

**Kurt A. Sanftleben, ABAA and ASDA**  
**Paper Americana and Postal History**  
**Catalog 26-5 – July 2026**

AMERICAN CONSULAR SERVICE  
 Chungking, China, July 22, 1922.

Mrs. A. I. Shelton,  
 No. 381 North Gibbs Street,  
 Pomona, California,  
 United States of America.

Dear Mrs. Shelton,

In reply to the statements in your letter of May 19th, concerning the orders which caused Dr. Shelton to start back from Drubalong, there is quoted herewith extracts from the letter received by this Consulate from Dr. Hardy on July 10th, 1922:

"The day after ---- at a special meeting of the mission, the following motions were passed: ---- (2) Mr. Macleod was appointed to prepare a statement containing all of the details as nearly as he could find out from the members of the Shelton party at the time of the attack by robbers. A copy of the said report to be filed with the Secretary of the Batang Mission".

"This report was made at our regular meeting May 8th, and was approved by all members of the mission as being the facts in the case, as far as the other members of the mission had inquired into the matter. I enclose a copy of this report".

(Extract from Mr. Macleod's report of the case)

"Near Drubalong (Dru Wa Hong), he was met by a messenger with a letter from the Governor of Mar  
 Kham



**1922 – The report of a Consular Investigation into the murder of an American missionary in Tibet, Dr. Albert L. Shelton, along with his photographs of Tibetan leaders, monuments, and soldiers, as well as his border mission at Bathang (Batang) and his and family**

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Regards, Kurt and Gail

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Kurt and Gail Sanftleben

Stafford, VA 22554

Email and PayPal address: [kurt@sanftleben.com](mailto:kurt@sanftleben.com) Cell phone and Zelle transfers: 571-409-0144

Website: [read-em-again.com](http://read-em-again.com)



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1. [MILITARY – FORT McHENRY] [PHILATELY] [VEXILLOLOGY]

1805 – Letter from the Commander of Fort McHenry requesting the Army purchase a new garrison flag, perhaps the one that immediately preceded the famous “The Star-Spangled Banner”

This stampless folded letter, measuring 16” x 9.5” unfolded and datelined “Fort M<sup>c</sup>Henry / 20<sup>th</sup> October 1805,” was sent by the fort’s commander, John de Barth Walbach, to Callander Irvine, the Superintendent of Military Stores in Philadelphia. It bears a circular Baltimore postmark, a manuscript annotation that reads, “Public Service / JBWalbach,” and a faint “12½” rate mark. Docketing reads, “J. B. Walback / Sundry articles wanted at Fort McHenry / 20 Oct. 1805.” In nice shape.

In this letter, Walback submitted a laundry list of supplies needed by the post, one of which was for a large garrison flag. (An earlier owner has highlighted the passage with an arrow and wrote “The Flag!” both in pencil.)

The letter reads in part:

“Having been informed by Col: Burback that at the time the order was forwarded to supply this Post with 30 Suits of Clothing, &c. it also included accoutrements (say / 30 Cartridge Boxes and Belts, Bayonet Scabards and Belts). . .

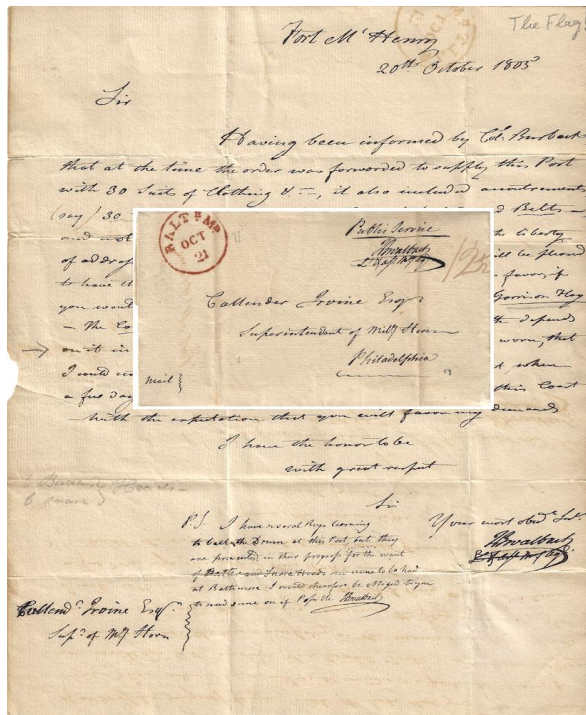
“I would consider it a personal favor if you could add to the invoice, Six Watch Coats, and a Garrison Flag. [Our] flag is so worn, that I could not even hoist it to salute the U.S. Brig Hornet, when a few days ago, she passed this for on her cruise off this Coast. . .”

Despite the previous owner’s enthusiasm, the flag purchased was not the famous Start-Spangled Banner, of which Francis Scott Key wrote and that, now, hangs in the Smithsonian Institution. Although this flag would have borne 15 stars and stripes, in honor of the new states of Kentucky and Vermont, that Star-Spangled Banner was not purchased until 1813, and its provenance is well known. At the time, the fort’s commander, Major George Armistead, insisted upon a flag “so large that the British would have no difficulty seeing it from a distance,” and a Baltimore flag-maker, Mary Pickersgill, was hired under a government contract to make it, which she did with help from her daughter, two nieces, and an indentured African-American girl.

Even though this letter was not referencing the future The Star-Spangled Banner, it is possible that it was about that flag’s immediate processor.

At the time of listing, no similar items are for sale in the trade regarding the purchase of any garrison flag for any post. Neither the Rare Book Hub nor ASBA show records suggesting that a similar item has ever appeared at auction. OCLC shows only one similar item in an institution. The University of Virginia has a Callander Irvine letter regarding the purchase of a garrison flag for Fort Washington on the Potomac, which was built in 1809 to defend Washington.

#10725      \$750



## 2. [CHILDREN’S BOOKS] [MOVEABLE BOOKS]

### 1819 – An early edition of a classic children’s transformation booklet

Sands, [Benjamin]. *Metamorphosis; or, a Transformation of Pictures, with Poetical Explanations, for the Amusement of Young Persons*. New York: Samuel Wood and Sons. Printed by J. Rakestraw, Philadelphia, 1819. First published circa 1787 in Philadelphia. Printed on one sheet, approximately 14.5” x 12.5”.

The sheet is folded into a leporello with four long ‘leaves.’ The tops and bottoms of each of those folds was cut (3.5” at top; 2.5” at bottom), and they were folded into the center, creating a total of 24 smaller panels filled with woodcut illustrations and lengthy captions.

The illustrations ‘transform’ when flaps are lifted, Adam into Eve, a lion into a griffon, a man into a heart, and a man into a skeleton. One of the woodcuts is signed, J. Poupard.

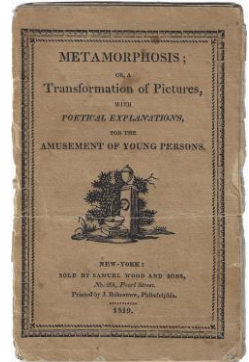
A “Sampler” script alphabet and numbers provide a border for the illustrations and are used to spell out the author’s name, “B. Sands” on the fourth panel.

In nicer shape than most. No writing or scribbles, but with paper loss along the folds (which must have been lifted and returned thousands of times over the last two hundred years. All of the folds have been neatly mended or reinforced with what appears to be near transparent archival tissue or tape.

A very early American moveable booklet issued just as children’s fare was beginning to become entertaining as well as moralistic.

At the time of listing, there are two other examples for sale in the trade with similar, but unmended problems. The books occasionally appear at auction, but almost all are missing parts, have poorly done repairs, or have hand-sewn or pin repairs. OCLC shows many microform and digital copies are held by institutions; however, only a few have physical examples, and most of those are beset by the same condition problems as those outside libraries.

**#10726**      **\$1,250**



### 3. [BUSINESS – OLD CHINA TRADE] [DRUGS – OPIUM] [PHILATELY]

#### 1825 – Letter between an American merchant in New York and the largest America trading house in China regarding shirtings, silk, and ginger preserve

This one-page, stampless folded letter measures 15” x 9.75” unfolded. It was sent by William R. Talbot from New York City on 15 October 1825 to Edward A. Russell in Canton, China. The letter was favor carried on the *Ship Splendid*. Docketing shows that it was received, via Lintin, in Canon on 12 April 1825.

The letter addressed a cargo of shirtings that Talbot sent Russell & Company in hope of returning with a cargo of silk and ginger preserves. The letter reads in part:

“Enclosed please find Invoice & Bill of Two Cases and one Bale of Shirtings which you will please receive & dispose of to best advantage & remit me the proceeds in such Silks as you may think best, or if freight is to be had low you can ship Ginger preserves of the cheap kind. These goods are sent nearly on trial I do not know whether they will answer but hope they may. They had better be sold as soon as possible for the most they will bring . . .” (The invoice and bill are no longer present.)

Lintin Island, located just out of the reach of Imperial Chinese officials between Canton and Whampoa, was the major opium smuggling used by European and American ships transporting the drug to China from India and the Levant.

Shirtings were utilitarian linen or cotton cloth everyday shirts worn by lower-class laborers.

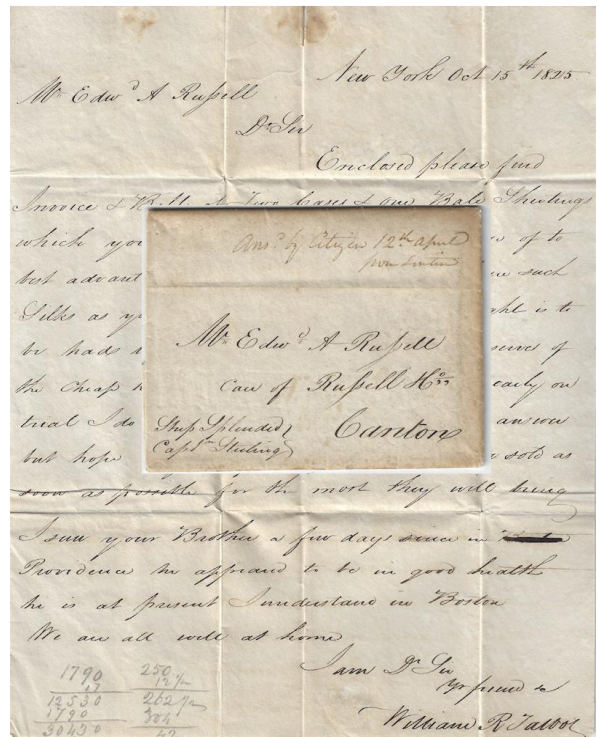
Talbot, who worked out of both Canton and New York City, was one of the first American merchants to become involved in the Old China Trade. At the time of this letter, he, his brothers, George and Charles, and their associate, Oliver H. Gordon, were heavily engaged in the China trade. Russell & Company was established in 1824 by Samuel Russell (who had been trading with China since 1818 and living in Canton since 1819) and Phillip Ammidon (who had been in China three years longer). They, following successful British firms, surreptitiously added opium to their trading inventory and soon became the largest American company in China. Interestingly, although Talbot was once mistakenly banned by China for short period of time as an opium smuggler, he was one of the few Canton merchants that never engaged in drug sales.

(For more information see Carter’s “The ‘Empress of China’ and the beginning of U.S.-China trade” at The China Project, 23 February 2023, Downs’s “American Merchants and the China Opium Trade, 1800-1840” in Winter 1958 issue of *The Business History Review*, and my article, “Tea, Opium, and the Old China Trade” in Issue 300 of *La Posta*)

At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade. Talbot and Russell & Company Old China Trade letters were sold in the 2022 Spink and Sons “Opium Wars Collection” Auction (21042)

A fine example of an Old China Trade Letter.

**#10727**      **\$1,250**



4. [MILITARY – AMERICAN REVOLUTION] [PHILATELY] [POLITICS – LOCAL] [WESTWARD EXPANSION]

1826 – Letter on behalf of a “poor man” to his congressman requesting his American Revolution land bounty of 100 acres of land in Ohio

This one-page stampless folded letter, measuring 15.5” x 12” and datelined “Trumansburg 24<sup>th</sup> March 1836” was sent by Herman Camp to Congressman Charles Humphrey, “Member of Congress,” in Washington, DC on behalf of Jacob Akely. It bears a manuscript “Trumansburg / 24<sup>th</sup> March” postmark and a “Free” frank as there was no postal charge at the time to send mail to a member of Congress. Docketing notes that “Warrant No. 6739 [was issued] in his name July 1790.” In nice shape.

Camp wrote this letter after it had been recently reported in several newspapers that an old “Act of Congree passd 15<sup>th</sup> September 1776 [entitled] Soldiers who enlisted with the revolutionary army after the date of said act to serve during the war, are entitled to 100 acres of Land in the State of Ohio.” It reads in part:

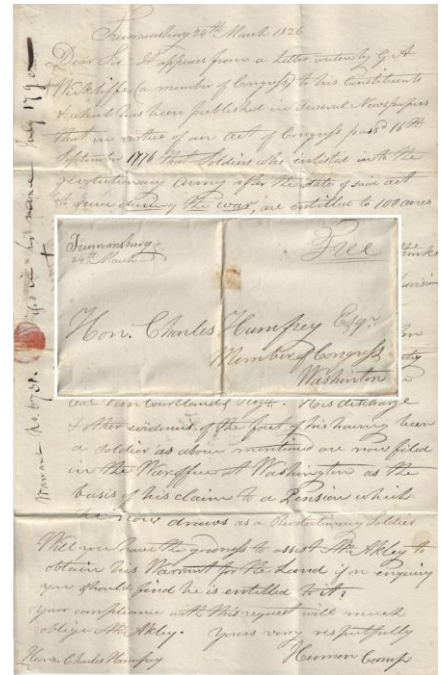
“Mr. Jacob Akley, a poor man in this neighbourhood thinks he is entitled to the benefit of the provisions of the above mentioned Act of Congress. He inlisted in August 1777 under Capt. John Johnson in Col. Dubois Regiment of Infantry – was discharged under Capt Paulding in Col Van Courlands Regt. His discharge & their evidences of the fact of his having been a soldier as above mentioned are now filed in the War Offic at Washington as the basis of his claim to a Pension whe he now draws as a Revolutionary Soldier. Will you have the goodness of assist Mr. Akley to obtain his Warrant for the Land if on enquiry you should find he is entitled to it. . . .”

As noted in two sets of docketing on Akley’s warrant, his entitlement due to his service in “the New York Line” of which he was apparently unaware, was found to have been issued on Nov 27<sup>th</sup> 1790. Online records suggest that he may have sold this land, as war verterans often did” because genealogical records online show his only residences as having been in New York and Pennsylvania.

Herman Camp has been referred to as the “King of Trumansburg, Duke of Ulysses and Overlord of Tompkins County.” He opened a store in the area in the early 1800s which did a brisk business in selling whiskey, until he became a Presbyterian during the Second Great Awakening, after which he advocated for temperance and abolition. Camp dominated the econmic, political and cultural life in the city, serving, postmaster, shopkeeper, county sheriff, assemblyman, banker, and founder of its library. He served as a colonel commanding a cavalry regiment during War of 1812.

Congressman Humphrey, a member of the Adams faction or the Republican-Democrats, was a political associate of Camp, having seved as the mayor of Ithaca and Tompkins county before being elected to Congress. He was likely a religious associate as well, also finding faith during the Finger Lakes revivals conducted during the Second Great Awakening.

(For more information, see “Meet the 'Overlord of Tompkins County'” in the 3 August 2017 issue of the Ithaca Journal, “Charles Humphrey” at Wikipedia, “Adams Party” at voteview.com, and “New York In The Revolution: As Colony And State Vol. I., A Compilation of Documents and Records from The Office of the State Comptroller,” all available online.)



#10728      \$150

5. [BUSINESS – ROPE-MAKING] [INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION] [PHILATELY] [POLITICS – NATIONAL] [TRANSPORTATION – STAGE COACH]

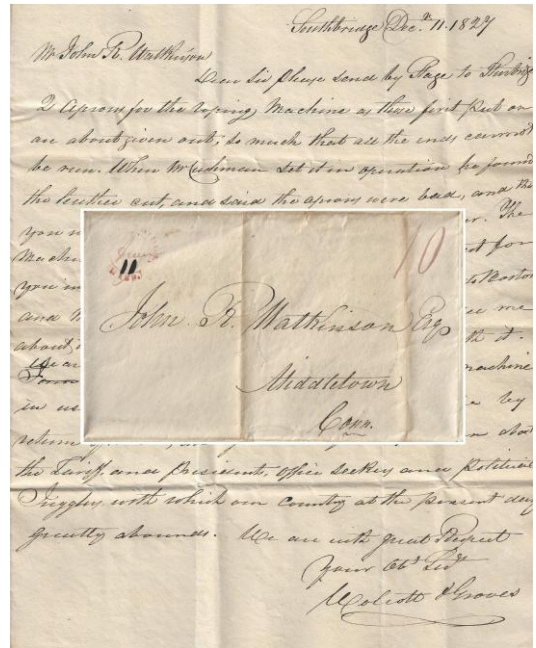
1827 – Letter requesting replacement parts for an early rope-making machine

This one-page stampless letter, measuring 16" x 9.75" unfolded and dateline "Southbridge Decr. 11. 1827," was sent by Wolcott & Graves to John R. Matkinson of Middletown, Connecticut. It bears an uncommon circular Southbridge, Massachusetts postmark with no outer rim and a "10" rate mark. In nice shape.

In this letter, Wolcott & Graves request replacement parts for a rope-making machine. It reads in part:

"Please send BY Stage to Southbridge 2 Aprons for the roping machines as those first put on are about given out; So much that all the ends cannot be run. When [we] set it in operation [we] found the leathers cut, and since the aprons were bad, and that you would furnish others if they did not answer. The machine operates well, and we are making interest for you in their favour. Some of our roping was sent to Boston and . . . they were excellingly pleased with it.

"We are satisfied that it is the best roping machine in use. You will please send me a line by return of mail and give me your opinion about the Tariff, and President, office seeker, and Political Jugglers with which or Country at the present day greatly abounds. . ."



Before 1827, rope was twisted by hand in labor-intensive "ropewalks" that stretched for hundreds of feet. However, inventors began examining mechanical methods that had only recently been introduced for winding yarn and thread in the textile mills to see if the process could be used in the cordage industry. It would appear that Matkinson was one of these inventors working in conjunction with Wolcott & Graves, partners who owned the famous Wolcott Woolen Manufacturing Company in Southbridge, Massachusetts, which at the time was the largest cotton mill in the world. Their company never became major rope producers, so perhaps Matkinson's rope-making machine was not "the best roping machine in use.

Although Middletown was a bustling community by 1827, overland trips between it and Massachusetts were not direct. The replacement aprons would have been sent by stage to Hartford and transferred to another coach for delivery to Wolcott and Groves.

(For more information see "James Wolcott (pioneer)" and "Hamilton Woolen Company Historic District" at Wikipedia, and "Mechanized Rope Making" at the Historic Dockyard Chatham website.)

At the time of listing, there are no other original source material related to mechanized rope-making is for sale in the trade. The Rare Book Hub records that several items related to Robert Fulton's attempt to make a profitable rope-making machine have been sold at auction. OCLC identifies one collection of business papers from a Connecticut ropemaker in the 1820s and 1830s, however, it makes no mention whether the work was done by hand or machine.

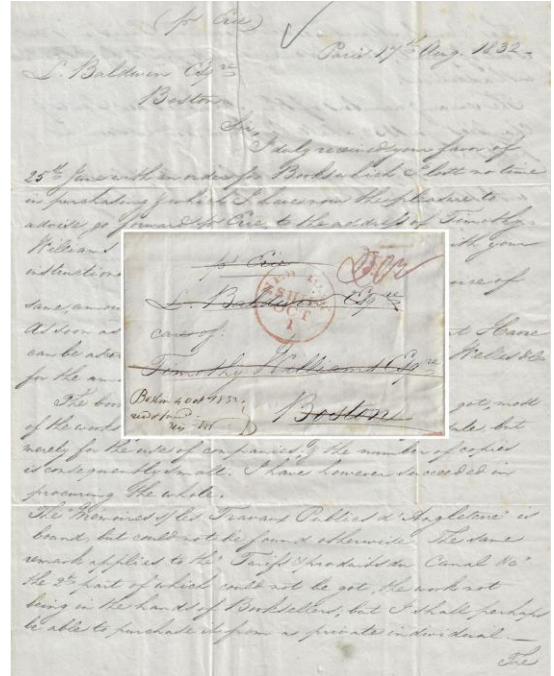
A fine letter from the earliest years of mechanized rope-making in the United States.

#10729      **\$300**

6. [BUSINESS – BOOKSELLING] [ENGINEERING] [MILITARY – NAVAL BASES] [PHILATELY]

1832 – A bookseller’s report from Paris identifying the French engineering references he was able and unable to procure for a prominent civil engineer who had been selected to lead the construction of the Boston Naval Yard at Charleston

This two-page stampless, folded letter measuring 16” x 10” unfolded and datelined “Paris 17<sup>th</sup> Aug. 1832,” was sent by an agent in France to Laommi Baldwin, Jr. in Boston, via the Second Line’s *Erie* from Le Havre to New York, as evidenced by a manuscript annotation, a forwarding agent cachet from “Welles & Greene Havre,” a “New York Ship” transit mark, and a Boston receiving handstamp dated 1 October 1832. It was then readdressed to Baldwin at the Charlestown Navy Yard and receive a 5 October portmark before being placed in the mail.



After graduating from Harvard in 1800, Baldwin became a lawyer; however, his real passion was civil engineering, and in 1807, he abandoned his practice to inspect the public works of England and intended to visit in France. However, he was thwarted from doing so by political difficulties in entering the country. Returning to the United States he took on a number of projects including the construction of buildings at Harvard, canals in Ohio and Pennsylvania, and a marine railway in Florida. His two most important projects, however we construction of the dry docks at the Boston Navy Yard at Charleston and the Norfolk Naval Shipyard. It was shortly after beginning work at Charleston when he received this letter; perhaps the books he’d requested to receive quickly were related to the project. The letter reads in part:

“I received your favor . . . with an order for Books which I lost no time in purchasing for which I have not the pleasure to advise go forward on the Erie. . .

“The books you ordered were not essly to be got, most of the works in question never having been printed for sale, but merely for the use of companies & the number of copies is consequently small. I have succeeded in procuring the whole.

“The ‘Memoires s/ les Travaux Publics d’ Anletere’ is bound, but could not be found otherwise. The same for ‘Tarifs & pradaibs du Canal &c’ but I shall . . . purchase it from a private individual. The ‘Canal Maritime de Rouen et Paris’ in 1 vol is out of print but I can send it in 4 parts. . .”

(For more information, see “Loamm Baldwin Jr.” at Wikipedia.)

At the time of listing, nothing similar with regard to either Baldwin or his naval projects is for sale in the trade. The Rare Book Hub shows a printed collection of correspondence regarding Baldwin’s work on the Union Canal was sold in 1951. OCLC shows that Baldwin’s business correspondence is held by the University of Chicago.

A truly scarce original source transatlantic record from the construction of the Boston Navy Yard at Charleston with a relatively uncommon maritime forwarding agent handstamp.

#10730      \$600

## 7. [BOTANY] [EXPLORATION] [WESTWARD EXPANSION]

**1837 – Letter from a prominent botanist at the New York Lyceum of Natural History to the preeminent chemist in Kentucky, the chair of Transylvania University’s chemical department and dean of its medical school discussing recently discovered western plant species and the exploring exploration that named the Adirondack mountains**

This two-paged stampless folded letter, measuring 15.5” x 10” unfolded and datelined “New York 11 Decem 1837,” was sent by Samuel T. Carey to Dr. Robert Peter in Lexington, Kentucky. It bears circular New York postmark and “Paid” handstamp in red and a manuscript “25” rate marking and “paid” annotation. In nice shape with some splits beginning along its mailing folds.

It reads in part:

“The box containing Sundries for our Friends Torrey & Gray [and specimens for me] has not yet appeared. . . I must deeply regret [to inform you] that your intended present went astray, as my Herbarium lacks very many of your Western Plants. Perhaps at some future opportunity you . . . can spare me a few duplicates. Torrey, in the Course of the State Survey this Summer, made an interesting Exploration of part of Essex Co. . . So little had that wild District been visited, that he & the scientific Party with him, were the first (it is believed) to ascend a Mountain Range far exceeding in height any other in the State, being by meas<sup>t</sup> about 5,000 ft, or 1,200 ft higher than Catskill. He adds to our State Flora, several interesting alpine plants from this Locality. . . I wish I could announce [that] Torrey’s new work is forthcoming [but] I feel that much time will elapse before “Flora americana” is fairly launched. Mr. Hall is hard at work . . . on his Californian Treasures, which comprise many new & very interesting plants of which we shall soon get some account. . . He has very many Rocky Mountain Plants quite unknown to . . . any previous naturalist. . . We have had to [announce] the untimely loss of H. B. Croom, who was [devoting] himself to the Flora of the south. . . He was also projecting a new Edition of Michaux’s Sylva, to include all the No. Amer<sup>n</sup> Trees & Shrubs detected since Michaux’s time. . .”

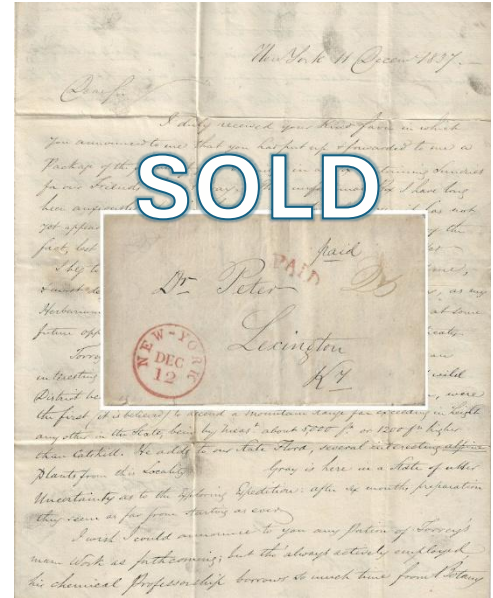
Carey’s colleague, Dr. Robert Peter, was the chair of chemistry and pharmacy at Transylvania University as well as the dean of its medical school.

The 1837 New York State Geological Survey expedition to the Adirondacks, led by Ebenezer Emmons, was a landmark scientific journey. On August 5, 1837, the team, consisting of some of the top scientists of the time, made the first recorded ascent of Mount Marcy, identifying it as New York’s highest peak. It was during this expedition that Emmons officially named the region. The Adirondacks, based on a Mohawk insulting name, “bark eaters” for a neighboring tribe.

(For more information, see “Dr. Robert Peter” at the Kentucky Historical Society’s website and Welch’s “Groundbreakers” in the March/April 2025 edition of *Adirondack Life*, available on line.)

At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade, nor has anything similar appeared at auction per the Rare Book Hub and ABSA. OCLC shows nothing similar in institutional collections.

An excellent first-hand report on the advances in botany as the American frontier spread westward.



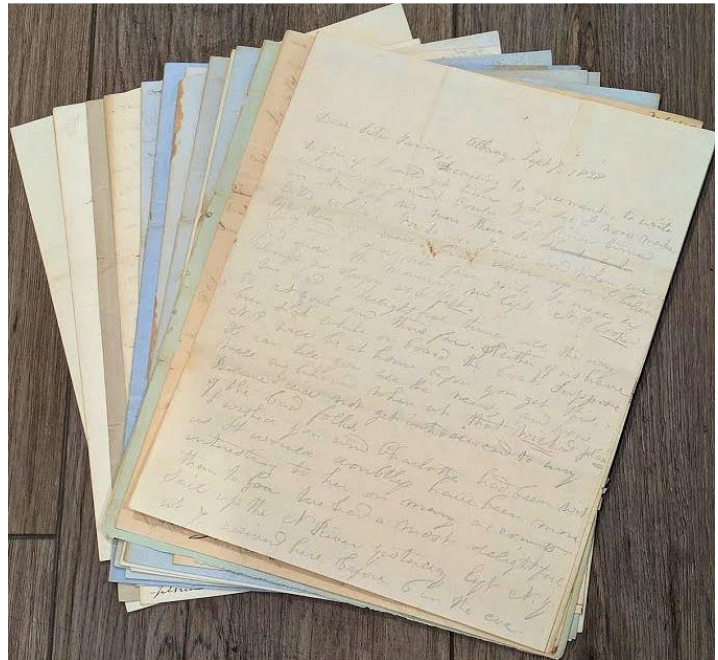
#10731      SOLD

**8. [BUSINESS – SWORDS] [DEATH – SUICIDE] [DISASTERS – FLOODS] {DISEASE – LUNG FEVER, PHTHISIS, & WHOOPING COUGH} [EDUCATION – ELEMENTARY] [HOLIDAYS – 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY] [PHILATELY] [WESTWARD EXPANSION]**

**1839-1850 – Archive of correspondence related to the Ames Manufacturing Company, one of the first sword-makers in the United States and the premier provider of edged weapons to the federal government**

This archive contains 16 stampless, folded letters, written between 1838 and 1840 and ranging in length from one to three pages. A mix of business and personal correspondence, most were sent to James T. Ames, at the family's Massachusetts firm in Cabotville, Massachusetts (now a historic district within Chicopee). Although most were sent from New York, this lot also includes letters from Connecticut, Georgia, Ohio, and London and bear a variety of stamped and manuscript rates and postmarks. In nice shape.

The Ames Manufacturing Company produced swords, tools, and cutlery in Cabotville (now Chicopee), Massachusetts. It was a significant provider of side arms, swords, light artillery, and heavy ordnance for the Union in the American Civil War. The company was also an iron and bronze factory and cast several statues, which can be found throughout New England. Their most well-known castings are of the east doors to the United States Capitol, and the Minuteman, which stands at the Lexington-Concord Bridge. It was founded in 1774 at Chelmsford, Massachusetts by Nathan P. and James T. Ames in 1774 and relocated to what would become Chicopee in 1829.



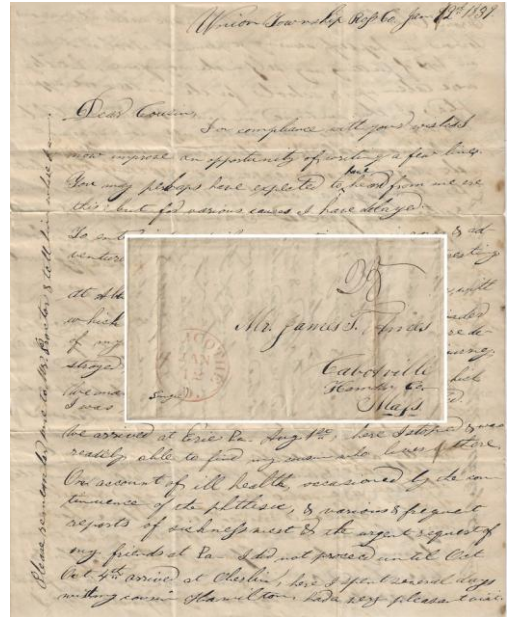
Tip of the iceberg content includes:

8 Sep 1838, Albany, New York – To Mrs. J . T. Ames (Fanny) from her sister-in-law Nancy. Written on the way to Vermont after a stay in Cabotville: “For to use James word[s] when we left there we were about used up. . . . N. P. (James’s older brother and the founder of the company) and I did not fare as well as J. G. did. . . . We had a delightful time all the way to N. York and thus far. Neither of us has been sick while on board the boat. . . . We behaved when at that ‘Wicked Place’ and I did not get introduced to any of the bad folks. . . . We had a most delightful sale up the N. River yesterday. [North River was an older name for the lower Hudson River.] We are now at the Temperance House. . . .”

In 1838, a journey from Western Massachusetts to Vermont was an arduous, multi-day, multi-modal trek. Using a combination of stagecoaches, steamboats, and canal boats to cross the mountains and navigate the waterways. The Albany “Temperance House” was a prominent hotel and inn that operated on total abstinence principles, making it a popular choice among traveling couples and families.

12 Jun 1839, Union Township, Ohio – To James T Ames from his cousin, Jacob Clark: “At Albany I was seized with the phthisic [perhaps tuberculosis] with which I was troubled more or less the remainder of my way to Eire Pa [which] destroyed the interest & pleasantness of the journey. We made an excursion to Niagara with which I was highly pleased. . . . At Erie [on] Aug. 1<sup>st</sup> I stopped . . . on account of ill health [and] I did not proceed until Oct [and on the] 4<sup>th</sup> arrived at Oberlin. . . in hopes of securing a permanent school but as schools for the winter were suspended . . . continued on to Chillicothe. The Ohio river was very low so as not to be navigable [so I continued by stage [which] was very expensive. . . . I am [now] situated about 4 ½ mile from Chillicothe [and] have 25-30 scholars in a log school house. . . . Western villages are not like N. E. . . . The people are much more civil, intelligent & moral. . . . The children are also easily managed & well disposed. . . .”

Phthisis was a term for any medical condition that caused a part of the body to waste away; or used to describe a progressive loss of an eye, tuberculosis, or kidney disease.



8 Aug 1840, New York City – To N. P. Ames from Peter Harmony: A letter regarding the advancement of a salary

8 Dec 1840, London – To James T. Ames from John W Cochman: “Business is going on perfectly to my mind. Your Broth N. is in Paris. . . .”

8 Dec 1845, New York City – To James T. Amers from G. C. Ewing: “You intimate in your letter that it would be agreeable to you if we could do some business for you in South America. It would afford us such pleasure to be the medium of any business intercourse that would be profitable to you, in Brazil, or elsewhere. Can we not do some business for you here? We intend to keep an assortment of hardware, or sell on commission for a few such sources as yours, but our main business will be selling the manufactures of E and T. Fairbanks &c. The reputation, influence and extensive acquaintances which you have secured enables you to do us much good by introducing us on proper occasions to your friends and recommending to them our scales. . . .”

3 Jun 1846, New York City – To James T. Ames from Abel Whitney: An offer to serve as a purchasing agent to cut down on Ames’s business trips to New York

17 Dec 1846, New York City – To James T. Ames from Robert B. Maw (?): “By Steam Boat ‘New York’ yesterday we forwarded one Box Marked “Marble with case. Kep dry. This side up. Jas T Ames Cabotville Mass’ containing the shelf for your Mantel piece. With much regret for the delay and inconvenience this apparent neglect must have caused. . . .”

28 Apr 1847, Augusta, Georgia – To James T. Ames from John Chase, the company superintendent: “I have just heard the distressing news of the death of your dear Brother, in a letter . . . a few days hence. . . . His rapid decline . . . it could not be expected. . . . I noticed the last time I saw him that he was failing very fast, but did not then think that he was so near his end. . . . The Augusta Manf. Co. are now laying the foundations of the mill, and have about closed all contracts for building the same and at fair prices [so] I shall start for the North. . . .”

After Nathan Ames died, James became the sole owner of the company. The Augusta Cotton Mill, which when it was finished was the second largest in the country, was built in conjunction with the city's canal. Chase probably was involved in canal construction as he built the canal associated with the Ames Company.

29 May 1847, New York City – To James T. Ames from Geo. C. Ewing: Letter informing Ames of more sickness and death in the Ewing family

6 Sep 1847, New York City – To James T. Ames from Doc & E Pairuly (?): Letter arranging a meeting New York City.

8 Jul 1848, Newton, Connecticut – To James T. Ames and his wife from their sister-in-law, Fanny: “One of Jame’s aged aunts from Bridgeport is here. . . . She is so deaf [that she] cannot hear a word [so] we are obliged to write upon a slate. . . . I have never met a more interesting & intelligent lady. . . . She is very happy notwithstanding her infirmity. . . . How did you spend the 4<sup>th</sup> in your new town probably celebrated. Every thing here was as quiet as the Sabbath the exception of the ringing of the bells in the morning & the boys firing crackers in the street. Most of the people went to Bridgeport where they celebrate, or at least the temperate part as it was a Temperance celebration. [I’ve heard] that Samuel Pierce committed suicide at his grandfathers in Enfield. Is it really so. . . ? It might have been a false report. . . .”

The Ames family and its company did not really change towns. Cabotville was renamed Chicopee.

6 Dec 1848, New Haven, Connecticut – To J. T. Ames from Jason Atwater, a brother-in-law: “I write to say that I have processed \$150 to meet the . . . assessment on the Hadley stock which I shall deposit in some bank in the City. . . . I am glad to learn that this late disaster [the Hadley Dam collapse] has not proved so Expensive to the Co. as was first reported. . . . The Connecticut is a mighty power. Stay him to a certain extent you may, but attempt too much, you will fail. . . .”

The Hadley Falls Company built a massive, 1,000-foot dam to divert water for industrial mills. It failed catastrophically on November 16, 1848, just hours after the gates closed and the reservoir began to fill. A massive flood surged into the village, destroying or severely damaging nearly every building in its path. Apparently, whatever property the Ames Company held in the area was not badly affected.

17 Dec 1848 – Newton, Connecticut – To Jas. T. Ames from Elisa and J. Atwater: “Yours of the 10<sup>th</sup> . . . gave us considerable anxiety concerning your family . . . lung fever [pneumonia] & whooping cough. . . . Ellen M. also with this cough returned. . . .”

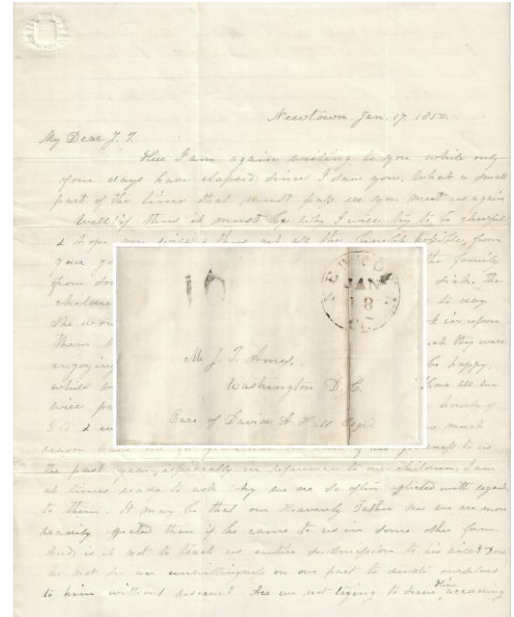
22 Oct 1849 – Norwich, Connecticut – To James T. Ames: Business letter discussing investments.

17 Jan 1850 – Newtown, Connecticut – To J. T. Ames from Ellen: Letter expressing friendship and religious thoughts.

Undated – Sharon Springs, New York – To J. T. Ames from his sister Mary: An invitation to visit.

A treasure trove of original source material documenting the life of an 1840s manufacturing family.

**#10732**      **\$400**



**9. [PHILATELY] [POLITICS – NATIONAL & PRESIDENTIAL]**

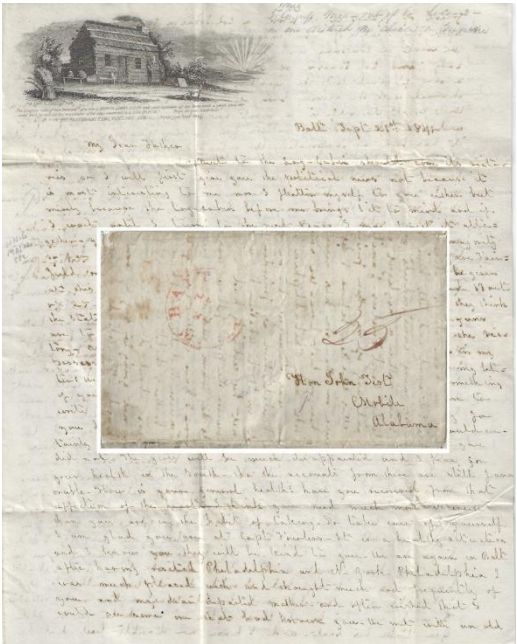
**1840 – Henry Harrison “Log Cabin” campaign lettersheet used by a woman to provide her father with partial results of the Maine Congressional elections of 1840**

This three-page stampless, folded letter, measuring 15.75” x 10” unfolded, is written on an exceptionally detailed Henry Harrison campaign lettersheet. It was sent by “Martha” in Baltimore to her father, Judge John Text, in Mobile, Alabama. It is datelined “Balt’ Sept’ 21<sup>st</sup> 1840” and bears a circular Baltimore postmark in red and a manuscript “25” rate mark. In nice shape.

This engraved letter sheet (Milgram WH-35), by J. s. Horton of Baltimore, shows Harrison, a Virginian, with a veteran at his log cabin along with two of his campaign symbols: a rising sun and a barrel of cider. Its caption reads:

“The Locofocos said of Gen. Harison “Give him a barrel of Hard Cider and settle a pension of two thousand a year: and out / word for it, he will sit contented in a Log Cabin. Boys do you hear that? / But the People Say They Won’t Let Him. ‘Guess you hear that’”

In this letter Mary, a Whig supporter, provided partial results of the Maine Congressional election which was held on 14 September to her equally partisan father.



“Next to the Log-Cabin should come its victories so I will first give you the political news . . . because the log cabin before me brings it to mind. . . You perhaps have not heard from Maine. Kent’s Whig majority, so far as heard from is 36-38 towns yet to vote witch gave Fairfield our 250 majority in 38. If the same majority should be given at this time – Kent’s majority will be over 700. . . Van Buren’s last hope [is] blasted. 100 guns are to be fired in this city this afternoon in honour of the victory. And now dear Father I have written you all the news. . .” Then, after relating some family information, Marth closes with a wish, I want you to be at Washington in March to see the old Gen. take his seat, and I have no doubt but that he will. Even the Democrats acknowledge that he will be elected. One of them in this city the other day offered up a large amount with a whig on the election. The money was staked when his heart failed him. . .”

And, in a postscript, she wrote, “Col Johnson I hear is in town. I would like to see him if I could.”

Colonel Richard M. Johnson was the controversial Vice-President who had polarized the Democrats. He was abhorred by most of the party, in part because of his common law “marriage” to one of his slaves. When she died, he “married” another slave, whom he soon sold at auction, and then, “married” another.

Harrison won the presidential election, and his Whigs captured majorities in both the House and Senate. Harrison, however, did not live long enough to enjoy his victory. He died only one month later after taking ill following his inauguration, after attending it without a coat.

A Scarce political lettersheet. Milgram states that no more than 25 exist today. At the time of listing, none were for sale in the trade, and only one other has appeared at auction per Siegel. OCLC shows none are held by institutions.

**#10733      \$750**

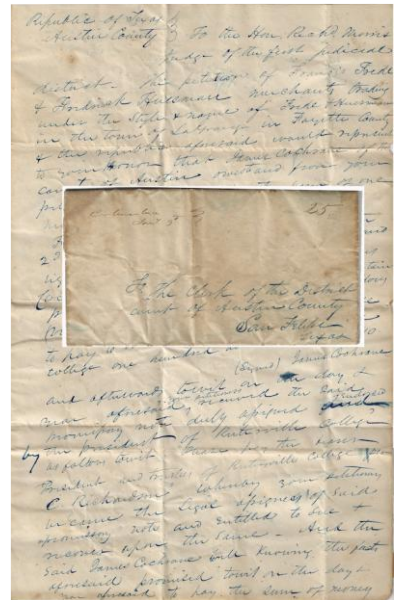
**10. [EDUCATION – COLLEGE] [CRIME – DEFAULT] [LAW – SUMMONS] [TEXANA]**

**1843 –Austin County petition for a summons to arrest a man who failed to make good on a promissory note that granted \$100 to the first established college in the Republic of Texas**

This three-page petition was sent as a stamped folded letter, measuring 16” x 13” unfolded. It is headlined “Republic of Texas / Austin County} To the Hon. Rich<sup>d</sup> Morris / Judge of the first judicial district” and dated 2 September 1843. It is addressed to the District Court at San Felipe and bears a scarce “Columbia” manuscript postmark dated 3 January and a “25” rate mark. Docketing indicates it was received on 22 January 1844. In nice shape with some minor soiling and near-invisible archival tissue reinforcement of two mailing folds.

In this convoluted case, on 20 May 1840 James Cochrane promised “to pay to the President of Ruterville College one hundred dollars.” Simultaneously, C. Richardson, the college president “duly signed and endorsed” the Cochrane’s note to “Francis Frede & Frederick Huesman merchants trading under the style & name of Frede & Huesman in the town of La Grange. . .” who paid \$100 to the college for Cochrane.

The petition, which was filed by Frede & Huesman’s lawyers, James Willie and James Robert Jenkins, Jr., goes on to state: “And the said James Cochrane well knowing the facts aforesaid promised towit on the day & year aforesaid to pay the sum of money by said note due and payable unto your petitioners [Frede & Huesman] whenever thereunto requested But the said defendant [Cochrane] neglecting his said promises has herunto wholly refused & failed & still refused to pay to your petitioners the said sum of money by the said promissory note. . .” It concludes “The Clerk of the District Court of Austin County will please issue process upon the petition above written immediately and also subpoenas for Chauncey Richardson of Fayette County & Mr. J. W. Kenney of Austin Co.” signed, “J. Willie”



In 1840, Ruterville College became the first college established in Texas. In 1875, it merged with three other Methodist colleges to become Southwestern University, which, much to the chagrin of some Baylor graduates now claims to be the first college established in the state.

On-line genealogical records suggest that Cochrane was around 90-years old at the time of this incident, and the reason behind his \$100 promissory note to Ruterville is not specified. However, some online sources suggest that the college was then offering perpetual admission for substantial donations, and \$100 may have been enough to cover tuition for one or more of Cochrane’s offspring.

Frede and Huesman were prominent merchants located near the courthouse square in La Grange. Their lawyers, Willie and Jenkins, both served as members of the state legislature. Willie served as a Confederate general during the Civil War. Judge Davis, died very young. He was admitted to the bar in 1838 at the age of 23 after attending the University of Virginia. He emigrated to Texas in 1840 and established a practice in Galveston. One year later, Governor Mirabeau B. Lamar appointed him of the First Judicial District, where he oversaw this case. He died in 1844 at age 28 in Galveston, a victim of yellow fever.

Scarce. At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade. No early Ruterville College material has appeared at auctions per the Rare Book Hub and ABSA. OCLC reports that a small collection of Ruterville College material is held at Southern Methodist University. A nice first-hand document related to both the Republic of Texas’s judicial system and its first college.

**#10734      \$500**

## 11. [LAW – DEPOSITIONS][PHILATELY] [TEXANA]

### 1844 – Reply by a prominent Ohio attorney to a request from an even more important Republic of Texas former judge-turned-lawyer recommending several local candidates to take a deposition in Steubenville

This two-page stampless, folded letter, measuring 15.5" x 9.5" unfolded and datelined "Steubenville, Ohio July 5, 1844, was sent by Rosswell March to Benjamin C[romwell] Franklin in Galveston. It bears a circular Steubenville postmark and "Ship" handstamp in red and a manuscript "25" rate mark. It was sent by "care of Wm Bryan / New Orleans." In nice shape

The letter reads in part:

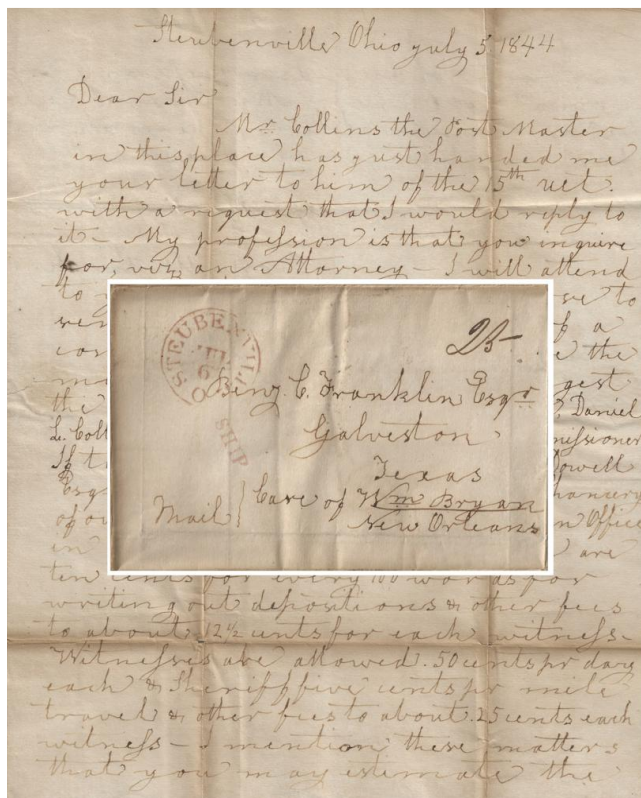
"Mr. Collins the Post Master at this place has just handed me your letter . . . with the request that I would reply. . . My profession is that you inquire for, viz, an Attorney, I shall attend to your business. . . You speak of a commission. If that shall be the mode and opted; I would suggest the names of Joseph M. Mason; Daniel L. Collier or Joseph Orth Esqrs as Commissioners. If taken on notice ' Sheldon McDowell Esqr is Master Commissioner in Chancery of our Court Common Pleas & has an Office in Town.

"An officer's fees here are ten cents for every 100 words for writing govt depositions & other fees to about 12½ cents for each witness. Witnesses are allowed 50 cents per day each & Sheriff five cents per mile traveled & other fees to about 25 cents each. I mention these matters so that you may estimate the amount of funds necessary to cover expenses. . ."

Benjamin Cromwell Franklin was a lawyer, legislator and the first judge in the Republic of Texas. Leaving his practice in Georgia, Franklin moved to Texas to fight in its Texas Revolution. While serving as a private at the Battle of San Jacinto, he was sent as a messenger afterward to inform President Burnet of the victory. He received a 320-acre land grant in compensation for his military serves and was one of the first settlers in what would become Houston. President Sam Houston appointed him to be a district judge and a member of the Republic's Supreme Court. He resigned in 1839 and moved to Galveston to once more practice law. He also served several terms as a state legislator before his death in 1873. It was as a private attorney that he made this request for assistance with an Ohio deposition.

(For more information, see McDermott's "Were They Really Rogues: Desertion in the Nineteenth-Century U. S. Army" at the Nebraska State Historical Society website.)

At the time of listing, nothing written by this important Texan is for sale in the trade. No items written by Franklin during the time of the Republic have appeared at auctions per the Rare Book Hub and ABSA. OCLC shows that Benjamin C. Franklin's papers are held at the University of Texas at Austin.



#10735

\$500

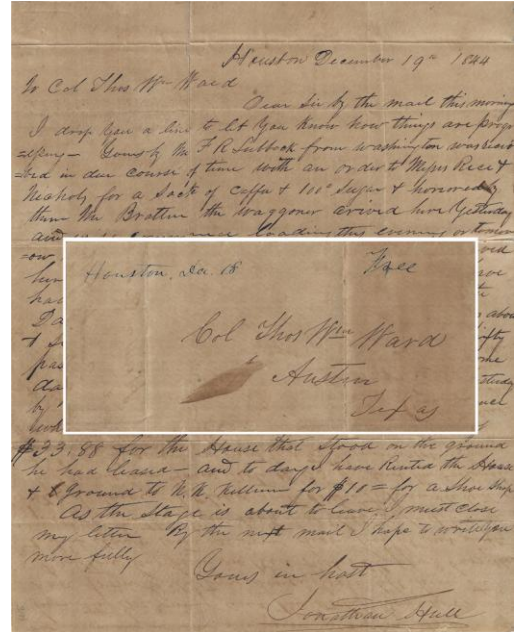
**12. [BUSINESS – COASTAL TRADE] [MILITARY – TEXAS REVOLUTION] [PHILATELY] [TEXANA] [TRANSPORTATION – STEAM SHIP]**

**1844 – Letter from the owner of a stage line in Houston providing news of the city to a one-legged, one-armed hero and Land Commissioner of the Republic of Texas in Austin who had relocated there with the capital**

This one-page stampless folded letter, dated 19 December 1844 and measuring 15.5” x 9.5”, was sent by Jonathan Hull from Houston to Colonel Thomas William (Peg Leg) Ward in Austin. It bears a manuscript Houston postmark and “Free” frank [due to Ward’s position as the republic’s Land Commissioner.] Although it affects no text, every mailing fold of the document has been very neatly reinforced or mended with what appears to be archival tape; otherwise, the letter is in nice shape.

In this letter Hull, who was likely acting as an agent for Ward, provided him with news of the city. It reads in part:

“I drop you a line to let you know how things are progressing. Yours by F R Lubbock from Washington was received [along] an order to Messrs Rice & Nichols for a Sack of Coffee & 100# Sugar. . . Mr Brattin the waggoner arrived here yesterday and will commence loading this evening or tomorrow morning. The Steamer Dayton has arrived here this morning and the only Boat we have had from Galveston since you left here the Dayton has been on Red Fish & Clappers bars about six days with a very heavy freight and Sixty passengers. The New York has left Galveston some days since. I closed with Jesse K. Randle yesterday by giving him your note of 35\$ and the balance which he owed on Rent up to December 10<sup>th</sup> being he had lease and today I have Rented the House & ground to N. K. Kellum for \$11 for a shoe shop. . .”



Ward was an Irish-born American soldier and politician who served three nonconsecutive terms as the mayor of Austin, the republic’s 3rd Land Office Commissioner, and a consul to Panama. He came to Texas as a volunteer artilleryman from New Orleans to fight in the revolution and became known as “Pegleg” after a counter-fire cannon ball took off his leg near San Antonio. Several years later while celebrating Texas Independence Day, he lost an arm when firing a cannon salute.

The Steamer *Dayton* transported supplies and people along the Texas coast with other shallow draft steamboats until it blew up in a spectacular explosion at the huge Army camp in Corpus Christi.

(For more information, see Humphrey’s *Peg Leg: The Improbable Life of a Texas Hero*, Wagner’s “The Tragic Sinking of the Sidewheel Steamship Dayton” at the Texas State Historical Association’s website and Glass’s “The Original Book of Sales of Lots of the Houston Town Company from 1836” on line, but originally published in *The Houston Review*.)

This newsy letter was sent to a true Texian hero in Austin apprising him of his interests in Houston. At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade. Although the Rare Book Hub and ABSA that a number of land grants signed by Ward have appeared at auction, no other first-hand materials have. As well, OCLC shows the Texas General Land Office colonization certificate records, but no other Ward materials, are held at the Texas State Library and Archives.

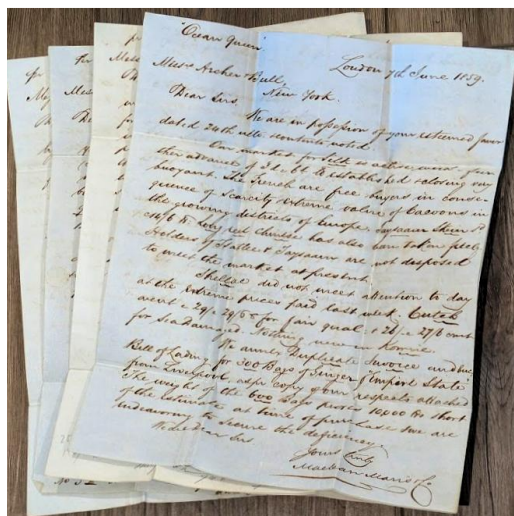
**#10736      \$600**

### 13. [BUSINESS – ASIAN IMPORTS & INSECT PRODUCTS] [PHILATELY] [TRANSPORTATION – STEAMSHIP]

#### 1859 – A small archive of correspondence related to a prominent New York wholesaler who traded in imported Asian insect products and botanicals

Four one-page stampless folded letters, all measuring approximately 17" x 10.5" unfolded, sent by Maclean, Maris & Co. in London to Archer & Bull in New York between June 1859 and March 1861. One of these letters was sent by the *Norddeutscher Lloyd* (North German Lloyd) and the American Vanderbilt Steamship Lines. In nice shape.

In these letters, Maclean, Maris & Co. apprise Archer and Bull regarding details of their shipments and the status of the markets for Asian imports, most of which are related to insect products and botanicals.



“Your esteemed favor . . . was received yesterday ordering Shellac [which is secreted by the female lac bug on trees in the forests of India and Thailand]. . . This afternoon 24 Chests of very weak Native dark liver [a dark, ‘liver brown’ varnish made from *Aloe hepatica*, pine sap, and walnut oil used to color violins and other stringed instruments] sold. . . Camphor [a waxy, flammable, colorless solid with a strong, distinct scent made from the wood and leaves of the Asian camphor tree and used as topical analgesic and cough suppressant]. . . Silk [from saliva threads of the mulberry silkworm (*Bombyx mori*) cocoons is] steadier with no further declines. . . Is Cochineal [a scarlet dye produced from boiled cochineals, a scaly insect] an article in your way? Silk is active. . . The French are free buyers in consequence of Scarcity & extreme value of Cocoons in the growing district of Europe. . . [We have shipped] 300 Bags of Ginger [a flowering plant from China, India, and Japan, whose roots are widely used as a spice and folk medicine]. . .”

“We have the pleasure to wait upon you with Invoice of 12 Cases of Chinese Vermillion (Tinwa brand) [which was probably made from powdered mineral cinnabar] which is of fine quality. Tinwa has changed the colour of his cloth wrapper to prevent imitation, but we presume [might be] a detriment to your Selling though the black gives a better color to the eye. . . Japan galls [abnormal growths on sumac trees made by aphids and used for making ink] like Chinese [are available]. The vessel New Zealand brings 230 tons of Germ[an] Kowrie [cowries shells used in jewelry making and currency in some cultures].”

Although online information about Archer and Bull is scarce, New York business directories and newspaper advertisements show their firm was located on Wall Street. Maclean, Maris & Co was a prominent British forwarding agency, merchant firm, and shipping house operating out of London, heavily involved in international shipping, especially the Japanese, Chinese, and East Asian markets.

The United States Postmaster General awarded the Vanderbilt Line a series of contracts for mail transport between New York and Bremen, via Southampton, commencing in June 1857.

These letters shed light upon a forgotten niche in international trade. Few consider the extent of industries’ dependence upon natural insects and botanical sources needed to manufacture goods before modern chemicals were refined and put into widespread use.

At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade. The Rare Book Hub and ASBA show no records of similar items appearing at auction. OCLC shows nothing similar is held in institutional collections.

#10737      \$750

#### 14. [THE CONFEDERACY] [ECONOMICS – WARTIME] [PHILATELY]

##### 1861 – Letter from a South Carolina plantation owner to a friend in New Orleans bemoaning the depressed state of the Confederate economy and how badly it was failing just three months after the Civil War began

This one-page letter, datelined Charleston July 24, 1861, was written on an early and very scarce “seven-star flag” patriotic lettersheet (Milgram, Type F7-7b) by Elias Vander Horst to Miss Charlotte Adams of New Orleans forwarding a \$50 bank draft (no longer present) to help with her finances. Its mailing envelope is addressed “in care of Hon. G. G. Hunt.” The envelope is franked with a circled “Paid/10” Confederate rate mark (Type G). In nice shape.

Vanderhorst, unlike most of his peers, could see the handwriting on the wall even at this early date. His letter reads in part:

“I am very sorry to hear by your letter . . . that you are in such a distressed situation more especially as the times are so bad that it is difficult to procure money, none of us having any income from our property & the very high taxes & constant demand from all quarters makes it difficult for us to live as we have been accustomed to do. . .

“You will receive a Draft for \$50 which I hope will prove of some service to you. . .

“The difficulty of obtaining a Draft in New Orleans is so great that I had to pay four dollars to get the enclosed.”

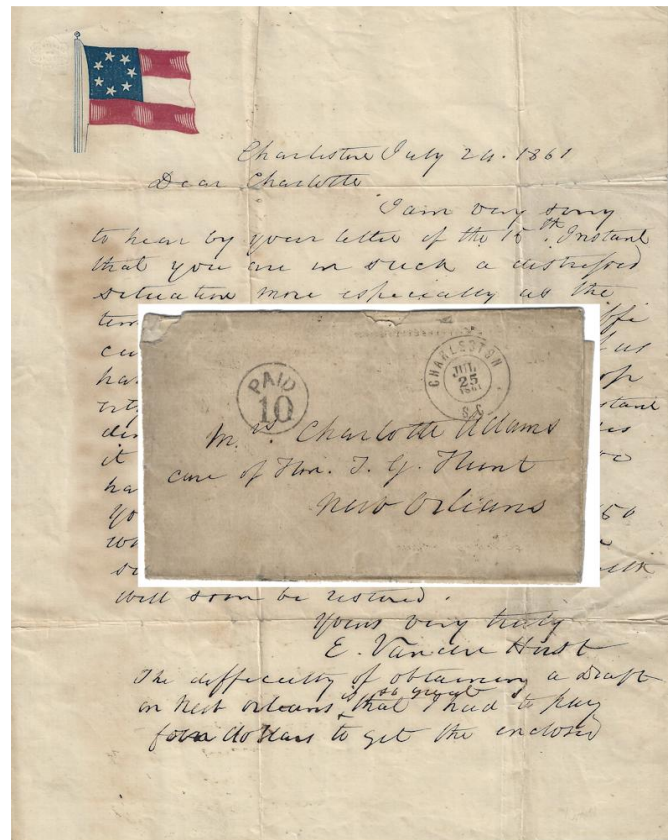
The seven-star first National Flag of the Confederacy, known as the “Stars and Bars” was only used between 4 Marh and 21 May. Each star represented one state that had joined: South Carolina, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas. By the time of its use in this letter, four additional states had joined: Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Arkansas.

Elis Vanderhorst, the descendent of an aristocratic Dutch family who had settle in South Carolina in the 1600s and owned a massive plantation on Kiawah Island.

Judge Theodore Gaillard Hunt was a former Congressman from Louisiana who would be appointed as the Colonel of the Fifth Louisiana Infantry. A long-time opponent of secession, when New Orleans fell to the Union, Hunt resigned his commission to become the Adjutant General of Union Louisiana.

Unlike the many early Civil War letters that were filled with bravado, this one from a prominent plantation owner recognized the dire nature of the South’s economy from the earliest months of the Civil War. At the time of this listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade, has appeared at auction per the Rare Book Hub and ASBA, or is held in an institutional collection per OCLC.

**#10738**      **\$750**



15. [MILITARY – CIVIL WAR] [VIRGINIANA] [WEAPONS – PIKES]

1862 – Letter from an Englishman, living in Richmond, offering his services to General Robert E. Lee to train Confederate units to become Pikeman after the Governor of Alabama had rejected his offer to do the same for that state's militia

There are two letters in this lot regarding offers from Edward King to train Confederate soldiers as Pikemen. The first, datelined "Executive Department / Montgomery, Al<sup>a</sup>. Feby 3<sup>rd</sup> 1862" was sent to King by Governor John Gill Shorter rejecting King's offer to train Alabama units. The second, sent by King to General Robert E. Lee, is datelined Richmond March 14<sup>th</sup>, 1862, offers to do the same for the Confederate Army as a whole. Both are in nice shape. The letter to Lee has several short splits along mailing fold some with old cello tape repairs. No mailing envelopes.

Shorter's letter to King reads in part:

"I have to inform you that there is but one regiment now in Alabama to be armed with Pikes – it is not yet organized and if it were the State could not incur an expense for its instruction in the use of the Pike which would adequately compensate a gentleman of your Skill and experience as instructor in the use of that weapon. . . ."

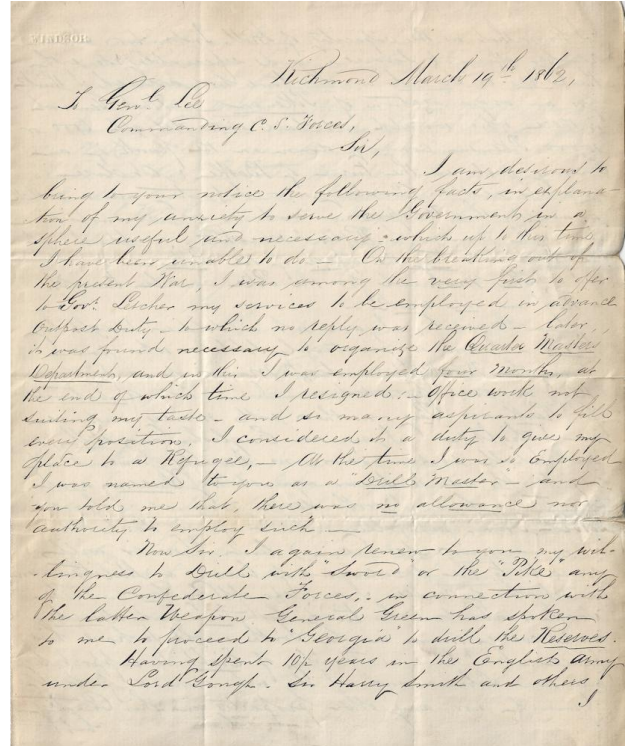
Infuriated by Shorter, King wrote to General Lee, noting,

"I enclose to you an answer to a letter sent by me to the Governor of Alabama – the idea of a State like "Alabama" not being able to afford to pay an Instructor of 1,000 men is to me simply ridiculous. If men are armed – learn them how to use their arms effectively."

King's proposal to General Lee reads in part:

"On the breaking out of the present War, I was among the very first to offer to [Virginia] Gov'r [John] Letcher my service to be employed in advance Outpost duty – to which no reply was received – later, it was found necessary to organize the Quarter Master's Department, and in this I was employed four months [until] I resigned: office work not suiting my taste. . . . At the time I . . . was named to you as a 'Drill Master' and you told me that , there was no allowance nor authority to employ such. . . ."

"I again renew to you my willingness to Drill with 'Sword' or the 'Pike any of the Confederate Forces. . . . The time has arrived for an organization of Pikemen. What General is there who would not hail with delight 5,000 or 10,000 Pikemen coming down on the flank of an Enemy just in the Turn of Battle? At close quarters neither Cavalry nor infantry are a match against this Weapon – and as we cannot arm enough men with Rifles & Muskets, would it not be proper to try the effect of the Pike? The manual for the Pike can be taught Reg't in one week. . . ."



"I am not a Soldier taught by Books. [I] rose from the Ranks to a Serg't Major of as fine a Reg't as ever paraded. I am not ambitious for Rank nor Pay – neither will money induce me to fight! I am an Englishman still, and so shall remain – no Earthly power shall ever tempt me to swear against my Queen and Country! – but I will serve you as I have served Her – faithfully – both of my sons are now in your service). . . .

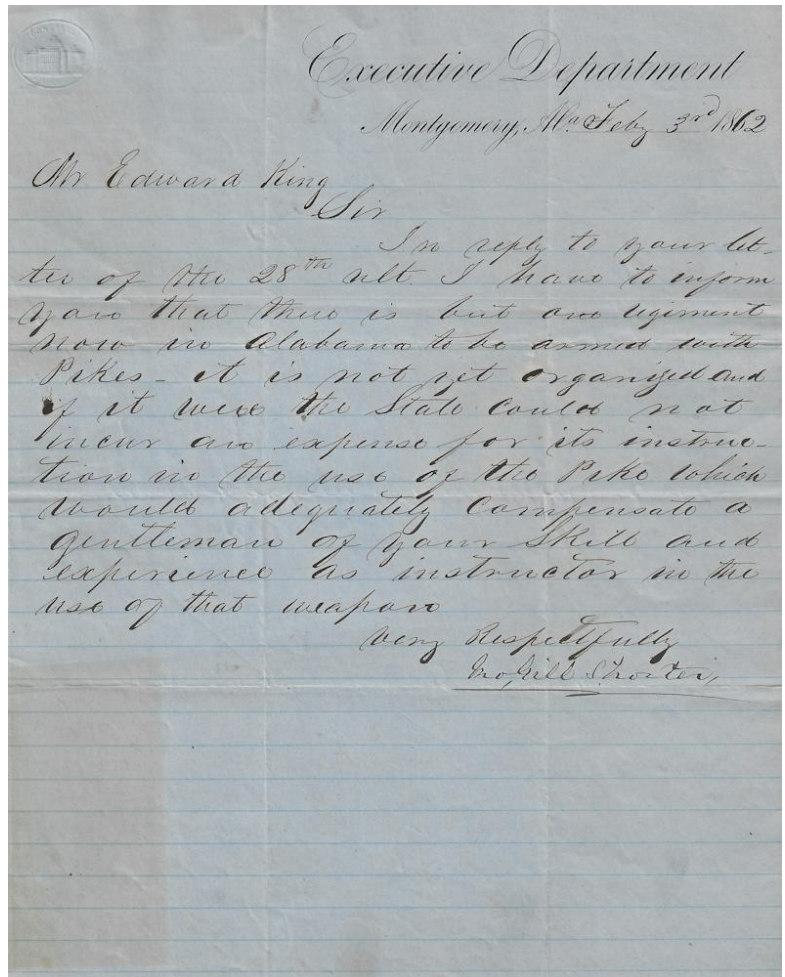
"I have a Family of Eight to support by my own Labour and I do not own a foot of ground nor any other property in the Country but I am perfectly willing to undertake the Instruction of your Reserves or any other forces – all I ask in return if fairness, that is for the man who does the work to receive his proper reward. . . ."

While the idea of Civil War soldiers using pikes might strike us as strange today, it was seriously considered by the Confederacy as rifles and muskets were in relatively short supply. Alabama had, in fact, equipped its 48<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment with pikes during the defense of Mobile, and at one point planned to equip its 32<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment with pikes and Bowie knives if rifles or muskets were unavailable. And, for a similar reason, at one point, General 'Stonewall' Jackson advocated for their employment.

(For more information, see Quoggy's "Pikes in the American Civil War" online at Reddit and "Alabama. Militia" at the From the Page website.)

At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade, and no other similar letters have appeared at auction per the Rare Book Hub and ASBA. OCLC shows nothing similar in institutional collections.

**#10739**      **\$900**



16. [MILITARY – CIVIL WAR & IRON CLADS] [PHILATELY] [VIRGINIANA]

1862 – Letter from a sailor aboard the USS Commodore Hull describing the Union Navy’s attempt to find and destroy the second James River Confederate ironclad

This two-page letter is datelined “U.S. Stm Commodore Hull / Newport News Dec 7 1862” and was sent by Thomas H. Rebanks to his family at home in Chicago, Illinois. It is enclosed in its mailing envelope, which bears a manuscript postmark that reads, “Naval Letter / USS Com Hull / F Josselyn Ex Office” and a “Due 3” hand stamp. In nice shape. A transcript will be provided.

Rebanks’s letter reads in part,

“Arrived at Fortress Monroe Friday morning layed there until last night we ordered up the James river we went up last night about as far as it would be safe to go. We are the advance picket next behind us about a mile is the Ironsides Galena monitor and all other Iron clads they expect the Merrimac No 2 down every night if we see them we are to slip our cable and scaddadle down the river till the Iron clads . . . do their work we are laying opposite Newport News the hulks of the Congress & Cumberland that were sunk by the Merrimack are sticking out of the water. I haven’t been ashore yet and don’t expect soldiers are here. . . .”

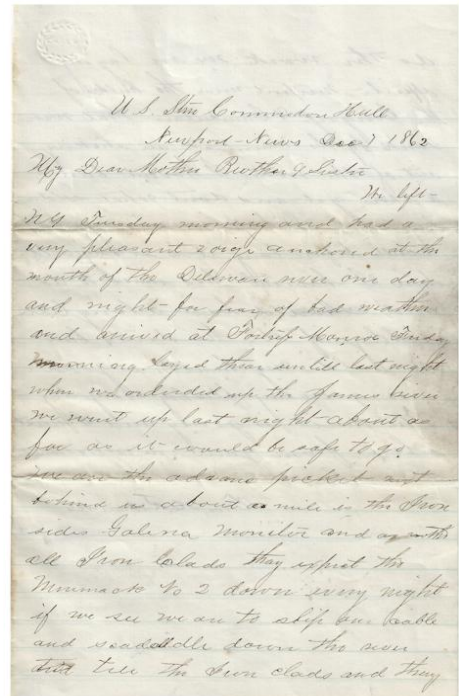
The name of the vessel that Rebanks and the *Commodore Hull* were actually hunting was the CSS *Richmond*. The *Richmond*, an improved version of the original *Merrimac/Virginia* was launched from the Gosport Navy Yard in Richmond in July 1862 and placed into service with the Confederate Navy’s James River Squadron. There was considerable confusion at the time regarding the name of this second Confederate ironclad to operate on the James River. Although it was christened as the CSS *Richmond*, the vessel was frequently referred to as the *Virginia II*, *Virginia No. 2* or *Young Virginia* in the South and as *Merrimack No. 2*, *New Merrimack* or *Young Merrimack* in the North.

There was a Confederate ironclad named the CSS *Virginia II*, but she was not completed until 1864.

The *Commander Hull* was a converted ferryboat that later participated in the attacks on and capture of Plymouth, North Carolina where four members of her crew were killed and three were wounded.

(For more information see Coski’s *Capital Navy: The Men, Ships and Operations of the James River Squadron* and Scharf’s *History of the Confederate States Navy*.)

At the time of listing, no similar items are for sale in the trade, nor have any others appeared in auction per the Rare Book Hub and ASBA. OCLC shows none are held in institutional collections. We have sold two similar letters over the past ten years.



#10740      \$750

**17. [EYEGASSES] [PHOTOGRAPHS – CDVS] [WOMEN & GIRLS]**

**1863 – A charming photograph of a cute teenage girl trying on a pair of new spectacles**

This standard-size carte-de-visite measures approximately 2.5" x 3.75". In nice shape.

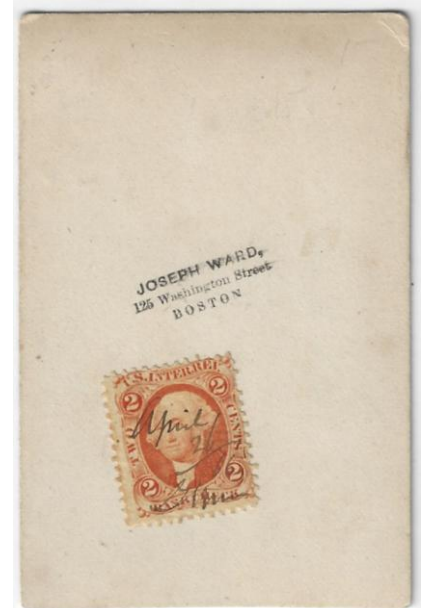
It shows smiling, attractive young girl in a fancy dress trying on what appears to be a pair of new eyeglasses.

It is backstamped "Joseph Ward / 125 Washington Street / Boston" and franked with a U.S. two-cent revenue stamp pen-cancelled on 26 April 1866.

Beginning on 1 August 1864, the Internal Revenue Act charged a tax on all photographs in order to raise funds to support the cost of the Civil War. This became known as the Sun-Picture Tax because it was imposed on all images created by the use of daylight, specifically photographs, daguerreotypes, and ambrotypes. Rates were applied based on the retail price of the image. When a customer had paid the tax, a photographer was to affix a revenue stamp to the reverse of the image and cancel it with his signature and date. Most often, photographers simply drew a line across the stamp to preclude its reuse. The act was repealed on 1 August 1866.

This is the most charming cdv we have ever had in our inventory. The young girl reminds me of Shirley Temple's character, Virgie Cary in the classic 1935 film, *The Littlest Rebel*.

**#10741      \$200**



18. [FLORIDIANA] [FOOD – SALT] [MILITARY – CIVIL WAR & GUNBOATS]

1864 – The commander of a Union gunboat orders one of his ensigns to assist the ship’s marine company in raiding the Confederacy’s largest salt works at St. Andrew’s Bay, Florida

This one-page manuscript order is datelined “US Barque Restless / St Andrews Bay Fla / June 8<sup>th</sup> 1864.” It was issued by William R. Barone, the gunboat’s commander, to Ensign W. B. Rankin. In nice shape.

The order reads in part:

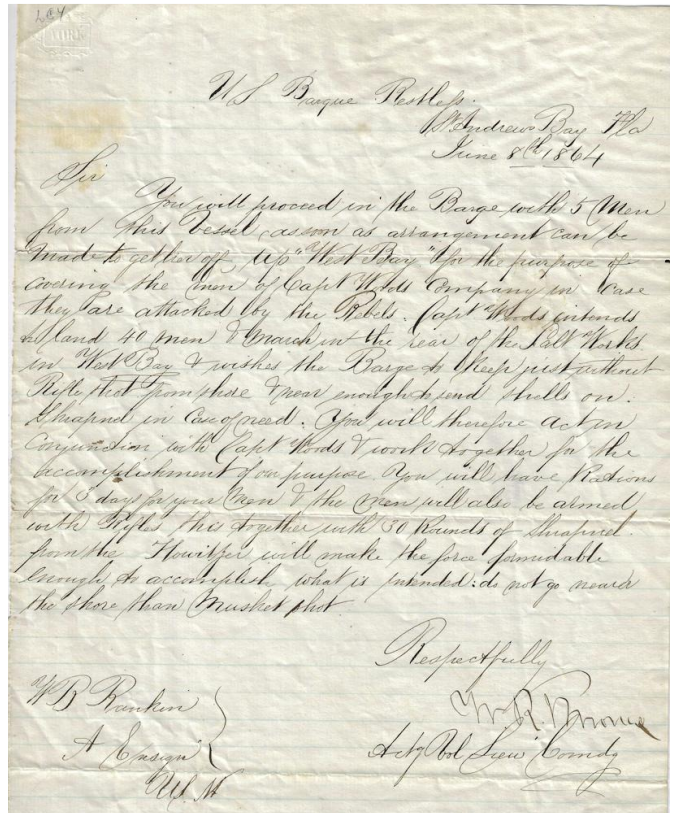
“You will proceed in the Barge with 5 Men from this Vessel . . . up ‘West Bay’ for the purpose of covering the men of Capt Woods Company in case they are attacked by the Rebels. Capt Woods intends to land 40 men & march in the rear of the Salt Works in West Bay & wishes the Barge to keep just without Rifle shot from shore & near enough to send shells [of] Shrapnel in Case of need. You will . . . act in Conjunction with Capt Woods . . . for the accomplishment of our purpose. You will have rations for 3 days . . . and the men will be armed with Rifles together with 30 Rounds of Shrapnel [for] the Howitzer [which] will make the force formidable enough to accomplish what is intended: do not go nearer the shore than Musket shot.”

During the Civil War, the Confederacy depended upon salt to preserve meat, tan leather, and flavor food. Most of its salt works were in Florida and the most important were located within St. Andrew’s Bay, near present day Panama City. Those works were a major target of the Union navy, and the USS *Restless* worked relentlessly to destroy them. First arriving on station in the fall of 1863 and began a series of repetitive raids to ravage the huge salt-making complex. The facility was so important to the Confederacy that after one raid, which destroyed nearly 30 buildings, 300 salt kettles containing 60,000 gallons of partially-processed salt solution, 2,000 bushels of salt, and vast stores of corn meal, bacon and other provisions to feed the workers, resources were quickly provided to rapidly rebuild, although not to the level of pre-raid production. While appreciative of the product, there was some resentment among Confederate soldiers of the salt workers exemption from serving in the Army. It was not until November 1864 that the facility was so crippled that the *Restless* was able to return to blockade duties.

(For more information, see Ekhardt’s “The Navy’s Great Salt Raids” at the Navy-Marine Corps Living History Association website, “A Salty Story” at the Florida Humanities website, and Roberts “Confederate Salt Works St. Andrews Bay. . .”, available online.)

At the time of listing, no other original source material regarding the salt works raids is for sale in the trade. Rare Book Hub and ASBA show no other similar items have appeared at auction. OCLC records suggest that a similar item could be located in the Cornelius Herbert Longstreet papers at the University of Georgia.

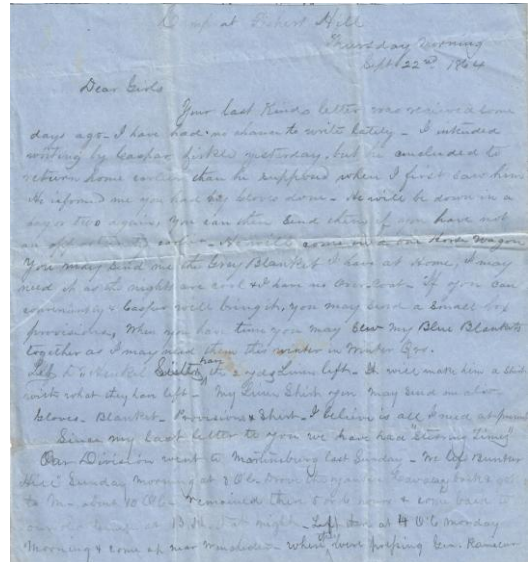
#10742      \$950



19. [MEDICAL – HOSPITALS] [MILITARY – CIVIL WAR] [VIRGINIANA]

1864 – A letter from a Confederate Hospital Steward describing the Third Battle of Winchester

This three-page letter is datelined, “at Fishers Hill / Thursday Morning / Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> 1864.” It was written by Hospital Steward David F. Kagey to his “Dear Girls” in New Market, Virginia (known from other correspondence). No mailing envelope. The top 1” of the first leaf was trimmed away by the author before writing the letter. In nice shape with a 3.5” split along one mailing fold.



In this letter Kagey provides an eyewitness account of the routing of the Confederate Cavalry at the Third Battle of Winchester. It reads in part”

“We arrived there very early in the day and our Division as well as the entire Army was soon engaged. The Battle lasted most of the day & the Yankees would have been whipped but for the running of our Cavalry. The fight was going on well for us until 4 O’C in the evening when the most of the Cavalry on our left gave way & let the Yankee Cavalry run them into Winchester, causing a most disgraceful stampede in town for a few minutes. The Yankee Cavalry got to the lower end of Town near where our Hosp was established. Our Infantry still held their positions . . . but were finally forced to fall back as the Yankee Cavalry were getting all around them. The Yankee Infantry were whipped and badly used up, much worse than ours, but our entire Army left Winchester hurriedly about sunset and most of it arrived here that night, much disorganized & worn down. . . . We lost many good men. Gen. Rodes among the No. [that were killed.] Gen. York of the Louisiana Brig has his arm amputated. Col. Funk of the 5<sup>th</sup> Va was mortally wounded. Our entire loss, killed, wounded & missing will not fall much short of 3000. I suppose some of our men have not stopped running yet, especially the Cavalry. . . . The enemy has a large force. They were across Hupps Hill for several hours yesterday. We are prepared for them. . . . Just now we are cannonading in the Page Valley. . . . Perhaps they may go up the Page Valley to make or try to force us to fall back from this point. We have marching orders now. . . .”

Kagey’s description matches most accounts of the most important battle fought in the Shenandoah region. Union General Phillip Sheridan’s advance westward toward Winchester along the Berryville Pike was delayed long enough for Confederate General Jubal Early to concentrate his forces to meet the main assault. There was hard fighting for several hours, but Early’s men were gradually driven back until they dug into defensive works at the north edge of the city. In the late afternoon, the Union cavalry turned the Confederate left flank and Early ordered a general retreat. Following this battle, Early’s army never regained the offensive and it eventually abandoned the Valley, a tremendous blow to the South.

(For more information, see Gallagher’s *The Shenandoah Valley Campaign of 1864.*)

At the time of listing, no similar first-hand descriptions are for sale in the trade, and the Rare Book Hub and ASBA show no similar accounts have appeared at auction. OCLC shows a manuscript draft of Union soldier’s memoir which includes his service at the battle is held by the Massachusetts Historical Society. We recently sold a small archive of letters written by this soldier.

A rare first-hand account written by a Confederate hospital steward from the rallying point after Early’s force had retreated from Winchester the day before.

**#10743**      **\$750**

**20. [MILITARY – CIVIL WAR] [PHILATELY] [VIRGINIANA]**

**1864 – Letter from a frustrated, lovelorn Union soldier describing the combat in the First Battle of Deep Bottom during the siege of Petersburg**

This eight-page letter is datelined ‘Camp of the 24<sup>th</sup> Regt M. V. / Deep Bottom Bluff, Va. / July 30<sup>th</sup> 1864.’ It was written by J. W. Ballou to his brother and sister in Charleston, Massachusetts. Its mailing envelope bears a 3-cent Washington stamp (Scott #65) N circular Pittsfield Massachusetts “Paid” postmark.

Ballou begins this long letter to his siblings with a lengthy bittersweet tirade against a young woman who has apparently spurned and tormented him for some time, however he eventually begins a description of the battle in which he had participated only two days before. The letter reads in part:

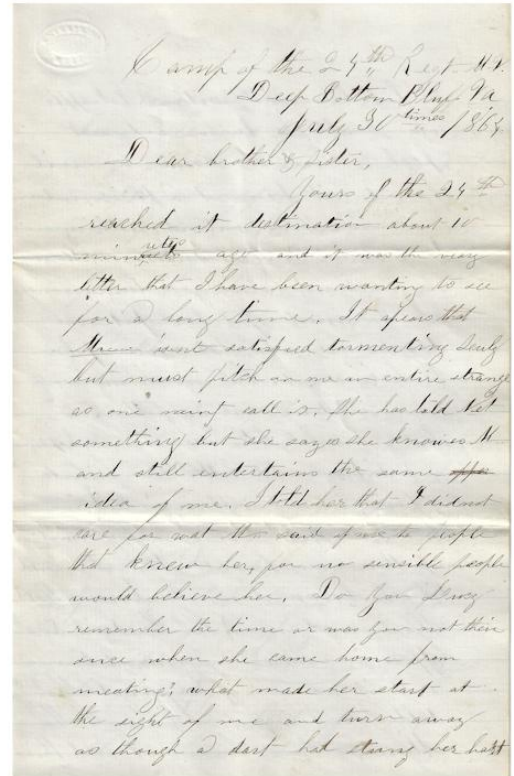
“The 27<sup>th</sup> we had some fun our Co. went out deployed as skirmishers I had some very narrow escapes one of our own 13 lbs shell came within a foot of my head they wer firing over our heads and they had the piece aimed to low, but that wasn’t so narrow as several others, or rather bullets that came squealing by almost grazing my head they seamed to folow me around for as fast as I mooved they cept fallin in the very place that I had left a second before. No one in Co D was hit yet meny of the Grey backs bit the dust for we had a man up in a tree to watch our shots and the place where I had a range as their was seen 5 cared of by our lookout. The 28<sup>th</sup> we had to go again but we wer in so hot a fire the day before that they left us back to support & eat. But I can tell you all about soon I trust and if I am called away to fill a patriots greave we will meet in Heaven. . . .

“Please write [soon]. We are expecting a large battle every hour. . . .”

The Battle of Deep Bottom was part of the Petersburg Campaign. In anticipation of the upcoming Battle of the Crater, Union Generals Winfield S. Hancock and Philip H. Sheridan were sent on an expedition to threaten Richmond and its railroads in hope that Confederate forces would be pulled away from the Petersburg defensive line to defend the Confederacy’s capital. However, the Union force was unable to break through the Confederates fortifications at Bailey’s Creek and Fussell’s Mill. But the action accomplished its purpose and the Confederate force defending Petersburg was reduced.

At the time of listing, no similar items regarding skirmishing during the Petersburg campaign are for sale in the trade, although they occasionally appear for sale or at auction. A number of institutions hold examples. We have not previously seen one related to the Battles of Deep Bottom, and this is a nice example.

**#10744      \$250**



**21. [BUSINESS – INTERNATIONAL TRADE] [MEDICAL – PATENT MEDICINE] [PERFUME – FLORIDA WATER] [PHILATELY]**

**1868 – Letter from a major Anglo-Argentine mercantile company advising one of the largest wholesale drug and perfume companies, whose bestselling product was Florida Water, in the world of its inventory status in Buenos Aires**

This three-page stampless folded letter, measuring 18” x 10.5” unfolded, is datelined “Buenos Ayres / October 24<sup>th</sup> 1868.” It was sent from the John Eastman Co. & Son to “Mess<sup>rs</sup> Lanman & Kemp / Wholesale Druggists / New York.” A one-page “Note of Existences” (*Nota Existencias*), i.e., inventory list, is enclosed.

Postal markings and philatelic databases show that it was carried by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company’s branch line steamer Arno to Rio where it was transferred to La Plata for transport to Southampton where it arrived on 2 December 1868. It was then passed to London where it received the “64” rate mark before being sent to Queenstown where it was loaded onto the Cunard Line’s Java on 6 January 1869 for New York. It arrived on 17 January and was charged 68 cents (92 cents in depreciated currency.)

The letter reads in part:

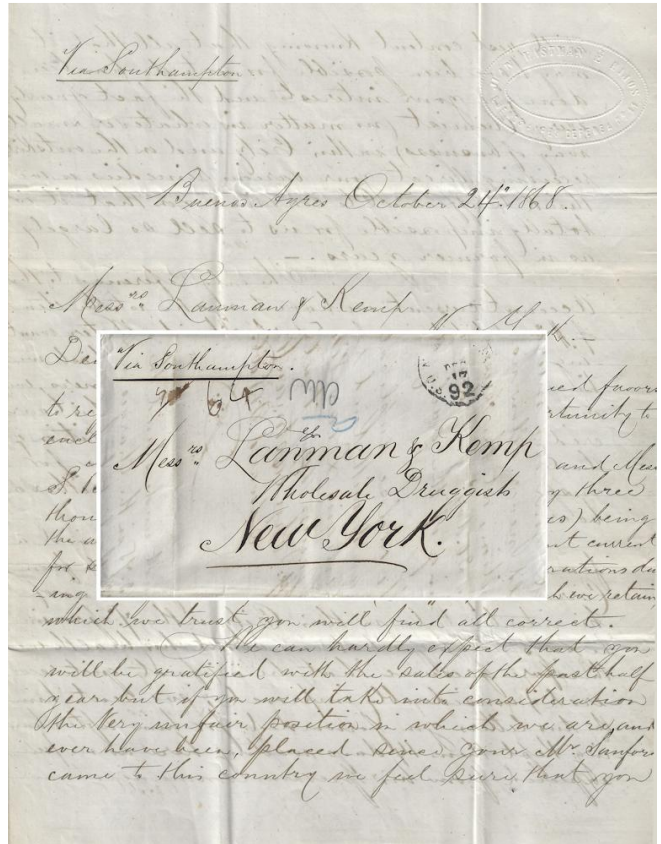
“We avail ourselves of this opportunity to enclose your Note of Existences, account current,, and Mess” S. B. Alder & Co.’s receipt for \$3,800 (say three thousand eight hundred silver dollars) being the amount in you favor [for] you various preparations during the past six months. . . You will find all correct.

“We can hardly expect that you will be grateful with the sales of the past half year but if you will take into consideration from the very unfair position in which we are and ever have been placed since [the illness] of your Mr. Sanford . . . we feel sure you that you will rest contented knowing that all that it may have been possible for us to do has been done. . . Today we have received a few lines from [him informing] us of his intention to be in this City [soon]. . . He says nothing about his health therefore we presume that he . . . is considerable improved. . .”

The inventory list includes *Aqua Florida* (Florida Water) among the other perfumes and patent medicines.

Florida Water was invented in 1801 by perfumer Robert J. Murray, as an American unisex scent, less offensive than strong than most European colognes and perfumes. Marketed as “The most Popular Perfume in the World,” it was also used to scent linens and corsages as well as an aftershave. Claims were also made that it was an effective topical disinfectant that also could relieve headaches and reduce fevers. It remains popular as a ‘retro’ toiletry, but most purchases in the United States today are by practitioners of Hoo-Doo, who use it in Afro-Caribbean religious practices.

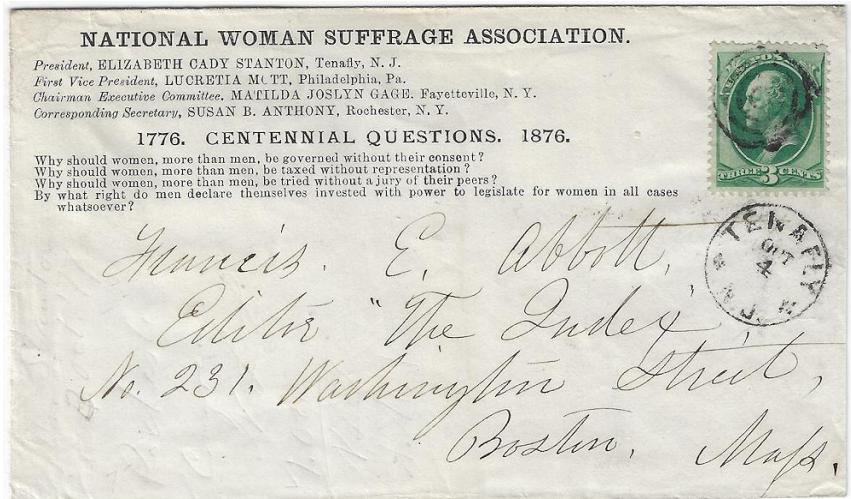
**#10745            \$200**



**22. [EXPOSITIONS – PHILADELPHIA] [HANDWRITING – ELIZABETH CADY STANTON] [PROPAGANDA – ENVELOPES] [PHILATELY] [POLITICS – WOMEN’S SUFFRAGE] [WOMEN & GIRLS]**

**1876-1886 – Four postally used envelopes promoting Women’s Suffrage including one sent by Elizabeth Cady Stanton, addressed in her hand**

Three of these four postally used ‘propaganda’ envelopes promoting Women’s Suffrage are addressed to Francis E. Abbott of Boston (a progressive theologian and the editor of *The Index*, a newsletter championing “free religious inquiry”); one is addressed to Dr. Hunt (likely Mary Olive Hunt, a noted physician and suffragist) of Manchester, New Hampshire. All are in nice shape



This group includes two printing variations of envelopes that were specifically issued to call attention to

the suffrage movement at the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia in 1876, where members of the National Woman Suffrage Association would storm the official Independence Day ceremony on July 4<sup>th</sup> and Susan B. Anthony would famously read the “Declaration of Rights of the Women of the United States,” which was written by primarily by Mildred Joslyn Gage and Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

The earlier of the two, which is franked with a green 3-cent Washington stamp (Scott #158) postmarked in Boston on 8 May [1876], identifies the officers of the Association in the upper left corner as

- President: Matilda Josely Gage of Fayetteville, N. Y.
- First Vice Presidents: Lucretia Mott of Philadelphia, Pa. and Elizabeth Cady Stanton of Tenafly, N. J.
- Treasurer: Ellen C. Sargent of Washington D. C.
- Recording Secretary: Henrietta Payne Westbrook of New York
- Chairman of the Executive Committee: Susan B. Anthony, Rochester, N. Y.

Its text asks and answers four “Centennial Questions”:

- “What is the difference between a Monarchy and a Republic? A Monarchy is a government of force; a Republic is a government of consent.
- In what way is consent given? By and through the ballot alone; that says yes or no.
- What part of this nation live in a Republic? The men; they have consented to the government.
- What part of the nation live under a Monarchy? The women; they have never consented to the government; they are ruled by force.”

The second cover, which was also intended to call attention to the suffrage movement at the Centennial Exposition, is franked with a green 3-cent Washington stamp (Scott #147) and was mailed by Elizabeth Cady Stanton. It is addressed in her hand and was postmarked in Tenafly, N. J., Stanton’s hometown. It identifies a second set of officers of the Association in the upper left corner as

- President: Elizabeth Cady Stanton of Tenafly, N. J.

First Vice President: Lucretia Mott of Philadelphia, Pa.

Chairman of the Executive Committee: Matilda Joslyn Gage of Fayetteville, N. Y.

Corresponding Secretary: Susan B. Anthony, Rochester, N. Y.

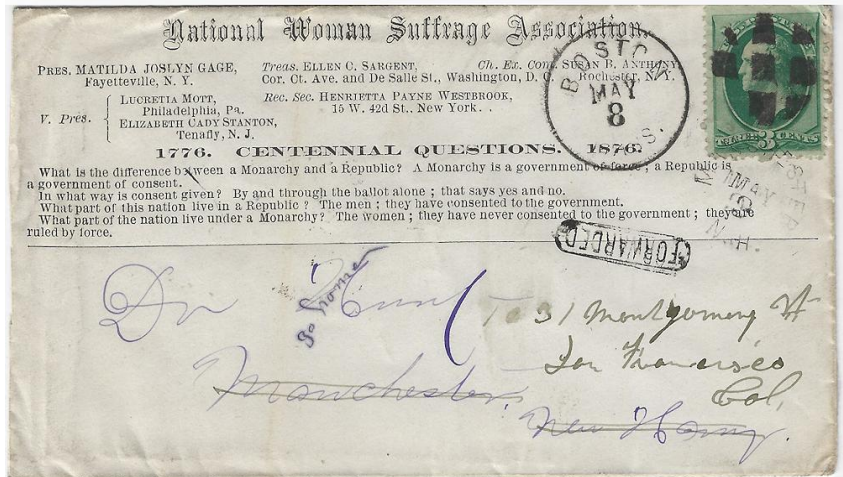
Its text asks four different, additional "Centennial Questions":

"Why should women, more than men, be governed without their consent?"

Why should women, more than men, be taxed without representation?"

Why should women, more than men, be tried without a jury of her peers?"

By what right do men declare themselves invested with power to legislate for women in all cases whatsoever?"



The third cover in this group was issued by Citizens' Suffrage Association circa 1876. It is franked with a green 3-cent Washington stamp (Scott #158) and postmarked in Philadelphia. It displays a manifesto on its front panel that reads in part:

"Women in the country are Citizens.

Suffrage, in a republic is the citizen's right, else it is a privilege and can be taken away by the same power which confers it. Unless the ballot be a right of citizenship . . . That power which can deny suffrage, embodied, is a monarch; its denial tyranny.

Taxation without representation was tyranny for men citizens in 1779. Is it less tyranny for women citizens in 1876? . . .

Women of these United States! Are you satisfied with the way in which men represent you in temperance, education, government, and laws? If not, demand the ballot.

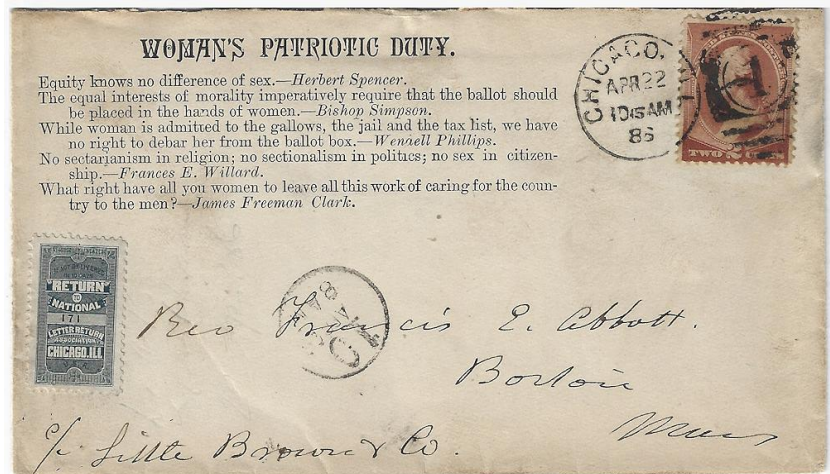
The best interest of humanity require that men and women should co-operate in framing our laws. . . .

Men have tried to represent women, and have signally failed. They have made laws for their protection which do not protect. . . .

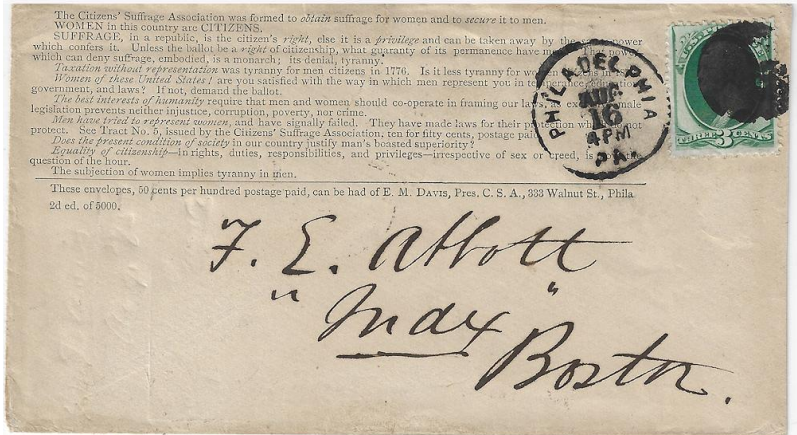
Does the present condition of society in our country justify a man's boasted superiority?

Equality of citizenship – In rights, duties, responsibilities, and privileges – irrespective of sex or creed. . . .

The subjection of women implies tyranny in men."



The fourth cover in the group is not attributed to any specific organization. This cover is franked with a brown 2-cent Washington stamp (Scott #210) and postmarked in Chicago on 22 April 1886. It also bears a sound National Letter Association return label. Its front panel reads:



“Woman’s Patriotic Duty.

Equity knows no difference of sex. *Herbert Spencer.*

The equal interest of morality imperatively requires that the ballot should be placed in the hands of women. *Bishop Simpson.*

While woman is admitted to the gallows, the jail and the tax list, we have not right to debar her from the ballot box. *Wennell Phillips.*

No sectarianism in religion; no sectionalism in politics; no sex in citizenship. *Frances E. Willard.*

What right have all you women to leave all this work of caring for the country to the men? *James Freeman Clark.”*

The National Woman Suffrage Association was founded in 1869 by Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony to secure women's right to vote through a federal constitutional amendment, and it also championed a broad spectrum of women's rights beyond the ballot, including equal pay, property rights, and divorce reform.

Although the National Woman Suffrage Association was a racist organization, the Citizens’ Suffrage Association, a local voting rights group active in Philadelphia, which was founded in 1876, was not. It fostered a multi-racial, collaborative platform for local and national activists and attempted to unite the usually opposing factions of the early civil rights and women's suffrage movements. Its official platform explicitly attempted to bring together both white female suffragists and prominent people of color to campaign for universal franchise.

The cover posted in Chicago was not produced by any specific suffrage group. The 1 February 1886 issue of *The Alpha*, a Washington, DC, human rights newsletter, reported simply that these envelopes were being used by “Chicago suffrage women.”

Although all postally-used women’s suffrage advertising envelopes are scarce, three in this group are especially so: the cover addressed and mailed by Elizabeth Cady Stanton, the cover issued by the local Citizen’s Suffrage Association in Philadelphia, and the Women’s Patriotic Duty cover from Chicago.

These covers seldom appear on the market, and when they do, they are usually offered for sale by postal history dealers or in philatelic auctions. At the time of listing, no similar items are for sale in the trade. The Rare Book Hub and ASBA show none having appeared at auction, although they occasionally appear at philatelic sales. OCLC shows none in institution holdings, although it is like some may be in personal papers collections.

**#10746**      **\$1,250**

**23. [BUSINESS – GUNMAKING & INTERNATIONAL TRADE] [PHILATELY]**

**1900 – Correspondence related to the sale of custom-made shotgun for an American in Iowa by a prestigious British gunmaker**

There are three items in this group, a letter from the gunmaker, an enclosure providing specifications for creating a personalized shotgun, and a mailing envelope that contains both. All are in nice shape.

The letter from William Cashmore of Birmingham, England, dated 17 August 1900, to W. A. Hurlless of Perry, Iowa, was typed on impressive red and black stationery with illustrations of medals won at several expositions. The letterhead reads in part,

“William Cashmore. / Manufacturer of / Military and Sporting / Breech and Muzzle Loading Guns, / Rifles and Revolvers. / Steelhouse Lane, / Birmingham.”

Its text notes that the 10 gauge 30” shotgun will be of “Specialty” quality . . . fine damascus [which] makes a really fine wild fowl gun . . . for rough hard shooting. . . .”

The “Directions for Measurement” form shows top and side views, with dimensions annotated in red ink, of the shotgun to be made for Hurlless.

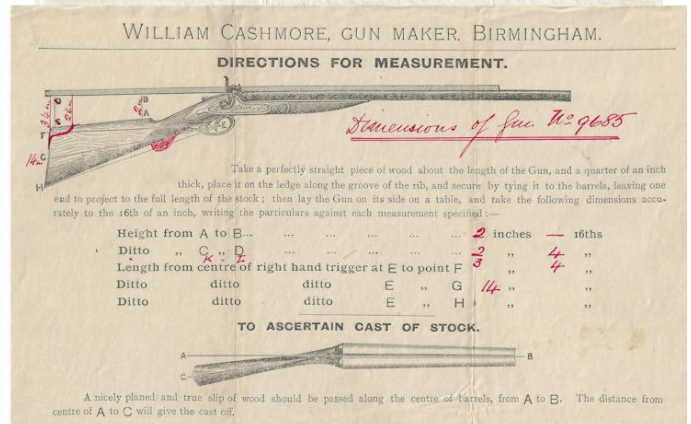
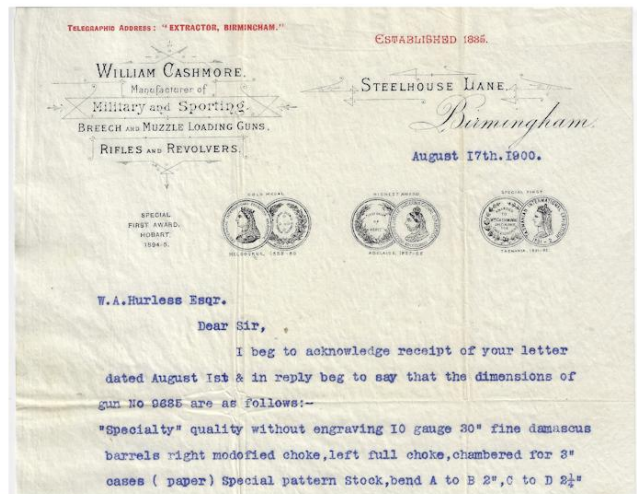
The envelope bears a printed corner card that reads “Highest Awards / Adelaide, / Melbourne, / and / Tasmania” as well as double-oval cache on the reverse flap that reads “William Cashmore / Birmingham / Gun Maker.” It is franked with a British blue and purple 2½ pence Queen Victoria stamp cancelled by a circular Birmingham postmark, dated 17 August.

In 1895, William Cashmore patented an improvement of a shotgun locking mechanism which used downward hinging external arms to operate internal locking lumps on either side of the action. He later patented selective trigger mechanism in which the trigger could be located in either a left or right position. These were incorporated into this shotgun. Cashmore also patented improvements to extractor and ejection mechanisms for revolvers and a rotating striker mechanism for four barreled guns. One of his customers was Annie Oakley.

(For more information, see “William Cashmore, Gunmaker 1819-1877” at Richard Fletcher’s Blog, online.)

At the time of listing, no similar items are for sale in the trade. OCLC shows nothing similar is held in institutional collections. Worthpoint shows that this grouping sold on eBay for \$299 in 2025.

**#10747      \$200**



**24. [EDUCATION – POST GRADUATE] [MEDICAL – ORTHOPEDICS] [PHILATELY] [PHOTOGRAPHS – VERNACULAR] [RELIGION – PASSION OF CHRIST [THEATER – OBERAMMERGAU]**

1900 – Letter and photographs from an American physician training to become an orthopedist describing his overseas studies, the Austria Corpus Christi celebration, and the Passion of Christ performance at Oberammergau

This lot consist of a undated a seven-page letter from Vienna, seven-page letter from Wurzburg along with its mailing envelope, and five vernacular photographs. All are in nice shape. Mailing folds have some minor splitting.

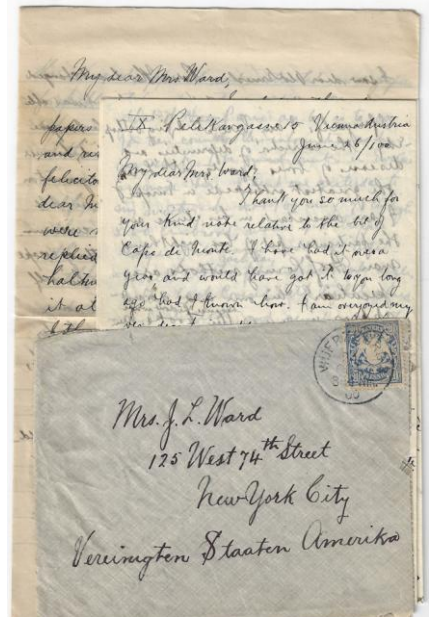
The first letter, written by Dr. J. T. Watkins, is datelined “IX Pelikangasse 15 Vienna Austria / June 26 / 1[9]00” and was sent to Mrs. J. L. Ward in New York City. In it, after discussing his haggling with shopkeepers over the price of a piece of “Capo di Monte” allegedly made for Napoleon, and one of “the finest trunks [made] in Europe Watkins explains,

“I am here studying orthopedy, the correction of deformities and diseases of bones & joints with Lorenz the greatest orthopede in Europe. I am an assistant in his clinic. . . Prof. Lorenz methods are as peculiar, his own and do not appear in any of the books because he don’t write. . . How long I shall stay here I don’t know. Certainly another year, perhaps longer {before studying] with Whitman in New York and Brodford in Boston. Her I have to go to Italy, German & France each for a long enough time to see how . . . they do things. Lorenz tells me the only orthopedes are in Amerika and Germany. I have to go to Stockholm to study the Zander apparatus – a sort of massage machine. . . I shall practice in San Francisco & I don’t want to, but there is a big opening there . . . that is the essential thing. . .

“[Last] Friday I started for Oberammergau to see the Passion Play a performance of which will be given on Sunday. . . It is reported to be wonderfully fine. Last year I went to Bayreuth . . . to see Parsifal. [It was] quite as good and 1/5 as expensive in Vienna.

“If I am successful with my photographs at Oberammergau I will send you copies [but] I am told photography is prohibited. . .

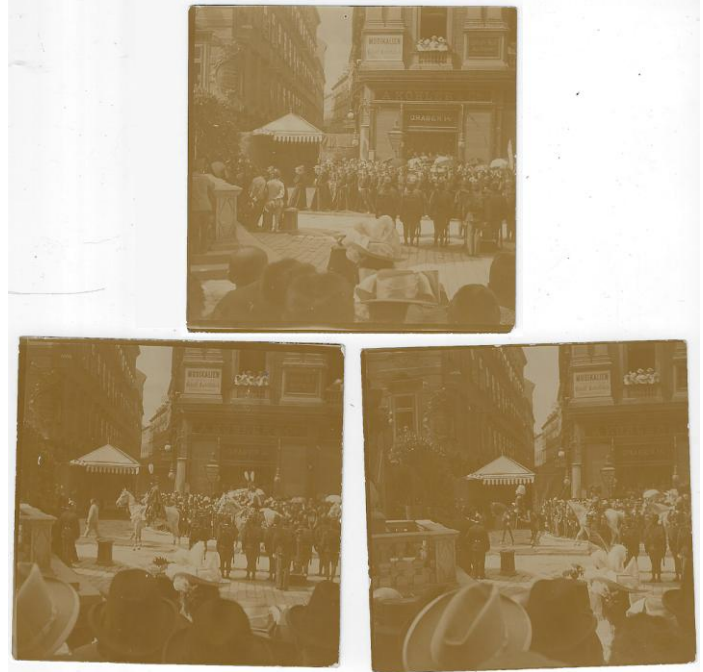
“Dr. Prudden . . . asked me to put his name down for courses in microscopy . . . Bacteriology . . . gross pathology, internal medicine, skin diseases, and Obstetrics . . . more work than either Aristotle or Galen would have attempted. . .



In a later letter from Wurzburg, whose mailing envelope appears to be postmarked on 24 October 1900, Watkins identifies his location as the Klinik Hoffa on Friedenstrasse. It reads in part:

“Please don’t imagine that I have been staying here all this time for fun. Europe has been very kind to me. . . . I came here without credentials and Europe set before me the best that it had and urged me to help myself. . . . I came here for a specific purpose . . . that now is in sight [but I first] have to visit Berlin . . . for perhaps three months [as well as] Heidelberg, Zurich, Milano, possibly Stockholm, Munich, and Buda-Peth [then] London and a month in Liverpool and . . . three more months in Vienna and one in Paris. Then I am through!

“I reported the orthopaedic section of the Medical Congress to my future . . . patron in California [who] expressed approval and instructed me to prepare for publication . . . a pamphlet on my experiences in the study of Orthopedy in Europe. . . .



The five vernacular photographs all measure 3.25” square. They are almost certainly early Kodak box camera images, which were printed in these dimensions and finished with a glossy, sulfa-produced sepia tone that gives them an albumin-like appearance.

Four of the photos show images from the Imperial Corpus Christi procession in Austria-Hungary (Fronleichnam), a monumental display of Catholic piety and the Habsburg’ power. It was personally led by Emperor Franz Joseph through the center of Vienna. Each of these photographs are captioned on the reverse; they show the Emperor, the Emperor’s Austrian body guard, the Emperor’s Hungarian body guard, and the Monks of St. Francis.

One photograph shows a tall, bearded man in Bavarian clothes. It is captioned on the reverse, “Anton Lang // *Christus Darsteller* [Christ Actor] / Oberammergau / 1900.” Although Watkins was apparently not allowed to photograph the Passion Play, he was able to take one of the actor who portrayed Jesus in 1900 in regular attire.

Although the roots of American colleges lay in the schools of England, by 1900, American scholars who wished to study science and medicine in depth made required pilgrimages to the universities and professional schools on the European continent to become professors.

(For more information, see Thelin’s *A History of American Higher Education* and Veysey’s *The Emergence of the American University*.)

At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade. Neither the Rare Book Hub nor ASBA show any similar letters or vernacular photographs of the Oberammergau Passion Play, its actors, or Vienna’s Corpus Christi Procession. OCLC identifies no similar letters, however it records one Stereoview of the Corpus Christi Day is held by the National Library of Singapore.

**#10748**

**\$300**

25. [EDUCATION – PRIMERS] [HUMOR – PARODY] [POLITICS - REGIONAL]

1905 – A Republican campaign pamphlet printed in the style of an early American school primer

*The New England Republican Primer: or, a Safe and Sound Guide to the Art of Voting Right to which is added The Republican Catechism, etc.* Boston: The Republican Club of Massachusetts, 1905.

Complete with 24 unnumbered pages plus grey cardboard cover. Staple-bound. Front cover and internal pages are all clean; rear cover has some soling at the top and upper right edges. The staples show a tiny bit of rusting. In nice shape.

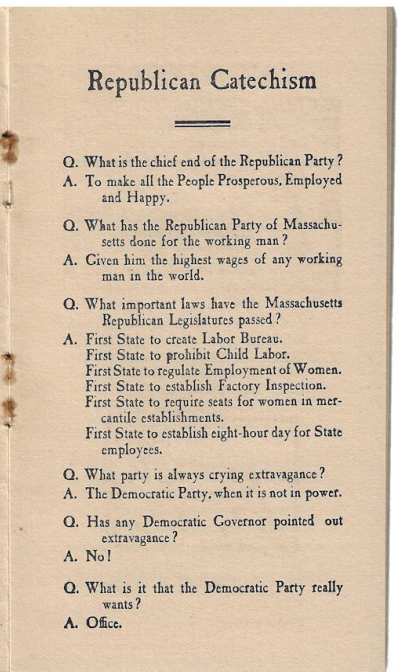
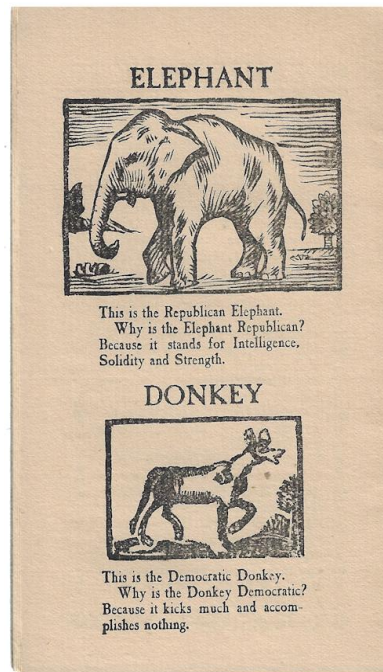
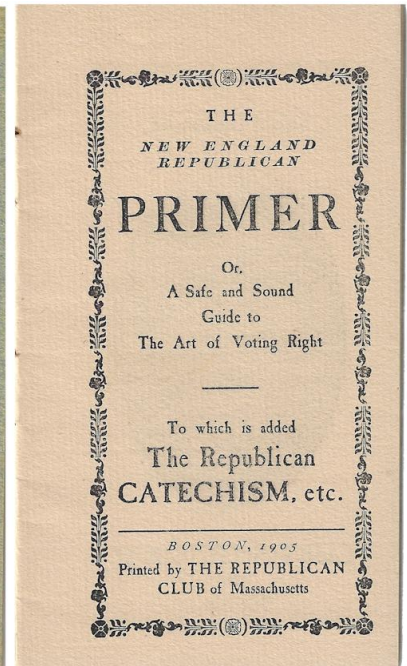
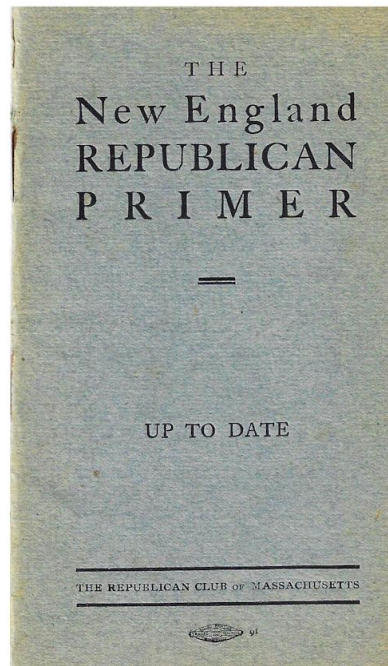
This pamphlet was produced as a similitude parody of the famed *New England Primer*, had been first printed in 1688. It somewhat satirically uses stylized woodcut illustrations, rhymes, and catechisms to define the political virtues of the Republican Party and ridicule Democratic policies and performance.

*The New England Primer*, which was first published by Benjamin Harris in Boston around 1688, was the first reading textbook designed specifically for early American settlers, and it became the foundational educational text in colonial New England for over 150 years. Nicknamed "The Little Bible of New England," it combined literacy instruction with Puritan moral and religious teachings, featuring alphabet rhymes, prayers, and Bible verses.

At the time of listing, no other examples are for sale in the trade. None have appeared at auctions per the Rare Book Hub and ASBA. OCLC shows five examples ae held in institutional collections.

#10749

\$250

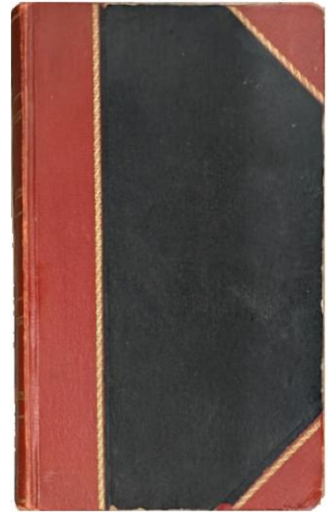


## 26. [AGRICULTURE – FARMERS UNION] [ECONOMICS – PRICE SETTING] [TEXANA]

### 1918-1921 – Lodge book from the Prairie Hill, Texas Farmers Union

This half-bound leather lodge book measures 9” x 14”. It contains

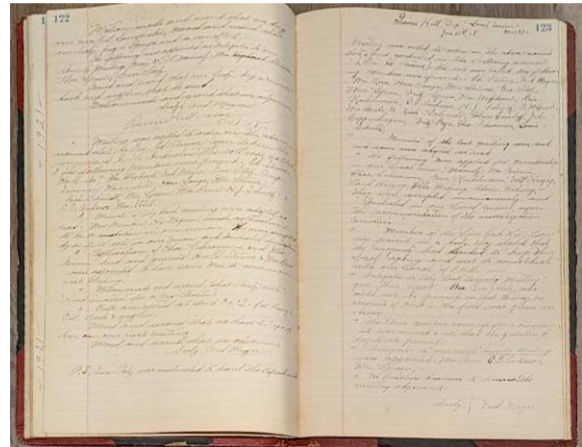
- A 4-page roster and attendance record,
  - 54 pages recording members’ dues payments,
  - A 1-page list of sick fund contributions,
  - A 9-page accounting ledger, and
  - 32 pages of meeting minutes
- A 1-page mimeographed resolution related to attendance problems, a completed delegate certification forms, and two blank Dimit forms are laid in



The Texas Farmers Union was formed as the Garmer’s Educational and Cooperative Union at the town of Point in Rains County in 1902 after previous organizations (the Farmers’ Alliance and the People’s Party) failed to adequately address the concerns of Texas farmers regarding cotton pricing. At that time, the ten-member union consisted of three populists, one independent, one Socialist, and one Democrat.

The union grew rapidly due to its success in negotiating cotton prices and by 1910, it had over 120,000 members. By 1919, it had grown to 140,000.

Between 1890 and 1898, cotton prices had dropped from ten cents per pound to less than six cents per pound. Although the Spanish-American War drove prices up to 12 cents per pound, the gain was short-lived, and prices declined steadily over the next five years. To help farmers get more for their crops, local unions built warehouses where producers could store their cotton during times of low prices. At that point, the Farmers Union became successful by encouraging political participation, also advocating for rural education, improved roads, and management training for farmers.



The Texas system was adopted and eventually dropped by other Southern states; however, it remained strong in Texas and still had over 10,000 members in 1990. It continues to provide agricultural and marketing education, loan guarantees, and advocate for state-funded rural health, education and transportation programs.

Dimits are tickets certifying that a member has left a lodge while in good standing and is eligible to join another lodge in a different location.

(For more information, see “Famers Union” at the Texas State Historical Association website.)

At the time of listing, no other Texas Farmers Union lodge books are for sale in the trade. The Rare Book Hub shows none have appeared at auction. None are shown to be held in institutional collections by OCLC, although Texas Tech holds Farmers’ Alliance records for 1887 through 1896.

**#10750**      **\$200**

**27. [CRIME – MURDER] [MILITARY – TIBETAN ARMY] [MISSIONARIES] [RELIGION – DISCIPLES OF CHRIST] [TRAVEL – TIBET]**

**1922 – The report of a Consular Investigation into the murder of an American missionary in Tibet, Dr. Albert L. Shelton, along with his photographs of Tibetan leaders, monuments, and soldiers, as well as his border mission at Bathang (Batang) and his and family**

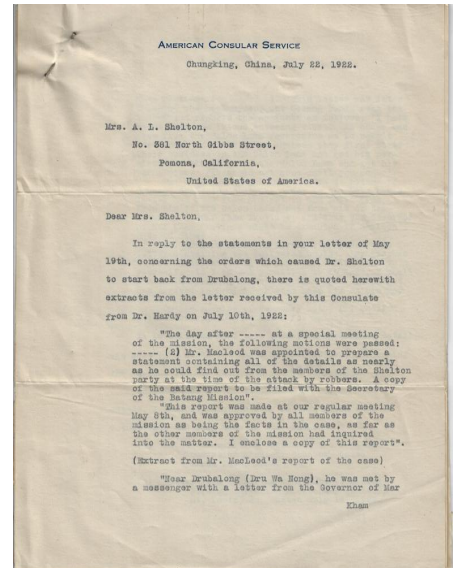
This lot consists of multiple items: a 14-page investigation report package from the American Consular Service at Chungking, China dated 22 July 1922, its official Consular Service mailing envelope, a birds-eye-view postcard showing Bathang, Tibet, and 15 photographs of or by Shelton in Tibet or along its border. Everything is in nice shape.

The investigative report consists of three-page summary letter from the Consular Service in Chungking addressed to Shelton’s wife, a copy of a one-page letter referencing his insurance policy from the Foreign Christian Mission in Chuchow, a copy of a three-page death certificate letter that was sent from by the Consular Service at Chungking to the United Christian Missionary Society in St. Louis, a copy of a four-page reply by the Consular Service to a query about Shelton’s will that was made by the Tibetan Christian Society in Batang, and a copy of a three-page Consular Services letter regarding Shelton’s will that was sent to the Judge of the U.S. Court for China in Shanghai.

The Consular Service registered mailing envelope was sent to Mrs. Shelton in Pomona, California. It is franked with six Chinese 5-cent stamps (Scott #207) canceled with circular Chungking postmarks. The back flap is closed with two official Consular Service wax seal. The reverse also bears a Chungking Consular Service handstamp, blue manuscript registration markings, a Shanghai transit stamp, and a Seattle, Washington registration postmark.

The unused postcard shows a birds-eye-view of Bathang (Batang), the site of Shelton’s border mission where he awaited permission to travel deeper into Tibet.

17 vernacular photos of or taken by Shelton in Tibet including formations of Mongolian soldiers, mission workers, what appears to be a border marker, a stupa, an ancient stone watch tower, a meeting between Shelton and the “Bow Lama,” the King of Derge with his two wives and children, Shelton family photos, and a



memorial photo showing Shelton mounted on a mule amongst a small herd of tended Yaks. Some of the images are captioned.

After graduating from the University of Kentucky in 1903, Shelton became a missionary for the Disciples of Christ and joined the Foreign Christian Missionary Society. He and his family (a wife and two daughters) arrived in China and after a long and difficult journey settled in Chinese-Tibet border region of Batang where they established a mission. Shelton possessed considerable medical knowledge, and he dreamed of establishing a hospital mission in Tibet's capitol, Lhasa, but for years his queries were rebuffed.

At the time, brigands ruled the countryside, and Shelton was kidnapped in 1920 and held in deplorable conditions while his tormentors waited to collect a \$25,000 ransom. Although badly emaciated, Shelton treated the bandits and their families until they finally abandoned him on a road where he was discovered by authorities. Although not fully recovered, Shelton attempted to travel to Lhasa with three Tibetan companions two years later and plead the case for a missionary hospital himself. While enroute, he received a message stating

“An order has come from the Galon Lama forbidding me to permit foreigners to enter Tibet unless they first state their business to the Galon Lama and get his permission. Please write to the Galon Lama and get his permission. Please do not come until you do so!”

So, Shelton began his return to Batang. Unfortunately, the same bandits who had kidnapped him before, learned of his plans, and attempted to kidnap him once more, this this time to force him to become their personal physician. When the attempt appeared to fail, the brigands shot Shelton and left him to die in the road.

A remarkable and unique original source account of Shelton's death and its impact upon his family who had returned to California after the first kidnapping attempt.

At the time of listing, original source material related to missionaries in Tibet is non-existent. Nothing is for sale in the trade. Nothing has ever been listed at auction, and OCLC reports nothing to be found in institutional collections. Just as rare and remarkable are Shelton's Tibetan photographs.



**#10349      \$4,500      #10349**

28. [EDUCATION – ELEMENTARY] [MISSIONARIES – SIAM (THAILAND)] [RELIGION – PRESBYTARIANISM] [WOMEN & GIRLS]

1922-1924 – Collection of letters from a missionary teacher at the famed Wattana Wittaya Academy, a girls' school in Siam, today Thailand

This collection consists of five letters totaling 11 pages of typed text, written by Alice J. Elliewood to her cousin, Mary Eliza "Lizzie" Harrison, in New York while teaching at Bangkok's Wattana Wittaya Academy, which was founded by Edna Sarah Cole, a pioneer in women's education. (Earlier this year, we sold a similar block of correspondence that ranged from 1913 to 1922.) In nice shape.

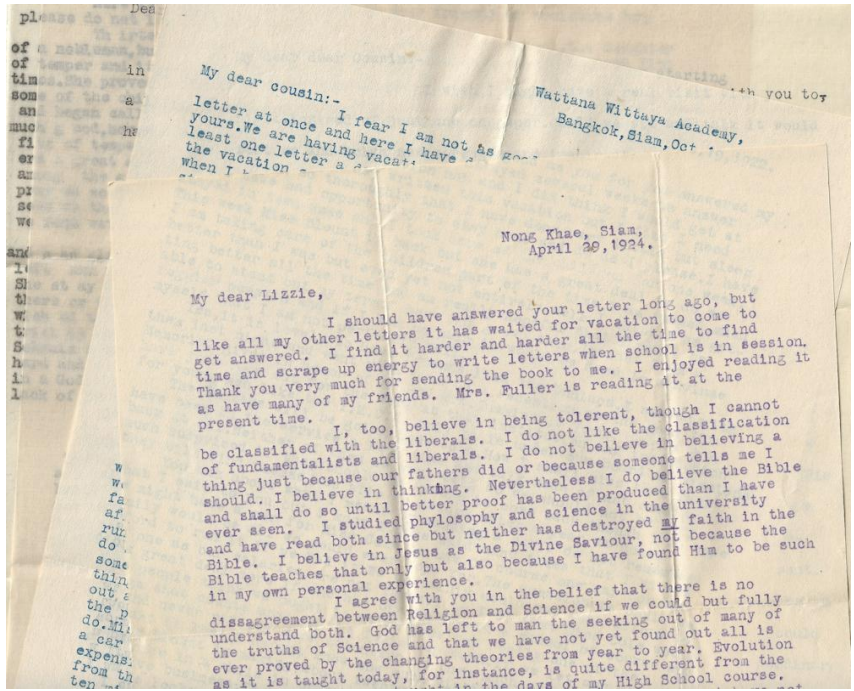
The letters all bear appropriate Thai postage stamps and postal markings, most with indistinct dates. They read in part:

"I am indeed much better than I was but even yet not entirely well . . . and am really hopeful that I shall be able to stand out my term. . . . The Dunlaps

are going home soon. How I shall miss them. They have been in the service a long time. . . . I have said many times that I wished we might have a car. . . . We are in a school [and] one of the things that counts the most is the follow up work. If we let our girls out and never pay any more attention to them much of our work of the past is lost. . . . The street car does not come out this way. . . . Motor bus [takes us] a very round about way from one to one and one half hours. Our time is much to limited to do that. . . . We had one hundred eighty two pupils when school closed the last of the month. . . . We had a very good term. . . . Both teachers and pupils did well [and] I was very proud of our girls who are soon to graduate. They worked hard [and we] succeeded in winning three of their classmates to Christ. There are only two in the class of fourteen now who have not given their hearts to Christ. . . .

"Once more school is closed. . . . We graduated two classes for last year we could have no annual entertainment because of the death of the Queen mother. . . . Our program . . . consisted of a presentation of our new school to the womanhood of Siam. . . . The girls scouts drilled and gave a flag drill [looking] very pretty in their bloomers, middy blouses and hats of red white and blue, the colors of the Siamese flag. . . . They made them all themselves, even the hats. Our diplomas were presented by a prince. . . . All these girls passed . . . the highest examinations the government offers to girls. . . .

"Here is a story you may read to your friends or societies but please do not let it get into print. Thirteen years ago a little [daughter of a nobleman] came to our school . . . a wild little thing. She often had hard fits of temper and it was very hard to keep her under control [but] she proved to be very bright and picked up English more readily than some. . . . She also decided very soon that she believed in Christ [but] her training did not seem to do her much good [and she] gave all her teachers a great amount of trouble, raising quarrels among the girls. . . . Our prayers were of no avail [and] we requested her not to return the next year. . . . Not long ago we received a



letter from her saying she wished to get back to Christian influence. [As she had passed] the highest government examination . . . [we gave her] a trial [teaching] in one of our schools and [it now appears] she will make good. . .

“We have been for two months now at the new school, which we call the Wattana Wittaya Academy. [It] has two fine brick buildings, a school and a dormitory [and] we are building two [more] to be used as kitchens with dormitories for our servants. . . We are [still] greatly in need of a good dining room, a hospital, a chapel, and two more dormitories. . .

“I hope to have three helpers but may be restricted to two. Fortunately most of the Siamese teachers are staying for another year. . . I am working now on a course of study for teaching typewriting on the new Siamese machine[s] . . . made in America, Remington portables. . . I have been teaching the touch system . . . in English this last year. [We hope to soon] be able to teach the Siamese typing also.”

The letters also contain a deep discussion on how Elliewood came to reconcile Christianity with modern science and long tale about recently deceased teacher who as a young Buddhist girl converted to Christianity and then devoted her life to tutoring rural children who were unable to attend the Wattana Wittaya Academy.

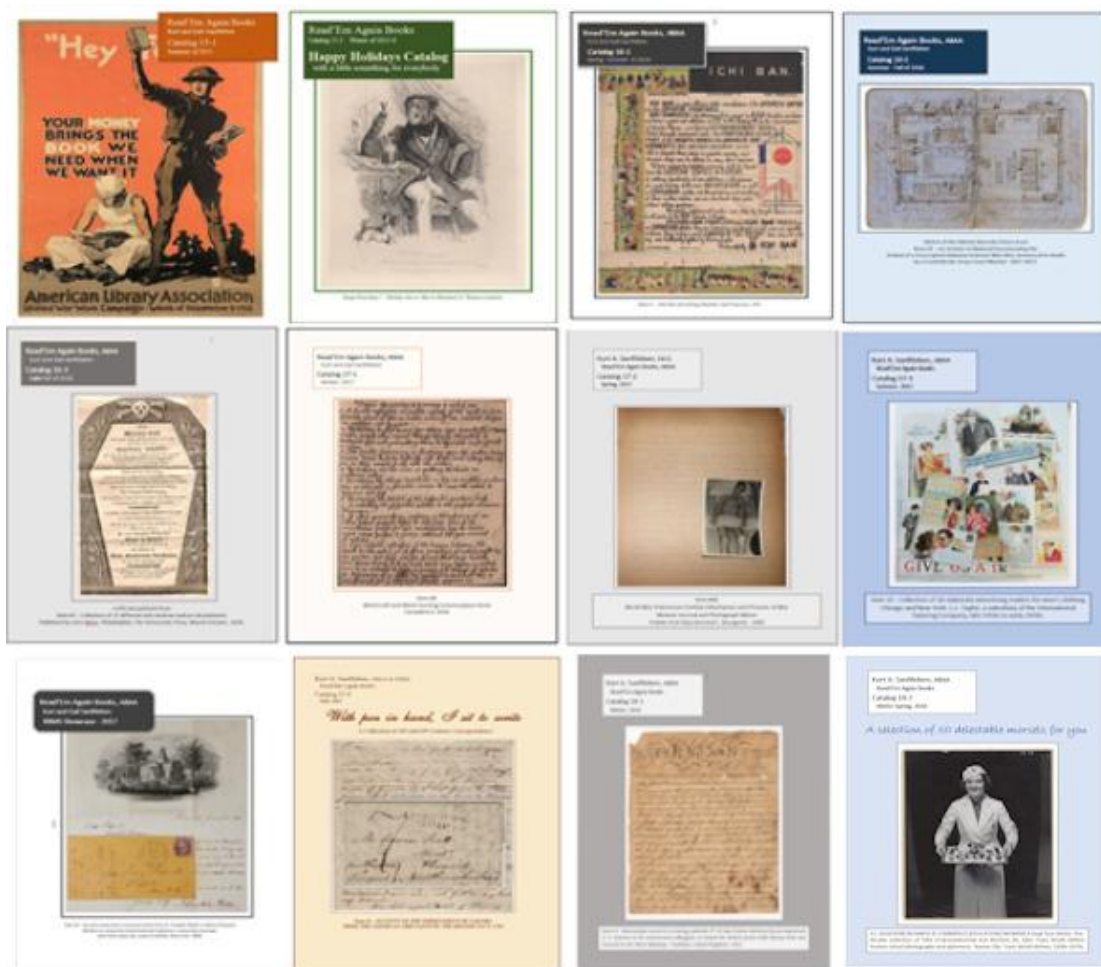
(For more information, see “Cole, Edna Sarah” in the online Dictionary of Christian Biography in Asia and Smalley’s “Early Protestant Missionaries and the Development of Thailand’s Hierarchy of Multilingualism, “ available online.)

Scarce first-hand documentation of life at one of the most distinguished schools in Thailand. At the time of listing, nothing similar is available for sale in the trade. The Rare Book Hub and ABSA report no appearance of similar items at auction. OCLC suggests Wheaton College may hold correspondence related to Edna Sarah Cole and her school.

**#10751**      **\$500**



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 visit us in-person at one of our remaining live shows this year.

**31 Jul – 2 Aug – The Dallas Antiquarian Book and Paper Fair in Carrollton, Texas**

**28-30 Aug – The National Philatelic Exhibition (NAPEX) at Tyson's Corner, Virginia**

**11 Oct – The Ann Arbor Antiquarian Book Fair at the University of Michigan**

**20-22 Nov – The Chicago Philatelic Exhibition (CHICAGOPEX) in Itasca, Illinois**