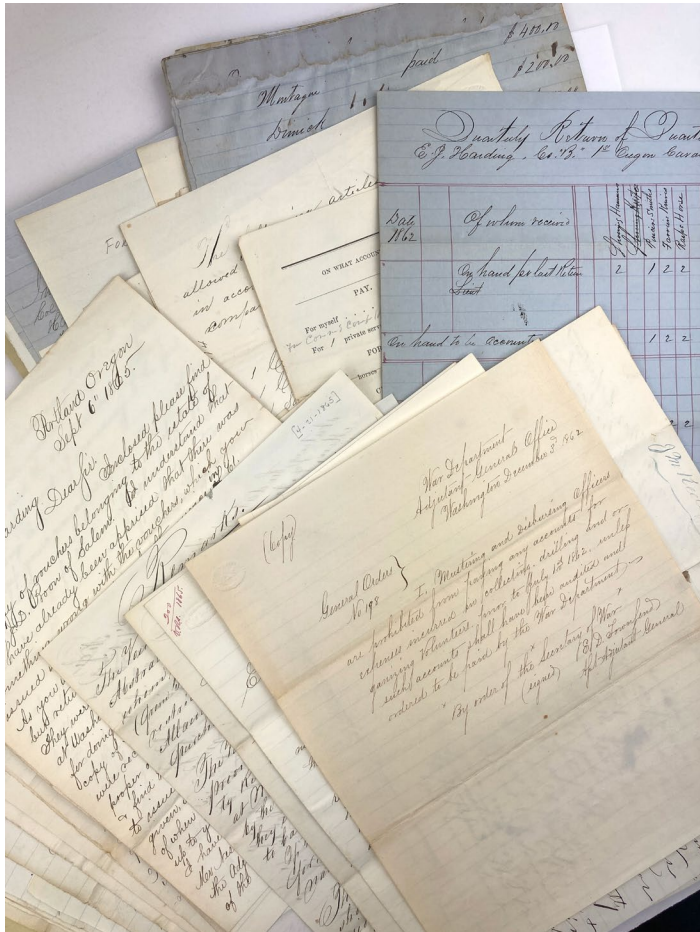




## Western States Extravaganza *Virtual Book Fair, April 2021*



This catalogue is comprised of twenty-one unique, archival items for the Western States Virtual Book Fair. Highlights include an incredible archive of an Oregon pioneer during the Civil War; an entire lifetime's worth of diaries kept by a Brooklyn socialite who traveled abroad and to the American West; a wonderful unpublished World War II unit history with a maquette containing original photos; vernacular photography, scrapbooks, business letters, and more. Enjoy!

Cheers,  
Teri & James

### Terms of Sale

All items are guaranteed as described. Any purchase may be returned for a full refund within 10 working days as long as it is returned in the same condition and is packed and shipped correctly. All items subject to prior sale. We accept payment by check, wire transfer, and all major credit cards. Payment by check or wire is preferred. Sales tax charged where applicable.

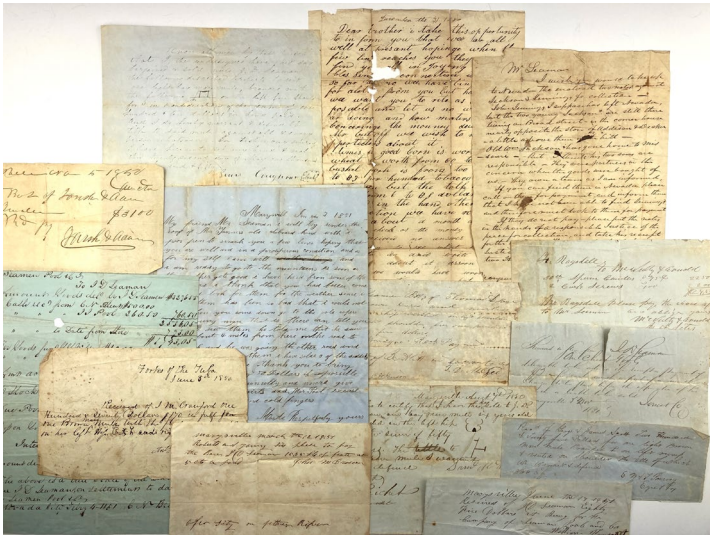
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### MULE TRADING DURING THE CALIFORNIA GOLD RUSH

1. [California]. [Gold Rush]. [Business and Letter Archive of J.D. Seaman, Mule Trader in California During the Early Gold Rush]. [Nevada City & Marysville, Ca. 1850-1851]. Fourteen single-page documents, varying sizes. A few chips and separations; one letter with three small areas of loss, slightly affecting text. Some tanning and occasional soiling. Ink fading somewhat in places. Overall, good plus.

A fascinating group of fourteen manuscript documents relating to the business of J.D. Leaman, a mule trader in Nevada City and Marysville, California, during 1850 and 1851. In the early days of the Gold Rush, the sure-footed mule was the ideal mode of transporting equipment, food, clothing, and other supplies to the little mining camps along the streams and in the ravines and gulches of the gold fields, which were unreachable by wagon. The present commercial records are from among the earliest mining communities that sprang up in the foothills of the Sierra Nevadas (Marysville, Nevada City, "Forks of the Yuba," Feather River). They consist of manuscript bills, receipts, and three letters discussing various aspects of business relating to Leaman and mentioning two early California companies, McNulty & Arnold in Marysville and Seamen Pool & Co. of Nevada City. Among the most interesting documents is a statement of accounts between Seamen Pool & Co. and Leaman, dated February 4, 1851, that shows the company owed Leaman over

\$1500 for his sales and goods delivered. Several of the receipts are for sales of individual mules, and provide records of the transaction and of the animal, including small sketches of brands and descriptions of other identifying marks. The letters, each addressed to Leaman from his partners, discuss daily business, work tasks, and other requests, such as coming to help herd mules or visiting a customer with unpaid bills. A neat manuscript record of business and trade surrounding the early Gold Rush in California.

(McBRB1825)

\$1,250

### LARGE ARCHIVE OF PROGRAMS FROM THE FIRST DECADE OF THE SUTRO BATHS

2. [California]. [Sutro Baths]. [Large and Significant Archive of Official Programs for the Sutro Baths in San Francisco, Covering the First Decade of Its Operation]. San Francisco. 1896-1903, 1905-1906. Approximately 390 programs. Folio. Most programs a single folded sheet. Several single-sheet flyers included, some programs with inserts. Some light wear and soiling, but generally clean. Very good.





An extensive archive of almost 400 official programs issued for the daily activities at the Sutro Baths. The Sutro Baths were the brainchild of Gold Rush millionaire and noted San Franciscan Adolph Sutro, who also owned and rebuilt the adjacent Cliff House. "Sutro's dream for the Baths was to provide a healthy, recreational and inexpensive swimming facility for thousands of San Franciscans. A classic Greek portal opened to a massive glass enclosure containing seven swimming pools at various temperatures. There were slides, trapezes, springboards and a high dive. The power of the Pacific Ocean during high tide could fill the 1.7 million gallons of water required for all the pools in just one hour. The Baths could accommodate 10,000 people at one time and offered 20,000 bathing suits and 40,000 towels for rent" - National Park Service. The Baths were never profitable, and the property eventually became too expensive to maintain. Their use declined in the 1930s, and they were closed and sold to developers in 1964. A fire gutted the property in 1966, and the ruins eventually became part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

Opened on March 14, 1896, this archive of programs encompasses activities for the first ten years of the Baths. The program for March 17, 1896, present here, is actually a program for Saturday March 14th, opening day, with two pasteovers listing activities for Tuesday the 17th, rendering it an even more interesting artifact. Opening day activities, as seen beneath the pastedown, included speeches by notable locals, a Grand Athletic Exhibition, and a concert by Cassasa's California Exposition Band; Baths opened at 3p.m. Activities planned for the 17th included an Aquatic Exhibition featuring trapeze diving, two experts "fancy diving," and several participatory swimming races, as well as a St. Patrick's Day music programme. The programs are generally uniform in style, containing a list of activities and many local advertisements. They are very ephemeral in nature -- usually a single, folded sheet of thin colored paper designed to be used for a day at the Baths -- and their survival here as a group is a rare feat.

(McBRB1797)

\$2,500

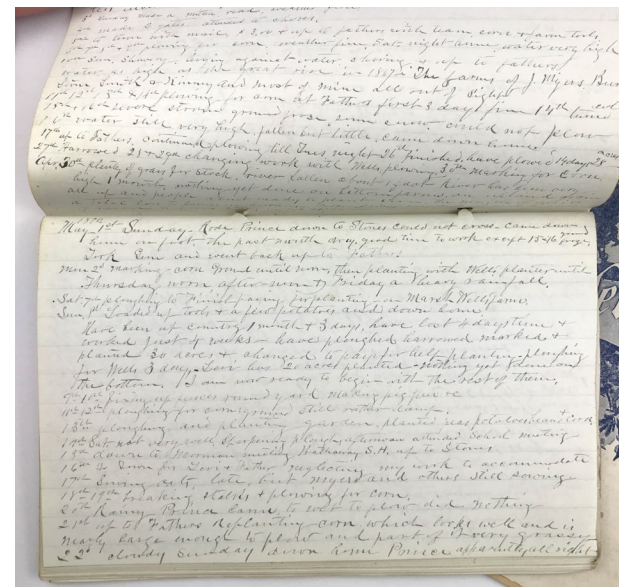
## DIARY AND ACCOUNTS OF A RURAL IOWA FARMER

**3. Erskine, Harlow Linzel.** [*Handwritten Diary of H.L. Erskine, Farmer in Onawa, Iowa*]. [Onawa, Ia. 1870-1871]. [88]pp. Handmade journal comprised of forty-four lined sheets, folded and stitched with twine. Outer leaves detached, minor wear at upper corner. In a somewhat cramped but legible hand. About very good.

Manuscript diary and account book for 1870 and 1871 of Harlow Erskine, a farmer and lumberman in the small town of Onawa, in western Iowa near the Missouri River and the border with Nebraska. Erskine appears on the rolls of the 15th Iowa Regiment and apparently returned home to make his living after the conclusion of the Civil War. Approximately the first half of this handmade consists of his terse but frequent diary entries for 1870, which entail his daily farming, logging and milling activities. His entries also contain notes on events in town that year, many of which deal with school issues; Erskine was elected to the local school board in this year and it seems no less fraught than present-day iterations. In the latter half of the journal, Erskine kept a record for 1870-1871 of his own accounts and accounts with local stores and suppliers, which show a reasonably active business. An interesting and fairly detailed account of enterprise and town life in very rural, western Iowa several years after the Civil War.

(McBRB1739)

\$450



## SCRAPBOOK HISTORY OF 1930s STORYTELLING CLUBS

4. [Folk Art]. [Storytelling]. [*Scrapbook of the Central District of the National Story Tellers' League*]. [Columbus, Oh.? 1925-1938]. [44] leaves, with numerous clippings, typed sheets, ephemera, and pamphlets tipped in. Large folio scrapbook; gilt lettered, leatherette covers, string-tied. Edges worn; front cover separating from ends at gutter. Stationer's ticket on inside front cover. Minor wear and chipped to edges of scrapbook leaves. Ephemera and pamphlets tipped in generally quite sound. Overall, good plus.

A fascinating assemblage of material produced by local chapters of the National Story League during the early to mid-1930s. The League was founded by Richard Wyche, a literature professor, at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville during the summer of 1903. The goal of the league was to foster the art of storytelling across the nation, and it enjoyed a good deal of growth and popularity during the first half of the 20th century. The present scrapbook contains material relating to and small works produced by chapters of the "Central District," which was apparently inclusive of both Kentucky and New Mexico. Other states with chapter materials present here include Illinois, Michigan, Kansas, Ohio, and Texas, with the preponderance of material coming from chapters

representing the latter three states. Sections for individual chapters from towns such as Topeka, Detroit, Columbus, Dallas, and Wichita Falls tend to include clippings covering events organized by members and one- to two-page typed histories of the chapter and its membership. Most well-represented are small pamphlets comprising printed or mimeographed annuals that provide lists of chapter officers and members and give synopses of events held that year, including specific themes, participants, and story titles. Overall, there are just under fifty such pamphlets tipped or laid in to the present volume. The book was likely put together in Columbus, where the producer of this large blank book was located and whose chapters contributed the most material of any town to this work. A wonderful document of this national literature and performance club, which continued to exist until 2019.

(McBRB1717)

\$750

## MASSIVE ARCHIVE OF AN OREGON PIONEER

5. **Harding, Elisha Jenkins.** [*Extensive Archive of Materials Relating to the Life and Career of Oregon Pioneer Elisha Harding Jenkins and the Harding Family*]. [Various locations]. 1851-1875. 354 items (222 letters totaling 387pp., plus 132 other documents). Most letters on quarto and octavo sheets. Some light wear and soiling throughout collection, but condition generally strong. Written in several legible hands. Very good.

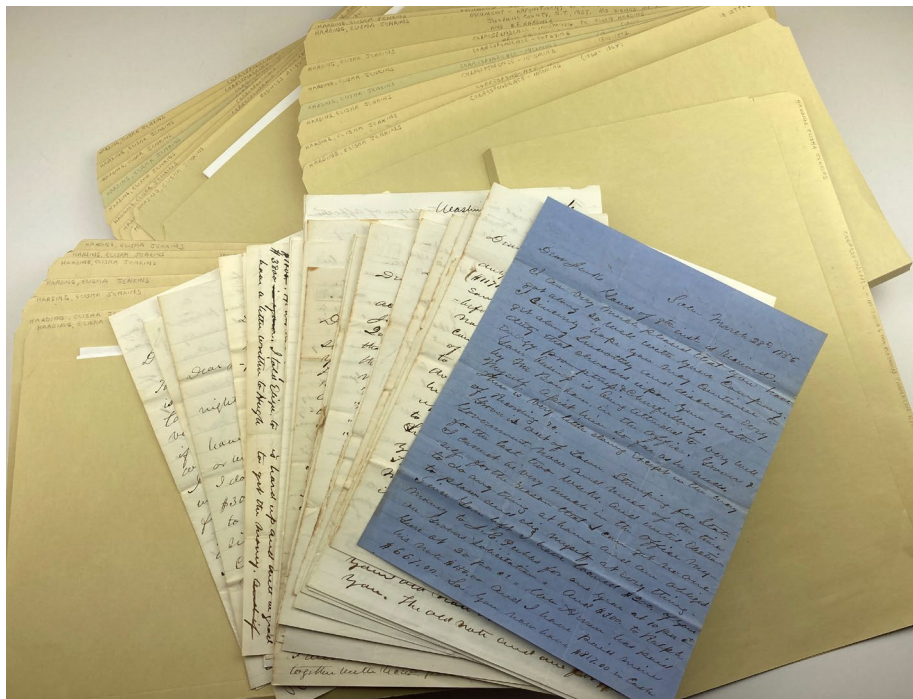
The present archive of Elisha Jenkins Harding and the Harding family is substantial in both size and content, consisting of over 220 manuscript letters and over 130 other items dating from 1851 through 1875. The archive has wonderful research potential, offering insight into early Oregon politics, military involvement in the Indian wars and the Civil War on the western frontier, and community development and growth of business. Many of the correspondents were early Oregon pioneers and instrumental in the development of the Territorial Government and early statehood days.

Elisha Jenkins (Jenk) Harding (1828-1897) was born in Wyoming County, Pennsylvania. He attended schools in the East, and joined the country's eager young men in California gold rush in 1849. He relocated





to Salem, Oregon, in 1851, where he lived until relocating again near St. Paul, Oregon, in 1859, where he prospered in real estate. Harding served in the Oregon Mounted Volunteers during the Indian War of 1856, and at the outbreak of the Civil War, he again was appointed as a Captain to recruit a company of soldiers at Salem which became Company B, 1st Cavalry Oregon Volunteers. In 1862 Harding was sent to Fort Walla Walla, Washington Territory, to restore order to that post and to assist the Indian Agent on the Umatilla Reservation in the suppression of Indian troubles in the region. He served in that rank until December 1862 when he resigned due to personal business pressures. The following year, however, he was appointed Lt. Colonel of the Second Regiment of the Second Brigade of the Volunteer Militia of the State of Oregon by Governor Gibbs, a position he apparently held through the duration of the Civil War. He married Eleanor Purdy, a fellow Oregon pioneer, in 1857, and the two had seven children. Harding became a successful real estate entrepreneur in the region, and by the time of his death in 1897 had acquired over 3,000 acres in Marion County.



Documents and letters within this archive provide insight into family and business life in Oregon in the 1860s and 1870s, as well as information on military activities in the territory, including fighting against the local Native Americans and the activities and operations of the territory's troops during the Civil War. There are also letters to E. J. Harding from his brother Benjamin F. Harding, Secretary of the Oregon Territory, Speaker of the Oregon House of Representatives, and U.S. Senator from Oregon.

The majority of the military material relates to the outfitting of the men serving in Company B, 1st Oregon Cavalry Volunteers while stationed at Fort Walla Walla in Washington Territory in 1862. These include documents on the requisition of ordnance; inventories, invoices, and vouchers for clothing issued and supplies purchased; payroll information (including names of the soldiers); and several copies of General Orders. Many of the twenty-four letters relating to Harding's military career are requests for payment on claims, vouchers, or back pay.

Other letters discuss the conflicts with the local Indians, such as one from a soldier Harding served with in 1862. Writing from camp in the Blue Mountains on June 2, 1863, he says: "Reached this place today. We have been 10 days coming from The Dalles. I have had a pretty good time. Rather hot and dusty, but I generally get the Escort into camp before 8 in the morning. The dough boys have not yet arrived here but I expect them tomorrow or next day. I shall see all the military humbugs at Boise. ... I think the Oregon Cavalry Mob will come out with a great flourish this summer. Maury is going to eat the Snake tribe this summer. I think that the emigrants ought to travel some other road for the dead Indians will probably breed a pestilence."

Among the correspondents here is E.J. Harding's brother, Benjamin Franklin Harding (1823-1899). B.F. Harding studied law, and in 1850 he emigrated to California and then almost directly to the Oregon Territory. Upon his arrival in the Salem area, he was elected to the Oregon Territorial Legislature to represent Marion County. He was elected as U.S. district attorney in 1853, and subsequently served as the Secretary of the Oregon Territory. In 1858 he was elected to the Oregon State Legislature, and in

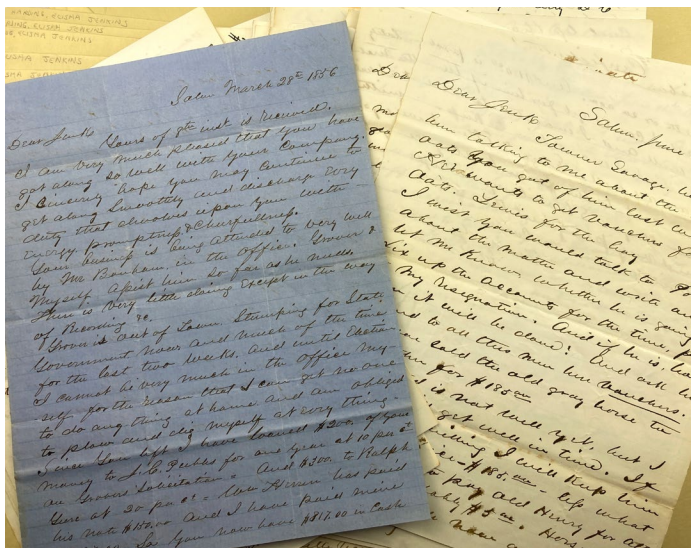
1860 became speaker of the House of Representatives. B. F. Harding was elected to the U.S. Senate to fill Edward D. Baker's seat after the latter had died. Harding served in that office until March, 1865.

A "Douglas Democrat," Harding was one of the "Salem Clique" that controlled much of the political happenings in early Oregon. While many of Ben's letters to his brother relate to business affairs, others reflect his views as a regional leader in the anti-slavery wing of Oregon politics. He writes on January 22, 1863:

"Whether the Govt can be preserved is in my mind exceedingly doubtful... All we can do is provide for the worst. Do all we can for the country. And await the result. And it is better to wait without complaining or finding fault. In 1864 I hope we shall be able to elect a President who will amount to something – Lincoln does not – and bring this war to a close by subduing the rebellion. Until then all we can do is to stand by the present Administration and save the country from the rule of Jeff Davis."

Other letters include frequent commentary on the devaluation of the dollar during the Civil War, and he urges his brother to save gold and coins and divest of greenbacks: "Government paper – legal tender notes – are at last accounts worth 40 per cent less than gold – Gold being reported worth 140 – and still the difference is widening. I understand that Major

Francis has not a sufficient amount of funds to pay you off. When he will have is somewhat uncertain, but I think it may be by next steamer. It will be in legal tender treasury notes of course. You better get your pay as soon



as you can and then resign. It will not pay you to stay in the Service." At another point he urges E.J., "Take any kind of property for paper. Real estate if you can get it." B.F. Harding's letters also detail his attempts to get the Quarter Master General to pay the troops in the West, and his interest in having E. J. resign from service in order to take care of both their businesses and families while B.F. is in Washington, D.C. He is finally successful in the latter, using his political influence to leverage E.J.'s resignation. The B.J. Harding letters offer interesting insight into the work and interests of a U.S. Senator from the west during the Civil War.

All told, this is an extensive archive of a single family in the early days of Oregon Territory. The Hardings played a significant role in territorial affairs, and this archive certainly comprises a healthy trove of interesting research material for life in the Pacific Northwest during this time.

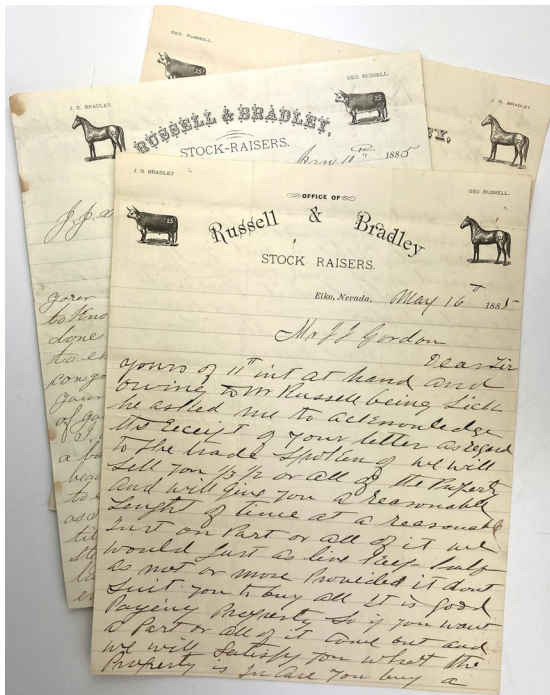
(McBRB1906) \$12,500

## IDAHO COMMERCIAL RANCH SALE

**6. [Idaho]. [Cattle].** *[Three Letters Regarding an Idaho Ranch Sale from Russell & Bradley, Prominent Nevada Stock Raisers].* Elko, Nv. 1885. Three manuscript letters, totaling [8]pp. on pictorial letterhead. Previously folded. Light tanning, a few small patches of minor dampstaining. Accomplished in a legible script, and accompanied by typed transcriptions. Very good.

George Russell emigrated from Ireland in 1852 and worked in freighting and mining in California and Nevada, before opening a store at Mineral Hill, Elko County and then moving to Elko. John Ruben Bradley and his father, Nevada Governor Lewis Bradley, formed a partnership with George Russell. their holding extending in to Elko, Humboldt and Lander Counties, Nevada and Cassia County, Idaho operating under nine different brands. The partnership dissolved in 1897 after twenty-five years, but Russell continued in the cattle business, and was reported to be the largest stock holder in Nevada in 1918. The three letters present here contain discussion of property issues and the prospective sale of an Idaho ranch and stock to a group of New York investors headed by one J.J. Gordon, the addressee. The first and lengthiest letter, dated





January 10, 1885, intimates several reasons behind the company's willingness to sell, and contains detailed description of the ranch, available for \$200,000:

“The Idaho property is situated in Cassia County, one place called Oakley, the other place which is head quarters is fifteen miles from it on Dry Creek, with houses and all necessary improvements for stock raising. Both places is under fence and good meadow land and we cut each year from 3 to 400 tons of hay on them

with wagons and all necessary machinery.... The range is supplied with corrals at all necessary places for branding and holding cattle when necessary. There is now on the range between 6000 & 7000 head of cattle as high as we can figure it after making all liberal allowances for losses up to this time. And there was branded on the Ranch last year 1100 calves and this year it will brand from 1400 to 1500 with any kind of avrige Spring. The percentage of losses is less and stocks get fatter than any range I know of in the North Western country. We put 27 fine Hereford Bulls on it last year and the hole stock of cattle is the best in the Territory.”

The interest of the New York group seems to have kept up through the year, before their dawdling caused Russell and Bradley to pull the plug on the sale during the Fall. In May, the cattlemen were still trying to offer attractive terms for the sale, writing that, “We will sell you 1/3, 1/2 or all of the Property and will give you a reasonable length of time at a reasonable cust on Part of all of it.... It is good Payeing Property so if you want a part of all of it come out and we will satisfy you what the property is.” However, by October, they have run out of patience, with Russell saying, “I am sorrey this matter has poot you to so much trouble

and had you not been one of the intended investors in the Ranch I would have said some time ago let her slide.” Russell also notes the results for the year on the property, and references the 1885 law and enforcement proclamation that protected homestead lands from open-range grazing, writing, “The seasons work is about over on the Range now. In two weeks more will be through shipping our Beeves and branding for the season both of which has been good. The Presidents proclamation don't affect us any, it is rather a benefit. A few such men has no right to fence in a hole country.” A small but quite interesting group of correspondence on Idaho ranch and cattle matters.

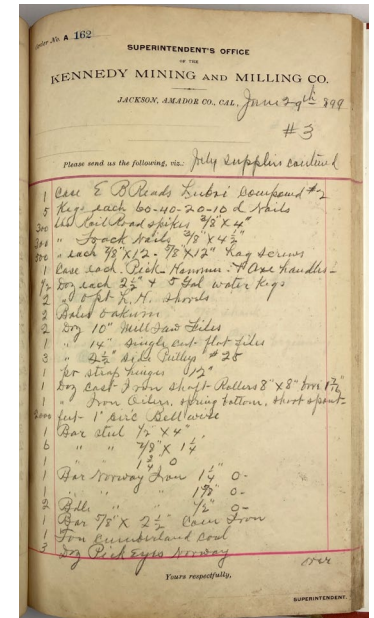
(McBRB1868)

\$875

## DAILY ORDERS OF A COMMERCIAL MINE IN THE MOTHER LODGE

**7. Kennedy Mining and Milling Company.** [*Bound Volume of Manuscript Carbon Copy Order Forms for Kennedy Mining and Milling Co.*]. Jackson, Ca. 1899-1900. [49] leaves. Large folio. 20th-century half calf and marbled boards. Minor wear to binding, contents generally clean. Very good.

Volume containing carbon copies of manuscript forms ordering supplies for the Kennedy Mining and Milling Company of Jackson, California. The Kennedy Mine is located in the Mother Lode and was first prospected in 1860. The claim changed hands several times, finally being purchased in 1886 to several investors in the Bay Area led by mining engineer J.J. Thomas. This group incorporated under the name Kennedy Mining and Milling Company and ramped up investment in the mine. A new drilling site, the “East Shaft,” was started in 1898, and eventually reached a depth of over 5,900 feet, one of the deepest mine shafts in the world. The



Kennedy Mine closed in 1942 after producing nearly \$35 million in gold, and is today a California Historic Site and a tourist attraction.

The order forms here begin in February 1899 and continue through October 1900, and are signed by E.C. Hutchinson for the Superintendent's Office at the mine. Orders include supplies such as nails, oil, blasting fuse, wire, and other necessary items for gold exploration. In an order from February 15, 1900, Hutchinson orders for the East Shaft "2 Bars 1 1/2" corrugated machine steel ... 25 lbs 3/4" hex nuts ... 2 cases tripple tape fuse, 1 can sumac boiler compound, 6 parts giant drill #7 ..." and several other items. The next form, labeled as "March supplies," opens with a case of dynamite. Altogether, the volume provides a look at the necessary equipment and supplies needed during an important phase in the history of this famous mine, during the initial years of the East Shaft. (McBRB811) \$750

### HANDMADE MOCK-UP OF AN UNPUBLISHED WORLD WAR II UNIT HISTORY

**8. Lane, Will.** "Objective Japan!" *The Story of the Seventh Air Force from "Pearl Harbor" to the Japanese Surrender. December 7, 1941 to August 14, 1945.* [California. ca. 1947]. 21pp. typescript, together with maquette illustrated with eighteen photographs. Folio. Typescript stapled, minor soiling and toning. Maquette is large folio, original pictorial printed boards. Photographs pasted in, some loose. Light chipping and wear. Overall, very good.

A large maquette with original typescript designed as a book proposal for Will Lane's work on the activities of the Seventh Air Force during World War II. The work sought "to narrate the complete circle of events that started with the Pearl Harbor attack...and ended only with the unconditional surrender of the Japanese." Formed in October 1940 as the Hawaiian Air Force, the Seventh was stationed at Fort Shafter and charged with protecting the Hawaiian Islands. On February 5, 1942, the Hawaiian Air Force was re-equipped and officially became the Seventh Air Force in the wake of the attack on Pearl Harbor. The unit was active for four years of operations across the Pacific, including the Battle of Midway and the



attacks on Iwo Jima and other Japanese-held islands. The photographs herein portray some of the unit's commanders, as well as action such as mushroom clouds, bombers, and maps. The work was clearly intended to be heavily illustrated, as evidenced by the layout of the maquette. A handsome artifact of publishing at this time, as well as evidence of the appeal of material of this sort following the war. Apparently unpublished. (McBRB1824) \$1,500

### ELECTING MINERS' UNION TRUSTEES IN VIRGINIA CITY

**9. [Nevada]. [Unions].** [Three Documents Relating to the Organization of Miners' Unions in Virginia City, Nevada]. [Virginia City, Nv. 1877-1896]. Three items, totaling [5]pp. Light wear and soiling. Very good.



Three neat documents of early mining unions in Nevada during the last quarter of the 19th century. The two principal pieces here comprise oaths of office and certifications of the elections for the trustees of the Virginia City Nevada Miners' Union in 1877 and 1880. The union was founded in 1867 (after a previous "protective association," formed in 1863,



had collapsed), and a union hall building that was constructed in 1877 is still standing in Virginia City. Each document consists of two attached sheets, one a manuscript attestation by the recording secretary that certifies the results of the annual elections for union trustees, and the other a partially printed form completed in manuscript that served as the oath of office for the trustees, signed by each recently elected member. Also present is an 1896 dues card for the Storey County, Nevada, chapter of the Ancient Order of United Workers, completed in full for a member named Desmond. The Nevada Miners' Union was one of the earliest successful efforts at labor organization in the West, and these documents provide an interesting record of their operations and structure. (McBRB1882) \$600

### GIANT PHOTO ARCHIVE OF OKLAHOMA SOIL CONSERVATION

10. [Oklahoma]. [Photography]. [Large Collection of Photographs Documenting Soil Conservation Service Work in Oklahoma From the Dust Bowl to the Early 1960s]. [Various places in Oklahoma. 1935-1963]. 611 photographs, almost entirely 4.5 x 6.5 inches; images occasionally reduced on the sheet. Prints starting to curl; occasional light wear at corners and edges. All images captioned in type on blank verso and numbered in the negative; occasional ink stamps on images. Sharp, clear images. Very good.

A vast archive containing more than 600 photographs that depict the work of the Soil Conservation Service in Oklahoma from the mid-1930s to the early 1960s. The photographs document the effort to reduce erosion, enhance water supply, improve wildlife habitat, and reduce damage caused by poor farming practices and the ecological disaster of the Dust Bowl. Images include farmland, irrigation systems, floods, various researchers and scientists, and the farmers themselves, as well as sweeping landscapes, detailed studies of tools and instruments, the introduction and careful study of various grasses, drainage, fielding techniques, and more.



“Over 15 percent of [Oklahoma] land had been taken out of production by the 1930s when the first soil surveys revealed that more than six million acres of land in Oklahoma had erosion problems.... Ten regional soil conservation experiment stations were established to measure soil loss, conduct surveys to determine the extent of erosion damage, and develop control methods. The Red Plains Research Station in Guthrie was the first experiment and demonstration station in Oklahoma. N.E. Winters, the first director, established other demonstrations on Stillwater Creek (Stillwater), Pecan Creek (Muskogee), Elk Creek (Elk City), Camp Creek (Seiling), Tulip and Henry creeks (Ardmore), Little Washita Creek (Chickasha), Taloga Creek (Stigler), Coon Creek (Duncan), Guymon Creek (Guymon), and Pryor Creek (Pryor). Successful lessons were transferred to privately owned land in the state and the nation.

“In March 1933 Congressional legislation established the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) to provide employment for young men and veterans of World War I and help people cope with the Great Depression. Dr. N.E. Winters directed over 1,100 workers in thirty-seven Oklahoma communities, including Ardmore, Beaver, Checotah, Gasker, Idabel, Mountain View, Nowata, Sayre, and Wilburton. CCC workers freely developed conservation practices on farms. By means of the Standard State Soil Conservation Districts Act of February 1937, states were

strongly encouraged to legislate mandatory soil conservation in order to qualify for SCS benefits. Oklahoma passed such a law in April of that year. Thus, Soil Conservation Districts were created, and SCS specialists worked through the districts” - Oklahoma History Center.

Approximately 230 of the photographs collected here document the early activities and projects of the Soil Conservation Service as well as the condition of and practices on Oklahoma farms during the mid- to late 1930s. The images present from the projects at Stillwater, Guthrie, Chickasha, Muskogee, Stigler, Elk City, and Seiling, but many of the projects and locations near the numerous Civilian Conservation Corps camps from which much of the work was based are well depicted. The photographs present continue in much the same vein over the next two decades, with just under 200 included from the 1940s and approximately 175 from the 1950s and early 1960s. As time progresses, additional and new project locations from across the state are incorporated into the photographic record.

The images in this large group are made particularly valuable by the extensive typed captions on the reverse of each print, which provide detailed information concerning the date and location of the photograph

and a description of the activity or condition being documented. The preponderance of the images here are well-composed and can be quite striking, but the group dating to the 1930s is particularly so, given the skilled field photographers hired under the New Deal to do the work, such as James Slack, who also took exceptional images of the New Mexico pueblos for the Historic American Buildings Survey during this time, and Richard Hufnagle, who captured dramatic shots of the construction of Mount Rushmore.



We locate two much smaller groups of these photographs in the collections of the Library of Congress and the Oklahoma Historical Society. A fine and fascinating archive that documents the development and improvement of agriculture and soil conservation in Oklahoma after the Dust Bowl and through the 1950s.

D. Chongo Mundende, “Soil and Water Conservation,” *The Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture* (online).  
(McBRB1839) \$8,500

### MANUSCRIPT LETTERS FROM TEXAS ROYALTY

**11. Royalty, George William. Royalty, Margaret Ruth Jobe.** [*Archive of Correspondence Between George Royalty and His Wife Maggie, Together with Associated Family Letters*]. Gatesville, Texas, and other locations. 1895-1901, 1924. Twenty-six letters, totaling 103pp., plus a photograph, associated newspaper clippings, and biographical information. Octavo sheets. Old folds. Minor wear and soiling overall. Very good.

Archive of sixteen letters written between businessman George Royalty and his wife, Margaret, together with ten further family letters. George William Royalty (1870-1924) moved to Texas as a child, settling in Gatesville in 1894, where he opened a hardware store with his partner. He operated Matthews & Royalty Hardware for thirty years and was an active member of the community. Gatesville saw a population boom in the 1890s and grew to be a town of nearly 2,000 people by 1900. An entrepreneur, Royalty was also involved in real estate, owned several farms, and was involved in several other business enterprises. He married Margaret Ruth Jobe (1871-1940) in December 1894, and the couple had one daughter, Margaret (1895-1969), who would later become the state’s Poet Laureate. Maggie Jobe was from a pioneering family who settled in Texas before its independence. An artist and poet, she taught art for two years before her marriage and was active in the literary and social life of Gatesville. The Royaltys moved to Waco in 1918. George dropped dead of a heart attack suddenly in 1924.

George’s letters to Margaret are from the early days of their marriage, dating 1895 to 1898, and seem to have been penned while Maggie was



back home in Gonzales visiting family. They are written on stationery from the “Office of Matthews & Royalty, dealers in Hardware, Stoves, Tinware, Queensware, Guns and Cutlery.” They are general letters relating brief tidbits of local news, family matters, and a general feeling of missing his wife. He also occasionally sends along money. An exemplar from May 3, 1898 reads, in part: “We haven’t had a drop of rain here since you left and you can guess it is very dry. Our prospects for a corn crop is very slim. But cotton is looking fine. Wheat and oats are in shock and are very good. ... I want to tell you now I will be awful glad when you all come home. ... Do you have any idea when you will come home, when are you going to ship the stock. Will there have to be somebody look after them in Waco or will the R.R. Co do that.”

One of Maggie’s replies from Gonzales in May 1898 opens with the reassurance, “I am almost ready to come home now, I want to see you so much.” She goes on to relate the details of their journey, noting how much her parents seem to have aged since she left home. She also relates family and local details, including news of a railroad survey: “The railroad surveyors are camped on the avenue just beyond Mr. Glass’ and one survey came right between Tillie’s and Mama’s. Don’t know yet tho if that will be where the roads will run.” Three of her letters to George

are written from Chicago in 1901, where she was attending art classes. She writes home with details of her sightseeing, the baby, and about her progress with her lessons.

Some of the related family correspondence is written by Maggie to other family members, including a cousin Felix and to her brother John Jobe. There are, in fact, three letters written to John H. Jobe in 1898 -- just after he joined the Army to fight in the Spanish American War. Maggie writes to him at San Antonio where he is encamped with Troop B of the 1st Texas Volunteer Cavalry on June 22, 1898, expressing the family’s horror and incomprehension when they found out he’d run off to join the military. “I haven’t words to express the sorrow your letter brought us, for though to many pride is uppermost, to us the fear of losing you entirely. Why did you want to join the army? Have you been thinking seriously of joining, long? ... And what did you do with the things you had at Dayton? Did you just have such a hard time at Dayton that you thought anything preferable to that? If you had let us know, Mr. R would have let the whole thing go rather than for you to have left in that way.” She closes with the sentiment “I cannot write more for crying” and implores him for a photograph. Additionally in the archive, there is some biographical information and newspaper clippings, a handwritten description of their wedding, as well as a black and white photograph of Maggie taken later in her life, presumably after George died (she’s dressed in widow’s weeds).

(McBRB1697)

\$400

## LETTERS TO THE FIRST WOMAN MINERAL SURVEYOR IN NEVADA

**12. Schockley, William H.** [*Archive of Ten Letters Written by Mining Engineer William H. Schockley to Fiancee and Fellow Mining Surveyor, May Bradford, in Palo Alto*]. Tonopah, Nv. December 7 - 15, 1907. Ten letters, totaling 85pp. Mostly octavo sheets. Old fold lines, minor wear. Most with original envelope. With modern typed transcripts. Very good.

Series of letters written by mining engineer and surveyor William Shockley to his fiancee, May Bradford, over the course of the week



following their engagement. May Bradford (1879-1977) was a Stanford graduate who worked in partnership with her father as a mining surveyor in Tonopah. She was later appointed Deputy U.S. Mineral Surveyor in Nevada and California. She met fellow mining engineer William H. Shockley while touring Europe in 1906, and the two married in early 1908.

These letters record an intense depth of feeling between the two, and also highlight the unconventional and outspoken nature of the lady involved -- they are at times both ardent and not-entirely-subtle in their innuendo, and it is apparent from William's letters that her replies were equally so. He repeatedly implores her, "Love me! Love me!" and writes of his longing and desire. Writing on December 9th, he says, "Tell me something great in your letter, tell me we will be married soon and that after that we will be frank and loyal mates bearing with each other's imperfections and loving each the more for them. I kiss the inside of your elbow, that soft little white arm with the blue veins."

William writes of his desire to travel with May to Mexico, asking her to send him a Spanish dictionary and phrase book so he can brush up on his language skills. He practices piano -- many German songs and composers -- and writes to her about her art, which she pursued

alongside her scientific career. At points he mentions traveling with her to Germany and Java, and indeed the two spent time in Europe after they were married (their son was born in London in 1910). There are tidbits of everyday life in Tonopah, plans for their wedding and celebrations, hopes for the future, and some lines relating to the mines and work. By the end of the week, William is planning a visit to Palo Alto, and expresses his excitement. His final letter is signed "Your lover who longs for you."

There are two telegrams at the end of the archive. The first, dated December 18th, reads, "Am on train will see you tomorrow with best wishes. William." The second, dated at Palo Alto on May 26, 1925, is from May to her mother. It indicates that William has had a fatal hemorrhage, and that he will be privately cremated the following day. Though not heavy on mining content, these letters remain relevant for their insight into the life of this unconventional and interesting woman, and for the man who wasn't afraid to be swept away by her.

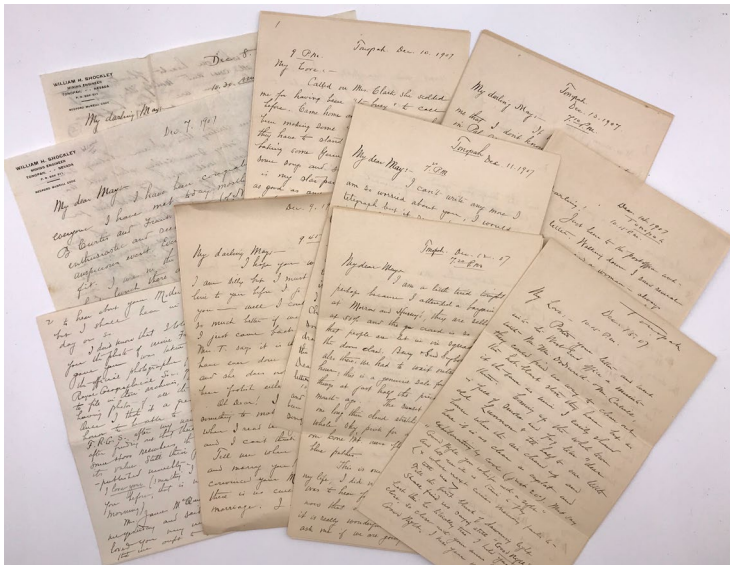
(McBRB757)

\$950

## A WOMAN'S IMPRESSIONS OF INDIAN TERRITORY

**13. Simpson, Mrs. John M.** [*Archive of Correspondence and Manuscript Accounts of a Woman's Work and Travels in Indian Territory*]. [*Various Places in Indian Territory. 1898-1911*]. [51]pp. manuscript and typescript material, plus several newspaper clippings. Light wear at edges and along old fold lines. Moderate tanning and light dust soiling; occasional patches of light staining. Accomplished in a quite legible hand. Overall, very good.

A collection of letters, composed narrative, and manuscript drafts written by Mrs. John M. Simpson, who traveled with her husband and lived in Indian Territory from 1898 to 1901. John Simpson of Wisconsin was appointed Supervisor of Schools in the Chickasaw Nation and traveled throughout the region to inspect schools. As a result of his reports and others from education supervisors of other Indian nations, the Department of the Interior proposed taking over the school system. However, they met with resistance from the tribal government, which





ultimately agreed to a compromise in 1901 allowing the U.S. government to review school operations and certify teachers in the schools.

This group of materials captures the impressions of Mrs. Simpson, who traveled with her husband and wrote that she assisted him with his work, but she was clearly quite religious, and also spent much time working in territorial churches and missions. Among the collection is a fourteen-page undated manuscript describing their travels. She and her husband left Washington, D.C. and traveled by train to Muskogee, the headquarters of the Dawes Commission and Indian Affairs. They then traveled on to Ardmore, Chickasaw Nation. “The following night after our arrival the hotel we were in, a large three-story stone building was burned and we escaped at 3 o’clock in the morning...by that time, I began to change my mind and did not think it was such a nice affair to come to Indian territory,” she wrote.

The couple’s next destination was the capital Tishomingo, a small town in the Southwest portion of Indian Territory about 50 miles from the Texas border with just 400 inhabitants, where she reflected on the class system within the territory. “The citizen is the Indian, the non-citizen is the white resident,” she wrote. “The citizens are further divided into

classes, with the full-blooded Indians the aristocrat. In other words, he is the landed gentlemen.” She noted that many white and “colored” people lived poor and itinerant lives within the territory. “You can see a wagon with a cotton cover under almost every shade tree that is anywhere near some water,” she wrote. “Four persons is the smallest numbers I have seen in any of these wagons, from that to thirteen and upwards are huddled together, mostly children, with some dirty straw, a broken chair, some filthy bedding, a part of a stove with a piece of stove pipe tied on underneath the wagon. The children peer out through holes, so covered with dust and filth that sometimes you are in doubt as to whether they are human or not.”

The couple had much occasion to meet and to interact with local Indian residents and leaders, and the account contains descriptions of their experiences. While in Tishomingo, for example, the Simpsons, “Dined with the Governor of the Chickasaw Nation a few days ago who lives in a modern frame cottage. The dinner was served by a colored butler with the customary ceremony usual on such occasions in the states. The Governor is a half-breed, his wife nearly full blood, quite dark, but very ladylike and sweet in her manners. She talks both Chickasaw and English, is well educated and acts as interpreter for her husband.”

The manuscript account is the most extensive among the documents in the collection and reflect her views on the educational system of the tribal nations. Her concerns often center on the residents of the region who she feels are being denied educations. “It has been stated that the cost to the United States government for the expenses of the courts, jails, judges and marshals for the suppression of crime in Indian Territory is \$1 million a year! If 59,250 children are allowed to grow into citizenship right in the heart of our country, deprived of the benefits of our greatest American institution – the public schools – can we expect them to make good citizens?”

This archive also includes a nine-page handwritten letter dated September 6, 1899 from Davis, Indian Territory, on hotel letterhead from Allen Cottage. She apologizes for not writing sooner as she and her husband were both sick with a “slow fever.” The stories in this letter

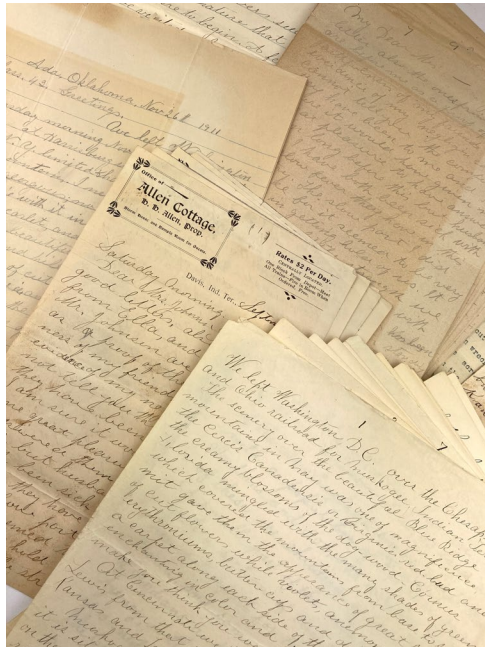


report experiences in the same vein as those in the manuscript account, also containing descriptions of their interactions with members of the Indian tribes:

“I attended preaching in the Capitol [of Chickasaw Nation] night before last which was conducted in their own language but they sang the same dear old songs. Jesus lover of my soul & rock of ages Mr Simpson and I sang with them in our language. We had no trouble in following them their voices are very sweet and melodious. They looked very much pleased and I was like the old lady I sang out loud and strong...”

A twelve-page handwritten draft letter of this letter is also present, and contains additional information about the culture and morays of Indian Territory residents -- their starched white bonnets and the popularity of the Mother Hubbard dress and the snuff stick.

A further two-page typed letter is addressed to a Mrs. Hull and dated January 27, 1901 from Duncan, Indian Territory. She wrote seeking the help from “Calvary” to help keep a small Baptist church in Ardmore open. She noted she had been busy over the past year helping her husband, whose work was considerable. “Besides our other duties, we are kept busy dodging small pox, scarlet fever and diphtheria,” she wrote. “Everyone runs around here with contagious diseases and then when there is a death a public funeral is held in the church to which everyone goes just as they would a picnic.” In another five-page letter, no dates, written in ink on rule-lined paper to a Mrs. Brown. She wrote about her efforts to support a fledgling church in a small border town south of the Canadian River and 40 miles from the nearest railroad.



The final substantial piece in this group is a later, four-page letter handwritten in pencil on ruled-line paper dated November 26, 1911 from Ada, Oklahoma. This draft was written “to the Class of ’42” and relates her return to the region after an absence of ten years. The biggest change was apparently the number of oil wells now everywhere. “There have been many changed since we were hear and yet in many ways not so much change but more of the same thing, more railroads, larger cities, more wealth, more extravagance and more poverty.” She wrote that she spoke at the high school about temperance “it is such a pleasure to be someplace there are no saloons.” There are a further four pages of miscellaneous draft pages with small but interesting excerpts of her experiences, as well as several newspaper clippings about tribal activities.

In all, a very interesting aggregation of material relating the travel and work of a woman in the Indian Territory at the turn of the 20th century. (McBRB1819) \$2,750

## CORRESPONDENCE OF A TEXAS LAND SPECULATOR

**14. [Sloan, Alexander B.]. [Texas].** [*Correspondence Regarding the Texas Land Investments of Alexander B. Sloan*]. [Victoria, Tx., and various places in New York. 1853-1891]. Eighteen manuscript letters, totaling [46]pp., plus twenty-one deeds, receipts, and other printed documents. Tears and minor losses to two letters, otherwise, quite sound. Overall, very good.

Interesting group of eighteen letters concerning the real estate investments made by Alexander B. Sloan in the region of Victoria, Texas, during the second half of the 19th century. Sloan was a New York physician who lived and worked in Penn Yan and Bellona during the time these letters were written. He seems to have dabbled in land speculation in his spare time, and purchased properties in Texas because he was a resident of San Antonio from 1853 to 1855 and also seems to have had substantial family in central and east Texas. The letters capture the struggle for Sloan to make a profit from his investments, and the difficulty of the long-distance management involved in the enterprise. On Christmas 1872, his nephew in Victoria, J.A. Sloan, wrote to him:





“Real estate lands is looking up but very few sales made as yet, but few emigrants locating in the coast counties, there is a good many passing through prospecting, and many strange faces in our little city now. Our people has nothing to buy with & land to sell, consequently land sales are slow and uncertain. But we are looking for a better time coming. I think there is a day not far distant that store lots will be valuable it is only a matter of time.... this is Christmas 11 o'clock am. Dull. No excitement. Business dull. No noise except an occasional report of a few fire crackers by our little folks, no sickness no preaching no riots no drunkenness no mirth nor parties...”

Nearly five years later, the situation was still not promising, and Sloan was having difficulties receiving reliable representation of his interests from his family in the area, as his cousin John Sloan reported to him in a September 23, 1877 letter:

“I should of answered your Letter long ago but my Brother James came back from Mexico and I handed all your letters to him. He said that he was your Agent so I had no more say in the case. Now my Brother James has sold out and gone back to Mexico to stay and make that his home.

I thought it best to let you know I don't know what he done about your lots while here. He was in trouble. His wife turned out to be a public prostitute and got bill of Divorce last court from her so he is free. So if you want me to see to your lots send me power of attorney to act and what your want done with them. It is no time to sell owing to hard times. James sold his farm for \$450 per acre it's all he could get. I bought his house and lot in town for \$300 or had to take it so he could leave. That land matter I will attend to as soon as you send me the power of attorney. James done nothing about it....”

Another several years later, in a January 24, 1881, letter, the owner and editor of the Victoria newspaper, F.B. Pridham, registered his complaints with Sloan concerning the problems in dealing with his holdings and about the general problems the city was still enduring:

“We have had more trouble with your land on the frontier than ever before experienced. After getting the patent, we commenced a search for the land. The Giddings District extends over a large scope of Country and there are 3 of them. We finally settled down on McCulloch Co. as the one in which the land was situated.... The lands are on the frontier, in very sparsely settled counties, and the officials as a general thing are quite ignorant of their duties.... If our Co. keeps going down as it has for the past 3 years I shall strike out for some of the counties receiving immigrants. We have not so many inhabitants now as we had ten years ago. The whole Co. is about surrendered to the stockmen who have it surrounded by fences. No one comes here and many leave here each month.”

Other letters follow these themes, and provide more exposition of Sloan's holdings in Texas during this period, and his family history there. The printed forms accompanying the correspondence are a mixture of documents that relate to Sloan properties in both New York and Texas. Overall, an illuminating and at times quite lively group of letters that follow the vicissitudes of Texas land speculation by a New York doctor, with some great details concerning Victoria and the fortunes of the town and the Sloan family during the 1870s and 1880s.

(McBRB1831)

\$975

## CORRESPONDENCE OF A RURAL TEXAS MINISTER

**15. Stribling, James Harrison.** [*Small Archive of Texas Preacher Rev. James H. Stribling and His Wife, Jane, Comprised of Correspondence and Business Documents*]. [Various locations in Texas. 1853-1854, 1864-1880]. Eleven pieces plus envelopes (three letters [7pp.], four postcards, and four receipts [6pp.]). Folio and quarto sheets. Old folds, some wear and slight separations. Light soiling. All items in a legible hand. Very good.



Small collection of documents relating to the religious and business affairs of Rev. James H. Stribling of Texas. James Harrison Stribling (1822-1892) was born in Alabama but moved to Washington County, Texas with his family in 1837. He served in several military excursions against Mexico, including the Santa Fe Expedition of 1841 and the Somervell Campaign of 1842. Stribling graduated from Baylor University as one of its first divinity students, and was a Baptist preacher for more than fifty years. He married his cousin, Jane Cleveland, in 1852 in Gonzales, Texas, and the couple had five children. Stribling served as a pastor in Gonzales, Tyler, Rockdale, and other places.

The documents here are in two groups -- early business accounts and later correspondence relating to church affairs. The four account receipts, dated 1853 and 1854, are for household expenses. Three of these are

shorter receipts, but the fourth document is a folio account three pages long covering an entire year's expenses on account with a Benjamin B. Peck of Gonzales. Given the date of Stribling's marriage several months before, the expenses here likely show some level of setting up house with a new bride. During the month of January, for example, the Striblings bought a silk hat (\$5), an axe, a thimble, a box of salt, a hammer, one drawing knife, a wending hoe, a shoe brush, two milk cups, bottle caps, an umbrella, bed ticking, flour, shot, a "fine comb", nails, blacking, rope, a handsaw, a strainer, and a hatchet. Each item is enumerated with its price and the date it was purchased. The account for the year was paid, but not in full, and there is a charge for interest at 10% and a balance carried forward into 1854.

The first two letters chronologically are addressed to Jane. Dated at Oakland, Texas, January 18, 1864, the first appears to be written by her father, "L. Cleveland," who reports on the family's health and also the war effort. After complaining of rheumatism in his knees and legs, he writes of his Confederate military activity: "The company to which I belong was organised for local defence, but agreed to go out of the county when in our judgment it is our duty to do so, and can return to it when we please, it is made up of what are known as exempts. Five weeks ago it (our company) went down and reported to Genl. McGruder's head quarters near the coast, there being no immediate, apparent danger of a fight, or advance of the enemy, the company at the suggestion of the Genl. returned home, having been absent two weeks, we know not when it will go again, may do so at any time." He continues about the cold weather and its impact on women and children left at home by the menfolk off to war. The second letter is from a friend lately moved to Austin, dated 1870, and provides some description of the city. After describing the "deplorable state" of the local church, which is a large stone building with a loud bell but no congregants, the author writes of the town itself. "Austin is called the "Seven Hill City" but I think they might have added 100 hills & then not told all. All the hills have houses on them & then all down the sides of the hills & even the valleys are filled with houses; & there are some beautiful residence of this white rock or marble, & now they make a superior brick here which is quite as good as the rock. Cisterns are built very easily here, just dig them & cement the walls & they are secure, & nearly every family has a cistern. The capitol



and public buildings are a credit to the state, but they need painting & repairing & the grounds need improving & kept in a better state.” The author also mentions the “R.R. Bill” and legislative efforts surrounding it.

The remaining correspondence, dated 1879-1880, is addressed to James Stribling and primarily concerns church events and appointments, excepting one letter which concerns the purchase of a buggy in Galveston. One notecard signed “CCC” discusses resignation from his congregation and hopes for a call to Mobile: “I resigned here on yesterday, the ch had a meeting, pretty largely attended, and unanimously requested me to withdraw my resignation. I have done so for the present. I still am looking out for a permanent home. Mobile might suit me, but how can Mobile be made to hear me.” Two notecards seem to suggest job offer for Stribling. One relates that “I think that you will hear that Dallas has adjusted her difficulties. Make no arrangements anew to a charge until we meet.” Another states quite plainly, “Our pastor Bro. Simpson has resigned and we wish to raise the amount before we call. If you are not engaged please [do] not do so until you hear from us. We would like to hear from you on reception of this. We are satisfied the church will call you.” Taken all together, this is an interesting group of documents providing a glimpse into the life of a Texas preacher -- both personal and professional -- during the latter half of the 19th century.

(McBRB1698)

\$500

**“I SPENT MOST OF THE DAY TRIMMING MY YOSEMITE HAT.”  
- A SOCIALITE’S ARCHIVE OF TRAVEL AND DAILY LIFE**

**16. Thompson, Emma Lukens Hall.** [*Extensive Diary Archive of an East Coast Socialite in the 19th and early 20th Centuries, Covering Nearly Sixty Years, with Content Relating to the Civil War, Travel, Housekeeping, Celebrities, Politics, and Much More*]. [Brooklyn, Philadelphia, and various other locations. 1855-1914]. Twenty-six diaries, comprised of [6,817]pp. Mostly quarto volumes, a few folios. Several with boards either loose or lacking; wear to bindings. Some light wear and soiling to contents, but generally clean and highly legible. Numerous clippings either pasted or pinned into text. About very good.



A large archive of twenty-six diaries, comprising nearly seven thousand pages, written by Brooklyn and Philadelphia socialite Emma Lukens Hall Thompson, that cover the entirety of her life from girlhood through two marriages, childbirth, numerous travel excursions, meetings with celebrities and important figures of the day, and more. Thompson (1840-1926) was born in Philadelphia to a Quaker doctor and his wife. In 1861, at the age of twenty-one, she married Isaac Hall, a Brooklyn widower with four children; together, they had three children, only one of whom survived into adulthood. Hall was the director of the Union Ferry Company in Brooklyn, as well as the owner of a shipping supply company and several other business interests. Emma was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, an active participant in the women’s suffrage movement, and a frequent traveler both in America and abroad. Isaac died in 1883, and Emma eventually remarried, this time to Philadelphia businessman Samuel Swayne Thompson (b.1832) in 1891. Samuel -- who began in the grocery business, founded a bank, was a director of the North East Pennsylvania Railroad, and a trustee of the state insane asylum -- was already twice widowed. Samuel and Emma had been friends, and their union seems to have been a happy one. They owned at least three residences -- a house on Spruce Street in downtown

Philadelphia, a place in the Poconos, and “Brooklawn Farm” in Chester County, Pennsylvania. A devout Quaker, Emma took up various causes throughout her life, such as abolition, Unionist sentiments during the Civil War, women’s rights, and numerous charitable and missionary efforts.

The first volume present here is an amalgamation of five years’ worth of diaries, stitched in paper wrappers. It begins in 1855, when Emma was fifteen years old, and documents her teenage years before her marriage to Isaac Hall. Her entries are relatively brief, noting the day’s weather and detailing visitors to the house and any outings attended. These occasions often involved several friends, and included boating trips, visits to musicals or other productions, attending museums, and social gatherings. The entry for August 11, 1855 is full of excitement, relating the “kidnap” marriage of her relation, Ann:

“Aug. 11th clear and warm. Harry was here at breakfast and left about 8 ½ o’clock. About 9 o’clock Ann came home and said she was married. She said when she went from here she went to see a friend, and there was her beau, waiting in a carriage for her. He told her to get in, and she thought he was going to take her riding, but instead of that he drove first to the Bishop’s and got a liscence [sic] and then to St. Augustine’s and was married by a Priest. She said she screamed but they told her to be quiet. But she seems now perfectly resigned to her fate and very happy. She is not going away from our house for a month or two yet. Amos Knight and Sam Fox spent the evening here, and Dave Stackhouse.”

In addition to relating her social activities and pastimes, she also writes about learning domestic tasks, including making quince preserves, writing about it in some detail in September 1855:

“In the morning Mother wanted me to learn how to preserve, so she made me come down in the kitchen and see how she first washed them off very nicely after they have been pared and boils them for 15 minutes then lets them stand over night so they will get perfectly dry. The next morning she takes the water they were boiled in, and puts as much sugar as will go in and lets it boil. Then she boils the seeds of the quince, and strains them through a sieve very fine, and puts it with the water that is boiling. This is for the juice. She puts the white of an egg in to clear

it, and then puts in quinces, and if the fire is good they will be done in 15 minutes. She afterward boils the pearings for marmalade, when it is strained and sweetened.”

In the fall of 1855 she mentions having her daguerreotype made, and she notes a recurrence of this event in March 1860, writing, “I went around to 8th & Spring Garden and had my daguerreotype taken for a friend.” Through her initial diaries, one can chart the progress and life of a young woman readying herself for marriage and entry into middle-class society in the 1850s. Though they begin briefly, Emma’s entries grow as her confidence increases with age, so that by the time her next diary begins in October 1860, entries are lengthier and more detailed, and also begin to express her opinions rather than simple facts.

In October 1860, the family relocated to Brooklyn. She made new friends of the neighbors and of other members of their Quaker Meeting, and easily established herself in the social circles of her neighborhood in Brooklyn. Emma writes in November 1860 about the election of Abraham Lincoln, saying, “Election Day, but a very quiet one, oweing [sic] to the influence of the Republican party. Abraham Lincoln was elected by an immense majority over other candidates for the Presidency.” Near the





end of March 1861 she writes, "Hal and I went over to N.Y. shopping and to see the Spring fashion. In the afternoon I received a newspaper called the Liberator, and edited by Loyd Garrison (a violent Abolitionist) from Silas Underhill at Cambridge." Ever literate and in style, she also notes that she is reading Nicholas Nickleby by Dickens.

On April 15, 1861, she first mentions news of the Civil War, writing "Yesterday the Orthodox Meeting commenced in Philadelphia, and today every body is wild with excitement about the news from the South, viz. The surrender of Fort Sumter, etc." She continues this thread several days later: "Excitement is increasing here in regard to the war in the South, and numbers of young friends are joining military companies -- notwithstanding the Discipline [i.e., Quakerism] is so in opposition to it. I am very anxious to offer my services as nurse for the wounded, and if possible will do so, as the little in my power is at the service of my country. (I am so patriotic that I would willingly fight if it was not unmaidenly)." The excitement begins to wear off, however, as the realities of military life hit home. In June she details a visit from a friend who has enlisted, who relates his camp experiences and also the fact that he has enlisted because of her and her opinions on the war:

"...who should step forth but Aaron Brown. He had just arrived from Washington, came on business for the Regiment and can only stay two weeks in Brooklyn. He is much changed -- more erect, taller, and better looking. Brought me two buttons taken from off Secessionists coats. He only staid about an hour, saying he had not yet seen his Father, asked my permission to come here tomorrow evening to tell me all about his life at Washington. ... Aaron Brown spent the evening here. His account of camp life was quite entertaining and interesting, but his experience was sufficiently long to make him heartily sick of it, and as the term for which he enlisted (3 months) is nearly expired, I very much doubt his returning to Washington City at all. He fairly frightened me by saying that the only earthly cause of his enlisting in the first place was a conversation he had with me, when I expressed such strong Union sentiments, and an equal abhorrence to Secessionists, that it fired his blood. The next day he joined the 7th Regiment, and in two days started South. The mystery to me is how I could influence him to the extent of leaving all his comforts and friends to work hard, subject himself to exposure and even loss of

life with scarcely prospect of obtaining any glory, and the change all effected in one evening, as before that his sentiments were strongly those of a Secessionist. Also said he was afraid to come bid me good by, as his strong resolve would waver if he again saw me (making me out quite irresistable [sic])."

Brown was wounded several months later. News of the war continues, scattered throughout the diaries during those years.

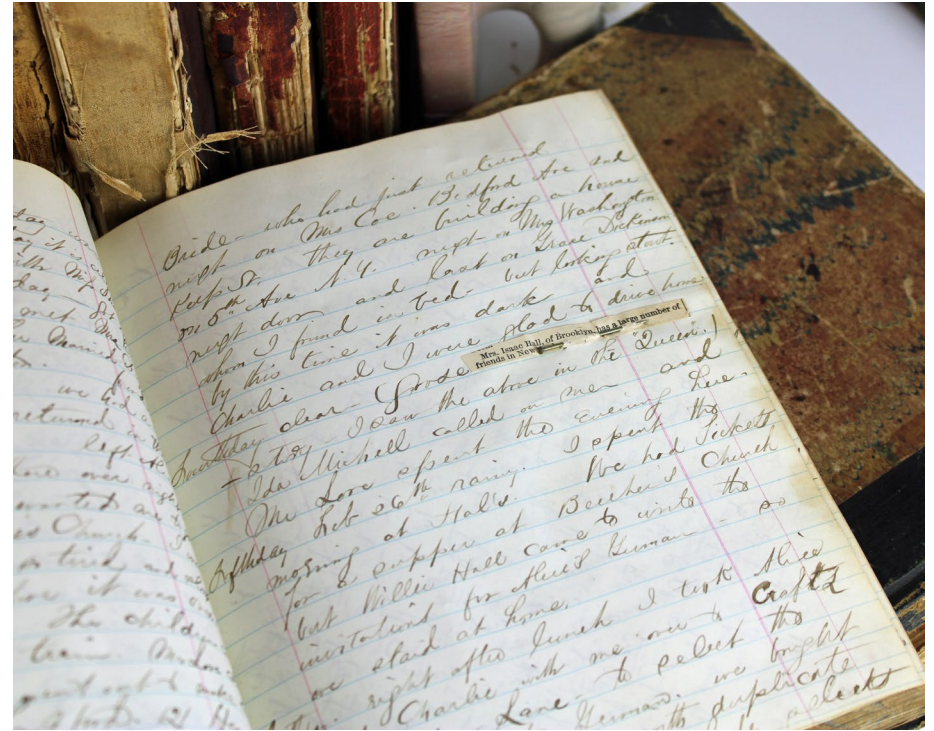
Isaac Hall seems to make his first appearance around Christmas time in 1861. Emma met him at church, and writes, "I had quite a talk with Isaac Hall after Meeting." After that, skating with Isaac and his daughter, Louisa, becomes a regular winter feature, as do visits to the house and gifts of oranges. Their courtship lasted several months, and the two were married in late July 1862. Emma writes with great detail about all of the hubbub surrounding the wedding, including sewing her dress "the skirt of which is so elaborate that it takes a monstrous long time to make it," and all the delights of the reception. They honeymooned at the Cozzens Hotel in West Point. While there, she meets former President Fillmore and his wife, writing, "I was introduced to Ex-President Fillmore & wife, had a long talk, and became quite well acquainted." Throughout, Isaac showers her with gifts, and you can see her giddy and glowing through her prose.

Emma's union with the older and well-established Mr. Hall was certainly a brilliant financial match. The two lived in high style, and travelled frequently, as detailed herein. In November 1868 she writes, "This evening Isaac presented me with a pair of diamond earrings valued at \$500.00. Five hundred dollars, they are the most magnificent ones I ever saw, now my diamond sett is complete." Isaac proceeds to pierce her ears, as well, to accommodate the diamonds: "This evening Isaac armed himself with a large needle, white silk and a cork and commenced butchering my ears. He first ran the needle in the wrong place and had to make another hole, but I bore it until the two ears were pierced half ashamed that I had given up to such uncivilized vanity. The operation made Isaac so nervous that he could not go out as he intended to call on Louisa & Joe."

Emma meticulously recorded the details of her daily life -- how much paid for hats for her and the children, who came for dinner, outings to the city and elsewhere. Among these details are her interactions with

her hired help and the running of the household. On September 30, 1868, she fires the cook, writing, "I discharged Catherine (the cook), paid her \$7 for two weeks service, and to my astonishment she turned around and said she would not leave the house without a month's wages in advance, and I could not make her. I told her she had more than her earnings and I would not give her another cent. So I sent over for Isaac to come home and put her out, as she sat till ½ past 12. But she hearing me say a policeman would come with Mr. Hall started and Anna a new comer took her place." Throughout the entire span of the diaries, Emma relates her experiences with the servants, both good and bad.

As wealthy people of some prominence, the Halls (and later, the Thompsons) were able to travel widely across both America and Europe. In 1869 they family traveled to the South, visiting the Carolinas and Virginia. While on the trip, Emma provides commentary on the African-Americans she encounters, none of it very polite: "We were quite amused at the colored policemen, they assume so much dignity, and look in the face more like monkeys." In 1874, they travelled to California by train, departing on April 10 and arriving about two weeks later. Emma provides details of which lines, the trains themselves, and anything she finds interesting about her surroundings. Upon her arrival in Nebraska, she writes, "We have passed through the state of Missouri and are now in Nebraska. Here at the different stations we see Indians selling beads, begging, handing petitions written by Government Officers, saying they are good to the whites." They continued westward, encountering new novelties along the way. "At Cheyenne City got dinner and were waited upon by Chinese men, very effectively. We are now in Wyoming Territory." When they arrived in Salt Lake City, they took rooms in a downtown hotel, but Emma caught cold from the weather. She nevertheless describes the scene: "Salt Lake City lays in a valley entirely surrounded by the Wahsatch [sic] Mts on which snow is always visible. The streets are wide, and along each side is a clear, cold stream of water from the river Jordan. The Mormon houses are generally one storied, with a door for each wife." Unfortunately, she is silent on the subject of polygamy, but she and Isaac do, however, tour the Tabernacle and drive past Brigham Young's houses.



They arrived in San Francisco, relieved by the balmy California air after the chill and snow of the mountains around Salt Lake. With a keen eye for detail, she describes the friends they visited, the meals they ate, and the unusual flora and fauna of the area. She and Isaac tour the "principal buildings," including the market, which is full of a wide variety of curious fruits and vegetables, "a feast for the eye," and Emma buys some "Chinese curiosities to take home." She describes a trip to the Cliff House, as well as a trip to a Chinese Mission School: "In the evening, the party took us to a Chinese Mission School. They learn very readily, and answer questions about the hymns, old and young, male and female, all with their long pig tail or que[ue] down their backs." She also describes a day out to Woodward's Gardens in the Mission District -- an amusement park of sorts which operated from 1866 to 1891 -- where they enjoyed the museums and aquarium and watched the feeding of the seals. They attended plays and the opera, had sumptuous dinners, and as was the fashion, they visited a Chinese temple and, perhaps less usually, also an opium den:



“We saw the different Gods that they pray to -- one for shipwreck, one for gambling, one for merchantmen, &c., and their incense sticks. [We went] Next to a Chop House or Restaurant and last to an Opium Den where the Chinese men were sitting and laying and smoking their opium pipes, some just going off in a sleepy state, while many were just commencing, and the men well crowded in little compartments not 6 feet wide or high. They economize their space so. The smell was overpowering so as soon as we understood the principle, we backed out.”

The following day, Emma prepares for a trip to Yosemite, writing, “May 2nd. A lovely day. I spent most of the day trimming my Yosemite hat.” They made day trips out of San Francisco the next several days, seeing canyons and ranches, geyser springs, and provisioning themselves for the tour of Yosemite. On May 7th while wandering about San Francisco she writes, “We were interested in watching a steamer from China unload 600 six hundred Chinese just arrived.”

They then journeyed to Cloverdale and Calistoga in order to visit the geysers, sulphur springs, and the petrified forests, sometimes travelling on unsafe roads:

“The road was almost 16 miles long and frightfully dangerous, right through rivers and along the edge of mountains hundreds of feet high and in many places 2 to 3 thousand feet of descent -- we just on the ledge with only a foot distance from destruction. Isaac was sick and dizzy, he could not look down, but would hold me in and look up at the tops of the Mts.”

They pushed on to Yosemite on May 13th, and Emma writes: “We rode all day at Mariposa. I had a glass of peach ale here...there is an Indian village and a rich mining country. The whole open country is ditched and dyked in search of gold. We pass some very rich claims. At 7 o'clock we arrive at the Skeltons having ridden 54 miles. Here we are at a little rough country house built of unpainted boards and such a big party they could not accommodate us all under the roof covers. So we -- Isaac and Wm, Jeune and I, all slept in a Bar Room outside. They put up beds, then took a clothesline and suspended our travelling shawls, and here we slept.”

She continues the following day: “They never drive here but start from Skelton's horseback. About 10 o'clock we all mounted our horses. ... It was a very pretty sight the whole party all mounted and in single file winding around the mountains, and of all dangerous roads I ever was over this exceeded my wildest dreams. ... along a narrow ledge just wide enough for the horse to step upon. Mountains and ledges of rocks towering thousands of feet above us, and ravines and precipices on the other side hundreds of feet below. So we moved along each one for himself, dreading every moment we would be hurled down to destruction, and at one of the most dangerous points on the road, a square turn, just as a turned and was leading the party...my horse bawled [sic], turned twice around and stood with his feet over the precipice. Isaac was so frightened he hollered out jump off, so I sprang off, but the horse would not budge. Then Isaac got off and took his bridle, gave him a kick, and led his own horse ahead. This started my horse so we all moved on.”

Emma travelled to Europe in the mid-1880s, after Isaac's death in 1883, and continued to keep up her diaries throughout her years as a widow just as diligently. In 1891 she remarried and relocated, finding a new mate in wealthy Philadelphia businessman Samuel S. Thompson. The two travelled west in 1896, visiting South Dakota and the Black Hills. A newspaper clipping pasted into her diary in April 1896 reads, “Mr. and Mrs. S.S. Thompson of Philadelphia are about to visit Edgemont, South Dakota, in company with a party of prominent capitalists.” They take the train via Pittsburgh and Chicago to Omaha, riding in the company of the former Governor of Pennsylvania and his wife. Another longer clipping from the Omaha papers details the party and its destinations. On April 16 they arrive in Edgemont, a small town in the southwest corner of South Dakota, about eighty miles due south of Deadwood. In 1900, the population of Edgemont was about 475 souls (today it is around 750). Emma writes:

“All the four seated conveyances Mr. Grable could procure -- among them an original Deadwood stage driven by four horses which used to carry the mail across country -- were drawn up alongside our car, and we were driven 15 miles out through gulches, canyons and along mountain sides to a spot where they are making a small reservoir for use along and to Edgemont. In the afternoon we returned around 4 o'clock...and about



5 o'clock a delicious dinner was served, then we walked over to a little hotel where all our trunks had been deposited and we ladies dressed for a reception given for us by the people of Edgemont at the Club house. We paraded in headed by Governor Pattison, and were warmly welcomed by the Mayor of the town and his officials and their wives and sweethearts. We met there an old outlaw who had been in prison for 10 years; one of Buffalo Bill's bareback riders, by name D. Middleton, who is living peacefully at Edgemont. We shook hands with him."

The following day they made a trip to a grindstone mill and then set out for Deadwood, arriving around 7pm. They attend the theatre, "...and they did very credibly for a small house. We were crowded like sheep in a pen, and wriggled considerably through the evening." The next day they set off in carriages for a visit to a mine: "We drive along five miles through gulches and canyons, along roads only used by four horse teams to draw ore, some places so narrow and precipitous we were frightened, but they make turn outs and wait for coming carriages." Afterward they picnicked beneath cottonwoods, and Emma describes their luncheon and meeting an old miner, "by name Fagin who has lived in a log cabin here 18 years." They visited one of George Hearst's mines, then headed to Custer and enjoyed the mineral springs nearby. She mentions "a troop

of colored soldiers are stationed to guard against Indian raids" at Fort Robinson, and they eventually arrive back at Edgemont. Thence they departed for Denver, arriving on April 30th. Emma notes that on the train, "George and Charles are the colored waiters who serve us well," and near the end of the journey "each gentleman presented our colored men with \$5.00 apiece."

As many people across the nation did, Emma travels to Chicago for the World's Columbian Exposition in 1894. In 1899, Emma and Samuel tour Europe, visiting Italy, followed by Vienna, Paris, London, before embarking for Norway, Denmark, Sweden, and a trip through the Arctic Circle. She writes on December 28, 1908: "I was made Life Member of the Woman Suffrage Society of Phila." In 1912, she writes about the tragic sinking of the Titanic, and she laments the outbreak of the Great War in 1914. Throughout her diaries, she keeps meticulous records of her social life, from menus to Christmas gifts to interactions with people in her everyday life, as well as the celebrities of the day. She notes each lecture she attends, each charitable meeting, and numerous details about her children. It is impossible to elaborate on all of the material present, due to its depth and scope, but Emma's diaries are a wonderful resource for research as a comprehensive document of one upper class woman's rich and varied experience of American life in the second half of the 19th century and the first two decades of the 20th century, spanning nearly her entire adult life.

(McBRB783)

\$14,500

## DEPRESSION-ERA ROAD TRIPS ACROSS AMERICA

**17. [Travel Photographica].** *[Photo Album of an Three Auto Trips Across the Country, Including Images of Glacier National Park, Yellowstone, the Grand Canyon, New Mexico, Florida, New Orleans, and Michigan].* [Various places]. 1930-1931. 277 photographs on forty-four leaves, most 2.5 x 3.5 inches, a few larger. Oblong octavo. Original black cloth, string tied, cover gilt. Wear to covers, some chipping. Images with corner mounts, many captioned. Internally clean, some light chipping to a few leaves. Very good.





A lovely vernacular album -- captioned throughout -- documenting at least two, and likely three, epic road trips taken by a pair of friends in the first years of the 1930s. Given the first images of each trip, we presume these two gents were Midwesterners, possibly from

Indiana -- on the first trip, their initial stop is Akron, Ohio, and on the second, they head first for the Lincoln Memorial in Kentucky. Each trip starts out with a photo of them and the car, with the date.

The first trip, begun July 1, 1930, ranges from Ohio to Pennsylvania, stopping in DC to see the sights before heading north through New York, Massachusetts, and into Maine. From there, the fellas cut across Canada to get to Niagara Falls, where they toured on both sides of the border. They continued on through Michigan, Minnesota and South Dakota, arriving in Montana and spending time at Glacier National Park before continuing on through Idaho to drive down the Columbia River Highway in Oregon. One notable image taken along the river is captioned "Indians Salmon Fishing." Heading south, they drove down the state of California, heading for several national parks starting with the Grand Canyon, where they took photos of Hopi Indians. They drove through the Painted Desert and on to Zion National Park and Bryce Canyon, ending at Yellowstone (124 photographs).

Their second trip, which commenced July 4, 1931, took them south to Kentucky, Tennessee, and on to St. Augustine, Florida. From St. Augustine they drove down the state, camping on beaches and wending their way

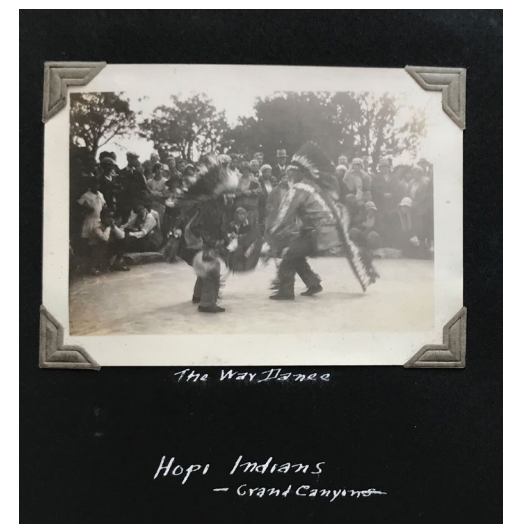
to the Keys and then back up again through the center of the state. They moved on to spend time in New Orleans, and snapped photos of Austin and the Alamo as they moved west. One of the lengthiest captions in the album concerns their visit to Isleta Pueblo in New Mexico, describing the community and the way of life there. They drove across New Mexico and on to Colorado, with images of the Royal Gorge and Phantom Canyon (forty-eight photos).

The remainder of the album seems to document a lengthy tour of Michigan, which, despite the lack of an initial date, we presume may be the road trip they took the following summer. Beginning at Houghton Lake, they move on to Traverse City and the Cherry Festival (a celebration which happens in early July). They continue north, taking a ferry across to the Upper Peninsula and St. Ignace, touring Fort Algonquin, and continuing west to Forest Lake and Gladstone. There are several images of sawmills and local life in the UP. They had back south, driving all the way to Benton Harbor and the Indiana Dunes, with a few snaps of the Lincoln Park Zoo in Chicago, before heading east to Detroit (105 photos).

Though coverage of each area is less than extensive, it is fascinating to trace the routes and interests of what must have been an incredible journey across and around the country, made by two young men in their car at the start of the Great Depression. Usefully captioned throughout as to places, and an interesting tour of America in the early 1930s.

(McBRB1319)

\$850



## DIARY OF A WOMAN TRAPPED IN GERMANY BY WORLD WAR I

**18. Weil, Anna F. [World War I].** *Diary of My Trip to Europe from June 29 to Oct. 25, 1914* [manuscript caption title]. [Various places in Germany, mostly Darmstadt, as well as England, Holland, the Atlantic Ocean, New York, and Allentown]. 1914. 144pp., with ten original photographs and printed document mounted at rear. Quarto commercial journal. Black cloth boards, edges dyed red. Spine perished, boards attached with amateur tape repairs. Text block solid. Minor offsetting from photographs; a bit of soiling to first leaf; light, even tanning. Accomplished for the most part in highly legible hand; approximately 17,500 words in total. Good plus.

A remarkable manuscript travel journal that documents the European trip of a 22-year-old Pennsylvania woman, its interruption by the outbreak of World War I, her subsequent stranding in Germany, and her trials in securing passage back to the United States. Anna F. Weil (b. about 1892), the daughter of an Allentown grocer, John Weil, departed New York on June 29, 1914 aboard the S.S. Rotterdam, a 3,400 passenger luxury cruise liner operated by the Holland America Line. She arrived in Rotterdam, Germany on July 9th and proceeded to connect with family and sightsee in Germany and the Netherlands with plans to proceed to Switzerland and Germany which were cut short by the declaration of war between Germany and England:

“Wed. July 29. To-day war was declared, I have many postal cards written to send to American but was told not to send them as they would not reach their destination, so all communication with outside countries is cut off. The harbor is closed and no ships can leave or enter German ports. The English cut the German cable a few days ago before war was declared so now we can't even send a telegram from Germany.” (p.68)

At first, the war is present in daily life, but still seems some distance from it:

“On Sunday Aug. 23. I saw the first wounded French soldiers, saw a wagon full, but there were well treated by the Germans, and the people

expressed pity for them as they were a sad looking party. We were at Frankenstein's Castle, a ruin on the mountain which can be seen way in the distance from Darmstadt. It was a very nice ramble through the woods and part of the castle is used as a restaurant, where we had some thing to eat and drink before resuming our ramble in and about the castle. When at the top of the town it was nice to look over the tops of the trees, over the fields and see the villages and the city away off in the distance.”

The reality of the situation, however, quickly becomes more evident and more pressing:

“Aug. 28. Friday. Received a letter from Angeline dated July the 23d. also one from Frank dated August the 4th. Saw hundreds and hundreds of horses which are taken and sent to battle with the men. Saw many companies leaving it was a beautiful sight to see them march as one man. As they passed through the streets the women came and greeted them and gave them flowers. Horses, wagons, men, every thing was covered with the acorn leaves, the German emblem of victory, and as the women gave the flowers they were placed among the acorn leaves, and so they left their homes, families, and country, with flowers and song, and their flags waving high above them. It was a beautiful and inspiring sight to



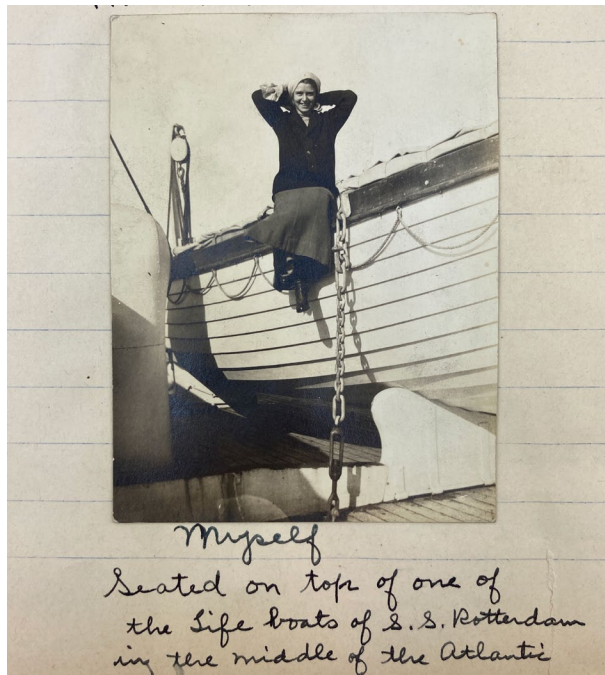


see them go, but to think of their return made one's heart grow sad. One company that I saw Company 115 had but 30 men left after the battle, the rest were dead or wounded."

Throughout the account, her German heritage shapes a favorable view of the Germans in the war:

"In Belgium the Germans were very much ill treated, they had to flee the country in 1 hours notice, and leave every thing back, Elizabeth Buehler and her brother, as well as other Germans who were living in Belgium in the city of Antwerp had to flee for their lives and all their belongings were taken from them, they arrived in Darmstadt with nothing, but what they had on their bodies. When the war first broke out the Russians who were in Germany threw bombs and tried various ways of doing mischief. So all were given a chance to leave, and got to their own country. Those who refused and did any mischief were taken into custody and placed under guard until the war is over. Those who did any wrong were sentenced to death were shot. This was at least more human that the way some of the Belgians and Russians treated and mutilated the Germans, when they had done no wrong and deserved no punishment. War is war and there are rules which we cannot change, and are considered honest in warfare, but I don't think it right to torture or mutilate a wounded soldier whether friend or foe."

She remained with family at an estate on Dieburger Strasse in Darmstadt, Germany until she was able to secure an emergency



passport from the American Consul in Frankfurt on September 15th. The return passage was fraught as Holland America misplaced her reservation, the ship was delayed, and she was forced to find temporary lodgings in Rotterdam, when she arrived on October 1st:

"When we got there the proprietor said all was taken, this made the porter cross and he said he would find some kind of place for us but we were not going to take any kind of a make shift, so we turned and hurried back to the station, the porter took hold of my arm and tried to detain us but I broke loose and Mrs. Kramer and I ran as fast as could, when we reached the station we were just in time to catch the other four who were driving away in carriages. The eldest one saw us running and stopped the team and waited for us. We got in and such a time till we found lodgings. Every thing was taken, which was due to so many Americans and fleeing Belgians. We succeeded in finding a place at 2.30 am where all six of us stayed. Then there was trouble with the driver, and one of the Americans went out and called a police-man and settled the trouble and we retired at 3am."

She eventually landed back in The States after a return trip that saw rough seas and an intense scrutiny of passengers upon landing in New York:

"At Staten Island the doctor came to our ship with a yacht, flying the yellow flag. Here we stopped for some time, the mail ship came and all mail bags were given over to this ship. Then another yacht, crowded with American custom officers arrived on the scene and boarded our ship. Then we all had a hurried lunch as there was no time for supper. All had to go on deck until the dining room was in readiness for the officers. It was dark by this time and the ship under way again. When all was ready we had to stand in line with our yellow tickets. Only a few at a time were allowed to enter the dining-room. When once inside we had to look about for the table bearing the number of our ticket. Here we were interviewed by the officer at that table. Some people had a great deal of trouble and were sent from one table to another. Others were refused admission into the United States, and some had to go to Ellis Island."

The rear pages of the journal are illustrated by 10 mounted, original photographs of her initial journey, family, some sightseeing, and her

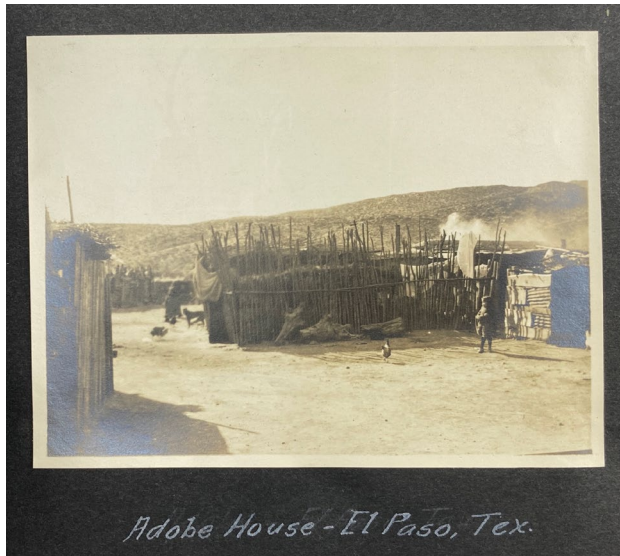
return passage; also tipped in are her emergency passport and a typed letter from the American consul. Overall, the journal is a detailed and eventful original woman's travel manuscript as well as a rich primary record of an American civilian caught in Europe during the outbreak of the Great War. A partial transcription with additional excerpts is available upon request.

(McBRB1820)

\$2,000

### FIN-DE-SIÈCLE TRAVEL ACROSS AMERICA VIA THE SOUTHERN ROUTE

19. [Western Photographica]. [*Vernacular Photograph Album Documenting a Journey from Florida to California and then Colorado*]. [Various locations including the Southwest, California, Mexico, and Colorado. ca. 1900]. Forty silver gelatin photographs on thirty-eight leaves. Images 3 x 4 inches (all but three), one per page and captioned. Oblong 12mo album. Original black cloth with black paper leaves. Internally clean, most images with good definition and contrast. Very good plus.



*Adobe House - El Paso, Tex.*

A charming little photograph album documenting a holiday vacation across the country. The trip begins on a steamer off the Florida Coast, with stops at New Orleans, Arizona, Texas, Mexico, and on to California. Images in the Southwest include Native American

street vendors in Yuma, adobe houses in El Paso, and the prison and post office in Juarez. In California, where the bulk of the images were

taken, the group visits Los Angeles, Ocean Beach, the ostrich farm at Pasadena, Long Beach, Catalina Island, Santa Barbara, San Francisco, and Berkeley. From San Francisco they board a train, snapping photos from the railway car. In Colorado they visit Pueblo, Cripple Creek, Colorado Springs, Denver, the Cave of Winds, and Garden of the Gods -- all the usual tourist stops. The images have good contrast and the compiler has carefully labeled each image in a neat hand, elevating this above standard tourist albums. An excellent example of cross-country tourist travel at the turn of the century.

(McBRB1880) \$500

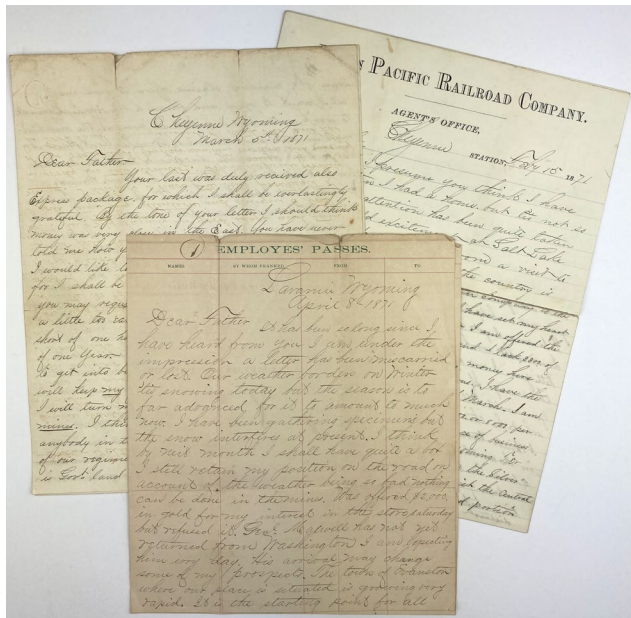
### A WYOMING RAILROAD AGENT ASPIRES TO GREATER THINGS

20. Wheeler, W.H. [*Three Manuscript Letters by W.H. Wheeler, an Aspiring Western Entrepreneur, to his Father, Regarding Potential Businesses in Wyoming and Utah*]. [Cheyenne & Laramie. 1871]. Three letters, totaling [11]pp. Previously folded. Leaves of one letter separated along central fold; a few other minor separations and small chips at old folds. Light tanning and dust soiling; occasional small patches of staining. Good.

Three interesting letters from Cheyenne resident W.H. Wheeler, who wrote to his father from Wyoming Territory in 1871 regarding business opportunities and local developments. Wheeler worked in the city's Union Pacific office, but was anxious to quit his desk job and to become a Western businessman in mining and outfitting ventures. His first letter, dated February 15, discusses his recent travels to Salt Lake City and hopes to become an investor in a new business (and, of course, his concomitant need for money in order to do so):

"My time and attention has been quite taken up with the gold excitement at Salt Lake City. I have just returned from a visit to that section of the country - the country is full of people waiting for spring to open so they can go out prospecting. I have been to the mining district of Utah, Nevada, & Montana, and Utah carries off the prize. Mining I don't care about for there are only about one in one thousand ever successful.... I have staked





me out a farm on Bear River. By the way, if Congress passes the act giving soldiers of the late war Land warrents, I want you to get a few when opportunity offers to get them reasonable. I am positive there is money in it as portions of this country is bound to be settled within the coming five years.”

He continues:

“The business I have set my heart upon is a mining outfitting establishment. I am offered the half interest in the concern for \$1500 and I lack \$300 of having money enough and I cannot money here for less than 7¢ per month which is enormous. I have the refusal of the partnership until the first of March. I am confident the business will pay me 5000 or 8000 per year if I can only get the start. The place of business is situated at Evanston, Uintah Co Wyoming Ter 25 miles from Salt Lake City 25 miles fro the Silver mines 1 1/2 miles from coal mines that furnish the Central Pacific RR with all their coal.... Do if possible give me a helping hand to get out of Railroadng.”

Having received money from his father, Wheeler wrote again on March 5, with an additional plan:

“I will turn my attention and energies to the mines. I think I have the best prospects of anybody in this country. Gen. Maxwell formerly of our regiment (you have seen him; was home with me once) Govt. land commissioner of Utah Ter. and has some 150 mining claims offers to

give me - all I want to open and furnish the required means to work with. He is called at present the wealthiest man in Utah and the best of it is he dont know it. He went east before the discoveries were made and has not yet heard of his good fortune. Mining claims that have been opened sell readily for from \$15000 to \$50000.... I shall be able to return you the money in the course of 15 or 20 days. I shall not require it for the length of times I expected.”

In the last letter present here, Wheeler is still waiting to take up his new mining prospects, but confident of profits from his investment in the store:

“I still maintain my position on the road on account of the weather being so bad nothing can be done in the mines. Was offered \$2,000 in gold for my interest in the store Saturday but refused it. Genl. Maxwell has not yet returned from Washington I am expecting him every day. His arrival may change some of my prospects. The town of Evanston where our place is situated is growing very rapid. It is the starting point for all Montana freight and the mail. Building lots that sold for \$100 two months ago are now worth \$300 & \$500, everything else in proportion. I am confident I shall be well off yet.”

Engaging letters with good detail on business prospects in southwestern Wyoming and Utah Territories during the early 1870s and from an interesting perspective of this eager, office-bound employee of a Western railroad.

(McBRB1894)

\$850

### A VOLUNTEER NURSE’S NAVY HOSPITAL SCRAPBOOK

21. [Women]. [World War II]. [Scrapbook of Annelle Hutton Documenting Her Time in the WAVES Naval Hospital Corps During World War II]. [New York; Bethesda; Washington, D.C.; Philadelphia. 1944-1946]. Scrapbook; [28] leaves, filled with a variety of printed and photographic materials. Original embossed cloth boards, string tied. Items affixed to album leaves with tape; many items loose and laid in. Leaves tanned; light wear to contents. About very good.



A scrapbook of diverse materials compiled by a woman named Annelle Hutton while she served in the Naval Hospital Corps on the Eastern seaboard during World War II. Hutton was a member of the WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service), and specialized in aural rehabilitation. The materials in her scrapbook comprise original and commercial photographs, news clippings of stories about Hutton and her colleagues, printed

ephemera from her training and service, as well as from social events she attended and other leisure activities.

(McBRB630)

\$250



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