

Diaries, Journals, Logs & Memoirs

Chester Cooley Hosmer's Journal of "A Voyage in the Ship *Capitol*"

Lucius Boltwood Collection, Jones Library, Amherst, MA
PVHN-09-06

Biographical Information:

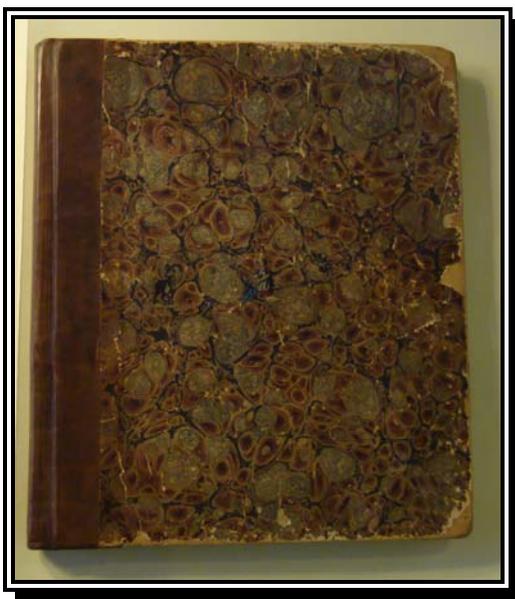
"Genealogical Information on Chester Hosmer" provided with the journal, includes the following: Chester Cooley Hosmer was born 6 October 1823. His father, Luther Hosmer (1788 – 1875) was born in Templeton, MA and was a cabinet maker and gunsmith. Luther worked at the Springfield Armory from 1809-1850 as a "stocker" and the family lived on Pine Street in Springfield. Chester's mother was Abiah (Bliss) Hosmer (1794–1883), born in Springfield. She married Luther Hosmer in 1812 and they were the parents of twelve children.

Chester C. Hosmer married Annie Miller Farrell (b. 1828 in Manchester, England) on 24 April 1850 in California. They had two children, Clara F. (born 1851 in San Francisco) and William Henry (born 1853 in Stockton, CA). Chester Hosmer died in California in 1879.

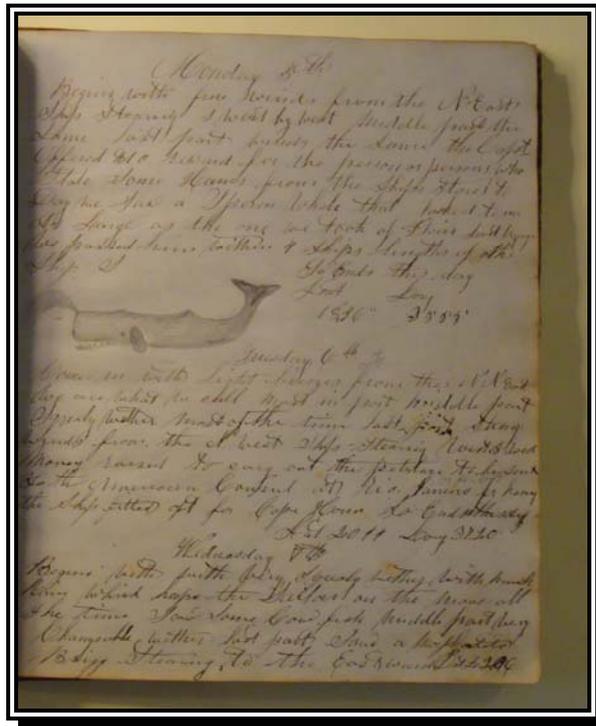
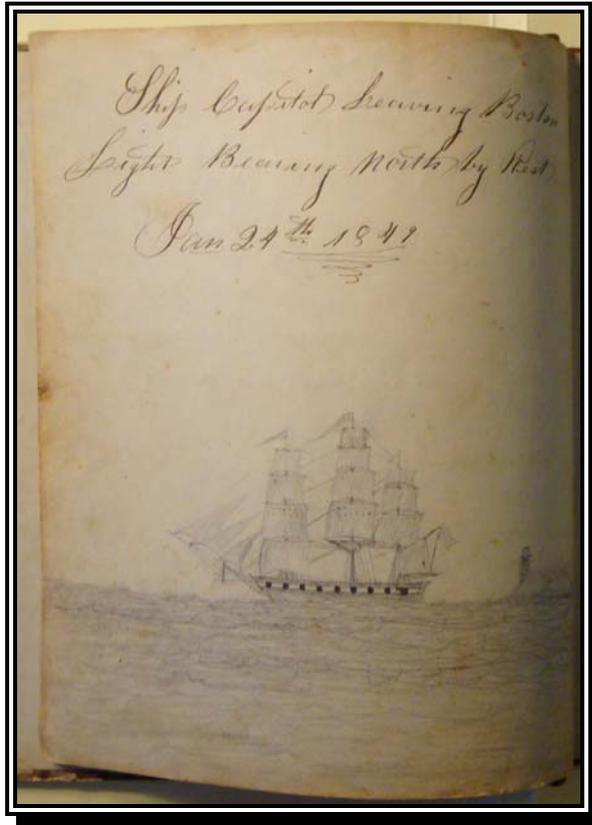
Description:

This hardbound volume, re-bound in 1991, contains "Chester C. Hosmer's Journal of a Voyage in the Ship *Capitol* from Boston to California, Jan. 23rd, 1849." This journal, illustrated throughout with Hosmer's drawings, was sent to his father in Springfield, Massachusetts in 1857, and concludes with one entry from that year.

Images:



Images (continued):



(Images courtesy of Jones Library, Amherst)

Gold Rush Inventory Form

Document/Object Name: **Chester Cooley Hosmer's Journal of "A Voyage in the Ship *Capitol*"**

Location: **Special Collections, Jones Library, Amherst, MA**

Collection: **Lucius Boltwood Collection**

Category: Document Object Image Collection

Catalog #: **Also at Micro B28**

Accession #:

Source: **probably Lucius Boltwood**

Received date:

Received as:

Catalog Date:

Cataloged by:

Condition: **excellent, re-bound in 1991**

PVHN Inventory #: **PVHN-09-06**

PVHN Inventory Date: **2009-01-26**

Inventoried by: **Cliff McCarthy**

Description: **"Journal of a Voyage in the Ship *Capitol* of Boston to San Francisco, Upper California, Jan. 24th, 1849"**

Date of Creation: **1849-01-23 to 1849-07-19 & one entry from 1857**

Height: **7 ¾ "**

Width: **6 ½ "**

Depth:

Weight:

Material: **blue tint paper, hardbound**

Creator: **Chester C. Hosmer (1823-1879)**

Condition Notes: **excellent condition, re-bound in Nov. 1991**

Inscription Information (type, technique, language, etc.):

front page inscribed with title: "Chester C. Hosmer, Journal of a Voyage in the Ship *Capitol* of Boston to San Francisco, Upper California, Jan. 24th, 1849"

reverse of front page inscribed: "From C. C. Hosmer, San Francisco, to Mr. Luther Hosmer, Springfield, Mass."

next page inscribed: "Chester C. Hosmer's Journal of a Voyage in the Ship *Capitol* from Boston to California, Jan. 23rd, 1849"

Provenance Information (collector, collection date, site, place of origin, etc.):

Journal was apparently sent to Luther Hosmer, Chester's father, in Springfield, Mass. in 1857.

Transcript of the Memoir of Josiah A. Richmond

**Richmond Family File, Buckland Historical Society, Buckland, MA
PVHN-09-07**

Biographical Information:

Born in Ashfield, Mass. in 1828, his early years were passed in Buckland. He met with "varying success" in the gold fields of California before returning to settle in Shelburne Falls, on the Buckland side of the river. He fought in the Civil War and was elected captain of the 52nd Massachusetts volunteers in 1862, serving in Baton Rouge, Port Hudson, and elsewhere in Louisiana. He was an active member of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) and was greatly concerned with the issues facing returning veterans of the war. He was a leading member of a dramatic company which gave performances to raise funds for the GAR. Richmond operated a sash and blind factory and a lumber business and he served as a selectman in Buckland. He was married to Susan Electa Whiting, who passed away only weeks before their 50th anniversary.

Description:

An attached note says: "This is the manuscript of 'The Forty-Niner's Story' as it was written by Capt. Josiah A. Richmond informally recalling his trip and experiences. No corrections or changes have been made in this volume such as will be noted in the leather-bound newer copy - any errors or mistakes in spelling, punctuation, capitals or expressions, are just as first recorded by Capt. Richmond." However, there are very few spelling or punctuation differences, as would be characteristic of Capt. Richmond's time, which makes the statement suspect. That said, this is a fabulously entertaining and readable account of Richmond's travels and subsequent return to New England. It was taken from a lecture delivered by Capt. Richmond and bears the complete title of "Of the Days When We Went Gold Hunting, or The Forty-Niner's Story". It contains 58 typewritten pages.

Excerpts:

"As we moved away from the dock, which was crowded with mothers, wives, sisters, sweethearts and friends, who had assembled to bid us goodbye, we received three cheers from the crowd. We could see the waving of handkerchiefs until they were lost to sight in the distance. I well recollect my feelings upon witnessing the parting of comrades from friends, thinking that among all that assembly my eyes rested not on one familiar face. Not one to take me by the hand and say "Good-bye, God bless you." As I saw the teardrops starting from the eyes of many a stern Californian, as he bade his mother, young wife or sweetheart good-bye, I envied them the painful satisfaction of parting from their friends at the last moment, while I had been obliged to leave mine weeping on the banks of the Deerfield River weeks before."

Excerpts (continued):

“Some of the passengers had hammocks, which they occupied occasionally for a change. When a ship is rolling heavy it requires some tact and experience to get into a hammock without getting out on the other side before you get ready. In the berth next to mine was an old lawyer by the name of Lincoln, from New Jersey, whom my chum and myself delighted to torment. He thought that he would try a hammock. He accordingly swung his up and had it ready for the night. Webb and myself succeeded in attaching a small cord to the clews of his hammock and running it concealed to our berth. When Lincoln attempted to get in we would give a sudden pull; he did not get in, but the deck caught him. With some expression not found in Blackstone or Chitty, he would pick himself up and try again with the same results. The third attempt proved a success, and the old lawyer began to feel rather proud of his position and rather enjoyed the gentle motion of the hammock, when the motion would increase until the old man would wonder what in thunder ailed his hammock. He finally discovered the cord and traced it to our berth. We did not stop for him to get out a search warrant, but tumbled out and started for the main hatch, pursued by old Lincoln, flourishing his bowie knife and swearing that there never was nothing on earth meaner than a damned Yankee.”

“...our eyes grew dim as the Golden Gate swung open to receive us. Passing through, we beheld the flags of nearly all nations floating over vessels of every description, from our own majestic frigate *Ohio*, with her frowning battery, to the wonderful and comical Chinese junk. The weary and voyage-worn *Salem*, realizing that the eyes of all nations were upon her, proudly rallied like Holmes' old horse that won the race for a final effort. Bracing up sharp she gallantly laid her course among the vessels of the earth and the flags of the nations to her anchorage, and the great sluggish anchor, which for seven long months had slept on her bow, with a yawn and a groan, rolled over and dropped into the Pacific sea and the Old *Salem* stopped short like Grandfather's Clock, having safely borne her cargo of living freight 2,300 miles without the loss of a man; the voyage of her life was ended.”

“The miners got up a set of rules or regulations by which they agreed to be governed. The rule on claims, on rivers and creeks, generally was, each man could hold 16 feet wide on the stream and as far back as he chose to go. He could hold [it] by leaving some tool, a shovel or a pick on his claim. A miner must not desert his claim for more than three days at a time, unless sick. If he did, it might be jumped. However rich his claim might be, a pick or shovel would hold it the specified time more effectually than a regiment of soldiers, or even a state constable. The rule with regard to stealing was, for sums less than \$300, whipping and cutting off one ear and making it lawful for anyone to shoot them at sight if found within five miles of that camp; for sums over \$300, they were only hung.”

Gold Rush Inventory Form

Document/Object Name: **Transcript of Memoir of Josiah A. Richmond**

Location: **Buckland Historical Society, Buckland, Franklin Co., MA**

Collection: **Richmond Family File**

Category: Document Object Image

Catalog #:

Accession #: **#171-83**

Source: **Gift of Howard Eldridge**

Received date: **1983**

Catalog Date:

Cataloged by:

Condition:

PVHN Inventory #: **PVHN-09-07**

PVHN Inventory Date: **2009-05-09**

Inventoried by: **Cliff McCarthy**

Description: **An attached note says: "This is the manuscript of 'The Forty-Niner's Story' as it was written by Capt. Josiah A. Richmond informally recalling his trip and experiences. No corrections or changes have been made in this volume such as will be noted in the leather-bound newer copy - any errors or mistakes in spelling, punctuation, capitals or expressions, are just as first recorded by Capt. Richmond." However, there are very few spelling or punctuation differences, as would be characteristic of Capt. Richmond's time, which makes the statement suspect.**

That said, this is a fabulously entertaining and readable account of Richmond's travels and subsequent return to New England. It was taken from a lecture delivered by Capt. Richmond and bears the complete title of "Of the Days When We Went Gold Hunting, or The Forty-Niner's Story". There is also a 7-page synopsis, condensed by Beulah Cross in 1984.

Date of Creation: **unknown**

Year Range:

Height: **11"**

Width: **8½ "**

Depth:

Weight:

Material:

Creator: **Capt. Josiah Richmond (1828-1904), transcribed later by unknown person**

Condition Notes:

Inscription Information (type, technique, language, etc.):

Provenance Information (collector, collection date, site, place of origin, etc.):

Gift of Howard Eldridge

Day Book & Journal of Elijah S. Fuller

**Fuller-Higginson Papers, Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association, Deerfield, MA
PVHN-09-08**

Biographical Information:

Elijah Spencer Fuller (1827-1859) was one of twelve children born to Aaron Fuller of Deerfield and his two wives. He went to California in August 1849 by way of Panama and returned to Deerfield in March 1851. The references below to "Augustus" and "Geo" probably are his older brothers Augustus (b. 1812) and George (b. 1822).

Description:

The first part of this bound volume is a day book (mostly accounts) from 1848-1849; the second part is a journal, 1851-1852. Both parts concern life in Deerfield, Mass. There is little information about Fuller's time in California, except for the pages transcribed below.

Transcription:

"Monday 14 returned from Springfield S.F. W. gave up note & int. 33\$ Saw R. Bemis at Chicopee Sunday the 13th went with him to his farm, has well arranged Barn cost upwards 500 [300 ?] dollars Saw Will Mc. Monday 14 in company to Holyoke promises to see me in Deerfield soon his Mother in poor health Saw Augustus this day in good health will probably be at home 7th June 1851."

"Arrived home from California March 27, 1851 landed at New York Mon. 24th Saw Geo at No. 157 Atlantic St. Brooklyn NY boards 222 Henry Recd letter containing Money April 13 2nd letter Arrived from Chicopee Monday 14 Sol started for New York in company with Ray"

Gold Rush Inventory Form

Document/Object Name: **Day Book & Journal of Elijah S. Fuller**

Location: **Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association, Deerfield, Franklin Co., MA**
Collection: **Fuller-Higginson Papers**

Category: Document Object Image Collection

Catalog #: **Fuller-Higginson, Box 125** Accession #: **17221**

Source: **gift of Mary Marsh and Richard Arms**

Received date: **2006**

Catalog Date:

Cataloged by:

Condition:

PVHN Inventory #: **PVHN-09-08**

PVHN Inventory Date: **2009-02-23**

Inventoried by: **Cliff McCarthy & Kayla Haveles**

Description: **The first part of this bound volume is a day book (mostly accounts) from 1848-1849; the second part is a journal, 1851-1852. Both parts concern life in Deerfield, Mass. There is little information about Fuller's time in California, except for the pages transcribed below. The references to "Augustus" and "Geo" probably are his older brothers Augustus (b. 1812) and George (b. 1822).**

Date of Creation: **1848-12** Year Range: **Daybook (1848-49); Journal (1851-52)**

Height: **12.5"** Width: **8"** Depth:

Weight:

Material: **bound volume, paper & ink**

Creator: **Elijah S. Fuller**

Condition Notes: **good**

Inscription Information (type, technique, language, etc.):

Provenance Information (collector, collection date, site, place of origin, etc.):

Related Items: **PVHN-09-17, PVHN-09-18, PVHN-09-35**

Diary of a 49er, Jeremiah Madison Doe

Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association, Deerfield, MA
PVHN-09-09

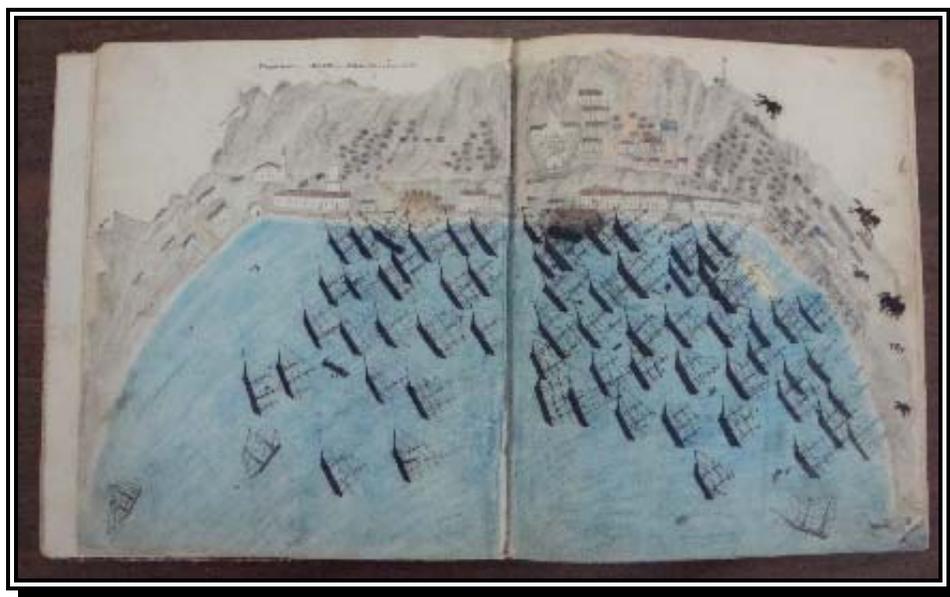
Biographical Information:

Jeremiah Madison Doe was born at Rumney, New Hampshire on 14 April 1811, the son of Capt. John Doe. He married Elizabeth Pecker of Methuen, Massachusetts on 30 September 1832 at Rumney, N.H. Afterwards, they lived at Methuen, where he was a shoemaker or cordwainer by trade. The couple had five children. Elizabeth died in 1862 and Jeremiah Doe married again, in 1864, to Mrs. Dorcas C. (Richardson) Rowell. Jeremiah died on 17 July 1884 at Methuen.

Description:

This is a travel journal of Jeremiah Madison Doe on a voyage from Newburyport, Massachusetts to California. Doe, of Methuen, Mass., boarded the *Euphrasia* on November 6, 1849 on the first leg from Newburyport to Boston. The ship sailed from Boston on November 12th, but the journal was not begun until the 29th due to illness. It took 68 days to sail from Boston to Rio de Janeiro, where they ported for 3 days. The ship arrived at Valparaiso Harbor, Chile on March 14, 1850, 51 days from Rio. Doe drew elaborate images of the harbors at Rio and Valparaiso. The *Euphrasia* arrived at San Francisco on May 26, 1850. He includes a few details about his time in the gold fields and quickly glosses over his journey home. Doe set sail from San Francisco on his return to Newburyport on September 15, 1851.

Image:



Valparaiso Harbor

(courtesy of Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Assn., Deerfield, Mass.)

Gold Rush Inventory Form

Document/Object Name: **Diary of a 49er, Jeremiah Madison Doe**

Location: **Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association, Deerfield, Franklin Co., MA**
Collection:

Category: Document Object Image Collection

Catalog #: Accession #:

Source:

Received date:

Catalog Date:

Cataloged by:

Condition:

PVHN Inventory #: **PVHN-09-09**
Inventoried by: **Anthony Martin**

PVHN Inventory Date: **2009-03-23**

Description: **This is a travel journal of Jeremiah Madison Doe on a voyage from Newburyport, Mass. to California. Doe, of Methuen, Mass., boarded the Euphrasia on November 6, 1849 on the first leg from Newburyport to Boston. The ship sailed from Boston on November 12th, but the journal was not begun until the 29th due to illness. It took 68 days to sail from Boston to Rio de Janeiro, where they ported for 3 days. The ship arrived at Valparaiso Harbor, Chile on March 14, 1850, 51 days from Rio. Doe drew elaborate images of the harbors at Rio and Valparaiso. The Euphrasia arrived at San Francisco on May 26, 1850. He includes a few details about his time in the gold fields and quickly glosses over his journey home. Jeremiah set sail from San Francisco on his return to Newburyport on September 15, 1851.**

Date of Creation:

Year Range: **1849-1851**

Height: Width:

Depth:

Weight:

Material: **bound notebook, ink, colored pencil?**

Creator: **Jeremiah Madison Doe (1811-1884)**

Condition Notes: **good**

Inscription Information (type, technique, language, etc.):

Provenance Information (collector, collection date, site, place of origin, etc.):

Transcript of the Memoir of Charles Carruthers Greenough

Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association, Deerfield, MA
PVHN-09-10

Biographical Information:

Charles Carruthers Greenough was born in Wendell, Massachusetts on 20 June 1834. His older brother, William, also born in Wendell in 1827, preceded Charles to California. A third brother, James C. Greenough, was president of Massachusetts Agricultural College (now the University of Massachusetts) at Amherst from 1883-1886. William died in 1855 and was buried at sea. Charles stayed in California where his involvement in the Gold Rush was at Angels Camp where he eventually became part owner in the Utica Mine. He died at Oakland in 1925.

Description:

This is a typewritten transcript of a memoir written by Charles Greenough for his mother. Charles sailed as a crew member of the whaleboat *Hector* from New Bedford to Pitcairn Island and South America. One-half of the memoir covers the *Hector*, including acts of crew abuse and murder, attempts by the crew to sink the *Hector*, and eventually mutiny. The crew escaped by living in caves along the Peruvian coast. Greenough eventually worked his way up the coast, reaching San Francisco as a passenger on the *Yankee Blade*.

Excerpts:

“I may perhaps be forgiven in joining the rest in bestowing upon her [the *Hector*] a few well-meant and well-merited curses; for on her decks I have passed some of the most miserable days of my existence and have seen men treated worse, or at least as bad, as the meanest slave in the South can be. Danger and hardship we must all share alike to some extent on sea or land; but when a sailor sees two brutes abusing their authority as captain mate of a ship, and beating a poor heathen, his shipmate, as a man would not dare to beat his horse in the streets of New York, it almost grinds his soul out, if he has one; for he knows not how soon he too may be pounced upon for some trifle, his bones broken, or nearly killed outright as was our poor John, the Kanaka [Hawaiian].”

“and really, if Adam and Eve had such oranges as grow here, they were in my opinion, very foolish to go eating apples.”

Gold Rush Inventory Form

Document/Object Name: **Transcript of a Memoir of Charles Carruthers Greenough, Covering Voyages Between New Bedford, Massachusetts and San Francisco, California**

Location: **Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association, Deerfield, Franklin Co., MA**
Collection:

Category: Document Object Image Collection
Catalog #: Accession #:
Source:
Received date: **possibly 1991**
Catalog Date: Cataloged by:
Condition:

PVHN Inventory #: **PVHN-09-10** PVHN Inventory Date: **2009-05-11**
Inventoried by: **Cliff McCarthy, Cheryl Harned, Kayla Haveles & Anthony Martin**

Description: **This is a typewritten transcript of a memoir written by Charles Greenough for his mother. Charles sailed as a crew member of the whaleboat *Hector* from New Bedford to Pitcairn Island and South America. One-half of the memoir covers the *Hector*, including acts of crew abuse and murder, attempts by the crew to sink the *Hector*, and eventually mutiny. The crew escaped by living in caves along the Peruvian coast. Greenough eventually worked his way up the coast, reaching San Francisco as a passenger on the *Yankee Blade*.**

Date of Creation: **1950** Year Range:

Height: Width: Depth:

Weight:

Material:

Creator: **Mary E. Greenough Mitchell and Cecile Bonham**

Condition Notes:

Inscription Information (type, technique, language, etc.):

Provenance Information (collector, collection date, site, place of origin, etc.):

This transcription was made in 1950 by Mary E. Greenough Mitchell and Cecile Bonham, of San Francisco and Glendale, California, respectively.

Notes:

The original manuscript document is privately owned in the Pioneer Valley.

Ship's Log of the *Great Britain*, Capt. James Byers Hatch, 1850-1851

**Bound Volumes, Connecticut Valley Historical Museum, Springfield, MA
PVHN-09-11**

Biographical Information:

James Byers Hatch was a sea captain, described in Charles Wells Chapin's "History of the Old High School, 1828-1840" (Springfield MA: Springfield Printing and Binding Co., 1890) as:

"An able and successful navigator, having followed the sea for nearly forty years; made his first voyage in the ship *Alert* from Boston in 1831. He commanded some of the finest ships out of New York and Boston, among them being the *Barnstable*, *Loo-Choo*, *Horsburg*, *Great Britain*, *Midnight*, and *Charger*. In 1849 the U. S. Government chartered the ship *Loo-Choo*, in which he took a part of the 7th Regiment New York State Volunteers, Col. J. D. Stevenson commanding, to San Francisco, Cal., via Cape Horn. "

Hatch is mentioned in *Two Years Before the Mast*, Richard Henry Dana's classic memoir of life as a sailor. Hatch was third mate on board the *Alert*. Dana recalled Hatch thus: "The third mate, Mr. Hatch, a nephew of one of the owners, though only a lad on board the ship, went out chief mate the next voyage, and rose soon to command some of the finest clippers in the California and India trade, under the new order of things, -- a man of character, good judgment, and no little cultivation."

In a supplementary chapter entitled "Seventy-six Years After," Dana's son tracks the fate of many of the sailors mentioned in Dana's book. He says this of Hatch:

"Captain Hatch lost his only son, a lad of seven, on a voyage to Calcutta. 'The boy,' said he, 'fell from the top of the house on the poop deck and died in about a week.' His wife and married daughter both died in 1881. He himself settled in Springfield, Mass., his birthplace, and lost almost all he had saved in some unsuccessful business venture in that city, and lived a rather lonely and sad life. In the above letter he said, 'I am now ready and anxious to leave this earth and take my chance in the next.' He died at Springfield soon after 1894."

Description:

Ship's Log of the *Great Britain*, Capt. James Byers Hatch, which sailed from New York on 18 June 1850 and arrived in San Francisco on 25 November 1850. From there, the ship traveled to the Sandwich Islands (Hawaii) and Hong Kong. It is not explicitly stated whether the *Great Britain* carried passengers to the gold fields.

Excerpts:

"Tuesday, 18th June 1850

9 p.m. Fire Island Light bore NNE by E

10 miles – Throughout the night light Southerly winds and smooth sail – Morning found we had a boy onboard who had not shipped had stowed himself away without our knowledge"

Excerpts (continued):

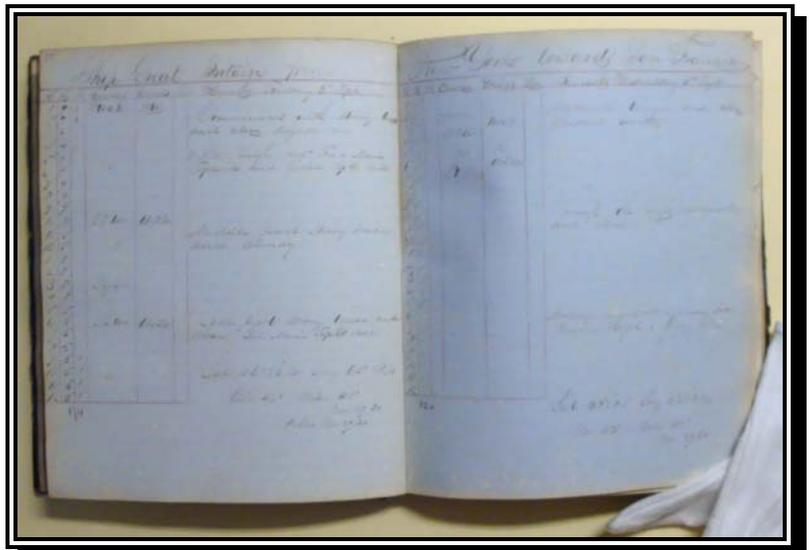
“Sunday, 4th Aug

1:30 p.m. Came on deck from dinner. Officer of deck reported that cook had thrown the slush overboard. I went forward and enquired if he had thrown it over. He said yes. I asked him what for. He said it belonged to him and he had a right to do so I told him it did not belong to him and that he must save enough for ships use or I should punish him – he said he would be d^d if he would not do it again. I told him he must be careful how he talks or I should siese [seize ?] him up – he said no d^d son of a bitch would do it – and then jumped into his galley – and the mates say took his large knife and laid it out on the bench. I told him to come out and go aft which I repeated several times he said he would be d^d if he would for any son of a bitch – I then told the mates to take him aft – but he resisted – Mr. James then went aft and I jumped into the galley and told him to go out he answered as before. I then attempted to siese [seize ?] him and put him out but he got both feet against my breast and tried to shove me on to the stove – I got his feet off of me – he then drew them both back and struck them against the copper of hot water and threw it over me scalding me severely. The mate then returning we got him out and aft he abusing all of us and swearing vengeance – I then ordered him tied up in the main rigging & called all hands aft – explained why I was agoing to whip him for disobedience & insolence. Some of them steped up to prevent it and one Smith said he would cut him down I ordered him back and Walker gave the cook a dozen with a piece of [rattan ?] stuff then put him in irons. he continuing to threaten to take vengeance the first opportunity – Put him down the aft hatch and made him fast to a stantion – Swears he will kill the mate the first chance he gets.”

“Friday, 8th Nov

2 a.m. A Bright Meteor passed over the ship and struck in the water a short distance off. It produced a whistling sound like a [shot ?] and a report when it struck the water, the foam visible for several minutes after the disappearance.”

Images:



Gold Rush Inventory Form

Document/Object Name: **Ship's Log of the *Great Britain*, Capt. James Byers Hatch, 1850-1851**

Location: **Connecticut Valley Historical Museum, Springfield, Hampden Co., MA**
Collection: **Bound Volumes Collection, pre-1850**

Category: Document Object Image

Catalog #: **BVC-01-0082**

Accession #:

Source:

Received date:

Received as:

Catalog Date: **2009-02-24**

Cataloged by: **Jeff Kontoff**

Condition: **good**

PVHN Inventory #: **PVHN-09-11**

PVHN Inventory Date: **2009-03-03**

Inventoried by: **Cliff McCarthy**

Description: **Ship's Log of the "Great Britain", Capt. James Byers Hatch, which sailed from New York on 18 June 1850 and arrived in San Francisco on 25 November 1850. From there, the ship traveled to the Sandwich Islands (Hawaii) and Hong Kong.**

Date of Creation:

Year Range: **1850-1851**

Height: **9 ¼ "**

Width: **7 ¾ "**

Depth:

Weight:

Material: **bound volume of blue paper with red & blue lines and ink**

Creator: **Capt. James Byers Hatch (1811-1894)**

Condition Notes: **good; some bleaching on the pages**

Inscription Information (type, technique, language, etc.):

Inside front cover: Label for "G. F. Nesbitt, Stationer and Printer, Tontine Building, Corner of Wall and Water Streets, New York" Also label for "City Library Association, Springfield, Mass., Reference Department, Donated to the Library by Capt. J. B. Hatch. Date of Reception, June 1895, Accession No. 88022, Shelf SPFD Y +H28 v. 7"

Provenance Information (collector, collection date, site, place of origin, etc.):

Acquired by CVHM from Springfield City Library. It was donated to the City Library in June 1895 by Capt. J. B. Hatch.

Manuscript of Asa B. Clark's Journal

**Asa B. Clark Collection, Westfield Athenaeum, Westfield, MA
PVHN-09-12**

Biographical Information:

See PVHN-09-04

Description:

This is a leather-bound book filled with the hand-written daily journal of Asa Clark. Athenaeum staff believes this book might be a re-write of the original, edited and sanitized for publication. It is approximately 250 pgs.

This book was originally published as *Travels in Mexico and California*, by A. B. Clarke (Boston: Wright & Hasty, Printers, 1852). Note the "e" added to his name. In 1988, it was edited by Anne M. Perry and republished (College Station, TX: Texas A&M University Press).

Excerpts:

"January 29, 1849

A large concourse of people had assembled to witness our departure. At 12 o'clock, M., being ready, we left the wharf amidst the cheering of friends, which was answered heartily by those on board, and as long as friends could recognize each other, between the vessel and shore, there was waving of handkerchiefs and other tokens of recognition. One of the company, in the mean time, had stationed himself on the quarterdeck, with the flag of our country streaming in the wind, and others had formed a little musical band and were playing some lively airs."

"Jan. 30

Out of sight of land. The greater part of the passengers sea-sick."

"May 24

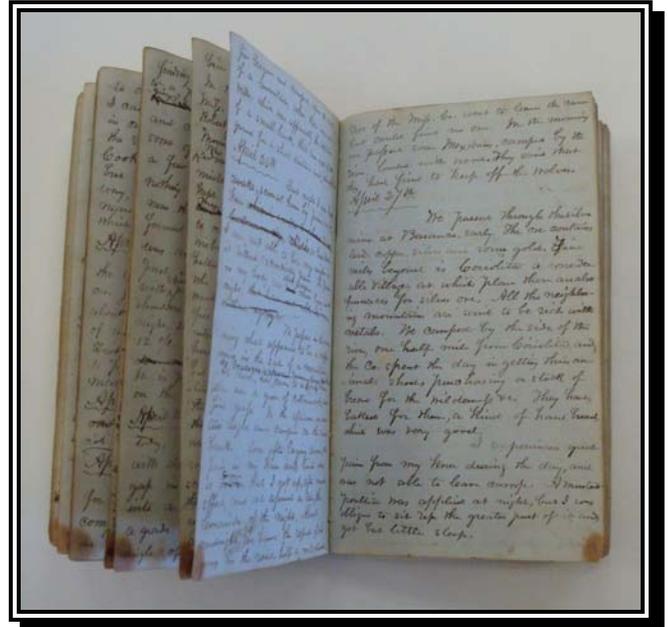
When they left their camp in the morning, Mr. Rice, from Charlemont, Mass., was sitting by the fire; some of the company asked him if he was not coming on. He told them to go on and he would overtake them. Not arriving in our camp, some men fearing that the Indians had found him, went to search, but were not able to find him. There was considerable anxiety among us during the day concerning him. After arriving at our camp at night, rather unexpectedly to us, he came in. His mule had got away from him, and took a straight course across the mountains to Sante Cruz [Santa Cruz], and he followed after him."

Excerpts (continued):

“August 2

I have been more than six months on the journey. As one object in taking this trip was for the travel it afforded, now it is over, I do not regret it, as I think that I have been amply repaid, although I have been exposed to the scorching sun month after month, to hardships and dangers, have lain upon the ground under the open canopy of heaven, and been deprived of the refreshing shade by day, yet my health was never better for the same length of time in my life. All the time while camping out, I have not had a single cold.”

Images:



(Courtesy of the Westfield Athenaeum)

Gold Rush Inventory Form

Document/Object Name: **Manuscript of Asa B. Clark's Journal**

Location: **Westfield Athenaeum, Westfield, Hampden Co., MA**

Collection: **Asa Clark Collection**

Category: Document Object Image Collection

Catalog #: Accession #:

Source:

Received date:

Catalog Date:

Cataloged by:

Condition:

PVHN Inventory #: **PVHN-09-12**

PVHN Inventory Date: **2009-05-20**

Inventoried by: **Cliff McCarthy**

Description: **This is a leather-bound book filled with the hand-written daily journal of Asa Clark. Athenaeum staff believes this book might be a re-write of the original, edited and sanitized for publication. Approximately 250 pgs.**

Date of Creation:

Year Range: **1849-1852**

Height: **6"**

Width: **3½"**

Depth:

Weight:

Material: **leather-bound book**

Creator: **Asa Bement Clark (1817-1882)**

Condition Notes: **very good, some staining on last dozen pages or so.**

Inscription Information (type, technique, language, etc.):

Provenance Information (collector, collection date, site, place of origin, etc.):

Notes:

Clark's book was published in 1852 as *Travels in Mexico and California* by A. B. Clarke (Boston: Wright & Hasty, Printers, 1852). Note the "e" added to his name.

There is also a 42-page, typewritten transcript of part of this journal at the Westfield Athenaeum.

Related Items: **PVHN-09-04, PVHN-09-05, PVHN-09-12**