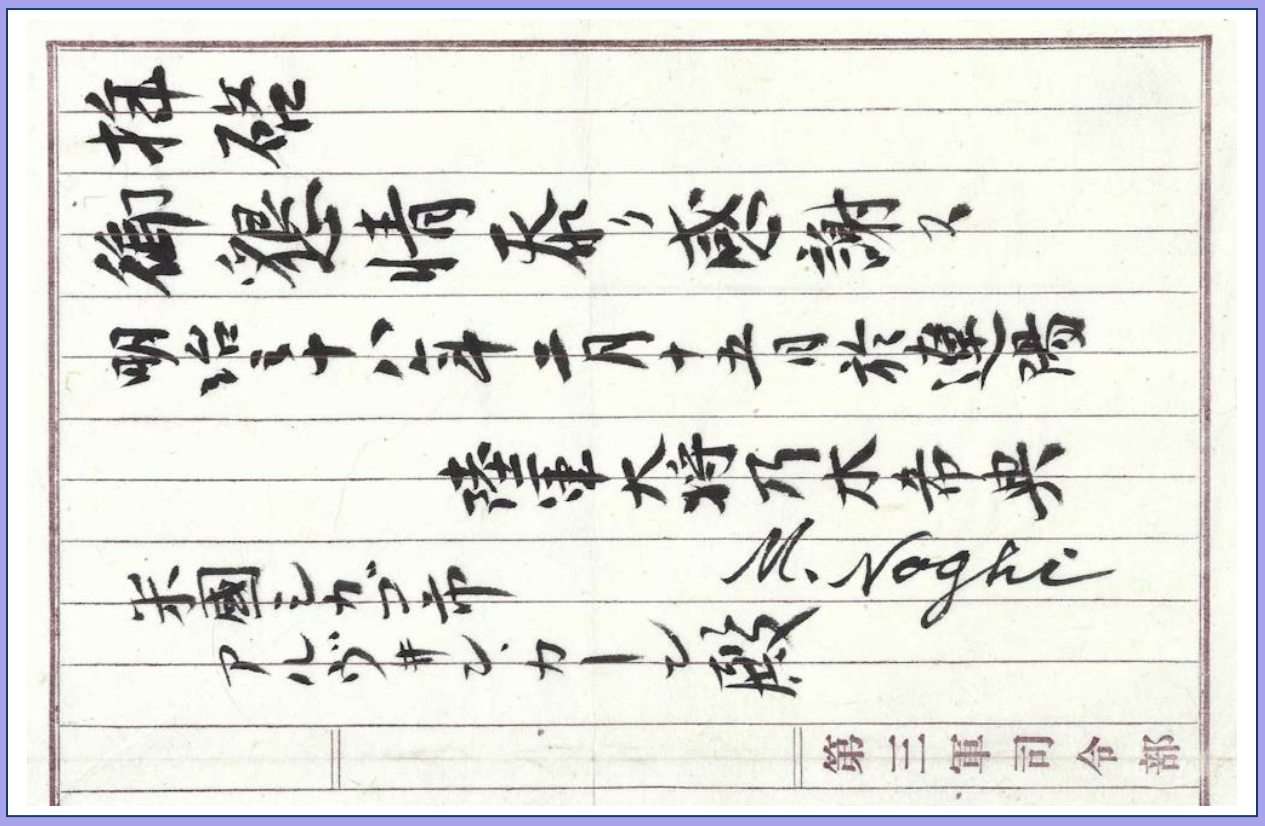
Kurt A. Sanftleben, ABAA and ASDA

Paper Americana and Postal History

Catalog 26-9 – November 2026



22. 1905 – Letter written by Russo-Japanese War Hero General Count Nogi Maresuke to a young boy in Chicago while leading his army through Liaoyang to the decisive victory at Mukden, thanking the lad for a letter of condolence sent following the death of Nogi's two sons during the recent Siege of Port Arthur.

Diaries, Journals, Correspondence, Photographs and Ephemera

We specialize in unique original source items that provide collectors and researchers insight into American history, society, and culture while telling stories within themselves. Although we love large archives, usually our offerings are much smaller in scope; one of our regular institutional customers calls them “microhistories.”

This primary source material enlivens collections and provides students, faculty, and other researchers with details to invigorate otherwise dry theses, dissertations, and publications. Competitive philatelic exhibitors often purchase our ephemeral material to provide additional ‘pop’ to their thematic, topical, postal history, and especially international open exhibits.

Terms of Sale

Prices are in U.S dollars. When applicable, we charge sales tax. Unless otherwise stated, standard domestic shipping is free. International shipping charges vary. All shipments are sent insured at no additional cost. Any customs or VAT fees are the responsibility of the purchaser. We no longer ship to France or Germany due to the added burden of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) registration.

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Institutions, established customers, and ABAA/ILAB members may be invoiced; all others are asked to prepay. We appreciate institutional constraints when it comes to complying with acquisition rules, dealing with foundations, and courting donors, so we are always willing to hold items for a reasonable time for you to meet organizational purchasing, funding, and billing requirements.

Any item may be returned for a full refund for any reason if the return is initiated within ten days of a purchaser’s receipt and if the item arrives back to us in the same condition as when originally shipped. Prior notice of any return is appreciated. Return shipping costs will be paid by the buyer. All items are guaranteed as described. If a recognized authority finds an item or signature not to be genuine, the original purchaser may return the item at any time for a full refund including all shipping costs.

Regards, Kurt and Gail

_____

Kurt and Gail Sanftleben
Stafford, VA 22554
Email and PayPal address: kurt@sanftleben.com Cell phone and Zelle transfers: 571-409-0144
Website: read-em-again.com

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1. [EDUCATION – COLLEGE] [RELIGION - PROTESTANT] [PHILATELY]

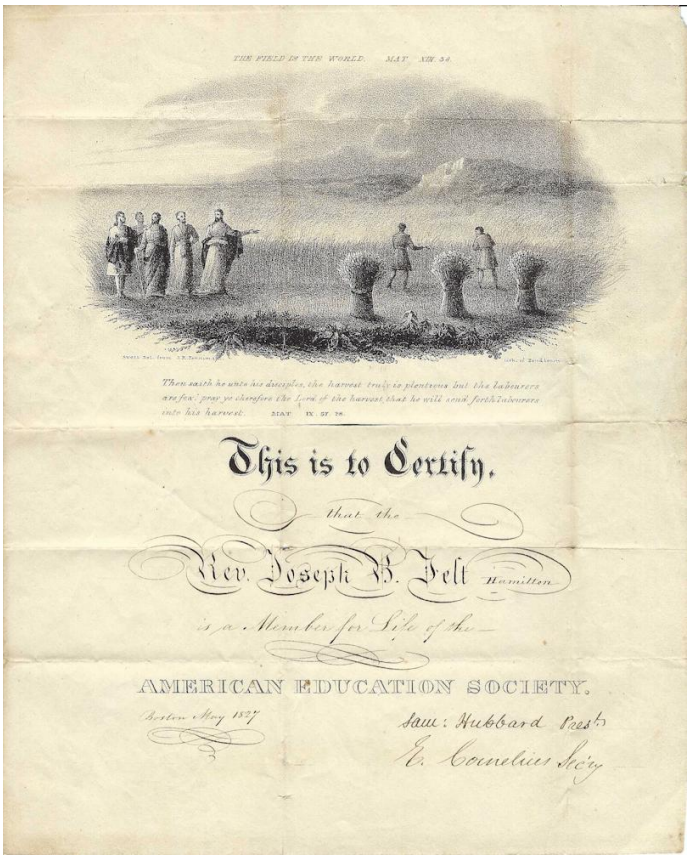
1827 – Lifetime membership certificate from the American Education Society



This certificate, printed on bi-fold paper, attests that "the Rev Joseph B. Felt is a Member for Life of the American Education Society." It measures approximately 8" x 9.75" folded . It was signed in Boston in 1827 by E. Cornelius, the secretary, and Samuel Hubbard, the president. In nice shape with a few small glassine mends on the reverse.

It features a large engraving by John Ritto Penniman of Jesus with his disciples standing before a large wheat field. Its caption reads

"The Field is the World, Matt. XIII: 38. / Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; pray ye, therefore, the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest. Matt. IX- 37, 38."



The certificate was addressed to Felt at Hamilton, Massachusett. Likely hand delivered as it bears not postal markings of any kind.

The American Education Society was founded in 1815 as the American Society for the Education of Pious Youth for the Gospel Ministry with a declared mission to raise funds for college expenses of young men who intended to become Protestant clergymen. In 1820, it shortened its name to simply the American Education Society with no change of mission. Headquartered in Massachusetts, it had no buildings, libraries, or other visible organizational structures.

The society was a resounding success and by the end of the 1830s about 25% of American college students, who were intending to become ministers, were at least partially funded by the Society or one of its fellow organizations. Although donors could request their contributions be granted to specific students, final decisions regarding the disposition of funds rested with the society's directors.

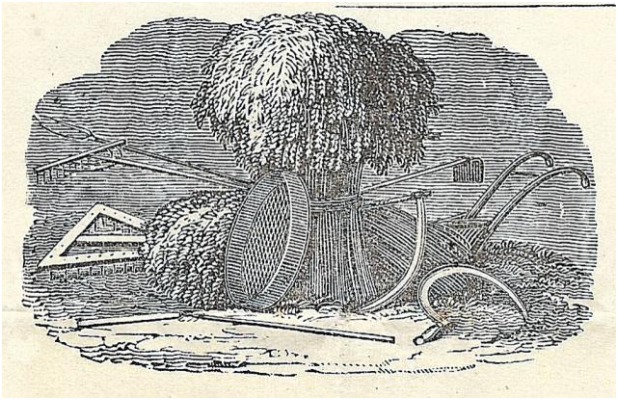
(For more information, see Naylor's " Holding High the Standard: The Influence of the American Education Society in Ante-Bellum Education" in the *History of Education Quarterly*, volume 24 , number 4, available online.)

At the time of listing, no other certificates are for sale in the trade. The Rare Book Hub shows that a trimmed example without the "American Education Society" title was sold at auction. OCLC shows two institutions hold examples. We sold a similar certificate several years ago.

#10834 **$200**

2. [ADVERTISING – BILLHEADS] [BUSINESS – AGRICULTURE] [PHILATELY] [PUBLISHING – NEWSPAPERS]

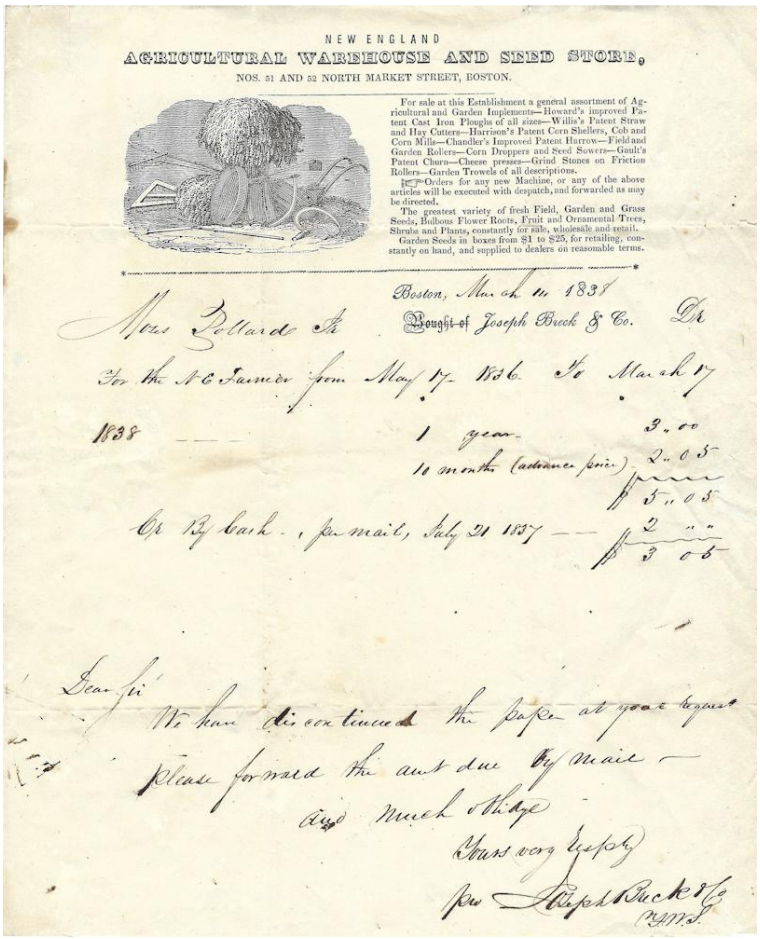
1838 – A billing notice confirming the cancellation of a subscription to the *New England Farmer* and requesting payment from the subscriber to settle his account



This stampless folded bill was sent to Mr. Moses Pollard, the postmaster of Plymouth, Massachusetts Joseph Breck of the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store in Boston. It measures 15.5" x 9.5" and is dated March 14, 1838. It bears a manuscript "10" rate stamp and a circular Boston postmark dated March 14. In nice shape, with some glassine mends on the reverse.

The letterhead features a vignette of a shock of hay along with various pieces of farm equipment. An adjacent advertisement reads in part:

> "For sale at this Establishment, a general assortment of Agricultural and Garden Implements – Howard's improved Patent Cast Iron Ploughs of all sizes – Willis's Patent Straw and Hay Cutters – Harrison's Patent Corn Shellers, Cob and Corn Mills – Chandler's Improved Patent Harrow – Field and Garden Rollers, Corn Droppers and Seed Sowers [as well as] the greatest variety of fresh Field, Garden and Grass Seeds, Bulbous Flower Roots, Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs and Plants. . .. Garden Seeds in boxes from $1 to $25, for retailing, constantly on hand, and supplied to dealers on reasonable terms. . .."



NEW ENGLAND
AGRICULTURAL WAREHOUSE AND SEED STORE,
NOS. 51 AND 52 NORTH MARKET STREET, BOSTON.

For sale at this Establishment a general assortment of Agricultural and Garden Implements—Howard's improved Patent Cast Iron Ploughs of all sizes—Willis's Patent Straw and Hay Cutters—Harrison's Patent Corn Shellers, Cob and Corn Mills—Chandler's Improved Patent Harrow—Field and Garden Rollers—Corn Droppers and Seed Sowers—Gault's Patent Churn—Cheese presses—Grind Stones on Friction Rollers—Garden Trowels of all descriptions.
☞Orders for any new Machine, or any of the above articles will be executed with despatch, and forwarded as may be directed.
The greatest variety of fresh Field, Garden and Grass Seeds, Bulbous Flower Roots, Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs and Plants, constantly for sale, wholesale and retail.
Garden Seeds in boxes from $1 to $25, for retailing, constantly on hand, and supplied to dealers on reasonable terms.

Boston, March 14 1838

Moses Pollard Esq Bought of Joseph Breck & Co. Dr

To the N.E. Farmer from May 17 1836 To March 17

1838 — 1 year 3.00
10 months (advance price) 2.05
$5.05

Cr By bank, for mail, July 21 1837 — 2 "
$3.05

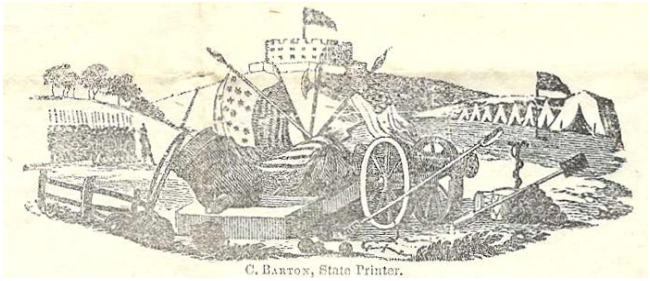
Dear Sir
We have discontinued the paper at your request
please forward the amt due by mail —
and much oblige
Yours very respy
pro Joseph Breck & Co
pay

#10835 **$100**

3. [MILITARY – MILITIA]

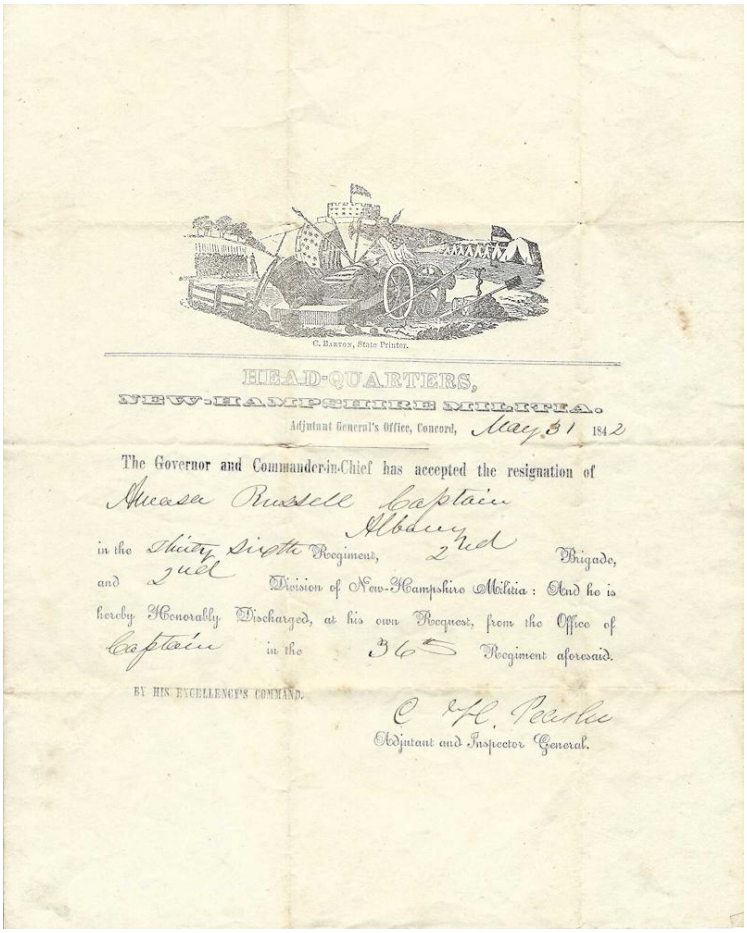
1842 – An officer's illustrated partially printed Honorable Discharge certificate from the New Hampshire Militia

This 7.75" x 9.75" illustrated partially printed militia Honorable Discharge certificate is printed on bifold paper. It bears an impressive illustration that includes marching soldiers, flags, a cannon with a tent encampment a large fort in the background. It reads in part:



"Headquarters / New-Hampshire Militia. / Adjutant General's Office, Concord, May 31 1842. /

"The Governor and Commander-in-Chief has accepted the resignation of / Amasa Russell Captain / Albany / in the Thirty sixth Regiment, 2nd Brigade, / an 2nd Division of New-Hampshire Militia: And he is / hereby Honorably Discharged, at his one Request, from the Office of / Cap[tain in the 36th Regiment aforesaid. . . ."



Online genealogical records for Amasa (sometimes Amazi, Amassa, or other variation) Russell show that he owned 1,100 acres of farmland at the time of his death.

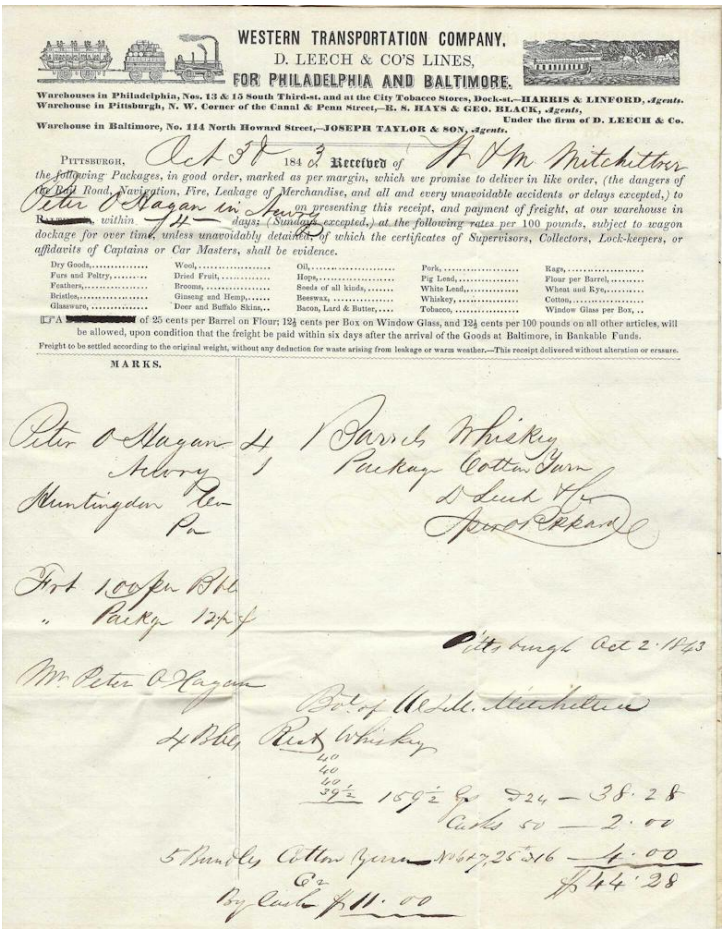
Other records related to Amazi's militia service are held at the New Hampshire Historical Society website.

An unusual and attractive early illustrated military discharge certificate. Early American military discharge certificates were primarily utilitarian text documents without illustration, which only became popular later during the American Civil War. During early conflicts like the Revolutionary War. the War of 1812, and the Mexican-American War, discharges were strictly functional. The document featured simple typography, hand-inked names, and, at the most, modestly woodcut embellishments such as a eagle.

#10836 **$200**

4. [BUSINESS – SHIPPING] [FOOD & DRINK – WHISKEY] [PHILATELY] [TRANSPORTATION – RAILROADS & CANALS]

1843 – Illustrated combined bill of lading and transmittal letter documenting the shipment of four barrels of whiskey from Pittsburgh to Newry, Pennsylvania by the Western Transportation Company over the Main Line of Public Works canal system and the Allegheny Portage Railroad


WESTERN TRANSPORTATION COMPANY,
D. LEECH & CO'S LINES,
FOR PHILADELPHIA AND BALTIMORE.

Warehouses in Philadelphia, Nos. 13 & 15 South Third-st. and at the City Tobacco Stores, Dock-st.—HARRIS & LINFORD, Agents.
Warehouse in Pittsburgh, N. W. Corner of the Canal & Penn Street,—R. S. HAYS & GEO. BLACK, Agents,
Under the firm of D. LEECH & Co.
Warehouse in Baltimore, No. 114 North Howard Street,—JOSEPH TAYLOR & SON, Agents.

PITTSBURGH, Oct 2 1843 Received of N & M Mitchettner
the following Packages, in good order, marked as per margin, which we promise to deliver in like order, (the dangers of the Rail Road, Navigation, Fire, Leakage of Merchandise, and all and every unavoidable accidents or delays excepted,) to Peter O Hagan in Newry on presenting this receipt, and payment of freight, at our warehouse in [redacted], within 14 days, (Sundays excepted,) at the following rates per 100 pounds, subject to wagon dockage for over time, unless unavoidably detained, of which the certificates of Supervisors, Collectors, Lock-keepers, or affidavits of Captains or Car Masters, shall be evidence.

Dry Goods,	Wool,	Oil,	Pork,	Rags,
Furs and Peltry,	Dried Fruit,	Hops,	Pig Lead,	Flour per Barrel,
Feathers,	Brooms,	Seeds of all kinds,	White Lead,	Wheat and Rye,
Bristles,	Ginseng and Hemp,	Beeswax,	Whiskey,	Cotton,
Glassware,	Deer and Buffalo Skins,	Bacon, Lard & Butter,	Tobacco,	Window Glass per Box,

[redacted] of 25 cents per Barrel on Flour; 12½ cents per Box on Window Glass, and 12½ cents per 100 pounds on all other articles, will be allowed, upon condition that the freight be paid within six days after the arrival of the Goods at Baltimore, in Bankable Funds.
Freight to be settled according to the original weight, without any deduction for waste arising from leakage or warm weather.—This receipt delivered without alteration or erasure.

MARKS.

Peter O Hagan 4 1 Barrels Whiskey
Newry Package Cotton Yarn
Huntingdon Co D Leech & Co
Pa Agent at Pittsburgh

Frt 100 per Bbl
" Packy 12½ ¢

Pittsburgh Oct 2. 1843

Mr Peter O Hagan
Bo't of N. & M. Mitchettner
4 Bbls Rect Whiskey
40
40
40
39½ 159½ Gs @ 24 — 38.28
Casks 50 — 2.00
5 Bundles Cotton Yarn — No 4 7 5 6 — 4.00
By Cash $11.00 $44.28

The bill of lading documents the shipment of four barrels of whiskey and a package of cotton yarn.

The company was founded by David Leech and operated from 1829 until 1853 along the Pennsylvania Main-Line canal using canal boats, wagons, and rail connections to link major hubs like Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. In the case of this shipment, the canal boat would have been placed on a specially made railroad carriage and pulled over the mountains by the Allegheny Portage Railroad's stationary inclined steam powered hoist at Hollidaysburg.

The transmittal letter reads in part,

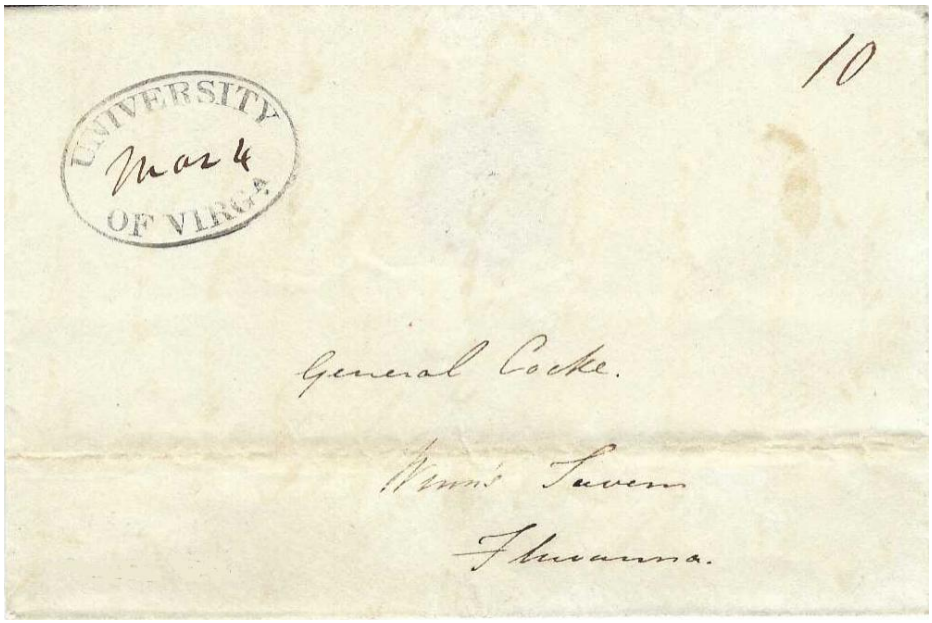
> "Agreeably to you order the Annexed Goods are forwarded by Leech's Lines which we hope you will receive safe.
>
> "Respecting the Bengal Indigo, it is an Article we do not keep as it is very seldom called for. Bought it at an extensive & respectable Dry store here, they told us . . . it was superior to all other kinds. . .. Manilla [is] considerable cheaper. Cotton yarn is got at the Factories here of which there are several viz 'The Hope' – 'Eagle' – 'Union' &cs. We do not deal with any one of them in particular. We enquired at Dickey's about the Cotton Yarn & were told they received a letter from you yesterday which they answered, stating the yarn had been sent on."

(For more information, see my article, "The Allegheny Portage Railroad: 'A Splendid Piece of Work," in *La Posta*, 3rd Qtr, 2024)

#10837 **$150**

5. [EDUCATION – COLLEGE] [PHILATELY] [SLAVERY – PLANTATIONS]

Circa 1845 – A mailing envelope sent by the University of Virginia to John Hartwell Cocke, a progressive slave-owner and long-time member of its Board of Visitors who assisted Thomas Jefferson in the early development of the school



The cover was sent from the University of Virginia in Charlottesville to John Harwell Cocke at his famous Bremo Plantation in Fluvanna County from the University of Virginia and is noteworthy for the strike of the school's oval postmark with manuscript date and "10" rate mark. It is one of the most attractive University of Viginia covers we have seen.

Cocke served for thirty-five years on the University of Virginia's Board of Visitors. He was first appointed in 1816 when the school was brand new and known as Central College. Throughout his tenure, Cocke was deeply involved in the university's early development, supervised the construction of its campus with Thomas Jefferson, and pushed for an emphasis on Christianity and agricultural education in the curriculum.

John Hartwell Cocke was also one of the most intriguing plantation owners in the South. A matriculant at the College of William and Mary and graduate of the University of Virginia, he improved his inherited family plantation, Bremo, in Fluvanna County, Virginia, with architectural and scientific innovations. He was also a reformer who advocated both alcohol and tobacco temperance.

More importantly, he was an enthusiastic advocate for the African colonization of manumitted slaves. Although Cocke owned more than a hundred slaves, he believed slavery to be against God's will and was an enthusiastic promoter of the American Colonization Society, serving as its Vice-President from 1819 until his death in 1866. He employed northern teachers to conduct formal schooling at Bremo for his slaves until 1831 when the practice was banned in Virginia, after which his wife took up the task.

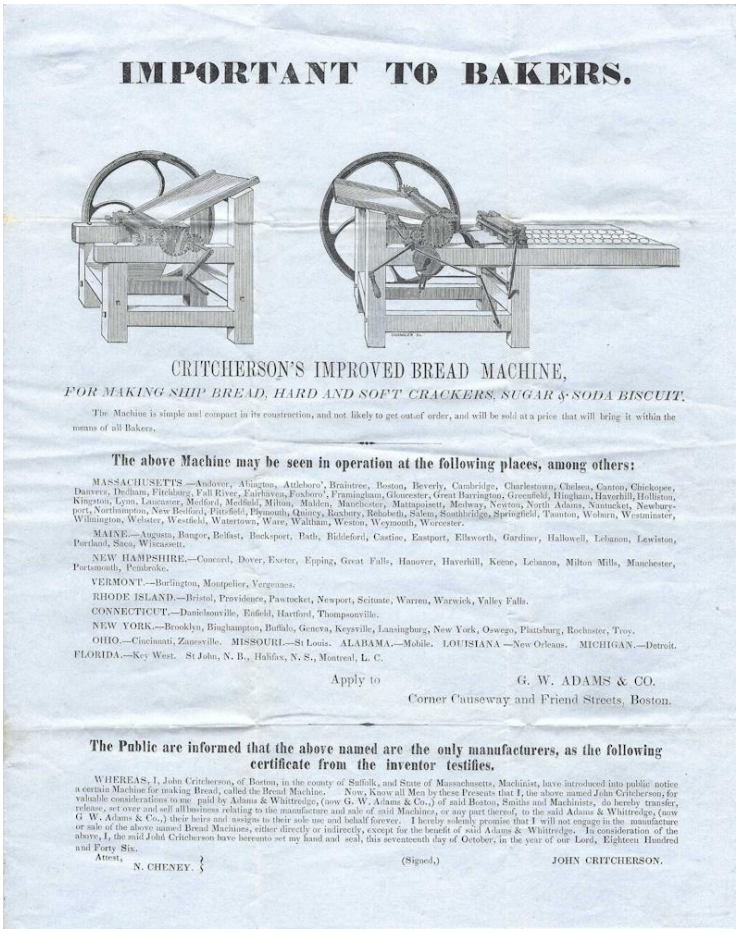
Cocke's boldest action began in the 1840s, when he purchased an Alabama cotton plantation near Greensboro and sent a contingent of slaves there to learn the skills he believed to be necessary for their future success in Liberia. During one of his visits from Virginia to his "Hopewell Plantation" in Alabama, he informed its slaves that he intended to manumit those who worked hard, behaved honestly and obediently, renounced alcohol, and kept the plan, which included providing them with an education, a secret. Of the 82 slaves at Hopewell Plantation, Cocke eventually emancipated 14, whom he transported to Liberia.

(For more information, see "John Hartwell Cocke (1780–1866)" at the online Encyclopedia Virginia, "A Guide to the Cocke Family Papers, 1725-1939" at the University of Virginia, and "Hopewell Plantation, Greene, Alabama" at Wikitree.)

#10838 **$250**

6. [ADVERTISING – BROADSHEETS] [BUSINESS – BAKERIES] [FOOD & DRINK – BREAD] [INVENTIONS – BREAD MACHINE] [PHILATELY]

1848 – Illustrated broadsheet promoting an "improved" bread-making machine for bakeries



IMPORTANT TO BAKERS.

CRITCHERSON'S IMPROVED BREAD MACHINE,

FOR MAKING SHIP BREAD, HARD AND SOFT CRACKERS, SUGAR & SODA BISCUIT.

The Machine is simple and compact in its construction, and not likely to get out of order, and will be sold at a price that will bring it within the means of all Bakers.

The above Machine may be seen in operation at the following places, among others:

MASSACHUSETTS.—Andover, Abington, Attleboro', Braintree, Boston, Beverly, Cambridge, Charlestown, Chelsea, Canton, Chicopee, Danvers, Dedham, Fitchburg, Fall River, Fairhaven, Foxboro', Framingham, Gloucester, Great Barrington, Greenfield, Hingham, Haverhill, Holliston, Kingston, Lynn, Lancaster, Medford, Medfield, Milton, Malden, Manchester, Mattapoisett, Medway, Newton, North Adams, Nantucket, Newburyport, Northampton, New Bedford, Pittsfield, Plymouth, Quincy, Roxbury, Rehobeth, Salem, Southbridge, Springfield, Taunton, Woburn, Westminster, Wilmington, Webster, Westfield, Watertown, Ware, Waltham, Weston, Weymouth, Worcester.

MAINE.—Augusta, Bangor, Belfast, Booksport, Bath, Biddeford, Castine, Eastport, Ellsworth, Gardiner, Hallowell, Lebanon, Lewiston, Portland, Saco, Wiscasset.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—Concord, Dover, Exeter, Epping, Great Falls, Hanover, Haverhill, Keene, Lebanon, Milton Mills, Manchester, Portsmouth, Pembroke.

VERMONT.—Burlington, Montpelier, Vergennes.

RHODE ISLAND.—Bristol, Providence, Pawtucket, Newport, Scituate, Warren, Warwick, Valley Falls.

CONNECTICUT.—Danielsonville, Enfield, Hartford, Thompsonville.

NEW YORK.—Brooklyn, Binghampton, Buffalo, Geneva, Keysville, Lansingburg, New York, Oswego, Plattsburg, Rochester, Troy.

OHIO.—Cincinnati, Zanesville. MISSOURI.—St Louis. ALABAMA.—Mobile. LOUISIANA.—New Orleans. MICHIGAN.—Detroit.

FLORIDA.—Key West. St John, N. B., Halifax, N. S., Montreal, L. C.

Apply to G. W. ADAMS & CO.

Corner Causeway and Friend Streets, Boston.

The Public are informed that the above named are the only manufacturers, as the following certificate from the inventor testifies.

WHEREAS, I, John Critcherson, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk, and State of Massachusetts, Machinist, have introduced into public notice a certain Machine for making Bread, called the Bread Machine. Now, Know all Men by these Presents that I, the above named John Critcherson, for valuable considerations to me paid by Adams & Whittredge, (now G. W. Adams & Co.,) of said Boston, Smiths and Machinists, do hereby transfer, release, set over and sell all business relating to the manufacture and sale of said Machines, or any part thereof, to the said Adams & Whittredge, (now G. W. Adams & Co.,) their heirs and assigns to their sole use and behalf forever. I hereby solemly promise that I will not engage in the manufacture or sale of the above named Bread Machines, either directly or indirectly, except for the benefit of said Adams & Whittredge. In consideration of the above, I, the said John Critcherson have hereunto set my hand and seal, this seventeenth day of October, in the year of our Lord, Eighteen Hundred and Forty Six.

Attest, N. CHENEY. (Signed,) JOHN CRITCHERSON.

This four-page broadsheet contains a one-page advertisement for "Critcherson's Improved Bread Machine" on the front and a one-page manuscript business letter regarding a land purchase inside. It was sent from Boston on August 8th by G. W. Adams & Company to George Dodds of Plattsburg, New York. It bears a red, circular Boston "10" postmark on the address panel. In nice shape.

The broadsheet features two illustrations of the bread machine which could be used

> "For Making Ship Bread [Hardtack], Hard and Soft Crackers, Sugar & Soda Biscuit."

It also boasts that

> "The Machine is simple and compact in its construction, and not likely to get out-of order, and will be sold at a price that will bring it within the means of all Bakers."

Prospective customers are invited to view the machine in operations at over 125 locations in 13 different states.

As a closing, Adams & Company provide a printed certificate from John Cricherson, the machine's inventor, stating that he had transferred all rights to his machine to the company.

Unlike modern automated home breadmakers, this was an industrial machine, designed for commercial bakers and navy suppliers to automate the efficient heavy-duty mixing, kneading, and cutting of large batches of dense, unleavened or low-leavened hardtack and cracker doughs for maritime and mass-market consumption, rather than doing the heavy manual labor by hand.

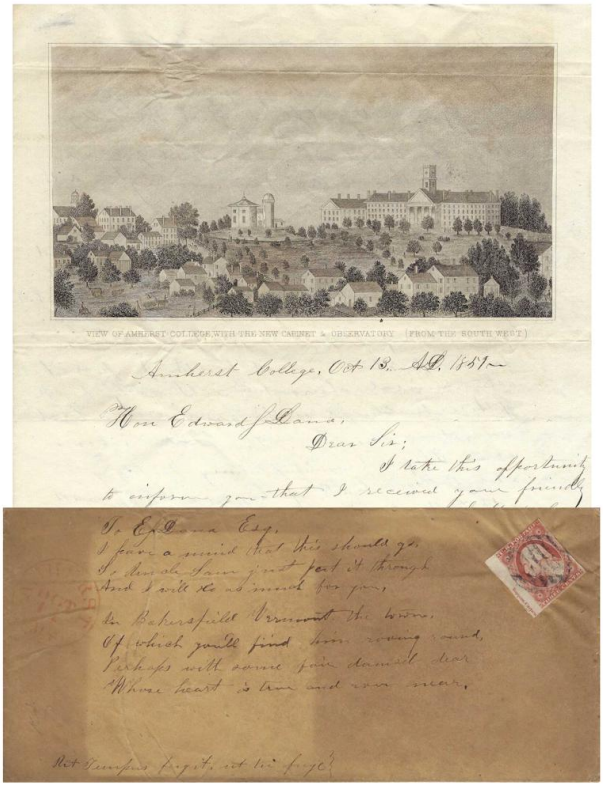
By mechanizing this tedious process, machines like Critcherson's laid the early technical groundwork for modern commercial bakeries.

At the time of listing, nothing similar is for sale in the trade. No similar items have appeared at auctions per the Rare Book Hub and ASBA. No similar broadsides are held by institutions per OCLC.

#10839 **$250**

7. [EDUCATION – ACADEMIES & COLLEGE] [HUMOR] [PHILATELY] [POETRY]

1851 – Humorously addressed letter from a student at Amherst College to his slightly younger friend who was still attending a boarding academy



This letter was sent by John Jay Cotton in Massachusetts to Edgar Summers Dana at the Bakersfield Academical Institution in Vermont. It is datelined, "Amherst College, Oct 13, AD. 1851-" and written on an illustrated Amherst lettersheet, it reads in part:

> "You have a view . . . on this sheet, the beauty of which you can judge. . .. There are five buildings viz: the Chapel where we attend our prayers, recite &c. three Colleges for rooming and the Cabinet which you see on the large square in front of the Chapel. . .. At a cost from $15 to $20,000, it is built in the form of an octagon. The smaller one [has a top] which is made to revolve has an aperature . . . for the purpose of making astronomical observations. Directly back of these buildings is the grove in which we get our exercise. . .. The large building south of this is the President's . . . between these two is our habitation. . .. The affairs of the College are all right. Some of the Freshies get ducked and some don't. We attended a Levee at the President's a few nights ago, had a fine time, saw lots of feminine women to the surprise of all, [as no women attended Amherst]. I should like to have had the opportunity of walking with that species of the softer sex . . .. I shall expect to see you down here before many days, walking the Collegiate Halls. . .."

The envelope is franked with a three-cent Washington stamp (Scott #10A). The stamp has a wide left margin showing some of a printer's imprint that reads, Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co. It bears a circular Amherst postmark in red. Some toning. It is addressed using a humorous two-stanza poem that reads,

> "I have a mind that this should go,
> So Uncle Sam just post it through
> And I will do as much for you.
>
> In Bakersfield Vermont the town,
> Of which you'll find him running round.
> Perhaps with some fair damsel dear
> Whose heart is true and ever near."

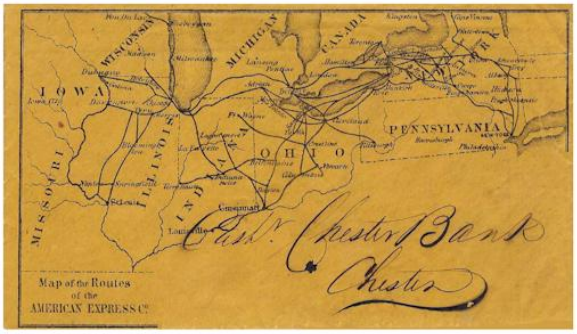
Along the bottom edge of the envelope, the sender wrote, "Ret Tempus fugit, ut tu fuge" (Time flies, so do you).

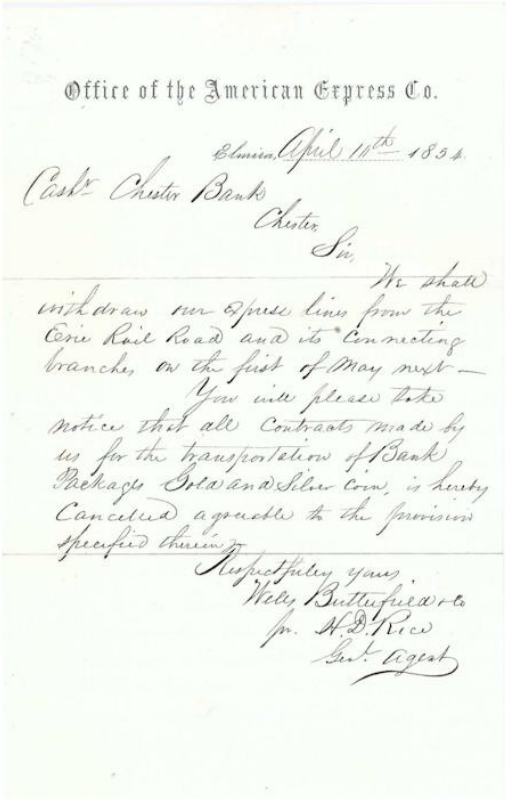
At the time this letter was sent, the Bakersfield Academical Institution, commonly known as the South Academy had over 360 students. Dana was a 16-year-old student and under the tutelage of his uncle, Jacob Spaulding, the school's principal. He never made it to Amherst. After a severe case of pneumonia, he returned to his father's farm. He eventually became a clerk in the House of Representatives and was elected to the Vermont Legislature in 1874, later becoming a state senator in 1880. After a severe fall in 1883, his health began to fail, and he died in 1886 at the age of 48.

#10840 **$275**

8. [ADVERTISING – COVERS] [BUSINESS – SHIPPING] [MAPS] [PHILATELY] [TRANSPORTATION – RAILROAD]

1854 – Privately-carried letter documenting the business feud between the American Express Company and Erie Railroad, enclosed in a map-illustrated envelope showing all of the American Express routes in New York and the Upper Midwest




Office of the American Express Co.

Elmira April 10th 1854

Cashr Chester Bank

Chester

Sir,

We shall withdraw our Express lines from the Erie Rail Road and its connecting branches on the first of May next—

You will please take notice that all Contracts made by us for the transportation of Bank Packages Gold and Silver Coin, is hereby Canceled agreeable to the provisions specified therein.

Respectfully yours

Wells, Butterfield & Co

per H. D. Rice

Gen. Agent

This letter sent by Wells, Butterfield & Company in Elmira, New York to the Cashier of the Chester Bank in Orange County, is written on American Express Company stationery and datelined "April 10th 1854." Its accompanying mailing envelope features an all-over illustration of a "Map of the Routes of the American Express Co." The envelope was privately-carried and displays no postal markings. In nice shape.

It reads in part:

> "We shall withdraw our Express lines from the Erie Rail Road and its connecting branches on the first of May next.
>
> "You will please take notice that all contracts made for us for the transportation Bank Packages Gold and Siver coin, is hereby canceled agreeable to the provisions specified therein. . .."

As explained at the American Express Company website, "In 1854, trouble developed with the New York, Lake Erie & Western Railroad [better known as the Erie Railroad, which was] American Express's link to the Midwest, when Daniel Drew, the railroad's owner, became outraged that American Express had picked off the Erie's most profitable freight business by shipping light, high-rate freight on the Erie under its express contract. Drew was determined to award the express rights to others. In response, American Express created an affiliate and presented it as a bona fide competitor. American Express loaned the funds to start a new company to Danforth Barney, then president of Wells Fargo. Barney's new company, United States Express Co., then acquired the Erie express rights from Drew. . .." Drew's plan failed completely. Because the United States Express Company was an "undercover' affiliate funded entirely by American Express, they divided the highly profitable Midwestern rail business between themselves, keeping the monopoly intact and leaving the Erie Railroad none the wiser.

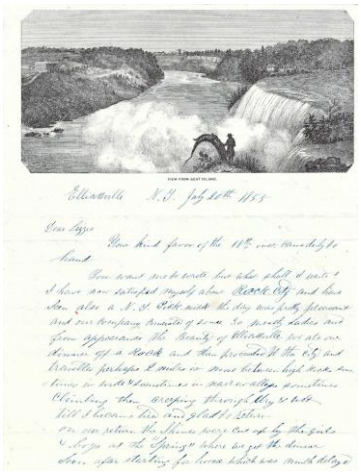
Wells, Butterfield & Company was a famous 19th-century express delivery formed jointly by express transport pioneers Henry Wells and John Warren Butterfield, who later were joined by William G. Fargo to form the American Express Company.

This scarce testament to the feud between the Erie and American Express with a terrific route map sold for $547 as Lot 483 in Matthew Bennet Auction 319 in June of 2007.

#10841 **$450**

9. [ADVERTISING – LETTERHEADS] [ENTERTAINMENT – CIRCUS] [RACISM – MINSTRELSY] [TOURISM – NIAGARA FALLS & ROCK CITY] [WOMEN & GIRLS]

1855 – Letter, on an illustrated Niagara Falls lettersheet, describing a picnic on Goat Island and alluding what he found to be a less than impressive visit to Buffalo by the Dan Rice circus



This two-page letter, written by Samuel Geil to "Lizzy" (perhaps a friend or sister), is datelined Ellicottville N.Y. July 20th, 1855. The lettersheet features an illustration of Niagara Falls as seen from Goat Island. There is no accompanying envelope. In nice shape.

In this letter, first describes his participation in an excursion to see the Rock City in Little Valley, New York

> "I have now satisfied myself about Rock City and have seen also a N. Y. Pick-nick the day was pretty pleasant and our company consisted of some 30 mostly ladies and from appearances the Beauty of Ellicottville. We ate our dinner off a Rock and then proceeded to the City and then traveled perhaps 2 miles or more between high Rock, sometimes in wide & sometimes in narrow alleys sometimes climbing then creeping through dry & wet till I became tired and glad to return.

> "On our return the shines were cut up by the girls & boys at the "Springs" where we got the dinner. Soon after starting from home which was much delayed by the wagons being in an unturnable position . . . it began to rain and all . . . the passengers were completely 'ducked' before they go home. . .."

Rock City is a natural quartz conglomerate formation in what was then a remote, forested wilderness landmark about 30 miles south of Ellicottville. Its massive 20-to-30-foot-high boulders—forming natural alleyways resembling city streets—sat quietly above Little Valley Creek. Today, it is the site of a privately run, family-friendly tourist attraction, known as Rock City Park.

In the mid-1850s, to "cut shines" meant pulling tricks or behaving in a boisterous, playful, or silly manner.

Geil closes by relating a visit of the Dan Rice circus to Buffalo.

> "The circus was numerously attended but was Humbug No. 1 not near all that was pretended was performed and it came near raising huff. Dan Rice was sued before he left the village [as] they had 20 less horses than the other circuses. I did not go in [but] they had first rate music. . .."

Rock City is a natural quartz conglomerate formation in what was then a remote, forested wilderness landmark about 30 miles south of Ellicottville. Its massive 20-to-30-foot-high boulders—forming natural alleyways resembling city streets—sat quietly above Little Valley Creek.

In 1855, legendary 19th-century entertainer Dan Rice, of Jim Crow fame, marked a major milestone by officially launching "Dan Rice's Great Show," establishing himself as one of the most prominent circus impresarios in United States history. Rice, originally a blackface minstrel crooner, had previously gained fame by touring with shared exhibitions and his famous "One-Horse Show," however, with his "Great Show," Rice completely changed the circus in America. It included death-defying equestrian and wire-walking performances, upscale theatrical parodies, a menagerie of animals including an elephant and rhinoceros, and, yes, minstrelsy too. Perhaps, Geil's opinion might have been different if he had sprung for the 50-cent admission and actually taken one of the 5,000 seats under Dan Rice's "Big Top" tent.

#10842 **$250**

10. [ADVERTISING – BILLHEADS] [BUSINESS – AGRICULTURE & HARDWARE] [SLAVERY – PLANTATIONS] [TRANSPORTATION – RIVERBOAT]

1855 – Bill of Lading from a major supplier of plantation supplies and equipment to Flagland, a large sugarcane and cotton plantation on Bayou Rapides in Louisiana



This bill of lading was sent by Stark, Day & Stouffer of New Orleans, Louisiana to Peter and Thomas Hickman, who owned adjacent plantations, known as Flagland, on Bayou Rapides in what was to become part of Grant Parish, Louisiana. It is datelined "Jan$^{y.}$ 29 1855." The document bears two manuscript entries on its address panel, "BL" (for Bill of Lading) and "Pirta" (probably the steam boat upon which it was carried). It features a large illustration of the company's five-building complex at 64 Canal Street, which shows pedestrians (including a child rolling a hoop) and horse-drawn wagons in the foreground. In nice shape.

The Bill of Lading documents the shipping of "1 Hoe & Co Circular Saw 48in" and "12 McClanahan Plows #1" for a total charge of $140.50.

Stark, Day & Stouffer was a major plantation supplier in antebellum who specialized in providing bulk provisions, hardware, equipment, and general goods to plantations throughout not just the Mississippi Valley but the entire South.

Flagland (or Flag Land), encompassed adjacent plantations owned by two brothers, Peter Terry and Thomas Jefferson Hickman. Together the plantations formed a massive tract of over 55,000 acres of sugarcane and cotton, which were worked by between 117 and 159 slaves.

Supplies and equipment were sent to Bayou Rapides using steamboats that had previously transported plantation cotton and sugar cane to New Orleans. To reach Flagland, riverboats were loaded for the return trip at the bustling New Orleans levee. They then traveled upriver, fighting the Mississippi's heavy current. Just north of Pointe Coupee, vessels would turn northwest into the mouth of the notoriously challenging Red River. Although the river's infamous "Great Raft" logjam had been cleared in the 1830s, it was still plagued by shifting sandbars, snagged and hidden logs, and wildly fluctuating water levels. After arriving, the boats would have been unloaded at either the plantations' private landings or the settlement that would become the town of Colfax. Depending upon the weather, current, and fluctuating depths, journeys would have taken between two and four days.

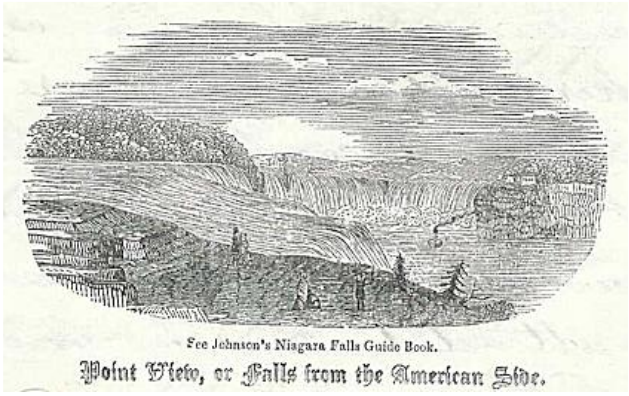
An attractive bill of lading that documents they only method of supplying important Louisiana sugar and cotton plantations on Bayou Rapides.

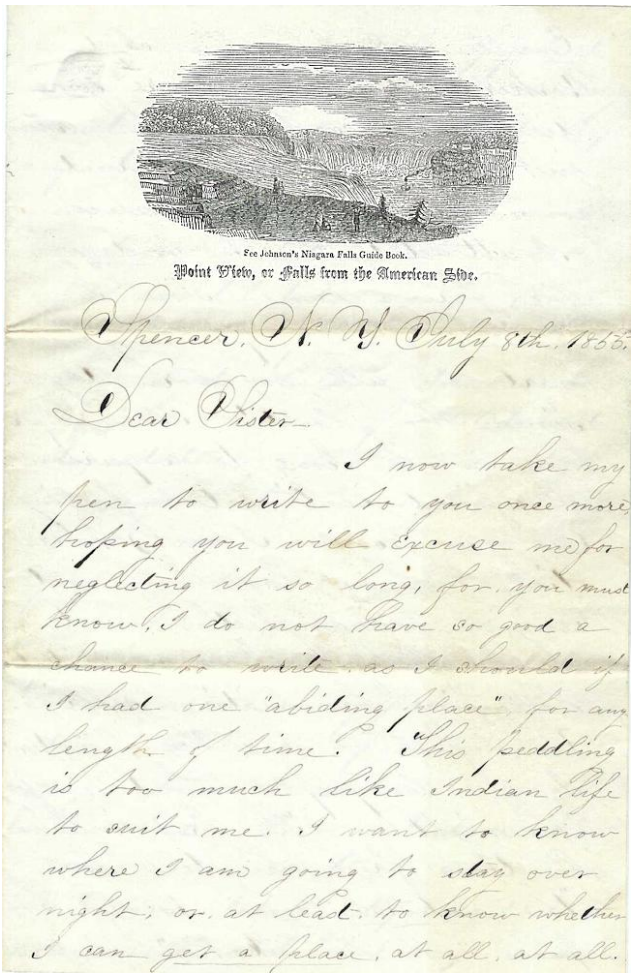
#10843 **$250**

11. [ADVERTISING – LETTERHEADS] [BUSINESS – PEDDLING] [RELIGION – CALVINISM] [TOURISM – NIAGARA FALLS]

1855 – Letter home from a frustrated traveling salesman that bubbles over with sarcasm

This four-page letter was sent by a traveling salesman in Spencer, New York to his sister. It is dated July 8th, 1855. It features a view of Niagara Falls titled, "Pointe View, or Falls from the American Side" and encourages recipients to "See Johnson's Niagara Falls Guidebook." No accompanying envelope. In nice shape





In this letter, the salesman apparently forgets that he was going to write about the falls and instead goes off on two wild tangents. He writes in part:

> "You should know I do not have so good a chance to write as I should if I had one 'abiding place' for any length of time. This peddling is too much like Indian life to suit me. I want to know where I am going to stay over night, or at least to know whether I can get a place, at all.
>
> "Excellent people, these shiftless Yorkers: although there are some dishonorable exceptions. They know just enough to make darned conceited fools of themselves.
>
> "I attended church today [and] such preaching I never heard in all my born days. . .. It was perfectly shocking to a person of refined sentiments & feelings (as you know I am!) to sit still to hear language and religion mangled . . . by such a conceited, bellowing, browbeating, selfrighteous fool as was the minister & yet the people seemed to enjoy it mightily. . .. This minister is one of the old sort who contend that man is born totally depraved, and originally intended, by his Maker for to smell fire & brimstone forever unless he should be one of the 'elect.'
>
> "I do not think a universalist any better . . . than a methodist, baptist, or one of any other sect. . .. But I am enlarging the subject more than I intended and getting short for space. . ..

As an afterthought, he adds

> "This is a view of the falls from the American side!!"

An attractive Niagara Falls lettersheet containing an exceptionally interesting letter.

#10844 **$200**

12. [ACCIDENTS] [ENTERTAINMENT – CIRCUS] [POLITICS – PRESIDENTIAL]

1856 – Letter from a businessman in Niles, Michigan describing two nearly fatal accidents, a visit by circus, and a declaration in support for Free Soil, Free Speech, Free Kansas, and John C. Fremont, the first Republican Presidential Candidate


NILES, MICHIGAN.
Population, - - - - 3,500.
NILES UNION SCHOOL-HOUSE.

This four-page letter was written on August 3rd, 1856, by Ezra Post, a Niles, Michigan merchant, to a friend, W. A. Griffin, at Erie, New York, who had recently moved away. Mailing envelope is franked with a 3-cent Washington stamp (Scott 11A), cancelled by circular Niles postmark. In nice shape.

It was written on illustrated advertising letterhead promoting the city that features the "Niles Union School-House" and identifies prominent stores, factories, lumberyards, newspapers, professionals, schools, hotels, societies, insurance agencies, railroads, and Daguerrean galleries. It reads in part:

"Everything has been upside down ever since you left. Imagine how things looked when you were here. . .. The painting & papering was finished [and] the parlors are put in perfect order. . .. Mrs Griffin is almost lived out with hard work. . .. Mr & Mrs. Griffin have go to attend the funeral of Mrs. Larimore yesterday. . ..

"Arzy came very near being rub out week before last he was going out to the marsh to draw Hay with oxen & wagon & had in the wagon a half barrel cask fill with water he set in the wagon driving. The oxen took fright, ran away upset the wagon, threw the cask of water on to him & otherwise injuring him, it was almost a miracle that he escaped alive. I saw him in Town yesterday but he was so sore that it was hard work for him to get about.

"We had a grand Circus here the 25th it was estimated that 3,000 person were present in the afternoon & about 2,000 in the evening. . .. Our entry into Town in morning was rather a pleasing one. We put 2 horses onto the buggy & started for the seene of action. There was 3 of us in the buggy, & just as we turned up in front of Moore's store to hitch 2 of the circus performers came down through the Main Street in a 1 Horse Carriage like a streak of lighting & came in contact with the hind wheel of our buggy & down it come with a crash & broke out every spoke, fortunately we all escaped without injury. [We] charged them $8.00 for the damage which they paid & glad to get off so. It cost $3.75 to repair the damage." After that I went to the Hotel and they wanted I should stay & help wait on the tables at dinner. I did so [then] tended bar until supper time. The then give me a Dollar [and I] went to the Show [and] got Home 78 cts richer than when I left. . .."

Post was absolutely energized by the upcoming presidential election, as he closes his letter in large letters,

"Hurrah for Fremont / Free Soil Free Speech & Free Kansas"

It is likely that the "Show" Post attended was Herr Driesbach's Menagerie and Circus as several circus websites reference its visit to Niles in the summer of 1856. Billed as the "Lion King," Driesbach was one of the world's most prominent lion trainers, who before owning his own touring show, spent ten years touring Europe, performing his daring feats before crowned heads of state.

A fascinating letter on promotional stationery that provides details about the Niles business community. The Eli A. Griffin papers, 1836-1882 (majority within 1853-1864) are held by the University of Michigan.

#10845 **$350**

13. [ADVERTISING – COVERS] [MAPS] [PHILATELY] [TOURISM – WHITE MOUNTAINS] [TRANSPORTATION – RAILROADS & STAGE COACHES]

Circa 1856 – A map-Illustrated advertising cover for the Profile House, a grand hotel located at Franconia Notch, New Hampshire



This advertising envelope (#23 in the American Illustrated Cover Catalog, features an image of the Profile House hotel at Franconia Notch on the reverse and an all-over map showing the major stage and railroad "Routes & Distance to Franconia and White Mountains, New Hampshire" from many New York and many New England cities. The map shows the location of the "Old Man of the Mtns" and uses small pictures to locate the Profile House and the Flume House hotels. It was sent to Winchester, Massachusetts, and franked with a three-cent Washington stamp (Scott #26) that has been canceled with a circular Grafton, New Hampshire postmark. The Grafton post office no longer exists; it closed in 1923. In nice shape.

The Profile House was a famous 19th- and early 20th-century grand resort hotel in Franconia Notch New Hampshire, strategically positioned to offer guests a prime view of the iconic Old Man of the Mountain.

After the hotel was built in 1853 by Richard Taft between Echo Lake and Profile Lake, the wooden resort grew into a self-sufficient hamlet accommodating up to 600 affluent summer guests. Situated directly in Franconia Notch, guests at the Profile House had a direct look toward Cannon Mountain, where the five granite ledges formed the natural stone profile of a human face when viewed from the north.

Although the Old Man of the Mountain rock formation collapsed on May 3, 2003, visitors can still visit Profiler Plaza at the northern end of Profile Lake. The site features metal "Profilers" and height-marked footprint stones that allow visitors to optically line up and recreate the historic view of the stone face.

#10846 **$150**

14. [EDUCATION – ACADEMIES]

1858 – Student's letter describing life at the Peirce Academy in Middleboro, Massachusetts



This four-page letter was written at the Peirce Academy in Middleboro, Massachusetts on illustrated school stationery by Horace Choate to his friend, Charles S. Clark, in September 1853. The illustration shows the academy standing next to the Central Baptist Church, with which it was loosely affiliated, both having been founded by Levi Peirce, a prominent citizen of the city. No mailing envelope.

Choate's letter reads in part:

"Thinking that you would like to know my whereabouts: I send you a picture of the academy which I attend. . .. I arrived here safely about three weeks ago [and] was surprised to find so many new countenances. . .. We have quite an addition to our little band this term, so there are many more Christians in school at present. . .. There seems to be no excitement, but a very deep interest taken in religious matters. We have had two hopeful conversions this term. . .. There has also been . . . the death of one of the scholars [from] the congestion of the lungs. . .. Mr. Jenks telegraphed to the young mans home [and] his father came in Saturday morning; we held funeral exercises in the academy. . .. I have been to the missionary meeting this morning [and] I received a letter from the . . . 'Missionary Society of Inquiry" of Brown University it was about the best letter I ever read. . ..

"We have a first rate boarding place; a much larger room than we had last term: we live well [and] have had a considerable amount of fruit. . .. Our room is well furnished – four cane seat chairs, two table . . . rocking chairs washstand stove bed etc. . ..

"By the way, I like Cicero very much: I think he was quite a speaker if no more. . .."

John Whipple Potter Jenks**,** who had married into a prominent Middleboro family became the principal of the school, founded by his wife's grandfather, in 1848 and, with the financial assistance of his father-in-law, turned it into a prominent college-preparatory academy. He held the position until 1871, when he became the director of Brown University's Museum of Natural History and appointed a professor of "agricultural zoology" to satisfy the requirements of the Morrill Act, through which Brown had obtained its agricultural lands. Although Jenks knew practically nothing about agriculture, his colleagues knew even less. His course consisted primarily of his recollections of rural life, drawing pictures of cows, and occasional visits to a farm.

#10847 **$125**

15. [MARITIME] [RELIGION – DUTCH REFORMED & PRESBYTERIAN] [TRANSPORTATION – RAILROADS & STEAMBOATS]

1859 – Letter from the Recording Secretary of The Mariners' Church in New York City reporting on an excursion on the Steamboat *Commonwealth*


The Mariners' Church,

CORNER OF MADISON AND CATHARINE STREETS,

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE PORT SOCIETY.

72 MADISON STREET, New-York, Feb. 22 1859

To the Pastor and Officers of the Church:

DEAR BRETHREN: "The Society for Promoting the Gospel among Seamen in the Port of New-York," was organized in 1818, and having occupied this field more than forty years, we confidently point to a large congregation and increasing Church membership, under the pastoral care of Rev. CHARLES J. JONES; a flourishing Sabbath-School and Bible Class; a Reading Room; the Marine Temperance Society, numbering 35,000 members; a loan Library for Seamen; a weekly meeting for Norwegians, Swedes, Danes, and Finns; and the labors of our Missionary, Mr. JOS. H. GARDNER, as indicating the importance of this Institution to the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom, and the increasing Commerce of this port.

The Board of ... responded to, have aut... ily and liberally

For Old School ... Churches

WM ... L,

A. ... TLE.

NAJAH T...

JAS. L. PI...

JAMES B. ... Of the

WM. D. H... ard of Directors.

L. P. HUB...

Mrs. R. L. Tenney,
Hollis,
N.H.

This two-page letter, dated February 22, 1859, was written on the bifold stationery of The Mariner's Church in New York City by L. P. Hubbard, its Recording Secretary. The first page is entirely filled with a printed illustration of the church and information about it. It is enclosed in its original mailing envelope franked with a three-cent Washington stamp (Scott #26) sent to Hollis, New Hampshire. In nice shape.

The illustration features the church with groups of seamen engaged in conversation in the foreground. The printed information beneath the illustration reads in part:

> "The Society for Promoting the Gospel among Seamen in the Port of New-York," was organized in 1818, [and] we confidently point to a large congregation and increasing Church membership; . . . a flourishing Sabbath-School and Bible Class; a Reading Room; the Marine Temperance Society, numbering 35,000 members; loan Library for Seamen; a weekly meeting for Norwegians, Swedes, Danes, and Finns. . .."

Hubbard's letter reads in part:

> "I have just returned from the Steam Boat Commonwealth. . .. The weather was fine, with a good moon, though there was a pretty stiff breese but nearly strong enough to be at all dangerous under such circumstances. . .. "I saw Mr. Martin this morning & he very politely informed me that the contract with the Rail Road is such that he is unable to renew the free tickets this year. . .."

The Mariners' Church building was sold in 1914 and subsequently demolished to make way for a six-story tenement.

The *Commonwealth* was a prominent American paddle wheel steamboat with Norwich & New London Steamboat Company that operated on the popular passenger and cargo route connecting New York City to Worcester, Massachusetts, via Allyn's Point, Connecticut. In early 1859, that company attempted to negotiate a larger share of the line's proceeds with the Norwich & Worcester Railroad. After the negotiations broke down, the steamboat company announced it would pull the *Commonwealth* from the railroad contract. As a direct result of the dispute, the *Commonwealth* made her last official run for the line on Monday, January 2, 1860, right at the turn of the year.

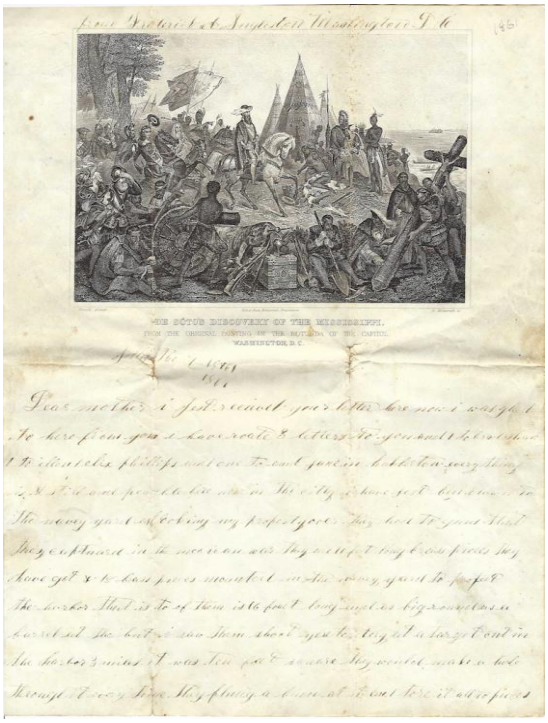
(For more information, see "Mariners' church history in New York" at "The Lower East Side" Facebook group and "PS Commonwealth" at Wikipedia.)

A terrific lettersheet with an important letter hinting at the disagreement, which would result in the demise of an important passenger and shipping route between New York City and Worcester, Massachusetts.

#10848 **$300**

16. [BASEBALL] [MILITARY – CIVIL WAR] [RIOTING]

1861 – Letter from a soldier in the 2nd Vermont Regiment mentioning armament at the Washington DC Navy Yard, "ball playing," boisterous camp life, and a riot involving the 22nd New York Regiment



This three-page letter, dated "July the 7 1861", was written by Frederick Ingleston of the 2nd Vermont Regiment in Washington, DC upon illustrated stationery depicting "De Soto's Discovery of the Mississippi," a painting in the rotunda of the Capitol.

The 2nd Vermont arrived in Washington in June of 1861 and initially set up its camp near the Navy Yard before moving on to constructed defensive fortifications like Fort Ethan Allen in Arlington, Virginia.

Ingleston describes the armament at the Navy Yard and boisterous camp life including "ball playing." He also provides a confusing account of a riot involving the New York 22nd Regiment. It reads in part:

> "Everything is still and peaceable here in the citty. I have jest been down to the navy yard. . .. they had to guns that they captured in the mexican war they are 11 foot long brass pieces they have got 18 brass pieces mounted in the navy yard to protect the harbor that is to of them is 16 feet long and is big round as a barrel [and] the best I seen them shoot yesterday at a target out in harbor 3 miles . . . & they would make a hole through it every time . . . tore it all to pieces. They is over 1600 . . . cannon in the yard they say we are a going to have the britch loading sengfield with the sabre banet. . .. we dont know wether we shall leave here . . . it has been rumored that we was a going to the navy yard for a home guard but we hope not one of the new york 22 regiment went in into the [?] shop and [?] shot the next day the regiments in there set the house a fire and then formed a line in front [and] wouldnt let the engine put out the fire they called out the caverley and charged uppon them they killed 6 men & wounden 9 more and then they put the fire out. . .. there is about 100 of the regiments sick with the measels they are doing well whiskey here is cheap . . . they is about 1 to 3 regiments coming in here every day . . . we have had no more ball playing since that i rote to you about. . .. they are raising hell here . . . they are a telling singing playing cards playing checkers dancing rasling fighting they take them to the yard house and that tops it off. . .."

The Washington Navy Yard not only stockpiled naval cannon for outfitting ships but also served as a major manufacturing and repair center for naval ordnance throughout the war.

The initial distribution of Model 1861 Springfield rifle-muskets began in the summer of 1861 to units in Missouri and the expanding commands around Washington, DC. While most were equipped with triangle socket bayonets, some were equipped with bayonets that could also be used as short sabers.

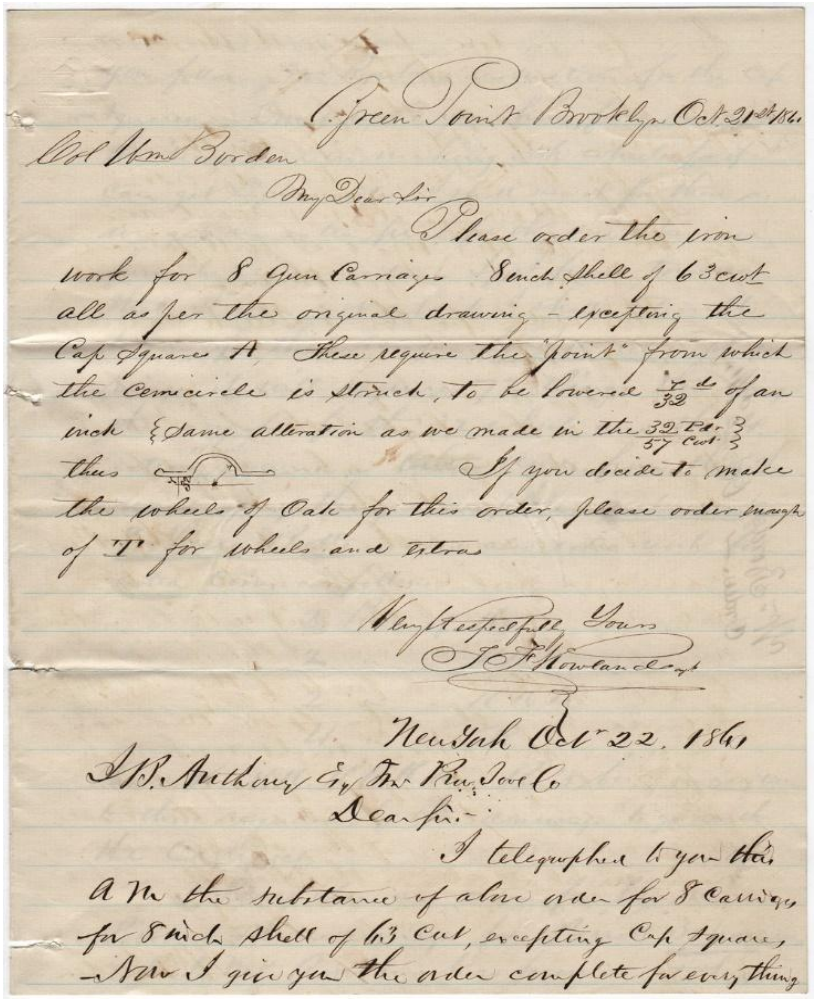
No newspaper accounts, unit histories, histories of the defense of Washington, or online material related to the Navy Yard at the Naval History and Heritage Command recount any Washington riots in July 1861, Ingleston's letter reports that a rather significant one with 6 fatalities occurred.

An informative letter about the establishment of Washington's defenses during the earliest phase of the Civil War.

#10849 **$250**

17. [MARITIME] [MILITARY – CIVIL WAR] [PHILATELY]

Correspondence between Thomas F. Rowland, Colonel William Borden, and J. B. Andrews regarding the fabrication of ironwork parts needed in the construction of the ironclad *U.S.S. New Ironsides*.



Green Point Brooklyn Oct 21st 61.

Col Wm Borden

My Dear Sir

Please order the iron work for 8 Gun Carriages 8 inch Shell of 63 cwt all as per the original drawing - excepting the Cap Squares A These require the 'joint' from which the Cemicircle is struck, to be lowered 5/32 of an inch & same alteration as we made in the 32 Pdr 57 Cwt thus If you decide to make the wheels of Oak for this order, please order maple of T for wheels and extras

Very respectfully Yours

T F Rowland Capt

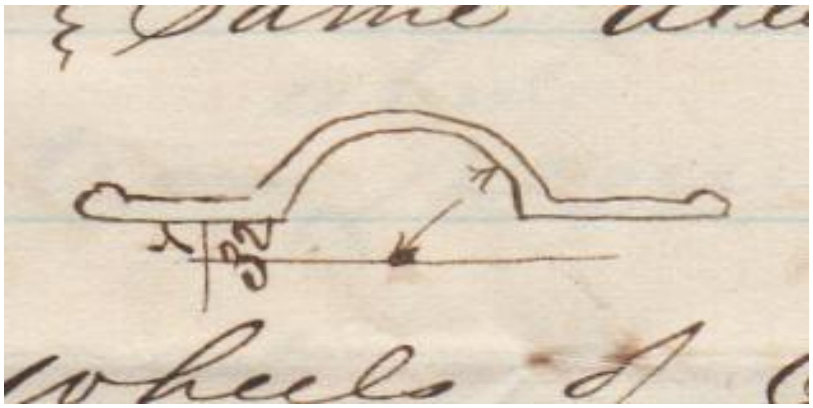
New York Oct 22. 1861

J B Andrews Esq Mr Rowland Co

Dear Sir

I telegraphed to you this A M the substance of above order for 8 Carriages for 8 inch Shell of 63 Cwt, excepting Cap Squares, Now I give you the order complete for everything

The shipyard—particularly the Continental Iron Works—was a bustling place when this order was placed. The U.S. Navy had recently learned that the Confederacy would soon launch the *C.S.S. Virginia* (better known as the *Merrimac*), so it had contracted the rapid construction of three ironclad prototypes with three different firms. Maxon, Fish and Company began what was to become the *U.S.S. Galena*. Merrick & Sons designed what would become the *U.S.S. New Ironsides*, and Battery Associates led the conglomerate that would build the *U.S.S. Monitor*. Rowland's firm was subcontracted to build the *Monitor's* hull at the Greenpoint shipyard as well as elements of the other two vessels as well.



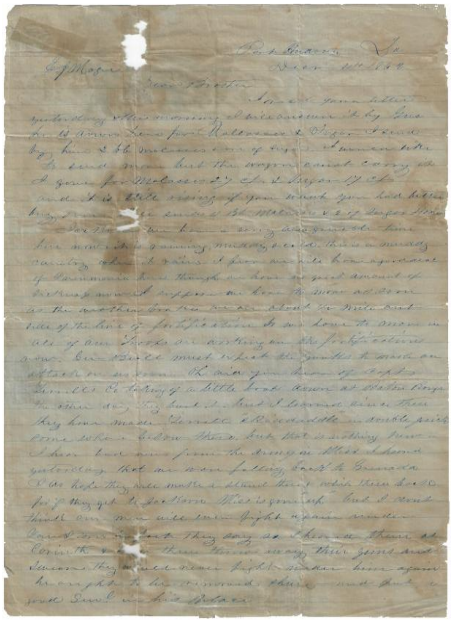
In this document, Borden urgently forwards Rowland's order to Andrews to fabricate fittings for carriages to hold eight 8" guns and ten pivot or slide carriages for Parrot guns. In Rowland's order to Borden, he includes a sketch and detailed specification of fittings for the 8" gun carriages.

A unique record of a critical shipbuilding project in the middle of a blossoming of a Civil War naval arms race.

$1,000 **#8823**

18. [ETHNIC – AFRICAN-AMERICANA] [FOOD & DRINK – MOLASSES & SUGAR] [MILITARY – CIVIL WAR] [PHILATELY] [SLAVERY – ENSLAVED WORKERS]

1862 – A slave-carried letter from a Tennessee soldier who helped construct and then defend fortifications at Port Hudson, Louisiana, to keep Mississippi River supply lines open for the Confederacy



This two-page letter was carried "by Gus," a family slave, from Steven Goodlo Warren of the 9th Tennessee Cavalry Battalion to his brother. It is datelined "Port Hudson La. / Decr 4th 1862". In nice shape with some light discoloration, minor predation, and sellotape repairs. No postage or envelope was needed as Warren had a family slave, Gus, hand-carry the letter to his brother.

The 9th Tennessee Cavalry had surrendered at the fall of Fort Donelson in February 1862 and was subsequently imprisoned at Camp Butler, Illinois. At the time of this letter, the entire unit had recently been released in a prisoner exchange and was reorganizing at Port Hudson as a component of Major General Van Dorn's command where it helped construct fortifications to defend a crucial segment of the Mississippi River and protect supply lines needed to funnel food supplies from Texas to the east.

In this letter, Warren informs his brother that molasses and sugar would soon be plentiful. He also discusses building fortifications, the possibility of contracting pneumonia, the inevitability of an attack on Port Hudson, and a raid that destroyed the Union steamer, *Lone Star*.

> "I will answer [you] by Gus he is arrived here for Molasses & Sugar. . .. Get [mother] some Salt, there is none near here she writes to me that she has killed 12 Hogs and [needs] salt enough for to save as many more. . .. If you intend to buy molasses & sugar it is time. . .. It is rising continuously. We have engaged another Hhd of sugar and . . . will get more molasses tomorrow . . . send some wagons down. . .."

> "[We] have a very disagreeable time here now it is raining, muddy & cold. . .. I fear we will have a good deal of Pneumonia here though we now have a great amount of sickness now I suppose we [will] have more as soon as the weather breaks. . .. We are about 1/2 mile outside of the line of fortifications, so we have to move in. All of our troops are working on the fortifications now. Gen. Buell must expect the Yanks to make an attack on us soon. . .. Did you hear of Capt. Terrell's Co. taking of a little boat down at Baton Rouge the other day, they burnt it. . .. I heard yesterday that we were falling back to Grenada. I do hope they will make a stand there & whip them back for if they get to Jackson, Miss is gone 'up' but I dont think our men will even fight again under Van Dorn in fact they say so. I heard them at Corinth [they will] throw away their guns and swear they would never fight under him again. . .."

After the unit was remounted in early January 1863, it performed outpost duties around Port Hudson, frequently skirmishing with Union forces. After Port Hudson surrendered following the fall of Vicksburg, the 9th Cavalry Battalion fought in the defense of Atlanta and Savannah before surrendering with the Army of Tennessee in April 1865, following General Robert E. Lee's surrender at Appomattox.

(For more information, see "9th Tennessee Cavalry Battalion" at the TNGenWeb Project, "Warren, Stephen Goodlo" at the American Civil War Research Database, and "All Known Battles & Skirmishes During the American Civil War – Louisiana" at the North Carolina in the American Civil War website.)

An excellent letter documenting the importance of Port Hudson to the survival of the Confederacy.

#10557 **$2,000**

19. [EDUCATION – ACADEMIES] [MUSIC] [PHILATELY] [POLITICS – COPPERHEADS] [WOMEN & GIRLS]

1863 – Letter from a male faculty member of one of the finest preparatory academies "for young ladies"


PACKER COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE,
BROOKLYN HEIGHTS, L. I.

The object of this Institution is to furnish to young ladies all the advantages for thorough and complete education that are enjoyed by the other sex, in our best appointed colleges.
The city of Brooklyn has at command all the educational resources of New York, and at the same time, no country village is more quiet, beautiful or healthy.
The Institution is divided into three Departments: Preparatory, Academic and Collegiate.
The studies embrace all the subjects of Literature and Science that can be desired for any female, whatever her destiny may be in the active duties of life.
All the modern languages, French, German, Spanish and Italian, are taught by the best native talent.
Pupils ... harge. In-
struction ...
The b... provement,
health a... partment of
the Natu...
The ac... rs. Pupils
are receiv...
A larg... rof. Eaton
and his f... oad; and it
is confide... mote their
social, int...

Washing 50 cents per Dozen.
For circulars giving full particulars, apply to the Principal, or to Prof. D. G. Eaton, Brooklyn, N. Y.

This three-page letter was written by Cehaz(?) E. Walker on an illustrated advertising bifold for the Packer Collegiate Institute in Brooklyn Heights, New York on 7 February 1863. The envelope has extensive anti-Copperhead docketing and is addressed to W. E. Wheeler, at the Courtland Academy in Homer, New York. Franked with a 3-cent Washington stamp (Scott #65) and canceled with a fancy cork handstamp. In nice shape.

The first page consists of an illustration of the school with men, women, children and horse in the foreground (to which Walker has added a manuscript manicule and the phrase, "A correct representation of the scene of my present capers." The printed text describes the school, tuition, board, and extra charges:

> "The object of this Institution is to furnish to young ladies all the advantages for thorough and complete education that are enjoyed by [the] other sex. / The city of Brooklyn has at command all the education resources of New York, and a the same time, no country village is more quiet, beautiful or healthy. / The Institution is divided into three Departments: Preparatory, Academic and Collegiate. / The studies embrace all the subjects of Literature and Science that can by desired for any female whatever her destiny may be in the active duties of life. / All the modern languages, French, German, Spanish and Italian are taught by the best native talent. . .."

The content, composition, and tone of Walker's letter suggest that he taught at the school. It reads in part:

> "The past three weeks have been of labor for me. . .. But now, this is Saturday – with one as with all others connected with schools – a day of freedom. . .. I remember perusing one verse [of a song] which somewhat aptly describes the weather . . . that we are experiencing here. . .. / It rained all night the day I left / The weather it was dry / The sun so hot I froze to death / Oh! Susannah don't you cry. . .. In other words we are having a very 'conglomerated mass of weather – rain and snow – sunshine and storm – heat and cold. . ..
>
> "Am sorry to hear that secession is rife amongst the unlettered (?) of Centland Academy but am not very much surprised [that] the 'Rule or ruin" spirit is not wanting [there.] Would advise as a proper measure for the squelching of rebellion the promulgation of a few "General Orders" or perchance a set of "Resolutions" on your part would have a more beneficial affect. I often think of old Homer and the friends it contains. . ..

The Brooklyn Female Academy was founded by Brooklyn merchants and landowners in 1845. It was renamed the Packer Collegiate Institute in honor of William S. Packer after his widow, Harriet, donated $65,000 to rebuild after a fire had destroyed the school. ($1.7 million in today's money and the largest single gift ever made in sole support of girls' education). The school is still in operation today.

Copperheads, i.e., anti-war Democrats, were active in Homer and Cortland County during the war, and "rule or ruin" is a phrase that was famously used by Abraham Lincoln during his Cooper Union Address to describe the uncompromising determination of Southern secessionists.

#10850 **$250**

20. [AVIATION - BALLOONS] [MILITARY – CIVIL WAR] BUSINESS – INSURANCE] [PHILATELY]

1863 – A letter from a carpenter in the 7th Wisconsin Infantry after the main fighting was over at Chancellorsville, including a discussion of James Allen's aerial observations across the Rappahannock from one of the Union's reconnaissance balloons



This four-page letter from Robert D. Work, a carpenter in the 7th Wisconsin Infantry, is date-lined "Camp near the Rappahannock River / May 30th 1863." It was sent to Margaret Morgan at Frenchtown, Wisconsin and is enclosed in its envelope which was franked with a 3-cent Washington stamp (Scott #65) that was canceled with a circular Washington D.C postmark date June 1, 1863. In nice shape with a small chip to the lower left corner of the mailing envelope.

The letter reads in part:

"I am kept busy fixing wagons and making desks and tabels, Stools, and varyous other little odd jobs for the officers around headquarters. thare was two wagons came in to be repaired this morning but I got my tentmate to work in my place so that I could write to you, thare is a few of us that has all sutch work to do but we dont have to work on the road or any other sutch jobs. . ..

"I did not feel very wel for a few days after we came back from over the river but we was all about tired out after the battle. . .. I though day before yesterday tha we was going to leave here we had orders to pack up our tools and other things and load them into the wagons and . . . be ready to march at a minates warning with three days rations. . .. They thought that the rebs was either going to evacuate or els attempt to cross. . .. If crossed they would of received a pretty warm reception. . ..

"I think they are making a move of some kind. The baloon has been up pretty near all the while for the past two or three days watching them. they went down fast here with it the day before yesterday thare was two men up in it when it passed here. I expect that they can See a good way over into rebeldom for they go up pretty high and they have got good Spyglasses. . .."

The two Allen brothers, Ezra and James, were first-rate aviators in Thaddeus S. Lowes Union Balloon Corps. After Lowe quit in a huff over a salary dispute, the brothers became co-chiefs of the corps by default. They lacked Lowe's organizational skills, and following the Chancellorsville Campaign, the corps sat idle until it officially disbanded in August. However, the brothers continued to fly for a few weeks. Ezra made observations in the Balloon *Eagle* from Banks Ford around Fredericksburg, and James piloted the Balloon *Washington* a mile from the Rappahannock where he had a clear view of the Confederate camps, troop dispositions, and battle lines.

(For more information see Thompson's "Allen Brothers Take Control of Balloon Corps" online at the U.S. Army Intelligence Center of Excellence.)

All letters mentioning the Balloon Corps are scarce, and Work's provides much more information than

#10625 **$500**

21. [ADVERTISING – LETTERHEADS] [BUSINESS – AGRICULTURE & SCYTHES] [MARRIAGE][PHILATELY]

1867 – Marriage invitation written on an illustrated lettersheet featuring a farmer and his scythe



This two-page handwritten marriage invitation from Robert R. Smith of New Hartford was sent to his cousin Alley Palmer in Moodus, Connecticut on May 30, 1867. It is written on illustrated stationery from the "Office of Greenwoods Scythe Company that features a framed image of a farmer with his scythe and other agricultural motifs in the background. It is enclosed in its mailing envelope franked by a three-cent Washington stamp (Scott #65) and bearing a circular New Hartford postmark, dated 31 May. Both the letterhead and the envelope also bear double-oval private postmarks that read, "Greenwoods Scythe Co. / May 30 1867 / New Hartford, Conn." In nice shape.

The invitation reads in part:

"It would be a miracle almost if among all of my friends and relation I did not unintentionally forget a few. I have not forgot you. . .. I am to be married at the residence of John A Beckelyn [on] June 5, 1867 at 9½ and I should be happy could you and yours be present. Please consider that there is good will sufficient burning in my heart toward you to wish that you could be present. . .. We are to be married very quiet and go away for a few days and returning go into my home all furnished . . . and eat our first meal in our own house.

"How I wish you could see my intended for I know you would love her; she is very dear to me and I hope pray and trust that I shall be a good kind husband. . .."

Although the mills of the Greenwoods Company, which was founded on the Farmington River in 1848, were noted for producing heavy cotton textiles, including cotton duck, sailcloth for America's Cup yachts, tenting, twine, and mailbags for the U.S. Postal Service and the U.S. Army. However, its dam produced so much excess power that the company experimented with some diversification, forming a subsidiary, the Greenwoods Scythe Company in 1864, which made mowing, reaping, and harvesting tools. It prospered until after the Civil War when many returning soldiers abandoned their farms for other employment and the power needed to support its booming textile industry increased.

(For more information, see "Greenwoods Scythe Company" at the New Hartford Historical Society website.)

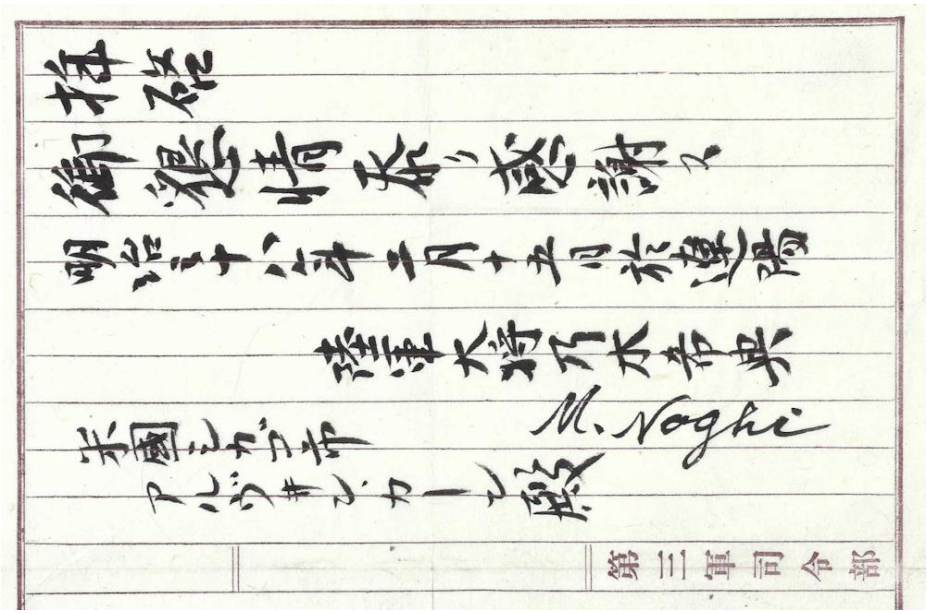
A terrific illustration that personifies Thomas Jefferson's ideal of an American yeoman farmer.

#10851 **$200**

22. [AUTOGRAPHS – MARESUKE NOGI] [MILITARY – RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR] [PHILATELY]

1905-1944 – Archive related to General Count Nogi Maresuke, the hero of the Russo-Japanese War, including a thank-you letter he wrote to a young boy in Chicago while leading his army through Liaoyang after the capture of Port Arthur to the decisive victory at Mukden

This archive includes:



1905 – A signed letter was sent by General Count Nogi Maresuke, the commander of Japanese land forces and military genius behind the Japanese victory in the war while in route to the Battle of Mukden, to a Chicago boy, Alvin R. Cahn, who had written a sympathy letter to the general following the death of his two sons during the Siege of Port Arthur. Nogi was an accomplished calligrapher, and his *sumi* letter on Army stationery (imprinted The Third Army Headquarters) reads in translation:

> "Dear Sir / Express my gratitude for your cordial kindness. / Meiji 30 [1905] February 15. At Liaoyang / General Nogi Maresuke / M. Noghi/ USA Chicago City."
>
> When Nogi accepted the surrender of Russian forces at Port Arthur, the Russian commander, General Anatoli M. Stoessel, expressed his deep regret that Nogi had suffered the loss of his two sons. Nogi thanked Stoessel for his sympathy, but declared their deaths were a cause for self-congratulation and not sorrow as, in Japan, the life of a soldier and his family all belonged to his country, and "if they all went, why, then they were well gone."

1905 – Two clippings from the *Chicago Daily News* explaining the circumstances surrounding Nogi's letter to Cahn.

Circa 1905 – Picture postcard commemorating the Japanese victory at Port Arthur showing the harbor, the 203-Metre-Hill Monument, and poem written by Nogi.

1906 – Picture postcard commemorating Nogi's victory in the war with a message in English written and sent by a Japanese student attending business school in Satsuma.

1912 – Picture postcard commemorating the death of Nogi and his wife, who both committed *junshi* (ritual *seppuku* following the death a lord) on September 12, 1912, after the emperor's death, showing Nogi's death poem that very loosely translates as "Our Emperor (God) passed away, I will die following his majesty."

1912 – Picture postcard showing the will of Nogi and his wife

1913 – Picture postcard showing an image of Nogi issued with a handstamp on the reverse that commemorates the opening of Nogi's residence to the public by the Nogi Association on Taishō 2 – April 13, 1913.

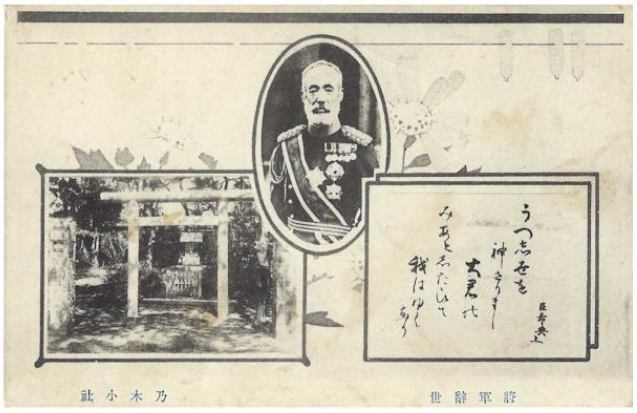
1937 – First day of issue cover for the crimson two-sen definitive stamp honoring Nogi that was issued as part of Japan's 1st Showa Regular Series.

1944 – Two blocks of four of the Japanese stamps honoring Nogi's death: the 2-sen 1937 issue and the 1944 brown three-sen stamp issued around 1944 as part of the 2nd Show Regular Series.

The archive also includes clippings about Nogi from various reference books and three 1992 letters in English from F. Yanno, a researcher from Sakai City, filled with information about Nogi and his letter to Cahn that read in part:

> "Gen. Nogi's letter with his own signature written on the Japanese Army official paper is much scarce and valuable. As I have never seen before such a genuine letter from the front, I cannot assert a market price. . .."





The Russo-Japanese War was a military conflict fought between the Russian Empire and the Empire of Japan over rival imperial ambitions in Manchuria and Korea. When Russia broke its promise and refused to withdraw troops from Manchuria after the Boxer rebellion, Japan launched a surprise naval attack on the Russian fleet at Port Arthur (a Russian naval base on the Liaodong Peninsula in China) and began a long siege that resulted in the complete destruction of the Russian Pacific Fleet. The follow-on battles of Mukden and Tsushima drove the Russians from China and destroyed the Russian Balkan Fleet as well. Japan's victory shattered the myth of European military invincibility and elevated Japan to a global major power.

Exceptionally scarce. A unique battlefield letter from the leader of the Japanese force that drove the Russians from China and demonstrated that Japan was a military power rivaling those of Europe and the United States.

At the time of listing, no letters from Nogi are for sale in the trade. None have appeared at auction per the Rare Book Hub or ASBA, however MutualArt records several of his generic calligraphic letters have, one for more than $1,800. Although OCLC shows some digital copies of Nogi's letters are in the collection of the National Tsing Hua University in Taiwan, Japan's National Diet Library holds a collection of correspondence from Nogi including a letter in his calligraphic brush script sent during the demobilization following the Russo-Japanese War.

#10852 **$1,750**

23. [MILITARY – WORLD WAR I] [MEDICAL – PTSD] [PHILATELY]

1918 - Small archive regarding a heroic young 3rd Infantry Division soldier including a gruesome description of hand-to-hand fighting in the two most important turning-point battles of World War One

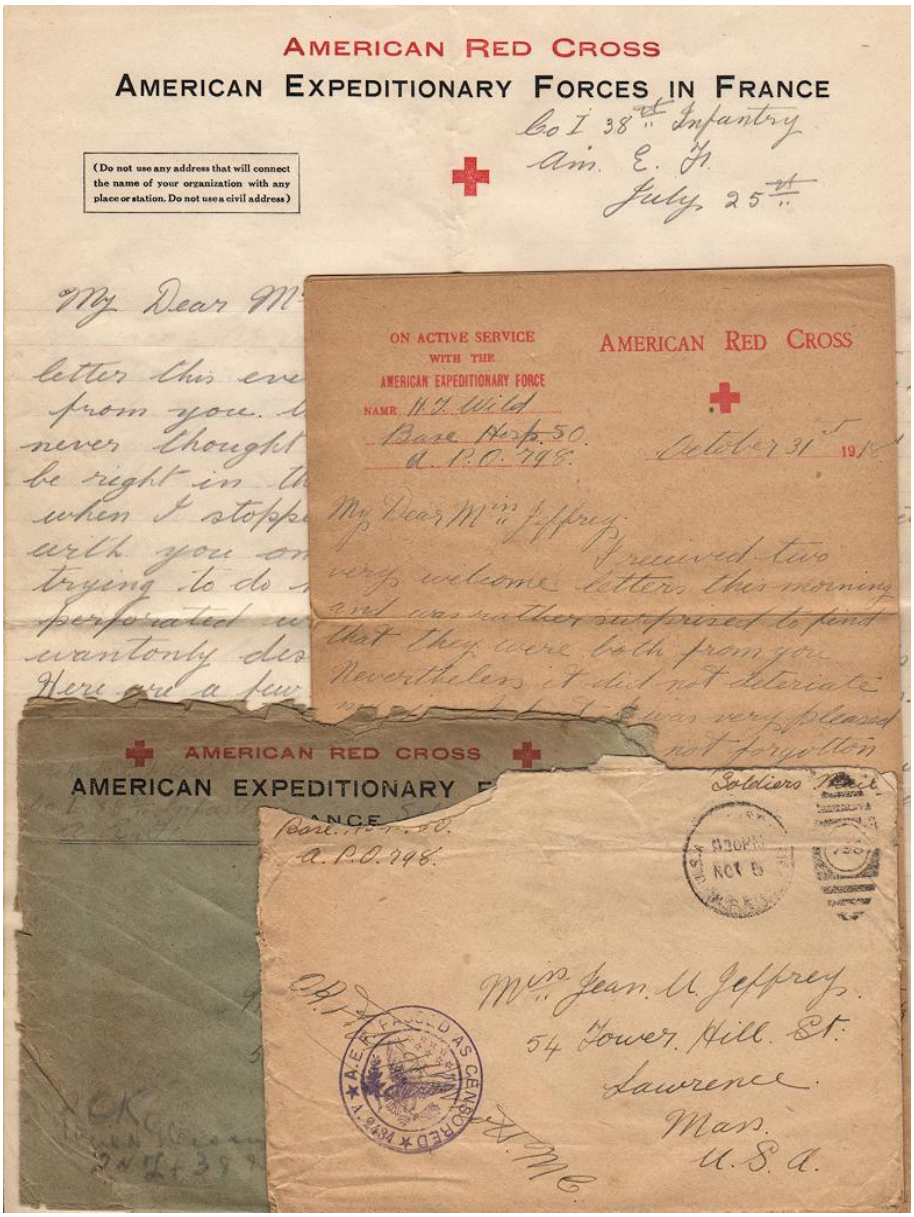


This grouping is related to Corporal Herbert T. Wild. It consists of two combat letters (both to a friend in Massachusetts, a French *Croix de Guerre*, and one newspaper clipping. The earliest letter, dated July 25, contains four pages and is enclosed in an envelope postmarked with an indistinct flag cancelation from APO 2 (Paris). The second letter, written from a Base Hospital and dated 31 October 1918, has seven pages and is enclosed in an envelope, dated November 5, from APO 798 (Meaves-sur-Loire). The *Croix de Guerre* has a bronze star affixed to its ribbon. The newspaper clipping recounts Wild's action at the 2nd Battle of the Marne. Everything is in very nice shape except the envelopes which are worn and have scrapbook paper remnants affixed to their reverse.

Wild enlisted in the Army in February 1918 and was assigned to the 3rd Division's 38th Infantry Regiment. On July 15, 1918, the German army launched a massive assault along the Marne River not far from Chateau-Thierry in an all-out effort to drive through Allied lines and capture Paris. The key crossing point was at the village of Mezy and the only thing that stood in the way was the 3rd Division's 38th Infantry.

> "On July 15, 1918, the 38th Infantry . . . successfully defended its position on the Paris-Metz railroad, 200 yards from the River Marne, against six German attacks. It was the last great offensive of the German Army and the first fight of the 38th Infantry in World War I. Initially, the Germans succeeded in driving a wedge 4,000 yards deep into the 38th Infantry's front while the U.S. 30th Infantry on its left and the French 125th Division on its right withdrew under heavy pressure. With the situation desperate, the regiment stood and fought. The two flanks of the 38th Infantry moved toward the river, squeezing the German spearhead between them and exposing it to heavy shelling by the 3d Division artillery. The German Army's offensive failed. With this brave stand the 38th Infantry earned its *nom de guerre* Rock of the Marne. General John J. Pershing declared its stand 'one of the most brilliant pages in our military annals.'" (Stewarts's *American Military History, Vol. 2*, 2005)

On that day, during eight hours of intensive German bombardment, casualties in the 38th mounted, so with shells bursting around him, Wild volunteered to brave the shrapnel on foot and retrieve additional desperately needed stretchers and first aid supplies from caches in the rear. For this he was personally recognized by General Pershing. He modestly recounts the action in his letter of 25 July:



> "I never thought I would get over here and be right in the midst of this terrible war. . . . The night of the fifteenth of July the Germans sent over the heaviest barrage fire ever known on the Western front. We were digging trenches . . . when Fritz opened fire and we crawled down in our trenches on the double. A continual bombardment was kept up for eight hours . . . but we pulled ourselves together and stood the test. . . . The Germans crossed the river Marne on pontoon bridges but were quickly driven back. . . . We were moved on to another sector [where] we drove the Germans back about three kilometers where we held the front line until we were relieved. . . . It was the greatest experience of my life. . . . Our regiment is going to have the Croix de Guerre attached to its colors for the bravery of the troops. We were highly praised by French officials of high ranks, but I am sorry to say that we lost good men in the battle."

Within days of saving Paris, the 38th was again thrust into battle along with other regiments of the 3rd, 28th, and 32nd Divisions. The Americans force-marched to Chateau Thierry in driving rain, many without food or sleep for two days. There at about 0430 on the morning of the 18th, the Americans led the Allied advance behind a rolling artillery barrage. The attack took the Germans by surprise; instead of typical trench warfare, the aggressive attack relied on direct charges, eventually driving the Germans from their positions. By the 22nd, the battle was over, and the will of the German army had been shattered. Although the war would continue for another four months, Chateau Thierry was its turning point. As German Chancellor Georg Hertling later noted, "We expected victory in Paris by the end of July. That was on the 15th. By the 18th we knew all was lost. The history of the world played out in three days."

In his second letter, Wild recounted his part in the battle:



Belated Citation for Private Wild

Youngest of Four Boys in Service Receives Award From Gen. Pershing

The fourth and youngest son in a family where the four sons served in the world war has been cited for bravery—the citation being awarded last week and dated March 30 above the signature of General John J. Pershing to Corporal Herbert T. Wild.

The soldier, Herbert T. Wild of 17 Stonington street, North Andover, was a member of the 38th Infantry, Third division and enlisted when he was just 21, February 14, 1918. The following month he went to France and after service there until the armistice was signed was sent into Germany with the army of occupation. He returned to this country and was discharged last August.

Corporal Wild was a "runner" at the time he was cited, July 15, at Connigist, France. He modestly declares that what he did was not anything unusual but simply that no officer would ask a man to do. The line had been a barrage of fire for eight consecutive hours and there were many wounded men. The little town of Connigis was the central target. Aid in the shape of stretchers and first aid men was sadly needed for the wounded men. Herbert Wild volunteered to go for it. He claims it was a strange sensation to be running through a town that was fairly crumbling about one's feet.

The major to whom the runner reported declared that he did not know whether the officer who allowed him to come or the soldier himself was the bigger fool but Corporal Wild got what he went for and so was instrumental in saving a great many lives of the wounded men.

Corporal Wild is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Wild of North Andover. His oldest brother Norman served with the British army. The next brother Jack was one of the few surviving members of the Black Watch of the Canadian army with the first Canadian expeditionary forces. Charles the next brother was a member of the Boston City hospital unit, No. 7. Herbert was with Company I, 38th Infantry.

HERBERT WILE

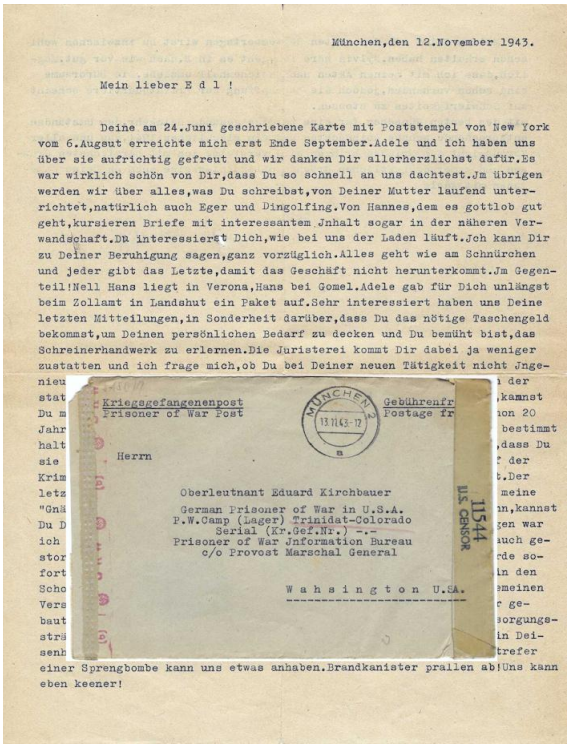
> "I have had some terrible experiences since I came over here. No one knows what the boys are going through. . . . We try to do our duty cheerfully even though it is gruesome at times. . . . My duty has been the cause of me killing three Germans that I know of. One I killed with my bayonet and two with a hand grenade. Of course you are shooting at them almost incessantly but we never know if we kill them unless you get near enough to use our bayonets and hand grenades. It is terrible to see the enemy so near that you see the blood lust in each other's eyes. I killed my Germans at Chateau Thierry. We were ordered to take a nest of machine guns that were situated in a shell torn house. I was put in charge of a squad of men and the Lieutenant attacked from one direction and I from another. We advanced . . . with bayonets fixed and in thrusting position. . . . We crept cautiously along the sides of the house and just as we reached the door a German walked right out . . . onto the point of my bayonet before he realized we were there. . . . [I pushed] my rifle forward giving him full benefit of the cold steel at the end of it. His blood poured out and down the stock of my rifle and onto my hand. It seemed to send me mad and just at that moment the Lieutenant gave the order to charge. We went into the house and threw hand grenades into every room, shutting the door before the grenades exploded and opening them after. . . . They did their work well. Too well for the Germans who had their machine guns trained . . . on Americans. . . . Not a German came out of that house alive."

An amazing first-hand account by one soldier of heroism and bloody hand-to-hand fighting in the two battles that turned the course of World War One. As of 2018, nothing anywhere close to this is for sale in the trade, nor listed in OCLC; neither are there any remotely similar auction records listed at ABPC nor the Rare Book Hub.

#8994 **$1,500**

24. [MILITARY – WORLD WAR II] [PHILATELY]

1943 – Letter from Munich sent to a German Prisoner of War held in the Trinidad, Colorado Prisoner of War Camp



München,den 12.November 1943.

Mein lieber E d l !

Deine am 24.Juni geschriebene Karte mit Poststempel von New York vom 6.August erreichte mich erst Ende September.Adele und ich haben uns über sie aufrichtig gefreut und wir danken Dir allerherzlichst dafür.Es war wirklich schön von Dir,dass Du so schnell an uns dachtest.Im übrigen werden wir über alles,was Du schreibst,von Deiner Mutter laufend unterrichtet,natürlich auch Eger und Dingolfing.Von Hannes,dem es gottlob gut geht,kursieren Briefe mit interessantem Inhalt sogar in der näheren Verwandschaft.Dir interessiert Dich,wie bei uns der Laden läuft.Ich kann Dir zu Deiner Beruhigung sagen,ganz vorzüglich.Alles geht wie am Schnürchen und jeder gibt das Letzte,damit das Geschäft nicht herunterkommt.Im Gegenteil!Nell Hans liegt in Verona,Hans bei Gomel.Adele gab für Dich unlängst beim Zollamt in Landshut ein Paket auf.Sehr interessiert haben uns Deine letzten Mitteilungen,in Sonderheit darüber,dass Du das nötige Taschengeld bekommst,um Deinen persönlichen Bedarf zu decken und Du bemüht bist,das Schreinerhandwerk zu erlernen.Die Juristerei kommt Dir dabei ja weniger zustatten und ich frage mich,ob Du bei Deiner neuen Tätigkeit nicht Jnge-

Kriegsgefangenenpost
Prisoner of War Post

Gebührenfr
Postage fr

MÜNCHEN 13.11.43-12

Herrn

Oberleutnant Eduard Kirchbauer
German Prisoner of War in U.S.A.
P.W.Camp (Lager) Trinidat-Colorado
Serial (Kr.Gef.Nr.) -.-
Prisoner of War Information Bureau
c/o Provost Marschal General

W a h s i n g t o n U.SA.

11544 U.S. CENSOR

einer Sprengbombe kann uns etwas anhaben.Brandkanister prallen ab!Uns kann eben keener!

This two-page typed letter was sent by Michael Strelier in Munich to Oberleutnant (First Lieutenant) Eduard Kirchbauer, at the U.S. Prisoner of War Camp at Trinidad, Colorado. It was written on 12 November 1943 and its envelope, annotated "Kriegsgefangenenpost / Prisoner of War Post" and "Gebühren frie / Fees [Postage] free", was postmarked the following day. It was censored before departure and resealed along the left edge with Germany censor tape. Upon arrival in America, it was reopened and resealed with censor tape that reads "Examined by 11544 / U.S. Censor". In nice shape.

Camp Trinidad, in operation from June 1943 to February 1946, was a prisoner-of-war facility located about eight miles east of Trinidad, Colorado. It held three to four thousand prisoners captured in either North Africa or Sicily, who were put to work harvesting local crops of sugar beets, onions, and potatoes.

Streilier's letter was surprisingly optimistic; although the allied bombing and Germany's Russian retreat had just begun, they had not yet seriously affected German morale. It reads in part:

> "You are interested in how the shop is running for us. I can tell you, to your reassurance, quite excellently. Everything is running like clockwork, and everyone gives their absolute all so that the business doesn't slide backward. Quite the contrary! . .. We were very interested in your latest updates, particularly that you are getting the necessary pocket money to cover your personal needs and that you are striving to learn the carpentry trade. . .. Reichsmarks . . . will certainly maintain their value. On November 9th, we listened to a cracking speech again; a pity you couldn't listen in as well. Erber Schorschl should still be in the Crimea, provided his troop hasn't already pulled back. The last air raid on Munich at the beginning of October was somewhat devastating. . ..As for food, we are not lacking anything at all. . .. Everywhere, bunkers are being built and water reservoirs laid out in the event that the supply lines are smashed up. The garden of our little house in Deisenhofen is also adorned with a bunker that is quite impressive. Only a direct hit from an explosive bomb can do us any harm. Incendiary canisters just bounce off! No one can get to us! . .. Best wishes for a speedy, healthy homecoming, a pleasant Christmas appropriate to the circumstances, and a happy 1944 which in all likelihood will bring us peace. . .."

The "cracking speech" was undoubtedly Adolf Hitler's annual Beer Hall Putsch address to the Nazi *Alte Kämpfer* at the *Löwenbräukelle*, which marked the 20th anniversary of his failed 1923 to seize power. In it, Hitler proclaimed that Germany was fighting for the fifth year in the "greatest struggle of all times," urging the population to maintain confidence and resistance despite recent events and insisted that the wartime state of 1943 bore no resemblance to the collapse of 1918. The speech was his final address in a beer hall setting, and afterward he largely withdrew from public speaking.

Surprisingly rich content and far more interesting that most mail received by Germans held in American Prisoner of War Camps.

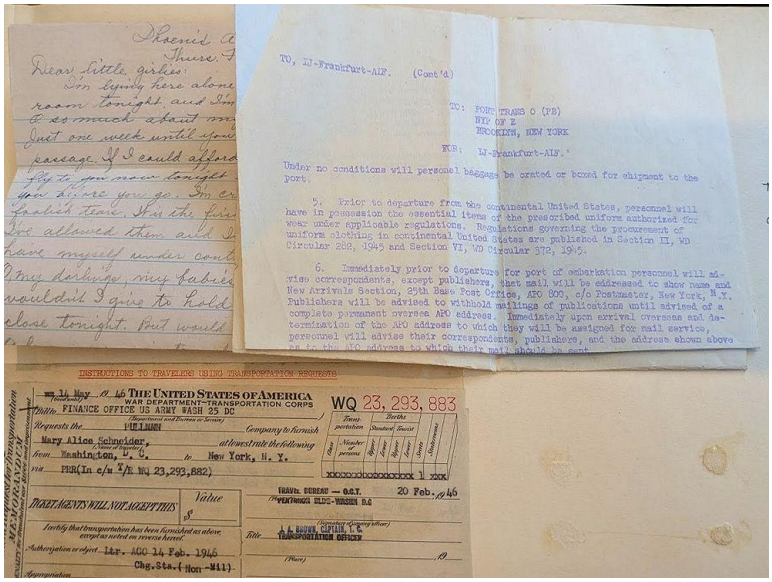
#10853 **$200**

25. [MILITARY – OCCUPATION OF AUSTRIA] [WOMEN & GIRLS]

1946-1948 – Scrapbook compiled by Alice Schneider, a young War Department civilian employee, who served as Clerk-Stenographer in the Vienna headquarters of the U.S. Forces in Austria



This impressive, quarter-leather scrapbook, emblazoned with the insignia of the United States Forces in Austria (USFA), measures 16" x 10 and contains 32 heavy cardstock leaves filled with documents and ephemera documenting the service of a young War Department civilian, Alice Schneider, who served as a Clerk-Stenographer in Vienna during the post-World War II occupation of Austria. In nice shape although missing its leather closure strap.



Following World War II, Austria was occupied by the Allies who divided the country into four sections: Soviets in the east, French in the west, British in the South, and Americans in the north. The capitol, Vienna, which was in the Soviet region, was occupied by all for Allies as well. USFA never totaled more than 29,000, of which only around 7,000 were stationed in Vienna, including a handful of female War Department civilians, of which, Alice Schneider was one.



300,000 March in Celebration of Vienna Liberation

By ARTHUR NOYES
Staff Writer

VIENNA, April 13—More than 300,000 persons marched past a Red army reviewing stand today carrying banners thanking the Russians for the liberation of Vienna just one year ago.

The civilian parade followed a four-nation military observance of the city's liberation by units of the occupying powers. A battalion representing each nation paraded before the Allied military commanders. The Russian unit led the parade with a modified goose-step, the white-gloved 42nd (Rainbow) Div. GIs followed the Russian formation. Then came the British and French troops, wearing their traditional dark blue dress uniforms.

Before the parade, the four commanders laid wreaths on the monument to the Russian war dead at the Schwarzenberg Platz, which had been named Stalin Platz a few hours before. Russian leaders and Austrian officials remained in the reviewing stand following the military observance to witness the parade by the Austrian civilians. The civilians carried Red flags with Socialist and Communist party insignias and red and white flags of the conservative Peoples' Party, as well as numerous Russian banners and signs reading: "Thanks to the Red Army," "The Red Army, Friend of Vienna," "Death to the War Criminals" and "Free Austria Lives Again."

Pictures of Generalissimo Joseph Stalin and Nickolai Lenin also were in evidence and one wagon was driven past the reviewing stand with a gallows behind the stuffed caricatures of Hermann Goering and Rudolf Hess.

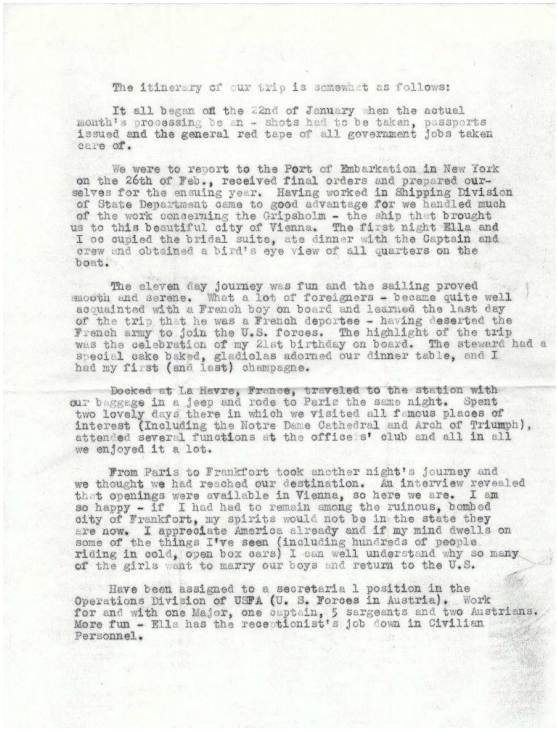
After receiving her immunizations and receiving her passport, Schneider departed from the United States on the S.S. *Gripsholm* in January of 1946 and celebrated her 21st birthday on board the ship during its twelve-day journey to La Havre. She expected to be assigned to a job in Germany, however after arriving in Frankfurt via Paris, she and the four other young women with whom she had traveled found that openings were available in Vienna jumped at the chance to work there "instead of the ruinous, bombed out city of Frankfurt." There she became the secretary of USFA's Operations Division supporting one major, one captain, five sergeants, and two local civilians. She was billeted in "the Minerva Hotel (with hot water and electricity) [which had] been turned over to the American girls (and there aren't many!)" where she enjoyed "a lovely large double room, excellent maid service and [her] choice of eating at several officers' mess." She and her co-workers were able to attend concerts, operas, theatres, and night clubs in their leisure time, and were even allowed to take short out-of-city/country sightseeing trips. She was surprised to find "that cigarettes and candy [were] like gold here. One candy bar . . . for

$3.00 and one carton of cigarettes . . . for $50.00." Since she didn't drink, Schneider sold her monthly liquor ration for $20.00 which was over half of her $37/month bill for room and board.



While in Vienna, Alice became engaged to Private Charles Belden, who was assigned to the 110th Station Hospital. Apparently Belden originally purchased this album as it is titled in his name, and he completed the first three leaves. The remainder is devoted to Alice.

The scrapbook contains over 100 mounted items and another 15 or so laid in. Some of the items include:



The itinerary of our trip is somewhat as follows:

It all began on the 22nd of January when the actual month's processing began - shots had to be taken, passports issued and the general red tape of all government jobs taken care of.

We were to report to the Port of Embarkation in New York on the 26th of Feb., received final orders and prepared ourselves for the ensuing year. Having worked in Shipping Division of State Department came to good advantage for we handled much of the work concerning the Gripsholm - the ship that brought us to this beautiful city of Vienna. The first night Ella and I occupied the bridal suite, ate dinner with the Captain and crew and obtained a bird's eye view of all quarters on the boat.

The eleven day journey was fun and the sailing proved smooth and serene. What a lot of foreigners - became quite well acquainted with a French boy on board and learned the last day of the trip that he was a French deportee - having deserted the French army to join the U.S. forces. The highlight of the trip was the celebration of my 21st birthday on board. The steward had a special cake baked, gladiolas adorned our dinner table, and I had my first (and last) champagne.

Docked at La Havre, France, traveled to the station with our baggage in a jeep and rode to Paris the same night. Spent two lovely days there in which we visited all famous places of interest (including the Notre Dame Cathedral and Arch of Triumph), attended several functions at the officers' club and all in all we enjoyed it a lot.

From Paris to Frankfort took another night's journey and we thought we had reached our destination. An interview revealed that openings were available in Vienna, so here we are. I am so happy - if I had had to remain among the ruinous, bombed city of Frankfort, my spirits would not be in the state they are now. I appreciate America already and if my mind dwells on some of the things I've seen (including hundreds of people riding in cold, open box cars) I can well understand why so many of the girls want to marry our boys and return to the U.S.

Have been assigned to a secretarial position in the Operations Division of USFA (U. S. Forces in Austria). Work for and with one Major, one Captain, 5 sergeants and two Austrians. More fun - Ella has the receptionist's job down in Civilian Personnel.

- Travel Orders to Europe,
- Ticket vouchers from Washington DC to New York and New York to La Havre,
- A ticket to La Havre via the famous S. S. *Gripsholm*, which was also used to repatriate diplomatic internees between the United States and Japan,
- A fairwell letter from Alice's mother,
- An Identity card ,
- Personnel Actions and Efficiency Ratings,
- A German language proficiency rating,
- An invitation and menu to an Economic Directorate Reception at the Allied Commission Building ,
- Advertising cards and tickets for streetcars, hotels, cafes, officers' clubs, theaters, and horse races,
- A Newspaper clipping describing a Vienna liberation parade and celebration put on by the Soviets with participation the other three Allied contingents,
- Travel orders, permits, brochures , tickets and other ephemera sightseeing in Paris, St. Bartholoma, Munich, Prague, and Salzburg,
- Birthday cards including one that appears to be hand made using a Leroy lettering set and then hand-colored,
- An invitation for a co-worker's wedding to an American major,
- A hand drawn pastel portrait of a young woman, presumably Schneider,
- Four pencil sketches of faces, including a French and a Russian officer,
- A photograph of a women, presumably Schneider, standing in from of a Lockheed Constellation airplane,
- Photographs of other women, presumably with whom she worked, including "2 American gals",
- A 24" x 17" folding map of Vienna,
- A 16" x 19.5" folding map of the "U.S. Area" in Vienna "showing Major Installations",



An art print of Mondsee,

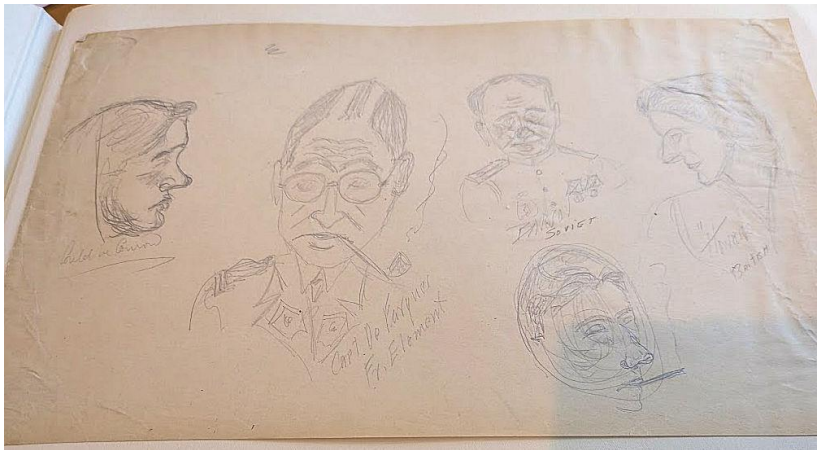
Three “Over Here” cartoons “by Clarke”,

A Nazi swastika armband,

A pack of pastel-tinted postcard images of Vienna,

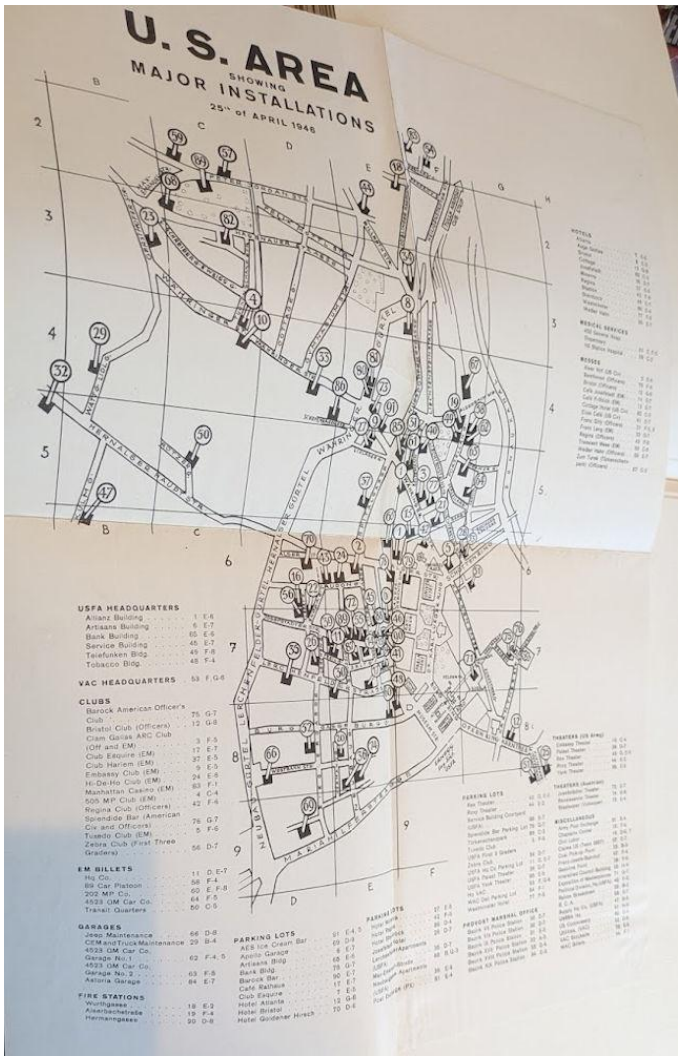
Belden’s Travel Permit, Immunization Register, Special Privilege Pass, and Athletic Award,

A 6” x 6” tile plaque presented to Belden for service with the 524th Military Police Battalion at Linz featuring the USFA insignia



Pre-marriage laboratory result forms certifying Belden and Schneider had tested “Negative” for Syphilis,

and much more.



Certainly unique. No other similar items are for sale in the trade, have appeared at auction, or are held in institutional collections.

A marvelous collection of material documenting life of a young woman working in the small and often forgotten American post-World War II occupation force assigned to Austria.

#10854 **$750**

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 our last live show this year.

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