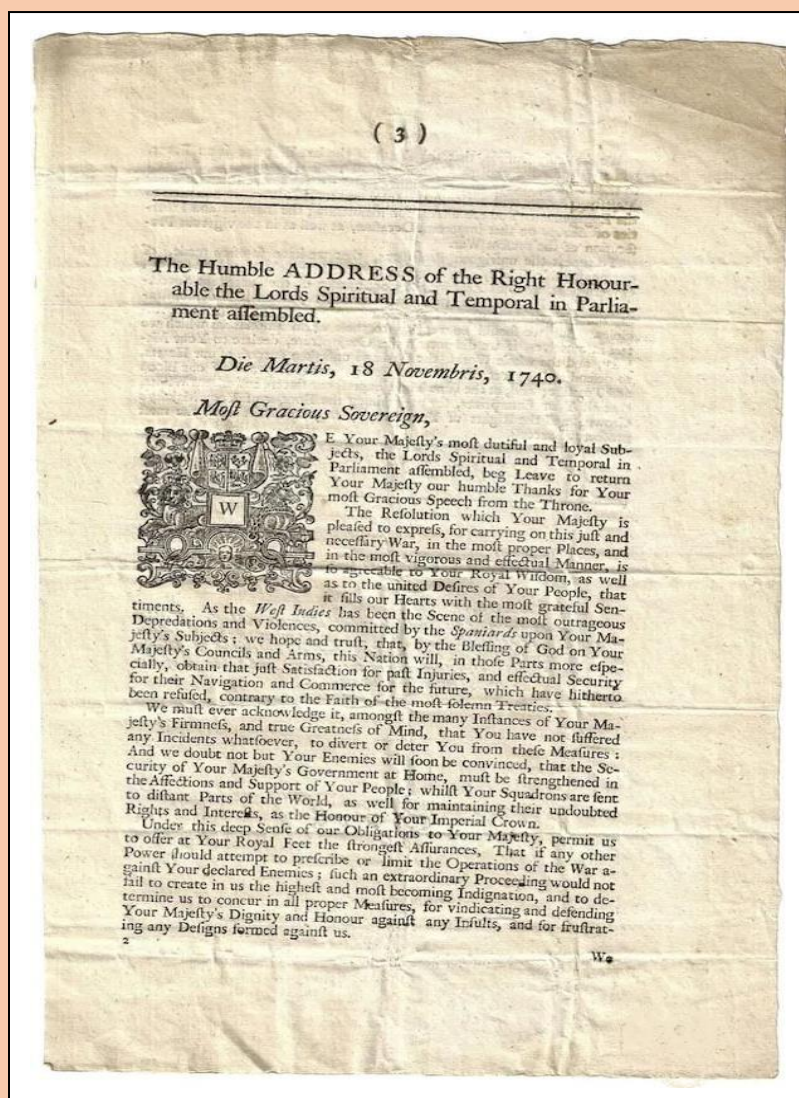


Kurt A. Sanftleben, ABAA and ASDA

Paper Americana and Postal History

Catalog 24-7 – November 2024



1. 1740 – An Address from the British House of Lords commending King George II for his pursuit of the War of Jenkins Ear, which was fought in part by Virginia volunteers against the Spanish in the West Indies and by British regulars, colonial militia, and Native American allies along the Georgia-Florida border - The purported cause of the war, which began in 1739, was an insult to British honor that occurred when the captain of a Spanish patrol boat boarded a British merchant ship off the coast of Florida. The Spanish captain immediately accused its master of smuggling and, without waiting for response, sliced off his ear, telling him to notify his king that if more British vessels appeared near the Florida coast, their captains would suffer similar mutilations.

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Regards, Kurt and Gail

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[COLONIAL AMERICA] [MILITARY – WAR OF JENKINS EAR] [POLITICS - BRITISH PROCLAMATION]

1. 1740 – An Address from the British House of Lords commending King George II for his pursuit of the War of Jenkins Ear, which was fought in part by Virginia volunteers against the Spanish in the West Indies and by British regulars, colonial militia, and Native American allies along the Georgia-Florida border

The Lords' Address, which measures 7.75" x 13" and is dated 18 November 1840. In nice shape. It reads in part:

“The Resolution which Your Majesty is pleased to express, for carrying on this just and necessary War, in the most proper Places, is so agreeable to Your Royal Wisdom . . . that it fills our Hearts with the most grateful Sentiments. As the *West Indies* has been the Scene of the most outrageous Depredations and Violences, committed by the Spaniards upon Your Majesty's Subjects . . . we hope and trust, that, by the Blessing of God on Your Majesty's Councils and Arms, the Nation will . . . obtain that just Satisfaction for past Injuries, and effectual Security for Navigation and Commerce in the future. . . .

“We doubt not but Your Enemies will soon be convinced, that the Security of Your Majesty's Government at Home, must be strengthened . . . whilst Your Squadrons are sent to distant Parts of the World. . . .

“Permit us to offer at Your Royal feet the strongest Assurances, That if any other Power should attempt to

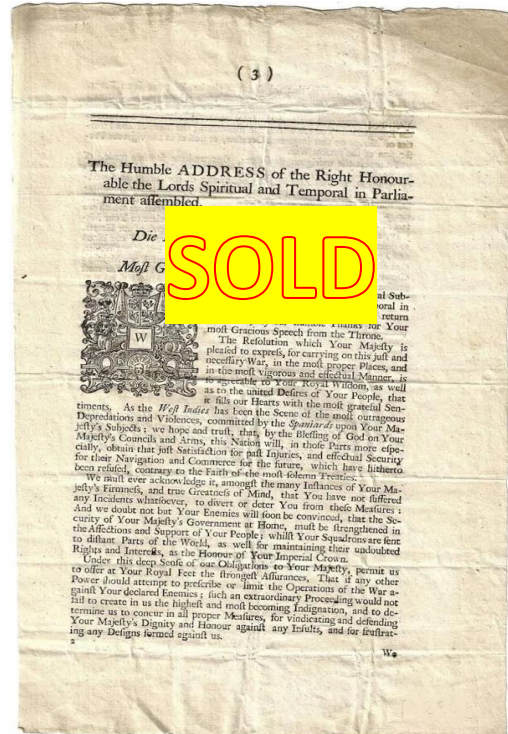
prescribe or limit the Operation of the War against your declared Enemies; such . . . would create in us the highest and most becoming Indignation, and to . . . concur in all proper Measures for vindicating and defending Your Majesty's Dignity and Honor.

“{Further,} we are truly sensible, that the Death of the late [Hapsburg] Emperor [of Austria] is an event which calls for vigilant Attention of all . . . and we be Leave to assure Your Majesty, that we will zealously stand by and support You [in] maintaining the Balance and Liberties of Europe. . . .”

To which the King replied

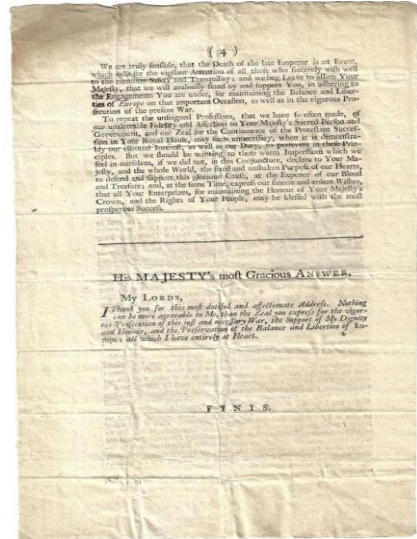
“I Thank you for this most dutiful and affectionate Address. Nothing can be more agreeable to Me, than the Zeal you express for the vigorous Prosecution of this just and necessary War. . . .”

The War of Jenkins Ear did not begin until 1739 although the purported cause occurred seven years prior. In 1731, a Spanish patrol boat boarded a British merchant ship off the coast of Florida. The Spanish captain immediately accused Robert Jenkins, its master, of smuggling, and, without waiting for response, sliced off his ear, telling Jenkins to notify his king that if more ships were sent to the Florida coast, their captains would suffer similar mutilations. Upon his return to Britain, Jenkins famously removed his wig to display the injury and presented his severed ear to Prime Minister Robert Walpole. The incident, however, was largely forgotten, probably because Jenkins was a smuggler.





Forgotten, that is, until tensions along the British Georgia and Spanish Florida border escalated in 1738. British settlers claimed Spaniards had committed 'depredations' against them, and England demanded compensation. To fuel political support, Walpole summoned Jenkins to Parliament to exhibit his injury, which created a clamor for retribution for this insult to all of Britain. Admiral Edward Vernon was dispatched to the West Indies and, upon arrival in October 1739, bombarded La Guaria, the gateway to Caracas, with little effect before moving on to Portobelo, Panama which he captured with relative ease. (The victory was celebrated throughout Britain. *Rule Britannia* was written in Vernon's honor, and a road in London and suburb of Edinburgh were named for the battle.



The largest battle of the war was an amphibious attack on the city of Cartagena during the spring of 1741. George II had increased Vernon's fleet to over 185 ships which assembled in Jamaica along with 27,000 soldiers, 12,000 sailors, and 1,000 machete bearing slaves. Additionally, it included 4,000-man contingent of Virginians led by George Washington's older half-brother Lawrence. After the British assault force gained an initial foothold, they were forced back to their ships in bloody hand-to-hand bayonet combat.

In North America, British forces led by the Governor of Georgia, James Oglethorpe unsuccessfully attempted to capture St. Augustine, Florida, with a combined force of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of Foot, Hugh MacKay's Highlanders, Georgia and Carolina militia, and his Native American allies. (See item #2 in this catalog for a remarkable map of this attempt.) The Spanish, in turn, attempted to conquer all of Georgia after first establishing a 2,000-man force of regulars at St. Simons Island. Oglethorpe's volunteers repelled the Spanish assault, however border clashes between the two colonies continued for several years. Following these battles, Britain turned its attention toward Europe as the War of Jenkins Ear was subsumed by the War of Austrian Succession.

Governor Oglethorpe's force consisted of the 42nd Regiment of Foot, colonial militia from Georgia and Carolina, Hugh MacKaye's Highlanders and Native American Creek, Chickasaw, and Yuchi (Uchee) Indians.

After Lawrence Washington returned to Virginia, he renamed his family's Little Hunting Creek Plantation on the bank of the Potomac to Mount Vernon in honor of his Jenkins War commander.

(For more information, see Graboyes and Hullar's "The War of Jenkins' Ear" at the National Library of Medicine's website, Laughton's "Jenkins Ear" in the 9 October 1889 edition of *The English Historical Review* online, Baine's "General James Oglethorpe and the Expedition Against St. Augustine" in the Summer 2000 edition of *The Georgia Historical Quarterly*, and Weir's *Yellow Jack: The War of Jenkins Ear: Historical Commentary*.)

Rare. Although one may be hiding in a sammelband somewhere, this is likely the only extant copy of this important document relating to the often-forgotten colonial war between Britain and Spain that was not just fought in the Caribbean, but along the Georgia-Florida border. At the time of this listing, no other examples are for sale in the trade, and none have appeared at auction per Rare Book Hub and ABPC. OLCL shows no institutions hold examples of this document, although the National Library of Wales has a microform copy of a House of Lords Address celebrating the capture of Portobello.

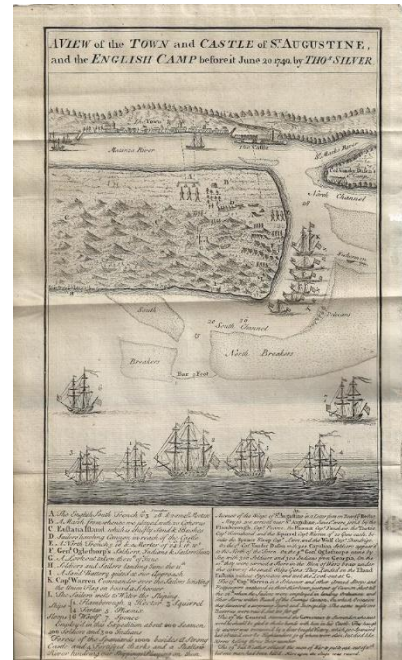
**SOLD #10355**

[COLONIAL AMERICA] [MAPS] [MILITARY – WAR OF JENKINS EAR]

2. 1740 - The November 1740 issue of *The Gentleman's Magazine*, printed at London, which includes a detailed fold-out map of Governor Oglethorpe's attempt to capture St. Augustine, Florida

Sylvanus Urban (editor) *The Gentleman's Magazine*. London: November 1740. Complete with all 48 pages and Thomas Silver's fold out campaign map, "A View of the Town and Castle of St. Augustine and the English Camp before it, June 20, 1740." The magazine measures 5" x 8"; the map 8" x 14'. (A map of Admiral Vernon's capture of Chagres, Panama, is also referenced in the contents, however it actually appeared in the July 1840 issue of the magazine.) In nice shape.

In 1740, Thomas Silver rendered this pictorial map depicting General James Oglethorpe's siege of St. Augustine and the Castillo de San Marcos which were defended by Governor Manuel de Montiano and approximately 1,000 Spanish troops. Little is known about Silver other than that he was an English naval officer who served on the sloop, HMS *Hector*, under Sir Yelverton Peyton during the siege. Its extensive key and description provide details of the British force, which consisted of not just seven warships with 900 sailors but a 2,200-man ground force consisting of the 42nd Regiment of Foot, colonial militia from Georgia and Carolina, Hugh MacKaye's Highlanders, and American Creek, Chickasaw, and Yuchi (Uchee) Indians. Silver's map identifies the warships and depicts them in their blockade formation. The Castillo, shore buildings, and English camp are correctly located and accurately portrayed. After Silver returned to England, his hand drawn map and notes were published in *The Gentleman's Magazine*.



After receiving instructions from King George II in September of 1739 to "to annoy the Subjects of Spain in the best manner," Oglethorpe began the siege of St. Augustine in June of 1740 by blockading the city including the Matanzas Inlet. Anticipating the English siege, Governor Montiano had sent word to Havana for reinforcements and resupply as St. Augustine's supplies were running low. However, even after a 27day bombardment, English cannon were unable to breach the 19-foot-thick coquina walls of the fort with their cannon. And, after a severe tropical storm forced the British fleet out to sea but allowed the Cuban supply ships access to the harbor, Oglethorpe gave up and raised the siege on July 20, 1740.

(For more information, see Graboyes and Hullar's "The War of Jenkins' Ear" at the National Library of Medicine's website, Laughton's "Jenkins Ear" in the 9 October 1889 edition of *The English Historical Review* online, Baine's "General James Oglethorpe and the Expedition Against St. Augustine" in the Summer 2000 edition of *The Georgia Historical Quarterly*, and Weir's *Yellow Jack: The War of Jenkins Ear: Historical Commentary*.)

An important map of Oglethorpe's Siege of St. Augustine still bound within in its original publication. At the time of listing, two disbound examples of the map are for sale in the trade. The Rare Book Hub shows 13 disbound examples of this map have been sold at auction in the past ten years. While OCLC shows many libraries have access to digital copies, only 12 appear to hold physical examples (some disbound and some within the original publication) in their collections.

\$450 #10356

[EARLY REPUBLIC] [POLITICS – ELECTIONS]

3. 1792 – Certificate of votes cast in Washington Plantation, Massachusetts (today Newfield, Maine) for Governor (John Hancock received all 26 votes cast)

This two-page document is titled “Certificate of the Votes given in for a Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Senators.” In nice shape.

“At a meeting of the male Inha’itants of the Plantation of Washington in the County of York in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Qualified by the Constitution of Said Commonwealth to Vote for Governor Lieutenant Governor and Senators & Representatives, the Said meeting being Warned as the Said Constitution Directs, and holden on the Second Day of April, being the first Monday of Said Month, A.D. 1792 for the purpose of Giving In their Votes for – Governor and Lieutenant Governo of Said Commonwealth, & Senators and Counsellors. . . .

“Votes for the following persons given In, Counted And Sorted, and Declaration thereof. . .

For his Excelencey John Hancock Esquire For a Governor: twenty Six Votes –

For the Honourable Samuel Pillips Esqr: twenty Six Votes for a Lieutanant Governor. . . .”

The document is certified by Elijah Drew, David Multon, David Hayle.

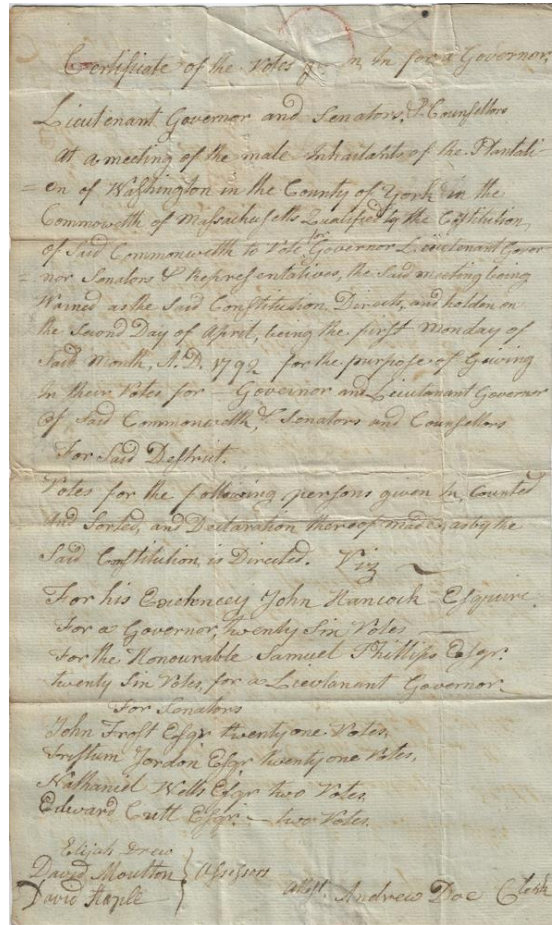
The document was annotated “On Public Service” and sent by mail at no charge through Portsmouth, New Hampshire (the post office nearest Washington Plantation) to Boston. It bears a faint impression of the scarce straightline “PORTSMo” postmark. (See ASCC p. 218.)

It is not surprising that the incumbent Governor, John Hancock, received all 26 votes cast as he ran unopposed.

Plantation was a term used during colonial times and the early republic for unincorporated areas with generally well-defined boundaries with settlers holding the common interest that with time they would be able to incorporate into a self-governing political entity. Washington Plantation, which was in the Massachusetts’s District of Maine, successfully accomplished this, incorporating as the town of Newfield in 1794.

In 1820, the District of Maine became the 23<sup>rd</sup> state as the result of the Missouri Compromise.

\$750 #10357





[AUTOGRAPHS – NATHANIEL GODWIN] [EARLY REPUBLIC] [MILITARY – MASSACHUSETTS MILITIA] [PHILATELY]

4. 1810 – Letter from the Commanding General of a Massachusetts Militia Division to one of his brigade commanders expressing irritation that an election of a company officer had been bungled

This one-page letter measuring 7½" x 12½" was sent from Plymouth, Massachusetts, by Major General Nathaniel Goodwin, the Commanding General of the 5<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Militia Division, to Brigadier General Lincoln, one of his brigade commanders on 22 August 1810. It bears no postal markings and was likely courier-carried as docketing indicates Lincoln received it the same day. It is in nice shape with a tiny bit of insect predation.

In this letter Goodwin expresses displeasure that a member of Lincoln's brigade had challenged the procedures and results of a company's officer election that Goodwin had already forwarded as approved.

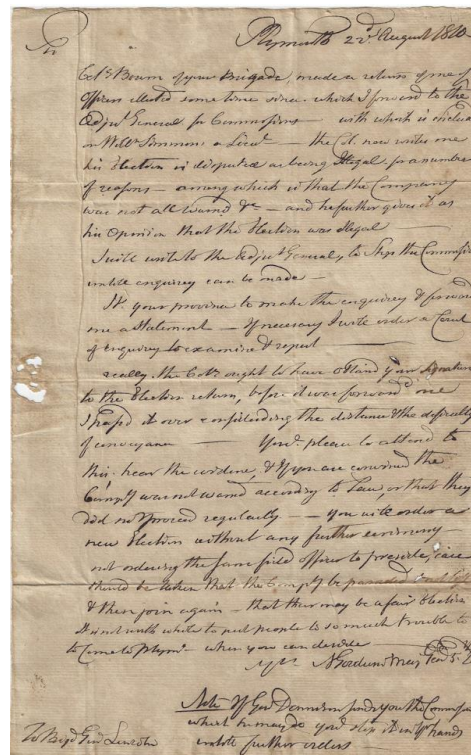
"Col. Brown of your Brigade, made a return . . . of Officers elected . . . which I forwarded to the Adj. General for Commissions. . . The Col. Now writes me his Election is disputed as being illegal for a number of reasons, among which is that the Company was not all warned, &c. . . I will write to the Adj. General, to stop the Commissions until enquiry is made. . . Make the enquiry & forward me a statement. If necessary, I will order a Court of Inquiry. . .

"Really, the Col. Ought to have obtained your signature to the Election return before it was forwarded. . . If you are convinced the company was not warned according to Law, or that they did not proceed regularly, you will order a new Election . . . not ordering the same field officer to preside. Care should be taken that the Company be paraded & not left & then join again, that there may be a fair election. It is not worth while to put people to so much trouble to come to Plymouth, when you can decide"

Goodwin was working for his merchant father in Plymouth, Massachusetts, when the Revolutionary War broke out. He entered the service and was appointed as a major in the Massachusetts Militia. When the British were defeated at Saratoga, Goodwin was placed in charge of the prisoners at Somerville and was presented with Burgoyne's sword. He also served in the 1778 expedition to Rhode Island under Major General John Sullivan and participated in the inconclusive Battle of Quaker Hill which was the first attempt of war to coordinate American and French military action against the British. He was later promoted to Major General, a rank he held for the remainder of his life. In addition to his militia service, Goodwin represented the town of Plymouth in the General Court. He died in 1819 at the age of 70.

Although it might strike some as strange today, Article I, Section 8, Clause 16, of the *U. S. Constitution* assigns the right to appoint officers of the militia (and later the National Guard), and at various times, many states have done this through unit elections.

(For more information about Goodwin, see Kingman's *Epitaphs from Burial Hill* and various online genealogical and military websites.)





[FIREFIGHTING] [PHILATELY]

5. 1825 – A dramatic recounting of a firefighting effort that could not stop the destruction of a Vermont factory

This three-page stampless folded letter measures 16" x 10" unfolded. It was written on August 28, 1825, by Charles Linsley at Middlebury, Vermont to his friend Edgar Ormsber in Rutland. It bears a manuscript "10" rate mark with a faint circular Middlebury postmark. In nice shape.

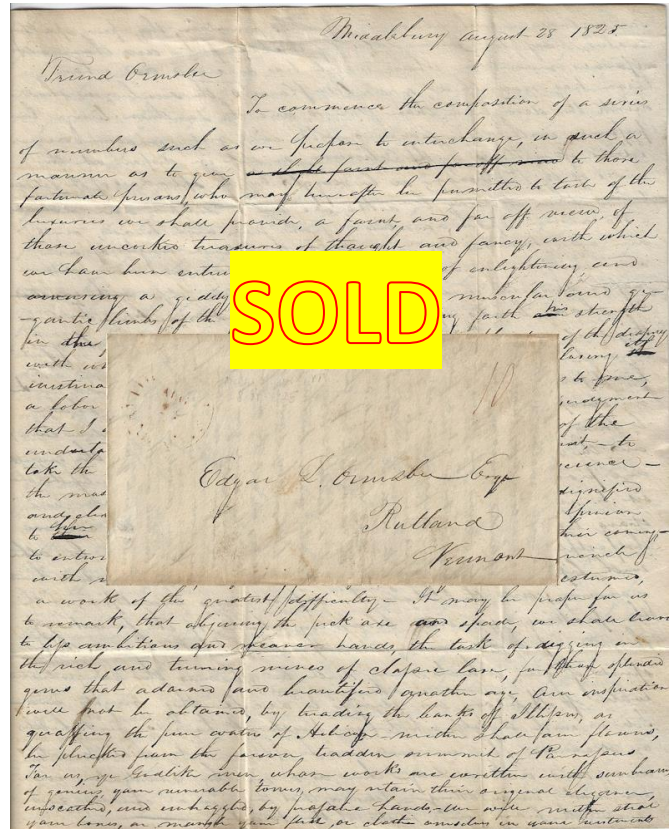
Linsley's breathtaking account of this factory fire, which takes up most of the letter's third page, is composed entirely from snippets of shouts, commands, and alarm from firefighters and spectators. I cannot recall a more hectically exciting description of a fire. Linsley's exhaustion at the end is palpable. The letter reads in part:

"Alas; [my] splendid visions, were . . . thrust away, by an unearthly sound hurrah – fire, fire fire, run away, ring the bell, where is it – get a pail – oh dearest brother Warrens factory – it on fire cupola and all. Up I jumped turning a summersit – slipped a leg into my pantaloons, dived down stairs, and run like a devil – Good Lord, what a smash, men, women, boys, girls . . . Every throat wide open – Break down the door – get on the roof – form a line – where's a rope – get a ladder – why don't you stir and the machinery – water, water – See there, the garrets all afire get out of the way you little – why don't you pass those empty pails – Get out that speeder, its worth a thousand dollars – Look out for that plank - why don't you keep a line. Come out of there the roofs falling in- For Gods sake save them cards, take care, that wall's coming down hurrah, the fires catchd the other side . . . run, fly, you devils . . . put them blankets on the roof – Burst through that window. Why the devil don't you go under that . . . go through the door – throw it out the window then – take hold and run men, all together. . . Have you seen this trunk it's a poor means . . . its insured for \$8000 – than God. Whines an axe. Let me come up this ladder – hmm take this water. Im glad it hant burnt the wall down - How did it catch afire . . . I cant go on, I'm almost sorry I began –

"The result was the factory was burnt. . . and I do not feel in condition for continuing this letter. "Yr friend Linsley. "

All first-hand accounts of city and town fires in early America are scarce, but such an animated blow-by-blow retelling of the event like this must be unique.

SOLD #10359



[MARITIME] [MEDICAL – NAVAL SURGEON] [MILITARY – PACIFIC SQUADRON] [PHILATELY]

**6. 1827-1832 – A trio of letters from a Naval Surgeon, William Samuel Waithman Ruschenberger, who turned his experiences into a classic travel narrative, *Three years in the Pacific*; including notices of Brazil, Chile, Bolivia, and Peru**

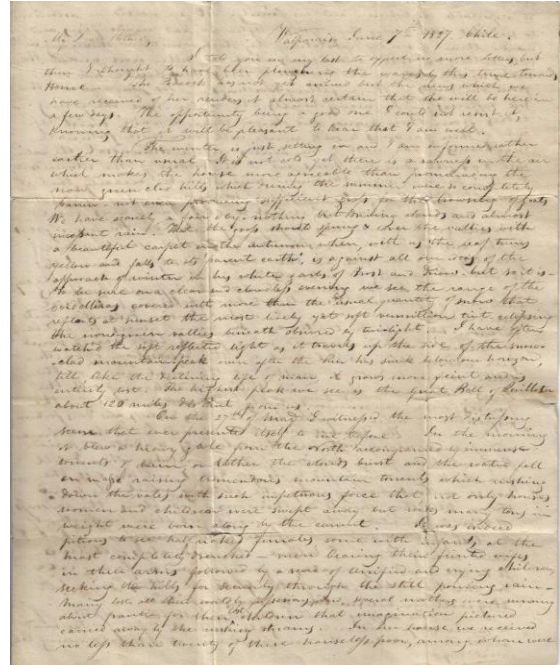
Ruschenberger was a distinguished officer who retired in 1869 as the senior medical officer in the U.S. Navy with over 40 years of active service. He began his career after attending schools in New York and Philadelphia when he enlisted as a surgeon's mate in 1826. His first assignment was aboard the U.S.S. *Brandywine*, Commodore Jacob Jones's flagship of the Pacific Squadron as it patrolled the west coast of South America. After leaving the navy, Ruschenberger completed medical school (then a two-year course of study) at the University of Pennsylvania, after which he rejoined the navy, this time as a commissioned surgeon and returned to the Pacific Squadron, this time aboard the U.S.S. *Falmouth*.



The earliest of the three letters was written from Valparaiso, Chile on June 7, 1827, while Ruschenberger was a surgeon's mate aboard the *Brandywine*. The other two letters were written after Ruschenberger had completed medical school and was serving as a naval surgeon aboard the *Falmouth*, both again from Valparaiso, one on November 4, 1831, and one on February 26, 1832. All were sent via civilian vessels to his mother in Philadelphia and bear a variety of Baltimore postal markings. All are in nice shape. Transcripts of all three will be included. Some of the highlights include:

7 Jun 1827 – “I told you to expect no more letters, but then I thought to have been ploughing the wave by this time toward home. . . Winter is just setting in [but] it is not cold, yet there is a rawness in the air . . . nothing but driving clouds and almost incessant rain. . . I have often watched the soft reflected light as it travels up the side of the snow-clad mountain peak . . . the highest [being] the great Bell of Quiloter about 120 miles distant. . . On the 27<sup>th</sup> of May I witnessed the most disturbing scene. . . In the morning it blew a heavy gale [which] was accompanied by immense torrents of rain . . . rushing down the vales with such impetuous force that not only women and children were swept away but rocks many tons in weight were born along. . . It was pitiless to see half naked females some with infants at the breast completely drenched – men bearing their fainted wives . . . followed by a score of terrified children. . . Many lost all their worldly possessions [and] mothers were running around frantic for lost children. . . In our house, we received no less than twenty of these houseless poor. . . I am informed [the water] rose 12 feet in 10 minutes. Many lives were lost and great quantities of property destroyed. . . I would not have believed it if I had not seen it with my own eyes that such extensive destruction could be wrought in so short a time. . . I will tell you that after being fed by us for 3 days, not one [person] left the house without bearing away the clothing which we loaned them till they should dry their own. Such is the baseness of their ingratitude that they would rob their benefactor of the last farthing and even rejoice at it. . . I believe the lower class of Chilenos to be the most degenerate, ungrateful, and unfeeling

race on the habitable face of the globe. . . . About half past 2 on the morning of the 31<sup>st</sup> we experienced a pretty severe shake of an earthquake that caused all Valparaiso to run out in their night dress into the streets. However no great damage was done. . . ." This letter was carried around Cape Horn to Baltimore by the Schooner *Yellet*.



14 Nov 1831 – "I have again doubled Cape Horn without accident or mishap though this has been more disagreeable than either of my former passages. . . . Our ship is a first rate sea-boat and bears a storm with impunity riding the heaviest sea with grace and ease in a gale I am convinced is even safer and more comfortable than the Brandywine. . . . It was about four o'clock when we came to, and I accompanied my friends on shore and joined with our American Consul Mr. Bissham. . . . Since we have been here there has been one continuous round of invitations to dinner parties and dances. . . ." This letter was carried around Cape Horn to Baltimore by the Schooner *Yellet*.

26 Feb 1832 – "The day previous to our arrival a vessel sailed for Callao [which we had just departed] and our agent here informs me there were many bundles and packages for me upon it. . . . Our consul ere gave a ball, there were but few native ladies invited but all the foreigners mostly English. Lord Colchester commanding the British Sloop of War Colage was there. My Lord is an amusing man, even in appearance. He is quite small with a short neck and large head and a restless sort of air about him. When he dances it is with body and soul – head legs arms are all in motion [like] a small boat tossed upon a heavy sea. . . . I am sending home some invalids in the brig and I am so much occupied with writing reports . . . that I fear I shall never be able to write our friend. . . . I was somewhat indisposed when we arrived but our consul & Dr. Styles together with Mrs. G soon restored me. The Capt. said that I was in love and officers said that I was pouring too much over . . . doctor books. . . ." This letter was carried around Cape Horn to Baltimore by the Brig *Montezuma*.

Ruschenberger was a popular author. He published his classic military-maritime travelog *Three years in the Pacific* based on his experiences during these cruises after he returned to the United States in 1834, and in 1838, he published *A Voyage Around the World*. Both were widely read and republished. One of his best-known works is *An Account of the Institution and Progress of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia During 100 Years*, which appeared in 1887, and his *First Books on Natural History*, a series of eight small volumes, were so popular that they are said to have than any other works to popularize the natural sciences in the United States.

(For more information see "Ruschenberger, William S. W." in *Appletons' Cyclopædia of American Biography* and "Ruschenberger, William Samuel Waithman" in *American Medical Biographies* both available online.)

A nice group of letters from a young naval surgeon whose contributions to the navy and publishing

**SOLD #10360**



[ALCOHOLISM] [BUSINESS - COAL] [PHILATELY]

7. 1836 – Letter from an early Pennsylvania coal mining entrepreneur reporting on a new strike and an alcohol-deranged employee’s attempt to burn the firm’s financial records

This three-page letter measures 15 ½” x 10” unfolded. It was sent by Charles S. Coxe from Beaver Meadow, Pennsylvania in November of 1836 to Edmund Coxe. It bears a manuscript “Beaver Meadows” postmark dated 16 November as well a manuscript “paid” and “12½” rate mark. In nice shape. The *American Stampless Cover Catalog* suggests that this may be the earliest surviving mail from Beaver Meadow, however earlier correspondence may be in institutional collections held by the Hagley Museum or Pennsylvania State University.

Deposits of anthracite coal were first discovered by Pennsylvania colonists in 1769 and the Coxe family, beginning with Trench Coxe were at the heart of its development. Beaver Meadow was established and funded primarily through Coxe’s surrounding coal operations. The Beaver Meadow Railroad & Coal Company was founded in 1830 when it purchased a tract of coal and between 1834 and 1836 it laid 26 miles of track from the mines to the Lehigh Canal at Parryville with connections to New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Erie. It merged into the Lehigh Valley railroad during the Civil War.



Coxe begins his letter with a diagram and corresponding description for exploiting what he describes as “the finest stratum [of coal] in the B.M. mines,” noting that “It will be necessary for us to keep up the excitement caused by our operations by providing shelter for our men & now is the time to strike. . .”

He then continues to describe some problems. “there has been & still is much trouble among the members of the company. . . A new Superintendent of the mines arrived from Carbondale [and] is said to have broken into the office before day light the morning I arrived & set fire to it, & to have sworn he would burn the books. . . Some say it was *mania de portu* [alcohol-induced delirium] & some say that he was drunk. He was in the Stage with me with his mother just before & I shook hands [and] he appeared perfectly rational & sober. Immediately after our arrival at ½ after 5 a.m. it is said to have occurred. Old Hall attempted to put out the fire [and] seized by [him] to prevent it. . .”

Coxe then ends with a short anecdote about one of the employees. “Old Bibelheimer was quite poetical yesterday in his cups. He exclaimed to me ‘Just the Sun & the moon as the day goes round the world don’t shine upon a man as owns so much coal as you. . .”

(For more information, see “Coal, Fire, Iron, & Steam” and “The History of Carbon County, Pennsylvania” online at The Hopkins Project, the Smithsonian’s “Guide to the Coxe Brother’s Collection” and Philips’s *American Stampless Cover Catalog*.)

Original Coxe Family and Beaver Meadow material is scarce outside of institutions. At the time of listing, none were for sale in the trade. The Rare Book Hub and ABPC show nothing similar has appeared at auctions. There are holdings of Coxe family material at the Smithsonian and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

**SOLD #10361**



[BUSINESS] [CALIFORNIANA] [MARITIME] [PRINTING – ZAMORANO] [TAXES]

**8. 1841 – An Alta California maritime customs tax receipt from Monterey printed on the Zamorano Press and signed by Antonio Maria Osio and Juan Bautista Valentin Alvarado y Vallejo**

This one-page printed foreign trade tax receipt measures 8½ x 12½". It is titled *Habitado provisionalmente por la Alduana maritima del puerto de Monterrey, en el Departamento de las California, para los anos mil ochocientos cuarenta y mil ochocientos cuarenta y uno.* [Maritime Customs of the provincial port of Monterrey in the Department of California for the years 1840 and 1841.]” In nice shape.

It is printed on Italian laid paper watermarked “AL MASSO” (as was often the case in mid-19<sup>th</sup> century Mexico) almost certainly using the Augustin V. Zamorano printing press, the first and only one in California for many years. The press arrived at Monterey in 1834 and was used by Zamorano (the governor’s secretary) to print proclamations, announcements, government forms, and documents. It was moved to Sonoma in 1836 but returned to Monterey around 1841-1842.

Alvarado (Juan Bautista Valentin Alvarado y Vallejo) and Osio [Antonio Maria Osio] signed these forms in advance, so they were ready to be used when needed. As proclaimed along the top margin, this one was to be used for tax equal to a “CUARTO UNA CUARTILLA,” that is, one-quarter of a quarter real.



In 1836, backed by 170 armed Californios and a loosely organized contingent of Americans known as the Tennessee Rifles, Alvarado declared California to be independent and installed himself as its governor. Soon thereafter, to avoid a war with Mexico, he abandoned his plans of independence after Mexico granted him substantial autonomous authority in ruling California. He served as governor until 1842.

Osio, who wrote the first history of Alta California, was a government official, civil servant, and regional landowner. In exchange for his support, Alvarado granted him Angel Island for use as a cattle ranch, provided some of the land was retained for harbor defense. At the time this document was prepared, he was serving as the Monterey Customs Inspector.

(For more information, see “The Press’ History” at the Santa Clara University Digital Exhibits website, “The Spanish Era” at the Angel Island website, the 22 September 2018 blog entry at The Valley Village View website, and “The Alvarado Flag” at the CRW Flags website.)

These pre-printed tax forms are scarce, and most that I have seen do not bear the signatures of Alvarado or Osio. At the time of listing, no others (signed or not) are available for sale in the trade. Although the Rare Book Hub and ABPC current show none have appeared at auction, at least one other has been sold by a philatelic auction house. OCLC shows very similar forms identifying California rancho boundaries are held at the University of California at Berkeley.

**\$1,500** [#10362](#)

**[PHILATELY] [RELIGION – QUAKERS]**

**9. 1841 – An exceptionally long and detailed letter in which a defiant Job Otis offers to form a partnership with John Wilbur to defend traditional Quaker thought against Gurneyite reformers who had been influenced by the Second Great Awakening**

This four-page stampless folded letter measures 20" x 16.5". It is dated "7mth [July] 17<sup>th</sup>, 1841" and was sent by Job Otis in Sherwood Corner, Cayuga County, New York, to John Wilbur in Hopkinton, Rhode Island. It bears a rare manuscript "Sherwoods Corner" postmark and "paid 18¾" rate marking. A first-draft transcription of the tiny, cramped, and partially crosshatched 3,100-word text, will be included. In nice shape.

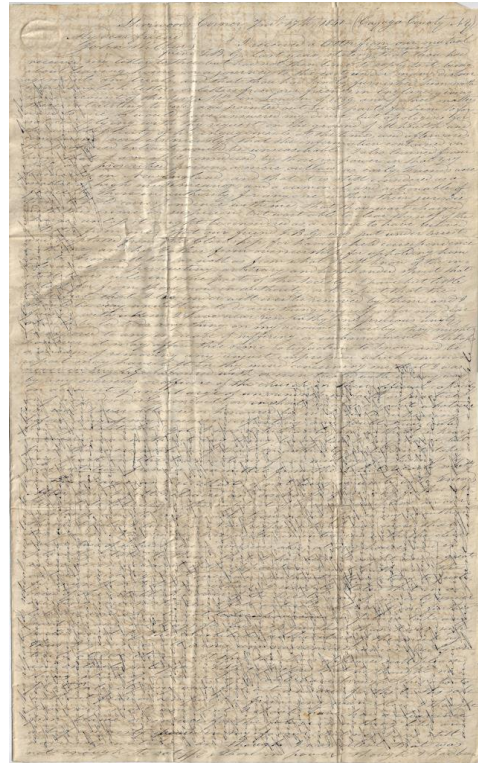
Since the time of George Fox, a spiritual man who was dissatisfied by both the Anglican Church and its opposing Nonconformists, first began to preach in the 1650s, Quaker thought was based on the belief that each person should be guided by an inward light provided by God as revealed by Jesus. His Society of Friends had no creed and no clergy. Instead, members ministered to themselves and each other within "priesthood of all believers." An outgrowth of this belief system is that, over the years, the Society has experienced several schisms both big and small.

This letter was written not long before the Society of Friends was about to torn apart in its second major American schism. The first break, which had occurred about 17 years earlier, was based as much on agrarian-urban differences as theology. A splinter group of mostly rural farmers, the Hiksites (led by Elias Hicks), believed that their wealthier citified Friends had become less attuned to their inner lights due to economic success.

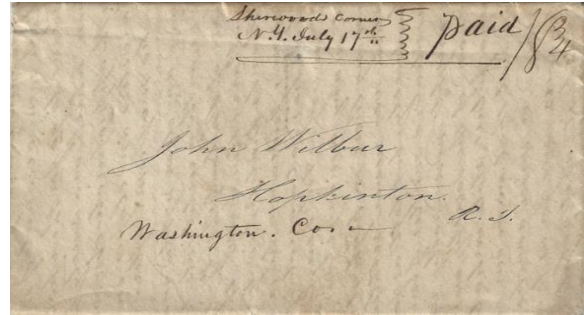
This second schism, which is the focus of this letter, had its roots in the Second Great Awakening that burned its way through American Protestant Christianity in the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century with revivals, charismatic preaching, an emphasis on scripture, and evangelism. Surprisingly, it was a visiting British Quaker who led the American Friends into this new movement in the late 1830s, incorporating hymns, Bible-readings, and even baptism into the Quakers' traditional silent meetings. Traditional or "primitive" Quakers like John Quimby, Job Otis, and Thomas B. Gould vociferously objected to this departure from inner reflection. Local meetings began to choose sides, and many Quakers found themselves disowned by their meetings. Others chose to avoid harassment by moving.

Job Otis, who had been driven from New Bedford, Massachusetts not long before he wrote this letter, resettled in a more traditional Quaker community in Sherwood Corner. John Wilbur was disowned by his meeting in Rhode Island a year later. Soon, Quaker communities began to choose sides throughout America in a split that lives on today in the division between the Wilburite Conservative Friends and the Gurneyite Friends United and Evangelical Friends. In this letter, Job Otis addresses the turmoil of the times, climaxing with a proposal that he and Wilbur partner to defend the "truth" of their faith. The following excerpts barely scratch the content's surface:

"I received a letter from our mutual friend T.B.G. [Thomas B Gould] [and] learned from him that I am still considered . . . a proscribed person, a mere outlaw . . . and that it is still considered as a matter of



high misdemeanor, and a criminal, and actionable offence by those in authority, for any one within their jurisdiction to hold correspondence with me, [and] that thou wast charged with this crime on suspicion. . . T.B.G. was put under arrest and displaced from [his] Clerkship, for having held correspondence with me. . .



“I thought [by my departure] peace was made and that I should have had a clearance from blame or censure. . . But no . . . that was not enough to satisfy those in power. . . I had been a great offender and had done much to weaken their hands . . . and to create distrust . . . concerning their administration, they therefore required . . . I should condemn unreservedly and unqualifiably all I had done . . . and also profess full unity with those in authority and . . . all their acts and deeds. . . My moving was construed by those to [whose] will I could not bow as a last and highest act of insubordination and rebellion. Settlers were sent before us to shut up our way [to New York] and to warn friends to beware of us. [When confronted by] S. H. . . . I told her to her face that we were neither Almeleyites, Beaconites, Batesites, nor Gurneyites, nor any other thing other than old fashioned Quakers. . .

“I have received a faithful and true account of thy trials and of [the] state and progress of things with you and of movements of the Gurneyites on the one hand, and of Friends on the other. . . [T.G.B. also] furnished me with an account of many standard bearers. . . We thought that our sufferings and the sufferings of the Cause was vey considerable under the misrule and domination of the Hicksites, but how much more openly and boldly unsound, and sophistical [it is] before the Gurneyites. . . I Hope thou will keep some account of the sin and prayers of the heresy [regarding] the resurrection, . . . the doctrine of three persons in the godhead, and that of the day of judgment [as well as their consideration of] catechetical instruction [in conjunction with] Episcopalians, and Presbyterians, Baptists, Methodists. . .”

However, in what is, perhaps, his most significant passage, Otis proposes Wilbur join him in either an open or clandestine effort to protect traditional Quakerism from the Gurneyites.

“Thou sees [the importance] to the support and advancement of the good cause . . . and comfort of each other in the arduous path allotted us, that a channel of communication should be opened and kept open between us, under such restrictions as thou may think proper to enjoin, either direct or [if] thou thinks . . . prudence forbids it at present, through some indirect way as thou may think best. . .”

(For more information, see Dandelion’s *An Introduction to Quakerism*, “Friends United Meeting” and “Quaker Schism” online at Britannica.com, “The Inner Light: Quakers” online at The Evangelical Universalist Forum, Tolles’s “The New-Light Quakers of Lynn and New Bedford” in the September 1959 edition of *The New England Quarterly*, “Otis, Job and Deborah, House” National Register of Historic Places Registration Form available online.)

This letter is an astonishing first-hand testimony regarding the conflict that drove what was one of the most important splits in Quaker theology.

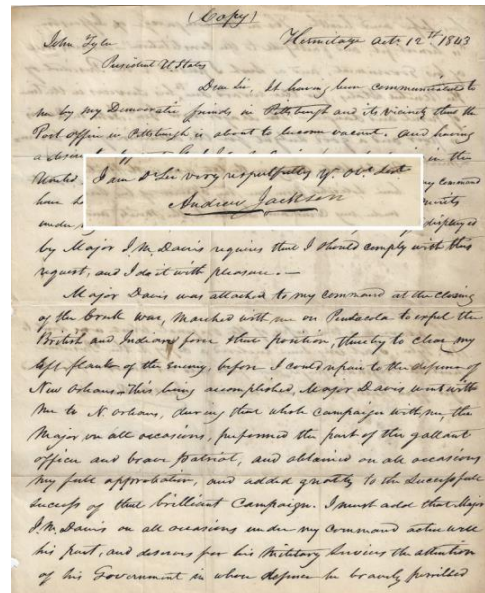
Unique. At the time of listing nothing similar is for sale in the trade. Rare Book Hub and ABPC show nothing similar has appeared at auction. OCLC identifies no Otis-Wilbur correspondence held by institutions, although it is possible there may be some in the Quaker Collection at Haverford College.

**\$2,000 #10363**

[MILITARY WAR OF 1812] [PRESIDENTS – ANDREW JACKSON] [PHILATELY] [POLITICS – SPOILS]

10. 1843 – File copy of a letter sent to President John Tyler by Andrew Jackson recommending Major General John M. Davis be appointed the Pittsburgh Postmaster for his service during the War of 1812

This secretary-signed copy of Jackson two-page letter was retained by Major General John M. Davis who ensured the original and another copy were separately delivered to President John Tyler “lest the original might not fall into his hands.” It is datelined “Hermitage Oct<sup>r</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> 1843”. It has no envelope or postal markings as this is the copy that Davis retained. In nice shape. A transcript will be provided.



It reads in part:

“It having been communicated to me by my Democratic friends in Pittsburgh [that] the Post Office in Pittsburg is about to become vacant. And having a desire to promote Genl John M. Davis [they requested my support.] I do it with Pleasure.

“Major Davis was attached to my command at the closing of the Creek War, marched with me on Pensacola to expel the British and Indians from that position, there by to clear my left flank of the enemy, before I could repair to the defense of New Orleans. . . . During the whole campaign [he] performed the part of the gallant officer and brave patriot, and . . . added quality to the successful success of that brilliant campaign. I must add that Major J. M. Davis. . . . He in the language of Jefferson, ‘is honest, fit, and faithful to the Constitution’ – deserves well of his Government, and as such I present to the President of the United States, for the reward due to his Services in the time of peril and danger – The Major now Genl John M Davis is . . . a good Subject for the attention of the Government when it has offices to bestow –”

Following the war, in 1814 Davis returned to Pennsylvania and continued to serve in the state militia for 34 years, eventually being promoted to Major General. He was also a committed Democrat and ardent Jackson supporter and began to serve in local and state offices. In 1838, Davis was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. It was when he lost the next election in 1840 that he and his friends solicited Jackson to pull strings with President Tyler, despite Tyler being a Whig. If Jackson did not originate the spoils system, he was certainly the first President to dispense patronage appoints to government positions to his loyal followers while in office. This letter makes it clear that he continued attempting to wield influence with future leaders.

In this copy, and presumably the original and second copy that was sent to President Tyler, Jackson's signature is very well replicated including the curlicues on his “A” and distinctive underlining.

(For more information, see Friedrich's “The Rise and Fall of the Spoils System” at the American Academy of Political and Social Science website and Turner's “Sketch of the Life of General Davis” available online in *A Collection of Papers read before the Buck's County Historical Society*.)

A first-hand example of an unvarnished “spoils system” appointment attempt by its most prolific presidential proponent who justified its use by the War of 1812 battlefield performance at Pensacola and New Orleans of its intended beneficiary.

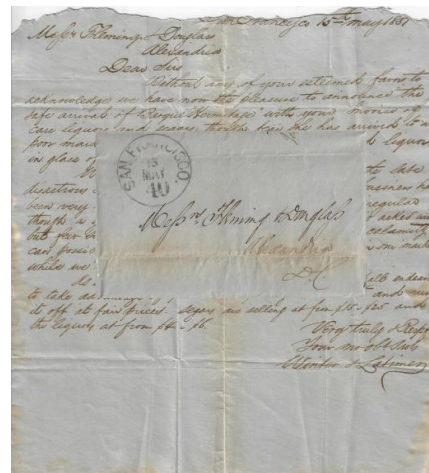
\$500 #10364



[BUSINESS ALCOHOL & TOBACCO] [DISASTERS – FIRE] [MINING – GOLD RUSH] [PHILATELY] [WESTERN EXPANSION]

11. 1851 – Letter from a pair of San Francisco commission merchants describing the expected effect of the catastrophic fire that destroyed three-quarters of the city

This one-page stampless folded letter measures 8" x 9". It was sent by "Winter & Latimer to "Messers Fleming & Douglass" of "Alexandria, D.C." and datelined "San Francisco 15<sup>th</sup> May 1851". It bears a circular San Francisco "40" postmark dated 15 May." The letter is in nice shape, however wear to the top margin affects the still readable dateline.



The letter reads in part:

"We have now the pleasure to report safe arrival of Barque 'Hermitage' with your Invoice of a case of liquor and segars . . . though fear she has arrived to a poor market. . . We have been fortunate [to] escape the disastrous conflagration of 3<sup>d</sup> inst. since which business has been very unsettled and prices for every thing irregular . . . with but few sales and we do not think this calamity can affect any possible improvement in the market while we have such large stocks in the harbor. As soon as your shipment is landed we shall endeavor to take advantage of the present temporary excitement and run it off at fair prices. Segars are selling from \$15 - \$25 and the liquor af from \$4 - \$6."

During the early years of the Gold Rush, San Francisco was struck by seven serious fires. The one that occurred during the night of 3-4 May 1851 was by far the worst. The fire, believed to be started by an arsonist, began in a paint and upholstery shop located above a hotel on Portsmouth Square. Strong winds drove the fire down Kearny Street and downtown where the wooden sidewalks increased the intensity of the blaze. The conflagration continued unchecked for ten hours until it reached the waterfront. By the time it was over, 18 city blocks had been destroyed and damages, almost all uninsured, approached \$10 million (over half a billion dollars in today's money). Among the destroyed properties was City Hall, the Jenny Lind theater, the whaleship *Niantic* (which had been moved ashore to serve as a hotel), a general store owned by Domenico Ghiradelli (who would rebuild his firm into the famous chocolate company) and six of the seven city newspapers. One resident reported, "No conception can be formed of the grandeur of the scene, for at one time the burning district was covered by one vast sheet of flame that extended half a mile in length," a scene made famous by the illustrated letter sheet published by Justh, Quirot and Company.

Although addressed to the District of Columbia, when this letter was written, the city of Alexandria had already retroceded to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

(For more information see, "Early History of the San Francisco Fire Department" at the City of San Francisco Museum website and Marryat's *Mountain and Molehills* (portions available online.)

Original first-hand accounts of the fire are scarce, far less common than the Justh-Quiroto letter sheets. At the time of listing nothing similar is for sale in the trade. Neither has anything similar appeared at auction. OCLC reports only two first-hand accounts are held in institutions, a similar letter at the University of California at Berkeley and an entry in a ship's logbook held by Harvard.

\$950 [#10365](#)

[BUSINESS COLLECTIONS] [MILITARY – CRIMEAN WAR] [PHILATELY]

12. 1854 – A short business letter that goes on to report the beginning of the Crimean War and Russia’s search for allies.

This three-page quaker-dated stampless folded letter, which measures 17” x 10½” unfolded, was sent by a businessman, David Wealtensun(?) in Liverpool, England to his cousin, James C. Bell in New York. It is datelined “Liverpool 2<sup>nd</sup> Mo 7<sup>th</sup> 1854.” It was carried to New York by the Ship *Baltic* and bears several postal hand stamps from Liverpool and Boston. One page of the text is written in the same hand, but in red instead of black ink.

After detailing his attempts to settle an open account with a “contemptible” and “insolent” company, David goes on to provide an update about the developing crisis in the Crimea and its effect upon business. It reads in part:

“War is now all but declared by Russia against England & France & the two latter are . . . in the Black Sea at war with Russia. The Czar is making a last effort through Count Orloff to form an alliance with Austria & Prussia, they will only not be so blind to their own interests as to adopt so fatal a step. I cannot believe it. In the event of their not doing so Russia will have Europe combined against her. The government seem to think there is no chance of Peace as thou will now see by the Parliamentary reports, yet Russia I believe must yield to the pressure from without, but will first make a great shew of resistance & likely carry on war . . . in the Danubian provinces for a time.”

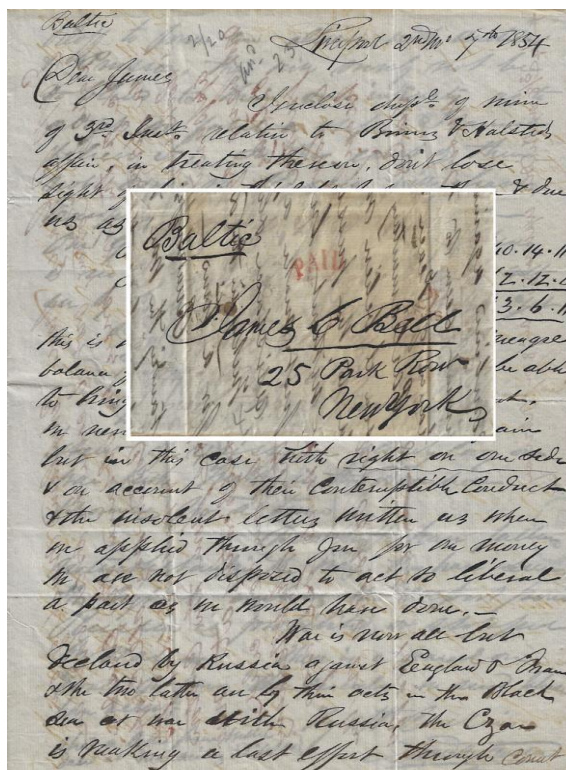
Indeed, the war in the Crimea had already begun. The Russians, taking advantage of the weak Ottoman Empire, occupied its Danubian Principalities (now part of Romania) in October 1853, and the Turks declared war upon Russia and began to put up a strong defense. After the Turkish stronghold at Kars, was besieged, Britain and France sent fleets into the Black Sea in January of 1854 to intimidate the Russians and maintain the current balance of power.

As David predicted in this letter which was written just after the British and French fleets entered the Black Sea, Austria and Prussia remained neutral. However, Russia did receive some support from Greece, and Sardinia-Piedmont joined in alliance with Turkey, Britain, and France. After Sevastopol fell in 1856, the Russians sued for peace and subsequently were prohibited from basing warships in the Black Sea and forced to withdraw from the Turkish Danube, leaving the Ottoman vassal states of Wallachia and Moldavia virtually independent.

(For more information, see Figes’s *The Crimean War: A History*, available online.)

A concise assessment of the developing crises in the Crimea from the perspective of an international trader with ties to New York.

\$250 [#10366](#)

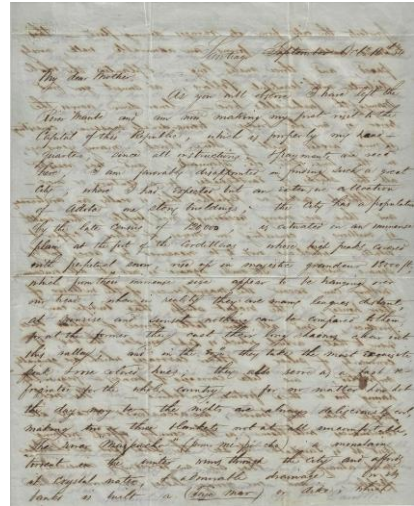


[TRANSPORTATION – RAILROADS] [TRAVEL – CHILE]

**13. 1854 – A newly arrived young railroad engineer hired by Chile sends a letter home to his mother raving about life in Santiago**

This four-page letter was written by David W. Cunningham on October 10, 1854, from Santiago, Chile to his mother in Boston. Its mailing envelope is not present, but an old photocopy (included) shows the letter was forwarded to Mrs. Andrew Cunningham of Boston by Loring Brothers & Company.

David W. was a Harvard-trained engineer known for his work on the Cochituate Aqueduct, the Manchester and Lawrence Railroad, the Ogdensburg and Lake Champlain Railroad, the Lowell Waterworks, the Stillwater Water Works, and the Tarkio Valley Railroad. This letter was written after Chile hired him to begin evaluating the best way to construct a railroad across the Andes. (Some sources claim incorrectly that he supervised the building of the road, but work on the *Ferrocarril Trasandino* was not started until 1887, over 25 years after Cunningham had departed. Regardless, David was captivated by life in Santiago.



“I have left the River Maule and am now making my first visit to the Capital of this Republic, which is properly my headquarters, since all instructions & payments are rec’d here. I am favorably disappointed in finding such a great city, where I had expected but an extensive collection of Adoba one story buildings. The City has a population of . . . 120,000, is situated on an immense plain at the foot of the Codilleras, whose high peaks covered with perpetual snow, rise up in majestic grandeur 18,000 ft: which from their immense size appear to be hanging over our heads, when in reality, they are many leagues distant. At sunrise and sunset, nothing can be compared to them . . . in the evening they take the most exquisite pink & rose colored hues. They also serve as a fast refrigerator for the whole country, for no matter how hot the day may be, the nights are always deliciously cool. . . The river Maipacho . . . runs through the city and it affords crystal water. . . . On its banks is built a dike, which protects the city . . . during flood [and] forms an admirable walk, nicely paved, and three miles long, & planted the whole distance with beautiful Poplars. At sunset you find many of the fashionable here. . . Although Called a Republic, this is really an aristocracy, and there are many exceedingly rich people, whose wealth is millions, consisting of mines [and] Estates, which are not measured by acres, but by square miles. . . Nothing can exceed the magnificences of the interior of their houses, the richest stuffs that Europe can produce, and all their table service of silver & gold, even to that article which is kept under the bed [and] their carriages . . . are like carriages of princes, frequently having two or three footmen. . . It would amuse you to see the ladies walking on the Alamada . . . dressed as though they were in a ball room. . . The young ladies . . . are very agreeable. I get smitten with one every evening but my love lasts only until I see another. . . I have not failed to see some finely educated & beautiful angels who have left a more permanent impression. . .”

Upon returning the United States, Cunningham moved to Texas following the U. S Civil War, farmed in North Dakota, and finally retired in California in 1895 where he lived until his death in 1916.

\$250 [#10367](#)



[CRIME – PUNISHMENT] [PHILATELY] [SOCIAL SERVICES]

**14. 1859 – Letter from man incarcerated at Boston’s Deer Island House of Industry to his wife at home in Chesterfield Factory, New Hampshire**

This two-page letter was written by J. [John] L. Taylor on printed stationery for the “House of Industry, Deer Island” in early January of 1859 to his wife, Mary L. Taylor, at Chesterfield Factory, New Hampshire. Its mailing envelope bears a 3-cent Washington stamp (Scott #26) cancelled with a circular “PAID” handstamp and a circular red Boston postmark dated “JAN / 4/ 1859”. Both are in nice shape. A transcript will be provided.



Taylor’s letter reads in part:

“You may take the wood that is under the butternut tree for to kindle your fire and i shall com home in april . . . things are all writ here you may tel Daniel i shal hev sum money the sixteenth and i want he should hev his wood all fitted for the stove and yo must rit to me a bout it it is very pleasant to day here i should like to se you all a bout five minet if no more Mary you must get what you want eny how i think i would not buy onely half of a barel of flour now then if you want eny more you can get it thay Boys must Hev cloes i Will send you three dolars to help by What you want We had a fine day for new years Josias may hev to bushel of the potatoes if he wants and masur tham out and If Si Wants a bushel of corn you may let him hev it Did you then of my birthday idid and though of home rite soon for the tim seemes long to me . . . you tel Josias to not take my oxen to brake eny rodes for theare sold When tha get threw drawing wood i don’t want them yoked. . .”

In 1822, Boston established an almshouse, the House of Industry, in the southern part of the city to care for “virtuous” and “deserving” poor adults and children. In 1849, after a large building was erected on Deer Island in Boston Harbor specifically designed to serve its needs, it also began accepting paupers from outside the city if it was reimbursed by the state. After Massachusetts established state almshouses in 1852, the city reorganized the House of Industry into two departments. One of them continued to support the poor; the other had some rooms converted to cells which were used to house petty criminals who had been sentenced to short incarcerations for things like public drunkenness, disorderly conduct, vagrancy, and larceny.

The content of Taylor’s letter shows that he was no indigent vagrant, and online genealogical records reflect that he was not even a Massachusetts resident; he was a “trader” who lived with his family in a small New Hampshire village. It is not clear what offense Taylor committed but his incarceration ran from at least from December through April, oddly and significantly longer than the usual stays which only lasted for a few days or weeks. The circumstances of his imprisonment are certainly worthy of additional research.

(For more information, see Winsor’s *The memorial history of Boston . . . 1630-1880*, “The Boston Institutions at Deer Island” in Volume 15 of *Frank Leslie’s Sunday Magazine* available online, “Deer Island” at the National Park Service website, “Facts about Deer Island” at the Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands website, and “Chesterfield, New Hampshire Master Plan Update 2016” available online.)

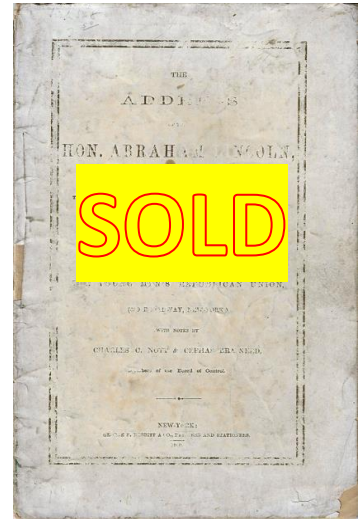
**SOLD #10368**



[LINCOLNIANA] [POLITICS – PRESIDENTIAL]

**15. 1860 – Abraham Lincoln’s famous Cooper Union speech that launched him towards the Presidency on the Republican Party ticket**

*The Address of the Hon. Abraham Lincoln, In Vindication of . . . the Principles of the Republican Party, Delivered at Cooper Institute, February 27th, 1860, Issued by the Young Men's Republican Union.* New York: George F. Nesbitt & Co, 1860. 5.75" x 9". 32 pages. Shiny wraps with faded gilt lettering Edgewear with two chips to rear cover.



Mathew Brady took a photograph of Lincoln on the day of the speech that became famous, and Lincoln later reflected that it was “Brady and the Cooper Union speech made me President.” The Abraham Lincoln Online website reports that

“Lincoln, as an unannounced presidential aspirant, attracted a capacity crowd of 1,500 curious New Yorkers. An eyewitness that evening said, ‘When Lincoln rose to speak . . . his face lighted up as with an inward fire; the whole man was transfigured. I forgot his clothes, his personal appearance, and his individual peculiarities. . . . I was on my feet like the rest, yelling like a wild Indian, cheering this wonderful man’. . . . Said a New York writer, ‘No man ever before made such an impression on his first appeal to a New York audience.’” The speech is well known for the line, “Let us have faith that right makes might, and in that faith, let us, to the end, dare to do our duty as we understand it.”

At the time of listing, only reprints are for sale in the trade. The Rare Book Hub shows seven originals have sold at auction during the last 15 years. Bibliographic details are uncertain. An OCLC entry states:

“This edition comprises two issues, as described in the prospectus enclosed with initially distributed copies of the more expensive (fine paper) issue: ‘We will furnish for \$1 sixteen copies of Mr. Lincoln’s address, similar to the copy enclosed, or forty copies of a cheaper edition, from the same type, but on ordinary paper, without a cover; or, if preferred, eight of the former and twenty of the latter. We will also furnish associations with the cheap edition at \$15 per thousand.’ The ‘ordinary’ paper is much thinner. On 17 September 1860, Nott wrote to Lincoln, ‘We forward you by this day’s express 250 copies, with the last corrections. I delayed sending, thinking that you would prefer these to those first printed.’ These were presumably fine paper copies. Based on this, some writers refer to the fine paper issue as the ‘250 copies edition’, though that is only the number of copies that were sent to Lincoln. Some copies have ‘indication’ for ‘vindication’ on the title page, and a bent rule above the copyright statement on p. [2]; these features appear to correspond to the cheap edition. Monaghan describes only the fine paper edition (with cover), noting that page 32 is unnumbered, and does not mention the cheap edition. . . . A facsimile printing . . . claiming to reproduce the fine paper issue (‘250 copies edition’) and printed on paper of approximately the same weight, but in fact reproducing a copy of the cheap issue with a cover imitating that of the fine paper issue, was published anonymously [in 1911] “ Further complicating the issue, both Swann and Heritage Auctions have proven Monaghan was incorrect about pagination, and that 1860 issues included “32” on the final page.”

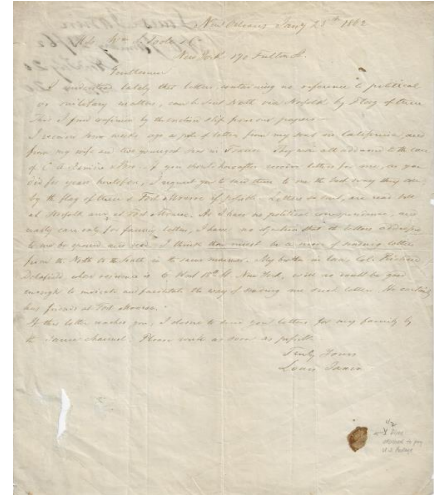
Regardless of the confusion, this example, which is annotated “10-27-10. [27 October 1910], predates the supposed 1911 facsimile.

**SOLD #10369**

[CIVIL WAR FLAG OF TRUCE MAIL] [PHILATELY]

**16. 1862 – Letter from a New Orleans attorney providing outdated information to an associate in New York regarding the method of sending mail to him across-the-lines in the early years of the Civil War**

In August 1861, the Union halted all civilian correspondence between the North and South, however it soon permitted the exchange of prisoner-of-war mail at Old Point Comfort and Norfolk in Virginia under the control of the military. At their discretion, commanders might also process civilian mail and, in instances, did so until the volume became overwhelming. On January 29, 1862, the Union officially forbade the practice when it issued Headquarters of the Army General Order No. 7 which stated, "Private letters received by officer of the Army for transmittal through the lines of the United States troops to persons living in the enemy's country, will not hereafter be forward, but will be sent to the Dead Letter Office, in the City of Washington."



This one-page letter from a New Orleans attorney Louis Janin to an associate in New York City, insurance agent William S. Toole, was written on January 25, 1862, and docketing shows it was not received until February 20, long after General Order No. 7 had been published. Although the letter's message had been superseded, it provides a concise description of how flag-of-truce mail had been previously handled.

"I understood lately that letters, containing no reference to political or military matters, could be sent North via Norfolk by Flag of truce. This I confirmed by the enclosed slip from our paper. I received some weeks ago a pile of letters from my sons in California and my wife in France. . . . If you should receive letters for me, as you did for years heretofore, I request you to send them by the flag of truce & Fort Monroe if possible. Letters so sent, are read both at Norfolk and at Fort Monroe. As I have no political correspondence, I really care only for family letters, I have no objection that the letters accepted to be opened and read. I think there must be a method of sending letters from the North to the South in the same manner. My brother in law Col. Richard Delafield [who lives in New York will no doubt be good enough to mitigate and facilitate the way of sending me such letters. He certainly has friends at Fort Monroe. If my letter reaches you I desire to send you letters for my family by the same channel.

This letter, which is without envelope and bears no postal or ship markings was sent north by flag of truce as Janin described since he intends to send more "by the same channel." It is in nice shape. There is a scuff and tear in the lower left corner where the newspaper article he described was likely attached, and the remains of a sealing wafer in the right corner where he had attached a half-dime to pay for postage north to New York from Norfolk.

Online newspaper articles, classified ads, and genealogical records show that Toole was active in anti-Lincoln politics and that although Jainin was a prominent property attorney in New Orleans, he also used 79 enslaved workers to farm a large sugar plantation in St. Bernard Parish. One of Janin's sons was a Yale educated mining engineer and played a prominent roll mining the Comstock Lode, and later advising mining interests in Mexico, Australia, and Japan.

Quite an interesting letter whose message was overtaken by events before it reached its recipient.

**\$250** [#10370](#)

[MILITARY CIVIL WAR] [PHILATELY]

17. 1864 – Letter from proud Michigan soldier reminding his family not to worry because he was with General Sheridan and under the command of General Custer

This short three-page letter, dated 2 August 1864, was written by an artilleryman, William H. Smith, at City Point Camp (now Hopewell) Virginia to his cousin Theodore Carver in Massachusetts. It is franked with a three-cent Washington stamp (Scott #65) that has been canceled by a fancy circle-in-star handstamp and bears a doublecircle Washington DC postmark dated 5 August. In nice shape.

In this letter, Smith puffs up his chest and boasts about being a member of the famous Michigan Brigade.

“We have been on a road and come in to City Point to camp. Tell Sadie(?) don’t worry that our battery is with general Sherdin all the time. . . .

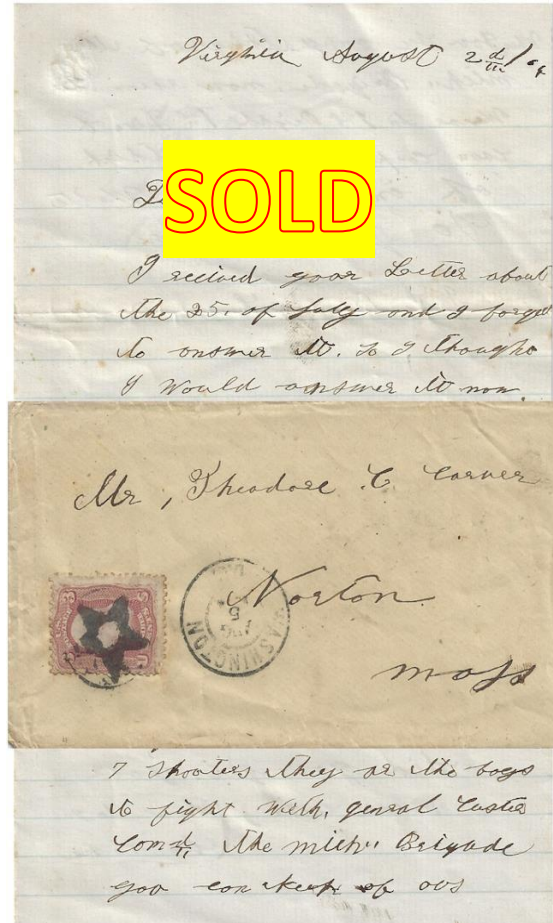
“We are in the 1<sup>st</sup> Cav. Division, Corps. We are in the michun Brigade – they have the spencer rifle & shooters they are the boys to fight with. general Custer comds. The mich’ Brigade you can keep of us when you see anny thing of the mich’ Brigade. . . . Remember We are the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade 1<sup>st</sup> Div of Cav” Corps. . . .

“From Your / Cousen Wm. H Smith  
“Grant’s army / Reglur Solder / Of the U.S. Army”

Smith’s letter reeks of pride as well it should. The Wolverines, as the brigade was known, had fought with distinction at every major battle in the east and won fame at Gettysburg.

In less than 10 days, it would again be engaged, this time at the Third Battle of Winchester and subsequently at Cedar Creek, where Union troops would eliminate any significant Confederate resistance in the Shenandoah Valley.

**SOLD #10371**





[BUSINESS] [GUANO] [MARITIME] [MILITARY – CHINCA ISLANDS WAR] [PHILATELY]

18. 1866 – A letter from one of the major exporters of Peruvian bat guano assuring a New York investor that his inventory of guano awaiting shipment was not destroyed by the Spanish fleets shelling of Callao

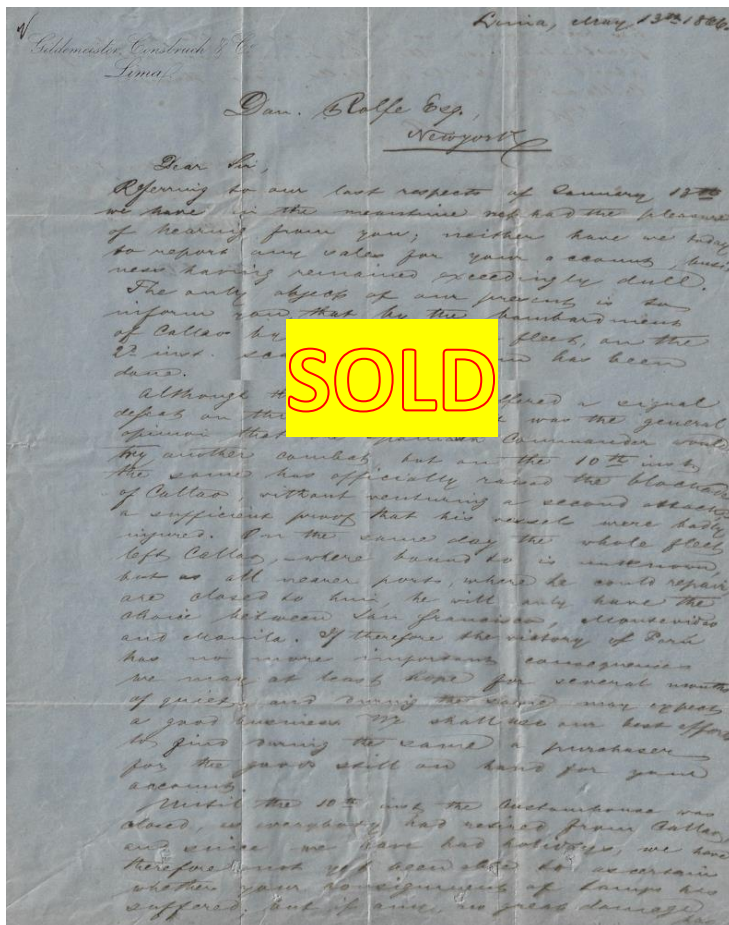
This two-page folded letter, measuring 18" x 11" unfolded, from an agent of Gildemeister, Construch & Co. at Lima, Peru to New York investor is dated May 13<sup>th</sup>, 1866. The letter bears a manuscript annotation "Per Steamer via Panama", a Gildemeister company cachet, and circled "Steamship 10" rate stamp applied in New York. In nice shape. A transcript will be provided.

During the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, as Spain became embroiled in the Napoleonic Wars, its South American colonies declared their independence. However by mid-century, Spanish power had rebounded, and it began an effort in 1864 to retake its lost colonies by initiating a series of coastal attacks.

Peru was an especially lucrative target as its Chincha Islands with their huge mountains of incredibly valuable guano, was first. Spain demanded vast payments for debts incurred during Peru's war of independence. After Peru refused, the Spaniards seized the lightly defended Chinchas and demanded three million pesos for their return. The Peruvian regime began to comply, however resentful citizens staged a coup and installed a new leader who vowed to defeat the Spanish.

As reported in this letter, in response, the Spanish attacked Callao, and although both sides claimed victory, a week later, the Spanish withdrew from the Peruvian coast including the Chinchas and returned home via the Philippines.

"The only object of our present is to inform you that by the bombardment of Callao by the Spanish fleet, on the 23 inst. Scarcely any harm has been done. Although the Spanish suffered a signal defeat on this occasion, it was the general opinion that the Spanish commander would try another combat, but on the 10th inst by the same has officially raised the blockade of Callao, without mounting a second attack, a sufficient proof that his vessels were badly injured. On the same day the whole fleet left Callao where bound to is unknown, but all nearer ports, where he could repair are closed to him, he will only have the choice between San Francisco, Montevideo and Manila. If therefore the victory of Peru has no more important consequences we may at least hope for



several months of quiet, and during the same may expect a good business. We shall use our best efforts to find during the same a purchaser for the guano still on hand for your accounts.

“Until the 10th inst. The customhouse was closed, as everybody had retired from Callao and since we have had

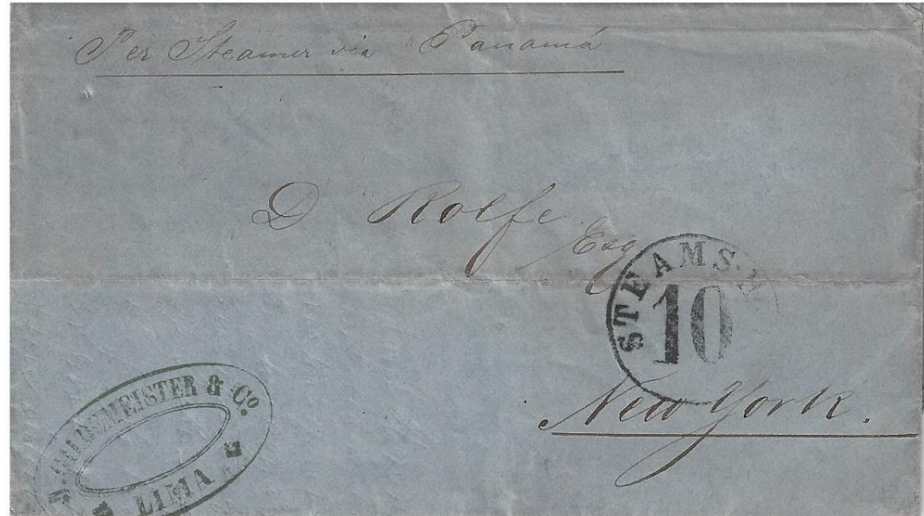
holidays, we have therefore not [ascertained] whatever your consignments [have] has suffered, but if any, no great damage has been done, as only four balls have penetrated into the Customhouse, although about 4000 balls & shells were thrown into Callao.”

Peruvian guano was every bit as valuable as gold, if not more so. in the 1840s, after Europeans realized the tremendous fertilizing power of the seabird excrement that Peruvians routinely harvested from mountainous deposits on their country’s rocky coastal islands, the value of guano skyrocketed, and an entire “white gold” industry sprang up overnight. Millionaires were quickly made, primarily by Peruvians and Englishmen who lured and indentured Polynesian and Chinese coolies as virtual slaves to dig the guano and load it on transport ships.

(For more information, see the abstract of Mücke’s *The Diary of Heinrich Witt* available online, Durfee’s “Holy Crap! A Trip to the World’s Largest Guano-Producing Islands” at the Audubon website, and “Chincha Islands War Conflict with Spain” at the GlobalSecurity website.”

A concise first-hand account of the Chincha Islands War and its minimal impact on the guano industry.

**\$300** [#10372](#)

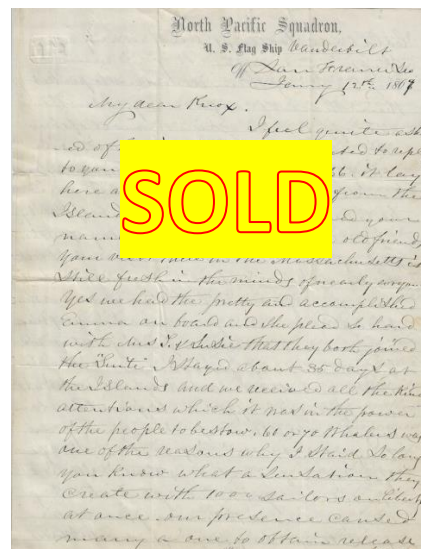


[HAWAIIANA] [MARITIME – WHALING] [MILITARY – NORTH PACIFIC SQUADRON]

19. 1867 – Letter from the Commander of the North Pacific Squadron reporting on the U.S.S. *Vanderbilt*'s voyage returning Hawaiian Queen Emma to Honolulu.

This letter was written by Admiral Henry Knox Thatcher, the Commander of the North Pacific Squadron on partially printed flagship stationery from the U.S.S. *Vanderbilt* just “Off San Francisco” on 12 January 1867 to Lieutenant Samuel Richardson Knox in South Malden, Massachusetts. There is no mailing envelope. In nice shape. A transcript will be provided.

Emma Kalanikaumaka‘amano Kaleleonālani Na‘ea was born in 1836 to High Chief George Na‘ea and High Chiefess Fanny Kekelaokalani Young. She was adopted under the Hawaiian tradition of hānai by her childless maternal aunt, chiefess Grace Kama‘iku‘i Young, and her husband, Dr Thomas C. B. Rooke. Emma grew up bilingual and attended the Chiefs’ Children’s School where she met her future husband, Alexander Liholiho (later King Kamehameha IV). An heir was born in 1858 but died in 1862. Emma was heartbroken, however the death affected Kamehameha even more; he died in Emma’s arms the following year. After Alexander’s brother was proclaimed King Kamehameha V, Emma departed Hawaii to visit Queen Victoria and after spending a year traveled to the United States where she met with President Andrew Johnson, who directed Admiral Thatcher to transport Queen Emma back to Honolulu where she was welcomed by throngs of fans. Thatcher’s letter discusses the mission.



“Yes we had the pretty and accomplished Emma on board and she plead so hard with Mrs L. V. Susie that they both joined the “Suite.” I stayed about 35 days at the Islands and we received all the kind attentions which it was in the power of the people to bestow. 60 or 70 Whalers was one of the reasons why I staid so long. You know what a sensation they create with 1000 sailors on liberty at once. Our presence caused many a one to obtain release “Calaboose” lodgings and many a skipper from cheating his men by calling them deserters to pocket their share of cargo or pay. . . . [Our party] passed a week with our old friend Capt. McKee at his mountain house and sugar estate at Maui. He lives like a prince and in hospitality he has few superiors. . . .”

As Rear Admiral Clark later recalled, the Americans found Queen Emma charming, however her English friend with whom she shared the Admiral’s cabin was “odious.” He also reported that “The ship’s company [was] generously supplied with fresh provisions, ranging from vegetables to cattle.” During the seven months the *Vanderbilt* remained in Hawaii, Prince “Billy” (later King Kalakaua) was a frequent visitor between the times he spent “at Waikiki, swimming among the breakers like a fish, or drinking like one.”

(For more information see Bloks’s “Emma a Beloved Queen at the History of Royal Women website, Clark’s *My Fifty Years in the Navy* on line, and various bibliographic websites.)

An obviously unique and historically valuable piece of original source Hawaiiiana. At the time of listing, no other items related to Queen Emma’s return on the *Vanderbilt* are for sale in the trade, have appeared at auction, or are held in institutional collections.

**SOLD #10373**



[MINING – NEW MEXICO GOLD RUSH] [PHILATELY] [WESTWARD EXPANSION]

**20. 1867 – Letter from an early settler in Cimarron, New Mexico, informing a friend back home in Ohio, that a gold rush had begun in earnest and that he might mine a claim and marry one “of these Black Eyed Mexican galls”**

The three-page stampless letter was sent by A. J. Thomas, a farmer from Cimarron, New Mexico Territory, to J. B. Culver in Delaware, Ohio. It is franked with a 3-cent Washington stamp (Scott #65) tied to the envelope with a “Cimarron, New Mexico, Jul 18, 1867” postmark. It bears a straightline “ADVERTISED” hand stamp a circular handstamp that reads only “Sep 1” that were applied after the letter had sat unclaimed in the Delaware post office. In nice shape.



In the letter, Thomas discusses the gold boom that began in 1866.

“There has been a considerable excitement about gold mines in this country but I cant say what they are going to amount to. I was up there some time ago and took a claim but I havent got much faith in mining and if I had, I have got no time to spend on them now. I commenced mowing one week ago but make slow progress as it has rained nearly all the time. . . . I was talking some of coming to the States this fall but I don’t know whether I will get there or not. I may take a notion to get married to Some of these Black Eyed Mexican galls one of these days. . . .”

Cimarron had long been a ranching community at edge of Sangre de Cristo Mountains along the Santa Fe Trail. In 1841, a fur trapper, Charles Beaubien, married a young Native American girl, opened a store in Taos, and became a Mexican citizen. Together with Guadalupe Miranda, a local businessman-politician, he petitioned Governor Manuel Armijo and received a 1.7 million acre land grant. A year later, Charles Lucien B. Maxwell, another fur trapper, married one of Beaubien’s daughters, Luz. After inheriting their share of the ranch, the Maxwells bought out Miranda’s interest as well as those of Luz’s sisters. The area American pioneers but remained quiet, except for Apache and Commanche raids. Settlement gradually increased until copper was discovered on Baldy Creek in 1866, after which Maxwell formed a company to extract the ore. Almost immediately, gold was found among the copper, and soon prospectors, saloons, brothels descended upon Cimarron, which became a wild and roaring boomtown. Several years later, Maxwell decided to sell his land grant only to find it enmeshed in legal entanglements which led directly to the vicious Colfax County Range War that lasted until 1877.

During most of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, mail was not routinely delivered by the post office. Rather, it was held for recipients to pick-up. If it was not, the postmaster would place an advertisement in the local newspaper and hold it for a little longer. If the recipient then picked up the mail, an additional fee, usually one cent, was charged. If it remained uncollected it was forwarded to the Dead Letter Office.

(For more information, see “Maxwell Land Grant – Largest Land Grant in US History” and “Cimarron, New Mexico – Wild & Bawdy Boomtown” both at the Legends of America website and Epting’s “The Letter Opener,” a 7 May 2023 blog entry at stamps.org,)

A scarce territorial letter documenting the beginning of the Cimarron Gold Rush. Nothing similar is for sale in the trade. The Rare Book Hub and ABPC show no auction records for similar items, however two companion covers from but without contents have been sold in the philatelic community. OCLC shows only one similar letter is held by an institution, the Huntington.

**\$750** [#10374](#)

[ADVERTISING – COVERS] [BUSINESS – PETROLEUM] [GRAPHICS] [PHILATELY]

21. 1869-1940 – Collection of ten scarce oil-related advertising envelopes and postcards with exceptional illustrations of oil wells

The history of petroleum provides a context for understanding the modern energy industry. In 1859, when a former railroad conductor, Edwin Drake, specifically drilled for and found “rock oil” along a woodland creek near Titusville, Pennsylvania, the petroleum industry was formed. Its refined product, kerosene, which was much cheaper than whale oil and much less dangerous than camphene, lit the nights of the 19th century. And just as Thomas Edison’s electric bulb seemed to sign the industry’s death warrant, the rapid adoption of the automobile and the massive 1901 Spindletop Gusher at Beaumont, guaranteed it would fuel the 20th.

This collection of ten graphically illustrated advertising envelopes and postcards provides visual documentation of these early 19th and 20th century oil wells. Illustrations include and 1870 oil well complex from a refinery that operated in Baltimore near the present-day Guilford neighborhood and of the famous 1903 Beatty Oil Gusher, “the second spouter in the Beaumont Oil Field.

**SOLD #10375**



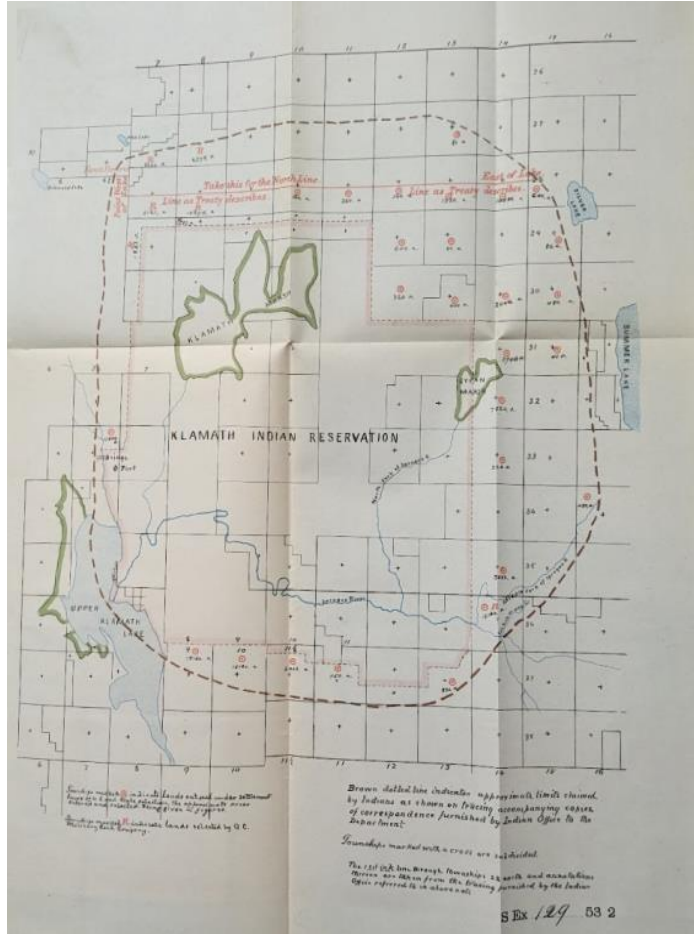
[NATIVE AMERICANS – KLAMATH TRIBE] [MAPS] [RESERVATIONS – WHITE TRESPASSING]

**22. 1887-1888 – Four maps of the Klamath Indian Reservation in Oregon that have been removed from an unidentified government publication**

These four large folding maps are attached to the last page (page 29) of an unidentified federal publication.

Page 29 contains a statement, dated 6 August 1887 by H. L. Muldrow, the Acting Secretary for the Commissioner of Indian Affairs that reads in part, “Survey of the outboundaries of the Klamath Reservation in Oregon, and also concerning cattle trespass thereon, with apprehended difficulties the cowboys and Indians. . .” It also contains a statement of acceptance by the Commissioner, dated 8 October 1888, noting that one of his agents had reported, “I observed large numbers of cattle and horses, the property of white men, trespassing on the land of the Indians.”.

The four folded maps range in size between 13”x 12” and 18” x 20”. Three are annotated with information relating to the reservation borders and the encroachment. None are titled, but they bear the printed annotation “S Ex 129 53 2”. The maps are in nice shape; page 29 has some edgewear.



White explorers began to enter what today is known as the Klamath Basin, then the homeland of the Klamath, Modoc, and Yahooskin, in the 1820s. Eventually white settlements and the resulting native uprisings against those settlements moved the federal government to establish the Klamath Reservation for all three tribes. After World War Two, white political sentiments regarding Indian Affairs changed, and the federal government began to “get out of the Indian business,” i.e., to terminate all “special relationship” between tribes and the federal government; in the language of the times: “liberating the Indian,” “turning the Indian loose,” “emancipating the Indian,” and “terminating the trusteeship restrictions” which included the “termination” of reservations which many suggest were analogous to segregated ghettos.

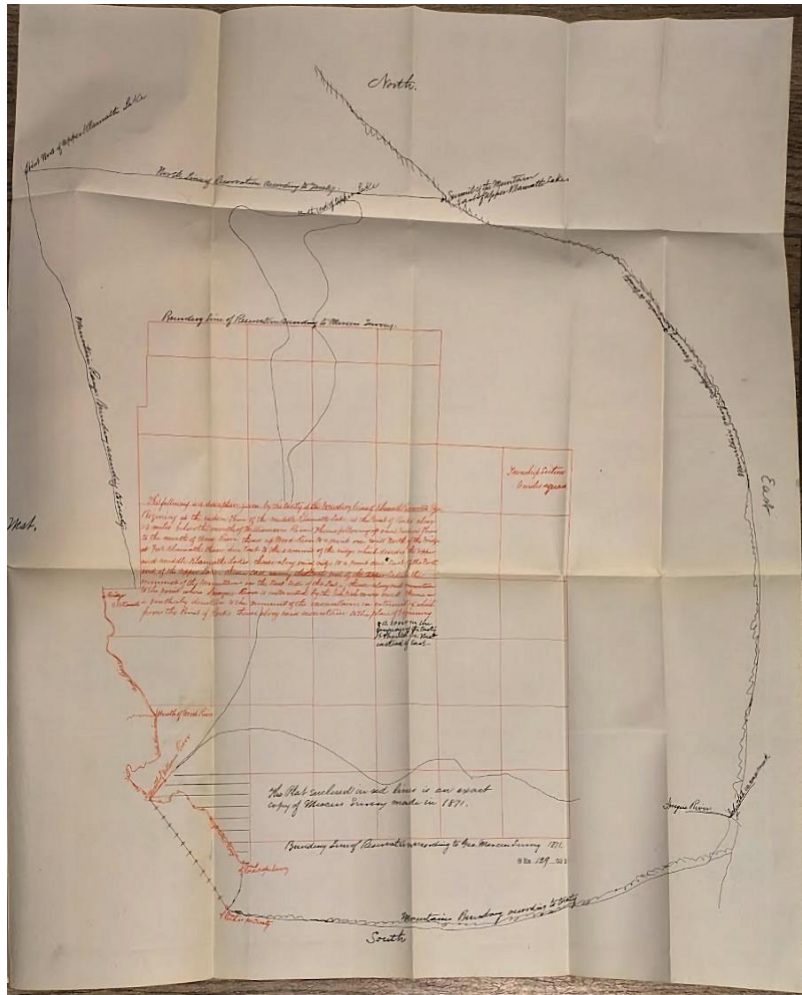
The Klamath Reservation was the first to go, and when it was dissolved in 1961 during the Kennedy administration, and most absorbed by the Forest Service, the federal government awarded most tribal members a lump sum payment of \$43,000/person (\$500,000 each in today’s money.) Unfortunately, most recipients had no money management experience, and soon had spent their windfalls. Additionally, many of the previously provided federal support services were eliminated. By the early 1970s, poverty and alcoholism overwhelmed the tribe. Similar experiences occurred with the “termination” of other reservations, and by the mid-1970s, “termination” was seen as a failed policy and the federal government once more began reinstating support services and protections to the tribes that had been abandoned.



(For more information, see the "The Klamath River Reservation: 1858-1894" at the National Park Service eHistory Library, "Klamath Indian Reservation," and "Termination" at the Oregon History Project online, "Kalmath Termination" at the Indigenous Foundations website, and "Termination & Restoration" at Oregon.gov.)

Quite scarce. At the time of listing, while other more recent government publications and maps of the Kalmath Reservation are relatively common, I could not locate other examples of these maps (or the pamphlet to which they were attached) documenting conflicts over ranchers allowing their livestock to graze within its territory, nor could I even identify the pamphlet that contained them. No other examples are for sale in the trade, have appeared at auction, or are held by institutions.

\$500 [#10376](#)



[CARTOONS – POLITICAL] [POLITICS – ELECTIONS]

**23. 1889 – “Democrats Sweep the Country” - comical election results cartoon broadside from Bucks County in which the Democratic Party plays fast and loose with its claim of a sweep**

This long broadside measures 7” x 18¾”. It is filled with hyperbolic claims of a Democratic sweep in the 1889 elections held around the country. It also includes five funny cartoons and a humorous poem titled *Wet or Dry*. However, it provides the only specific results (from 1887, not 1889) are for Bucks County. In the other states listed, the candidates mentioned were running for low-level offices.

In fact, during this off-year election, people voted for governors in eleven states. When the dust cleared, Democrats were triumphant in six; Republicans in five. Not even remotely close to the sweep claimed in this broadside.

Rare. At the time of listing, no other examples are for sale in the trade. Rare Book Hub and ABPC show none have appeared at auction, and OCLC identifies none held by institutions.

**\$250 #10377**

**DEMOCRATS SWEEP THE COUNTRY!**

NEW YORK, . . . . . 20,000.  
 NEW JERSEY, . . . . . 12,000.  
 VIRGINIA, . . . . . 40,000.  
 OHIO, . . . . . 13,000.  
 IOWA, just think of it! . . . . . 10,000.

For-akers not enough in Ohio.  
 Clarkson beat by Boise in Iowa.  
 Barber-ism swamps Mahone.  
 Tariff on Grubb too high in Jersey.  
 Plattitudes played out in New York.

**Bucks County Solid, Democratic Majority 800!**

\$178,000 Tax, Comptroller Steal and Almshouse Mismanagement Rebuked.




“Low” Clemens Explains the Lung-see-Ain’ Horrors!



“Wash” Babster Looking for a Better Job.

“Good-bye, Party John!  
 Oh! Party John, Good-bye!  
 They knocked you with  
 Because of *Dodge*,  
 You were in their wet or dry.  
 In June you bought the savvy chad,  
 And on a dirty the day,  
 Ever in the fall  
 You treated all  
 The boys to feed and fry,  
 Johnny Righter saw you met,  
 Heck Eastburn knew you met,  
 But the voters were,  
 By dirty a vote,  
 That one or the other must lie.  
 Then Righter sowed you dry or wet,  
 And Eastburn was as dry,  
 By the voting count,  
 They all agreed  
 That they would love to try,  
 So good-bye, Party John!  
 Our handsakes, good-bye!  
 The great mistake  
 We all did make,  
 We were neither wet nor dry.

**WET OR DRY.**



Parshall starts out in search of “Average”.

The “Shad Dinner Dodge and Burly Beer Trick Didn’t Work.—The Eastburn and Johnny Righter Ring Broken.—Paschall’s “Averages” Down to Zero.—Cold Weather at Republican Headquarters. “Chalkey” Lays it on to Boss Gilkeson.—Godshank Thinks the Bull Story was Not Utilized.—Almshouse Myers Voted a Crank.—Temperance and Whiskey Men Both “Cussed.”—Surprised They Wouldn’t Straddle.—Eastburn and Righter Swag a Dime.

**Bucks County Election Returns—Official—1889.**

	1887 Pres. & Vice Pres.	1887 State Senators.	1887 County Commission.	1887 County Clerk.	1887 Recorder.	1887 Sergeant.	1887 Justice of the Peace.
Bucks County	2417	18	18	18	18	18	18
Atlantic County—Jas. Ward	200	18	18	18	18	18	18
“ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ “	200	18	18	18	18	18	18
Berkley	200	18	18	18	18	18	18

[MILITARY – CUBAN OCCUPATION] [PHILATELY] [RACE] [SPORTS – BASEBALL]

24. 1899-1900 – Small correspondence archive from soldier assigned to the 2<sup>nd</sup> U.S. Infantry Regiment on occupation duty in Cuba

The 2<sup>nd</sup> U.S. Infantry Regiment deployed to Cuba during the Spanish American War on the same ship that carried Teddy Roosevelt and his Rough Riders. It fought battles enroute to San Juan Heights and at Santiago. After hostilities ceased, it returned to the United States in August 1898. Soon, it returned to Cuba to perform occupation duties in January 1899 where it remained until deploying to fight in the Philippine War. It suffered 72 casualties while in Cuba, 22 dead and 50 wounded.

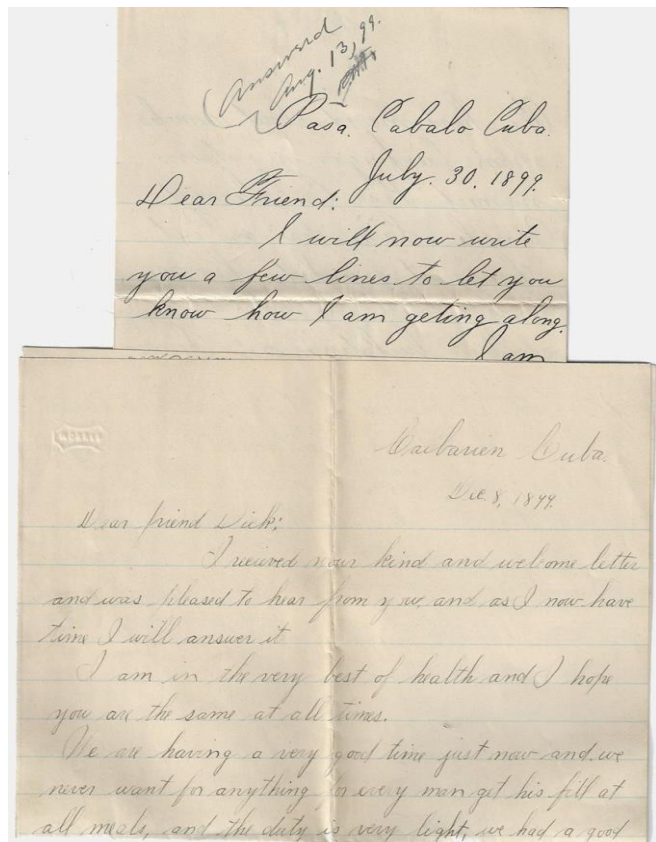
The five items in this group were sent during the Cuban occupation from Corporal Frank George to a friend in St. Louis. Duty was easy, and these letters reflect that as well as provide commentary on the Cuban's baseball fever and the differences between local whites and blacks.



17 Mar 99 – Savannah, Georgia. Letter only. Two pages. Ragged edges. "I am now in the Army and enjoying good life and health. . . I inlisted Mar 6 and left that night. . . I have me cousin with me and we have a good time. . . The first place I camped was in Anniston, Ala. and I stayed there one week and one Bateltown. I am in went to Savanna, Georgia where we are now. . . excuse this writing for I wrote it under a tree on a board."

13 May 99 – Savannah, Georgia. Letter only. Three pages. "I am now acting Corporal and will . . . make a full on by the 15<sup>th</sup> of May. . . I am going to get me a Camera next Payday. . . One of the boys in my tent has one and I learned how to develop [pictures] and have concluded to buy one for if we go to Cuba. . . I think we will go to Cuba but do not know the date for one hears so many different Reports t believe all he hears. My Cousin is cook and he surely feeds me good. . ."

30 Jul 99 – Pasa Cabalo, Cuba. Envelope is franked with a Cuba overprint of a 2-cent U.S.





stamp (Scott #222). Postmarked at Cienfuegos, Cuba on July 31. Bears a private "Soldier's Mail" censor handstamp. "We have moved about 10 miles from Cienfeugoo in a town named Pasa Cabalo and Uncle Sam has a Post there just finished there are 4 big buildings on the ground and we are about 25 yards from the Sea shore all ships going into Cienfeugos Bay have to pass our posts and I have seen a great many vessels of different Nations. . . I have built a skiff and the boys named it the Roal George we have a great deal of fun with it and fishing here is grand. . . Uncle Sam is very good to us we get all we want to eat and sleep on spring beds and mosquito bars over our beds. . . I think we are going to leave Cuba the Inspector General stated on the 25<sup>th</sup> of July that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Infentry now in Cuba was the healthiest regiment on the Island and that 3 regiment were to leave for the states. . . I think we will got to New York and recruit up and then cross the country and sail for the Philippines. . ."



8 Dec 99 – Caibarién, Cuba. Envelope is franked with a 2-cent Cuban stamp (Scott #228). Postmarked at Caibarién, Cuba on 8 December. Bears a private "Soldier's Mail" censor handstamp. "We are having a very good time just now. . . We also have a base ball team which has done some good playing . . . with the Cubans. . . Cubans are active base ball players and the whole population turns out to witness a game of ball, and when they make a good run or two, the people go wild and throw their hats up in air and junk around like wild people, the whites are a very nice set of people but the blacks are like our negroes and want everything but do nothing, they do not like work. . . There are good prospects of us going to the Philippines and I would like to get into it, our boys are just whipping the life out of them. . ."

4 Jan 00 – Patriotic cover featuring a portrait of Admiral Dewey. Envelope is franked with a 2-cent Cuban stamp (Scott #228). No contents.

Most Spanish-American War correspondence was written by soldiers who never departed from camps in the United States or from soldiers who had deployed to the Philippines to quell follow-on Filipino resistance. Mail from the occupation of Cuba, especially correspondence discussing the Cubans' baseball mania is uncommon.

**SOLD #10378**

[MILITARY - WORLD WAR I] [PHILATELY]

**25. 1918 – A group of five pre-armistice letters received by a young woman, Ruth Martin, in Stamford, Connecticut and while attending the Alexander Hamilton Institute in New York City.**

Ruth Martin would have been twenty years old when she received these letters from equally young Stamford men who had gone off to fight in World War One. While none contain romantic content, all have a coy flirting air about them. At the time, Ruth was a stenographer working at the famous Yale and Town lock company which was headquartered in Stamford.

3 Aug – 307<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment. YMCA stationery. Double-ring (A4001) postmark dated 27 Aug from APO 702, Paris. Base censor stamp. Double-ring “Le Foyer du Soldat” handstamp. One-page letter.

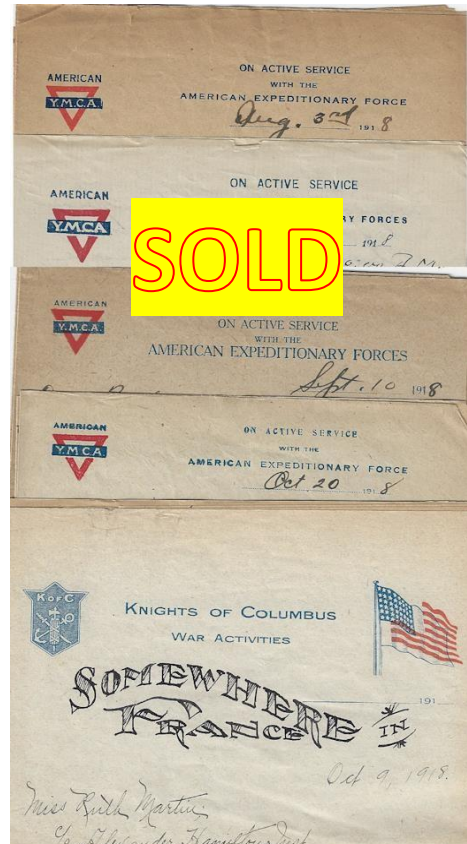
“At last you have seen – Camp Mills. Well what do you think of it. It sure is some rough life dont you think so! . . . We are on the more again but do not know where we are bound for. We learned we are to travel for one week. So it must be some distance. . .”

14 Aug – 114<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment. YMCA stationery. An unnumbered flag (A6019) postmark from APO 765, 29<sup>th</sup> Division. Unit censor stamp. Four-page letter.

“Have at last hit the old word and it seems as if I like the new the better. . . This is sure picturesque country . . . for tourists in peace time. But when it comes to the “doughboys” it doesn’t seem half so pretty. You know we enjoy those beautiful hills and green mountains for it is always “legs do you duty.” Have been in France for nearly 2 months now and we sure have traveled some. . . We have been moving about on the average of three-day intervals. . . I guess you have read about the marvelous offensive over here and you can be sure it is looked on with great approval by all. Had some glorious excitement yesterday. There was a lovely aeroplane duel and the Boche were beaten badly. Had occasion to see one of the Boche and he was a sight. He jumped from his machine while it was burning and he sure was an awful sight. He was clad very poorly. Nothing but a white sweater and trousers. His shoes were worn so badly that his toes were penetrating the soles. It seems as if the Boche is nearly ready to squeal and shot “Komarad” with real intentions. . .”

10 Sep – 307<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment. YMCA stationery. Double-ring (A4001) postmark dated 16 Sep from APO 702, Paris. Base censor stamp. Three-page letter.

“We are soon to receive a divisional rest and believe me we need it our boys have been in the trenches now for a month and a rest of this kind will do us good. I should like to write you of some of our adventures but know it will not pass the censor but hope some day I will be able to tell you all. . . You must not worry about the French girls as I have not seen a French girl yet that I would go with. I guess will be good news to a lot of girls in the good old U.S.A. There are nothing like our own girls believe me. . .”



9 Oct – Classification Camp with the 41<sup>st</sup> Division. Knights of Columbus stationery with an impressive hand drawn letter heading that reads “Somewhere in France”. Double-ring postmark dated 13 Oct from APO 727, 41st Division. From a Bugler. Six-page letter.



“When I read your article [I Remembered] the promise I made to look your brother up in camp. I am sorry I neglected to do so, [but] you will remember that I was a very raw rookie and your brother was a Corporal. To me a corporal seemed so [important] so I debated with myself often “How will he Receive me?’ “What shall I say to him/” and a whole lot of other silly questions. . . . I do hope that you will write and say that you have forgiven my breach of promise. Will you, S’il vous plait? . . . I just wish you could hear our band. It is playing a lively tune now and makes me feel like dancing. (May I have this dance with you, please?). . .”

20 Oct – Melun, Seine et Marne. Through the French military postal service with a “Camps et Cantonnements” and a circled star handstamps (the “C et C” marking is not listed in Van Dam, however, the circled star handstamp is identified in the 1991 update as being used on A.E.F. mail sent through the French post office.) The sender was likely detailed to perform “forestry” or land repair duties, or possible site preparation work as Melun was identified as a fall-back position for American aviation units. The sender was mysteriously tantalizing about his work, suggesting it may have had to do with the fall-back position. Four-page letter.

“I have been touring France or getting wise to new duties in this nice village. I said nice because it is a pippin. . . . I can’t let you in on it but you’ll be informed shortly after I return. We are but eight, one town of about 20,000 to ourselves. Duty interesting and not trying excepting for one or two evenings. The poulets (French for chickens) are tres chic and I must say rather good to look at. Six of the gang can speak French fluently so . . . I’m out of luck. All I can get is smiles. . . . We bunk in an old café, but all we can drink is water [at a] street corner [where we] fill our bucket from a fountain. A billiard table was in place so we lost no time in getting balls . . . to play. A second table is up stairs . . . but we use this table to hold our bunks during day time. . . . It is the Germans who are getting the medicine and not the ‘khaki kids’.”

(For more information, see on line genealogical entries about Ruth Martin, Van Dam’s *The Postal History of the AEF, 1917-1923*, Pearson’s “The ‘mangled earth’ of the trenches” in *Mobilizing Nature: The Environmental History of War and Militarization in Modern France*, and the Center of Military History’s *Reports of the Commander-in-Chief, Staff Sections and Services* in its United States Army in the World War series.) A nice group of doughboy letters to a ‘girl they left behind.’

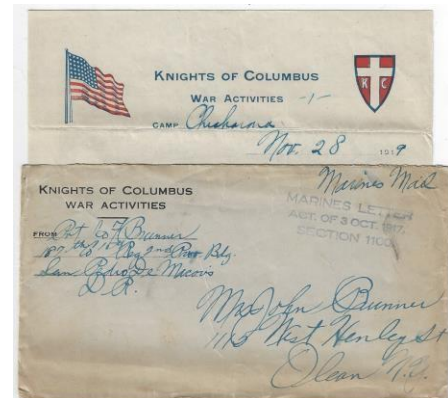
**SOLD #10379**



[MILITARY – DOMINICAN REPUBLIC] [PHILATELY]

**26. 1918-1919 – An archive of correspondence, photographs, and artifacts related to a young Marine, Private Leo F. Brunner, deployed to protect U.S. interests in the Dominican Republic by President Woodrow Wilson.**

President Wilson ordered the U.S. Marines to invade and occupy the Dominican Republic in 1916 for three interrelated reasons. The country had failed to repay substantial international loans, and he feared that might give cause for one or more of its creditor nations to invade the country despite the hitherto success of the Monroe Doctrine. There was no effective national government; rather competing political factions, the *horacistas* and the *jimenistas*, fought for control of the country. And, perhaps most importantly, he wished to protect the National Bank of New York and some of its major customers who owned most of the Dominican Republic's sugar industry. Although Wilson, his Democratic Party, and the Marines claimed the eightyear occupation was successful, most historians disagree. They note that while it did protect American sugar interests, doing so included forcefully importing black workers from Haiti (which Wilson had ordered the Marines to invade the year before) to provide what amounted to slave labor in the cane fields and processing mills. It also recruited the sadistically despotic Dominican Constabulary Guard to control the country, and trained the Republic's future racist dictator, Rafael Trujillo, a former security guard at the American-owned Boca Chica Sugar Mill. Congressional Republicans opposed Wilson's occupation, and Warren Harding who succeeded him as President, ended it in 1924.



When Private Leo F. Brunner of Orlean, New York, arrived at Paris Island, South Carolina after entering the Marine Corps in early August of 1918, he expected to be sent to France and fight in World War I. Instead, after completing boot camp, he was surprised to learn that he would “go to Cuba or South America” as part of the 14<sup>th</sup> Regiment soon after the new year. Not quite, instead he was assigned to the 15<sup>th</sup> Regiment and deployed to join the Marine force occupying the Dominican Republic. Brunner arrived in “San Pedro de Maceros” (San Pedro de Macorís) in early March of 1919 and spent the next nine months guarding sugar cane fields and chasing “Gobighers” [*gavilleros* or bandits]. He did not return to the United States until Christmas.

Brunner's archive includes:

Correspondence

9 Aug 1918 – A Western Union Telegram from Brunner to his family announcing he would be sworn into the Marine Corps at “Pennsylvania Depot” at about “Eleven Thirty or Before.” In its original envelope.

12 Aug 1918 – An official letter from the Marine Corps' Eastern Recruiting Command to Brunner's parents advising them that he had made a wise choice in joining and that regardless of whether he

made it a career, the experience would serve him well in the future. In its original official envelope postmarked at Buffalo, New York,

12 Aug – 17 Oct 1918 – Six letters from boot camp at Paris Island, South Carolina with information about barracks life, drill and ceremonies, hikes, bayonet training, the rifle range, etc. All are in their original envelopes and postmarked at Paris Island.

28 Oct – 1 Dec 1918 – Six letters while assigned to a separate holding company at Quantico awaiting further assignment. All but two of the letters are in their original envelopes with Alexandria, Virginia “Military Branch” postmarks. Many are on Knights of Columbus stationery. One is on private “Semper Fidelis / Eagle, Globe, and Anchor (EGA) / United States Marines” stationery. These letters mostly speculate about assignments, leaves, furloughs, etc.

14 Dec 1918 – 26 Jan 19 – Five letters while assigned to the 14<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment at Quantico. All have Alexandria, Virginia “Military Branch” postmarks. One is on private “Semper Fidelis / EGA / United States Marines” stationery. One is on YMCA stationery, and one is on Knights of Columbus stationery. One of these letters notes that Christmas leave has been cancelled and speculated about deployment to Cuba or South America.

2 Mar – 28 Nov 1919 – Eight letters while assigned to the 15<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment in the Dominican Republic.

They were sent from various locations: San Pedro de Macorís, Diego, Cachena, and Chicharona. One is on private “Semper Fidelis / EGA / United States Marines” stationery, one is on Knights of Columbus stationery. Four are on regular YMCA stationery, and one is very scarce “Asociacion Cristiana de Jovens YMCA Con El Ejercito” stationery. One letter has no mailing envelope. All the others bear manuscript “Marines Mail” franking and the extremely rare “Marines Letter / Act. Of 3 Oct. 1917. / Section 1100” handstamp which is as scarce as actual Marine content from the occupation.

A few short excerpts from the letters include:

“Every thing is green down here and coconut trees grow beside our tents and we get oranges pineapples and Bananas for 2 cents apice and the people down here are very black and do not wear very much. . . .

“Well we are chasing Bandits down here or what they call Gobighers, the Gobighers are Dominicans that steal every thing they can and whatever they can and we have to go and shoot them if we can see them we go out for these Bandits on horseback and our rifles are always loaded and we can not leave th Barracks with out five or six men with loaded rifles. . . . Well the most thing we are down here for is to guard a big crop of sugar cane and when they get the cane cut we will have a little rest maybe. . . . I like it pretty good we se how cocoanuts grow, pineapples, oranges, grapefruit and sugar cane and



they are lots of wild fruit that grow. . . We have a house to live in and it is a fine house. . . I will not have time to write very often for they go out on hikes for a week or two a the time. . .

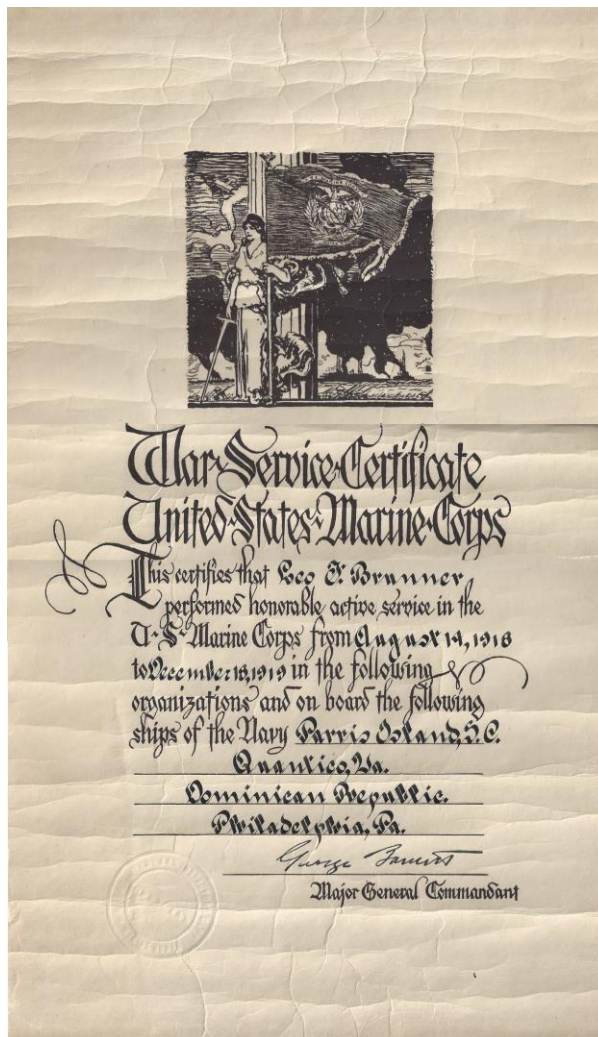
“We expect to go on a hike for 20 days pretty soon. We see a lot of the country. . . We have not run into any Bandits yet but we may some day and then we will have to shoot them. . . We have hiked About 100 miles all ready in two hikes. . . We sleep on the ground and we have to guard while the others sleep and when we are at the Barracks we also guard for two hours at night and the other night off. . . We also get lots of chickens out in the country on our hikes. We have not seen but two gobigher yet and we didn’t get a shoot at them. Well they are a lot of acres of sugar cane down here and last week we had a cane fires and the Marines have to chase the natives out to the fire and put it out. . .

“Tell pa we can get a lot of beer, whiskey and rum down here and the boys get pretty well filled once and a while. . . We are still on the road and will soon be to colometer 26 and that is as far as we are going and then we will go on the bull cars to Adammajor, Doesries, Sybol, and back to Chichoron where we are at now. . .

“I have a bunch of stuff to take care of now. . . The cane cutters start the first of December. . . I am still on the surveying party and getting \$6<sup>00</sup> a week. . .

“Well Mother we had a four day hike the other day and I enjoyed very much. Well we get Bananas on the hike and pineapples by the glore and some other kind of fruit what we call Dominican pineapples. We have shot at a few Bandits but we have not got any yet. We have had several prisoners but we let them go again. . . The sugar cane crop will soon be over and we will not have any more fires to fight. . .

Photographs: There are 15 vernacular snapshots, each measuring approximately 2½” x 4½”. All are captioned on the reverse: “at the Dock at Macoris DR,” “Enlisted mens Club at Macoris,” “a consulon RR Engine to haul cane,” “at the beach in swimming Macoris,” “a bull cart of cane and a bull cart of supplies,” “Baumgardner on a Dead cocoanut tree,” “Donahue a Labor on the road,” “Balfour in the cocoanut grove near the beach,” “Balfour at the beach Macoris,” “One of the large trees of Sanot Comijo with Baumgardner and Smith,” “Our Camp at Cachona [includes a list of 9 names},” “Balfour in a tree palm” “Along the beach Macoris,” “a cane cutter for the road,” and “a truck driver and a QM sergeant.”





Certificate: A large and impressive woodcut Marine Corp service certificate, signed by Marine Corps Commandant George Barnett, noting Brunner's service at Paris Island, Quantico, the Dominican Republic, and Philadelphia.

Artifacts:

Awards – Good Conduct and World War One Victory Medals (all service members received the Victory

Medal if they were on active duty during the time of the war)

Miscellaneous – Brunner's Eagle-Globe-Anchor (EGA) campaign hat insignia, his dog tag, his Victory Medal lapel button, clothing stamp and a silver initial tie-chain clip (probably for civilian wear as I don't believe enlisted Marines wore uniforms with ties during this period)



(For more information, see Millet and Gady's "Administering the Protectorates: The U.S. Occupation of Haiti and the Dominican Republic" in *Revista/Review Interamericana*, Fuller and Cosmas's *Marines in the Dominican Republic 1916-1924*, García Peñas "One Hundred Years After the Occupation" online at the North American Congress on Latin America website, and Sylvan's "Dominican Racism and The Contestation of Citizenship" online at the SAIS Europe Journal of Global Affairs website

As "Old Gimlet Eye," General Smedley Butler, the most decorated American Marine, famously proclaimed after realizing he had been duped by the Corps for years, this type of banana war "is a racket. . . . I spent 33 years and four months in active military service and during that period I spent most of my time as a high class muscle man for Big Business, for Wall Street and the bankers. In short, I was a racketeer; a gangster for capitalism. I helped make Mexico and especially Tampico safe for American oil interests in 1914. I helped make Haiti and Cuba a decent place for the National City Bank boys to collect revenues in. I helped in the raping of half a dozen Central American republics for the benefit of Wall Street. I helped purify Nicaragua for the International Banking House of Brown Brothers in 1902-1912. I brought light to the Dominican Republic for the American sugar interests in 1916. I helped make Honduras right for the American fruit companies in 1903. In China in 1927 I helped see to it that Standard Oil went on its way unmolested. Looking back on it, I might have given Al Capone a few hints. The best he could do was to operate his racket in three districts. I operated on three continents."

An extensive and incredibly rare archive documenting a young Marine's service during the hegemonic American Occupation of the Dominican Republic. Contentless mailing envelopes stamped with the distinctive occupation handstamp alone sell for upwards of three hundred dollars at militaria and philatelic auctions.

At the time of auction, there is nothing comparable for sale in the trade. Rare Book Hub and ABPC show no auctions of comparable archives. OCLC shows five institutions hold less comprehensive personal archives from Marines who served the Occupation of the Dominican Republic.

**SOLD #10380**

[CELEBRITIES] [POPULAR CULTURE] [SHEET MUSIC]

**27. Mostly 1920s-1940s. Collection of more than 110 pieces of sheet music from a Shenandoah Valley estate sale.**

The music is all complete. In nice shape. Generally clean with some occasional minor soiling. Some pieces have some minor tears, splits, or chips; noticed one with tape on the spine.

A mix of standards, theater, movie, ethnic, military, and other genres. Many titles still well-known today; others more obscure. Some have great cover art; others feature famous movie stars, vocalists, and band leaders.

Titles include *Among my Souvenirs*, *Ebb Tide*, *The Darktown Strutters' Ball*, *Dear Hearts and Gentle People*, *Deep in the Heart of Texas*, *Limehouse Blues*, *Mockin' Bird Hill*, *My Blue Heaven*, *Far Away Places*, *Have I Told You Lately that I Love You*, *Here Comes the Bride*, *I Left my Heart in San Francisco*, *I Love You Truly*, *I'm Looking Over a Four Leaf Clover*, *Missouri Waltz*, *My Mammy*, *Oh! How I Hate to Get Up in the Morning*, *Ol' Man River*, *Old Buttermilk Sky*, *Over There*, *Red Roses for a Blue Lady*, *Rudolph the RedNosed Reindeer*, *Shine On Harvest Moon*, *Some Enchanted Evening*, *The Sweetheart of Sigma Chi*, *When Irish Eyes are Smiling*, *When it's Springtime in the Rockies*, *White Christmas*, *The Yellow Rose of Texas*, *You Are My Sunshine*, *You You You*, and more.

Images of Fred Astaire, Tony Bennett, Irving Berlin, Teresa Brewer, Ann Blyth, Eddie Cantor, Hoagy Carmichael, Perry Como, Bing Crosby, Morton Downey, Nelson Eddy, Eddie Fisher, Al Jolson, Frankie Lane, Mario Lanza, Guy Lombardo, Tony Martin, Ozzie Nelson, Dinah Shore, Rudy Vallee, and more.

Great start on a music library for a piano player or collector. Perfect for an ebay seller, antique mall dealer, or flea marketeer. Less than a dollar a piece.

**\$SOLD #10381**



[IMMIGRATION – ZIONIST ALIYAH] [PHILATELY] [TERRORISM] [WOMEN & GIRLS]

**28. 1926-1945 – Archive of letters to her younger sister in Brooklyn from a Russian Jew who after living in New York City for almost twenty years had immigrated to the British Mandate for Palestine in the middle of the Fourth Zionist *Aliyah*.**

There are 12 letters in this archive written by Mrs. Sheva (Steinberg) Kesselman in the British Mandate of Palestine (mostly from her home in the Zionist Jerusalem suburb of Tailpiot) to her sister Mrs. Tillie (Steinberg) Mitchell in Brooklyn. Also, a thirteenth letter to Tillie from a cousin in Rishon le Zion, Mrs. Jennia Halpern, is included. All the letters are written in English.

Waves of Zionist *Aliyah* (Returns to *Eretz Yisrael*, or the Land of Israel) began in earnest following the Balfour Declaration in which Great Britain pledged its support to establish a "national home for the Jewish people" in the Holy Land, which had been a territory of its World War One enemy, the Turkish Empire, for four hundred years. Following the Armistice, 40,000 Jews, mostly from Eastern Europe, immigrated to the region bringing its total Jewish population to about 80,000, and between 1924 and 1929 (the Fourth Wave) over 82,000 more arrived, mostly from Russia and Poland. Sheva, her accountant husband, Robert, and their daughter, Channah, immigrated at this time as well.

When the Kesselmans arrived, life in the Mandate was difficult, especially for immigrants, even middleclass American immigrants. Despite British attempts to modernize the existing peasant economy, there was no significant economic growth, and some historians suggest the British effort made conditions worse. Although Sheva's family lived in Talpiot, a Zionist garden-suburb of Jerusalem, which she describes while bemoaning her family's financial tribulations. Still, she recognizes that others were in more dire straits, and reports helping some sell handmade crafts, rugs, and clothing to Americans. She also references her participation in Jewish women's cooperatives, even the *Mo'ezet Ha-Po'alot* (Council of Women Workers). She voices disappointment with what she perceives as a lack of Jewish-American fiscal support for the Zionist community and celebrates when Hebrew lettering is incorporated into British currency issued in the Mandate. She describes damage to her family home by the Jericho Earthquake of 1927, and, perhaps most importantly, describes the terror in her community following the first large-scale deadly massacres of Jews by Muslims in August of 1927. None the less, even as World War II threatens in the 1940s, she resolutely announces her family's decision to remain in place despite the danger rather than to return to the United States.

Some excerpts from her letters include:

Tel Aviv, 27 Jul 26 – "We are here in a Pansion [a pension or guest house]. . . We can see from the Roof garden the Board walk . . . the Bathing Pavilion, they have not permitted men to bath together this year, [and] the women are whering one piece kneeted suits like a man's, the children they leave naked. . . plain but clean food & a nice room. . . Tel Aviv is so much hotter than Jerusalem. . . Paul was telling Rolees . . . they will come here just on Rosh ashannah. I left . . . to receive a dress embroidered for Beualag





& a dol for Jay it is a character dol a Yemenite Jew. . . reading a Hebrew book. . .”

Talpioth, 1 Jul 26 – “Received a cable from Paul. . . He proceeds to Palestine may be thru Europe. . . Edna Y Anna are proceeding here. I don’t know whether I did not start a pack of trouble, but they are all young folks. . . The more the merrier. My Palestine venture is beginning similar to the American in 1900. . .”

Talpioth, 26 Apr 27 – “We are still strougling hard against the non payments. . . Edna had to leave and Robert has to find for her some 58 pounds that he . . . owed her. . . If there is anything that you . . . would like to get from here, [we] could do that . . . provided I get the money to buy it, it is a shame when we owe money but what can we do, we only hope it will change soon. god knows it is necessary not only for us. . .”

Talpioth, 31 Oct 27 – If only our business would get better, it is at a standstill, and no matter how I cut I need some 25 pounds a month besides the rent. . . We received a fine letter . . . to work with that Christian American Firm. [A] Representative of theirs from Egypt came here & has asked [for] a Hebrew translator [and] now we hear that he brought out a man from Egypt. . . At any rait, it is a disgrace how our great men think to instigate & judge & curtail our budgets by sitting in America and Employing people whom they know. . . But such is life of Pioneers you grumble & kick & go on. . . Palestine money came out . . . with Herew letterings [and] jews were smiling where ever you met them. . .”

Talpioth, 25 Dec 27 – “Remind him that I paid . . .80 dollars. I think, & if people tell the truth, the rug I have send you is for years & years. It is like dimonds and I hope you will all be well & enjoy it. . . It is very bad here & people are suffering dreadfully, and I keep on being, I think, a real criminal going tomorrow to another convention in Haifa & will spend a pound or more for the train alone 82 piastres and to stay at the houses of one of the ladies. . . But what am I going to do. . . I can give something for the good of organization, for the easing of the lot of women & children & so I feel rotten & go. You would say real madman, as we don’t know where my few pounds are coming from. . . We had a few days rain & a busy Chanucka latkes & dancing at one neighbour, tonight a communiity chaunca celebration for which we backed cakes & sandwiches, & bought tickets for 5 piastre to pay a lady declaiming Bible, e.t.c. Last night at home of another friend, and one night latkes that I made for a few people that play Bridge with Robert. . .”

Talpiorth Dec 27 – “We are usually worried, almost no work & no pay for old work, and Robert of course feels bad. . . It certainly is a dreadful time in Palestine the struggle is almost for every one. . . As soon as times will get better with us uncle could come if he wants & work in Roberts office [and] get his 6-7 pounds for which he could live not rich of course. If he realized his 2000 dollars from the store he could surly make better use for it by planting oranges. But all this is when we get out of these woods. . .”



Talpioth Jul 15 28 – “Itschak had to sell his cows [and] he does not see how can come [from Odessa] if it has to cost 15 pounds to come here. . . I have sent a little present to Rosie. . . It is something in Yeminite Filigree work. . . I wonder whether calvary has sent you some new brooches . . . that her Yeminites make. I think they are cheap so I asked her to include in the package. . . We pull on and whether we will get pulled in altogether or we pull out. We pretty well stand the heat alright and keep on wishing we were millioners. . .”

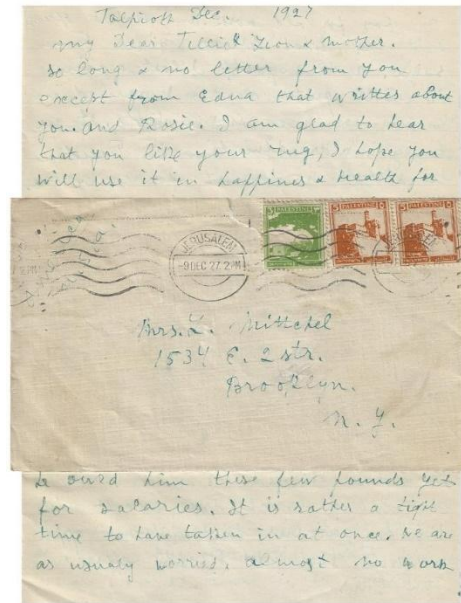
Talpioth 10 Sep 28 – “[I have been quarreling with a dressmaker for whom I arrange American sales, and she is] furious. . . Now she has written to the Central comm. That they should arrange a firrerut between us. I don’t mind it as she must be shown up as a bad business manager. I happen to be the President of the organization. . . Robert is trying to get papers for Itschak & intending to take a loan & send him the money he needs [to come here.] A happy & healthy new year to all of you dears it is just a few days to Rosh Ashana. . .”

Talpioth 4 Jul 29 – “We are contemplating to get out of the house by the 15 of this month [and] fix every room & even under the foundation, we found that it is not the fault of the earthquake as much as the architects. . . We have to stay away 2 months from our house. Robert is intending to go to the congress for business purposes. . . Itschak [says] that death is preferable to his situation & he keeps the money for his passage in Bank & dows not touch it. When he will get already the passport god knows. . .”

Tel Aviv 16 Sep 29 – “There is so much you want to know. . . We are thank god well. . . I was in . . . Jerusalem about the house & some org. . . All our ladies are working day & night among the thousands of Refugees many children that remained parentless, but many of my coworkers are glad I was not there as they thought I might have fared badly. The atmosphere in Jerusalem is tence, Jew & arab look into each hand, at any rait on our side it is sincere being afraid for a knife or so. The authorities claim that they have the situation in hand having so many soldiers & marines. Our Talfiorth, many of the inhabitants returned [and] there are some 40 soldiers in one of the houses. . . In Jerusalem is scarcity of food, as we boycote everything that arabs sell even the cow for killing in Tel Aviv it is like a paradise as we are only among ourselves and last night we were permitted to be out until 9 o’clock in the Evening. But our peoples answer is the best, this morning came about 200 chalutsim & chalutzot [a vanguard of rugged pioneer farm workers] and these are giving the answer, they hope to bring in a 1000 this month. Our boys were wonderful. . . There the self defence did not leave a neighbourhood there were no houses looted. . . I have had surely some 25-30 pounds worth of things stolen from aunts house. . . God help us that we should not have to give more sacrifices, human at least, for our home land. . .”

Tel Aviv 29 Jun 39 – This letter is entirely about Robert’s visit to Paris to be treated with radiation for a serious illness, which he survived.

Tel Aviv 7 Jun 40 – “We are in the midst of war, though thank god, it has not actually reached us, we learn though what black outs means, [I] have heard that America [has] taken back, those that want to leave. . . Only now are so much worries, people are undecided in business, many are with the Scares of the last war in Europe or here are frightened . . . Many ask us What not leaving for America? . . . Some people think that in Jerusalem will be safer in case of war, but we fully believe that one can not run away from fate & the work for the last 50-60 years cannot be just dropped, so we will take our part & god give the



World Peace & also to our small Land. And still there are thousands that would like the chance to come here from the hell in Europe. . . . Most food stuffs will be able to get her. . . . Big efforts are being made in the Jewish colonies to enlarge their produce. . . . We sit with blue lights with closed shutters & to use the car is simply dangerous when all is dark. . . .

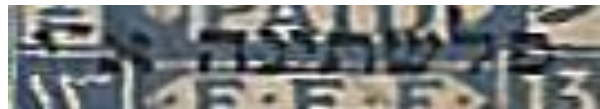
Rishon le Zion 20 Aug 45 – Letter is from Sheva’s cousin entirely about family, mostly health, issues.

Talpiot is an Israeli neighborhood in southeastern Jerusalem that was established in the 1920 by Zionist pioneers. In the 1920s, the Bauhaus architect Richard Kauffmann presented the British Mandate authorities with a plan for Talpiot, which he designed as a garden suburb. The first residents were clerical and office personnel. Living in the neighbourhood required membership in a mutual society to which dues were paid. The early settlers were evacuated from Talpiot in the wake of the 1929 Hebron massacre, but later returned. Today, Talpiot is a commercial center and home to nonprofit organizations.

The massacres that took place between 23 and 29 August 1929 were the first all-out attacks on Palestinian Jews by Palestinian Muslims. A follow-on investigation by the British Shaw Commission found that 472 Jewish men, women, children, and infants were tortured, raped, murdered, mutilated, or seriously injured. Around 348 Muslims were killed or wounded, all but 20 by the British Mandate police while defending the Jewish population.



While the letters in this lot are in nice shape, their envelopes show considerable, postal, opening, and storage wear. The earlier letters bear stamps issued by the British for their Egyptian Expeditionary Force (E. E. F). which were overprinted with the word “PALESTINE” and its Arab equivalent. The Jewish members of the advisory council requested the Hebrew overprint read, “Eretz Yisrael” [“Land of Isreal”] the tradition Jewish name for the region. After the Arab members vociferously objected, the British imposed a ‘compromise’. A Hebrew transliteration of Palestine was followed by the abbreviation for *Eretz Yisrael*, the letters *Aleph* and *Yod*, and this combination was



always used on the currency, coinage, and stamps of their Palestine Mandate and in all references in official documents. (For more information, see Nadan’s *The Palestinian Peasant Economy under the Mandate*, Stern’s “*Mo’ezet Ha-Po’alot* (Council of Women Workers)” online at the *The Shalvi/Hyman Encyclopedia of Jewish Women* website, Beckert’s “American Jews & Israel: The history of the Palestine Economic Corporation shows how support can take many forms” online at the Strom Center for Jewish Studies, the Shaw Commission’s *Cmd. 3530, Report of the Commission on the disturbances of August 1929* available online at the UK National Archives, multiple Wikipedia articles including “Aliyah,” “Balfour Declaration,” “Postage stamps and postal history of Palestine,” “1927 Jericho earthquake,” “1929 Palestine riots,” “Talpiot” and genealogical records at ancestry.com.)

An incredible collection of first-hand reports of Jewish life in the British Mandate of Palestine from the perspective of an American Zionist immigrant. At the time of listing there is nothing similar for sale in the trade. Rare Book Hub and ABPC show no auction records for any similar item. OCLC shows nothing similar in institutional collections.

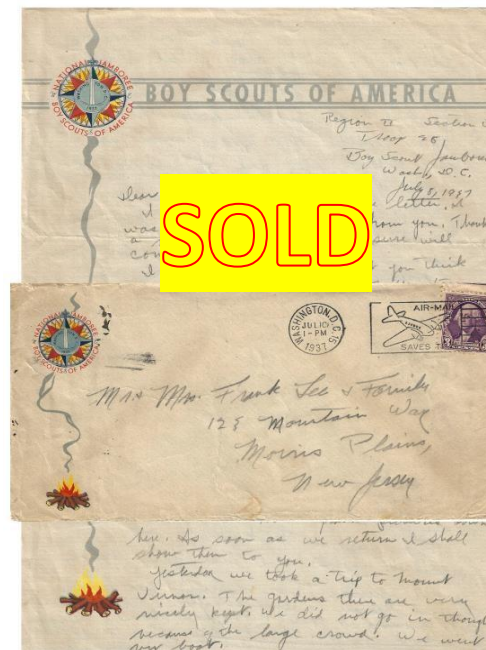
**SOLD #10382**



[BOY SCOUTS] [PHILATELY]

29. 1937 – A letter from a Boy Scout attending the First National Jamboree in Washington DC

This two-page letter from Harold Segerstrom, Jr. at the Boy Scouts of America First National Jamboree held in Washington DC is datelined "Region II Section 13 / Troop 25 / Boy Scout Jamboree / Wash., D.C. / July 8, 1937. It is written on colorful jamboree stationery and enclosed in its original Jamboree envelope franked with a 3-cent Washington stamp that has been cancelled with a July 10 Washington DC machine postmark advertising airmail service. The illustrated letter sheet and envelope feature a burning fire with upward rising smoke that rises toward a colorful illustration of the official jamboree insignia. Both are in nice shape.



In the letter, Harold thanks family friends, the Lees from Morris Plains, New Jersey, for sending him spending money, one dollar. The heartfelt letter is loaded with information about the jamboree. It reads in part:

"Thanks a million for the dollar it sure will come in handy. I am thrilled to learn that you think of me often. I often think of you too. Yes, I have already made many new friends & done many wonderful things.

"This morning I saw the president [Franklin D. Roosevelt] for the first time. The whole 26,000 lined up and he rode past us. I stood about 15 feet from him. I suppose I should have been thrilled but I was rather disappointed. His wife [Eleanor] had her head in her hand and he just sat with his hat off and smiled. But what could I expect. . .

"Yesterday we took a trip to Mount Vernon. The gardens there are very nicely kept. . . We went by boat. . . I have just returned from the capitol, Library of Congress & Representatives & Senators Offices. . . They gave us a half pint of ice cream and their passes to the Senate session & to the rep in session. Both had their pictures. I had a fine time. We saw the Constitution [and] Declaration of Independence. . .

"We had fireworks here on the fifth. They went up down by the [Washington] monument. . . To-morrow we go to the Federal Bureau of Investigation [and] we leave Saturday morning . . . for home.

National Jamborees are gatherings of Scouts from around the country (and even the world) that are usually held every four years. After being delayed for two years because of a Polio outbreak, the first Jamboree was held on the National Mall and was attended by over 25,000 scouts who camped around the Washington Monument and Tidal Basin. In addition to the activities described by Harold, the scouts were also able to attend a three-game baseball series between the Washington Senators and the Boston Red Sox.

Quite scarce. At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade. The Rare Book Hub and ABPC report nothing similar has appeared at auction, and OCLC show none held in institutional collections. However eBay records show one similar set was sold ten years ago, and that two other Jamboree envelopes without contents have been sold in its auctions.

**SOLD #10383**

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 our last upcoming live show of the year.

22-24 November 2024 – CHICAGOPEX-AmeriStamp Expo – Itasca, Illinois