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LIST 61

MANUSCRIPT AMERICANA

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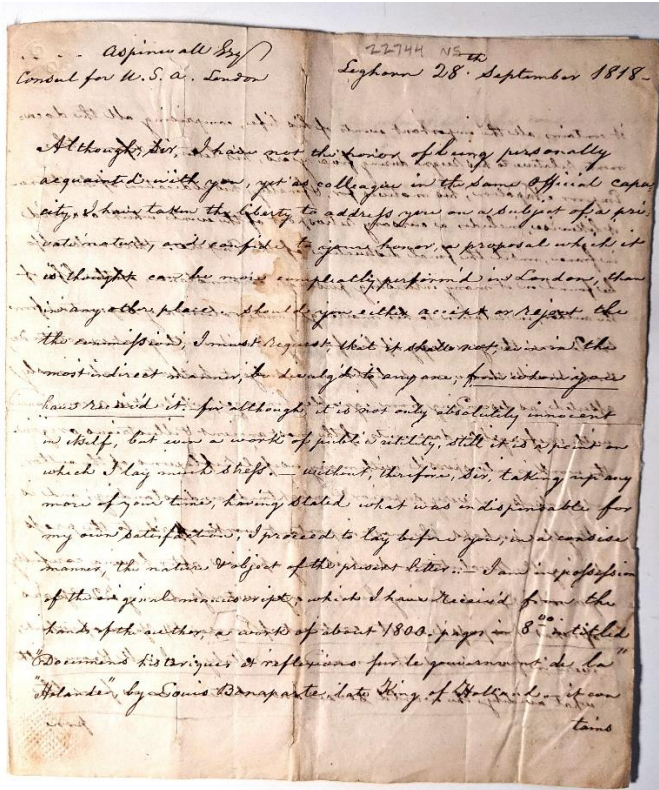
MEMBER ABAA & ILAB

TEL. 202 578-4803

**"I AM IN POSSESSION OF THE ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPT
WHICH I RECEIVED FROM THE HANDS OF THE AUTHOR. . ."**

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1. (BONAPARTE, LOUIS). APPLETON, THOMAS *Autograph Letter Signed to Thomas Aspinwall, Concerning Louis Bonaparte's Book.* Leghorn, (Italy), September 28, 1818. \$ 750.00



4to. 250 x 210 mm., [9 ¾ x 8 ½ inches]. 6pp., approximately 1000 words. Autograph letter signed, written in ink in very legible hand, folded. Remnants of an impressed seal, paper stock a bit browned, edges frayed, with a few small holes and cuts at folds all expertly reinforced with Japanese tissue.

Confidential and quite rare letter written by Thomas Appleton, U. S. Consul in Leghorn, Italy to Thomas Aspinwall, the American Consul in London requesting Aspinwall's assistance in publishing the manuscript written by Louis Bonaparte entitled *Documens historiques et réflexions sur le gouvernement de la Hollande.*

" I am in possession of the original manuscript which I have received from the hands of the author, a work of about 1800 pages...by the late King of Holland...it contains all the important events of his life, comprising all the documents relative to his reign...his letters to and from the Emperor Napoleon". Appleton expresses the importance of the work and how it will be avidly received by the public being "the most important work offered to the press during the revolution". Appleton proposes that the author will pay for the printing, but that it may be advisable to try more than one printer "in order to excite a competition".

The letter goes on to stipulate that the author requires "one hundred copies, such as shall be printed for sale and twenty-five other copies to be handsomely bound & printed on 'grand, et beau papier velin'". The author gives his sacred word of honor, "that no other person but myself is in possession of the work, nor shall it be given to anyone, but to the person whom I may dispose of it, who shall when paid for by him, be the compleat & sole proprietor of this work." It continues with mention of compensation to Aspinwall and other details

The first edition of Louis Bonaparte's three volume work appeared in Paris in 1820, followed quickly with editions printed in Ghent, Brussels, and Bruges, the same year.

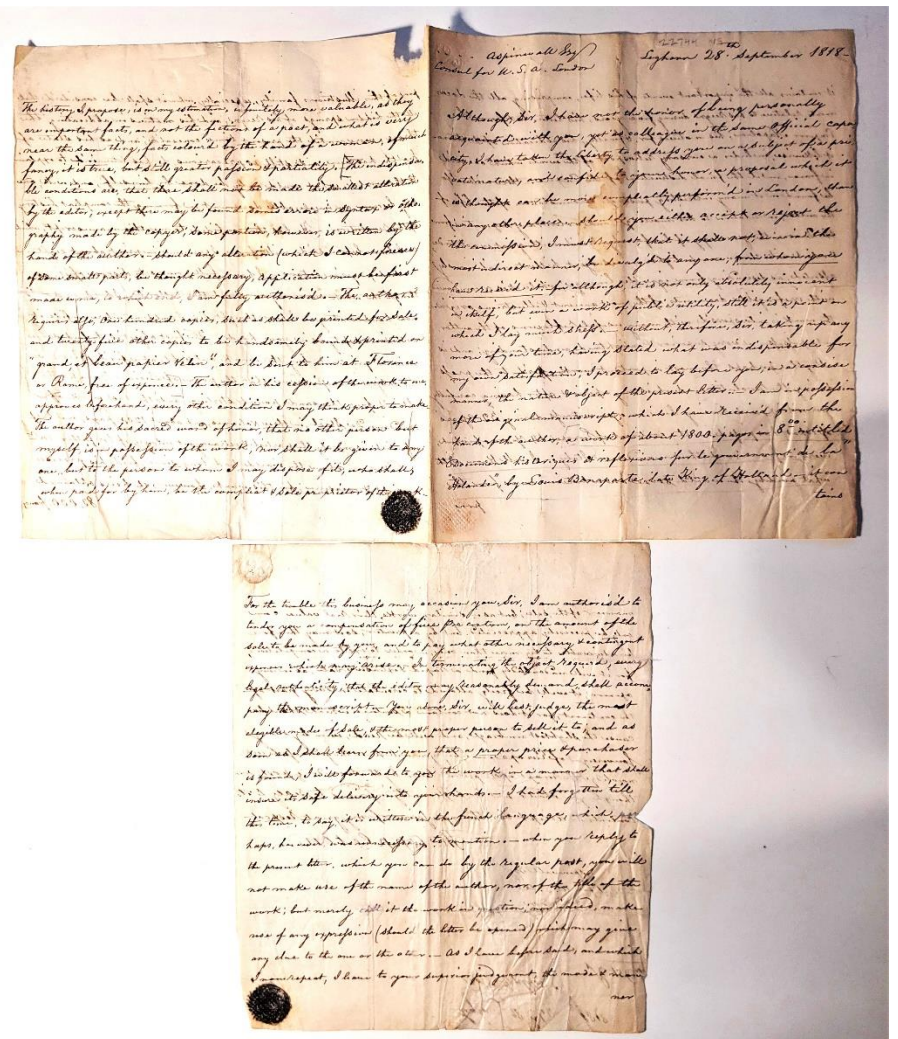
Thomas Appleton (1763-1840) was appointed by George Washington as the first U. S. Consul to Livorno Italy. He honed his skills as a diplomat in the 1780's while living in Paris and working with Thomas Jefferson, then Ambassador to France. He became a lifelong friend and correspondent of Jefferson and over the years acted as Jefferson's agent in France and Italy. To supplement his income as consul general Appleton became an art dealer and was one of the first to ship sculpture and paintings to Boston and was instrumental in establishing a taste for the classical style of European art for an American audience.

Thomas Aspinwall (1786-1876), a Harvard lawyer, had been appointed consul to London by President James Madison, a position he held for 38 years from 1815 to 1853. His distinguished career began with his participation in the War of 1812, where he lost an arm at the battle of

Lake Eire and refused to be taken from the field. He was promoted to the rank of Colonel. He was also an important collector of Americana while living in Europe and a catalogue of his collection was published in Paris in 1833. Much of the collection which included a Columbus Letter was purchased *en-bloc* by Samuel Barlow and can be found listed in the noted *Bibliotheca Barlowiana* published in 1864 and again in 1889.

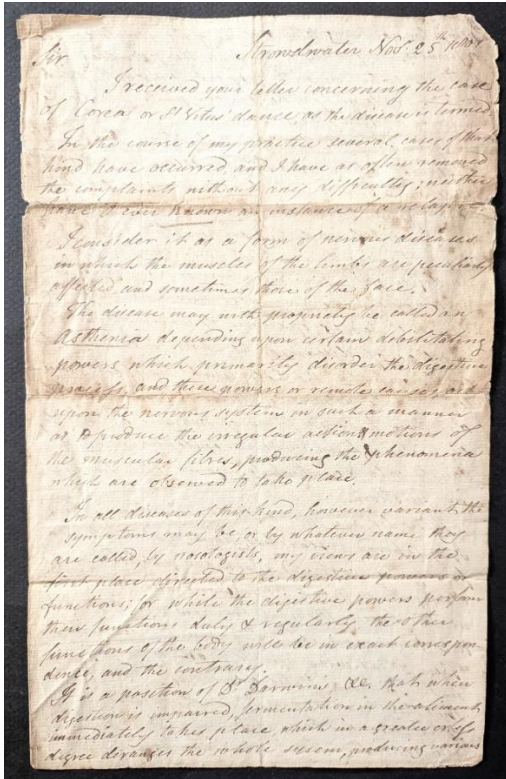
Napoleon proclaimed his brother, Louis, King of Holland in 1806. From the first, the emperor reproached him for being too easy on his subjects. By 1809 Napoleon considered annexing Holland in order to stop the trade Dutch merchants were secretly conducted with England. In 1810, failing to negotiate successfully with England or persuading his brother Louis to exert greater control over the Dutch economy, the Emperor dispatched French troops against the Dutch capital. Louis abdicated and fled his kingdom, which on July 9 Napoleon annexed to France. Styling himself the Comte de Saint-Leu, Louis lived for some time in Bohemia, Austria, and Switzerland. He spent his later life in Italy, largely occupied with literary pursuits.

Carl Canon, *American Book Collectors*, pp. 66, 103. See biographical references to Appleton online-database *American National Biography* and for Aspinwall there is a short notice in *Appleton's Cyclopaedia of American Biography*, I, p. 111. (664)



EARLY DIAGNOSIS FOR WHAT CAME TO BE CALLED HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE

2. (MEDICAL). BARKER, JEREMIAH. *Autograph Letter Signed to Dr. Hathaway*. Stroudwater, (Portland, District of Maine), November 25, 1801. \$ 400.00



Folio. 290 x 180 mm., [7 x 11 1/2 inches]. 4 pp. About 1100 words. Paper stock browned, slight breaks at folds, edge wear; overall a bit fragile but highly legible.

Lengthy and interesting letter in which Dr. Jeremiah Barker (1751-1835), physician of Maine, writes to a Dr. Hathaway concerning his treatment for the rare disease of Coreia (Chorea) or St. Vitus Dance; an involuntary movement disorder. It is one of a group of neurological disorders called dyskinesias. The term is derived from the Greek for a kind of dance, or the quick movements of the feet or hands which vaguely

resembles dancing or piano playing.

Born in Scituate, Massachusetts, Barker went to Cambridge, where he studied medicine and surgery under Dr. Lincoln, a prominent physician and Harvard Medical School graduate.

The letter reads in part: "I received your letter concerning the case of Coreia [Chorea] or St. Vitus Dance, as the disease is termed. In the course of my practice several cases of that kind have occurred, and I have as often removed the complaints without any difficulty; neither have I ever known an instance of a

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relapse. I consider it as a form of nervous disease, in which the muscles of the limbs are particularly affected and sometimes those of the face. The disease may with propriety be called an Asthenia, depending upon certain debilitating powers, which primarily disorder the digestive process and these powers or remote causes act upon the nervous system in such a manner as to produce the irregular actions & motions of the muscular fibers, producing the phenomena which are observed to take place. In all diseases of this kind, however variant the symptoms may be, only whatever name they are called by nosologists, my views are in the first place directed to the digestive powers or functions, for while the digestive powers perform their functions duly & regularly, the other functions of the body will be in exact correspondence, and the contrary. It is the position of Dr. Darwin's et al., that when digestion is impaired, fermentation in the aliment immediately takes place, which in a greater or less degree deranges the whole system..."

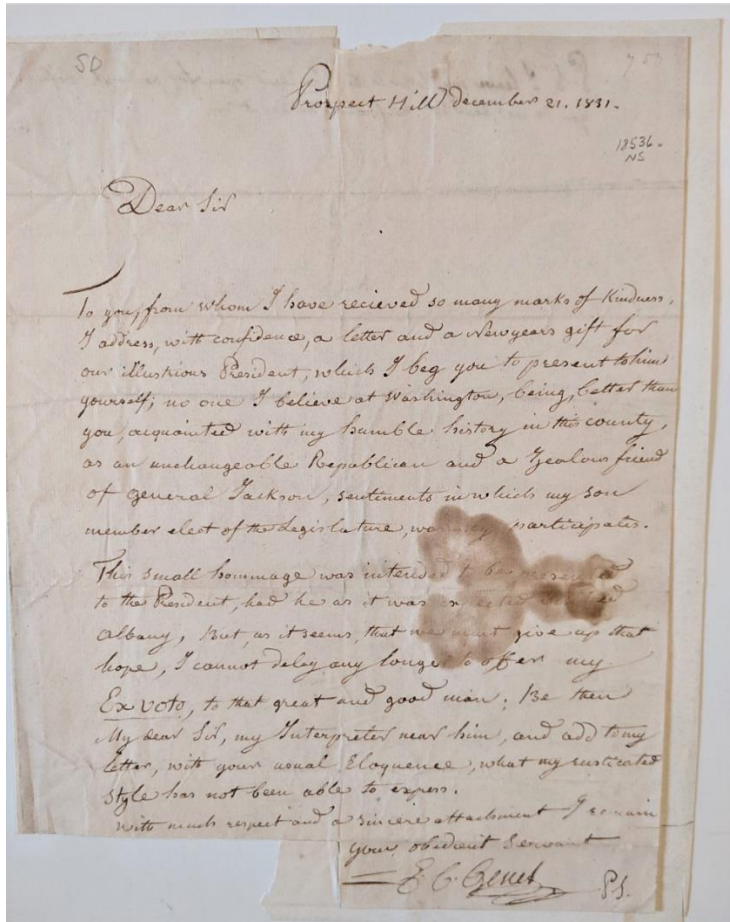
Although correct on the description of the malady, Dr. Barker mistakenly ascribed the syndrome to digestive ailments. In fact, he was known as the "Alkaline Doctor" because of his belief that excess stomach acidity caused a number of illnesses.

Upon receiving his license Dr. Barker then opened a medical practice in Barnstable, Cape Cod, where he married Abigail Gorham. During the Revolution Dr. Barker joined the Continental Army as a surgeon and was a member of the ill- fated Bagaduce Expedition against the British Navy, when the ship in which he was serving was forced to retreat up the Penobscot River. With the remainder of the officers and crew, he made his way through the woods, undergoing extreme hardship. Around 1792, he moved to the Portland area where he continued to practice.

See the account of Barker in *Dictionary of American Biography*, and *American National Biography* on-line. (709)

**A CHRISTMAS GIFT FROM EDMOND GENET TO
TO "OUR ILLUSTRIOUS PRESIDENT" ANDREW JACKSON**

3. GENET, E(DMOND) C(HARLES). *Autograph Letter Signed (to William L. Marcy?).* Prospect Hill, December 21, 1831. \$ 525.00



4to. 260 x200 mm., [10 ¼ x 8 inches]. 1 page, plus small portions of two other pages (folio sheet, folded), approximately 150 words. Written in ink, Moderate brown stain toward center obscuring a number of words. Letter laid down into marginal paper supports.

Genet's letter discusses a Christmas gift for President Andrew Jackson which is described as a medallion bearing the head of Julius Caesar.

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Genet begs the recipient, thought to be William L. Marcy, U.S. Senator and former Secretary of State, to give Jackson the gift. He writes,

"no one I believe at Washington, being better than you, acquainted with my humble history in this country, as an unchangeable Republican and a zealous friend of General Jackson."

Genet wished to deliver the gift to Jackson personally, but Jackson's proposed visit to Albany where Genet was living never materialized.

William L. Marcy was a Governor of New York, Senator, and Secretary of State, and he exerted considerable influence on American foreign policy. The letter demonstrates Genet's intimacy with him, writing

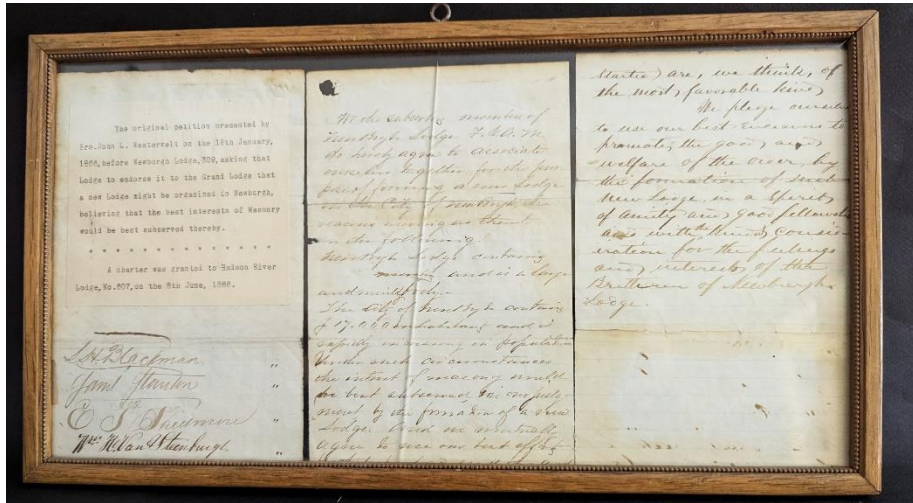
"...be then My dear Sir, my Interpreter near him, and add to my letter, with your usual eloquence, what my rusticated style has not been able to express."

The contact between Genet and Jackson came at an important moment of U.S.-French relations, a subject of continuous interest for Genet. He was the first minister of the French Republic to the United States. In 1830 President Jackson sent William Rives to France to negotiate a settlement of the "Beaumarchais claim," made by the family for repayment for services rendered by their ancestor during the American Revolution. Conversely, Rives was seeking reparations against the French for their role in the commercial crisis that preceded the War of 1812. As a show of strength before the negotiations, the U.S. increased tariffs on the import of French wine, but by 1831 exhausted by competing claims, both sides were finally ready to reach a settlement. Genet's "small homage" to Jackson cannot have failed to figure into his goal of pleasing the President France at this crucial time in the diplomatic relationship of the two countries.

Jackson and Genet did occasionally correspond, and two letters dated 1831 are held by the James Monroe Museum and Memorial Library.

“THE BEST INTEREST OF MASONRY WOULD BE BEST SUBSERVED”

5.(MASONRY). NEW YORK. *Charter of Hudson Rive Lodge, Number 606, Newburgh, New York, June 8, 1866.* \$ 500.00



Framed manuscript 6heets, with inserted short typescript. 130 x 200 mm., [5 x 8 inches]. 6pp. Browned, folds, small hole at top of one page, no loss, preserved under double sided glass; front plate cracked.

Charter of a new lodge from 1866, which contains the names of many leading businessmen of Newburgh, New York. Brother John L. Westervelt presented an original petition to Newburgh Lodge 309, asking if a new lodge could be organized in Newburgh “believing that the best interest of Masonry would be best subserved thereby.”

A charter was granted to Hudson River Lodge 607 on June 8, 1866. Forty-six signatures are appended to the document. Many are designated “true”, and a few are designated “non affiliated”. David A. Scott was voted master; G. Frederick Wiltsie, senior warden; Samuel Stanton junior warden, and John Alsdorf as first secretary.

John L. Westervelt (1826–after 1880), the petitioner, was a silversmith whose specialty was repairing and replating Gorham objects. He was married to Catherine Gorham of New York. “After the Lodge had been declared open, the Master arose and on behalf of Bro. John L. Westervelt,

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presented to the Lodge a full set of solid silver jewels for the use of the offices. The following resolution was then offered and adopted unanimously: ‘Resolved, That the thanks of this Lodge be and are hereby tendered to Brother John L. Westervelt for the very beautiful set of jewels which he has so generously presented to the Lodge.’” (*History of Hudson River Lodge*).

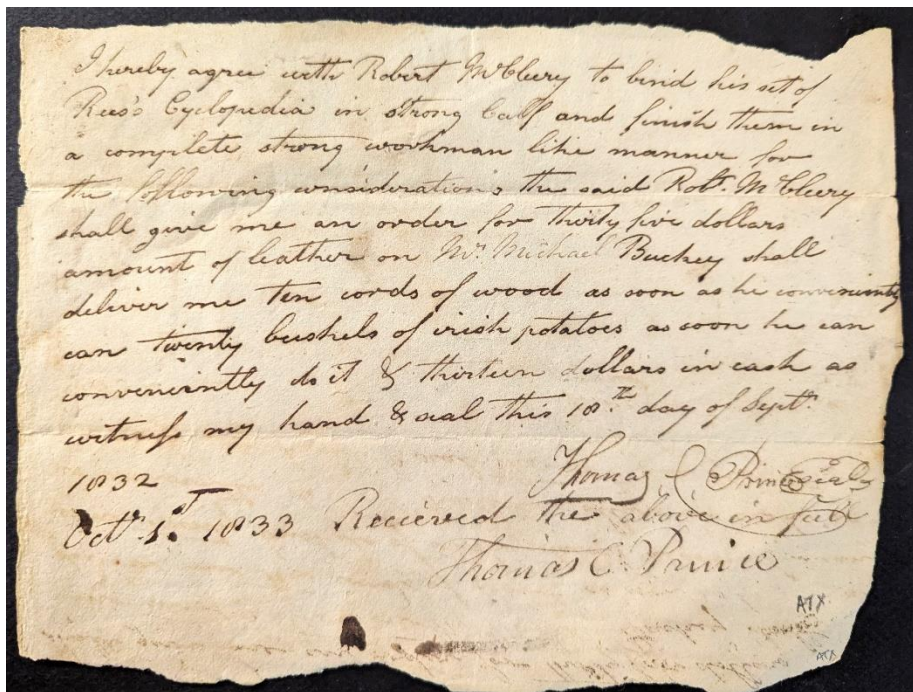


Charles Estabrook (1823–1900) bookstore owner and librarian at Newburgh Free Library signed the resolution, as did Chancy M. Leonard, mayor of Newburgh, who died in 1874. Another jeweler and silversmith Thomas W. Purdy (ca. 1830–after 1880) also signed. David A. Scott (1825–1890) lawyer, court judge and first master was also a signatory.

Charles H. Halstead. *History of Hudson River Lodge*. (1896). (1307)

“AND COMPLETE THEM IN A STRONG WORKMAN LIKE MANNER”

6.(BOOKBINDER). PRINCE, THOMAS C. “I hereby agree with Robert McCleery to bind his set of Rees’s Cyclopaedia in strong Calf. (Salem, MA?), October 1st, 1832. \$ 575.00



I hereby agree with Robert McCleery to bind his set of Rees's Cyclopaedia in strong Calf and finish them in a complete strong workman like manner for the following consideration's the said Robt. McCleery shall give me an order for thirty five dollars amount of leather on Mr. Michael Buckley shall deliver me ten cords of wood as soon as he conveniently can twenty bushels of irish potatoes as soon he can conveniently do it & thirteen dollars in cash as witnesses my hand & seal this 18th day of Sept. 1032
Thomas C. Prince
Oct. 1. 1033 Received the above in full
Thomas C. Prince

Manuscript receipt in ink on paper; docketed on verso. 140 x 200 mm., [5 ½ x 8 inches]. Approximately 100 words. Highly legible and detailed content about the cost of materials and the payment terms for the commission.

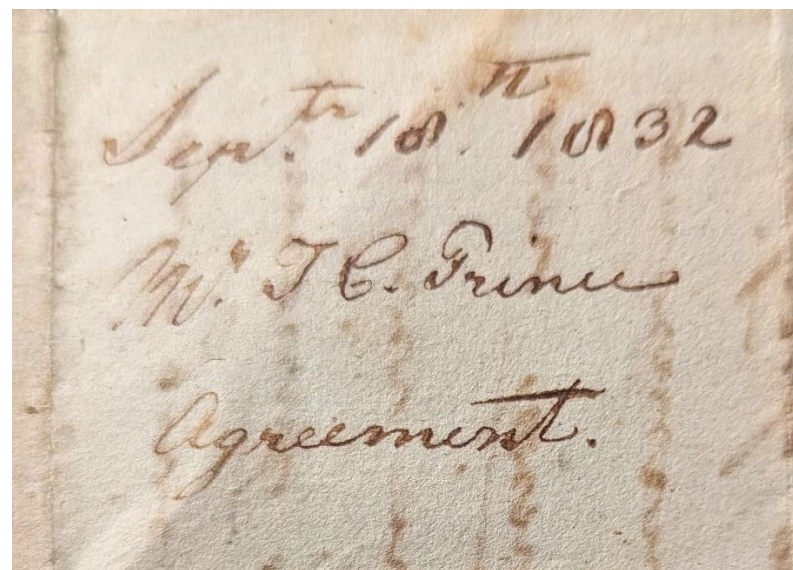
Although there is no place named on this receipt this is likely Thomas Prince who was listed as a bookbinder in the Salem, Massachusetts *City Directory* of 1837. In Hannah Dustin French's essay, "Early American Bookbinding by Hand", Prince is listed as a printer, blank-book manufacturer, and binder. Born in Massachusetts in 1784, his name appears in the 1850 Census as a bookbinder in Salem, Ward 3, Essex. He died in 1857.

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The set he was to work on was Abraham Rees “*The Cyclopaedia; or Universal Dictionary of Arts, Sciences, and Literature*, published in London in 1819 in 39 volumes, plus 6 volumes of plates and an atlas. (1305)

The agreement reads:

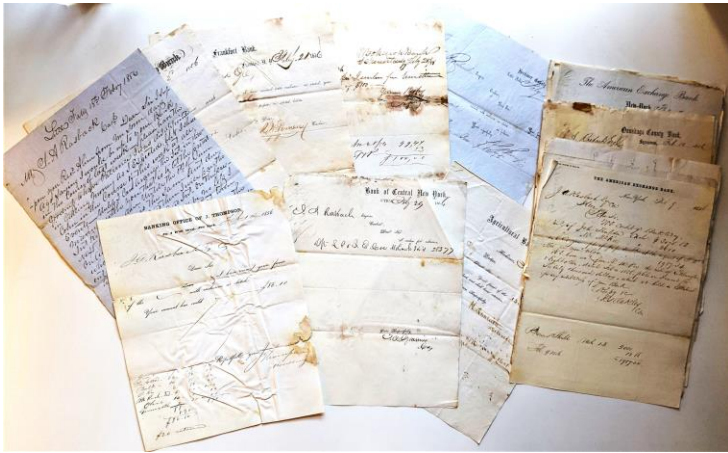
“I hereby agree with Robert McCleery to bind his set of Rees’s Cyclopaedia in strong Calf and finish them in a complete strong workman like manner for the following considerations the said Robt. McCleery shall give me an order for thirty five dollars amount of leather on Mr. Michael Buckley shall deliver me ten cords of wood as soon as he conveniently can twenty bushels of irish potatoes as soon as he can conveniently do it & thirteen dollars in cash as witnesses my seal this 18th day of Sept, 1832. {Signed} Thomas Prince. Oct. 1st 1833 Received the above in full {Signed} Thomas Prince”.



Sept. 18. 1032
W. J. C. Prince
Agreement.

THE REMINGTON ARMS COMPANY IN HERKIMER, NEW YORK

7.(BANKING ARCHIVE). RASBACH, JOHN A. Banking Documents of John A. Rasbach, Some Dealing with E. Remington & Sons of Herkimer, New York. 1856. \$ 300.00



Folio manuscript collection. Mostly 250 x 200 mm., [10 x 8 inches]. Letterhead Sheets. 29 pp. total. Folds, light browning, small tears at folds.

Archive comprised of 16 pp. with the American Exchange Bank, and 12 pp. relating to the Albany City Bank, Frankfort Bank, Herkimer County Bank, Bank of Central New York, Agricultural Bank, Onondaga County Bank, Mohawk Valley Bank, and H.J. Miner's Bank. There is also a 1 p. letter from Berry P. Churchill to J.A. Rasbach, Little Falls, February 18, 1856.

Collection of hand written banking documents with apparent relevance to the Remington Arms Company on letterheads of various historical banks in Upstate New York State. Most are addressed to J.A. Rasbach who was John Adam Rasbach (1805-1892), an attorney and cashier of the American Exchange Bank in Ilion, New York. A Herkimer County history notes that: "In 1852 Ilion became an incorporated village. The person whom history credits as most entitled to be remembered because of this move was John A. Rasbach, a lawyer recently come to the community from Herkimer who spent his own money to help finance the necessary steps for incorporation."

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Mr. Rasbach had attended Fairfield Academy after going through the local schools and had become a merchant in Herkimer. He studied law on the side and was admitted to the bar. In 1852 he came to Ilion, N.Y. to attend to some of the legal business of E. Remington and his Remington Armory.

"E. Remington" was Eliphalet Remington who founded Remington Arms Company in 1816 in Ilion, New York, as E. Remington and Sons. It is the oldest company in the United States which still makes its original product and is the oldest continuously operating manufacturer in North America. A document from February 9, 1856, "... we have rec'd from W. McKee the note of E. Remington & eight others... payable on demand for twenty thousand dollars..."

Many of the documents refer to various transfers of money between banks and are signed by the cashiers. One particularly interesting example, however, is signed by "Geo. S. Coe", who is Vice President of The American Exchange Bank. The letter dated February 1, 1856 and reminds Rasbach that "Your a/c with us has gradually increased until it now stands DR \$20,000 about half of which is made of notes redeemed. We cannot consent to go on with this account constantly accumulating debit balance, and you must therefore remit for the protection of your notes, and also abstain from drawing any checks upon us until the a/c be made good".

The letter from Benj. P. Churchill to J.A. Rasbach, Little Falls, February 18, 1856, asks Rasbach for patience in repaying his line of credit and hopes to repay two months at once. He further asks to pay interest on the loan on a yearly basis. Benjamin Phillips Churchill was a farmer in Little Falls. In the period soon after these papers (following 1856) E. Remington & Sons supplied a large proportion of the small arms used by the United States government in the Civil War.

George A. Hardin, *A History of Herkimer County New York*, Syracuse, 1893, For Rasbach see pp. 89-90, 92. For Remington the most important information is on p. 475, with numerous other references. (651)

INTRODUCTION TO THE THEOLOGY OF THE GREAT AWAKENING

8.SERMONS. MANUSCRIPT. *Eleven Original Manuscript Sermons, 1800-1804.* \$ 1,750.00

12mo. 165 x 100 mm., [6 ½ x 4 inches]. Self-wraps, stitched. Each sermon in a uniform size, pagination various, and all apparently in the same neat hand. All have a caption title on the outer wrapper, and three or four different dates. The sermons were dated from their initial delivery (1800-1804), and then repeated at intervals (and so marked) over the years up to 1820. The group carefully preserved in a modern cloth clamshell box, with snap closure.



- 1) [note at head of wrapper: "Sing Ps. 45- 2nd part of [illeg]."] On the Love of the Upright. Second Sermon on ye text. Augt. 3d, 1800; July 5th, 1805 Preparatory; Augt. 26th, 1810; June 18th, 1820. [56] pp.
- 2) [132nd Hymn]. On the Happiness of those who overcome their Spiritual Enemies. -- T.M. Novr. 4th, 1802 Preparatory; Novr. 3d, 1805 Communion F.M.; Dec. 15th, 1811; May 1st, 1817 Preparatory. [38] pp.
- 3) [88 Ps. 3d part L.M.] On the reasonableness & Necessity of attending to the Ordinances & means of Grace. March [3rd?], 1800; Augt. 26th, 1804; April 7th, 1811; Novr. 10th, 1816. [39] pp.

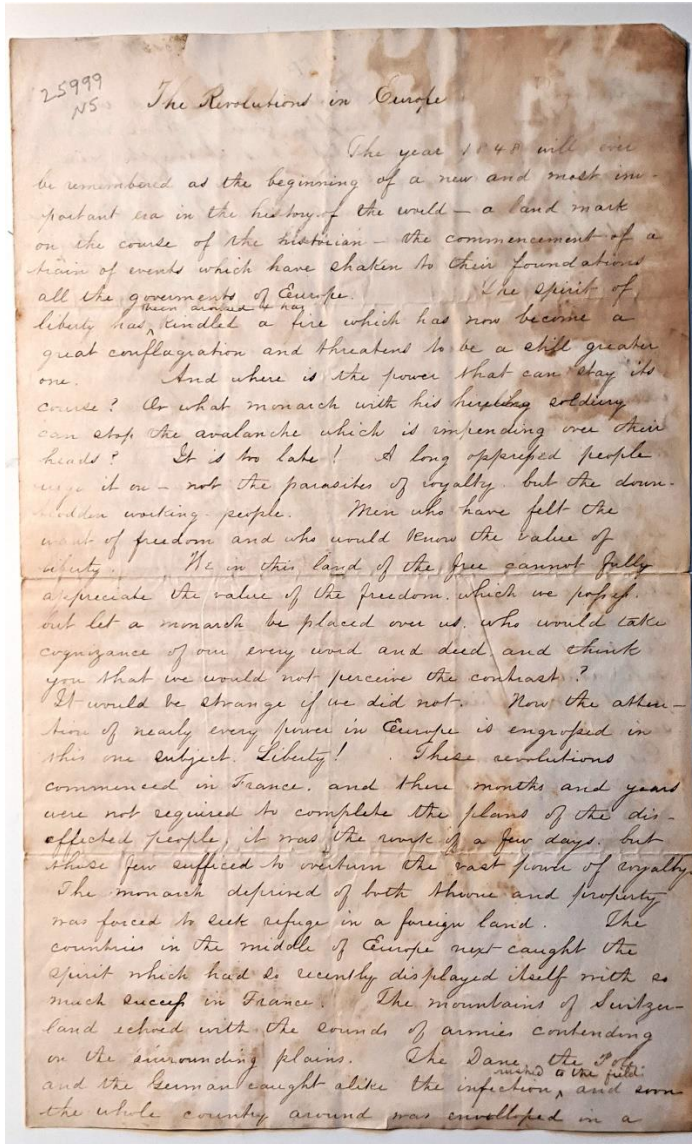
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- 4) [Sing Psalm XIX, 5th part C.M.] On The Character of Ballam. May 17th, 1801- D.L.B.; June 28th, 1807 T.M.; May 9th, 1819 T.M. [46] pp.
- 5) [112 Ps.] On the Importance of a right Improvement of our Talents. Jany. 25th, 1801; Sept. 9th, 1804; March 6th, 1814. [44] pp.
- 6) [Sing Ps. 97th C.M.] Abraham's Desire & Joy to see Christs Day. Decr. 27th, 1801; Feby. 16th, 1806; Jany. 6th, 1822. [44] pp.
- 7) [119 Ps. 9th part D.D.] On the Necessity of Divine Illumination in Ord. to a right understanding of the wonderful things contained in God's word. 2nd sermon. Jany. 19th, 1800; Jany. 15th, 1804; Jany. 14th, 1810; March 30th, 1817. [45] pp.
- 8) [Morning sing. B. Ser. sing CIV Hymn- C.M., conclude with 116th H.] On Saving Faith in Jesus Christ. June 24th, 1804; Sept. 2d, 1810 F.M. [46] pp.
- 9) 155 H.] On Christian hope &c. (1st Sermon). April 29th, 1802 preparatory; June 4th, 1807 Preparatory; October 30th, 1814. [46] pp.
- 10) [257 H. - 153 H. to conclude] On Christian Hope &c. A 2nd Sermon. June 3d, 1802 Preparatory; July 30th, 1807 Preparatory; October 30th, 1814. [31] pp.
- 11) [213 H. 214 H. 215 H.] Sober mindedness inculcated on Young Men. May 13th, 1804 F.M.; Feby. [?], 1810 F.M.; July [?], 1814 F.M. ["This has been transcribed."] [45] pp.

Likely these sermons were preached in New England, which was experiencing the Second Great Awakening (1790-1840) during this time. "In 1800 the 'Connecticut Evangelical Magazine' was founded to report and encourage the revival spirit. Then in 1801, just as it began to flag in the towns, it came to Yale to reward the earnest preaching of President Timothy Dwight. A third of the students (many of them destined for the ministry) were converted." [see: Sydney Ahlstrom's "A Religious History of the American People," (New Haven: 1973), p.416] Whether the unknown author of these sermons was one of his students we have been unable to determine. Item #67567 JT/DSC (1088)

**“STRIKING CONTRAST BETWEEN THESE DISTURBED COUNTRIES
AND OUR OWN HAPPY LAND”**

9. STRONG, CHARLES H. *The Revolutions in Europe.* Manuscript essay written in ink in a legible hand. Signed Charles Strong on the verso of leaf 2 and dated June 1849. \$ 350.00



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Folio. 330 x 200 mm., [13 x 8 inches]. 2 pp. of text. Folio sheet folded into quarters after writing; small tears at folds, expertly repaired, light tide marks and some soiling to the paper stock.

Likely the student essay of Dr. Charles Henry Strong (1828-1912) who was from Girard, Erie, Pennsylvania. At age sixteen he attended the academy at Springfield, Pennsylvania and two years later he entered college at Girard, and received his degree in 1844. Upon graduation Strong taught school in Erie and Crawford County Pennsylvania. In the early 1850's he changed career paths and graduated from Cleveland Eclectic Medical College in 1858. He spent the remainder of his career in medical practice in Sangamon County, Illinois.

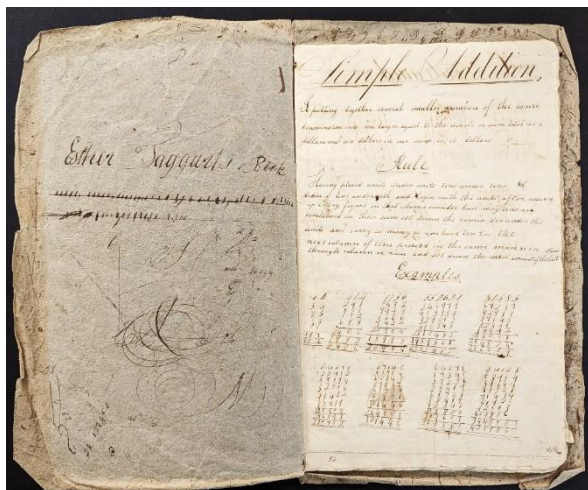
This essay, *The Revolutions in Europe* was probably written while teaching history in Crawford County. The Revolutions of 1848, known in some countries as the Spring of Nations, Springtime of the Peoples, or the Year of Revolution, were a series of political upheavals that began and reverberated throughout the capitals Europe. The revolutionary wave began in France in February, and immediately spread to most of Europe and parts of Latin America. Over fifty countries were affected.

Strong wrote in part:

"The year 1848 will ever be remembered as the beginning of a new and most important era in the history of the world . . . the commencement of a train of events which have shaken to their foundations all the governments of Europe...A long oppressed people urge it on - not the parasites of royalty, but the downtrodden working people . . . while now we contemplate these great political changes which disturb so greatly the peace of the world in general . . . we can not but observe the striking contrast between these disturbed countries and our own happy land... here we enjoy liberty, peace, and plenty." (467)

AMERICAN WOMAN'S MANUSCRIPT ARITHMETIC WORK BOOK
PREPARED FOR THE MERCANTILE TRADE

10. TAGGART, ESTHER. *Esther Taggart's Book*. Middletown (Ct.): 1814. \$ 3,500.00



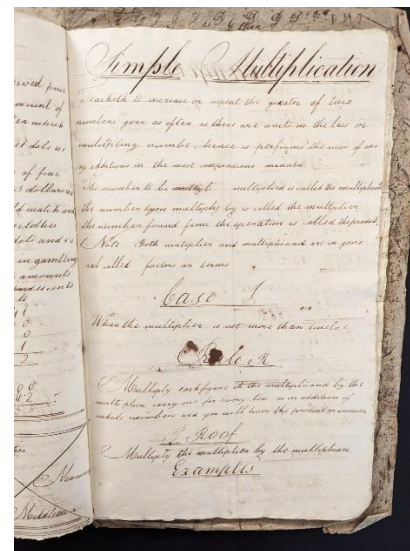
Folio. 320 x 200 mm., [12 ½ x 8 inches]. 424 leaves. Textblock sewn with original drab paper wrappers. Wrappers with a few tears and folds at the edges, some staining, and a few ink marks; otherwise, a remarkably well preserved manuscript work book.

Fine example of an early American arithmetic work book, filled with examples applicable to the mercantile or dry goods trade. Includes exercises in simple addition, addition of Federal Money, simple subtraction, subtraction of Federal Money, simple multiplication and the application and use of multiplication in making out bills, determining quantity and finding the value of goods. This part includes examples of establishing the cost of paper, pairs of men's shoes, bushels of oats and other grains and food commodities. This is followed by exercises in division, compound addition, Sterling money, weights and measures, Troy weight, Avoirdupois, apothecaries, cloth, wine, and the measurement of land.

Of the examples we especially note math problems, concerning distances on the East Coast, including New York to Philadelphia; a wine merchant's dwindling quantity of 'pipe wine'; and a tailor's bill for materials and making of a silk coat, vest, and buttons." A final question to be solved reads as follows: "The war between England and America commenced April 19, 1775, and a general peace took place January 20th 1783, how long did the war continue?" Miss Taggart's calculations break

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down the problem into years, months, and days to arrive at the correct answer.



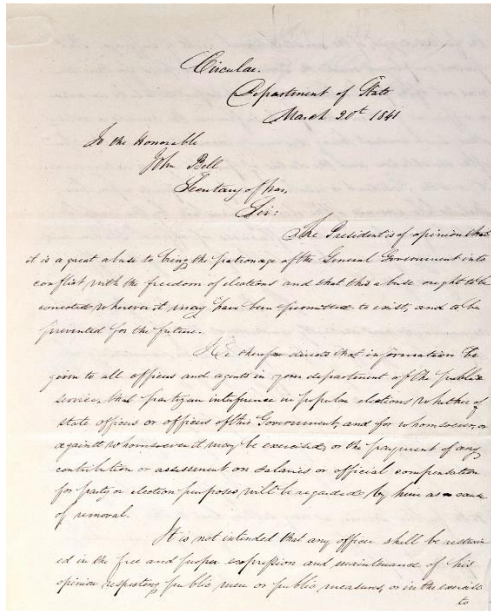
The contents of the manuscript suggest that Ms. Taggart may have been training to work in a commercial setting, selling goods such as the one listed in the fictional Bill of Parcels. Although it is well known that women, especially wives of the owners of general stores, managed the business side of a mercantile enterprise, it is very rare to have an exercise book, penned by a woman that documents the method of learning complex mathematics and business practices.

In this case Esther Taggart was very proud of the work she was doing, and she signed the book four different time; once on the inside cover; once on p. 9 "Esther Taggart's Manuscript"; once on p. 45, again signing it "Esther Taggart's Manuscript", and finally on the inside rear wrapper.

Although we are not sure which New England town named Middletown was Esther's home, we think it was Connecticut. On the sample "Bill of Parcel" that appears on the verso of leaf 11, the example cites New London as the origin of the invoice. (1160)

**PRECURSOR TO THE HATCH ACT
REGULATING FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' PARTISAN POLITICS**

11. WEBSTER, DANIEL. *Circular. Department of State. March 21, 1841.*
"To the Honorable John Bell, Secretary of War." Washington, D.C.
 March 20, 1841. \$ 1,250.00



4to. 253 x 203 mm., [10 x 8 inches]. 2 pp. folded sheet. Watermarked. Docketed. Fine legible hand. Contemporary copy.

On March 20, 1841, during the administration of President William H. Harrison, the following circular designed to limit political activity of public servants was issued by the Hon. Daniel Webster, Secretary of State:

"The President is of opinion that it is a great abuse to bring the patronage of the General Government into conflict with

the freedom of elections, and that this abuse ought to be corrected wherever it may have been permitted to exist and to be prevented for the future.

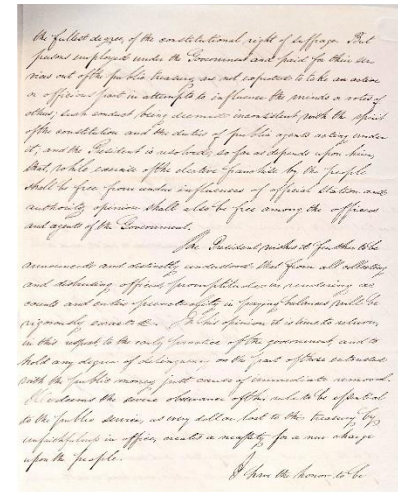
"He therefore directs that information be given to all officers and agents in your Department of the public service that partisan interference in popular elections, whether of State officers or officers of this Government, and for whomsoever or against whomsoever it may be exercised, or the payment of any contribution or assessment on salaries, or official compensation for party-election purposes will be regarded by him as cause of removal."

"It is not intended that any officer shall be restrained in the free and proper expression and maintenance of his opinions respecting public men

De Simone Company, Booksellers

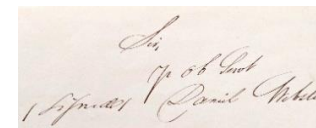
or public measures or in the exercise to the fullest degree of the constitutional right of suffrage. But persons employed under the Government and paid for their services out of the Public Treasury are not expected to take an active or officious part in attempts to influence the minds or votes of others, such conduct being deemed inconsistent with the spirit of the Constitution and the duties of public agents acting under it; and the President is resolved, so far as depends upon him, that while the exercise of the elective franchise by the people shall be free from undue influence of official station and authority opinion shall also be free among the officers and agents of the Government...."

John Bell (1796 –1869) to whom this circular was addressed, was one of



Tennessee's most prominent antebellum politicians. He served in the House of Representatives, the Senate, and was Speaker of the House for the 23rd Congress. He briefly served as Secretary of War during the administration of William Henry Harrison (1841).

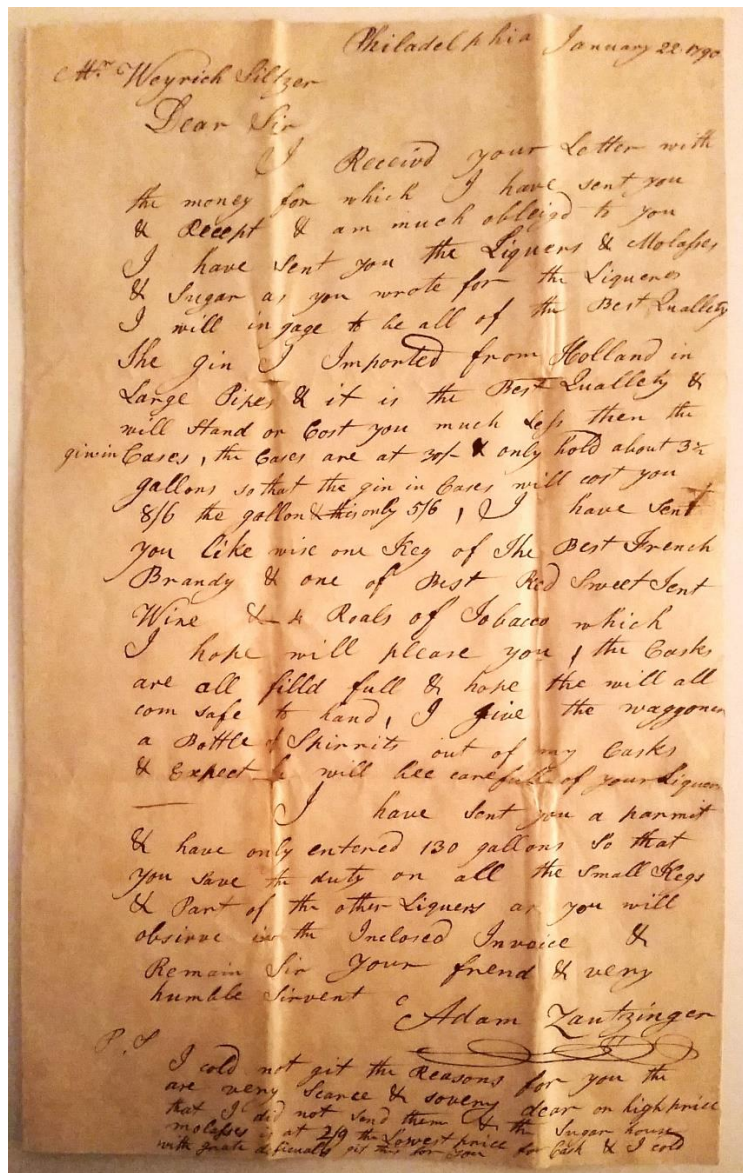
Docketed on p. 4 in ink by Bell ("J.B.") indicating this was referred to the different bureaus of the War Department (dated in ink at the War Dept., promptly, on March 23rd).



There were many later challenges and revisions to the law in the circular. The Hatch Act of 1939, officially *An Act to Prevent Pernicious Political Activities*, prohibited employees in the executive branch of the federal government, except the president, vice-president, and certain designated high-level officials of that branch, from engaging in some forms of political activity. The law was named for Senator Carl Hatch of New Mexico. (643)

SHAREHOLDER OF THE LIBRARY COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA
"I HAVE SENT YOU LIKEWISE ONE KEG OF THE BEST FRENCH
BRANDY"

12. (LIQUOR DISTRIBUTOR). ZANTZINGER, ADAM. Mr. Weyrich
Siltzer, Dear Sir. Philadelphia: January 22, 1790. \$ 950.00



Philadelphia January 22 1790
Mr. Weyrich Siltzer
Dear Sir
I Received your Letter with
the money for which I have sent you
& Receipt & am much obliged to you
I have sent you the Liguers & Molasses
& Sugar as you wrote for the Liguers
I will engage to be all of the Best Quality
The gin I Imported from Holland in
Large Pipes & it is the Best Quality &
will stand or Cost you much less than the
gin in Cases, the Cases are at 30/ & only hold about 3 1/2
gallons so that the gin in Cases will cost you
8/6 the gallon & this only 5/6, I have sent
you likewise one Keg of the Best French
Brandy & one of Best Red Sweet
Wine & 2 Roals of Tobacco which
I hope will please you & the Casks
are all filled full & hope they will all
com safe to hand, I give the waggoner
a Bottle of Spirit out of my Casks
& expect he will be careful of your Liguers
I have sent you a permit
& have only entered 130 gallons so that
you save the duty on all the small Kegs
& Part of the other Liguers as you will
observe in the Inclosed Invoice &
Remain Sir your friend & very
humble Servant
Adam Zantzinger
P.S. I could not get the Reasons for you the
are very scarce & so very dear on high price
that I did not send them & the Sugar house
molasses is at 29 the lowest price for Cash & I could
with great difficulty get this for you

De Simone Company, Booksellers

Autograph Letter Signed. Folio sheet folded. 1 page of text with address
on the verso. Folded, with small tears at the folds blank piece missing at
the wax seal. Highly legible hand. Watermark paper "I R".

Letter from Adam Zantzinger concern the receipt of money and
shipment of "Liguers and Molasses and Sugar . . all of the best quality.
The gin I imported from Holland in large Pipes & it is the best Quality
& will cost you much less than the gin in cases; the cases are at 30/ only
hold about 3 1/2 gallons so that the gin in cases will cost you 8/6 the
gallon & this only 5/6. I have sent you like wise one keg of the best
French Brandy & one of the best Red Sweet Wines and a Roal of
Tobacco which I hope will please you. The casks are all filled full and
hope they will all com safe to hand. I give the waggoner a bottle of
Spirits out of my casks & expect he will see carefully of your liquor."



Adam Zantzinger was a member of the
Pennsylvania Militia 1775-1783 and is
listed in the Revolutionary War Battalion
Index. In 1775 he purchased a 9-acre parcel
of land north of the City of Philadelphia
called the Norther Liberites on Ridge
Avenue across the street from what is now
Girard College. He was listed in the
membership rolls of the Carpenters
Company for 1786 and became a
shareholder in the Library Company of
Philadelphia in 1790. (319)