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Catalog Number 190 – Recent Acquisitions

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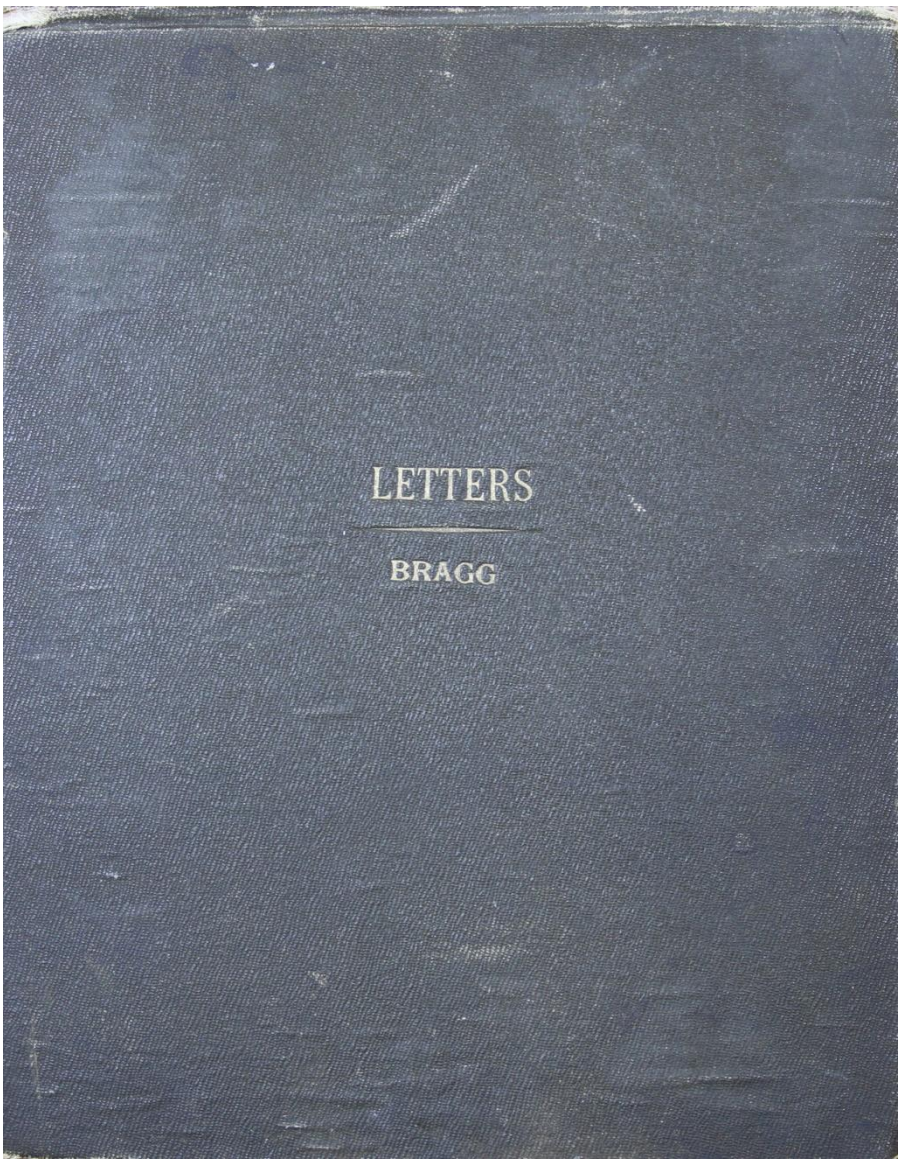
[Philadelphia] Printed at the Office of the "Germantown Telegraph," 1844

1831 Noah Webster's son and collaborator gets scammed by a "rascal"

15. Webster, William G.[reenleaf], **Autograph Letter Signed, Cincinnati, October 21, 1831, to Edward A. Ellsworth, Lafayette, Indiana**



Important Group of African American Letters

1. (African Americans) Bragg, George Freeman, Jr. (1863 – 1940) **Collection of the Incoming Correspondence of George Freeman Bragg, Jr., prominent African American Activist, Episcopal Priest, Author, Journalist, and Historian, dated 1883-1925**
   125 letters, 166 manuscript and typescript pages, with manuscript index list at front, bound in an early 20th century olive drab cloth binder, “Letters Bragg” embossed in gilt on front board, front hinge cracked and open, first few pages detached, with some chipping along top edge of first few letters, otherwise in very good clean and legible condition.

   George Freeman Bragg (January 25, 1863 – March 12, 1940) was an Afro-American activist, black priest, journalist, social activist and historian. The twelfth African American ordained as a priest in the Episcopal Church of the United States, he worked against racial discrimination and for interracial

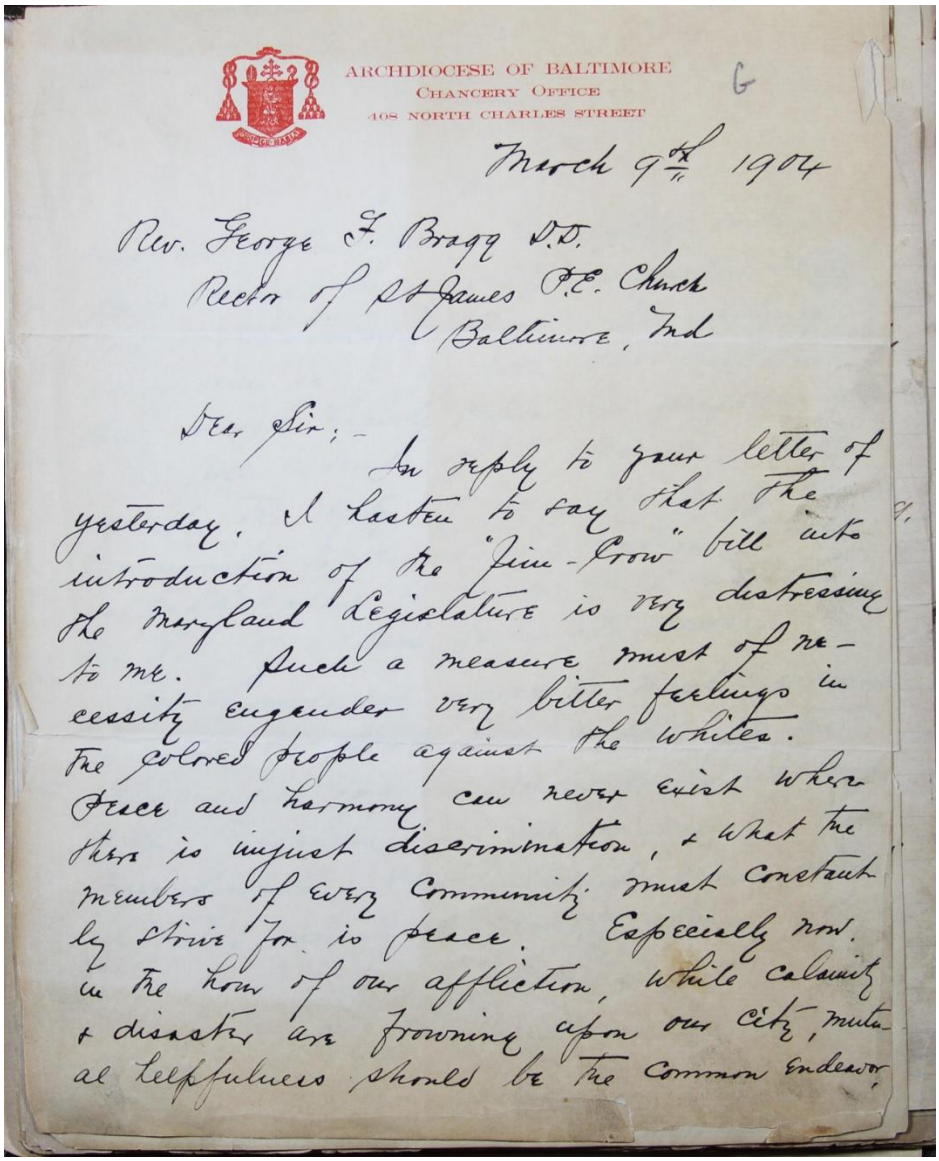
harmony, both within and outside of the church. The correspondence in this collection touches upon all aspects of Bragg's lifelong struggles for social and political equality for Blacks.

An important group of incoming correspondence of George Freeman Bragg, Jr., born a slave, he pursued theological studies at age 15, he was suspended a year later for not being "humble enough", he went on to lead congregations in Virginia and Maryland, he was involved in politics as part of the bi-racial Readjuster Movement in Virginia, became a social activist, founded schools and homes for African American Children, he founded newspapers, wrote books and became the foremost historian of Black people in the Episcopal Church. In that role, he recorded the continued struggle for black dignity and political and social equality. George Freeman Bragg's religious and political life sheds light on the way black religious politics operated after Emancipation. Bragg believed that Black people must have both autonomy and access to collaboration or, as one scholar has termed it "interdependent independence," economic development was largely the locus for that process. From the letters in this collection, we can see that these dual components of autonomy and collaboration were indeed the work of his life. The letters are from both black and white people, and they show that Bragg was clearly seeking black autonomy in community with but not subordinated to White people. The avenue that Bragg chose to pursue this work was the Episcopal Church.

Affixed to the verso of the front letter is an old address label with the name "Nellie B. Sorrell" and her Baltimore address. Sorrell was Bragg's daughter. In 1948, Mildred L. McGlotten in her 1948 Master's Thesis, entitled, *Reverend George Freeman Bragg, A Negro Pioneer in Social Welfare,* reviewed, "private papers and sermons" "through the courtesy of his daughter, Mrs. Frank Sorrell of Baltimore, Md."[a] McGlotten may have reviewed these papers and likely much more material by Bragg, including his sermons - the present whereabouts of which are unknown. The present collection is the largest known group of Bragg's papers to have surfaced or have survived.

OCLC notes two holdings of papers by Bragg, the New York Public Library, has a single folder of typescripts containing 8 items, https://archives.nypl.org/scm/20656 , and Howard University has a group of materials including several letters and a scrapbook of newspaper clippings totaling 0.5 linear feet, https://dh.howard.edu/finaid_manu/15/ .

a. Lindsay, Inabel Burns, *Contributions of Negroes to Welfare Services, 1865-1900*
The Journal of Negro Education, Vol. 25, No. 1 (Winter, 1956) pp 15-24, p. 22 (note)
https://www.jstor.org/stable2293121



ARCHDIOCESE OF BALTIMORE
CHANCERY OFFICE
408 NORTH CHARLES STREET

G

March 9th 1904

Rev. George F. Bragg D.D.
Rector of St James P.E. Church
Baltimore, Md

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your letter of yesterday, I hasten to say that the introduction of the "Jim-Crow" bill into the Maryland Legislature is very distressing to me. Such a measure must of necessity engender very bitter feelings in the colored people against the whites. Peace and harmony can never exist where there is unjust discrimination, & what the members of every community must constantly strive for is peace. Especially now, in the hour of our affliction, while calamity & disaster are frowning upon our city, mutual helpfulness should be the common endeavor,

"Few aspects of life for African Americans escaped the intensifying racial antipathy and polarization of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Disfranchisement denied blacks the right to participate in politics; Jim Crow laws mandated their separation from whites in public transportation and accommodation; new housing laws ensured their strict segregation by neighborhoods. And if blacks attempted to challenge the legally sanctioned social system lynchings and riots reminded them of their "place" and the tenuousness of their very existence in a white dominated society increasingly obsessed with race. The Episcopal Church was not immune from this post-war racist resurgence.

At the time the Protestant Episcopal church was something of an anomaly in both southern and African American Protestantism. Most African Americans were either Baptist or Methodist. The Episcopal church was not immune from the resurgent racism of the time. The Episcopal Church struggled with Black Episcopalians' efforts against efforts to limit and control their participation in the church and against outright expulsion from it. Many Episcopalians sought stricter segregation through action by the General Convention. Beginning in the late 1890s and continuing until 1917, officials of the

Episcopal church debated various plans designed to alter the relationship of blacks to the denominational hierarchy.

These plans included the outright expulsion of blacks from the church; another was the establishment of a suffragan bishop to work among blacks in their own dioceses. Some white Episcopalians favored this plan as a means of granting black demands for greater participation without relinquishing white control.

A third plan proposed utilizing an existing organizational unit, the missionary jurisdiction. Its proponents suggested the removal of all southern blacks from existing diocesan organizations and their formation into one all black missionary jurisdiction. Admitting this recognized segregation, the plan's supporters maintained it assured black independence, including a black bishop with a vote in the House of Bishops, and full recognition in the General Convention. Major advocates of the missionary jurisdiction included most of the black leadership of the church, most notably George F. Bragg, Jr., and the *Church Advocate*, the paper he edited and published. Surprisingly, four of its most ardent defenders were the bishops of Texas, Mississippi, East Carolina, and North Carolina.

Bragg's analysis of the structural possibilities of the church allowed him and his contemporaries to identify racism and racist people as the cause of inequality and to push for redress that would allow Black people to circumvent racist people. By lifting up the democratic and orderly practices of the church, Bragg reinforced what was helpful about the Episcopal Church structures of leadership, voting, and participation, which also left room for structural addresses of inequality that would take the form of increased black autonomy with continued economic support.

Bragg sought not only the democratic independence of Black Episcopalians – but the democratic independence of blacks in the wider world. His critiques of the ways Jim Crow segregation was applied within the church were applied to society as well. Bragg asserted that the presence of Black people in the Episcopal Church was no submission to white supremacy. It was a struggle all the way. Bragg noted that those Black people who stayed in the Episcopal Church "to hold the fort" should be given special recognition. He continued, "It takes unusual courage and moral stamina in the midst of advancing racial life for Black men to hold on to "the white man's church" without any fixed "status" and to be "merely tolerated."[1] Existing within the Episcopal Church as a Black person was clearly a political struggle or contest of great proportion. It was a site of the long black freedom struggle as much as the streets, lunch counters, poll booths, and courtrooms of the segregated South and of the nation. The ends that Bragg argued for and sought were not easily categorized as integration or separation, but rather he sought a model of interdependent independence, one where the needs of Black people, largely financial, were recognized and addressed while the right of autonomy and self-determination were honored and respected. His experience in theological school where he was denied independence, in the Readjuster Movement where black aspirations were at least initially respected, and in the Episcopal Church where models of economic support and leadership independence were present allowed Bragg to crystalize a version of black politics that went beyond the concept of citizenship affording civil rights and voting rights, to what provisioning those rights would entail."

Bragg was born a slave in Warrenton, North Carolina, the son of George Freeman Bragg and Mary (maiden name unknown). He was two years old when the family moved to Petersburg, Virginia, to live with his grandmother Caroline Wiley Cain Bragg, a devout Episcopalian and former slave of an Episcopal priest. Here he studied at the elementary school and at St. Stephen's Parish and Normal School. His family helped found St. Stephen's Church for Negroes in 1867. At age six he was employed as a valet by John Hampden Chamberlayne, editor of the *Petersburg Index*, and political ally of William Mahone, who had founded the Readjuster Party and appealed for the support of black voters. In 1879 he entered

a school founded by Major Giles B. Cooke, a former chaplain on Robert E. Lee's staff, that had become a branch of Virginia Theological Seminary. The Branch Theological Seminary (BTS) was founded in 1878 for African American students who were not permitted to attend the original Virginia Theological Seminary, founded in 1823, for white students. Within a year he was suspended for not being "humble enough". He went to work for the *Index-Appeal*, where he learned typesetting, and became a participant in Virginia's political reconstruction led by the biracial political coalition called the Readjuster Movement. He used the skills he developed working on the *Index-Appeal* to start his own newspaper *The Lancet*.

After a severe case of typhoid fever and a period of teaching school in 1885 he returned to his theological studies, studying at Cooke's school, under new leadership, now named the Bishop Paine Divinity and Industrial School. He was ordained deacon on 12 January 1887 and priest on 19 December 1888 by Bishop Francis M. Whittle. He married Nellie Hill in 1887; they had four children.

Bragg's parish ministry began in 1887 at St. Luke's Church in Norfolk, Virginia, where within four years he built a new church and rectory, renovated a school, organized the Holy Innocents (which became Grace Church), and founded the Industrial School for Colored Girls. After becoming rector of St. James First African Church in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1891, he opened St. James Mission in Portsmouth, Virginia. St. James Church under his leadership became self-supporting, purchased a rectory and built a new church. By 1931 there were 500 communicants, and the church made annual charitable contributions of $ 1,000. At least four young men entered the priesthood under his guidance. In addition, he established the Maryland Home for Friendless Colored Children and was associated with St. Katherine's Home for Little Girls. The Maryland Home, after about a decade in operation, began to receive financial subsidy from the state and was eventually incorporated into the state's facilities for children. For thirty-five years he was general secretary of the Conference of Church Workers among Colored People and a special chaplain to the bishop of the diocese of Maryland.

Beyond his service within his denomination Bragg performed many duties. In 1884 he was honorary commissioner to the New Orleans Exposition. Virginia governor Fitzhugh Lee appointed him a curator to the Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute in 1887. He also served as chaplain to the second battalion of Virginia Colored Militia. In Maryland he was on the board of managers for the House of Reformation for Colored Boys and a member of the State Inter-Racial Commission. He started the Committee of Twelve, a group of black leaders, including Booker T. Washington and W.E.B. DuBois, that campaigned against the Poe Amendment designed to disfranchise blacks in Maryland. He led the fight to have Negro teachers attached to Negro schools in Baltimore, In 1905 he joined the Niagara Movement, which advocated leadership as the first principle in raising the status of one's fellow citizens, and became supportive of DuBois, its founder.

Bragg's early association with the *Petersburg Index* had generated a lifelong interest in journalism. At nineteen he had begun publishing the *Virginia Lancet*, a pro-Republican paper involved in Virginia politics and civil rights issues. However, after the Readjuster Party losses in the 1883 elections, Bragg supported a black candidate for U.S. Congress, who lost to Mahone's white candidate, James Dennis Brady. The campaign disillusioned Bragg, who decided Mahone did not care about the civil rights of black voters, only their votes. This on September 12, 1885, he announced that the Lancet would eschew politics, but concentrate on moral, educational and commercial matters. In 1886 he founded a new paper, the *Afro-American Churchman*, published, he said in the interests of the Colored Episcopal Church, it later became the *Church Advocate*. Also that year he founded the *Afro-American Leader*, which he later merged with the *Baltimore Afro-American*. The *Church Advocate* served for many years as the unofficial organ of the Conference of Church Workers among Colored People and was filled with biographical sketches of clergy, histories of local black episcopal churches, and commentary on the continuing struggles of blacks in the Episcopal church. In later years it served as a parish paper for

Bragg's church. The *Maryland Home* was a monthly, published to promote the Maryland Home for Friendless Colored Children.

Bragg published many works, all of which contain biographical data on him, many of these works were printed on Bragg's own printing press, under the imprint of the Church Advocate Press, these include:

The Colored Harvest in the Old Virginia Diocese (1901)

Afro-American Church Work and Workers (1904)

The attitude of the Conference of Church Workers Among Colored People, towards the adaptation of the Episcopate to the needs of the race: with a list of ordinations of colored men to the ministry (1904)

The Story of Old St. Stephen's, Petersburg, Va. (1906)

The First Negro Priest on Southern Soil (1909)

A Bond-Slave of Christ: Entering the Ministry Under Great Difficulties (1912)

The "Whittingham Canon: the birth and history of the missionary district plan (1913)

Men of Maryland (1914, rev. ed. 1925)

Richard Allen and Absalom Jones: In Honor of the Centennial of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Which Occurs in the Year 1916 (1915)

The Episcopal Church and the Black Man (1918)

History of the Afro-American Group of the Episcopal Church (1922) A work which remains of prime importance.

"The Hero of Jerusalem" (1926), a pamphlet honoring William Mahone

The story of the first of the Blacks, the pathfinder Absalom Jones, 1746-1818 (1929)

Heroes of the Eastern Shore (1939)

Race relations would be improved, Bragg believed, by morally sensitive, educated people of both races, and he did not hesitate to denounce racial discrimination within his own denomination. Petitions for his selection to the episcopate were made in 1911 and 1917, but he was not elected. He died in Baltimore.

References:

1. Bragg, *History of the Afro-American Group of the Episcopal Church*, p. 238

American National Biography, vol 3, pp., 398-399

Foster, Gaines M., *Bishop Cheshire and Black Participation in the Episcopal Church: The Limitations of Religious Paternalism.*
The North Carolina Historical Review, January 1977, Vol. 54, No. 1 (January 1977), pp. 49-65
https:// www.jstor.org/stable/23529902

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The Journal of Negro Education, Vol. 25, No. 1 (Winter, 1956) pp 15-24, p. 22
https://www.jstor.org/stable2293121

Turner, Nicole Myers, *The Politics of Interdependent Independence in Black Religion: The Case of the Reverend George Freeman Bragg, Jr., a Black Episcopal Priest*
Religion and American Culture: A Journal of Interpretation, Vol. 31, Issue 3, pp. 419-452
https://doi.org/10.1017/rac.2021.18.

https://wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Freeman_Bragg

Despite operating his own press, The Church Advocate Press, and publishing many of his own books and pamphlets on it, Bragg is not listed in Joyce, Donald Franklin, *Black Publishers in the United States A Historical Dictionary of the Presses, 1817-1990*
New York: Greenwood Press, 1991

Sample Quotes:

The letters are not arranged in chronological order and are quoted below in the order in which they were bound in the volume.

"March 9th, 1904, [on Archdiocese of Baltimore letterhead]

Rev. George F. Bragg D.D.

Rector of St. James P.E. Church, Baltimore, Md.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of yesterday, I hasten to say that the introduction of the "Jim-Crow" bill into the Maryland Legislature is very distressing to me. Such a measure must of necessity engender very bitter feelings in the colored people against the whites. Peace and harmony can never exist where there is unjust discrimination, & what the members of every community must constantly strive for is peace. Especially now in the hour of our affliction, while calamity & disaster are frowning upon our city, mutual helpfulness should be the common endeavor and no action should be lightly taken which would precipitate enmities, strife and acrimonious feelings. The duty of every man is to lighten the burdens that weigh heavily upon his neighbor – to the full extent of his power. It is equally the duty of every member of a community to avoid any action which is calculated to make hard & bitter the lot of the less fortunate race.

Furthermore, it would be most injudicious to make the whole race suffer for the delinquencies of a few individuals, to visit upon thousands who are innocent. That punishment & chastisement which should be meted out to the guilty alone. … James Card. Gibbons.[1]

1. James Cardinal Gibbons, (1834-1921) Archbishop of Baltimore. The letter refers to the Poe Amendment, a proposed 1904-1905 ballot initiative to the Maryland Constitution. Drafted by Democratic leaders, the Jim-Crow era measure was designed to disenfranchise Black voters using a grandfather clause and an "understanding test", but it was defeated at the polls in November 1905.

"Washington, D.C., Sept. 27, 1884, [on letterhead Chief Director Department of Colored Exhibits, World's Exposition]

Geo. Bragg Esq., Petersburg, Virginia

Dear Sir,

By virtue of authority vested in me as Chief Director I have nominated you for Assistant Honorary Commissioner of the Department of Colored Exhibits of the World's Exposition, to be held at New Orleans La for the 4th Congressional District of the State of Virginia.

In the event of your acceptance you will receive from time to time necessary information and instructions from Hon. E. A. Randolph, Richmond, Va. Honorary Commissioner for your State. … B. K. Bruce"

2. Blanche Kelso Bruce (1841-1898) former slave and first Black Senator, represented Mississippi from 1875-1881

"Charleston, S. C., Nov. 6th, 1895

My Dear Mr. Bragg,

Your esteemed and valued favor of the 26th ultimo came duly to hand and contents noted, subsequently the sermon of Rev. DaCosta was received, for all accept very many thanks.

I have not a cut of St. Mark's church, but will quite soon send you a photograph. I regret exceedingly that during the cotton season I am so situated that almost every hour of my time has to be given to business which prevents an historical resume of the parish. I would like to do so if I had leisure as there are many things not known or understood in connection with the organization of the church, its fight for representation in the Diocesan convention, its appeal to the General Convention &c &c that should be known to Churchmen at least. Although comparatively a young man I have been identified with every movement, including resistance to the proposed Sewanee Canon, made in the parish, so could write from personal experience as well as from recorded facts. I mention these things to show you that I have the data if not the time. Mine is a busy life, with small opportunities for literary engagements. I truly regret this as there are some things connected with the Parish of St. Mark's which if explained would correct erroneous impressions, and serve to show that the spirit that activated her sons in fighting as they did, for nearly 20 years for representation was a recognition by them of their rights and a determination to show that the Negro was ready to defend to the best of his ability his manhood. I hope that I may see the way clear, in the not distant future, so that I can carry out this desire. I am truly glad to see the growing importance of the Advocate. We appreciate the manly stand that is taken upon all questions concerning our best interests. … Richard Birnie"

"Baltimore, February 29, 1904

Rev. George F. Bragg, Jr., 1133 Park Avenue, City

My Dear Sir,

As I explained to you, I shall be prevented by imperative engagements from addressing the meeting tomorrow evening; I am happy to comply with your suggestion that I give in a letter my views as to the proposed amendments to the Constitution of this State, and as to a proper and judicious course for our colored citizens in resisting these measures.

I must own that I heard with anxiety of the intended meeting, for, although a temperate and manly protest on your part against this legislation is eminently suitable, excited or ill considered language might readily inflame the prejudices on which its advocates rely to secure its adoption by the General Assembly and ratification by popular vote. On this question you must appeal in last resort to the justice, patriotism and sound sense of your white fellow-citizens; irritating language or injudicious behavior must weaken the force of your appeal.

I have hoped that the great calamity which has overtaken our City, and the consequent necessity for a hearty co-operation on the part of all classes of the population and men of all parties and opinions, in repairing its losses, might induce our Legislature to abandon, or at least adjourn, projects designed to gain mere partisan advantage and certain to revive political animosities. A time when Maryland seeks most of all to attract capital from her progressive and prosperous sister States of the North to raise from its ashes the business section of her principal city seems ill suited for legislation animated by such a spirit and designed for such ends.

If, however, this hope be disappointed, I think we may still await with some the verdict of the people on the measures in 1905. For such confidence I find two weighty reasons. In the first place, I believe that Maryland is essentially a genuine American commonwealth. When Voltaire said: “He who serves his country well needs no grandfathers,” he put in words the underlying principle of our American institutions. True Americans do not ask what sort of grandfathers a man had, but what sort of a man he is himself; and a proposition to make a man’s right to vote depend on whether his grandfather voted is almost that last which I should expect a truly American community to approve at the polls.

Moreover, I believe the people of Maryland to be a loyal community, recognizing its duties as one of the States of this great Union to faithfully obey in letter and spirit the Federal Constitution. Every member of our General Assembly has promised under oath to “support the Constitution of the United States.” I do not think our people will deliberately hold that promise to have been kept as an honorable and conscientious man should keep it by one who has been racking his brain to devise some plan whereby the Constitution of the United States may be disobeyed with impunity. It must be remembered that the questions involved in the adoption or rejection of the proposed amendments is, not whether the suffrage should be restricted, but whether it should be restricted impartially. If it pleases the people to exclude from the elective franchise criminals or paupers or illiterates, no one questions the right to do this; at most, it is a question of expediency. But whatever the restrictions imposed, they should be the same for all citizens: there should not be one law for white men and another law for black men, one law for Americans of two generations and another law for Americans of three.

There is one consideration in connection with this important matter to which I would direct the special attention of all colored men. The proposed amendments cannot become a part of our State Constitution until after the general election in November, 1905, and their provisions will not become politically effective as limiting the suffrage before, at the earliest, May 1906. The colored citizens of Maryland have therefore more than two years in which to fit themselves for the tests which these amendments may impose. Within two years it ought to be possible for many – I will not say for all – of those who might now be excluded by such tests from the elective franchise to become qualified to exercise it. Night schools could be provided in most parts of the State for illiterates willing to make the sacrifice of time and labor needed to retain their political rights; and it were well if every citizen of the State should acquaint himself with the provisions of our State Constitution. I doubt whether one in one thousand of the white inhabitants of Maryland has ever read its Constitution. If colored men devote the next two

years to its study they may perhaps help their white neighbors to give “a reasonable interpretation” of its provisions to the Officers of Registration… Charles J. Bonaparte”

3. Charles J. Bonaparte (1851-1921) American lawyer, member of the house of Bonaparte, he served as Attorney General under Theodore Roosevelt 1906-1909. This letter discusses the Poe Amendment (see above) and references the Great Baltimore fire.

“September 26, 1905

Rev. George F. Bragg, jr. 1133 Park Avenue, City,

My dear Sir-

Your letter and the clipping enclosed reached me yesterday, but could not be sooner acknowledged. I was not a member of the Committee on Resolutions at our late Convention: I was, however, shown the proposed platform, and advised the omission of the particular passage in the resolutions to which you refer, just because I thought it open to misconstruction, precisely as it has been in fact been misconstrued. I understood that it was to be omitted; but, for reasons of which I am not informed , the Committee decided to retain it. I think this was a serious mistake; but I think also that you do the Committee, and especially Mr. Mudd, its Chairman, some injustice in your published comment: neither he nor his colleagues had, I am convinced, any purpose to “flunk” on the essential principles of our party; it was merely an error of judgment. I shall probably have an opportunity during the present campaign to remove any doubts which may be entertained by anybody as to my own position and I am glad to see from your article that all sensible and self-respecting colored men will do their obvious duty, as though this error had not been committed … Charles J. Bonaparte”

“October 8, 1924

Dear Dr. Bragg,

I am truly grateful to you for your kind invitation of the 1st inst. For many reasons it would be a very agreeable thing to me to deliver an address in connection with the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of St. James Church and the thirty-third anniversary of your own rectorship of its parish.

St. James Church is interesting to me not only because it is one of the churches of the Christian sect to which I belong, and one of the instruments that God has selected for the promotion of his wise and benevolent purposes, but because in the character of its rector and its membership, it furnishes an unusually interesting and instructive illustration of what the negro is, at the present time at his best. I do not speak the language of flattery but of absolute sincerity when I say that, in my judgement since the death of Booker T. Washington the negro has had no wiser counsellor than you. You have had the mental honesty and the generosity of soul to bear witness that even in the benighted state of servitude of thousands of men and women of your race were into close, familiar personal relations with thousands of men and women of my race, which bore in many respects a rich, beautiful fruitage of human sympathy and affection. At the same time, recognizing, as every true man or woman does, that the old footing of association between the members of your race and mine was in a general sense an utterly false and impossible one. In the march of human progress, you have striven by every means in your power to bring the negro, in his higher estate as a freedman, into relations of mutual respect, confidence, co-operation and friendship with his white brother and fellow-citizen; always insisting firmly upon the proper measure of justice and fair treatment for the negro, and yet, at the same time, like a true exemplar of the precepts of our common Master, and a sagacious public leader, never-failing, when the occasion really

required it, fearlessly to preach the Gospel of patience, moderation, forbearance and human fellowship which – the God of both St. James Church and Emmanuel Protestant Episcopal Church be praised – men of my race, too, are not wanting to preach.

Some months ago I copied with my own hand, and brought to the attention of some of your parishioners in my household, who for many years have set me an example of blameless conduct, a beautiful tribute paid by Judge Goolrick of Fredericksburg, Virginia, an old time Virginian and Confederate soldier, to the Fredericksburg negro, not simply as a man but as a citizen; and a few days ago I was equally delighted by the well-merited praise which our Chief Judge Gorter took occasion to bestow from the Bench on the virtues of our native negro population as good citizens.

It is things like these, and the approbation of the Maker who has told use that all men are of one blood, that constitute the real requital to you for your teachings, and afford just grounds to both you and me for feeling that not only is the negro making satisfactory progress materially, morally and intellectually, but that general recognition of this fact is becoming more and more widely diffused, and is producing a larger and larger measure of concord and mutual understanding between the two races.

It will be impossible for me, to comply with your invitation. Congress meets on December 1st, next, and I expect to spend all or the greater part of November after election day in some retired spot5 outside of Maryland, where I can find time for mastering several public questions of impending importance which I should never find time to master here … Wm. Cabell Bruce"[4]

4. William Cabell Bruce (1860-1946) US Senator, Maryland, 1923-1929

"Jackson Miss. Mch 17, 1922

Dear Dr. Bragg,

I want to thank you for the great help you have given me in preparing the mss. of the Book on our Negro Work – Interruptions came & I am not sure if every chapter reached you – I do not that all the chief matter got the advantage of your over sight. It is all in now & the church Mission House will do the rest.

Now I want to send back your helpful material. But I think I recall that you intended me to keep some of it – so I beg you will instruct me as to what I should return & this will be done at once – My whole thought has been to try to honestly represent my Negro brethren fairly to show the fineness of the race when a fair chance is accorded – and to impart as much as possible of the intense interest I have to those who read … Theodore D. Bratton …."[5]

5. Theodore D. Bratton (1862-1944) Episcopal Bishop of Mississippi, 1903-1938.

"Jackson, Miss., Sept. 26, 1921

Dear Dr. Bragg,

I have been commissioned by the Presiding Bishop and Council to write a book on the Church and the Negro for the Study Class Series. In order to make this book interesting and useful it is necessary to gain the interest and the cooperation of some of my friends in various parts of the country. The time allotted for the task is just three months. You will therefore realize how important it is to receive the most prompt possible replies to my letters. I beg you will allow me to count on you as a friend in need and in deed.

You can help me perhaps more than anybody else, for I know you have been gathering and publishing traditions, statistics, information concerning the lives of noted Negro leaders, Bishops, and Clergy, and historical facts concerning the Church work among the Negroes. My special request of you is this – That under most solemn bond to guard carefully all material that you will lend me and return it all in perfect shape, you will kindly send me everything you can which will help me to make this book worthy of the Negro Race and of the Church … Theodore D. Bratton"

"St. Augustines Rectory 220 Broadway Galveston, Texas, Oct. 22nd, 1895

My Dear Cousin,

I am at home again and I am glad to inform you that I had a most delightful and successful trip. I had to leave the G. Convention before I had the pleasure of hearing those friends and brethren there having our memorial in hand had time to report thereon, as my case in court here demanded my presence here. I send you the Decision of the District Court of Galveston against the Pullman and the same decision was rendered against the International and Great Northern R.R. Co. which was a partie to the same offence. The Colored Lawer Welford H. Smith … was the man who showed the most knowledge and skill in the case against his two white antagonist, Maj. Hume Davidson considered two of the best Lawers in this State. The verdict is small but it is large when you remember that it is from a Galveston Jury and all white. … Thomas W. Cain."

"Liberia College, Monrovia, Liberia, November 6, 1920

Dear Dr. Bragg,

Quite a year has past since we last met, and have crossed thousands of miles of ocean and am now back in the homeland. I arrived and found family and friends quite well and very glad to see me after an absence of one year and seven months. I have been very busy at work since my return and am now in the midst of my second term work at the College. I trust there is a follow up interest by you and your good folk at St. James in me and my work at the College as promised I am endeavoring to get the work on a real modern basis.

I have not received a copy of "The Church Advocate" for quite a little while I trust you are keeping it up in your usual vigorous style and outspokenness. I wish it were possible for you or some of your family to visit Liberia that I might be able to return some of the may kindnesses shown me by you, Mrs. Bragg and your daughters. …

We are confronted with very keen economic problems here. The cost of living is something enormous with no corresponding rise in the wage. … Nathaniel H. B. Cassell"[6]

6. Nathaniel Henry Benedict Cassell (1872-1939) Liberian educator, priest and President of Liberia College.

"Cedar Hill, Anacostia, D.C. February 28, 1896

Dear Sir,

I send you today a copy of The Frederick Douglass Souvenir which will, I hope, commend itself to you. I desire to place this Souvenir within reach of all who may desire to possess one and there ask if you will give it kindly notice in your paper, or if you have not time for that, if you will insert the enclosed slip and oblige … (Mrs) Helen Douglass"[7]

7. Helen Pitts Douglass (1838-1903) American suffragist, Frederick Douglass' wife. The Frederick Douglass Souvenir was issued in 1896, a year after his death, as a souvenir of Frederick Douglass' Cedar Hill estate in Anacostia, D.C.

"Lexington, Ky., March 2nd, 1901

My Dear Bro. Bragg, Jr.,

The reply of the Colored Commission to the request of the last Colored Conference has just come to me. It strikes me as being evasive. Did not the Conference have in mind some one both "available" and "Adapted" when it passed its resolution? Would it not have been a wise step for the Colored Conference to have made some recommendations along with its request? In what sense, think you, the Commission can have used the words "available" and "adapted"? The reply states that the Commission gave the petition "careful consideration", do you know whether the Commission made as careful investigation of all the men who might be both "available" and "adapted" to the work?

The task of the Field Secretary in all its relations, issues and consequences, it seems to me, could not possible be grasped by the Commission in a session held so shortly after the matter had been placed before it for its consideration. Nor did it have time enough to make the necessary examination or inquiries of possible men to give its judgment the necessary data to decide in the way it did. I am of the opinion that many men, both white and Colored, could be found to fill the post with credit to themselves and greater good to the whole Church. But the Commission would temporize in the appointment of such a man just as it did for a long time in the matter of Colored representation on the Commission. I should like to see an article in the Church Advocate dealing with the Commission's reply by some one who has the time and the ability to handle it. Perhaps an editorial in your next issue might give the Commission valuable "points". …

I was very glad to see your editorial on the "calling of a Rector". I hope your paper is widely circulated in Richmond, Va. Only a few days before your paper came to me, I was invited to St. Philip's Richmond, to preach a "trial" sermon and declined. The Senior Warden did not call it a "trial" sermon; but the way in which my invitation was made I knew he meant nothing else.

Let me hear from you at your convenience on the reply of the Commission to the petition of the Colored Conference. … M. F. Duty"

8. Rev. Dr. M. F. Duty served the Black community in Lexington, Kentucky before taking up the rectorship of St. Phillip's Episcopal Church in Richmond, Virginia.

"Lexington, Ky., March 9th, 1901

My Dear Brother Bragg,

Many thanks for your letter of the 6th and for kindly offer in helping me to a more desirable place than this. The conditions of growth are not in this work. Religion is a secondary thing in these parts. Race horses, prize fighters and kindred sports attract far more attention and people than do churches. We are now under the very shadow of Calvary and yet I can scarcely realize that it is the Lenten Season. Our church people go to theatres and parties just as if it were Yule-tide! The Church in this town is less influential than I have ever witnessed any place before.

What about the work Henderson has left? I should like to go to a place where I could do some good; where the domestic setting would warrant my taking a wife. Hitherto my circumstances have not enabled

me to do this. If you could land me in a place where I could do good and at the same time enjoy some of the felicities of a Home, I should be greatly obliged. I can suffer privation and inconvenience myself; but I think it is criminal for a man to take a wife from fairly comfortable surroundings and subject her to hard fare. I understand that St. Philip's Jacksonville is vacant; also the work at Charles Town, and Annapolis.

There is a fine work at Dayton, Columbus and Chillicothe, Ohio; but it seems that the Colored Commission does not believe in making grants to Western Dioceses. I have visited the work at Columbus and think if the Commission were to withdraw its support from this place which, for thirty years, has been nothing but a failure and place it at Columbus it would make a very wise outlay of funds. The people here have the church simply thrust upon them when they show in every way that they do not value the privilege! $ 600.00 are simply thrown away here. I have advised the Bishop to close the work and return the grant to the Commission but he hesitates to do what his plainest duty shows him ought to be done. Meanwhile to a man with any energy and ability who as to stay here the conditions are simply killing. I abominate canvassing for a place, and yet it seems to me if I continue here in the hope of getting elsewhere without personal effort, I shall unfit myself for work in any place requiring energy and ability.

This, of course, is all sub rosa, for I do not like my experiences to become common property. … M. F. Duty"

"Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute, Hampton, Virginia, May 12, 1899

My dear Mr. Bragg,

I desire to state that the reports of the Standing Committees will be made at the first morning session of the Hampton Negro Conference, July 19, 1899.

I feel quite sure that you and your colleagues on the Committee on Soldiers Aid Associations have gathered valuable data during the year and I look forward to its presentation to the Conference by you with great satisfaction.

Ten minutes only will be allowed each chairman for his report. I call attention to this fact early so as to avoid any embarrassment. These reports ought to be the main feature of the Conference. We anticipate a large and enthusiastic attendance this year…. H. B. Frissell"

9. Hollis Burke Frissell (1852-1917) American Chaplain and second president of Hampton Institute.

"Executive Department, Annapolis, Maryland, January 30, 1914

Dear Dr. Bragg,

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of January 29th, enclosing me a copy of the Fourteenth Annual Report of the Maryland Home for Friendless Colored Children, Baltimore County, Maryland. I have read most carefully your letter, and examined with much interest the report sent, and I can well see the splendid work that is being done at the Home, and thoroughly understand the need for financial help from the State.

You may be assured that if the General Assembly shall see fit to meet your request for financial assistance by granting the appropriation which you seek, when the bill shall reach the Executive Offices it shall have my most careful consideration.

I would like very much to talk with you about it, and if you find it convenient to come to Annapolis any day the early part of the coming week… I shall be glad to see you. P. Goldsborough"

10. Phillips Lee Goldsborough (1865-1946) 47th Governor of Maryland 1912-1916, US Senator from Maryland 1929-1935.

"Memphis, Tenn. July 1, 1917

My dear Father Bragg,

I want to congratulate you on the consecration of your new Church and wish you every blessing for the future, in the good work that you are doing at Baltimore.

I have been so wrapped up in work since coming to Memphis, that I have not had time to breathe. I found things here in a terrible shape. They owed their last pastor about a year's salary, and had not paid him one cent. In addition to this there are other debts which makes it an almost impossible proposition, with the few communicants on our roll at this time. Aside from this there is a general exodus from Memphis, as a result of the recent lynching which took place almost at our door so to speak. They brought the head and legs of the burned negro and threw them right down in the midst of the colored business section on Beale St., not over five blocks from where we live. It was terrible. Since then, as many as six hundred negroes have left Memphis in one night. Many of my best parishioners are going.

Conditions in the South, especially in this part are getting worse every day.

I do not think that this charge can support a man with a family, as there are no people to support the work, and the diocese does not give enough financial support to make it go. If you hear of anything North please speak a good word for me, and I will come. I cannot remain here as there is no living. … F. A. Garrett"

11. This letter references the lynching of Ell Persons, a black man who was lynched on May 22, 1917. He was accused of having raped and killed a 15 -year-old white girl, Antoinette Rappel, in Memphis. A mob burned Persons alive. The tragic event led to the founding of the city's first chapter of the NAACP in June 1917. The lynching prompted a mass exodus of approximately 1500 to 2000 Black Memphians who fled the city on trains to Chicago.

"Cleveland, Ohio, Jan. 3rd, 1920

My dear, good Friend,

How very kind and considerate you are of me, in giving me the beautiful and honorable notice contained in the current issue of your valuable publication, - The Church Advocate.

I have not forgotten, - nor can I ever forget the courtesies extended to me by you and your dear family, on occasions when we resided in Washington.

The book was written by me at intervals, last winter, when I could afford the time. I was driven to have it printed by inexperienced "job printers", when prohibitive prices were charged by regular publishers: but, perhaps the errors of the printer are the least of its faults. I thank you heartily for your kindness in this behalf.

The Advocate is both interesting and instructive: kindly put my name on your list of subscribers and send it to me regularly. As soon as it begins to come, I will send you a check to you. St. Andrews is progressing

finely. Sister Anna is very sick – still. Her life was despaired of, for a while: kidney and rheumatic troubles are doing the work, With all best wishes for you and yours during 1921 … John P. Green"

12. John Patterson Green (1845-1940) was an African American attorney, politician, public servant and writer. He was among the first African Americans to hold public office in Cleveland, Ohio. A Republican, he was elected as a Justice of the Peace in 1873. He served in the Ohio House of Representatives in 1882. In 1891, he was elected to the Ohio Senate, the first African American state senator in Ohio. The book referred to in this letter is Green's autobiography, *Fact Stranger Than Fiction,* published in 1920.

"Newark, New Jersey, Mar. 9, 1901

My dear Dr. Bragg,

I have rec'd your kind letter this morning and am very much oblige to you for it, and ashame of myself for calling it out. The true facts are these- I know & feel that our people ought to have pastors of their own, but I find myself in St Philips with a work on me which I love and which has grown under me. As soon as our people can support a Rector I would give way but I don't feel (for my own sake) that I can give up St. Philips just yet. I am afraid I would drift into a secular life.

Please excuse my reference to myself.

I saw your letter in the Churchman in regard to Bp Hall's communication. What a grand thing that movement in South Africa was. Perhaps we will have it in our own country. I think you are on exactly the right lines. The only thing I can do to show that I am in the same line is to offer my place when the time come …. Reeve Hobbie"

13. Reeve Hobbie served St. Philip's Episcopal Church (Colored) from 1890-1903. St. Philip's was started in 1848. The church was destroyed by fire December 20, 1964. The congregation merged with Trinity Episcopal Church in 1966.

"Newark, N.J. Mar. 1, 1901

My dear Father Bragg,

I think you do a little injustice to the "Catholic Party" in the last Advocate, unless you understand by the "Catholic Party" Dr. Mortimer & his crowd. I myself have no sympathy with him & in fact I am rather out with the party. I had a talk with Dr. Mortimer at the time St. Mary's was building & just about to be open on the very subj. with which you deal in the last paper & I admit I was disgusted with him. But here is your mistake, Mortimer takes the position because he is an Englishman, & because <u>he</u> is <u>he</u> & not because he is any & particular party in the Ch. Nobody can do anything except him & he acts in that way about everything. There is no <u>party</u> attitude toward the "negro" as you call him, but a <u>personal</u> attitude.

I myself have always taken your position in the matter & think the priests whom I have met at the conferences are in every way qualified for their work. But you are too <u>sweeping</u> in what you said in your paper. Take my own case for example. Here is a parish <u>with a vestry</u> elected by the congregation. I have <u>resigned</u> my parish once & they would not accept the resignation. The parish (St. Ph. Nk.) is growing every day not only in numbers, but in its influence on the best of the colored people. What would you advise me to do. Get up & leave these people when every one is opposed to it. Yet I felt I was included in your condemnation, because so far as any one knows or cares about St. P they know that a white man is Rector & they consider him of the Catholic Party – no doubt you men in the South meet with a great deal of discouragement but surely that can't justify you in "lumping" us all & generalizing from so few facts.

I hope my dear father Bragg you will not think I am scolding you. I am simply entering a protest against your general condemnation of us, and I do it because I have always had a high regard for your work. If you know of some good colored priest who could & would take my work with all it involves I would (&will) resign for him., if the vestry would accept – I suppose you would think it all right to leave to a vestry of colored men their choice of pastor. This letter is private and not of course for publication… Reeve Hobbie"

"Newark, N.J. Apr. 12, 1901

My dear Father Bragg,

I was happy to rec your letter. You certainly did give me a first class recommendation in the Advocate last week. I did not dare to show it to anybody. Anyhow, to tell you the truth, it did make me feel very comfortable.

But enough of that – In regard to the colored minister of whom you write, you say in the last part of your letter that you will write him to come & see me. I should be delighted to have him do so and take dinner with me, or lunch which ever is convenient to him. At dinner he could see Father Scratchley I am not physically able to hunt him up, and as a young man it is better he should come to me. I have some hopes of starting a mission in the Oranges, but we shall need a priest for it. I wish I could see you some time to talk over matters. I have the mission much in my heart, but I am physically so weak that I can hardly get about.

I shall be away all this summer & so will Father Scratchley I want to see what we can do for a priest to sing me High Mass on Sunday – Do you know of any good colored priest We can only pay $ 25 a month … Reeve Hobbie"

"Camden, N.J. April 6th, 1912

Rev. John Hurst Washington, D.C.

My dear Sir:

I have your favor of April 3rd /12 in which you request that a letter be addressed to the Bishop of this Diocese, Rt. Rev. John Scarborough recommending that the Rev. George F. Bragg, Jr. of Baltimore, Md, be appointed to the House of Bishops to the existing vacancy in that Diocese, caused by the death of the late Bishop. Rt. Rev. Theodore Holly.

Nothing will afford to me greater pleasure to do as you request, all that you have said in reference to Rev. Braggs ability I can cheerfully endorse after a long acquaintance of many years, I think as you do, no better person could be appointed than he, to this vacancy, In his appointment I believe the Haitian Protestant Episcopal Church will take advanced ground in that Republic. I will with pleasure do as you suggest. From the information that I have, I think that the Board of Bishops have settled upon a policy the propose to pursue, and which appears to have the endorsement of both the clergy and laity of the Church there.

I will give to you the following facts that I have learned recently since Bishop Holly's death, the Missionary Department of the Church have been making a rigid investigation into the conditions existing there. The question was brought up by a member of this Board, that by this time, after a number of years the P.E. Church should be self sustaining after the large contributions that had been made by the Church in America for its sustenance. In the investigation that was ordered, and upon which a Report has recently been made, it has been found, that this money instead of being used to advance and extend the P.E. Church in Haiti,

had been used for a different purpose, or to attain personal ends to the benefit of a few, that there had been little advancement in extending the influence of the church there, and what advancement that had been made was in the country districts, no advancement whatever in the cities, especially the capital Port-au-Prince, the seat of the diocese. This is the first condition, another was, a convention was called at Port-au-Prince to recommend a person to fill this vacancy, there were two candidates for the place the Rev. Pierre Jones of Port-au-Prince and the Rev. Benedict of Aux Cayes, the feeling between the friends of the two candidates became tense, neither being willing to give way to the other, a compromise was arrange that the convention recommend that the church be placed under the diocese of Cuba, and that a white man be placed in charge. The Missionary Board here had agreed to place the church in Haiti, and that of Santo Domingo under the Bishop of Porto Rico, upon the receipt of the information form Port-au-Prince of their desire, the plan of the Board was re-arranged and Bishop Knight to proceed from Cuba and visit Haiti, and ascertain the condition and needs of the Church. This visit was made in the early part of March, on account of the change in steamer schedule the Bishop was not able to visit so many points as he contemplated doing. He confirmed a very small number at P.P. and Aux Cayes, but quite a large number in the country or mountain district south-east of the capital city. Heard the complaints of both sides, and left by steamer for Jamaica.

I believe his report was received last week by the Missionary Board, its contents as yet I have not learned, except so far that it is contemplated placing the Haitian Church in the Diocese of Cuba and the Santo Domingo Church in that of Porto Rico. You know as a Haitian better than I how the Haitian people feel towards us, which is not of a very friendly character, this would be one of the obstacles our friend would have to contend with, another would be his non-acquaintance with the folk language of the common people the creole patois.

I simply mention these facts to you in order you may have a true idea of the situation I will write to Bishop Scarborough as you request … W. F. Powell"[14]

14. William Frank Powell (1848-1920) was an American diplomat and educator. Powell was sixth African American to serve as the United States Ambassador to Haiti from 1897-1905. At the same time Powell served as the charge d'affaires in the Dominican Republic until 1904.

"Financial Department of the A.M.E. Church Washington, D.C., April 9, 1912

The Right Rev. A.S. Lloyd, D.D., New York

My dear Bishop Lloyd,

Being a native of Haiti with my family interests in the country and having served in Port-au-Prince and other parts of the Island as a missionary, I have somewhat definite conviction as to what is needed in order to make good and abiding the efforts that American Protestantism has been making over there. I am well informed as to what Bishop Knight found out in the investigation of Bishop Holly's work in Port-au-Prince, Aux Cayes, Cotard and . I know also what is the present attitude of the clergy of the Haitian Church as to the future in connection with the Home Church. I am not sure that their attitude will be confirmed by the House of Bishops which is to convene on the 11th inst.

In the event that the House of Bishops should decide to seat apart a priest from this side to supervise the Haitian field, I beg leave to suggest the name of the Rev. George F. Bragg, of Baltimore, a man of much energy and of good training. Mr. Bragg has had much contact with the Bishops and leading men of the Church of which I am a minister and he seems fully imbued with our spirit of self-help. It is the spirit that Haitian Protestantism needs and I think that Mr. Bragg would lead them in that direction … John Hurst"[15]

15. John Hurst (1863-1930) born in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Hurst was the 36th Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Hurst spent many years working in Baltimore.

"Baltimore, Md., Oct. 18th, 1915

Rev. George F. Bragg, Baltimore, Md.

Dear Sir,

I have your favor of the 13th inst., and assure you of my entire and sincere sympathy with the cause of which you speak. It has always been my aim and purpose as a private citizen, and will be as a public official, if I shall be elected to the Governor ship of the State, to always deal fairly and liberally with the colored people and to take a personal interest in their advancement and uplift. I assure you that if I am elected your Governor, the needs of the colored race will receive full consideration at my hands … Emerson C. Harrington"[16]

16. Emerson Columbus Harrington (1864-1945) served as the 48th Governor of Maryland from 1916-1920.

"San Antonio, Texas 8-11-23

Dear Dr. Bragg,

Please accept my warm appreciation of your editorial notice of me in the Aug. no. of the Church Advocate.

You give me more praise than I deserve. My two warm personal friends, Bishops Dudley and Kinsolving deserve all the praise, for they are the real champions of the long battle which was waged for what we considered to be the wisest settlement of the race issue in the South, for the present time. It was the only way, as we saw it, to give our church any very considerable influence in preparing the colored people to avail themselves of the advantages of culture which have recently resulted from its methods of presenting the truths of the Bible.

I recall a conversation I held nearly 40 years ago with the Rev (I can't recall his name now) who was the first negro that ever sat in the U.S. Senate Revels I think was the name. He told me he thought the Episcopal church as the best adapted to his people "because it taught that obeying the 10 commandments was a better test of true religion than the excitement of the nervous system." At that time he was in correspondence with Bishop Green of Miss. In regard to his coming into the Episcopal Church, which he finally decided not to do because the state offered him the Presidency of Alcorn University, where he hoped to exert a wider influence on his people than he could in the Episcopal ministry. I left the state shortly after not to return, and never knew how the matter resulted.

Our proposed way of settling the question at the South seemed reasonable, as it would have settled it not only for our church but also for the Presbyterians & Methodists who are still kept apart by the race question.

We must continue to pray that the Holy Spirit will, in time, or certainly in eternity, find the right solution for a most perplexing difficulty so far as this world is concerned.

I have a son in Baltimore the Rev. Mercer G. Johnston, who if you knew him, could exchange experiences with you in regard to wrestling with knotty problems. He is a social Democrat; the means a real Christian, who will be satisfied with nothing short of the Kingdom of God on earth, as Jesus planned it" which proposed the righting of all wrongs by the application of the golden rule. The Episcopal Church largely

dominated by the capitalistic class, does not furnish very fruitful soil for such propaganda, so he and his friend Richard Hogue are without parishes, and have to work on the side lines, their programs and their methods of disseminating doctrines for which the world at present is not prepared. … Call on him, present my card, it will insure you a cordial reception, you will discover in him a fellow feeling which doubtless doubtless would make you wondrous kind. It will often appear, when we cross over, that the people who seemed to fail here were amongst the favorites of the Lord … J. S. Johnston"[17]

17. James Steptoe Johnston (1843-1924) Confederate veteran, preacher and educator. He served as a Bishop of the Episcopal Church. He was the last bishop of the Missionary District of West Texas.

"Cedar-Croft, Montgomery, Alabama, Sept. 19th, 1895

Rev. and dear Brother:-

"The Church Commission on Colored Work" appointed a Committee, of which I am Chairman, to consider the feasibility of holding in the city of Atlanta a conference on the work of the Church among the Colored people, and covering the whole ground of the present condition of that race and its future prospects.

It is proposed to have public meetings extending over several days, and addresses from those best informed on these subjects and engaged in this work.

I shall be glad to have from you at your earliest convenience suggestions as to the topics and speakers, and the best way to make this conference subserve the purposes we have in view … H. M. Jacobson"

"Episcopal Residence, Austin, Texas, Jan. 6th, 1903

My dear Mr. Bragg,

I am very much obliged to you for your kind editorial. The new Chapel is one of the most attractive churches in my diocese, and with the removal of liens on the property cost about ten thousand dollars. I valued my dear brother in whose memory it is erected most highly, and his loss was a real grief to me. My prayer is that the new church may stand for many years as a witness and representative of the church and truth which were so dear to the heart of that noble loyal priest and son … G. H. Kinsolving[18]

P.S. I wish you would read my second Lecture on the race question. The Reinicker Lectures – Edwin S. Gorham, New York. I do not possess a copy, else I would send it to you … G H.K."

18. George Herbert Kinsolving (1849-1928) second Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Texas, 1893-1928.

"June 6th, 1922

My dear Dr. Bragg,

Of course you can put me down as a subscriber for your forthcoming book – The History of the Afro-American Group of the Episcopal Church in this country, and I will do what I can to promote its circulation.

When the House of Bishops at the General Convention in New York by a more than two thirds majority vote expressed a willingness for the establishment of the Missionary District Plan for the work among colored people I was inspired with fond hopes and most sanguine expectations; and I saw before us the breaking of a glorious day.

When three years afterwards, however, they fumbled and vacillated and reversed their former action in St. Louis and substituted the Suffragan bishop idea, while it did not abate my interest, it did chill me deep down in my heart for I had no faith in the experiment and submitted to it simply because I could not help myself. Since then, while cooperating in support of a Suffragan bishop, I have suffered some of Bishop Brooks's "paralysis," and have entered largely into the "quiet state" requested of us a state in the main of "innocuous desuetude."

But , my dear brother, while I have "nursed the fire has burned" and it has been my constant prayer that God would spare my life long enough to see the church wake up and really try something worthwhile in solving the question of our duty and obligation to our colored brethren. I do not despair – and yet , alas! How heavily drag the chariot wheels of the messiah! … G. H. Kinsolving"

"The Domestic and Foreign Mission Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church … New York, November 11, 1904

My dear friend Bragg,

I have just read with interest your note of November 10th, and you have forestalled me with your kind suggestion in what I would like to ask of you. When the matter came nearer a settlement I was going to ask you to plan some trip to New York so that I might have a talk with you with regard to it. You may hear from me later.

In the meantime a good committee was appointed yesterday to have charge of the whole matter, and I think very promptly steps will be taken to press the work. There is a great deal to be said in favor of your view with regard to the field secretary, and I am disposed to it myself, except that I have an idea this work would receive mor sympathetic help in the South than in the North, and there (speaking generally) the secretary would have to be a white man. On the other hand, the bulk of the offerings would come from the North, and there a white man would have no advantage, and probably a black man would gain a more interesting hearing … A.S. Lloyd[19]

The question was raised yesterday as to the right term for describing the work among the black people in the South. Some wanted it called "the work among the Afro-Americans". Others wanted it called "Work among the Negroes". I confess I lean towards the last as more dignified and, if I may so speak, more reverent, but I would like to know how it would appear from their own point of view. Tell me what you think about it. Of course it would be personal."

19. Arthur Selden Lloyd (1857-1936) was president of the Board of Missions of the Episcopal Church. He was coadjutor bishop for the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia 1909-1911 and then Suffragan Bishop of New York from 1921 until 1936.

"The Domestic and Foreign Mission Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church … New York, November 8, 1904

My dear Mr. Bragg,

I have read with interest your letter of the 7th, and feel very confident that you are on the right track, though I do not know whether the Board will agree with me. It meets for organization on Thursday and the

Commission having been abolished a committee must be appointed to take charge of the work among the black people of America. I hope that the end will be some such appointment as you suggest in yours.

I wish you had told me privately your own mind as to who that person ought to be in case such an appointment is made. Whether you think a white man or a black man would be more efficient. In either case who, in your judgment, would be the most desirable person. Such information would be for my own satisfaction. I might not agree with you and the Board might not agree with either of us, but while we might not agree on all points I have a great confidence in your judgment and I would like to know your mind.

I hope my namesake is covering himself with honor at school. Tell him that I say the beginning of a right career is hard work at school and the kind of carefulness that wins the respect of his school mates as well as his teachers. Tell him I hope to have the satisfaction of helping him into the priesthood and I want him to be fit for so high calling. … A. S. Lloyd"

"Norfolk, Virginia, Nov 23d [1898]

My dear friend Bragg,

I want to thank you for the paper containing extracts from yr sermon on the unhappy situation I have read yr words with deep interest & want to say these are the wisest words I have read on the subject you have the told the truth because you have translated the masters teaching into the solving of this problem If black & white men could believe the shame & sorrow of the time would be ended & each would strengthen the other. The late unhappy murders in the So must be repeated as often as antagonism is stirred… Keep on saying what is true with all boldness & faith in Him that honors the truth& you will have the satisfaction at last of knowing that you have succeeded at least in a measure in accomplishing the high purpose to which you have given yr life the enlightenment of your race & the betterment of his conditions. It is a worthy ambition for a man & a Christian …A .S. Lloyd"

Evening and Sunday Telegram, Providence, R.I., Aug. 14, '98

The Rev. Geo. Bragg, Jr., The Ledger, Baltimore, Md

Dear Sir,

Copy of your paper received today. Praise a little fulsome out intention appreciated. Really, I like tone of your editorials. They voice my sentiments quite often. In at least two editorials in issue of paper received today this fact stands out – we agree perfectly.

Relative to the colored people not fixing the blame for non-recognition where it belongs: on the shoulders of the leaders of their party in the state of Maryland, you are exactly right. It is the same idea I enunciated several weeks ago in an anonymous communication to the Norfolk Recorder, advising the negroes of Virginia to elect colored men to the state organization in sufficient number to control it and their recommendations, when they recommended colored men for office, would be respected by President McKinley and the heads of the departments at Washington. I told them that the white leaders in Virginia (as in Maryland) were not recommending colored men for office and President McKinley could not act where action was not requested by the party leaders. I enclose clipping from The Recorder, not for publication, but give you an idea of my meaning.

Another instance where our thoughts ran in the same channel was found in your editorial calling attention to the white volunteer who refused to hold a colored officer's horse. Before I got to the end of the editorial I was reflecting on the case of those white people, superannuated and penniless, who have not scorned to accept aid from their former slaves who have supported them in idleness the remainder of their natural lives – and lo! At the end of your article you made the same point … John C. Minkins …"[20]

20. John Carter Minkins (1869-1959) Pioneering African American newspaperman, he was the first African American editor of a white newspaper. He was a renowned speaker and defender of human rights, attacking segregation and discrimination.

"The Churchman, Editorial Rooms, New York, February 9, 1903

Rev. George F. Bragg, Jr.

Reverend and dear Sir,

Please accept our warm thanks for your letter of February 7. We appreciate the criticism as much as we value your thanks for the part that you approve. You have however, evidently misunderstood the allusion to the practically unanimous opposition. This had no reference to the Indianola affair because President Roosevelt did not appoint Mrs. Coxe there. She was appointed by President McKinley. The allusion to the appointment of an official to serve a business community which was practically unanimous in its opposition referred to the appointment of Dr. Crum at Charleston, and you will notice that we did not say that the community was practically unanimous, but the business community, with the Collector would have to deal. …"

"Archdeacon of Colored Work, June 3, 1922

My dear Bragg,

I am certainly glad to see that you are going to publish "The History of the Afro-American Group of the E. Church" It is badly needed. That we have not more enthusiasm for our own race group in the Church, is, I believe, caused by ignorance. Who knows much about this group? How can enthusiasm be developed when knowledge is absent.

I am glad you are going to undertake this work, because you, from your knowledge, can do it better than any one else. I will be glad to contribute $ 10 towards the fund … Henry C. Phillips"

"St. Paul Normal and Industrial School, Lawrenceville, Virginia, July 9, 1921

My dear Dr. Bragg,

I wish to thank you very much for the nice article on St. Paul's School, which appeared in the July number of the Church Advocate. I presume you mailed the marked copies of the Church Advocate to the persons named in Miss Cromwell's list. I was sorry that I could not make up this list before leaving for the Minister's Conference at Hampton. Then too, I promised to send rubber stamps and entirely overlooked doing so, as I was so rushed for time before leaving for Hampton. I trust good results will come from the publication of the article.

I presume you will be sending me some extra copies, that I may put the same into the hands of certain friends as occasion presents itself. Sometime at your convenience, I will thank you to forward the cut of Alvin, as we may make use of it in an early publication at the School… James S. Russell"[21]

21. James S. Russell (1857-1935) African American Episcopal Minister, founder and principal of St. Paul's School.

"Baltimore, Md., March 28, 1901

Rev. George F. Bragg, Jr.

My Dear Sir:

Yours of the 15th, to hand and contents noted and should have been answered sooner, but for my absence from the City. I herewith enclose you my check for $ 10., as a contribution towards the Parsonage, and I sincerely trust that you succeed in raising enough money to pay off the debt entirely.

I can assure you that I have held you in the highest regard since our work together in behalf of the reelection of Governor Lowndes. You are one of those with whom I came in contact, whom I I believe one can tie to. I regret exceedingly that our Democratic administration has seen fit to enter into such a high handed proceeding as they have at the extra session of the Legislature. I feel, however, that had those whom this bill disfranchises, voted honestly for Governor Lowndes, he would have been elected, and they would still have possessed the rights that belong to free American citizens without regard to color or previous condition. Ultimately, however, I believe the action of the Democratic Legislature will react upon that party and the people will again arise in their might, as they did in '95, although I must say that their non-endorsement of Governor Lowndes' upright and honest administration of the affairs of this state for the four years term of his office entitles them to another dose of what they had previously enjoyed for thirty years, that is, a government of the politicians, for the politicians and by the politicians. … Thos. Shryock"[22]

22. Thomas Shryock (1851-1918) Maryland businessman, Superintendent of Prisons, Maryland State Treasurer, Grand Master, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, of Maryland

"Wednesday June Twenty-seventh 1917

Rt. Rev. James Winchester, D,D. [typescript carbon of the original]
1222 Scott St.
Little Rock, Arkansas

Reverend and dear Sir,

I understand that at the last meeting of the Convention of your Diocese a colored Suffragan Bishop was elected, who has declined the office and that at this Convention among the candidates for whom ballots were cast was the Rev. George Freeman Bragg, D.D., Rector of St. James First African Church of this City.

As far as my information goes there are comparative few colored clergymen in our Church, and I think that it is probable that the Rev. Mr. Bragg may be again nominated when you Convention undertakes to elect a colored Suffragan Bishop, and it has occurred to me that it might be well to write you in regard to him.

I have known the Reverend Mr. Bragg ever since I have been the Secretary of this Diocese, some fifteen years, and have had an opportunity to become acquainted with him and his work. He is the Rector of the only separate colored congregation in this Diocese. His Church has prospered and has recently been consecrated. He is devout, conscientious, educated and as well as a layman can judge orthodox.

I feel sure that should he be chosen that he would fill the office capably and to the satisfaction of thos with whom his duties may bring him in contact… (Sappington) [Added in pencil, likely in the hand of Bragg]

"Grace Church Rectory, Plainfield, N.J., Aug. 18, 1904

Dear Dr. Bragg,

You will not forget, will you, that you are expected to preach for us at the Colored Mission Service here on Sunday Evening next at eight o'clock – Please let me know at what hour to expect you, that I may arrange for your reception and entertainment… Ellicas Stevenson"

"Baltimore, Md, June 9, 1913

"My dear Mr. Bragg,

I would be lacking in all that goes to make life worth living if I did not express my appreciation for the letter which you sent to the editor of "The Colored Man", dated Baltimore, June 3, 1913, which I read in the issue of that paper last Saturday.

It is my earnest desire to retire so far as I can consistently and honorably from activity in this year's general campaign. There have been statements made by innumerable people, both white and colored, covering a period of a number of years past in effect that it would be better for the Republican party of the activities of Mr. Stone were eliminated. I have been a Republican from principle, espousing the policies of that party, believing that those policies made for the best interests of our country and I think this can be well evidenced from the results of the numerous National administrations officered by the elected candidates of the Republican party. During the years of my political activity I have endeavored studiously, conscientiously, zealously and at all times to be a friend of the Afro-American. In season and out of season I believe that my record justifies me in stating that I have demonstrated that professed friendship by actual work to the utmost of my opportunity and ability. This has been my record when there were no elections on hand and I could, therefore, not be accused justly of being influenced by political motives. There is an old but true saying, that "the proof of the pudding is in the eating", and further that "Actions speak louder than words". It is with pardonable pride that I refer to the large number of colored men and women to whom it has been my good fortune to give appointments in the service over which I have presided now for a decade and a half and in the times of great jeopardy of the civil rights of the Afro-American in this city and State, notably in 1905, 1909 and 1911 – and I might say with particular emphasis as to the 1909 campaign which was a direct attack on the civil rights of the Afro-American, it was indeed esteemed by me not only a duty but a privilege to fight for the maintenance of the civil rights of your people because I believed that the law vouchsafed and guaranteed those rights and that under the law your people were entitled to not only have those rights respected, but drastically and faithfully defended and protected by the white man who professed to be loyal to our Constitution with its ramified amendments. For these things which I claim to have done from a sense of duty and privilege I have neither asked nor do I now ask the slightest consideration upon the part of my friends of your race. I did my duty as I saw that duty to the fullest extent of my limited ability. I am prepared to continue along that Identical line. When the interests and the civil rights of your people are in jeopardy or need support, you can depend upon me to the utmost of my humble power doing in the future that which I have done in the past. I have professed during the years which have

gone into the great beyond to be friend of your people. I still make that same profession today, and as long as a kind Providence shall give unto me life and health, I expect whenever your people need my services to put into active operation that profession of friendship. In return I ask for nothing. In return I seek no favor because my future so far as public office is concerned is to my mind a blank. I am fully persuaded that it will be very much better for me to do like, I regret, a great many others have done, cease active work, take life easy, environ oneself with domestic and friendly pleasure, happiness and entertainment, and make little if any personal sacrifice for the benefit of others, politically speaking. But I have never been built that way, I am not today built that way for do I expect to be so built in the future and I therefore repeat, my good faithful friend, that the interests of your people will be my interests in the future and whether I be in office or following private pursuits, whether I am esteemed to be a factor or a non-factor in party affairs, - regardless of what I consider has been heaped upon me, the gross injustices by a number of your people, - yet I shall always be ready and willing to render the very best that is in me in the future upbuilding of your people, not upon the race issue, not upon the fact that there are so many thousands of people of your race in this state and city who vote, not for any such selfish, sordid motive as that, but because in character, ability demeanor and all that go to make men and women respected, your people are just that far entitled not only to respect, but to the firm friendship and aid of the helping hand if that help at any time is needed.

I am writing you this with the distinct understanding that you will not permit it to be published in any newspaper. I am writing it to you, however, not confidentially, but that you upon my authority can say to your fellow men and women just what my position is, that there might be no further misunderstanding and that I may be known so far as my assertions will be accepted for what I am and for what I have stood in the past and for what I propose to stand in the future. I esteem, as I have said, more highly than I can express the loyalty and friendship – I might say the devotion of a great mass of your people of this State and City. I have felt chagrined, humiliated and mortified at the unjust attacks made upon me, however, by a number of others of your race located in this city I might say exclusively. However, if they can stand it, I can. If they feel justified in dealing with unjust criticisms, then it is immaterial to me. But I do not propose, and I want to assure of this, and through you all to whom you may talk – I do not propose to permit the unjust criticisms and attacks made upon me by some of your race to influence me in the remotest degree to withhold from the support that I may be able to give your people the very best that is within me.

With kindest personal regards and again thanking you for the splendid letter which appears over your name in “The Colored Man” of last week… W. F. Stone”[23]

23. William Fusselbaugh Stone (1855-1917) Republican party leader in Baltimore.

“House of Reformation (For Colored Boys) Cheltenham, Prince George’s County Maryland, Oct. 5, 1900

My dear Mr. Bragg,

Thanks for the papers received. I was in the city yesterday and the days before. We have run over our catalogue and find no name J. E. Johnson from 1880 to 1885. Variation in boys’ names is not exactly uncommon here. I would like to identify him in some way so as to look him up. His number here, his name as then recorded, the date of his entrance and release – such as these would identify him. From 1880 to 1885 Gen. Horne was Supt. A part of the time and also Capt. Waggner another part. I have heard it said that Capt. W. knew how to be severe – decidedly too severe, I would think, in his punishments. But that was 15 yrs and more ago.

We now here are interested to have the institution go before the people with as good a name as it merits, and no better. We are very glad that you are willing to help, after others have shown themselves willing to injure. … Nathan Thompson"

"Saint Joseph's Industrial School for Colored Boys, Clayton, Del., Oct. 29, 1901

"Reverend and dear sir,

I have just received your very kind letter of the 27th inst. and, tho pressed for time I hasten to make a brief answer. In the previous out-going mail I ventured to send you a few clippings, which I hoped, would prove interesting, and possibly suggestive of a brilliant editorial. I did not then write because I felt that I could scarcely afford the time. But the arrival of your letter constitutes a quasi-necessity, and, as she is sometimes called the mother of invention, I've "invented" the time for this answer.

I am deeply grateful for the friendly sentiments of your editorial and your very gracious letter. I noted with pleasure the beautiful picture, in the Ledger, of the "New St. James." There need be no doubt that improvement in building and location will speedily increase the number of your congregation.

I thank you most sincerely for your kind invitation and I beg to assure you that when next I visit Baltimore I shall make it a point to visit you, and, moreover, whenever convenient I shall be glad to accept your hospitality. … C. R. Uncles"

"Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., July 3, 1901

My dear Sir,

I have your favor of some days ago, and in reply to same beg to say that Tuskegee is an undenominational institution and persons are invited to address our students not with regard to their denominational leanings but with consideration only of their fitness and ability to help our students. It is quite needless for me to say that any discrimination as regards the Episcopal Church is not and will not be contemplated. … Booker T. Washington"[24]

24. Booker T. Washington (1856-1915) founder and principal of Tuskegee.

"Vice-Chancellor's Office, University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee, Nov 14, 1904

Reverand and Dear Sir:-

In response to the Memorial of Church Workers Among the Colored People, presented to the General Convention at its recent session in Boston, the following resolutions were adopted by both Houses in concurrence:

"Resolved, that a Joint Commission on the Memorial of Church Workers Among Colored People, consisting of five Bishops, five presbyters and five laymen, be appointed to gather information, to ascertain the mind of the Church, and to propose to the next General Convention such legislation as they think necessary to meet the conditions.

"Resolved, that this Joint Commission have power to invite to co-operation of, and to bid to their deliberations, any persons likely to furnish light and to bring wisdom to the discussion of the grave questions to be considered."

The following were appointed members of the Joint Commission: The Bishops of Louisiana, Tennessee, North Carolina, Rhode Island and Newark; Rev. Dr. W. M. Clark (Va.), Rev. E. N. Joyner (S.C.), Rev. Dr. J. R. Winchester (Mo.), Rev. Dr. Pittenger (N.C.), and Rev. Lewis Brown (Ind.), and Messrs Joseph Bryan (Va), B. L. Wiggins (Tenn.), G. A. Rockwell (Tex.), W. W. Old (So. Va.) and James McConnell (La.).

At a meeting of the Joint Commission held in Boston October 21st, the Bishop of Louisiana was appointed Permanent Chairman, and the undersigned Secretary. A sub-committee was also appointed to take steps to ascertain the mind of the Church in reference to the Memorial, to gather statistics as to the number and value of schools and churches now used exclusively for colored people, the number of communicants, and such other information as would be helpful in reaching a solution of the question. I will greatly appreciate such information as you may be able to give, and I propose from time to time to communicate with you and to seek your co-operation in the work of the Commission… B. L. Wiggins"[25]

25. Benjamin Lawton Wiggins (1861-1909) Vice-Chancellor of Sewanee.

"South Weymouth, Mass., July 28, 1905

Personal.

My dear Mr. Bragg,

I have your letter of July 24th and I appreciate most highly all you say. I am glad to know that you wrote the editorial referred to in your letter.

It is more than probable that I shall be home August 9th, or 10th, it would be safe to call me up by phone from Boston before coming out as it might happen that I would not be in. … Booker T. Washington

Shall be Glad to see you. B. T. W."

"Juvenile Court City of Baltimore Jan. 22, 1914

Dear Dr. Bragg,

Thank you for the copy of the report of your school. I shall read it with interest and whatever help I can give you I give gladly. I have a bill prepared to create an industrial school for colored boys which I shall shortly send to the Legislature. The Governor will shortly make the appointment of Judge of the Juvenile court for the next two years. The last time the appointment came up you were good enough to write to the Governor and commend me. If you think I have treated the colored boys and girls who have come before me with fairness and justice and sympathy it would gratify me if you could write to the Governor and say so. If any other members of the Colored Ministerial Alliance that I addressed on Dec 15 last could join you in this commendation I would be thankful. I have tried earnestly in the court to treat all with same kindly sympathy … T. J. C. Williams" [Judge].

"Office of the Commissioners of Public Schools, City Hall, Baltimore, Dec. 26th, 1896

Rev. George Bragg Jr.

Dear Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter with reference to the appointment of colored teachers in the public schools for colored children, and in reply to your inquiry I am to inform you that I intend to submit this matter to the consideration of the Board of School Commissioners at its next meeting… John T. Morris, Prest."

"Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Tuskegee Institute, Ala., February 16, 1920

My dear Dr. Bragg:

Please accept my thanks for the valuable information which you have so kindly sent me relative to colored representatives in the Virginia Legislature. I shall ask the editor of the Journal of Negro History to publish your letter in full.

I am very gratified to receive, since the appearance of my article, such valuable additional information from individuals like yourself. The result appears to be that a very important addition will be made to the history of the Negro during the reconstruction period.

Under another cover I am sending you a copy of the Negro Year Book, which please accept with my compliments… Monroe N. Work Editor Negro Year Book."[26]

26. Monroe N. Work (1866-1945) Sociologist, historian, editor of Negro Year Book, and of a pioneering bibliography of Afro-Americana.

"Atlanta Ga Nov. 15/ 22

My dear Bragg,

I haven't had time to read your book but am quite willing to risk $ 200 on it for myself … Our colored work in this city is having a hard time … A. B. Wilmer"

"Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Tuskegee Institute, Ala., September 4th, 1923

My dear Mr. Bragg,

This is to express my appreciation for your letter of August 29th, calling my attention to the omission in the Negro Year Book of the number of colored men in the Virginia Legislature of 1881-82, also the omission in the Negro Year Book of St. James African Church in Baltimore, Maryland.

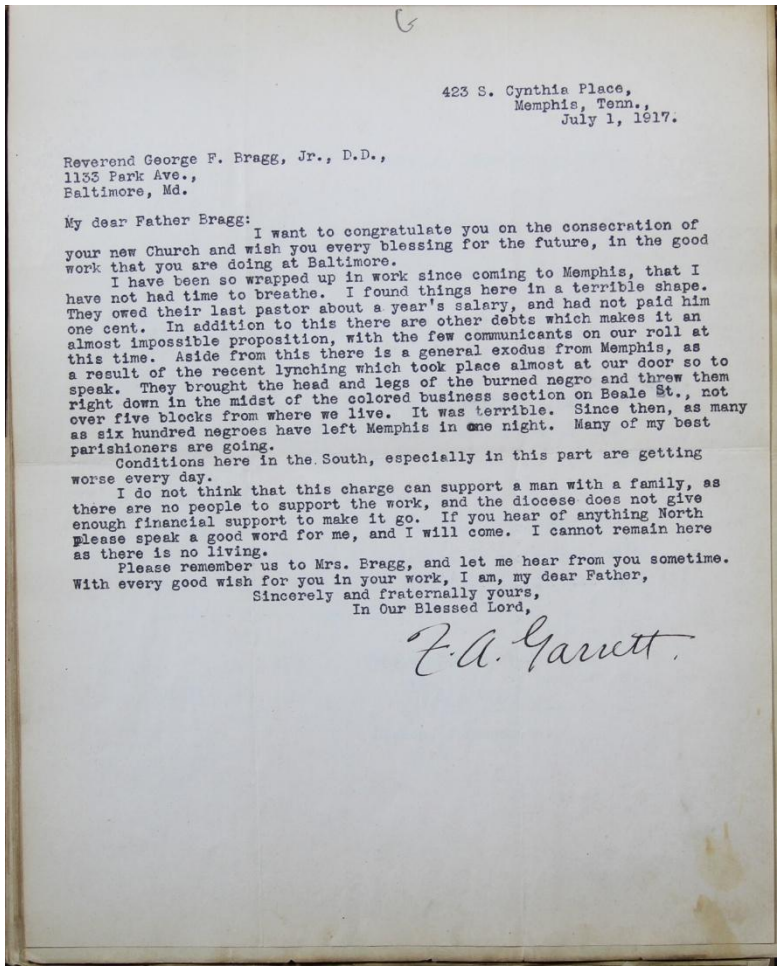
I am making note of these corrections for the next edition of the Negro Year Book… Monroe N. Work”

“City of Baltimore, Maryland, Department of Education January 22, 1925

My dear Mr. Bragg,

Let me thank you very much for your kind letter of January 19. It has been a matter of extreme gratification to me to have received by letter, telephone, and personal visit so many kind words during the whole period since I was put under fire, and especially since the action of the Board last Friday. As a part of the criticisms against my management specifically complained that I was neglecting the colored schools, it has been very re-assuring to have received many kind expressions from persons in the service of the colored schools and well-known citizens like yourself who know that we are advancing the colored schools as rapidly as we can. … Heny S. West, Superintendent”

The collection: On Hold.



423 S. Cynthia Place,
Memphis, Tenn.,
July 1, 1917.

Reverend George F. Bragg, Jr., D.D.,
1133 Park Ave.,
Baltimore, Md.

My dear Father Bragg:

I want to congratulate you on the consecration of your new Church and wish you every blessing for the future, in the good work that you are doing at Baltimore.

I have been so wrapped up in work since coming to Memphis, that I have not had time to breathe. I found things here in a terrible shape. They owed their last pastor about a year's salary, and had not paid him one cent. In addition to this there are other debts which makes it an almost impossible proposition, with the few communicants on our roll at this time. Aside from this there is a general exodus from Memphis, as a result of the recent lynching which took place almost at our door so to speak. They brought the head and legs of the burned negro and threw them right down in the midst of the colored business section on Beale St., not over five blocks from where we live. It was terrible. Since then, as many as six hundred negroes have left Memphis in one night. Many of my best parishioners are going.

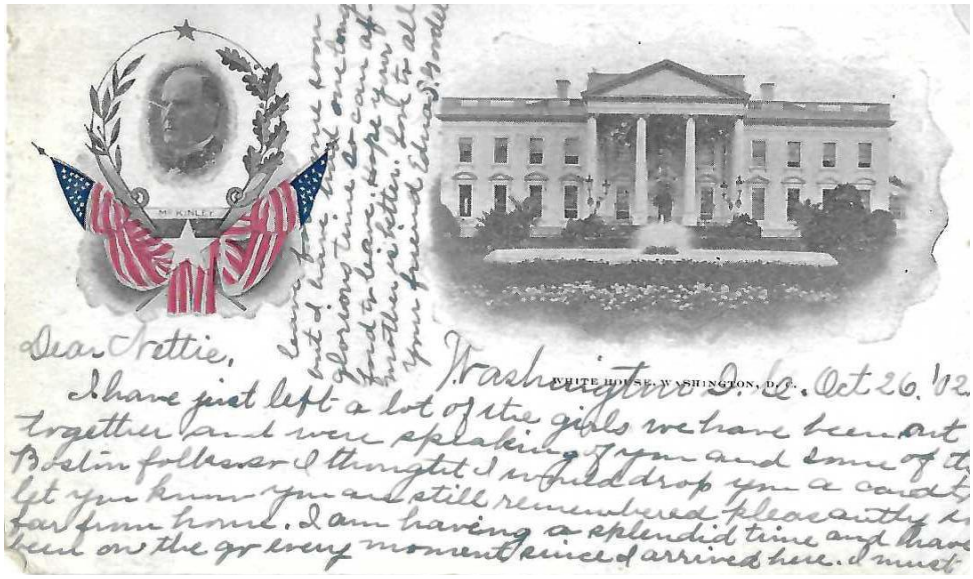
Conditions here in the South, especially in this part are getting worse every day.

I do not think that this charge can support a man with a family, as there are no people to support the work, and the diocese does not give enough financial support to make it go. If you hear of anything North please speak a good word for me, and I will come. I cannot remain here as there is no living.

Please remember us to Mrs. Bragg, and let me hear from you sometime. With every good wish for you in your work, I am, my dear Father,

Sincerely and fraternally yours,
In Our Blessed Lord,

F. A. Garrett.



1902 Young Republican women of the Black Boston Political Elite

2. (African Americans) Goodell, Edna S., **Autograph Note Signed, on a pictorial postcard of the recently assassinated President William McKinley, Washington, D. C., October 26, 1902, to Nettie Cartwright, Roxbury, Massachusetts**

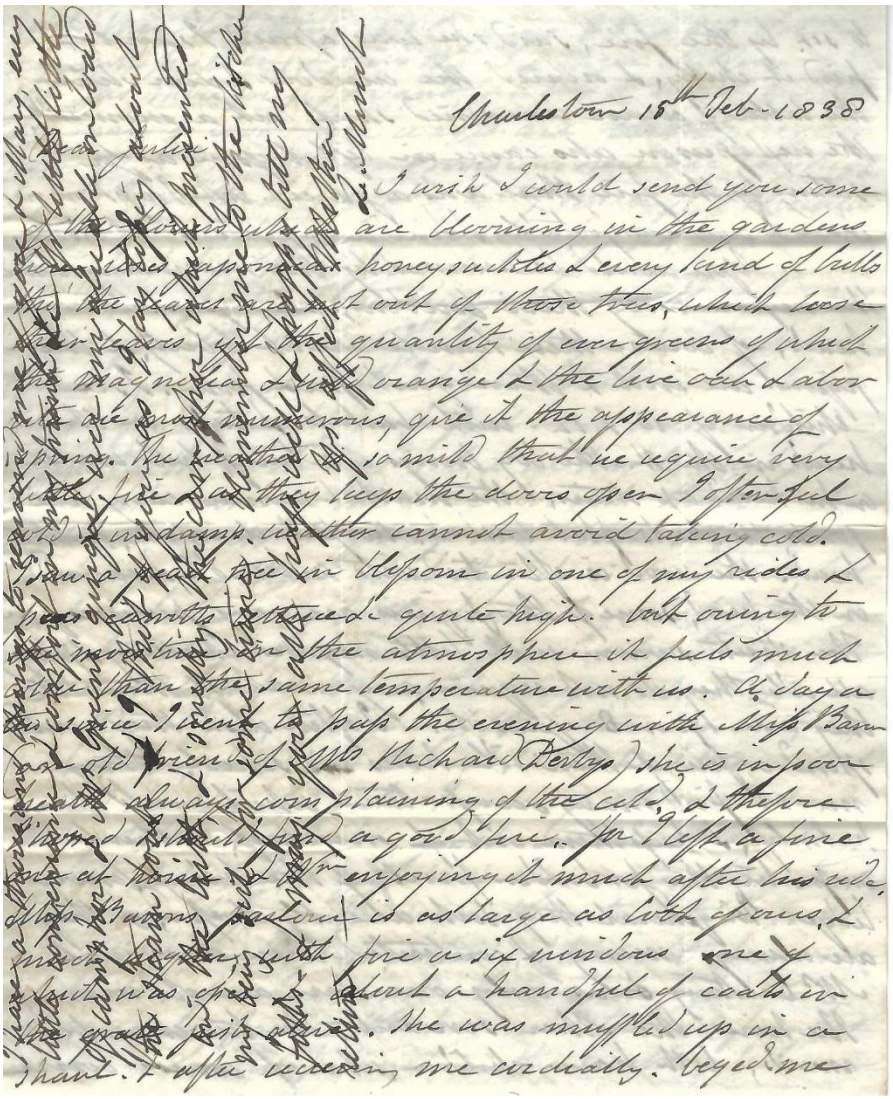
Goodell writes:

"I have just left a lot of the girls we have been out together and were speaking of you and some of the Boston folks ... I am having a splendid time and have been on the go every moment since I arrived here … I have had one long glorious time…"

Listed in Census records as a "Mulatto", Edna Goodell, a 32 year-old Boston schoolteacher, the daughter of Southern Black emigrants, may have been stimulated to take an active part in politics after this visit to the nation's capital. Thirty years later, in 1932, she was reportedly the first Black woman from New England to be a delegate to the Republican National Convention (which, that year, nominated the hapless incumbent Herbert Hoover). She decidedly belonged to the Black New England elite at the turn of the century: Her uncles was said to be the first President of Liberia; another uncle had been the first Black delegate-at-large from a northern state to the 1884 Republican National Convention. Goodell herself had been chairperson of New England political activities for the first Black women voters during the Harding and Coolidge Administrations. She was also President of the League of Women for Community Service and organizer of the Women's Council of Massachusetts which "instructed women of her race when women were given the vote."

Her correspondent, Nettie Cartwright, was less prominent, but apparently, no less socially distinguished. A Black news article of 1898 reported that she attended a reception for a Black woman pianist from Cleveland together with a who's who of the Black Boston political elite including lawyer and diplomat Archibald Grimke, Republican leader Julius Chapelle, and civil rights activist James Monroe Trotter.

$ 75.00



Charleston 15th Feb - 1838

Dear Julia

I wish I would send you some of the flowers which are blooming in the gardens here roses japonicas honeysuckles & every kind of bulbs the the leaves are not out of those trees, which loose their leaves yet the quantity of ever greens of which the magnolia & wild orange & the live oak & abor vite are most numerous, give it the appearance of spring. The weather is so mild that we require very little fire & as they keep the doors open I often feel cold & in damp weather cannot avoid taking cold. I saw a peach tree in blossom in one of my rides & peas carrotts lettuce & quite high. but owing to the moisture in the atmosphere it feels much colder than the same temperature with us. A day a two since I went to pass the evening with Miss Barn (an old friend of Mrs Richard Derby) she is in poor health always complaining of the cold, & therefore I hoped I should find a good fire. for I left a fine one at home & Wm enjoying it much after his ride. Miss Barons parlour is as large as both of ours, & much higher, with five or six windows one of which was open & about a handful of coals in the grate just alive. She was muffled up in a shawl. & after receiving me cordially. beged me

3. (African Americans) Minot, L.[ouisa], **Autograph Letter Signed, Charleston [South Carolina] 15th, February 1838, to Miss Julia Minot, care of the Hon. Wm. Minot, Boston, describing Slavery in Charleston**

Quarto, 4 pages, including stamp less address leaf, in very good, clean and legible condition, although partially cross-written.

Louisa Minot writes her daughter Julia, describing her visit to Charleston, and the institution of slavery as practiced in Charleston, and in the home of her hostess a Mrs. Courtney, through the eyes of a privileged Bostonian:

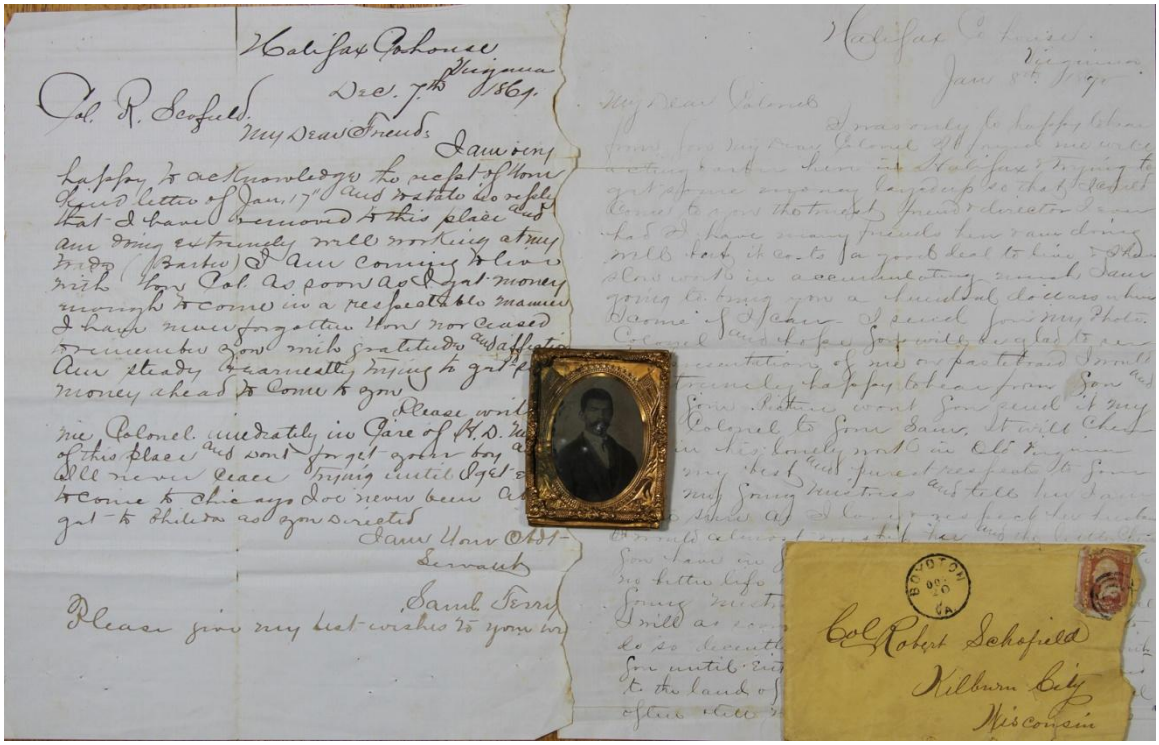
"Dear Julia,

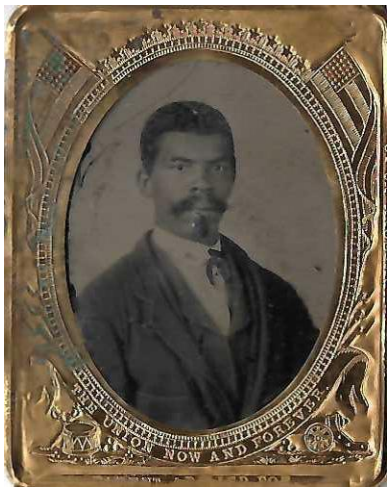
… You would be amused by the manner in which the negroes carry their burdens, - always on their heads, of course their hands are at liberty & their figures are erect and their gait fixed firm. I see children of 10 & 12 with baskets & tubs on their heads in the St. – the boy brings a tub of hot water on

his head upstairs, the market women carry live fowls tied into flat baskets, two feet diameter, on their heads, the wood is often tied into a bundle & carried on the head, some of the figures are very picturesque . The streets swarm with little negroes chatting & playing all idle, they do not require any work of them until they are 7 or 8 years old. I often wish they could spend a few of their idle hours in school they might find many occupations which would be harmless, & keep them out of mischief without imparting the forbidden fruit of the tree of knowledge. In general they look decently dressed, & they are always merry & contented – mere animals – Mrs Courtney owns only one slave an old man she hires the other servant, the two chamber maids, both have children, who of course come with their mothers. Mrs C pays $ 8 & $ 10 dollars a month for them & feeds them & their children she has three men servants, & a boy to wait on table & a man as cook their wages are higher from 12 to 15 dollars – Provisions here are very high … Yesterday the cook was sick & we had to wait for breakfast, none of the other servants thought of getting it, till Mrs C got up & told them to & there is no hurrying them. What they do is done well, but each one does very little & cannot go out of his department – for instance James, who brings the oil to Mrs C to fill the astral lamps (which she does herself) was sick, & not one of the other servants, six in number, could get the oil & she had to wait & ring & scold & when I came upstairs she had not got the oil feeder, for she could not think of getting it herself & yet she is very active & an excellent housekeeper. The servants continue to be sick very often & then they do nothing & have a Dr & nurse so that supernumeraries are indispensable … L. Minot”

Louisa Minot was the wife of William Minot (1783-1873), Boston attorney and estate administrator. And Boston Brahmin. Minot was born in 1783 to George Richards and Mary Speakman. He graduated from Harvard in 1802 and studied law in Boston with Joseph Hall. He was admitted to the Suffolk Bar in 1805. Minot specialized in the areas of trusts, wills, and estates, he practiced in Boston at his father’s 39 Court Street office. The city of Boston trust funds and the Harvard Class of 1802 were among the trusts in his care. He married Louisa Davis, daughter of Daniel Davis, solicitor-general of the Commonwealth, in 1810. They lived on Beacon Street and had five children. During the summer months he and his family resided at Woodbourne, a country house in West Roxbury. In the later years of his life, William grew lonely mourning Louisa, who died in 1858. Although visited often by his daughter Julia, he became more socially withdrawn until his death in 1873.

$ 500.00





Samuel Terry

4. (African Americans) Terry, Samuel, **Pair of Autograph Letters Signed, Halifax Court House, Virginia, December 7, 1869, and January 8, 1870, to Col. Robert Schofield, Kilburn City, Wisconsin, with a tin-type portrait of himself**

two letters, folio, 3 pages, with one retained mailing envelope, plus ninth plate tintype portrait of Samuel Terry (uncased). The verso of the mailing envelope is docketed in pencil by Schofield: “Letters from “Sam” my servant in the Army, with his picture. Save”

An unusual pair of letters written by Samuel Terry, an African American man who was apparently Colonel Scholfield’s “servant” during the Civil War.

Colonel Robert Schofield was enlisted in the First Vermont Cavalry in 1861, raised in ranks to a Captain by October 4, 1862. He was wounded and captured in July 1863 at Hagerstown, Maryland and was finally released after almost a year and a half during a prisoner exchange. He was discharged as a Major at the time of his release.

Little is known about the writer, Samuel Terry, however, the letters imply that Terry and Schofield had a warm relationship, Terry states that Schofield was his "truest friend & director", the two corresponded after the war's end, Schofield apparently had advised Terry to leave the South. Terry expressed a desire to travel north and serve Schofield, his wife, and child, as their "servant" once more. The fact that Schofield "saved" the letters and Terry's picture would seem to corroborate it.

Sample Quotes:

"Halifax Co. house, Virginia Dec. 7th, 1869

Col. R. Schofield,
My Dear Friend,

I am very happy to acknowledge the recpt. of your kind letter Jan. 17th and to state in reply that I have removed to this place and am doing extremely well working at my trade (Barber) I am coming to live with you Col. As soon as I get money enough to come in a respectable manner. I have never forgotten you nor ceased to remember you with gratitude and affection. Am steady & earnestly trying to get some money ahead to come to you.

Please write to me Colonel immediately in care of H.D. Nutting of this place and don't forget your boy and I'll never cease trying until I get enough to come to Chicago Ive never been able to get to Philada as you directed … Saml Terry Please give my best wishes to your wife"

"Halifax Co. House Virginia Jan 8th, 1870

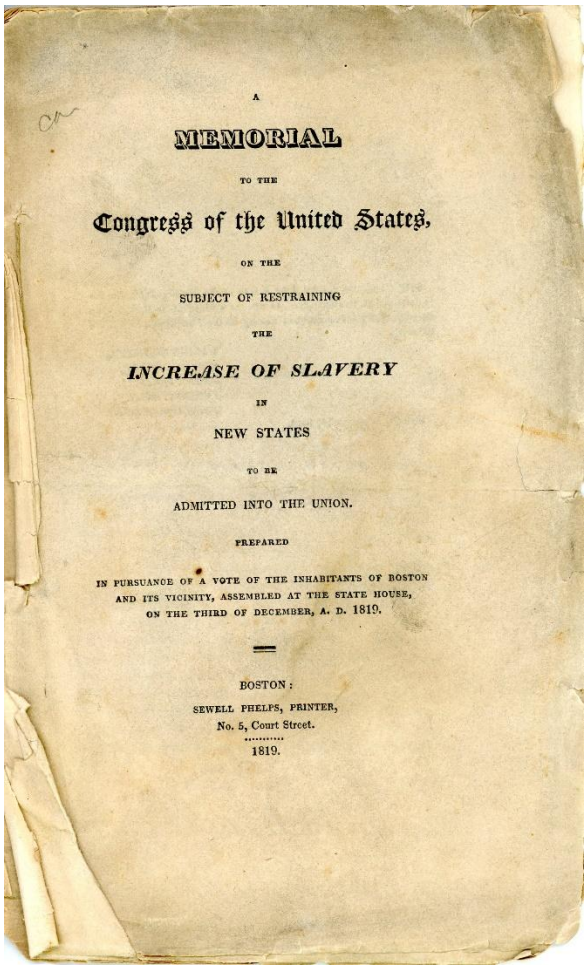
My Dear Colonel,

I was only to happy to hear from you my Dear Colonel It found me well acting barber here in Halifax & trying to get some money layed up so that I could come to you the truest friend & director I ever had I have many friends here & am doing well but it costs a good deal to live & I have slow work in accumulating much I am going to bring you a hundred dollars when I come if I can. I send you my photo, Colonel and hope you will be glad to see a representation of me on pasteboard I would be extremely happy to hear from you and to see your picture wont you send it my Dear Colonel to your Sam. It will cheer him in his lonely ness in Old Virginia Give my best and purest respects to your wife my young mistress and tell her I am quite sure as I love & respect her husband I would almost worship her and the little cherub you have in your Western home I would like not better life than to care for & wait on my young mistress & her babe & believe me Colonel I will as soon as is possible for me to do so decently come to you & remain with you until either you all or I are gathered to the land of Shadows. Please write me Colonel often & tell me how you get along & how is my mistress & her little child I stick to my banjo yet Colonel & think I can amuse you all when I come with it I have got Mr. H. D. Nutting to write for me a New York man who has been a friend to me who also sends respects to you & family. Please write again soon Colonel and you will much oblige.

Your Sam

Please Direct as before Care H. D. Nutting Consull Atty”

$ 950.00



A

MEMORIAL

TO THE

Congress of the United States,

ON THE

SUBJECT OF RESTRAINING

THE

INCREASE OF SLAVERY

IN

NEW STATES

TO BE

ADMITTED INTO THE UNION.

PREPARED

IN PURSUANCE OF A VOTE OF THE INHABITANTS OF BOSTON AND ITS VICINITY, ASSEMBLED AT THE STATE HOUSE, ON THE THIRD OF DECEMBER, A. D. 1819.

BOSTON:

SEWELL PHELPS, PRINTER,

No. 5, Court Street.

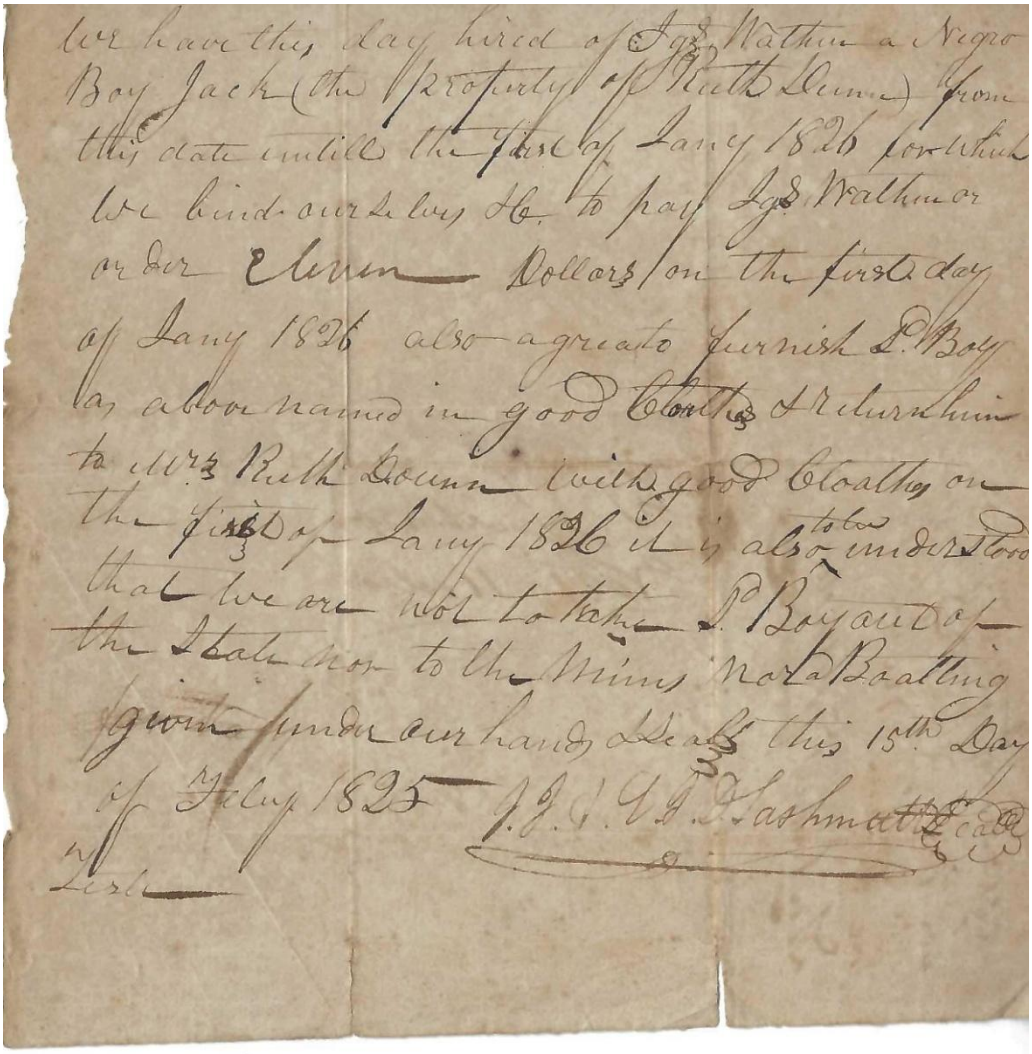
1819.

5. (African Americans – Abolition) **A Memorial to the Congress of the United States, on the Subject of Restraining the Increase of Slavery in New States to be Admitted into the Union. Prepared in Pursuance of a Vote of the Inhabitants of Boston and its Vicinity, Assembled at the State House, on the Third of December, A.D. 1819.**
Boston: Sewell Phelps, Printer, 1819, first edition, octavo, 22 pages, stitched, untrimmed as issued, several corners dog-eared, short tears into foredge of titlepage and first leaf of text, else in very good, clean condition.

Daniel Webster headed the Committee which prepared this Memorial to Congress; its members also included George Blake, Josiah Quincy, James T. Austin, and John Gallison. The Memorial contains Webster’s earliest printed expressions concerning Slavery which grew out of the Crisis over Missouri’s admission to the Union. Webster supported a Congressional ban on new slave states. The Boston Memorial expressed Webster’s opinion that Congress was constitutionally empowered to exclude slavery in new States. Webster later, fearing dissolution of the Union, pulled back from this position

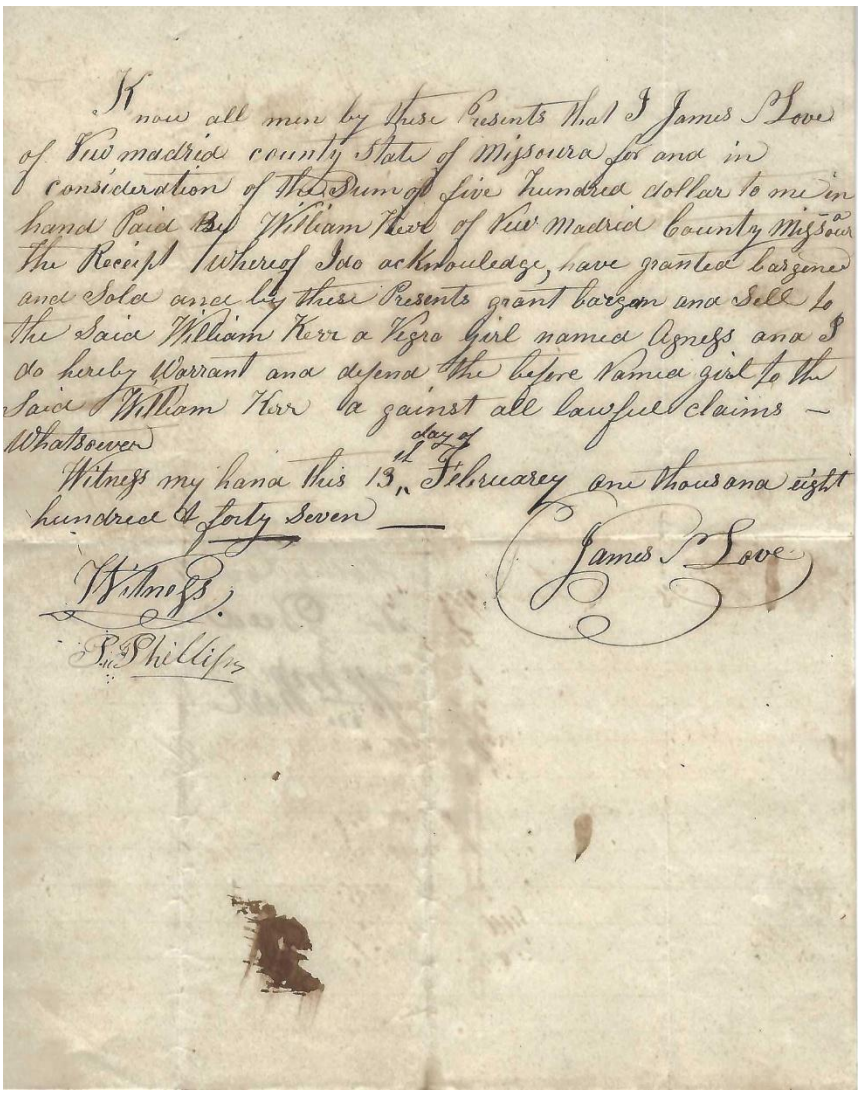
when he supported the Compromise of 1850. Webster's arguments in the Memorial became the philosophical doctrine of Free Soilers and Republicans in the 1840s and 1850s.
Dumond p. 29, LCP Afro-Americana Catalog, 6623, Sabin 47707, Work 330 $ 375.00

The Following Two Items are Stray Leaves from Slavery's Immense Paper Trail


We have this day hired of Jgs Wathen a Negro Boy Jack (the property of Ruth Dunn) from this date untill the first of Jany 1826 for which we bind ourselves &c to pay Jgs Wathen or order Eleven Dollars on the first day of Jany 1826 also agree to furnish sd Boy as above named in good Cloathes & return him to Mrs Ruth Dounn with good Cloathes on the first of Jany 1826 it is also to be understood that we are not to take sd Boy out of the State nor to the Mines nor a Boating given under our hands & Seals this 15th Day of Feby 1825 J. G. & J. D. Lashmatt Seals

6. (African Americans – Slavery) **Manuscript Agreement "Hire of "Negro Boy Jack" – Mississippi, February 15, 1825**
single sheet, measuring 19.3 cm x 19.7 cm, formerly folded, paper somewhat tanned, extensive docketing on verso, in good, clean, legible condition.

"We have this day hired of Jgs Wathen a Negro Boy Jack (the property of Ruth Dinn) from this date until the first of Jany 1826 for which we hind ourselves &c to pay Jgs Wathen or order Eleven dollars on the first day of Jany 1826 also agree to furnish sd Boy as above named in good cloathes & return him to Mrs Ruth Dounn with good cloathes on the first of Jany 1826 it is also to be understood that we are not to take sd Boy out of the State nor to the Mines nor a Boating given under our hands & seal this 15th day of Feby 1825 J. G. & J. D. Lashmatt" $ 500.00



Know all men by these Presents that I James S Love of New madrid county State of Missoura for and in consideration of the Sum of five hundred dollar to me in hand Paid By William Kerr of New Madrid County Missoura the Receipt Whereof I do acknowledge, have granted bargened and Sold and by these Presents grant bargan and Sell to the Said William Kerr a Negro Girl named Agness and I do hereby Warrant and defend the before Named girl to the Said William Kerr a gainst all lawfull claims — Whatsoever

Witness my hand this 13th day of February one thousand eight hundred & forty Seven —

James S Love

Witness

P. Phillips

7. (African Americans – Slavery) Manuscript Slave Bill of Sale – Missouri – Love James S., **Manuscript Bill of Sale New Madrid County, Missouri, recording sale of "Negro Girl" Agnes, February 13, 1847**

Quarto, 1 page, formerly folded, docketing on verso, in very good, clean and legible condition.

"Know all men by these Presents that I James S Love of New Madrid county State of Missoura for and in consideration of the sum of five hundred dollar to me in hand paid by William Kerr of New Madrid County Missoura the Receipt whereof I do acknowledge, have granted bargened and Sold and by these Presents grant bargan and sell to said William Kerr a Negro Girl named Agness and I do hereby warrant and defend the before named girl to the Said William Kerr a gainst all lawfull claims whatsoever. Witness my hand this 13th day of February one thousand eight hundred & forty seven … James S. Love…"

Witnessed by P. Phillips $ 500.00

8. (Civil War) Sullivan, William H.**, Civil War Correspondence of William H. Sullivan, of Phillipsport, Sullivan County, New York, while serving with the 1st Regiment New York Volunteer Engineer Regiment in South Carolina, and Florida, 1862-1865**

Group of 55 letters, 143 manuscript pages, several retained mailing envelopes, generally in good clean condition.

Civil war letters of William H. Sullivan, a young man from Philipsport, New York, written mainly to his mother, Sabra Tice, of Philipsport. Sullivan volunteered with the 1st New York Volunteer Engineer Regiment and writes home with news of his regiment's movements in the Southern Department, mainly in South Carolina and Florida. Sullivan utilizes his own idiosyncratic spelling, and his hand is at times a challenge for the reader. Sullivan served in Company G and for a time was the orderly for Colonel Edward Serrell, the commander and organizer of the regiment. Sullivan and the regiment saw action at Fort Pulaski, Hilton Head, Folly Island, James Island, Johns Island, Morris Island, the siege of Fort Sumter, and Charleston, the bombardment and assault on Fort Wagner, raids in Florida among other places. The 1st New York played pivotal roles in many of these actions and worked tirelessly in South Carolina and later in the sieges of Petersburg and Richmond.

The 1st Regiment New York Volunteers was formed by Edward W. Serrell, a prominent New York Civil Engineer and veteran of the Mexican War. In 1860, he saw the clouds of war gathering and perceived the need of the Army of a specialized Regiment that would be able to operate in the battlefield, under enemy fire, in direct support of line infantry and artillery. The US Army had a Corps of Engineers, but they made up only a small percentage of the 15,000 men and officers comprising the standing army. The U.S. Engineering Officers were composed for the most part of Topographical Engineering Officers and were ill-prepared to support field troops.

After the formation of the Confederacy and the Battle of Fort Sumter, Congress authorized a massive increase in the number of specialized engineer troops on August 3, 1861, to complement the growing Union Army. Serrell, obtained authorization to begin recruiting an engineer regiment which would become known as the 1st New York Volunteer Engineer Regiment, or Serrell's Engineers.

The regiment was accepted by the state on September 27, 1861. Serrell was appointed Lieutenant Colonel of Volunteers on October 11, 1861, and promoted to a full Colonel by December of that year. The regiment was officially organized in New York City and mustered in for a three-year enlistment on October 11, 1861. The Regiment consisted of 12 companies (A-M) a large regiment for the time.

In late December 1861, with most of the companies mustered, the regiment was sent to Washington and then onto Fortress Monroe in Hampton Roads. There they were assembled with the forces under General William T Sherman that were to sail with the expedition under the command of Admiral S. F. DuPont, for Port Royal Sound, South Carolina. The regiment completed its organization in early 1862 and became the 10th Corps Engineers in the Department of the South. The Regiment was employed throughout the east coast from South Carolina to Florida. They were on Tybee Island building the National Batteries before Fort Pulaski. The regiment distinguished itself in the Battle of Fort Pulaski, helping to capture the fort after 30 hours of bombardment, constructing batteries for the new James rifled cannon. The 1st New York was given the honor of having their regimental flag chosen as the first to float over Fort Pulaski after its capture.

While serving in the 10th Corps, the regiment was involved in capturing several key forts in Charleston Harbor. After the failed infantry assault on Fort Wagner which included the famous charge by the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, the 1st New York Engineers were tasked with conducting a traditional siege on the fort. After 60 days of shelling, the defenders abandoned the fort on September 7, 1863.

Using Morris Island as a staging area, the 10th Corps could focus on recapturing Fort Sumter, the site of the first military action of the Civil War. During the Battle of Fort Sumter, the 1st New York established watchtowers and built batteries in an attempt to pummel the fort into capitulation. However, in spite of a near constant bombardment, as well as a failed amphibious assault, Union forces were unable to occupy the fort until its abandonment by Confederate forces on February 17, 1865.

The regiment was at Fernandina as part of the forces that reoccupied Fort Clinch. They saw action along the Saint Johns, Coosawachee and Edisto Rivers. The Regiment was also at Hilton Head, Folly and Morris Islands and Battery Catfield (famous for the “Swamp Angel”).

In the spring of 1864, the majority of the regiment, 8 companies, were detached from the Department of the South and brought north to become part of the Army of the James. Four Companies (A.C,G & I) remained in the Department of the South where they finished the war. The eight companies that came north (B,D,E,F,H,K,L, & M) proceeded with the Army of the James to Bermuda Hundred. There as the Engineer Corps of the Army of the James, they were placed in charge of the construction of the Bermuda Hundred Line, they laid countless miles of corduroy roads, operated an Engineer Depot, three saw mills, they dredged the Dutch Gap Canal, also established a machine shop and forge. When General Grant proposed the movement of the Army of the Potomac to the south side of the James after Second Cold Harbor, the 1st New York built the abutments and roads that connected the pontoon bridge assembled by the Engineers of the Army of the Potomac (15th & 50th N.Y. Engineers, with City Point.

Later, in September 1864, with Grant and the Army of the Potomac at Petersburg, the Army of the James thrown against the outer defenses of Richmond and the 1st New York went with them. The Confederate line was broken north of the James River at Fort Harrison and the 1st New York set the new line from Fort Brady to Fort Harrison and over to Deep Bottom.

With the fall of Petersburg and the subsequent abandonment of Richmond, the combined armies of the James and the Potomac pursued Lee and the Army of Northern Virginia westward. By this time the 1st, 15th and 50th New York Engineers had been formed into the Engineer Brigade. Four companies were detailed to enter the burning Capital of the Confederacy to put out the deliberately set conflagration that enveloped the city. At least one of these companies was from the 1st New York. Meanwhile to the west the remainder of the regiment was shoring up bridges and repairing roadways, building field works and batteries in support of the onrushing Union Armies. The last known mention of the regiment comes at Farmville on the eve of surrender at Appomattox Court House, where they were employed building batteries for field artillery.

The regiment was mustered out on June 30, 1865. The regiment lost 2 officers, and 25 enlisted men killed or mortally wounded in combat. 5 Officers and 116 Enlisted men died from disease, for a total of 148 casualties.

Sample Quotes:

"Hilton Head March 24, 1862

It It is with pleasure I take my pen in had to let you know that I received your letters and it found me well and in good spirits and all the boys is well but James Whitney he has got the dropsy on the heart and he is a going home on the first mail. I am now on Hilton Head Islen I have been back 6 days from tibe [Tybee] We caught four prisoners and fetched back with us and to day the pickets fetched in to mor … We have a paper printed on this island Weekly called the little south. We have the warfe about done you wanted to know about my pay I hav not recved it yet. Col. Serrell has gone to Washington to see about it. There seems to be trouble with the regiment there is only four companys hear now I weigh 110-120 pounds now do not you think I am a gay soldier. I am on the right side of all my officers We have good living now. I wish you would send me a half a dozen postage stamps in your letter… I wish you would send my black pants to me for I want them to wear for I hasn't my black ones up and I hant got any nice ones to wear on dress parade … W. H. Sullivan to his Mother …"

“Hilton Head April 13 62

Dear Mother … the boys is all well and rejoicing over the surrender of fort Pulaski after the fighting was over they took 380 prisoners thay landed here today only one killed on our side I don’t know how many is killed on there side … W.H. Sullivan”

“Hilton Head the 2 [?] 1862

My dear Mother,

I now take the opportunity to right a few lines to you to let you no that I am well at present and hoping these few lines will find you the same Mother we have been drawed up in line of battle two or three times and now we lay on our guns every night. We are about 15 minutes from the enemy we can hear them… Mother we expect to draw our money in week or two and then I will send 13 dolers home We have very hard time here mother I want you to end me a box of things and don’t fail For I stan in need of them… Hilton Head in care Col Serrell”

“James Island, SC June 19, 1862

Dear Mother

I thought I would write a few lines to let you know that I am well and in good spirits. The boys is all except Georg Eichenberg his health is very poor. We have had two battled the first one tha attacked us and we worsted them bad we took 5 pris and killed 30 and our loss 30 kild wounded and we attact them Tuesday and tha drove us back our loss was from 300 to 500 and there loss was not so bad Their force is supposed to come but we was but we was expected them along for their forts. Our boys was in their fort three times and they drove us back every time. We had to retreat back to the old camp but we will have it again if we can get that point we can take fort Sumpter and Charleston. I have got a good job I am Col Serells you orderly. I have to carry messages. I don’t have a gun. We expect to get paid when this expedition is over or the next move … W. H. Sullivan”

“James Island SC June 26 1862

Dear Mother,

Dear Mother it is with pleasure I drop a line to you I am well and in good spirits the boys is all well except George Eichenberg his health is very poor. We got paid yesday There we was Divided in to classes $ 17 and 13 I was second class so I get only $ 13 per month up to the first of May We will get paid the first of July agin. So I will send you 35 dollars I will keep $ 10 to spend. Things are so dear don hear it takes a good deal to bye a little I want you to pay father them to dolars he let me have to come away with and one box of things. Send tow nice check shirts and about to dozen postage stamps and a box of segars a bottle of wine and some cake and the rest what you have a mind to take What mony you want to pay the freight and buy the things and keep the rest till I come home….

We are right a mong the enime our pickets was drove in last night we are a building batteries night and day We will have another fight in a few days … from Will to mother …”

[Hilton Head] “July the 5 1862

Friend Robert,

I thought I would right yo a fieu lines to let yo no that we are all back on Hilton Head a gane as good luck will hav it all well we sene a hard fight and I donte want to see a nother one sum would think it was fun but to see men all cut up sum with their armes of well Bob a nuf of that, how are you getting a long with the world how is the family that little one you must rite as sune as yo get this tel me how things is in Philipsport From your Friend Donkey…” [William H. Sullivan]

“Hilton Head Sc July 15 1862

Dear Mother,

It is pleasure I take my pen in hand to let you know that I am well and in good spirits. The boys is all well except George Eickenbergh is a going down hill every day. I think he will get his discharge. If he don’t he wont live long here. I want you to send my box of stencil tools and get Gabe David to send for stock to New York send for about 8 dollars worth of stock. Send for one dozen of large size plats to pounds of brass get three dolars worth all together pay the freight on it. Send it as soon as you can for I can make money on it. I can get 75 cts a piece as fast as I can sell them. Get some good ink off Gabe David get him to send for the things. Get them as soon as possible. Get Horton Tice to make the ink fill all the bottles make it out of lamp black and oil the same as use to make it… W. H. Sullivan Vol. Eng Brgt”

“Hilton Head Aug the 6 1862

Friend Robert,

… thare is quite excitement here now for we expect to be attacked on this island and the rebels has got a ram completed to savannah they have tried to run by Fort Plaski several times but got drove back she is similar to the Mary Mack … Wm. H. Sullivan”

“Hilton Head, SC August 13, 1862

Dear Mother,

It is with pleasure that I drop a few lines to you stating that we are all well that is left of us. Mother I have not got a letter from you since I left James Island. I don’t know whether you got my money or not. All the rest of the boys herd from theirs… Mother I suppose you would like to have my picture. I have had it took for you. It is dark, but no darker than I am. We have not been kept in a bandbox it cost twelve shiling to get them with out a case to it … W. H. Sullivan [with two crude ink sketches of tents]

“Hilton Head, SC Oct. 25, 1862

Dear Mother,

I thought I would send you a paper. It will give you the news better than I can write it to you. We have had some fun as you can see by the paper. We expect to go agin in a few days for we wood like to get in Charleston if we can The boys is well and unhert from William H Sullivan of New York Engs Co. G”

“Hilton Head October 25 1862

Dear Mother it is with pleasure I drop a few lines to let you know we have got marchers orders at one o clock today. I don’t know where we are going but I suppose to Savana. We are going in light marchen orders We are getting paid to day I will send some home. I must pack my knapsack… Willam H Sullivan”

“Camp Wells Hilton Head Nov 18 1862

Dear Mother,

I received your welcome letter of the 2. I was glad to hear from you. I am well at present the post boys is all well as far as I know. Moses Cudington was here yesterday. He has gone to Beaufort to see about getting in the cavalry regular service for two years. Me and George Tice is going in. I think it is going to New York and camp until it gets full and then is going out to the front teers to fight Indians. We got paid the day we left for the battle. I sent 25 dolars directed to you iof you want to use any of it do so. I suppose you know Charles Elmerdorf has been promoted to Sergeant, but I think he will be reduced to the rank for getting drunk. I suppose you know that Charley and Weed cowed out of going to the fight. The Co is gone to sea brook to bild a btry I am on Hilton Head with the colonel

I will send you a per so you can read it beter than I can wright it I did not send the money by Express but in a letter. I suppose you have got it by this time … W. H. Sullivan”

“Hilton Head December 3rd 1862

Dear Mother,

I received your welcome letter and was glad to hear that you was all well as we are not Mr Raymond is loseing his eye sight and s punctured. He is not with the Co. He is on the Co Head and I am there to under doctors care When our Col Serrell went home I had to report to my Co and the first day I worked on the post I put my shoulder out of joint But I have got it pulled in place again and it is getting better. I think Mr. Raymond will get his discharge. … William H. Sullivan”

“Camp vol engs 10 army corps Hilton Head Sc Dec 21 1862 [To his sister Jenny Tice]

Sis

I received your letter with pleasure, it found me in as good spirits as ever and full of the devil. So can’t be down hearted. You know you say you are lonesome since the post boys has enlisted… there was two regt of them since earnest came hear but our old troops wont speak to them the cowardly sons of guns I am glad you have sent a box to Jimmy If I had monyto spair I wood send him some for he must need it he has seen hard times. This Regiment I am in drinks more wisky eats more fat pork steal more sweet potatoes does more work gets more prais than any regt in the service and that good … Wm H. Sullivan”

“Camp Vol Eng SC 10 army corps Department of the South

Dear Mother,

I Recvd your welcome letter. It found me well except my shoulder is not quite well yet. Our Post boys come down to see me today it being Sunday and had no work today. They are all well. Mother your [letter] states that you have not received my money yet. Sent it on the Steamboat Peabody. She is lost No body nows wether she was sunk or wether the [?] has captured her. She bothers our vesels a great deal about this Department but the gun boats is laying for her but the next time I will send it by express. A good many lost money by that Pirate. You stae about me wanted to go in the reglar cavalry I cant get in the general said we was in the Engineer Regt than reglar servis … I am glad you let father have that money for he is good for it I have got a new knap sack and blankets but I have to pay for them. … You said if I was home you could talk to me all night. I think we could enjoy ourselves tip top but I don’t wasn’t to come this winter. It is too cold for me. I have gotten used to it down here and like it… Wm. H. Sullivan…”

“Camp Vol Engineer Hilton Head SC Dec. 26 1862

I wish you a Merry Christmas Dear Mother I thought I would drop a few lines to you after Christmas to let you know I enjoyed myself tip top. We had target shooting, ball playing, chasing a greased, shaved pig, climbing a greased pole, running bag races, and a roasting pig for dinner at night. We had niger [sic] performances. We had a big time. I don’t think the boys on the Potomac could come up to usI don’t see a chance for the war to close if Gen. Burnside is defeated. I wish the rebs wood attac this place they would get a belly full of it. Mother I wish you would send me a bed quilt for it is cold nights with one blanket. I suppose we will be here all winter … William H. Sullivan”

“Camp Vol. Engrs Hilton Head SC 10 Army Corps Jan 19, 1863

Dear Mother,

It is with [pleasure] I drop a few lines to you … To my surprise I received a letter from Jim he was well. I have a paper of the 6 Jan it brings bully news from Gen. Rosecrans Army and Gen. Sherman at Vicksburg. A few more such strikes as that will bring an end to the War. I would like to see peace tip top. I think I could be enjoying myself next summer home. Mother I want you to send me 2 doz postage stamps if you have got the money to spare, for I have not got money or stamps. … Jim has had a hard time by the letter he [has] written me was Cliff Tice to the battle of Fredericksburg? The soldiers in this department is getting diseased tha are deserting every day but I will stick to it till the last dog is dead. If you can send my stencil tools to me I can make something of them here … Direct Willam H Sullivan Co. G NY Vol Engs. Hilton Head SC In care of Col Serrell”

“Camp Vol Engineers Hilton Head SC Feb. 14, 1863

Dear Mother,

I received your most welcome letter with pleasure, stating you was all enjoying good health. It found us all well and in the best of spirits, for our old friend the paymaster is coming around with some greenbacks for us. It makes us smile to think of it. Several Regts has been paid off in this department. We think we will be paid next week. I would like to have my stencil tools now I could make $ 10 or so but if you cant send them never mind it. The tenth Leagen is here thair is a great many fellows I know

it does me good to see themN. Crossman is a Lieut. My shoulder is well. It is nearly as strong as ever. I am not the Col Orderly at present for he is in Washington. There is arumor about camp that five companies is going to New York to repair the harbor. I think we will stand a chance to go with them. Our Capt has been dismissed from service for disobedience of orders. The Co is sorry to see him go he has been a good man to his Co. Better than the one that will be Capt now … "

"Head Quarters Hilton Head Feb. 27/63

Dear Mother,

… The Rebs is getting ornery than ever … tha came on this island last knight and captured a whole post of pickets We in tend to tame them soon around Charleston of get tamed our selves… We are having easy times but expect to have something to do after a while… Wh. Sullivan"

"April the 3 /63 Hilton Head Sc

Dear Mother,

I sit down to drop a line to you to let you know that we are going away we are packing up soon we will imbark on board the steamer burnside to day bound for Charleston we expect to have a hard fite thare I will rite to you as soon as I get to James Island we are packing up now … Wm H Sullivan"

"Camp Vol Engrs Hilton Head Sc Apr 15 /63

Dear Mother,

While on the burnside off Charleston harber. It found me well. I am sorry to say that our Expedition is a failure. Our Monitors opened on the rebels forts the Eight of Apr but after three hours fighting was forced to retreat with the loss of one monitor sunk and all damaged and the gun boat iron sides had 18 holes put through her. Our Co. G went on James Island one knight to bild a batrry under the enemies guns but tha shot us out. We had no land fighting more than picket fighting So we did not lose more than 40 men altogether. But we never can take Charlston tha are too well fortified tha have got 200 guns and 50 mortars to bear on any vesel So it is impossible to take it. Some of the forces that came from VA is going back. I am getting tired of this place. I would like to go to Va. We have bin in this Department long enuff. We are a fraid of the yellow fever this summer … Send my stencil tools soon as you can … From you son Yankee…"

"Camp Vol Engrs Hilton Head SC May 9th/63

Dear Mother,

… When I wrote my last letter I expected to have some fighting to do but it was all hope for we have returned to Hilton Head a gain and give Charleston for a bad job four of our companies are on Morris Island building batteries. Our C will stay on this island all summer I suppose I don't think we will attac Charleston We have very easy times now for a soldiers life life that aint very easy the best of it. Henry Tice is in the Hospital … the 50 regt is for North Edisto island … W H Sullivan"

"Camp Vol Engs. Hilton Head June 20, 1863

Dear Mother,

I received your welcome letter it found me well and in good spirits as I hope this will find you. We expect to have a fight before long. We have received reinforcements and a Monitor and expect 5 more of them. You have had bad luck I guess you have had so many deaths, but we all must come to it some day. If you can send me a quilt I will do the best I can. … I have got a letter from Jim* he has gone to his regiment. I hope he will behave himself and stay to his company. He forgets his friends, he won't write once a month to me … we expect to go to Charleston or get drove back. But I think we will get it this time. We will fight for it all we can. We intend to have a dance her the fourth of July, if we don't miss of it .. this from your son, W H Sullivan, to mother Sabra Tice, if you wish to write to Jim direct James H Tice Harris light Cav, Bele Plain Va Co. K or elsewhere…"

- James H. Tice, 2nd NY Cavalry, made a prisoner of war at Todd's Tavern, May 5, 1864, paroled at Charleston, South Carolina, December 6 1864, died of disease December 29, 1864.

"Morris Island SC July 15, 1863

Dear Mother,

… We started for Hilton Head the 9 of July and went of Foly Island the nite of the 11 30 of us was picked out to go with Col Serrell with six boats with muffled oars then went up a creek close to far island up to the spiles and sawed them of… We were under the guns of Fort Sumter the rebels discovered us and came down with one search boat but the Col fired six shots from his pistol and tha run back for reinforcements and we put back to foly island and the next day we opened fire on the rebels batries the fire lasted three house and half be fore tha surrendered we have got all of Morris Island … Our forces have charged on the fort three times and got repulsed every time. So we are building batries to seize it. Fort Sumter fires once in very day tha haven't fired on us to day We have worked day and knight for 5 days with nothing to eat but dry hard tack … You will hear from me next ime when fort sumter has got the stars Stripes flying over her … William H Sullivan"

"Morris Island SC [July or August 1863?]

Dear Mother,

'' am sorry to brake my word for the last letter I wrote to you that w wood not wright to you until fort Sumter was taken but you say you are anxious to hear from me. We are building batries still under the Enemie nose and the rebls shell us as usual thair has bin no casualties on our to amount to mutch… thair was a Deserter come in from Sumter yesterday he says that the folk are all leaving Charleston City. We have Guns mounted that will throw shell in the city. I think that we will get the place but it will be hard fighting first. We have fourth of July every day here. So you see it is a musing for us but I hope we will be rewarded for it by hearing the news of Peace… W H Sullivan"

“Head Quarters Vol. Engineers Morris Island SC July 29, 1863

Dear Mother,

… We was all well but tonight it gives me pain to say that Floid Weed received a bad wound from a shell while working in a battery the shell bursted so near him as to burn his eyes but I don’t think that it will inger his eye sight any a piece of the shell hit him in the back and a nother on the arm but did not brake any bones. So he will get over it soon. Three more was wounded in the same battery .. I was working in the advance of them throwing up rifle pits the sharp shooters bothered us some but did not hurt any body … Mother I hope that tha will draft those sandies that is making all the fuss in New York City and fetch them down here we will give them a nuff to do William H. Sullivan”

“Morris Island SC Aug. 26, 1863

Dear Mother,

… We are passing up to fort Wagner the closes parallel to the fort is a bout 75 yards the infantry drove the rebels out of thair rifel pits so the engineers could advance … our heaviest gun in one three hundred pounder and six two hundred pd and ten heavy mortars a bout 20 and 30 pd and ten pieces of light artillery Thir has been 20 shell thrown in Charleston City … was filled with fluid one set the depot on fire … We have had quite number killed and wounded since I wrote last. Fort Sumter has not the stars and stripes on it but will have hour Gillmore wishes to She is all knocked in pieces it is believed that her Garrison has all left as she has nothing but wooden guns on her it wood be poor policy to put a garrison in her the rebel rag is suffered to fly over the fragments of her walls. Our infantry captured 63 prisoners in driving them from their pits… William H Sullivan”

“Union Victory Morris Island SC Sep. 8 /63

Dear Mother,

Having nothing to do I thought I could not devote my time any better and let you know the news, which is Fort Wagoner [sic] and battery Gregg is ours since yesterday. It was taken by a charge, Our Monitor and Iron Side went up and engaged Fort Multry [sic] and the batteries on Sullivan’s Island. Fort Multry [sic] has not surrendered but one shot passed through her magazine and bloun it up and silenced her. So you see things begins to look favorable. I have not learned the number of prisoners captured yet … Any how Gen. Gillmore sent his compliments to Col Serrell that his regt was the most entitled to the honor & he said he cld plant his colors on the fort. The rebels said we completely charged them out of the fort. I suppose the Navy will get all the praise of it in the papers… William H Sullivan”

“Morris Island SC Sep. 10 /63

Dear Mother,

… I received a paper … it says fort Sumpter has surrendered it is false it cant do us no harm but the rebel rag flays over is shattered walls. Our Scouts went out in Charleston Harber last night and Captured Gen Giplys boat and crew… going from Fort Wagner to Charleston City Every thing looks favorable I think we will have a general engagement soon. Our batterys are ready and Gen Gillmore don’t stop for trifles but I hope you folks wont have Charleston taken before it is attacked. We have got a hard road to hoe be fore we can take fortifications of the city. The soldiers here have great confidence

in Gillmore and the best of it he compliments our Regt very high. We expect to be paid agin soon We have bin paid once since we have bin on the island … William H. Sullivan"

"Headquarters Folly Is. S.C. HJan. 9th, 64

Dear Parents,

… I wood have written before but we had to pick up and skedaddle over to folly Island there is only one company on Morris Island of our Corps now. So we don't half to cover for shells now but our company worked under fire five months every day … We are having very good times now We have a very nice camp since we moved close by Gen. Gillmore's Head Quarters. Our Col has just gone home recruiting tha are trying to get the regt to enlist for three years more I haven't made up my mind whether I wood enlist or not … Our company expects to go to Hilton Head before long … William H. Sullivan"

"Jacksonville [Florida] Feb. 26/64

Dear Mother,

… We have bin 52 miles in the interior of Florada We drove every thing before us and captured lots of coton and camp equipage until we come with in a bout 7 miles from Lake city When we met the rebs 15 thousand strong and as we only had 4 thousand we got badly wipped Lost 5 the best piece of Artillery in the department I haven't learned how many men but it was heavy Our Co was the only one of our corps along … the enemie drove in our pickets so we had to ready for attac. I had to work from noon yesterday until this morning. So every thing is ready for the Rebs … W H Sullivan"

"Jacksonville Fla April 22 1864

Dear Mother,

… I am well and in the best of spirits as we expect to leave for the Potomac this week we have got orders to be ready in one hours notice the White troops are all going as fast as possible and Gen. Gillmore we expect to have a hand in seidgeing Ritchmond it will be a big thing for us for we have never been defeated yet on a seidge yeti suppose the vetrens is a bout to leave home and every thing that is dear as we call it 30 days in paradise and three years in hell … We have very easy times at present but we have got to leave it We get soft bread every day but if we go on the Potomac it will be hard tack … W. H. Sullivan "

"Folly Island S.C. May 8th 1864

Dear Mother,

.. We have been shoved around considerable since my last. We left Jackson ville the 28th of April for Hilton Head and expected to embark for Fortress Monroe but got disappointed as eight companies of the Corps had left thair remains four Co in the Department still. We left Hilton Head the 4th for Folly Island Where we are now. We have a Fort 400 & 50 ft square to bild that is an all summer job but we expect to half to go to Va yet. … It is very dull here now as most of the white troops have left the department. Our veterans have not returned yet … William H. Sullivan"

"Camp 1st N.Y. Vol. Engineer Corps Folly Island S.C. June 11th, 1864

Dear Mother,

… I see that our fellows on the Potomac are having Hard times. We was lucky that we did not go. Gen. Grant has had a good many men killed and hasn't captured Ritchman yet. I think that little Mack is the man. Have you heard anything from Jim since the fighting commenced… W. H. Sullivan"

"Folly Island, SC June 30th/64

Dear Friends at Home,

According to promise I send you a brief note to inform you we are under marching orders, with three days cooked rations. We had a misfortune on the 27th a boat crew of five men and Srgt, including Donkey, after completing a boom acrost the river from James Is to Johns went in a little town situated on a point off John Is… the town is called Legrar Ville They went into town to get some [window] blinds for the Capts tent The rebs [were] concealed in some houses and when the boys got opsite of them jumped out and fired in them. Our fellows being unarmed run for the boat, but the rebs caught two of them the others got away what a narrow escape. Some 28 shots being fired at them some of which passed through the sail boat I was lucky in not being up that day. I was there every day before, but the job being nearly done tha only wanted one boat. Tese are the first of our Company that ever fell in the Hands of the Enemie… W. H. Sullivan"

"Folly Island, SC July 18th, 1864

Honored Mother,

… We arrived safely on F. I. on the 10th after our brilliant James Island expedition … But it was a failure. Although our loss was light but we got checked after capturing one battery two guns witch was captured from us on the gun boat Isack Smith.

Gen. Hatch made an advance on Johns Island the same time but was repulsed … loss one man wounded our leaders will find out attacking the Defenses of Charleston with a small Force is no Boys play.

I hope to have no more sutch foolish raids before my time is out … William H Sullivan"

"Morris Island, SC, Sept. 10th 1864

Honored Mother,

… think some of reenlisting for the space of one year the Inducements are as follows $ 300.50 for the county of New York City $ 100 United States Bounty Total $ 400.50 … I have not reenlisted yet nor can't until the 28th of this month but if very thing is favorable I think I shall….

We have 600 rebl officers prisoners on the north end of this Island under fire of the enemies guns as a retaliation. … We have Glorious News from Sherman and also Fargat at Mobeal. I sincerely hope Grant may be crowned with the same success. I think that a few such victories wood crush the Rebellion… William H. Sullvan"

“Barrack Branch, Lincoln Hospiak, Washington DC Feb. 8th/65

Friend Will,

Wishing very much to hear from you and seeing to you are not going to write to me. I attempt to write you a few lines. You have no doubt altered very much since I las saw you. I also have altered every way. I don’t think would recognize me now for I have grown very much within the last two years. I now weigh 150 lbs and 5, 8 ½ “ high.

Well Yankey, poor Jim is dead is he. Poor fellow. Little did I think it was the last time I should ever see him when I saw him captured at Todd’s Tavern. Well perhaps it will be my luck to kick the bucket before leaving the army, but here’s whats going to stick to the City of Washington as long as I can for I don’t like picketing in the winter. … G.W. Eichenberg”

$ 4500.00

9. (Civil War) Whitney, Henry B., **Correspondence between Henry B. Whitney and his wife, Mollie H. Whitney, while Whitney was serving with the 110th N.Y.S.V. Infantry during the Civil War in Louisiana, Florida and elsewhere, 1862-1864**

The collection includes 35 letters, 135 manuscript pages, the bulk of the letters, 29, totaling 120 pages date during the Civil War, the letters very closely written, many are cross written, and are in good clean condition, many include their original mailing envelopes. (The remaining letters are from other family members in the late 19th century).

This group of correspondence is unusual in that it offers both sides of the conversation carried on between husband and wife while separated during the Civil War. Henry Whitney describes the events which occurred during his service with the 110th New York Infantry in Baltimore, Louisiana and Florida. His wife Mollie describes life on the homefront for those left behind. Mollie had two small children to care for, one of whom died while Henry was away. Their personal tragedy mirroring that of the nation's in their minds. Mollie was active in local efforts to raise funds to send various articles to the troops of the 110th. She describes the community and support that she found among other soldier's wives and mothers. The couple were very religious and viewed the war as God's way of punishing the country for its sins – the chief of which was slavery. The intensity of their religious sentiments increased after the death of their young son Charley. The couple often discuss politics, and the election of 1864. Henry was a Lincoln supporter and became a greater one as the tide of war began to turn in favor of the North. Mollie supported McClellan in the 1864 election, because she believed he would bring the war to an immediate close, and bring her husband home.

Henry B. Whitney served in Co. B 110th New York State Volunteer Infantry. He enlisted at age 24, August 6, 1862, at Richland, New York, to serve three years. Whitney mustered in as a private, Co. B, August 13, 1862. Mustered out with the company August 28, 1865, in Albany, New York. He was a native of Pulaski, Oswego County, New York. Whitney fought in the battles of Port Hudson, Fort Bisland, Franklin, and Vermilion Bayou, Louisiana, and served at Fort Jefferson, Florida.

The 110th New York Infantry was organized at Oswego, New York beginning May 23, 1862 and mustered in for three-years service on August 27, 1862 under the command of Colonel DeWitt Clinton Littlejohn. Whitney served with the Department of the Gulf, fought in the battles of Port Hudson, Fort Bisland, Franklin, Louisiana, and Vermilion Bayou.

The regiment was attached to the defenses of Baltimore, Maryland, VIII Corps, Middle Department, to October 1862. Emery's Brigade, VIII Corps, to November 1862. Emery's Brigade, Louisiana Expedition, to December 1862. Sherman's Division, Department of the Gulf, to January 1863. 3rd Brigade, 3rd Division, XIX Corps, Department of the Gulf, to February 1863, 1st Brigade, 3rd Division, XIX Corps, to February 1864. Key West Florida, District of West Florida, Department of the Gulf, to August 1865.

The regiment left New York for Baltimore, Maryland, August 29, 1862. Duty at Baltimore, until November 6, 1862. Moved to Fort Monroe, Virginia, November 6, then sailed for New Orleans, Louisiana, December 4, arriving at Carrollton, December 26, and duty there until March 1863. Operations on Bayou Plaquemine, February 12-28. Moved to Baton Rouge, March 7, operations against Port Hudson, Louisiana, March 7-27. Moved to Algiers April 3, then to Brashear City April 8. Expedition to Franklin, April 11-17. Fort Bisland, April 12-13. Franklin, April 14. Expedition from Opelousas to Barre Landing, April 21. Expedition from barre Landing to Berwick City, May 21-26. Franklin and Centreville, May 25. Moved to Port Hudson, Louisiana, May 30, Siege of Port Hudson,

June 3 – July 9. Assault on Port Hudson, June 14. Surrender of Port Hudson, July 9. Duty at Baton Rouge, Donaldsville, Brashear City, and Berwick until October. Western Louisiana Campaign, October 3 – November 30. Vermilionville, November 11. Duty at New Iberia until January 7, 1864. Moved to Franklin, January 7. Then to Key West Florida until August 1865. Attack on Fort Myers, Florida, February 20, 1865, (detachment).

The 100th New York Infantry mustered out of service on August 28, 1865. The regiment lost a total of 210 men during service; two officers and 14 enlisted men killed or mortally wounded, three officers and 191 enlisted men died of disease.

Sample Quotes:

"Park Paterson Baltimore Maryland Sep. 3 [1862]

Dear Wife and Son,

… The company is on gard today and I expected to have been on myself but luck favored me … I have not been to the city yet but shall go soon as I can & we have got our new tents the ones that we had at Oswego some better than the first ones that we had they were not large enuff for only two .,, Monday night we had very hard storm and they leaked very bad and I got wet through … we have a very pleasant situation now the camp … sight on the top of the hill the city in full sight and the most sightly place that I was ever in for you can see for miles in eny direction and little specks in the aby are turned into big ships by the use of the spy glass for there is one long one in ar tent… there is a fortification almost around our camp built in 1812 war for the defence of the city and tradition tells that there is a large magazine under our tents… it was left there in 1812 to blow it up in case that it was captured and just down the hill there is a lot of ridges thrown up the graves of the men killed in the battle … the general health of the company is good … the troops are rushing in here at an unexampled rate so fast that the cannot send them through … I got up and went out of the tent and looked down upon the city the city of bondage for there is slavery there in its direst form and I thought how the country was expending of its blood and treasure … to blot it out it don't seem so does it but it will have to be … it must be before the wrath of God will be stayed or justice satisfied … I don't only think so but feel it to be so … how splendid it looked with its hundred lights… we not had eny drilling since I came here and have not been obliged to do 10 minutes work but have been busy all the time that I could find eny thing to do such as washing dishes and cutting wood … Henry"

"Pulaski [New York] Nov. 16, 1862

Dear Husband,

With what pleasure I seat myself to have a little chat with you is not known to all though you are many miles away from me yet are ever present in my thoughts… my heart is sad darling brave and cheerful as I try to be and am most yet the dangers of a soldiers life are around you and I am not indifferent to them and now that you have changed your position and are not so comfortably off as you have been and more liable to be in action my heart is oftener sad and I think sometimes we cant help our thoughts you know that we will meet again on Earth for three years will bring many changes death will claim many as his own but I hope and pray that I may not murmur at the decree of providence and have grace to say thy will oh God be done … How do you do tonight? Well I hope and safe on land for it is a boisterous night cold and the wind howls through the treetops and whistles down the chimney ever since I know of your being on ship board I have felt more anxiety on your account although perhaps in no more danger than on land for there is danger everywhere yet there has been many shipwrecks this fall and I heard of one with soldiers on board & perhaps you have heard of the loss of the Bay State

one of the boats that came into Oswego when we were there, they say the lake shore is strewed with the fragments … constantly waiting for your safe return and cheering you by oft written messages of love and good cheer, you ask if I tire of your telling me how much you love me and how you prize my letters no darling while the life blood quickens my pulse will it tire me no repeat it over and over it is still music to my ears and oft do I seem to hear you whisper in my ear those words of love tell it to me often darling your love is all that I care for that this world gives except my baby boy and your absence makes it even sweeter to me… how often I talk to him of his noble father and should he never see you I will try if God spares my life I will try to bring him up to be as good & true a man as you virtuous and moral choosing to be an humble follower of christ than the pleasures of this world…"

"Algiers, La April 3, 1863

Darling Wife & boys,

I suppose you are as much surprised to hear from me from this place as I am to write we commenced to break camp at B.R night before last but none of them got away till the next morning Then Co B & C expected to stay a day or so because they could not get transportation for so many but we left camp about 11 o.c. and left B. R. about 2 oc p.m. on the steamboat … a river boat a curious thing if you should take two boats and put platforms acrost their machinery &c with the wheel in the middle between the two boas you would be able to form something of an idea of it but enuff of this .. we went down the river in fine style till just night when we saw a small gun boat close to the shore she was fast aground they blew their whistle for help they stopped our boat but the captain said he was not going up there and on he went they signaled again no help then they fired a gun which was an argument they thought best not to disregard so they about and … it took very little pulling to fetch her into deep water the captain thanked ours and off he went rather cool I thought after obliging him to help him well on we went and I enjoyed it much a beautifull [sic] day I could see a decided change in the openness of the country there was more inhabitence [sic] to be seen and they came up on the levee and balcony to look at us which we did not see but once going up (a white person I mean) nigers [sic] you could see behind every tree & stump not mentioning those in the cabins almost every plantation had some at work in the fields looked funny so many men & women but the greatest of all is the ground so level you could look back 4 or 5 miles not a fence to be seen … after dark I wrapped my blanket around me went to sleep it was rather cool but I rested very well I was awake when we passed Carrollton it looks natural enuff and when I awoke this morning I found the boat up to the wharf at Algiers it is right acrost N. Orleans we are camped about ¾ of a mile from the river in full view of N.O. as is possible to be it is so low but the prospects is good and the camp is in a fine place full as good as could be had in this country but the ground is higher than at Carrollton we are above the river here… it is astonishing how crooked this river is you can look on the shore in some places and perhaps not more than two miles acrost see the river and you seemingly going in the opisit [sic] direction There is the finest prospects on this river I ever saw splendid houses of every description yards and gardens go in the finest order large green houses every thing it seems that the heart can ask for but when was man ever satisfied now some of them are exiled from these things and will fill unknown graves and the beautifull [sic] land is deluged with blood in some places for what ambitions for there was no real cause for those states to rebell and I want to see them <u>put down yes put down</u> it is what I came for but I am ashamed to say I can not see any more signs of it to day than the day I volunteered but I have did my duty as best I could so I am not to blame am I darling and things going the way they do I am forced to say from the honesty of my heart I wish I was out of it I certainly would not think of such a thing if there was an <u>effort</u> made but they don't want to do it (the officers) no they want to pocket some more of that appropriation congress made it is money I am tired of such work there is not a <u>vol</u> I have talked with but are in favor of fighting it out <u>now</u> and not wait till we all die off I have talked with them from Mane, N.H. Mass Michigan and from almost

every state in the union – no they wont let us they had rather let us die by diseases than the bullet I prefer the latter if either in this country I will take my chances and then go home … H. B. Whitney"

"In front of Port Hudson June 19, 1863

Darling Wife,

I again find myself with pen in hand to write to you to tell you my hopes and fears joys and sorrows … how many times since the 14th June have I thought of the sights I saw that beautifull [sic] sabbath day torn limbs and bodies the crys of the wounded and dieing calling for comrades to come and help them mingled with their groans was prayers for there soon to be widows and there children Mollie it was terrible such times make a man think I thought of Home and my (our) home and very volley I did not know but it was my turn to go But darling I was not afraid to die if it was the will of God it was mine but enuff of this. I don't think its plesent [sic] to you sch things but I have told but very little of the horrors of the battlefield god knows I wouldn't want to witness it again Yesterday I received two letters from you … Pulaski is full or murders lately aint it strange that they should both be done by darkeys [sic] …

June 26/63 … my midnight dreams is of my loving devoted wife always plesent always meeting me with a kiss of welcome I wake to find it all a dream to find myself amid the dins of battle then to hear the shell come hurtling through the air cutting the trees taring limbs as it bursts and goes tearing on its errand of death as the bulet as it chips the twigs all that I have seen and heard if that was only all I would say nothing but I have had the bullets fly around me ,,, yet I am alive and not a scratch yet thank god… I think we will get our pay next pay day I hope so I owe between $ 5 & 6.00 is that very bad for so long a time almost 6 months we can get eny thing we want from our sutler providing he has it he asks a pretty good price … There was some fears of an attack from the Rebs last night but no one came so we rested quiet I tell you there is difference in being in the front of P. H. or the rear wall … want to pitch in let them come I have no fear of them … here we are out of sight and hearing of everything when all is quiet we hear the reports of cannon good quarters plenty to eat …"

"Fort Jefferson [Florida] Oct 9/63

Dear Wife,

… every thing has been quiet since my last except one night six prisoners got the barge out from under the eye of the sentinel … & started for Cuba they were missed about daylight & could be seen from a glass from the top of the fort Co D's boat soon was on their track The wind was fair & she is a cliper [sic] before it & was soon out of sight They (Provost Sargent & 4 of the boat crew & one of Co. D) took rations were ordered to follow them to Cuba but they come up with them about 35 miles out & the third shot brought them to striking an oar in the boat about 5 o'c they were all safe in the lock up a better chance to get away once clear of the no prisoners have had since we have been here … Goold is in the guard house it will go hard with him if court marshalled I am afraid. …

Oct 12th … I got a lot of papers Oswego Palladiums with a few pieces marked not your sentiments I know are they … The conduct of both has been before the people things that transpired 1 ½ - 2 or 3 years ago & admitted by all it is useless to deny , to a sensible man or woman in campaign papers of either side I am not versed in sofestry [sic] Therefore I can't see how McC if elected is going to carry out his letter of acceptance & the Platform for certainly they are directly opposite of each other one for war the other peace …

Oct 18th Mollie Darling … so you have been arguing politics have you I agree with you exactly yes your logic was good … but I am sorry you would argue with them it isn't always expedient to assert one's

opinions no one has a better right to their opinions than you or them … I asked your Father the right course for me to take in order to vote not how I should vote … not that I ignore eny man's principles much less his for I give him credit for being honest in his politics … But let us put politics alone now pray God to guide who ever is elected that he will give him wisdom to adopt means that will restore peace in the land when war shall cease & justice triumph we are in the hands of the Lord… The war news is good & encouraging … I hope they wont write to me trying to influence me in my vote pshaw cant I read as well as they what more do they know about matters & things the experience of over two years has taught me something there is many things I have changed my mind about what experience has taught me. But the Col. & Fellows are here & there is to be an inspection this afternoon & the boys are fixing for it the orderly told me I must go but I refused so far peace … H.B.W."

"Oct. 31 /63 [New Orleans?]

Dear Mollie,

… how many houses have been left desolate many a heart-stricken to the earth by the news of death … for there had been blood enuff shed lives enuff sacrificed to atone for our sins as a nation yes I look upon this war as one of the judgements of God to punish us for our sins deliberate willfull sins God pity us & have mercy upon our nation I shall be thankful if he does not destroy our beloved institutions our own life as a nation. But I think that with the help of god success will crown our efforts I like the way things are prospering now as far as I know but our means of getting information is not of the best I tell you… there is talk of our going again some say to the Regt some to Fort Banks opposite & a little above Carrollton … Co B is dead to to M. Donnell of Centreville he died at New Iberia I do not know any of the particulars yet David Holmes brought the news he came back sick & is in the city he is able to walk around.. I want to see him & find out how the boys are getting along I hope they are all well … H.B.W."

"New Iberia LA Dec. 6/63

Darling Wife,

… I was out on picket night before last and had a good time to it was a warm night everything passed off very quiet when I arrived in camp found the regiment had been out as guard of a forage train they went about 10 miles& had the fun of walking back weren't I lucky … I almost forgot to tell of going with the segt to arrest 3 men on different posts for being asleep I took the place of one of them & had 2 hours duty to do not very bad The men belonged to the 62 …

Dec. 8 evening … we have been out as guard to a forage train& had to walk both ways but it was cool & our overcoats were not uncomfortable we had to walk just as fast as we could walk … we loaded with boards most of which we tore off some out houses… the owner having gone to dixie it was a caution to see 400 men make the lumber fly while we were there A flag of truce went out to have a conference with the Rebs we left before their return we went about 7 miles out. Yesterday I was out chopping while away the paymaster cam I went & drew mine $ 40.80. $ 14.80 was my clothing money we are allowed $ 4.00 but they figured it for 14 months … it will be but a few days before we will be mustered again & if we stay here we will get our pay again in a month …

Dec 13/63

… The Col came last night & made us a short speech & said he had got a painfull duty to perform today I guess he has got sick of the war& going home but we don't know yet when… Gen Emory passed by this morning& the boys cheered him heartily like him first rate now so do all the troops in his Div. our

officers had a big Drunk the other night & keeped [sic] us awake all night I would like to see some of them court marshalled it is a terrible thing for a private to get drunk but they can do as they like it is outrageous I think … H.B.W."

[Pulaski] Feb. 16, 1864

… darling don't get discouraged for it will do no good, be faithfull, patient, brave, and watchful and in Gods own time all will be well. You ask if I think Lincoln is honest – yes. I do, but I don't think his cabinet are they are corrupt as – well I cant think of anything to compare them with … [Mollie]

"Fort Jefferson, Fla March 23/64

Dearest Wife,

… shall I give you a brief account of how I have passed the time since I finished my last letter which I deposited in the box Sunday morning which started for K.W. [Key West] yesterday on the Tortugas Sunday I went on gard was on the 2d relief no 56 on one of the docks… Monday we were relieved in good season after dinner I went to bed & slept until D. P. call when I got up I felt slight symptoms of the fever again but thought nothing of it yesterday it was a little worse. It blew terribly night before last in the morning a boat was seen off toward K.W. a pilot boat went out to pilot her she proved to be the Abby Broket from Portland Me with a load of granit stone for the fort she was 27 days in making the voyage in the afternoon the Tortugas started for K.W. with several men discharged & Dr. Rice he goes to K.W. to help them to get there papers finished …

But there is one thing darling I have not ever told you of or described that is our ride from Fort Jackson to Ft. Philip to the mouth of the river there is no one living below the forts but poor fishermen Birds of every description swarm those marshes & small lakes & passes we went down the main pass there is nothing but 2 narrow strips of land not over 40 rods wide to separate it from the gulf for more than 2 miles on the extreme point most is a little village called Pilot town here the pilots live there houses are up about 8 feet from the water what a place in a swamp… a person will leave his family to take a vessel over the bar to be gone 2 or 3 hours& then not see him in weeks they will miss the pilot boat & take him to K.W. Roanoak or N.O. the pilot that took us in had been in N.O. a long time in that fix The moment the gig struck the water there he was in it& he hurred [sic] over to his family at Pilottown the telegraph stops… the moment the boat crosses the Bar it is regesterd & goes to N.O. by lightning but that was a dreary looking place to live… There is an old wreck on the bar left there sometime ago by Uncle Dan the pilot missed his reckoning & when to late to see it he ordered them to stop the boat & all sorts of orders … we could distinctly feel the shock as she went over we held our breath for a moment the next we were in the gulf that afternoon I seen a regular prairie fire the marsh was in ablaze for a mile & we could hear it roar plain on the steamer it was a grand sight to me … H.B.W."

"Pulaski, June 7-8, 1864

Good evening Henry,

… How many times do I wish you was at home to go with me around. Oh! Henry, it is a lonely life to be a war widow as they call us I don't care to go but little but when I do go I like to have company some one I like to…. Well it is Summer dear Henry only 14 months more of soldiers life for you God willing you will be at home how I wish it were now this very eve that I was expecting you… Mollie"

"Fort Jefferson, June 21, 1864

Dearest Wife,

… the officers had another old drunk we could see them plane from our windows perform on there balcony – they acted just as any lot of drunkers act ridiculous… you will be surprised when I tell you the guns which is fired not 80 yds from our room a and the window up don't wake me I am so used to it but the drums do long before they are through with their rigmarole… some of the boys have gone to L.H. isle after turtles I should have went if I had felt right but I felt a slight attact of fever yesterday & I thought I would keep quiet … The steamer Nightingale anchored behind bush key … last night … she had some refugees, troops report is they were going to relieve Co. F she came in after John Stevens our Comms. Sargt who goes as there Q. M.and the orderly of Co. A and sergt Ryan Co. J who have commissions … and will make good officers I am sorry Stevens is going our Q. M. is under arrest… has preferred charges against him which if followed up will shurely send him home in disgrace which I hope will be done and is the wish of every man in this Regt and most of the officers. Stevens would have stood a good chance to been our Q.M. and he would make a good one. The steamer left about noon in the direction of Fort Myers …

… about the (19) corps going to Grants army is all the talk Banks wants all the men he has got and no mistake … Lieut. Gardner of Co H at K. W. is dead report is they have lost 6 or 7 men,,, though the Lieut was a good officer and well liked he went home on furlough from Franklin was quite sick then he was a very wicked man he died as he lived … H. B. W."

"Pulaski June 26, 1864

Dearest Husband,

… Sometimes I feel as if my lot was pretty hard, then I look over our once happy country and think how many family circles have been broken many a love on has laid down to rise no more till Christ comes bidding us rise to judgement, many little ones have no father now, many wives no kind husband to love and cherish thema soldiers grave is theirs far from home. God in his mercy has kept and spared mine yet to me, ought I not to be thankful? Yes I am. I will be more so. God has been so much better to me than I deserve… If ever pure Religion and undefiled was needed it is now, while our country is as it were shaken from center to circumference… Yesterday morn Helen & Mate Meacham came here to see what we could give to help get up a Festival to help get things to send the soldiers I gave 25 cts did I do right? They told me some would not give said they had nothing to give the soldiers. Perhaps if someone dies to them was there they would not say so, poor boys there lot is hard and there are thousands of wounded suffering ones now some of our own friends too… Mollie"

"Union Square [New York] August 28, 1864

Dearest Husband,

… My prayer is that God will give us men to conduct our national affairs by his grace helping them in safety to preserve the Union, Live up to the Constitution formed by the heroes of the Revolution, and enforce our laws with an eye to Gods glory as well as our nation's honor, And that Peace may come soon, very soon may his blessed messenger be heralded by north and south And our brave soldiers be restored to the society of friends and home enjoyments and religious influence and privileges. How many bitter lessons we have learned during this war. You and I dear husband have I trust learned some that will profit us, This separation will it not teach us more dependency on God and bring us nearer to him And the loss of our little one though to us now it seems mysterious and we know not God's reason

for calling him home, yet the time will come when all will be plain we shall know for what purpose this affliction came… Mollie"

"Pulaski Nov 6th, 1864

Good evening Darling,

… Oh how I wish you were at home to night it is but little after 7 now you see I can't go to prayer meeting as I have done it is so muddy and there is no side walk until you get to Mr. Wilson's . We have got nearly settled now oh dear I hope I shall not have to move again until your return in 3 years I have moved 3 times, and it is pretty hard work … especially to clean up other people's dirt, sometimes this week I have been so tired it seemed as if I must give up… Well darling you and I could not be together last night as we were 4 years ago do you remember… I fear we would not have agreed anymore than we then did … you are for "Lincoln and Disunion" I for "Little Mac and Union"… election is over and I am glad of it and I hope the one that gets it will honor God by his life as our nation's ruler … You are going to have a Chaplain so the Oswego paper says and you may thank Gov. Seymour … hope he will do you all good…Mollie"

"Pulaski Nov. 27th, 1864

Dear Henry,

… Mrs. Lamb is a woman among many whose friendship is to be prized she is a lady in word and deed so mild in her conversation and kind of heart to all, and Mrs. Fuller I think a great deal of her though my acquaintance is short yet I think she is good and a true friend, we had a talk about our soldier husbands about their coming home &c &c Darling do you know I love to get acquainted with the soldiers wives or mother many have I met entire strangers when introduced, but a few words would make us friends and I have had many very pleasant visits, the word "soldier" seems almost a talisman it draws hearts of sympathy to us and ours respond oh! How quickly when the words "my husband is in the army" or "my son" and then the multitudes of questions and answers & guess you would laugh sometimes but there are tears shed not a few as we talk of the sufferings of the defenders of our nations honor! God bless and shield them all. … Mollie W"

$ 3000.00

10. (Lincoln, Abraham – Election of 1860 – the beginning Civil War) Rockwell. William W., **Collection of Letters Describing Campaign Events in New York City During the Election of 1860 – Wide Awake Torchlight Parades, Pro-Union Rallies, and Meeting President-elect Lincoln, the Secession Crisis and the beginning of Civil War, 1860-1861**
24 letters, 84 manuscript pages, in very good, clean and legible condition.

An interesting group of correspondence written mainly by William W. Rockwell, to his parents, describing the charged political atmosphere in New York City during Lincoln's 1860 campaign for the presidency and the run up to Secession that winter and the spring of 1861. 19 letters by William Rockwell from New York to his parents, four from his parents, and one from a family friend in New York with whom he boarded.

Rockwell was a young man, a native of Pittsfield, Berkshire County, Massachusetts, who had gone to New York seeking employment in a mercantile house. Rockwell was a member of a politically prominent family, his father Julius Rockwell, was a Massachusetts judge, and his uncle David Davis (1815-1886), was a future Supreme Court Justice. Rockwell was a Unionist, a Lincoln supporter as was his father, Julius, who abhorred slavery – which he termed the "national sin."

William Rockwell was an enthusiastic supporter of Republican politics and the grass roots "Wide Awake" movement, provides keen observations and vivid eyewitness accounts of the campaign season

of 1860. His letters describe the great torchlight marches in New York City of September and October 1860. He records his reactions to the arrival of the *Star of the West* at Fort Sumpter during the Secession Crisis, Rockwell also describes his personal meeting and handshake with President-elect Lincoln at the Astor House in February 1861. Rockwell describes a Wide-Awake torch light procession in Brooklyn and confidently predicts Lincoln's prospects in New York, he confidently reports on the scale of the demonstrations, Union meetings at Cooper Institute. The letters also describe Rockwell's efforts to work his way up at his employer's store, and the economic uncertainty caused by the Secession Crisis.

The final letter in the archive, written by Julius Rockwell, dated April 15, 1861, at the outbreak of the war, mere days after the bombardment of Fort Sumpter, reflects on the gravity of the moment and relief that "*we have been saved at last from having the institution of domestic slavery fastened upon us as a national sin.*"

Rockwell's letters offer a unique and vivid depiction of the Wide-Awake movement and the secession winter through the yes of a young Lincoln partisan. First hand accounts of the torch-light processions and pro-Union rallies in New York City and opening days of Civil War.

Sadly, Rockwell did not survive the war whose leadup and beginnings he chronicles. Rockwell was among the first rush of men to enlist in the Union Army. He enlisted for a three-month term in April 1861 and subsequently re-enlisted to continue serving until December of 1861. He died of disease contracted while on duty in Louisiana on December 3, 1863.

Sample Quotes:

"Brooklyn, July 18, 1860 Wednesday Eve

Dear Mother,

… I am fairly domesticated in New York & like it very much. I find all of the comforts of a home at Mr. Taylors, including one comfort new to me & which I look back on with wonder that I could have gone without it so long vis, enough to eat. Mr Taylor & myself spend our evenings reading & playing chess & backgammon & I enjoy it very much… thank C. Livingstone for the Eagle … I have been here 6 weeks & received 1 copy … I have shaken hands with Japanese Torrey, boarded the Great Eastern, been to the 7 regiment encampment on Staten Island, seen the Chicago Zouaves … I succeeded in obtaining after much trouble time & expense, of one of the Japanese princes a coin the like of which was never seen out of Japan before, it is a round piece of silver about the size of a cent & is 1301 years old. … the prince told me with tears in his eyes never to part with it out of the family… there are two Democratic meetings in the city tonight one led by Danl S. Dickenson & one by his Honor Mr. Mayor Ferdinand …

Tell Father I have purchased a likeness of Lincoln & hung it in our office, I set it looking at the iron railing today & when I came back it was in threads… W.W. Rockwell…"

"New York Sep. 8th '60

Dear Father,

… I expect I shall commence boarding pretty soon as Mrs. Taylor will soon be home. I am looking for a place at present, I have enjoyed it at Mr. T this summer. I continue to get on nicely at the store. … We had a great torch light procession over in Brooklyn last week. Sen. Willson spoke & it went of very

well. I think N. Y. safe for Lincoln (don't let my opinion get into the papers, it might discourage the Union men & give the Boston Courier a chance for one of its sharp articles … Wm. W. Rockwell…"

"New York, Sept. 17th, 1860

Dear Father,

… Lincoln's prospects look well in this state now, I saw the republican torch light procession last Wednesday night, over 5000 torches in a line, over a mile long, the 3d of Oct we expect to have one 10 miles long & 50,000 torches. The Union men had a mass meeting at the Copper Institute and had quite a large turn out, I see by the papers this morning that Douglas has found his mother and he found her well, business is good & we have had a very good season, we do a business of about $ 3,000,000 a year and make about $ 150,000 less expenses about $ 25,000 so you see it is a paying thing … W. W. Rockwell"

"New York Sept 19th '60

Dear Father,

… I have spent more perhaps than I ought to since I came to N.Y. for every thing was new to me, and like others I wanted to see the sights, having seen them I think in future I shall try and be more economical … Garibaldi is going it in Italy, but I am afraid that if he goes near the pope, Napoleon will have a finger in the pie. If Lincoln is elected you had better sell your mountain farm (eggs & all) for property is to decline 50 pr c at least that is the opinion of the N. Y. Herald this morning. Hoping that in such a case you will give me the first chance to purchase … Wm. W. Rockwell"

"New York Oct 3 '60

Dear Father,

I do not know where this will find you, but I expect at home. I infer from not seeing your name in the paper, that you did not attend H.R.H. ball, you should have gone & given Mother an opportunity to dance with the Prince. … I am now established in boarding & like it very well I have got a very good place on Clinton St. near Mr. Taylor's I pay $5 a week for board, washing & lights extra, we have meat for breakfast but none for supper …. Business is rather dull at present, but we expect a change after election. I think Sec. Cobb must have rather crowed when he made his recent avowals of disunion, I see by the Eagle that our house was lighted up on the occasion of the Wide Wake parade. I suppose that means, gas turned on, I shall have to loose my vote this year, if I stay here & they have threatened to challenge me if I come to Pittsf. One less for Lincoln, however I suppose that don't debar me from having a government contract, I would like bailing the river opposite the navy yard, to make a dry dock, at so much a quart, I suppose I can depend on your influence. Our trade in the woolen department has been very good for the last month … Wm. W. Rockwell"

"New York Oct 4th '60

Dear Mother,

Or grand Republican demonstration is over, and the Union is safe, I can assure you that it was a sight worth seeing, 15000 men in procession, 4 miles of troches & 30 bands of music. It was rather more of a turnout than Pittsfield could furnish. I came over from Brooklyn about 8 o'clock & with Mr. Taylor & Mr Peet marched up Broadway it is estimated that over 300,000 people trod on that street on the occasion. We stationed our selves in front of the New York Hotel, opposite the Republican Head

quarters. The Hotel afore mentioned is the Head quarters of Democracy & I can assure you that there was cheering & hissing enough for the entire campaign. I cheered till I made myself hoarse, the procession was about two hours in passing a given point, altogether it was a beautiful sight & one to be long remembered. … Wm W Rockwell"

"Pittsfield, Massachusetts [n.d. circa January-February, 1861]

My Dear E –

… Dr Todd gave us a sermon this P.M. upon the National sins for which we are about to be punished treatment of the Indians, Drunkenness, Breaking the Sabbath, Atheism and lastly oppression - He treated upon all but the last, which is to be presented on Fast day, which will be the memorable day of our existence he thinks. He will give us his views of the subject which has lain upon his mind forty years ever since he used to discuss it in Yale College. Julius was so affected that he laughed right out in church, much to my chagrin – Don't you pity Old Abe, having to mount the throne amid such a din and flourish of trumpets- I think he had better be inaugurated on the way by any justice of the peace he may happen to meet. I hope Wheatland is in order to receive Buchanan, and that a room is built in his cellar that he may hide himself the old traitor!

The times look rather dark up here. Platner & Smith's failure also Mr. Hurlburt & one or two more in Lee have made every business man keep a sharp look out. The Banks think they are all safe. Our Bank especially … L.F.R." [Lucy Forbes Walker Rockwell]

"New York Jany 10, 1861

Dear Father,

I arrived safe in New York Monday night at 11 o'clock, having [sic] had a very pleasant and safe passage. Talcott came down with me. Since I have arrived I have paid all of my debts, but have heard nothing about salary as yet. … I see by the bulletins (12o'clock) that the Star of the West is safely in Charleston harbour & is landing troops at Fort Sumpter, we have no further particulars … Wm. W. Rockwell"

"New York Jan 22, 1861

Dear Father,

… I am afraid I shall not get the salary I expected this year. I find that owing to the times somewhat, and to the remaining of one of the salesmen on our floor, who I expected would leave on the first of Jany… he stays because our folks dislike to discharge any body in these times, however I do not expect he will stay a great while… Have you read Philips speech yet, if that man would look at things in a little different light he might aspire to any office in the United States. I wish I knew as much as he did. … I enclose you an article taken from todays Herald, you will see it is quite a change from what would have found in it two weeks ago …. Wm. W. Rockwell" [Clipping is present]

"New York Jany 25th, 1861

Dear Mother,

… I am getting into society in fine style, through the kindness of Mrs T a Mrs Colton inquired the other day of Mrs T who that young man was who sat in their pew in church so often. When told she said she knew his mother quite well … she is the wife of Colton the Atlas man, she has invited me to call and

see her, so I am going one of these days … Last Wednesday night I went to see Rainey having won a ticket from Mr Taylor, I invited Mrs T to go. He held forth in our (Brooklyn) new Academy of Music, and gave quite a pleasant entertainment …

We are having quite a little excitement here on account of arms destined for the South, being seized A Southerner was arrested yesterday, for having his pockets rifled, the thief escaped … Wm W. Rockwell"

"New York, Feb. 22nd, '61

Dear Mother,

… I was enabled to give Uncle Abe a hearty shake of the hand when he was her Wednesday, and saw Mrs L and the l l [Little Lincolns?] at the Astor house. I tried hard to find Uncle David but did not make out to do it. Lincoln is a better looking man than his pictures represent. He reminds me strongly of Frank. I suppose you see all about his Journey in the papers, the Herald gives the best account of it I have seen … Wm. W. Rockwell…"

"New York Mch 5th, 1861

Dear Father,

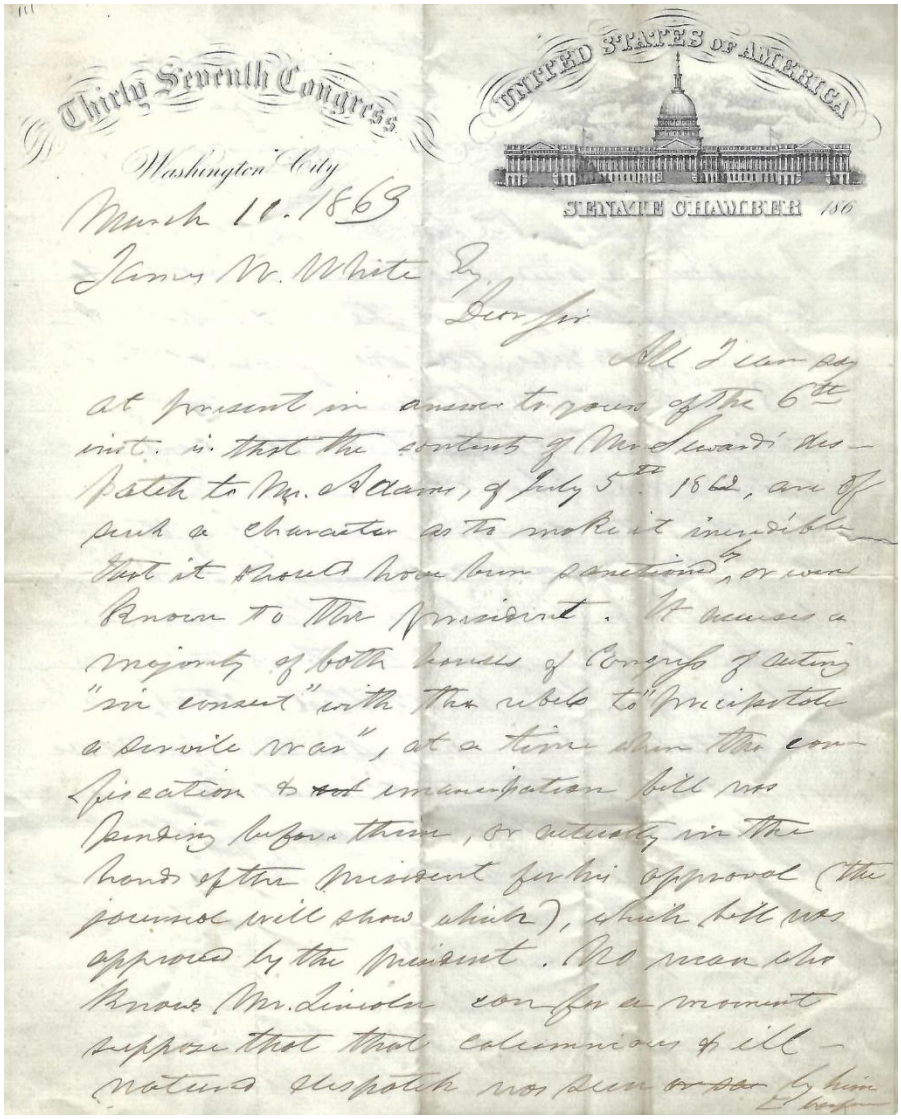
…at present business of any kind is down and looks dark, but remember it is always darkest just before day – Lincoln's speech is interpreted in many different ways here, and all think they understand just what it means … Wm W Rockwell"

"Pittsfield April 15, 1861

My Dear Sister,

… The country is in a pretty lamentable condition; but in the good Providence of God we have been saved at last from having the institution of domestic slavery fastened upon us as a national sin. This is now a fact accomplished – a great danger passed. We are in the breaches but we have I believe a President that will do as well as any man can, and Providence certainly don't mean to destroy us, if it had, it would have permitted the slave power to have become predominant. But the coming years are to be full of interest, and although there are parties in the free States, they seem now to be of necessity coming and acting together upon this question. The South have pushed matters further than I thought they would but this only shows the necessity of making our stand now. It was not made a moment too soon. It has not been made too firmly, I trust it will be fiercely sustained throughout… J. Rockwell"

$ 2,750.00


Thirty Seventh Congress

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

SENATE CHAMBER

Washington City
March 10. 1863

James W. White Esq.

Dear Sir

All I can say at present in answer to yours of the 6th inst. is that the contents of Mr Seward's dispatch to Mr. Adams, of July 5th 1862, are of such a character as to make it incredible that it should have been sanctioned, or even known to the President. It accuses a majority of both houses of Congress of acting "in concert" with the rebels to "precipitate a servile war", at a time when the confiscation & ~~not~~ emancipation bills were pending before them, or actually in the hands of the President for his approval (the journals will show which), which bill was approved by the President. No man who knows Mr. Lincoln can for a moment suppose that that calumnious & ill-natured dispatch was seen or approved by him

Unpublished letter by Senator Jacob Howard defending Lincoln's Knowledge of William Sewrd's July 5, 1862 letter to Charles Francis Adams

11. (Lincoln, Abraham – Emancipation Proclamation) Howard, Jacob M. (1805 – 1871) **Autograph Letter Signed, as United States Senator from Michigan, Washington, D.C., to James W. White**
Quarto, three pages, written on Thirty-Seventh Congress, Senate Chamber, Illustrated Letterhead, formerly folded, in very good clean and legible condition.

An important Reconstruction-era letter written by Jacob M. Howard, U.S. Senator from Michigan, in which Howard writes at length regarding President Abraham Lincoln and the Emancipation Proclamation, especially concerning a letter written by Secretary of State William H. Seward to American Minister to Great Britain, Charles Francis Adams July 5th, 1862 concerning the Emancipation Proclamation. During his tenure as Secretary of State, Seward was at times criticized for transmitting important dispatches to foreign representatives without submitting them to President Lincoln, especially to Minister Adams, who was a close friend of Seward's. The letter of July 5th became a particular point of contention, with content related to the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation, which was publicly

printed in the *Diplomatic Correspondence*. Here, Howard defends Lincoln, who disclaimed any knowledge of it at the time.

"Dear Sir,

All I can say at present in answer to yours of the 6th inst. is that the contents of Mr. Seward's dispatch to Mr. Adams, of July 5th, 1862, are of such a character as to make it incredible that it should have been sanctioned by or even known to the president. It accuses a majority of both houses of Congress of acting "in concert" with the rebels to "precipitate a servile war", at a time when the confiscation act & emancipation bill was pending before them, or actually in the hands of the president for his approval (the journal will show which), which bill was approved by the president. No man who knows Mr. Lincoln can for a moment suppose that that calumnious & ill natured dispatch was seen by him before it was sent. If the controversy were mine I would ask for no further evidence to overcome the denial of the Times.

Again, on the 22d Sept the president issued his proclamation announcing his purpose to emancipate the slaves of rebels on the first of Jan '63 This carried the emancipation policy much further than the confiscation act had done – or rather threatened to carry it much further. And with that proclamation in print before him, Mr S at the opening of the last session deliberately printed & laid before the world that strange dispatch. Can any further proof be necessary whether to demonstrate the ignorance of Mr. Lincoln of the contents of the dispatch or the animus of its author towards him & towards a majority of Congress?

There are reasons for your not publishing this note & you will therefore not do so. For the present you have materials enough in the facts I allude to, to make out your case against the Times, without invoking other aid. … J. M. Howard"

Jacob Merritt Howard (1805 – 1871) was born in Shaftsbury, Vermont. He graduated from Williams College in 1830 and then studied law in Ware, Massachusetts. Two years later he moved to Detroit, Michigan, where he was admitted to the bar in 1833. In 1835 he married Catherine A. Shaw, with whom he had five children.

In 1838 Howard was elected as a Whig to the lower house of the state legislature, where he was active in revising the state's legal code, in investigating Michigan's wildcat banks, and in drafting railroad legislation. In 1841 he was elected to Congress. Throughout his tenure as a congressman, Howard was an outspoken opponent of slavery. After completing his term, he returned to private practice in Michigan. In 1850, when arguing a fugitive slave case before the U.S. circuit court, he publicly denounced the Fugitive Slave Law and predicted that the country would eventually come to armed conflict over the issue of slavery.

In 1854 Howard joined the new Republican party. He was one of the leading members of the Jackson, Michigan convention held on July 6 that organized the new party. As chair of the Committee on Resolutions, Howard drafted the party platform, which deplored slavery as a social evil and opposed its expansion into the territories. He was reputed to have given the new party its name. The same year he was elected the state attorney general as a Republican. Howard served in this position from 1855 to 1861, when he was elected U.S. senator to replace Kinsley S. Bingham, who had died in office.

Known in Michigan as "Honest Jake", Howard was considered to be one of the "better constitutional lawyers in the [Senate] chamber." In the wartime debates in the Senate, Howard consistently voted for Radical measures, approved President Abraham Lincoln's emergency actions during the secession crisis, and advocated "severe, exemplary, and speedy punishment" of the rebels. He was especially vocal on all matters pertaining to the confiscation of rebel property and the emancipation of slaves. He was one of the most forceful advocates of the 1863 Conscription Act, and he served on the Committee

on Military Affairs. As a member of the Committee on the Judiciary, he drafted a portion of the Thirteenth Amendment. He also made several important speeches in favor of the Civil Rights Act of 1866.

Howard opposed President Lincoln's Reconstruction program to readmit southern states on the "10 percent plan" (1863), which stipulated that 10 percent of the state's population had to take an oath of loyalty to the government to qualify for readmission. Howard contended that the federal government had a right to extend military rule over the defeated southern states and advocated extreme retaliatory measures. He argued forcefully that Congress, and not the president, had the power to judge the proper time and manner of readmitting the seceded states and that Congress also possessed the power to reorganize states upon readmission.

Howard served on the Joint Committee on Reconstruction and traveled to Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina to investigate postwar conditions there. Upon Howard's return to Washington, the committee submitted a proposal to Congress to amend the Constitution. The committee's proposals, actively supported by Howard on the Senate floor, passed both Houses of Congress as the Fourteenth Amendment.

Although Howard had confidence in Andrew Johnson during the first year of Johnson's term, he soon lost faith in the president. When Johnson tried to remove Secretary of War Edwin B. Stanton, Howard reacted with outrage and authored the committee's report censuring the decision. During President Johnson's impeachment trial, Howard voted to convict.

Howard chaired the Committee on the Pacific Railroad from its creation in 1864 until 1871. President Ulysses S. Grant offered him the presidency of the Southern Claims Commission, but he declined the post. At the end of his congressional career in 1871, Howard returned to Detroit, where he died.

In public, Howard's image was grave and somewhat portly; his speaking style according to his eulogist Chief Justice John A. Campbell, was eloquent but ponderous. Privately, however, he was a genial, pleasant man with a keen sense of humor. According to George W. Julian, in reminiscences about the Senate during the Civil War, Howard "ranked among the first lawyers and most faithful men in the body, and no man had a clearer grasp of the issues of the war."

$ 1,250.00

American National Biography, vol.11, p. 304.

This letter was sold by Anderson Galleries, New York, November 1927, in their sale of *The Lincoln Collection of Emanuel Hertz* (Sale 2193), 15 November 1927, Lot 128.

Archive of a Louisiana Planter Family with strong Catholic ties, Includes Descriptions of their Struggles During the Civil War, Mentions Men and Women whom they Enslaved

12. (Louisiana) (Morancy Family Archive) **Archive related to the family of Honoré Perigny Morancy (1795–1881), an exile from the Haitian Revolution whose prosperous Louisiana plantation lay within sight of Federal forces at the devastating 1863 Battle of Milliken's Bend. Includes Descriptions of the Family's Civil War Struggles and of the Men and Women they Enslaved, materials dated circa 1820-1880**

Collection of approximately 40 letters and documents, 15 photographs, as well as several related ephemeral items, pertaining to the Morancy family of Louisiana. The bulk of the items date from the 1850s-1860s.

The collection includes letters, documents, ephemera and family photographs of the Morancy family. One of the highlights of the collection is a striking photograph of a well-dressed African American woman seated alongside a young white child, circa 1855-1860. This portrait likely depicts the Morancy family's "Mammy Jane" or Matilda Butler, an enslaved black woman who bore at least one child to Honoré Morancy.

Honoré P. Morancy was a French Catholic planter of Milliken's Bend, East Carroll Parish, Louisiana. Generations of Morancy family members claimed ancestry from the Montmorency family, a line of French nobility, who were said to have been forced to flee their home country during the French Revolution, ultimately settling in present-day Haiti. Other sources suggest Honoré Morancy's ancestors can be traced to Marie-Galante, Guadeloupe, as early as the 1740s. Regardless of the family's origins, Honoré Morancy's fate was most certainly tied to events in the island nation of Saint-Domingue, where his father and uncle were killed when Haitian freedmen and enslaved laborers began the insurrection that would lead to Haitian independence. The Morancy family tried to leave the island before the Santo Domingo revolution of 1791. Young Honoré and two siblings, Emile and Victoria, were rescued from the island, purportedly by a slave or nurse, and then smuggled on board a ship out of the country to the United States. Upon reaching the U.S., Morancy and his brother Emilius Morancy came initially under the guardianship of Charles Carroll (1737-1832) of Maryland, the only Catholic Signer of the Declaration of Independence. Honoré was well-educated and served as a professor of French, Greek, and Latin in Natchez, Mississippi, prior to marrying Eliza Lowry in 1818. The couple eventually settled in Milliken's Bend, and Morancy soon amassed considerable wealth in the form of land and enslaved men, women, and children. On the eve of the Civil War, the 1860 U.S. Federal Census slave schedules show that Honoré P. Morancy enslaved 164 individuals.

Located approximately 15 miles above Vicksburg on the Mississippi River, Milliken's Bend was a small community in Madison Parish, Louisiana. The town's proximity to major centers of commerce such as New Orleans, Natchez, and Vicksburg aided its growth, and placed it within easy reach of important markets for the corn and cotton crops grown by the slaves of Milliken's Bend plantation owners. (The Mississippi River eroded the land upon which the town stood and it is now extinct). Among the prosperous plantation owners in Milliken's Bend at the onset of the Civil War were Honoré Morancy and his brother-in-law Philip Maher (1812-1872), married to sisters Eliza Jane Lowry Morancy (1803-1884) and Caroline Lowry Maher (1811-1872).

The approximately 40 letters/documents in the collection span decades and generations of Morancy family members but are particularly strong with regard to the effects of the Civil War on the Morancy family and their fortunes. The June 1863 Battle of Milliken's Bend, famed in part because of the battlefield heroism of the African Brigade, was a small but savage engagement fought on the west bank of the Mississippi River within close proximity to the Morancy plantation. By early 1863, Milliken's Bend had become one of several staging areas for the Union Army as Grant prepared for the Vicksburg Campaign. As Honoré and Eliza Morancy's seven (7) war-date letters indicate, the conflict was devastating to their home and economic security. The war also impacted their enslaved laborers, as many apparently fled to the freedom of Union lines, though a few seemingly stayed with the Morancy family throughout the war. One woman, "Mammy Jane," is referenced frequently in family correspondence and appears to have been viewed as a beloved member of the family both during and

after the war, letters from the 1870s reveal that Jane remained with the family caring for Morancy grandchildren.

In a powerful letter, undated but likely the spring of 1862, Eliza writes to her daughter Caroline, painting a vivid portrait of tumultuous times at the plantation, as the family faces military threats, natural disasters, political unrest, and family illness. The letter reads, in small part:

"Peyton [enslaved man] *thinks a carriage cannot go out even now. The water is rising yet. We hear to-day that it has fallen 3 inches at the Lake and is at a stand here.... The levee at Young's Point gave way several days ago and the water is rising in the field now, near the church. Dr. Buckner's levee was partly cut a night or two ago - this would be indeed be a misfortune to all of us if it should take place again… You may have seen the Governor's proclamation to burn the cotton. Your Pa says he has no legal right to do this as the Legislature did not pass the act — but public opinion will sustain him. I hear that Mr. Jones of Compromise will guard his with arms and will shoot down any man who attempts to do it…. Perhaps now the French and English will soon come to buy and we can sell it to them. Your Pa says that his crop at the present prices will bring $70,000, and this is too much a sacrifice unless it is absolutely necessary…." Eliza then continues discussing the surrender of Forts Jackson and Philip and the fear of guerrilla warfare and pillaging. She goes on to describe the news from New Orleans: "I am told that eight persons were killed and several wounded in New Orleans for showing sympathy with the Union army by hurraying for Lincoln. I suppose some poor ignorant people who might have done it without much reflection, for no one who reflected a moment would have been so foolish. Mrs. Jones told Cory that the city was like a Bedlam — people running about, women and children crying, and the destruction of property immense. Molasses, sugar, bacon destroyed — and this too when the city is nearly destitute of provisions. The people of Vicksburg are not much better. All that can go have gone out into the country…."*

Eliza continues with references to a number of individuals who appear to be enslaved, including Peyton, Henry, Jane, and Rosa, and mentions the forcible impression of "Negro men" into Confederate service to build fortifications.

Just prior to the Battle of Milliken's Bend, Eliza was sent by Honoré to her home state of Kentucky to stay with friends and family. She writes to Caroline in May 1863:

"Your pa insists on my going to Kentucky…Your pa promises to go up in a week or two….Mr. Fontane promises to stay with him and Jane too. I have consented…I prefer to wait for him but he will not let me do so – O' darling how I wish you were with me & think you could come….Your Pa stays to dispose of his cotton as it is our only resource and he can sell it to a citizen or Englishman. I am distressed to think of the horrid state of affairs. I hear that as soon as practicable 70,000 Federals are going to Monroe & I suffer greatly in anticipation."

Writing in December 1863, six months after the Battle of Milliken's Bend, Honoré tells his children:

"…I have returned again to my house with our furniture from Stockland, as I could no longer remain there on account of robbers who were some time ago infesting the country. I am at present very quiet here and am treated with marked kindness and civility by the [Union] officers here as well as by Genl [John P.] Hawkins who commands the district. He is cousin of A. D. Hawkins [H. Morancy's son-in-law]…. Under the reign of plunder and lawlessness which prevailed in this parish previous to the advent of the present set of officers, we have lost everything except a few cows and a very few mules. Louis, if you had any cotton left for the gin, it has all been stolen….I have only got twelve thousand dollars for all the cotton I had & the most of it was burned by the Confederates last July….If there was any means

among you to purchase cotton and the Confederate agents would not seize it, it would be a good thing…." He concludes with a note from "Jane," who "wishes to be remembered by all of you and wishes particularly to send her love and respects to Caroline and wants very much to see the baby."

Jane is referenced again, and with great affection, in Eliza's letter of 18 June [1864], to her daughter Caroline. She also mentions two other enslaved persons, "Chatham" and "Rosa".

"…Write often, my darling, and give me particulars. First of yourself and father and dear little one, of dear Vie and family, of Jane and Rosa. I can never forget them and their kindness to you and my dear husband. Let me know what servants are on the place of those belonging to us, if Chatham has been heard of, what things were stolen at Stockland…Give my best love and a kiss to your dear father, to Victoria and her family. Give my love to Jane and also to Rosa who has been so faithful to you."

Beyond the events of the Civil War, the family's association with the Roman Catholic Church is another striking characteristic of the archive. Catholics constituted a significant minority in the Confederate population, but most of the South was Protestant, particularly Baptist and Methodist. The Morancy family letters paint a portrait of a family deeply rooted in Catholic lay life and spirituality. Southern Louisiana was predominantly Catholic due to its French and Spanish heritage, and Catholic families like the Morancys held significant wealth and influence in the region. The family's letters, and their ties to New Orleans, Catholic boarding schools, and male and female religious figures, provide a rare glimpse into 19th-century Southern Louisiana Catholicism.

While there is just one letter from Honoré Morancy in the collection, the archive features more prominently the correspondence of his wife Eliza. Six letters in the archive were written by Eliza, five of which are addressed to her daughter Caroline. Seven additional letters are addressed to Eliza, sent by various friends and family members. Honoré and Eliza's daughter, Caroline Morancy Hawkins (1833-1922), authored at least two letters in the archive. Additional correspondents in the collection include, in part: Caroline Lowry Maher (1811-1872), the sister of Eliza Lowry Morancy, as well as second-generation Morancy descendants such as Edward Preston Hawkins (1856-1881) and Francis J. Hawkins (1875-1939), sons of Caroline Morancy Hawkins. The preponderance of letters associated with Caroline and descendants of the Hawkins line suggests that the archive likely descended through Caroline Morancy Hawkins and her children.

Most notable among the 15 images in the collection is undoubtedly that of the unidentified African American woman and white child, ca 1855-1860. The image is printed on paper likely a partially tinted salt print. The image features its two subjects at the forefront and a rural scene of trees with an apparent structure in background, creating a three-dimensional effect. The African American woman is seated with her face in profile, wearing an elegant, patterned dress, artfully arranged hairstyle, and jewelry shown with a hint of gold tinting. Her hand supports the back of a young white child seated in a highchair and wearing a white dress tinted with delicate pink and green blooms. (The image is housed in a half plate sized leatherette case (heavily worn with a detached cover).

The identity of the woman and child cannot be definitively determined. It was not uncommon for Southern slaveholding and Reconstruction-era families to photograph an enslaved caretaker or "mammy" with a young charge. Given "Mammy Jane's" seemingly important role within the Morancy family, it is certainly possible that the woman shown in this image is "Jane" seated alongside a child who would likely be a grandchild of Honoré and Eliza Morancy. Alternatively, some present-day descendants of the Morancy family believe the woman pictured may be Matilda Butler (ca 1820s –?), an African American woman who had at least one child by Honoré Morancy.

A YouTube interview[1] with two Morancy descendants indicates that Matilda Butler was a seamstress who, according to a plantation ledger (not reviewed), was paid for her work. If true, this unusual arrangement may have allowed Matilda Butler to purchase her freedom and to marry Thomas Butler, the adopted father of her son with Honoré Morancy. As a seamstress, conceivably Matilda Butler may have had access to clothing and accessories of a finer quality, as appear to be worn by the woman pictured in this image. Seemingly less likely, though, is the possibility that an image of Matilda might accompany a Morancy family archive descended through Eliza and Caroline Morancy Hawkins. Additional research might well shed light on the identity of these sitters.

1. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZjPP9dWz1pM

The remaining photography in the collection consists of a mix of identified and unidentified images. Identified images include: a CDV portrait of a young boy, seated with his hat in hand, backmark of "S.F. Brown, Photographer, Versailles, KY," manuscript identification on verso "Emilius Morancy Jr."; a CDV portrait of a young man, seated with his arms crossed and wearing a hat, no backmark, manuscript identification on verso "Honorius Morancy"; and a CDV portrait of a man wearing religious robes and a large cross, backmark of "Gurney, Photographic Artist, Natchez, Miss," and manuscript inscription "To my Friend Preston Hawkins / Natchez, May 26th 1876 / Bro. Symphariantn."

Unidentified cased images include: a sixth plate daguerreotype featuring a bust portrait of a young man, mat stamped at lower left 'Webster," in half leatherette case; a quarter plate daguerreotype of finely dressed young woman, wearing a necklace of large double-strand pearls at her neck, photographer etched on the plate "J.W. Stancliff (John Wells Stancliff, 1813-1891)/ Louisville," possibly an image of Caroline Morancy Hawkins, housed in leatherette case with detached cover; a quarter plate ambrotype of a mustached man seated alongside a young boy, housed in leatherette case with detached cover; a quarter plate ambrotype of a well-dressed man, seated and facing the camera, with a smaller oval ambrotype of the same sitter; and a sixth plate ambrotype of a young child posed in an ornate red dress.

Later images include: a half plate tintype portrait of a young girl standing with arm resting on. table; CDV-size tintype of a young boy seated in a small chair; a CDV-size albumen portrait of a young girl with a white bow, cut from mount into oval shape; and two late 19th-early 20th-century studio portraits, one of a man and one of a woman, both identified to the studio of "Misses McAllister Parker K.C."

Partial list of additional archive contents:

Partially printed ticket issued to Mr. (later Dr.) Emilius Morancy (brother of Honoré Morancy) to attend "Lectures on the Principles and Practice of Surgery by William Gibson M.D." University of Maryland. 7 November 1818.

Autograph letter signed from Charles Carroll Harper, grandson of Signer Charles Carroll, to Emile (Emilius) Morancy, describing a European tour. Paris, 16 October 1819. (Heavily worn, completely separated along multiple folds, possibly incomplete).

Statement of Indemnity Settlement settled upon Messrs. Emilius and Honoré Morancy, heirs of former slaveholding proprietors of a plantation in Cavaillon Parish, Saint-Domingue (Haiti). 9 December 1837. Paris, France. In French, no accompanying translation (heavily worn, completely separated along multiple folds, possibly incomplete).

Multiple letters in the archive were written by members of Catholic religious organizations, including: an 1865 letter to Caroline Morancy Hawkins from "Sister Severina," a Sister of Charity at the "Louisiana Retreat," a Catholic psychiatric hospital, regarding her husband Antoine Hawkins's stay at the institution; an 1884 letter from an abbot at the Abbey of Gethsemani, Nelson Co., KY, to an unidentified member of the Morancy family, presumably Caroline Morancy Hawkins, sending prayers and acknowledging the death of Eliza Morancy; and an 1893 letter to Mrs. Blanche Hawkins, wife of Honore Morancy Hawkins, from "Mother Superior" of Visitation Convent, regarding prayers and a healing piece of linen being sent for her "suffering son."

A group of 3 letters written by Caroline Lowry Maher to her sister Eliza while she traveled abroad in Europe. Of particular interest is a letter written from Dublin in 1852, describing post-famine Ireland, including destitute beggars, mass evictions, and starvation. Caroline compares the plight of the Irish to enslaved African Americans, stating "our Negroes are wealthy and blessed people compared with these poor wretches."

Three letters written by Francis "Frank" Hawkins to family members while a student at St. Vincents College, Cape Girardeau, MO., ca 1880s; an undated list, possibly in the hand of Frank Hawkins, entitled "Articles of Value at Lake Providence an[d] in our Homes to be disposed of," noting Morancy family keepsakes including an oil portrait of "Grandfather Morancy" and a letter from Jefferson Davis; three letters, all written in the late 1870s, by [Edward] Preston Hawkins to family members while he was away at a Catholic boarding school in St. Louis, two of which reference sending his love to "Mammy," presumably the same "Mammy" or "Mammy Jane" who stayed with the Morancy family during the war.

Twentieth-century ephemeral material associated with Francis J. Hawkins and his wife Ethel Cart Hawkins, including ration books, newspaper clippings, and a marriage certificate.

Sample Quotes:

Shelby County, Kentucky, Nov. 18th, 1830, Margaret Fitzgerald to her niece Eliza Jane Morancy, Vicksburg, Mississippi

"My dear niece,

I received your letter a few days ago, dated the 28th of last month, and was extremely glad to learn that you were all in good health &c. Your letter brought to my fresh recollection one of the most trying scenes of my whole life, the death of my dear mother. But I will endeavor to take your advice and bear my heavy affliction as well as I can. My situation is truly disconsolate and life seems almost a burden to me; being almost alone and laboring under great affliction with a disease of a pulmonary cast; and besides having from necessity the sole care of sister Elizabeth's children and the whole concerns of our household on my hands. But I will try and bear it all with patience.

It seems you all desire me to come to Louisiana & spend the remainder of my days there. This I would gladly do if brother Milton would let his daughter Eliza accompany me, but this I am sure he will never do… Margaret Fitzgerald …"

There is a very celebrated doctor lately come to Louisville, who cures everyone that applies to him almost; and I am sure if sister Nancy was to come to him he would cure her immediately and for a small fee – If she will come, it is it is very probable that I may consent to return with her home & perhaps she can by her personal entreaties, prevail on brother Milton to let her have Eliza also. It is my intention to try this new doctor as soon as I am able to go to Louisville and have funds to pay my way for a short time in

Louisville. He has performed a cure on one of our neighbors, who had been afflicted with a distressing pain in his side & hip for 28 years, besides many others which I have heard of. My advice to sister Nancy would be to come and try him. He is no quack, but a man of science, having two or three medical diplomas. Doctor Knight of Shelbyville, an eminent practitioner & popular physician, has gone to Louisville & entered into partnership with him & they now get more than the both can do.

"Cork, Ireland, August 10, 1852, Caroline Loewry Maher, to her sister, Eliza Jane Morancy, Milliken's Bend, Louisiana

… yesterday evening Caroline and I escorted by the son of the proprietor (a boy of twelve) took a short walk – saw nearly all the Banks – they look inferior after the Bank of Ireland in Dublin – this city is built upon an island the Lee on both sides – there are six bridges connecting it to the main land I am told that as far as Queenstown twelve miles inland it is at the mouth of the river the scenery is beautiful and many splendid residences an addition to native beauty of we will go down as soon as Mr M is well enough. The exhibition opens at 11 oclk & closes at five – Mondays and Fridays are 6 pence days – Wednesdays promenade days 12 shillings – Tuesdays, Thursdays, & Saturdays 1 shilling – I wish to see the Grandee so I hope Mr M will be well enough to go tomorrow. They have here a variety of ornaments such as bracelets, shawl pins, besides ruins of Abbey & covered in Irish bog oak when the Queen was here she wore them and now every body is purchasing it I think it very pretty & have bought a bracelet to let you see it – Ah Sis you would not enjoy traveling in Ireland there are so many objects of pity – they tell us they are lazy and impostures but this we cannot know – you can form no idea of it unless you saw it – As we were going to visit Mr. Fitzwilliams father I saw the most pitiable sight an old woman's hair perfectly white, the mere wrapping of rags around feet & legs nearly up to her knees her bosom exposed arms uncovered sitting on the wet ground by the road side – this was on a cold morning … At Mrs Moran's Mr. Fitzwilliam's niece we met with an Irish man (I will not say gentleman) who was very insulting to us – talked about slavery told us all the Americans prided themselves upon was wealth – for once I held my tongue – only told him he certainly had a great deal of candor to tell us so – I liked the English much better than I do the Irish I expected to be treated uncivilly by every Englishman I met but my experience has been different – I have ever been not only civilly treated but strangers were particularly polite. If I meet an Englishman in a car he bids me good morning & seems anxious I shall see his country to advantage – this has been the case so far and I tell you as you are an admirer of theirs & you know how thoroughly I have detested them – the first one I have to complain of I shall inform you - Two Irishmen have offended my ladyship – both Protestants- of our friends (for really they were kind enough to call them so) …"

Dublin, Sept 1st, 1852 Caroline Lowry Maher to her sister Eliza

"Dear Sister,

We have had rain almost every day since we came to Ireland, we went from Dublin to Cork to see the Exhibition of the products & manufactures of Ireland & I was much surprised to find that Ireland could boast so much, for I had no idea she manufactured so much fine goods – satinets, silks, silk velvets, cloth, embroidery both on silk & muslin, laces, gloves - & almost every thing you could mention. From there we went to Killarney, by the way of Glen Gariff this road lies through a most beautiful country, the scenery is fine but Killarney Lakes & mountain scenery cap the climax Martha was in perfect ecstasies, to give you an idea I will tell that we walked five miles & a quarter through the Gap of Dunloe, up & down the rocks &c without feeling as much fatigue as I have often felt walking to Brother's or to Ann's. I attribute the excitement produced by the variety & beauty of the scene. From Killarney we visited Limerick & spent several days with Mr. Thomas Davenport's family and I never met mor kindness & attention in my life… I

did not see Mrs W Davenport, she was at Kilrush with her sisters. Mr D had a sail boat & we started down to see her but the tide was against us & we turned back after going about 20 miles down the Shannon. From Limerick we visited Mr Mahers friends, they all seemed delighted to see us, we spent a week, visiting from one place to the other & we could scarcely get away from them they wished us to stay some time but I was so anxious to hear from home (and we expected letters here) that I could not consent… One of his cousins in particular I took a great fancy to, He speaks of moving to Australia, but I persuaded him to go to America & I expect he will go out with us, at least he thinks of doing so now. We left Toomarara yesterday with the regrets & good wishes of all his friends. Martha caused quite a sensation one of his cousins was (Ithink) a good deal smitten. Some of his relations are in very good circumstances, others much reduced, but I think them all very clever. …

I am much pleased with Ireland as it is a beautiful country, but the wretchedness of a great number of its inhabitants is beyond description. Our negroes in their worst working clothes are well dressed compared to them & I am told that they have none better and filth I cannot express to you how much of that I see amongst them they look as if they had not changed in three months, there are men, women & children begging at all parts of the country, you cannot travel on a coach that sometimes twenty children are not running after it, with "give me a ha'penny if you please" & when the coach stops crowds surround it begging & when they get a ha'penny, which is about one cent, they implore blessings upon the donor It is really distressing to witness it besides there are thousands in the poor house Men women & children in the poor house at Cork there are five thousand besides poor houses all over the country filled with them. Poor creatures who have been cast out by the landlords because they were not able to pay the rent & obliged to go to the poor house or starve. I saw in Toomarara whole streets where the tenants had been ejected & the houses torn down these poor wretches I am told many of them died of starvation in the ditches & under bridges. I was told at one time they died so fast that 8 or 10 had to be put in one grave & were carried to the grave in what they call a parish coffin, that is one with a hinge at the bottom that was placed over the hole or grave & the body dropped out & the coffin taken back for others, was not that terrible? When I speak of the poverty of the country to the citizens they tell me that times are good now comparatively speaking I am sure I cannot imagine how it could have been much worse Our negroes are wealthy & blessed people compared with these poor wretches. Even those who have what is called a house are miserable & wretched thatched roofs – some partly fallen in, dirt floors & every discomfort … Caroline …"

Milliken's Bend, July 27th1856, Anne Morancy Jackson to her sister Caroline Morancy Hawkins

"My dearest sister,

I received your dear letter yesterday and hasten to reply – I had been waiting to hear that you were once more settled that I might know where to direct, you said nothing about remaining there all summer but I presume you intend it or you would have mentioned going on with Mr. Hawkins.

The health of the bend is as good as usual in the summer, we have no epidemic, and have great hopes of escaping the fever as there is yet none in New Orleans. Agnes has been quite sick out at Richmond but was able to come in yesterday, and I hope with prudence she will keep well. I spent two weeks with Ma & pa they seemed lonesome and wished me to remain awhile and I spent quite a pleasant time. – Mr. Dangle is now spending the summer there, his health as usual is bad and Pa invited him to remain with him during the summer …

We have quite a pleasant summer and an abundance of fruit which I suppose you have not – your description of your trip over the mountains was calculated to dishearten any one having the trip in view

except such a courageous person as myself – I feel now that I would enjoy the trip very much – I am so sick of this monotonous life I believe I would undertake anything for a change you have no idea how lonely I feel here you all being away –

You must not let Mary Lowry give you the slip this summer – I expect she has so many admirers she will find it impossible to bring home her heart – Tell her not to let the English Baron take it with him – that would be too far away.

I received a letter from Aunty from Louisville she made no mention of a trip north, she intending going to Graydon and from there to Woodford. … A. E. J …"

[N.p., n.d., pre-war?] Caroline Morancy Hawkins, to her mother Eliza Morancy

Dear Ma,

The children and I acknowledge ourselves much in you're an Aunt Jane's debt, for all the nice butter, cakes, etc. What would the world be without mothers? (in more senses than one), for who so well knows how to bestow favors that make up the happiness of life after all, as the affectionate mother's heart. As I grow older, I find myself every day shutting out the world more and more, only to have more room for the few so dearly loved. But enough of this, for fear you might accuse me of being romantic or misanthropic, which last, might not be a very unjust accusation. Sister will say I have been reading Byron. Well! So I have, but rather because his style agrees with my mood, than any effect he has had upon me. And I have been reading Pope too, who is a greater favorite with me, and you know all his works have been aimed at the vices and follies of men. And now speaking of books, please tell sister to send to send me "Paradise lost", and if you have any thing that you could spare I should like to have it Miss Landon's works would be very acceptable, if Mary has finished reading them, and I will take the utmost care of anything loaned. I should like to be rich, for only one thing, to have a fine library, and plenty of leisure time to read.

Mrs. Frank sends you all many thanks for the articles sent, and kissed my hand for you, she says she is very comfortably fixed now.

I spent the day with Mrs. Montague yesterday and as usual – a very pleasant day, and a very nice dinner. She and Miss Alice bot bid me send their love to you, and inquired particularly when you would be out. I told Mrs. Montague I would ask you for some grape cuttings for her, which she is very anxious to have. She has some flowers her sister brought from the Kings garden at Naples, she promised me two bulbs, and when I get them I will give you one. She has a great many seeds of annuals from the same place, which I suppose would be prized from the circumstances …

I send you a piece of venison, which I have been saving several days for you and am very sorry there is so little, but thought as the family is small you may be able to make a dish of it. We have had a great deal of game lately, as the gentlemen are always hunting now. … Caroline

Much love to Mammy Jane. Mr. H was quite sick day before yesterday and has had the chills sine Prince was in the Bend. I have despaired of his ever being entirely rid of them Please ask sister also to send "Don Quixote" if she has finished with it."

Christmas Day [1861?] Eliza Morancy to her daughter Caroline Hawkins

"My dear Child,

… Mr. Parham has offered his place near us for sale for $ 20 an acre cash how I wish you could live near us – if Mr H does change but I suppose that could not be had now. Let me know if the report is true & where M H expects to go… E J Morancy

I have received a letter from James Nolan dated Nov 7 he was well & with his company at Manassas – he is I suppose now at Savannah Georgia as the company was ordered there.

P.S. As jane is going to the depot in a buggy I send you the article I spoke of & also a bundle of fruit trees for Mrs Montague …"

Eliza Morancy, to her daughter, Caroline Hawkins, undated likely Spring 1862

"Dear Caroline,

I am really concerned to hear that dear little Morancy is still sick & Mr. Hawkins so unwell. … Peyton [enslaved man] thinks a carriage cannot go out even now & the water is rising yet – We hear today that it has fallen 3 inches at the Lake & is at a stand here – but the Yazoo is kept high by the water running in from the crevasses & will prevent a fall here for some time. The levee at Youngs Point gave way several days ago & the water is rising in the field now – near the Church. Dr. Buckner's levee was partly cut a night or two ago – this would be indeed a misfortune to all of us if it should take place again as to succeed. …

You may have seen the Governor's proclamation to burn the cotton – your Pa says he has no legal to do this as the legislature did not pass the act – but public opinion will sustain him I hear that Mr. Jones of Compromise will guard his with arms & will shoot down any man who attempts to do it. I hope no one will be so rash as to burn it unnecessarily – perhaps now the French & English will soon come to buy & we can sell it to them – Your Pa says that his crop at the present prices will bring $ 70,000 & this is too much to sacrifice unless it is absolutely necessary. When we hear that transports are taking cotton below this point & the Federals are going into the interior ours is at Stockland (which I think they will be afraid to do) it will be time enough then – I hope we will save it as then we will be perfectly free from debt & able to pay the taxes, I think the country need not be impoverished more than is obliged to be. My children will reap the benefit. I hear that the cotton in your region is perfectly safe at least until the river is low. Dr. Jackson is appointed to have the order carried out – the Captains of Companies are to do it & I fear they may be too rash. I hear that the Commodore told the people of New Orleans that private property would be respected & they will fear to attempt to take cotton knowing it would ensure its destruction. – We hear today that Forts Jackson & Philip have surrendered & there is a rumor also that Fort Pillow has been evacuated. Your Pa says they will soon have undisturbed possession of the river. I fear the scheme of guerilla warfare will be adopted & even a Capt of the army who was here a day or two ago said it would require the strictest discipline to keep the men from pillaging & doing mischief as there have been many instances of this unless the companies could be composed of gentlemen.

I hear of nothing more than the reports I mentioned but what you know – the Capt I spoke of was just from Corinth & said a battle might take place at any day now – I am told that 8 persons were killed & several wounded in N. Orleans for showing sympathy for the Union army by hurraing for Lincoln I suppose some poor ignorant people who might have done it without much reflection for no one who reflected a moment would have been so foolish. Mrs Jones told Cory that the City was like a Bedlam – people running about – women & children crying &c & the destruction of property immense Molasses Sugar & bacon

destroyed & this too when the city is nearly destitute of provisions – The people of Vicksburg are not much better. All that can go have gone out into the country & stores &c are being removed. Your pa was called on today for negro men to make fortifications below the town & every one else here sent some – tho it is perfect folly to attempt it. Some one said the guns would be captured as at New Orleans – 200 cannon were taken there – Genl Lovell & the soldiers under his command were at Camp Moore when I heard last.

I purchased a barrel of flour for you on my return as there was only 2 to be sold in the Bend. I sent as much as Peyton can carry – Please send the books you will find in the bag to Mrs Purnell . When you see her give her my love & kind regards to Dr P & to Mrs Selby also.

Give my love to Mr H – I hope he will soon be well again Kiss my darling Morancy a dozen times & Eliza too – Remember me kindly to Jane Rose & all the servants. Tell Jane that John Beonso is well & Caroline better. … E J Morancy

P.S. The barrel of flour is a birthday gift to you – do not laugh at this. I hope times will not be so hard always. I will send it to you as I can but will keep it for your use. … the water is coming in our field – it is nearly across the road John could not go to Dr. Daney's to night on account of it – I will send a horse for Jane on Sunday – Henry will go & if he can get to the depot she can get back – Peyton has a fever this evening but may be well enough to go on horseback to-morrow & will let you know the state of the road & she can then know if Henry can come. If she cannot come that way – perhaps she could go in a skiff To Mrs Scotts as Mary intends doing – tho I fear there might be danger in that way.

I hear from Cory that the commander of the gun boats was surprised at the rashness of the people in New Orleans he said that they would not interfere at all with private property that their object was to restore the Union & <u>that</u> they <u>would do</u> if it cost a ten years war - but when it was doe the South should have every right that she ever had – they felt sorry to see the destruction of property- sugar, molasses cotton all belonging to individuals. Perhaps after all they may not interfere with cotton except to offer to buy it & we can refuse to sell to them & sell to the English & French who will soon be here. – This will be their best policy …"

Eliza Morancy to daughter Caroline Morancy Hawkins, May 1863 [portion of left edge of sheet missing]

"My darling child,

… I must give you an account of our affairs your pa <u>insists</u> on my going to Kentucky & I expect to leave this week with Mr. Byrne & Mr Riegart – I shall go Mr. Dumesnils & from there to Nazareth perhaps - Your pa promises to go up in a week or two & as Dr Anderson & family are here & Mr Fontane promises to stay with him & Jane too – have consented – I preferred to wait for him but he will not let me do so. O! darling how I wish you were with me & I think you could come Mr. Tompkins & Ann ought to take Cleora & family or I fear she may die here. This dreadful war will ruin us all. If Philip was here I could take him tho I am sure Harriet would go as all do here. Your pa stays to dispose of his cotton as it is our only resource & he can sell to a citizen or Englishman – I am distressed to think of the horrid state of affairs – I hear that as soon as practicable – 70,000 Federals are going to Monroe & I suffer greatly in anticipation. Is it possible for you to come & go with me or can Mr. Tompkins come William can tell you whether it is possible but as we have no conveyance I could not send for you … E Morancy"

"Milliken's Bend Decr. 17/63, Honoré Morancy to his children

"My dear children,

William Lowry who is now at my house will forward this to you and I take this opportunity to inclose several letters from your mother which will give you an idea how she is getting along. I have returned again to my house with our furniture from Stockland, as I could no longer remain there on account of robbers who were some time ago infesting the country. I am at present very quiet here and am treated with marked kindness and civility by the officers here, as well as by Genl Hawkins who commands the district. He is a cousin of R. D. Hawkins. My health has been generally good, but I am at times troubled with the vertigo. As to something to eat and wear I have no cause to complain For under the reign of plunder and lawlessness which prevailed in this parish previous to the advent of the present set of officers, we have lost every thing except a few cows and a very few mules. Louis if you had any cotton left for the gin, it has all been stolen, I will try to trace it up if possible. I have only got twelve thousand dollars for all the cotton I had – the most of it was burned by the confederates last July, about a week or so ago I was thinking of going out to see you all and I had a permission from Genl Hawkins to do so, and bring you all in if it was advisable, at least for the present, to leave here. I think if Louis could leave home it would be advisable to come in, as I have a good deal to advise with him about, there is no danger in coming in he would not be molested in any manner. If there was any means among you to purchase cotton and the confederates would not burn it it would be a good thing … If you have any mules left you should try to keep them, there are scarcely any mules in this parish… H P Morancy

Jane wishes to be remembered by all of you and wishes particularly to send her love and respects to Caroline and wants very much to see the baby"

June 18 [1864?] Eliza Morancy, to her daughter Caroline Hawkins

"My dear dear daughter,

How delighted I was to hear that you are with your dear father – both on your account and his – I have suffered very much fearing that he might be molested again – since I heard of poor Chatham's death – I beg you will not leave him & if possible hope that you will live with us so long as we both live. I cannot bear to be separated from all my dear children – I have longed often to go back but hoped your father could come up & it would not only rest him but be of great advantage to his health – tho' the danger of guerillas firing on boats made me anxious both when he came up & when we would go down for I intended to go back to the Bend if he could not stay here – but I much prefer living in Ky until the war is over & if our cotton had not been burned we might have bought a little place near Frankfort or Louisville where we could have the advantage of church& schools for my dear grand children when I hoped to have my family at least every summer with me – <u>you</u> my darling could stay all the time as Mr H might come too – if Dr J could not & my dear Louis think of this for I still hope it may be done if we could dispose of some of our lands – I cannot bear to live in the Bend away from all my dear family except dear Victoria & she would perhaps come up to school her children & we might in time that are gone & put them in the cemetery at Frankfort – It is a most lovely place & I wish to be put there when I die if possible - - I was surprised & gratified to hear that dear Caddie J sister Cleora & Mary Bruce arrived last week Caddie is at Lexington. I will send for her as soon as possible. I hear that there is martial law there now – but I believe Morgan has left the state & we can soon get her – Bettie & the children wish to see her & I am <u>very</u> impatient to see once more my dear child & hear all the particulars of what has taken place since she left – Dear Ann wrote me saying that she was not very well & the fatigue she has had to endure since all the servants left had exhausted her – O! how it distresses me to think of all my dear children have endured & may yet endure but I hope they will bear their trials with

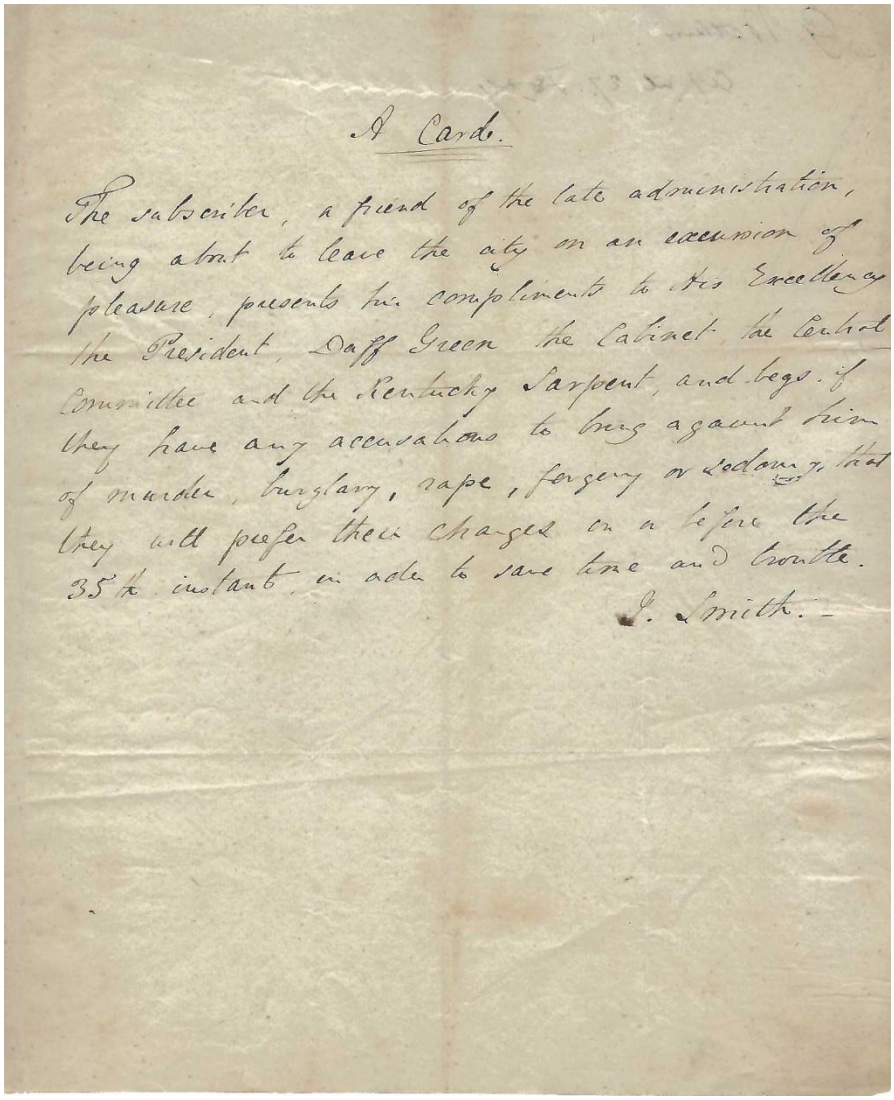
patience & resignation to the will of God & then all their suffering will be blessed – they know that God sends these trials tho man is the instrument & they should try to cast out all bitterness of heart – for if they do not forgive they cannot be forgiven – pray for this spirit my dear child & I hope your sufferings will work out a greater glory in eternity & soon we must all leave this place of trial whether prepared or not. Col. Philip White is here from Philadelphia – he tells me of a very remarkable circumstance & will send me some papers giving the account when he returns – an Italian priest in Philadelphia has the gift of miracles – cures the most inveterate diseases by a prayer & making the sign of the cross – he does not know whether he gives any thing or not – he said he was doing this when he left. My dear child – pray for your father & get him to read some pious books – I pray continually for him & for you all.

I wish you would send this to dear Ann as I have not time to write now & will write soon to her- I have sent three or four letters by Genl Steel to be sent by flag of truce as Mrs D wrote me to do - & many by private hand – always open to be inspected but she says she has only received those sent by your father I will hereafter write to him to be forwarded. I am very anxious that she should get some clothing & dear Eliza could come up if possible – would there by any opportunity to send from Vicksburg – I wrote to Eliza last & enclosed $ 1 to buy stamps at Little Rock & several times put stamps in the letters I fear she did not get them – I will settle with Mary Bruce for the articles I am truly glad she got even that few – I am using the strictest economy in order to save for my dear children I cannot bear to think that they will suffer anything it is in my power to prevent. – Write often my darling & give me particulars first of yourself and father & dear little one of dear Vic & family – of Jane & Rosa I can never forget them for their kindness to you & my dear husband – Let me know what servants are on the place of those belonging to us – if Chatham has been heard of what things were stolen at Stockland – if you can use the carriage I thought you might get some gentle mules to put in when you go to see Vic – If you have milk & butter – fresh meat chickens &c – All that you think would interest me – where my dear L is & Mr H – Agnes & the children – dear Corry's widow too I have written to her but have had but one letter from her – Ada & Louisa are well when I heard last – Mrs Bledsoe has built a large house at Emmitsburg & keeps house … E J Morancy

Is the garden dear Corry made all destroyed? I wrote weekly to your father until lately the road was so injured that the mails could not come or go, but I hope now they are repaired …"

Louisiana State University has a group of Morancy family papers in their collections consisting of 120 items and 2 printed volumes.

$ 12,500.00



A Card.

The subscriber, a friend of the late administration, being about to leave the city on an excursion of pleasure, presents his compliments to His Excellency the President, Duff Green the Cabinet the Central Committee and the Kentucky Sarpent, and begs if they have any accusations to bring against him of murder, burglary, rape, forgery or sodomy, that they will prefer their charges on or before the 35th instant, in order to save time and trouble.

J. Smith. –

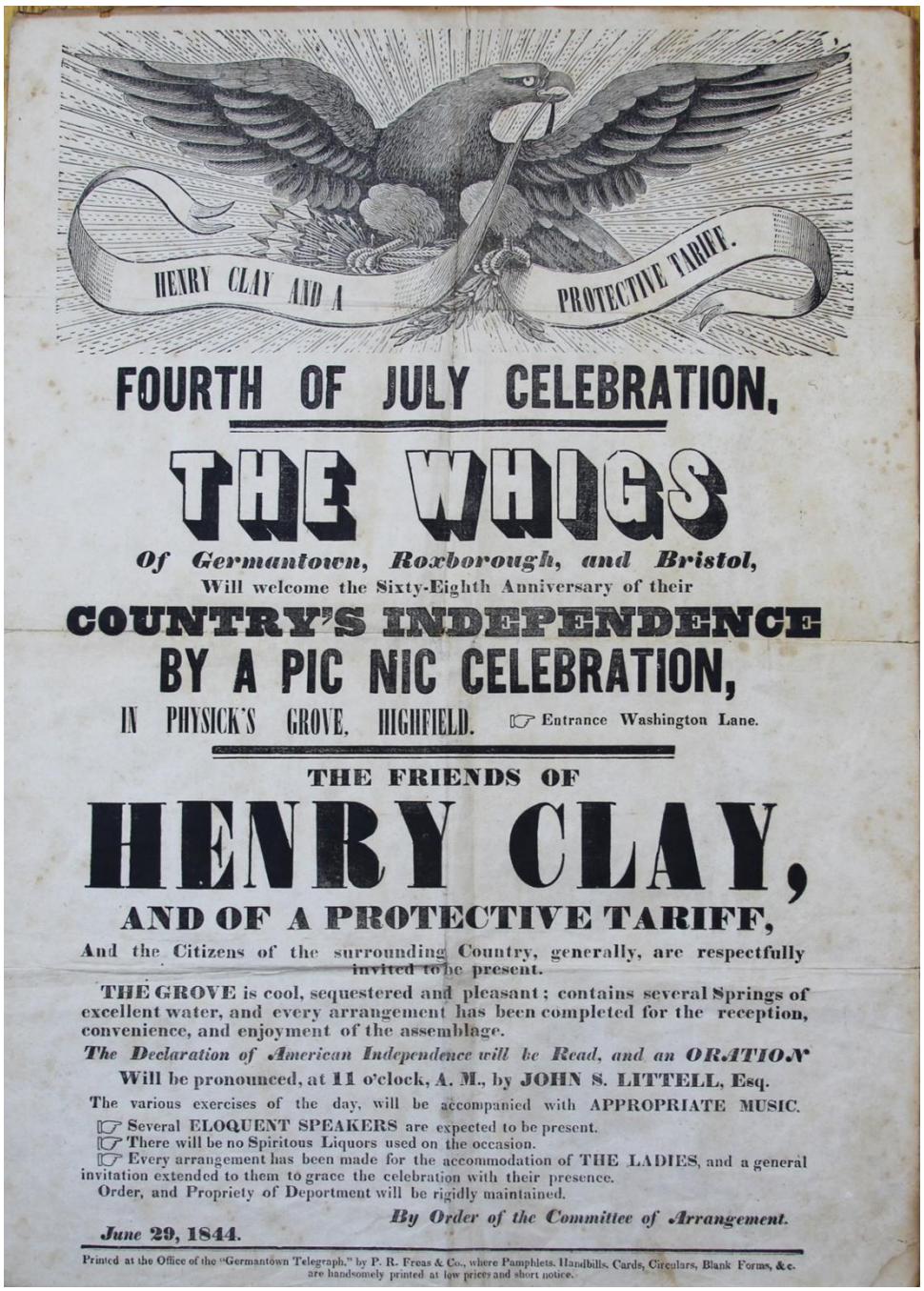
1829 Bitter Political Sarcasm from an Anti-Jacksonian

13. (Political Americana) Smith, J., **Autograph Note Signed, headed: "A Card", no date, or place, but docketed on verso "G. Watkins, April 27, 1829"**
Quarto, 1 page, in very good, clean, legible condition.

"The Subscriber, a friend of the late Administration, being about to leave the city on an excursion of pleasure, presents his compliments to His Excellency the President, Duff Green, the Cabinet, the Central Committee and the Kentucky Sarpent, and begs if they have any accusations to bring against him of murder, burglary, rape, forgery, or sodomy, that they will prefer their charges on or before the 35th instant, in order to save time and trouble."

This cryptic paragraph of political sarcasm is a curiosity that invites speculation. It appears to be intended for publication – possibly in the "National Journal" a Washington, D.C. newspaper owned in part by Tobias Watkins, a former Treasury Department appointee in the defeated Adams Administration, arrested a month before on orders of the newly inaugurated President Andrew Jackson, on charges of embezzlement and fraud. These and other allegations against Watkins, were thought by

anti-Jacksonians to be fabricated by Duff Green, editor of the “United States Telegraph”, principal mouthpiece of the Jackson Administration, and unofficial presidential advisor in Jackson’s “Kitchen Cabinet”, and Watkins’ Jacksonian successor in office, Amos Kendall, another journalist who dominated the Kitchen Cabinet and later became Jackson’s Postmaster General. Smith, the writer – possibly a pseudonym – an Adams supporter, implies that the Jacksonian’s would stop at nothing to wildly libel their opponents. $ 100.00



14. (Political Americana – Broadside) **Henry Clay and a Protective Tariff. Fourth of July Celebration. THE WHIGS of Germantown, Roxborough, and Bristol, Will welcome the Sixty-Eighth Anniversary of their Country's Independence by a Pic Nic Celebration, In Physick's Grove, Highfield. Entrance Washington Lane. The Friends of HENRY CLAY, and Of A Protective Tariff, And the Citizens of the surrounding Country, generally, are respectfully invited to be present.**

The Grove is cool, sequestered and pleasant: contains several Springs of excellent water, and every arrangement has been completed for the reception, convenience, and enjoyment of the assemblage.

***The Declaration of American Independence will be Read, and an Oration* Will be pronounced, at 11 o'clock, A.M., by John S. Littell, Esq. The various exercises of the day, will be accompanied with Appropriate Music.**

Several Eloquent Speakers are expected to be present.

There will be no Spiritous Liquors used on the occasion.

Every arrangement has been made for the accommodation of The Ladies, and a general invitation extended to them to grace the celebration with their presence.

Order, and Propriety of Deportment will be rigidly maintained.

By Order of the Committee of Arrangement. June 29, 1844.

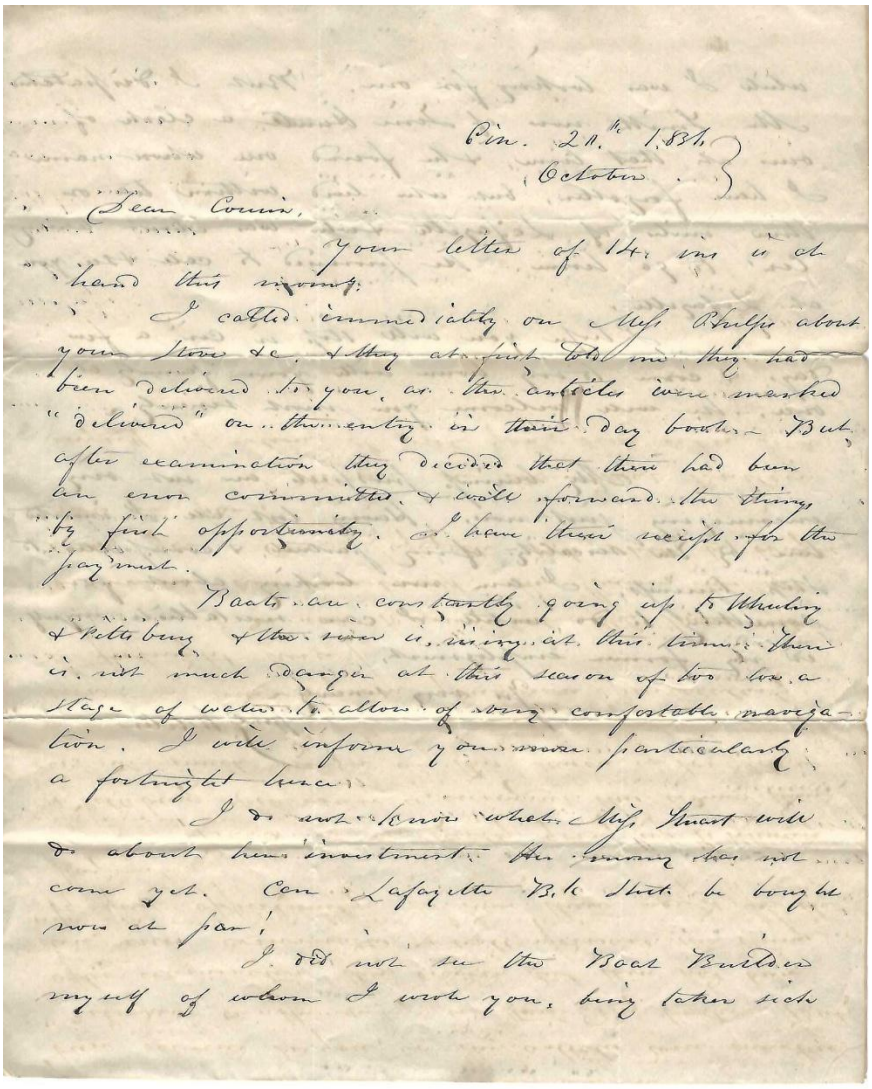
[Philadelphia] Printed at the Office of the "Germantown Telegraph," by P. R. Freas & Co., where Pamphlets, Handbills, Cards, Circulars, Blank Forms, &c. are handsomely printed at low prices and short notice. [1844] Folio broadside, measuring 19 x 13 ⅜ inches, formerly folded into eighths, small hole at central fold intersection, paper slightly browned, some ruffling to edges of sheet, otherwise very good.

Large, attractive campaign broadside, printed in a variety of fonts and typefaces with a large woodcut of an eagle at top edge. The broadside advertises a 4th of July celebration and Picnic put on by the Whig Party in support of Henry Clay, their candidate for president in 1844, held in the Germantown neighborhood of Philadelphia.

Henry Clay (1777-1852) was a three-time presidential candidate, the 1844 election was his final run for the office. Clay had resigned from the Senate in 1842, only to find himself nominated by several states as Whig presidential candidate. Both he and Van Buren, who expected to be the Democratic nominee, agreed to oppose the immediate annexation of Texas, but as the Democrats were determined on expansion, Van Buren lost the nomination to James K. Polk. Clay who had been nominated by acclamation, then declared that slavery was not an issue in the Texas question and endorsed Texan annexation "without dishonor, without war, with the common consent of the Union, and upon just and fair terms. This maneuver lost him New York and thereby the election. He supported the war with Mexico after it was declared.

John Stockton Little (1806-1875) the orator at this celebration, was a publisher and author, he published *The Clay Minstrel* in 1844, his brother Eliakim Littell (1797-1870) was the editor and publisher of the long-lived periodical *Littell's Living Age,* which ran from 1844-1941.

Not listed in American Imprints, OCLC, Library Company of Philadelphia online catalog, not in American Antiquarian Society Catalog. $ 2500.00



Cin. 21st 1831
October

Dear Cousin,

Your letter of 14th inst is at hand this morning.

I called immediately on Mess Philips about your stove &c. & they at first told me they had been delivered to you, as the articles were marked "delivered" on the entry in their day book. But after examination they decided that there had been an error committed & will forward the things by first opportunity. & have their receipt for the payment.

Boats are constantly going up to Wheeling & Pittsburg & the river is rising at this time. There is not much danger at this season of too low a stage of water to allow of very comfortable navigation. I will inform you more particularly a fortnight hence.

I do not know what Miss Stuart will do about her investment. Her money has not come yet. Can Lafayette Bk. Stock be bought now at par?

I did not see the Boat Builder myself of whom I wrote you, being taken sick

1831 Noah Webster's son and collaborator gets scammed by a "rascal"

15. Webster, William G.[reenleaf], **Autograph Letter Signed, Cincinnati, October 21, 1831, to Edward A. Ellsworth, Lafayette, Indiana**
Quarto, two pages, plus stamp less address leaf, in very good, clean and legible condition.

Written to his cousin, after inquiring about an error in delivery of a stove and other household articles. "Boats are constantly going up to Wheeling and Pittsburg and the river is rising at this time. There is not much danger at this season of too low a stage of water to allow of a very comfortable navigation… I do not know what Miss Stuart will do about her investment. Her money has not come yet. Can Lafayette Bk. Stock be bought now at par?

I did not see the Boat Builder myself of whom I wrote you, being taken sick while I was looking for one. But I dispatched Mr. Smith … a clerk of ours at that time and he found one… who lived within two or three miles of Lafayette… He promised to call and see you …

I hope you will stop in Cin. A few days and come to my house with your family… We will welcome you most sincerely.

My business prospects are not very encouraging just now. Having lost all I invested here by the rascality of my partner and compelled to stop business, I am now looking about for something to do, until I can reestablish myself in my former employment…"

The fifth of Noah Webster's eight children, and his first son, born in 1801, William was six years old when his father began the 18-year labor to produce his "American Dictionary of the English Language." When the First Edition appeared in 1828, William had graduated from Yale, travelled in Europe and moved to Cincinnati to become enmeshed in a partnership which, as we see from this frank letter, ended in financial disaster – not an opportune moment as he was about to marry Rosalie Eugenia Sturat of Virginia, whose own finances were apparently unsettled. At that moment, his 72-year-old father, after lobbying Congress for the first major revision of US copyright laws, was contemplating a second edition of his Dictionary. As William was then at loose ends, he eventually became involved in his father's work, both in the business, legal and publishing side, and as Noah's assistant in adding five thousand words to the 70,000 in the original Dictionary, culminating in publication of the second edition, "corrected and enlarged", of 1841, and the first Merriam imprint of 1845.

Edward A. Ellsworth, Webster's correspondent, was a land agent in Lafayette, Indiana, apparently a son of Henry Leavitt Ellsworth, the first US Commissioner of Patents (who, after leaving office, settled in Lafayette to manage his own large investment in "Western" lands); and grandson of Oliver Ellsworth, third Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court – and once legal mentor to a young Noah Webster.

This is a very early record of William Webster's business affairs. A summary of the extensive collection of papers held by the New York Public Library notes no business papers predating 1833.

$ 125.00