the major did, he discovered that Burgess had absconded with at least \$50,000 of academy funds causing the school to fold in March of 1887. A subsequent state investigation revealed the students had been supplied with insufficient numbers of uniforms, only one or two rooms had been heated, the water supply was unpotable, and meals were sparse and of poor quality.

(For more information, see "Museum Unveils 'Scoundrels and Scandals' Exhibit" at the Oxford Museum website, "Rebellious Maryland Boys" from the 29 September 1886 edition of *The Boston Globe*, and a host of other contemporary newspaper articles, all available online.)

Scarce. At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade, and the Rare Book Hub shows no similar items have appeared at auction. OCLC identifies no institutional holdings of original source materials related to this academy.

\$200 [#10120](#)

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

32. [ADVERTISING] [BUSINESS – GUANO] [PHILATELY]

1887 – Illustrated business letter regarding the purchase of bat guano fertilizer

This letter on illustrated stationery from R. A. Woodridge & Company to a customer in Port Tobacco, Maryland is datelined “Baltimore, 17th Sept 1887”. It is enclosed in a matching illustrated advertising envelope franked with a brown two-cent Washington stamp (Scott #210) and canceled with a duplex Baltimore postmark. In nice shape.

The letterhead illustrations feature a man standing in a field of corn that has grown over his head and two men who are bundling sheaves of wheat while giving directions to a stranger. It prominently proclaims that the company were “Importers of Natural Guanos” including guano from kangaroos rather than bats. It also announces that the company manufactured “High Grade Bone Superphosphates.”

The advertising envelope images shows both corn and wheat and boasts “Orchilla Guano / Best and Cheapest for / Wheat, Corn, & Grass.”

The manuscript letter reads in part:

“The regular retail price for Orchilla Guano is \$20=per ton, free on cars in Balto, net Cash, purchaser paying his own freight but as we have no agent in your section we will allow you ten percent discount on your purchases provided you will agree not to mention the price.”

In the 1840s, after Europeans realized the tremendous fertilizing power of the guano, i.e., seabird excrement, that Peruvians routinely harvested from mountainous deposits on their country’s rocky coastal islands, its value skyrocketed, and an entire “white gold” industry sprang up almost overnight. Millionaires were quickly made, primarily Peruvians and Englishmen who lured and indentured Chinese and Polynesians to serve as virtual slaves, to dig and harvest the fertilizer. Americans began to search the coasts of Mexican, the Caribbean and the Pacific for other deposits, and Congress passed the Guano Islands Act in 1856 which authorized U.S. citizens to temporarily hold any uninhabited and unclaimed island until they stripped it of the valuable fertilizer.

It had long been known that bones, especially crushed bones, provided nutrients to soils that promoted crop growth, however in the 1840s, a German chemist, Justus von Liebig, discovered that first treating them with sulfuric acid allowed for a much more rapid and thorough absorption of their phosphate nutrients.

Together, guano and bone phosphate fertilizer made possible the tremendous increase in agricultural production that occurred in the mid-to-late 1800s. (For more information, see Tandon’s “A Short History of Fertilizer” at the Fertiliser Development and Consultation Organisation online.)

SOLD #10121



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

33. [FRATERNAL – MILITARY] [FOOD – MENUS] [MILITARY – CIVIL WAR]

1891 – Invitation/Menu for the Annual Meeting of the National Association of Union Ex-Prisoners of War Association at Attleboro Massachusetts

This one-page 9" x 6" combination invitation and menu for the annual meeting of the National Association of the Union Ex-Prisoners of War Association at Attleboro, Massachusetts. December 22, 1891, is printed on stiff brown paper. It measures 9" x 6". In nice shape with pressed folds and a little toning.

The invitation is printed in two panels. The first is illustrated with a picture of the association's medal: an eagle sitting on crossed muskets and a knapsack that surmounts rectangular medallion showing one of Captain Henry Wirz's "Hounds of Hell" attacking a Union prisoner at Andersonville. It is titled "Andersonville 1864 / Death Before Dishonor". Underneath, the text reads:

Attleboro, Mass, Dec. 22, 1891

Comrade:

U are wanted at Park Hotel, Attleboro, Wednesday, 7 hours past 12 o'clock noon, Dec. 30, 1891:

Prisoners of War

Annual Meeting

Lunch, 9 O'Clock.

The second panel contains the menu.

BILL OF FARE.

Andersonville Nuts,

Salisbury Crackers,

Libby Spices,

Belle Isle Bologna,

Charlestown Crawlers,

Danville Fillers,

Greensboro Freeze.

If U don't come send word to the old veteran Martin, E. C., the scribe. If U do come, be there sharp 7. P.M., as matters of importance before lunch

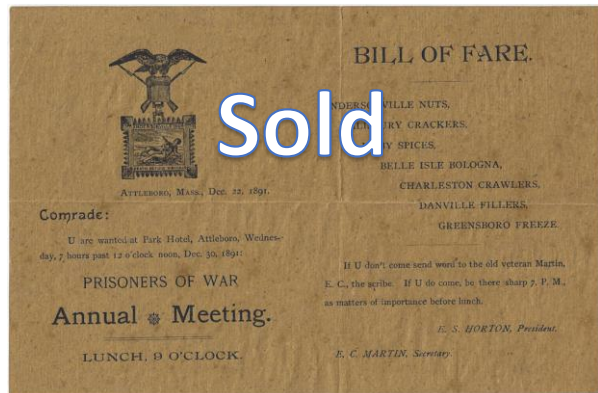
E. S. Horton, President

E. C. Martin, Secretary

The National Association of Union Ex-Prisoners of War was organized in 1873 by former Union soldiers who had spent time in Confederate prisons. It was established in Washington, DC. with local chapters created throughout the United States. (See the Virginia Tech Archives online). Most likely from a local reunion; both Horton and Martin had served as past commanders for G.A.R Post #45.

At the time of listing, nothing related to the association is for sale in the trade or has been offered for sale at a major public auction. A few association ribbons and pins have appeared at eBay auctions. The only institutional holding of an association item that I could locate is an 1888 information pamphlet held at Virginia Tech.

SOLD #10122



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

34. [ADVERTISING] [EXPOSITIONS & FAIRS] [PHILATELY]

1891 – Advertising material for the Detroit International Fair and Exposition

This lot consists of an attractive illustrated advertising envelope featuring a large illustration of the ornate building that housed the Detroit International Fair and Exposition. The cover notes that the exposition “Opens Aug. 25th / Closes Sept. 4th 1891.” It is addressed to a potential exhibitor, M. G. Snow of Hanover, Michigan. It is franked with a carmine two-cent Washington stamp (Scott #220) that was cancelled by a duplex Detroit postmark dated May 22, 1891. Also included is a large (8” x 14”) mimeographed letter describing the fair in detail and touting the success of the fair in previous years. Both are in nice shape.

The letter reads in part:

“The [Third Annual] Detroit International Exposition for 1891 will devote most of the ground floor of its immense main building (the largest Exposition building in the world) to the display of the most important and interesting manufacturing machinery in operation, and [on the second] the most elegant finished products of the great manufacturing industries. . . It has exhibits from every State in the Union and every settled province of Canada. . . In 1889 it was visited by 222,011 people; in 1890 by 342,800. . . The attendance at the Exhibition of 1891 is expected to be larger . . . and probably exceed half a million people. . .

“This year . . . will be a great race meeting upon the elegant track in the Exhibition grounds . . . \$2,500 in special purses [for] trotting, pacing, running and hurdle races.

“There will also be the most magnificent display ever shown in America of all the latest and most wonderful inventions in Electricity – lighting, motors, telephones, telegraphs, railway systems. etc. . .

“In short, the manufacturer who exhibits in the Detroit International Exposition of 1891 will be sure of displaying before the largest number of the best people from all over this continent. . .”

\$150 #10123



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

35. [ADVERTISING] [APICULTURE] [BUSINESS – BEEKEEPING] [FOOD – HONEY} [PHILATELY]

1892 – Illustrated purchase order and mailing envelope from an Indiana beekeeper

This purchase order letter is enclosed in its original mailing envelope. The letter was written by "J. A. Roe, Apiarist" in Union City, Indiana, to A. L. Lindley at Jordon, Indiana on September 5, 1892. The stationery features an illustration of queen bee in black on a brown crosshatch background with text that touts bees, honey, queens, and nuclei (small, established bee colonies) and reads "Queen Rearing / A Specialty / Special prices on large orders or to those who buy to sell again. / All Queens warranted purely mated." The mailing envelope features an illustration of the same queen bee in brown overprinted with text that reads, "J. A. Roe / Dealer In / Bees and Queens. / Indian City, Ind." The envelope is franked with two blue 1-cent Franklin stamps (Scott #219) cancelled with a circular Union City, Indiana postmark. In nice shape.

The letter reads:

"Dear Sir. A party has ordered a Carniolian queen which I wish you to Supply and I will pay you when I see you. I prefer that you use the covers sent which by a little trimming with a sharp knife will fit your cage. I would trim them but have none of your cages here.

Send them as soon as you can, and let me know how soon they can go."

An uncommon, illustrated letterhead and advertising envelope. Seldom encountered. Nothing similar is for sale in the trade. Rare Book Hub shows no similar items have sold at auction; however, one badly damaged similar advertising envelope (without contents) item was sold on eBay. OCLC shows nothing similar held by institutions.

SOLD #10124



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

36. [ADVERTISING] [BUSINESS – SOAP] [POPUPS & MOVABLES]

c1895 - Colorful three-dimensional die-cut Sunlight Soap trade card featuring two young boys with their small caliber rifles riding on a sled made from an empty case of soap powder

An unusual and scarce three-dimensional trade card for Sunlight Soap that measures about 4" x 5.5" x 4" when standing. Old, but well-done, reinforcement to the sled runners, seat tabs, and gun barrels. Still, in nice shape and quite displayable.

The card features colorful die-cut figures of two young boys riding on a sled made from an empty case that had been used to ship Sunlight Soap. Both boys are dressed for winter weather hunting and carry small caliber rifles.

Advertising poem on the underside of the soapbox reads,

"A Puzzle. / 'Where do they make the snow?' said Jim. / 'Among the clouds,' I answered him. / He quaintly asked, when I said where. / 'Do folks use SUNLIGHT SOAP up there?'"

Suncoast Soap, the world's first packaged laundry detergent, was first marketed by the British company, Lever Brothers ("Soapmakers to the Queen"), in 1884. It was sold worldwide, entering the U.S. market in 1895. Variations of the product are still sold today by Unilever and other related companies as a general cleaner, bath soap, dishwashing liquid, washing powder, fabric conditioner, and "washing-up" product.

SOLD #10125



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

37. [ADVERTISING] [BUSINESS – PUBLISHING] [MILITARY – BIOGRAPHIES] [PHILATELY]

1897 – Complete, unsevered paid-reply postal card set with a multi-color advertisement for *Appleton's Military Library Great Commanders Series*

This example of the first U.S. paid-reply postal card set (Scott #UY1) is unsevered; the postal message card (Scott #PM1) remains attached to its postal reply card (Scott #PR1). The indicia on both one-cent cards feature a portrait of Ulysses S. Grant as President. The postal message card was sent from D. Appleton and Company to Lieutenant J. C. Bush, U.S. Army at New York City's Governor's Island. It bears a duplex New York City postmark dated October 2, 1897. The postal reply card is uncanceled; it features an illustration in gold, blue-black, and gilt of a set of *Appleton's Military Library Great Commanders Series*. There is a near invisible two-inch mended split along the right edge of the message. Still in nice shape with little other wear; displays well from either side.

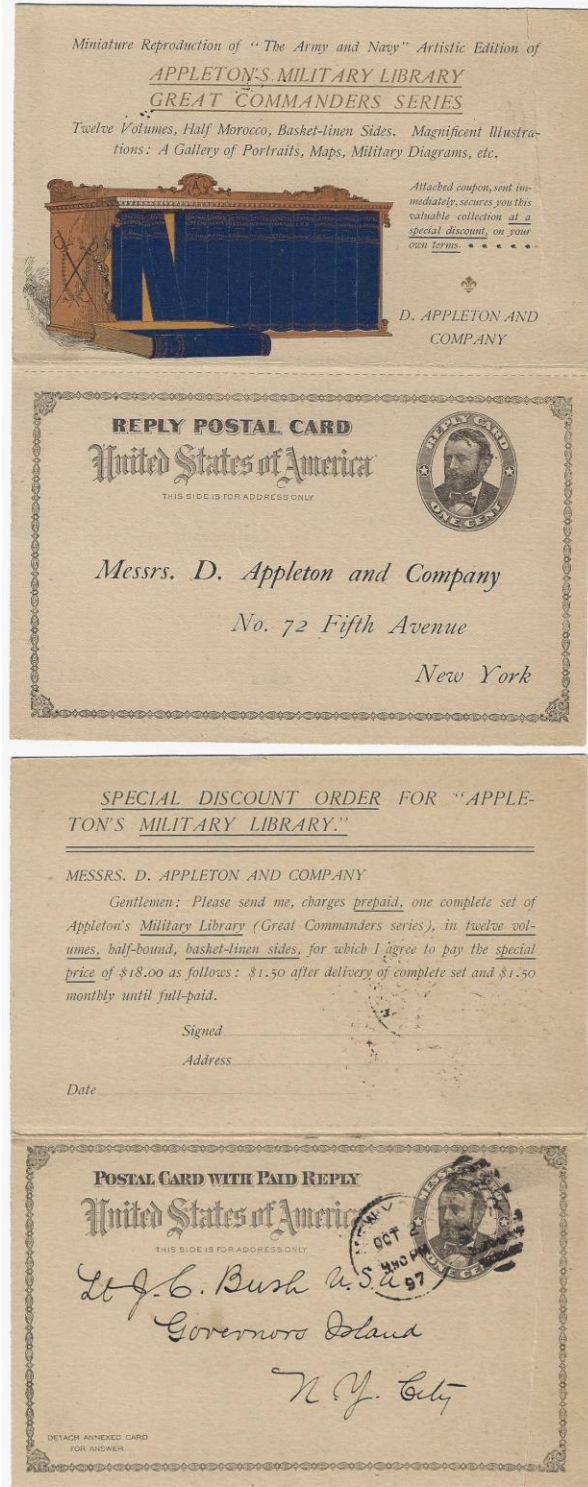
The text accompanying the illustration of the book set reads in part:

"Miniature Reproduction of "The Army and Navy" Artistic Edition of / Appleton's Military Library Great Commanders Series / Twelve Volumes, Half Morocco, Basket-linen Sides. Magnificent Illustration: A Gallery of Portraits, Maps, Military Diagrams, etc. "

At the time this classic set sold for the "special price of \$18.00 as follows: \$1.50 after delivery of complete set and \$1.50 monthly until full-paid."

A scarce complete and unsevered multicolor postal advertising item.

\$150 [#10126](#)



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

38. [FRATERNAL – BENEVOLENT SOCIETIES] [IMMIGRATION] [INSURANCE] [PHILATELY] [WOMEN & GIRLS]

1899 – Letter regarding the settlement of a benevolent association insurance policy following the death of a Czech immigrant

This registered letter from the *Ustredni Vybor Sesterska Podporujici Jednota* (Central Committee of Sisterhood Benevolent Union) was sent to a Czech immigrant in Racine, Wisconsin from Cleveland, Ohio on December 6, 1899. The letter and its accompanying mailing envelope bear the Sisterhood's logo, a flying dove carrying an olive branch in its beak. The envelope is franked with a violet eight-cent Sherman stamp (Scott Type A93) and two-cent red Washington stamp (Scott #252), both tied with an oval Cleveland Station D registration cancel. There is an additional registration postmark on the front that reads, "Registered / Dec 6 | 1899 / Station D, / Cleveland, Ohio" and one on the reverse that reads, "Registered / Dec 8 1899 / Racine, Wis." In nice shape.

Czechs were one of the oldest immigrant groups to settle in Cleveland, Ohio beginning after the failure of the Bohemian Revolution of 1848. Many had originally planned to establish homesteads in Wisconsin, Nebraska, and Iowa, however during rest stops in Cleveland, they found its then suburban fringe to their liking. The Czech Sisterhood Benevolent Union was a mutual benevolent society headquartered in the city which, in 1919, consisted of 15,000 members in 72 branches throughout the Midwest.

Benevolent societies were voluntary non-profit fraternal organizations established to provide life and health insurance to members who required assistance following a family sickness or death. Many were established by immigrant, religious, and worker organizations in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

In addition to providing insurance, the *Sesterska Podporujici Jednota* also helped fund the Bohemian Home for the Aged and Orphanage (located in Chicago,) in conjunction with other Czech benevolent associations.

(For more information, see Ledbetter's *The Czechs of Cleveland* and "Bohemian Home for the Aged and Orphanage," both available online.)

This registered letter, which included payment of a \$300 death benefit was sent to the sister of Anne Buchacek for distribution among Anne's heirs.

A nice example of the work done by immigrant benevolent associations.

SOLD #10127



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

39. [MEDICINE & NURSING – DYSENTERY & TINEA CRURIS] [MILITARY – PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN WAR] [PHILATELTY]

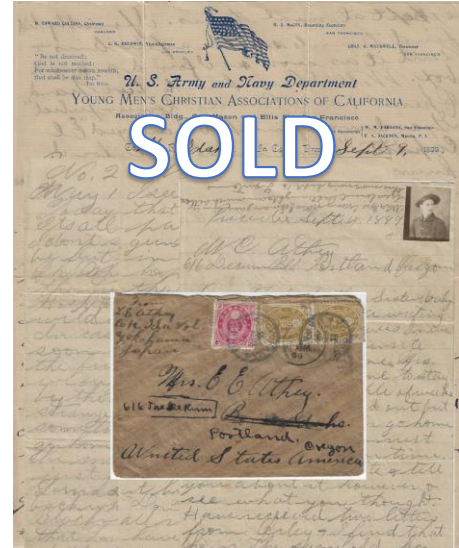
1899 – Correspondence archive from a soldier in the Idaho Volunteers describing his hospitalization for dysentery and redeployment following victories at the Battles of Manilla and Caloocan

There are five items in this archive, four letters without their mailing envelopes and one mailing envelope. All are from Lynton E. Athey who was assigned to Company H, 1st Idaho Volunteer Infantry Regiment. In nice shape. Transcripts will be provided.

The first letter was written over three days between 13-24 May, while Athey was in the hospital at Manilla, recovering from dysentery.

The second letter is undated but was apparently written after Athey was released from the hospital, but before his unit redeployed to the United States.

The final two letters were written while the regiment was in San Francisco at the Presidio one on 9 September and the last on 14 September. Athey pasted a small (¾" x 1") photograph of himself in uniform to the upper right corner of the last letter.



The mailing envelope contains no letter but was posted from Japan while the unit was enroute home aboard the US Army Transport Ship *Grant* (formerly the *Mohawk*). It is franked with one 2-yen and two 4-yen Japanese stamps (Scott #s 73 and 77) canceled by circular Yokohama postmarks dated 11 August 1899. There are three transit postmarks on the reverse: a circular San Francisco "Paid" receiving handstamp dated 1 September, indistinct Boise railroad post office handstamp dated 5 September (perhaps from the Boise, Nampa & Owyhee Railroad), and a straight-line Portland, Oregon dated "Sep-6.9-RM1899".

Athey would have mustered into the Idaho Volunteers, one of the smallest regiments formed to fight in the Spanish-American War, sometime between 7 to 18 May 1898. It departed for the Philippines from the San Francisco aboard the transport *Morgan City* on 27 June. It arrived in the Philippines just in time to take part in the Battle of Manilla (a negotiated staged battle to protect "the honor" of the Spanish Army before it surrendered) and began occupation duty while awaiting a formal peace treaty. After series of negotiations, official and secret deals, and double-crosses between the Spanish, the Americans and Emilio Aguinaldo, the Philippine revolutionary leader, the Americans found themselves fighting the Philippine Army. By the time of Athey's first letter, his regiment would have already participated in the second Battle of Manilla and the Battle of Caloocan, both occurring in February 1899. After these decisive American victories, Aguinaldo began to wage a guerrilla war. During this time, Athey contracted two of the five medical banes (yellow fever, typhoid, malaria, dysentery, and fungal infections known as the Dolby Itch) that plagued the U.S. Army. Although the guerilla war continued for another three years, the United States began redeploying the many state volunteer regiments, replacing them with Regular Army units that became available after they were no longer needed in Cuba or Puerto Rico. Athey's letters begin just after the press announced the volunteers would soon be returning. They read in part:

"Today's Freedom says 'Its all off We're going home.' I don't see how that can be but hope it is so. Oh! What rejoicing among the troops. We in the Hospital are all most wild with delight. . . Have the dysentery checked and will soon be out. [The doctor] said that I would be with my regiment in a few

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

days. That is a great satisfaction. Have been in almost a month now. . . . Two men died in our ward yesterday. . . . There is an awful amount of sickness here now. Some of the Cos in our reg. only have 20 or 30 men for duty. H. Co. only had 40 for duty when I came in & since then four or five have come in. [If] the rainy season has commenced . . . there will be more sickness than the hospitals can handle. . . . There are about 1600 or 2000 in now of course that includes wounded & all. . . . Just heard that 96 more were in from the North Line. . . . "Freedom" keeps saying that the foreigners will go home in a short time while the Americans dismiss it - Which is right? . . .



"I see by the papers that they are going to pay 30 pesos for every gun that is turned in by the nigers. I hope this will have the desired effect & that they will turn all of them in. . . .

"I have the 'Doby Itch' [tinea cruris] as the boys call it & it nearly sets me crazy as the Doctor says "Don't scratch it." These poor wise doctors they never had it & don't know how to cure it by the way they talk. 'Don't scratch it'. . . . It is caused by sweating & chafing . . . & it comes on the feet, under the arms & between the legs. In the latter place it's the worst as it is chafed whenever we walk - we are walking most of the day. What's to be done? They painted me with iodine & and burnt me like thunder - the hide came off but the itch is still there. . . .

"I think it a sure thing that the Oregons will leave for home within two or three weeks. Then they will go in about the following order - Californians, Colorados, Nebraskans, Utah Battery Vols in the 14th and the 10th Pennsylvania, then those savages from Idaho get to sail the seas. . . . Having been in the Hos . . . I do not know what is going on in the outside world except that it Rains! Rains! RAINS! . . ."

The Idaho regiment embarked for home on the USAT *Grant* on 30 July 30, 1899. After a short stop in Japan, as attested to by Athey's mailing envelope, it arrived in California on 29 August where the men awaited discharge at the Presidio in San Francisco

"I . . . was out of envelopes could not get another on board. When we came to camp we had to remain on the grounds untill the revenue inspectors had gone through our trunks. That keeps me at my tent all day long except at meal times. I finally did finally find time to scribe a few lines - sent it as soon as I found a mail box. . . .

"I have been to two Grand Operas & one Comic 'Romeo & Juliet' Grand was fine but I enjoyed 'El Capitan' Comic much more for I knew what was going on & understood when to laugh & when to applaud. . . . Well will have to go & help wait on the table we Banquit 90 of the boys who just came in. . . . Have been having a fairly good time but the Dys has started to bother me again. . . ."

On 25 September, Athey and the rest of his regiment were mustered out of the Army. At that time, while it still had its full compliment of officers, its enlisted ranks had shrunk to only 444 soldiers.

(For more information see, McSherry's "A Brief History of the 1st Idaho Volunteer Infantry" at the Spanish-American War Centennial Website, "First (1st) Idaho Infantry Regiment" at the online Spanish-American War Database, "A Brief History of the 1st Idaho Volunteer Infantry" at the Idaho Military Museum website, and Gotschlich's *Bullets and bacilli: The Spanish-American War and military medicine*.)

Scarce. At the time of listing, no Idaho Regiment letters from the Philippine-American War are for sale in the trade. The Rare Book Hub shows there have been three auctions for similar letters (one singly and two in groups). OCLC shows five institutions hold similar letters.

SOLD #10128

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

40. [ADVERTISING] [MEDICINE & NURSING – PATENT MEDICINE] [PHILATELY]

1900 – Advertising packet sent to a postmaster promising to provide “premium” gifts if he provided a list of names and addresses to a mail-order patent medicine business

This advertising packet for “The Dr. Shoop Family Medicine Co.” of Racine, Wisconsin includes a cover letter, unused mailing list form, a “Premium List” pamphlet showing possible rewards, a Premium order blank, and the original mailing envelope. The envelope was sent to the Postmaster of Shawmut, Massachusetts. It is franked with a pre-canceled “Racine, Wis.” one-cent green Franklin stamp (Scott #279). All of the contents are in nice shape; the envelope shows a little minor postal wear around its edges.

Dr. Clarendon I. Shoop opened his medical practice in Racine in 1893, and by 1890 he had established a line of patent medicines that were sold door-to-door by agents. Its main product was

Dr. Shoop’s Restorative, a nerve tonic mixture of “Nuxvomica, blood roots, hyrastis, boric acid, alcohol, water and sugar syrup.” Other products included Green Salve and cures for Catarrh, Croup, Cough, Rheumatism, Fever, Worms, and Pancreatic Pain. All were loaded with sugar, and some had alcohol contents of at least 12%.

Shoop realized there was even bigger money to be made by selling his medicines through the mail, and launched a nationwide direct mail campaign that sent out as many as 400,000 pamphlets in a day.

This packet does not attempt to describe his many patent medicines; rather it was an attempt to acquire as many customer names and addresses as possible, and it explained how to receive gift premiums for providing that information to the company. Shoop’s “premium” rewards included tortoise shell combs, pearl pen holders, silver spoons, a scroll saw, a box camera, jewelry, knives, and variety of book sets.

(For more information, see “Celebrating 175 years: Dr. Shoop, Racine’s creator of ‘nerve tonic’” in the 5 April 2010 edition of the *Racine Post*, available online.)

\$125 #10129

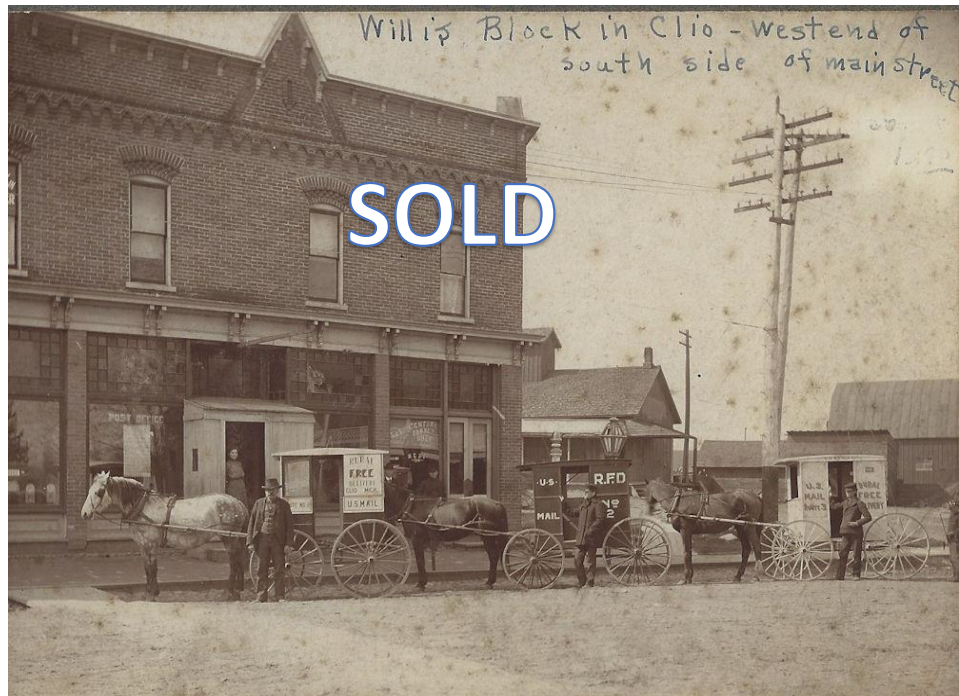


Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

41. [PHOTOGRAPHY – CABINET CARDS] [POSTAL SERVICE – RURAL FREE DELIVERY]

1903 – Cabinet card photograph of three horse-drawn Rural Free Delivery wagons at Clio, Michigan

This photograph measures 6¾" x 4¾". It is mounted to a cabinet card that measures 10" x 7¾". The photographs show three differently painted horse drawn Rural Free Delivery (RFD) postal wagons and their postmen drivers parked in front of a two-story brick building. The wagons' sides indicate they belonged to the Clio, Michigan post office. Names painted on two of the store front windows indicate one



shop was a barber shop and the other a post office. The photograph is annotated "Willis Block in Clio – west end of South side of main street." The reverse of the card bears a label that reads, "T. E. GARDNER" and several lines of text that read, "Eldon Galbraith / Taken April 25th, 1908 / Reduce to 17 ?".

Clio is a town located just a few miles north of Flint, Michigan. In 1900, its population numbered around 800, and it boasted a fire department, public school, wide streets, several small factories, and a number of stores.

The Rural Free Delivery system is a program that delivers mail directly to rural addresses so that people living in those areas no longer need to travel a long distance to pick up their mail at post office or pay a private carrier to bring their mail to them. The U.S. Post Office Department began experimenting with RFD in 1890s, but the program was not officially established until 1893 and implemented at most post offices in 1902. It is likely that this photograph shows the first RFD wagons put in operation at the Clio Post Office. Perhaps, T. E. Gardner and Eldon Galbraith are two of the postman-drivers shown in the photograph.

(For more information, see "History of Clio, Michigan" at the City of Clio, Michigan website and "Rural Free Delivery" at the United States Postal Service website.)

Photographs of RFD wagons regularly appear on ebay and philatelic auctions. Most are small real photo postcards, and most also show only one wagon. Very few show wagons parked in front of a post office; it is also unusual for one photograph to show three wagons from one post office. At the time of listing, no similar photographs of Clio, Michigan RFD wagons are for sale in the trade. Rare Book Hub and Worthpoint show none have appeared at auction, and OCLC shows none are held by institutions.

SOLD #10130

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

42. [CALIFORNIANA] [DISASTERS – EARTHQUAKES] [PHILATELY]

1906 – Pair of letters from a woman describing the aftermath of the great San Francisco Earthquake and Fire

There are two letters in this lot. Both were from Madeleine Turner in San Francisco to her friend, Ida Paul, in New Jersey.

The first, a very early post-earthquake letter, was written on a torn scrap of envelope within a day or two of the disaster when paper was hard to come by. It was mailed in a mismatched envelope without a stamp, and the front was annotated “from San Francisco”. It bears an April 21, 1906, San Francisco duplex postmark and a hand stamp reading “Postage due 2 cents”.

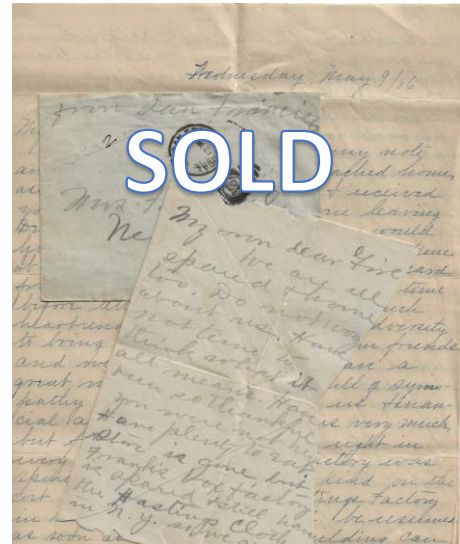
In this hastily scrawled note, Turner wrote, “We are all spared & home too. Do not worry about us. Have not time to think what it all means. Have been so thankful. . . Will write again.”

The earthquake struck at 5:12 am on April 18 and fires erupted throughout the city. The Smithsonian’s National Postal Museum website reports that the main U.S. Post Office remained open, primarily to transmit telegraph messages, until 2:20 pm when it was evacuated as the fire approached. The building, however, survived, and within a day or so, the postmaster reopened the office although no stamps were available. He later reported, “During the height of distress, much mail was received in this office without being properly prepaid in stamps. A feeling of humanity necessitated their receipt and handling, but I have stopped the wholesale receipt of such matter and have issued instructions and published in the newspapers the information that all mail matter must be properly stamped.” Thus, some of the mail sent from San Francisco between 18 and 25 April was sent “postage due.”

In the second six-page letter, dated May 9th, Madeleine provided additional information as she had promised. This letter has no accompanying envelope. It reads in part: “Hope you found my note awaiting you when you reached home, assuring you of our safety. . . It was so long before any one heard from us and it seemed a long time before letters reached us. . . Fortunately we are all right in every way – Frank’s Box factory was spared . . . and we have the Hastings Factory in N. Y. so business will be resumed as soon as a temporary building can be erected – all the best Retail Houses are going to locate on Van Ness Avenue, putting up one story buildings until the downtown section is rebuilt and every one . . . predicts great things for “Greater Frisco” & they have a clean sweep now to put into execution the plans . . . which have been talked of for so long. . . We still have to cook out in the street, but get along very nicely, only we will be glad to have a fire in the house once more, as we are having a pretty cold May. There are a great many tents in the Presidio & on the flat ground along the Bay. . . Think the people are all being well taken care of – no saloons are open so everything is very orderly. . . Fillmore St. is quite like the Bowery, crowded with people & everything imaginable for sale – quite ’49 style – must go down to see it. . . Aside from all the Eastern capital that is coming in there will be the enormous insurance and S.F. will be rebuilt very quickly – it is practically burnt out from Van Ness Ave down to the Ferry. . .”

A nice pair of earthquake letters. The “adversity” scrap mail is quite unusual. The Rare Book Hub and the Stamp Auction Network combined only identify six short-lived earthquake emergency mail postage due covers as having appeared at auction.

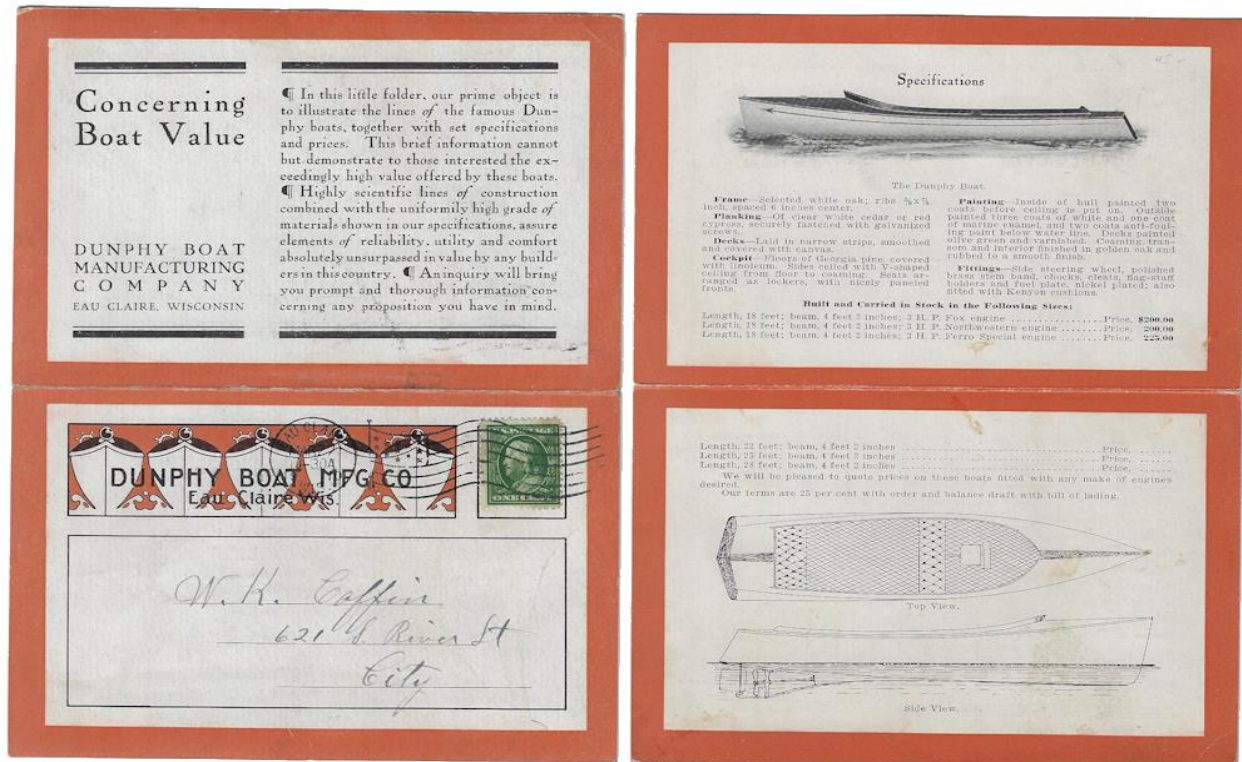
SOLD #10131



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

43. [ADVERTISING] [BUSINESS -BOATS] [PHILATELY] [TRANSPORTATION – BOATS]

1910 – Four-panel illustrated advertising folder for wooden boats from the Dunphy Boat Manufacturing Company



This four-panel illustrated advertising folder for wooden boats was printed in orange and black. It was sent by the Dunphy Boat Manufacturing Company in Eau Claire, Wisconsin to potential customer within the same city. It is franked with a one-cent green Franklin stamp (Scott #331) that is tied to the front panel with an Eau Claire flag cancelation dated March 22, 1910. In nice shape with a little postal soiling.

The address panel features a large corner card stylized illustrations of the bows of five wooden Dunphy Boats.

The two inside panels provide a photo-mechanical image and two line drawings of a Dunphy Boat. The text includes specifications and pricing for six models ranging from 18 to 28 feet. The three smaller models are priced between \$200 and \$225. There are additional short descriptions on the Frame, Planking, Decks, Cockpit, Painting, and Fittings.

The rear panel, titled "Concerning Boat Value," touts the boats quality and value.

The company was founded by a Norwegian immigrant, John Dunphy, in 1848. Until the 1930s, all Dunphy Boats were built with white oak frames, white cedar planking, wooden strip decks with canvas covering, and cockpits made from Georgia Pine.

It moved to Oshkosh, Wisconsin in 1935 and was sold to Smith Marine of Berwyn, Illinois in March, 1963 (For more information, see "Dunphy Boat Company" at the Land-o-Lakes Classic Boat Club website, "Dunphy Boat Manufacturing Co" at the Wooden Canoe Museum website, and the Dunphy Boat Owners Facebook page.)

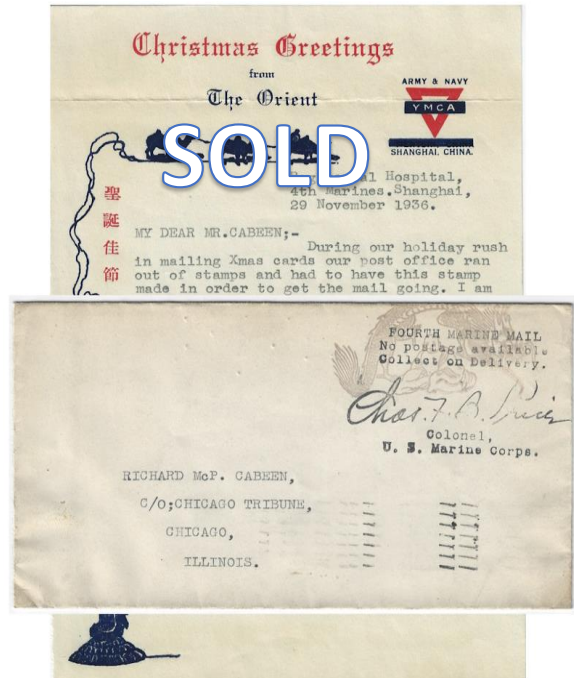
\$100 [#10133](#)

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

44. [HOLIDAYS – CHRISTMAS] [LABOR – STRIKES] [MILITARY – DEFENSE OF SHANGHAI] [PHILATELY] [SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS – YMCA]

1936 – Christmas Greetings letter from the 4th Marine Regiment in Shanghai that bears two uncommon auxiliary handstamps as a result of the Pacific Coast dock strike of 1936

This one-page illustrated Christmas Greetings letter is datelined “Regimental Hospital / 4th Marines. Shanghai, / 29 November 1936.” It was sent by Chief Pharmacist’s Mate J. N. Lawrence to Richard McP[herren] Cabeen in Chicago. It contains one page of typed text on stationery from the “Army & Navy / YMCA / Shanghai, China” that features an illustration of a black dragon candlestick holding a red candle; black smoke from the candle curls upward producing a ‘cloud’ of three camels (but no wisemen). The text “Christmas Greetings / from / The Orient” is at the top of the page. The mailing envelope bears two franking handstamps: one is an ornate dragon in purple; the other reads “FOURTH MARINE MAIL / No postage available. / Collect on Delivery / Chas. F. B. Price / Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps. Both the letter and envelope are in nice shape.



In his letter, Lawrence explains why it was franked with a handstamp instead of regular postage. “During our holiday rush . . . our post office ran out of stamps . . . had to have this stamp made in order get the mail going. . . The seamans strike has slowed things up on account of having not stamps. . .”

The Fourth Marine Regiment was one of four U.S. Infantry Regiments (two Army and two Marine_ stationed in China at that time to protect U.S. citizens living in the Shanghai international settlement from both Chinese political unrest and an expected invasion by the Japanese. Indeed, the American military presence was deployed along the settlement’s borders just a few months later when full-scale combat between Japan and China erupted following the Marco Polo Bridge incident.

The “seamans strike” referenced by Lawrence was, of course, the Great West Coast Maritime Strike of 1936 that shutdown U.S. Pacific Ocean ports from 31 October 1936 to 21 January 1937.

While the “FOURTH MARINE MAIL” hand stamp occasionally appears on eBay and at philatelic auctions, the dragon handstamp does not. I have only seen one other example; it was illustrated in Sheaff’s “‘Free’ Mail for the Troops” which appeared in the September 2020 issue of *The Ephemera Journal*. The Shanghai YMCA Christmas stationery is even more scarce. It is the only example I have seen, and none are listed at the Rare Book Hub or OCLC.

Richard Mcpherren Cabeen was a Chicago architect and one of the most renowned philatelic authors of the 20th century. In addition to authoring several texts he also wrote a weekly philatelic column for the *Chicago Tribune* that ran from 1932 to 1969. Upon his death, the impressive Cabeen home was donated to the Chicago Collectors Club and remains as its headquarters to this day.

A fascinating letter produced at the heart of the 1930s’ intersection of labor unrest, military muscle-flexing, and postal history.

SOLD #10132

Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

45. [MILITARY – WORLD WAR TWO] [PHILATELY] [PROPAGANDA – PEARL HARBOR]

1942 – Japanese propaganda maxim cards celebrating the first anniversary of its destruction of the United States Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor

Two very hard-to-find Japanese propaganda pieces issued to celebrate Japan's destruction of the U.S. Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

One item is franked with a blue Japanese 5+2-sen semi-postal stamp (Scott #B7) picturing an aerial view of smoke rising from destroyed American ships at Pearl Harbor. It is attached to an enhanced b/w photograph of bombs exploding around a U.S. warship as Japanese aircraft swarm overhead. The stamp is tied to the photograph with a commemorative first-day-of-issue cancellation picturing tanks, ships, and a global map of the Pacific. Translated, its text reads '1st Anniversary of the Greater East Asia War in the Pacific / 12 . 8 (December 8)'. Although in the United States, we remember the "Day of Infamy" on December 7, 1941, in Japan, which is on the other side of the International Dateline, the attack occurred on December 8th.

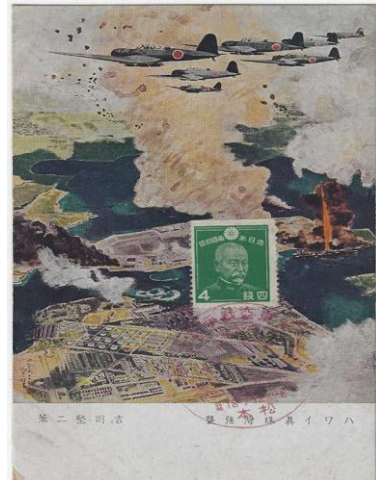
The second is a colorful 2-sen maxim postal card showing seven Japanese aircraft flying over Pearl Harbor as puffs from the explosion of anti-aircraft shells appear in the background. It is franked on the front with a green 4-sen booklet pane stamp (Scott #261) featuring Admiral Togo that is tied to the card by the same commemorative cancellation. The indicia on the reverse features a samurai warrior.

Maxim cards are created by affixing a stamp to the front of a postcard or photograph featuring a related image and cancelling it with a related first-day-of-issue handstamp.

In December 1942, the war was still going quite well for Japan, but the United States had already recovered from the shock and destruction caused by the Japanese unannounced attack led by Admiral Togo. Although the U.S. had landed forces on Guadalcanal and saw victory at the Battle of Midway, the Japanese military had captured Wake Island, the Philippines, Bataan, and Corregidor, and begun to invade Northern Dutch Indonesia, New Guinea, Sumatra, and Bali. However, Japan's fortunes would soon be reversed in 1943 as General Douglas MacArthur would begin the Allied island-hopping that would culminate at Okinawa and the use of atomic bombs that saved tens of thousands of American, British, and Australian lives that would have been lost had the Allies been forced to invade Japan proper to secure final victory over the last standing Axis power.

While mint and used singles of Scott #B7 are common, their use in creating propaganda maxim card photographs with this special slogan first day cancellation is rare, as is the colorful maxim postal card. Almost unknown in the West, a Chinese stamp dealer informs me that they only infrequently appear for sale or auction in East Asia. At the time of listing, no similar items are for sale in the trade, and the Rare Book Hub and Stamp Auction Network show none as having been listed in auctions. OCLC identifies none as being held in institutional collections.

SOLD #10134



Click on the first image or item number next to the price to view more information and images.

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



We hope you can join us at one of our upcoming live shows.

28 October 2023 – [Back Bay Hilton Book and Paper Fair](#) – Boston, Massachusetts

19-21 January 2024 – [Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition](#) – Sarasota, Florida

1-3 March 2024 – [Florida Antiquarian Book Fair](#) – St. Petersburg, Florida

15-17 March 2024 – [Ephemera 44](#) – Old Greenwich, Connecticut