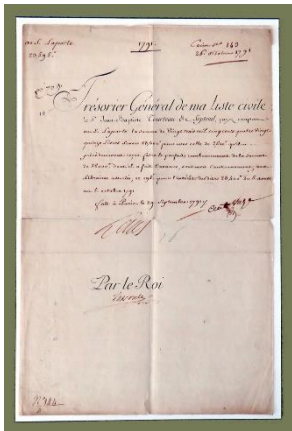


EUROPEAN LETTERS



Louis XVI. Royal Document Signed "Louis"; For the Payment of Accounts. October 26, 1791.

14" x 9", 1 pp., partially printed, first line only, on the recto and in full manuscript on the verso. Fold lines into quarters, two small tears along fold at bottom, two small chips on right margin. Signed by the French King in his usual flourish, "Louis". Signed as the noose was tightening around the French Royalty, Louis continued to run the government with help of his newly designated cabinet. Content: *"Treasurer General of my civil list St. Jean Baptiste Tourteau of Septeuil, pay the bill. The sum of twenty-three thousand five hundred and fifteen pounds sterling 23,400 ... the perfect repayment of the sum of 2600 All be made in advance, under my bailiff, with associated booksellers, at 195 for the interest of the said*

23,400 to the 5 octobre 1791. Done in Paris September 29, 1791"

This document was signed less than a month after Louis became a provisional constitutional king on September 3, 1791. He had been arrested in Varennes in June 1791 as his family tried to escape the unrest in Paris. However, this too would not last very long as 1792 the French monarchy was effectively abolished one year later by the proclamation of the French First Republic. The role of the King in France was finally ended with the guillotine of Louis XVI, followed by the "Reign of Terror".

Very Good. **\$650**



Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette. Autograph Letter Signed. La Grange: 12 July, 1831. The "Hero of Two Worlds" takes charge.

10" x 8", 1p., full page of script from the leader known as "Hero of Two Worlds". Usual folds, unevenly toned page, small chips along the margins, professionally stiffened on rear, deep dark ink with a handful of ink blossoms on a few words. Content is an important demonstration of Lafayette's involvement in the government throughout his life.

Marie-Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette (Sep 1757 – May 1834), is known familiarly and affectionately in the U. S. history simply as Lafayette. He was a French aristocrat and military officer who fought adventured into the American Revolutionary War as a young, charismatic devote of George Washington. He commanded American

troops in several battles, including the Siege of Yorktown. After returning to France, he was a key figure in the French Revolution of 1789 and the July Revolution of 1830. His commitment to the ideals of freedom and representative government earned him time in European prisons and loss of family fortune. At the time of this letter, Lafayette used his seat in the Chamber to promote liberal proposals, and his neighbors elected him mayor of the village of La Grange and to the council of the département of Seine-et-Marne.

Leonard Borejko Chodźko (1800–1871) was a multi-talented Polish patriot and prolific literary historian. He was an activist in Poland's post-November 1830 Uprising. From 1826 he lived in Paris. During France's July 1830 Revolution, he served as aide-de-camp to General La Fayette.

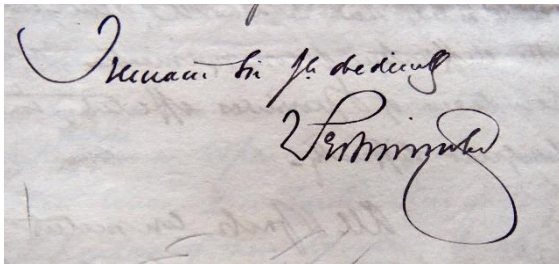
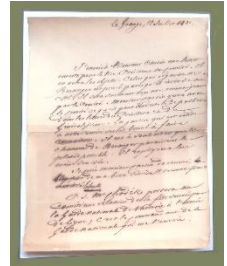
Pierre-Jean de Béranger (Aug 1780 – July 1857) was a prolific French poet and chansonnier (songwriter), who enjoyed great popularity and influence in France during his lifetime, but faded into obscurity in the decades following his death. He has been described as "the most popular French songwriter of all time" and "the first superstar of French popular music". Very Good after archival work.

French to English Translation: "I am sending Mr. Cassin an open letter from the deputy chair of the committee. He will see the intentions...He will be sworn to receive a recommendation from this committee. Mr. Cassin will work with the committee what can be published in the letters of the Presidency of the General Assembly. The justice that has been rendered to a new committee is about to be made known. It is hoped that Beranger's song will be as good as possible. He implicates himself in this idea.

I ask Monsieur Cassin to have a good time. I send my sincere and grateful amity. -Lafayette

P.S. Mr. Chodzko will bring to the committee a relationship of the party given by the National Guard of Narsovie to the army of the line, it is the Commander of the National Guard which sends it"

\$950



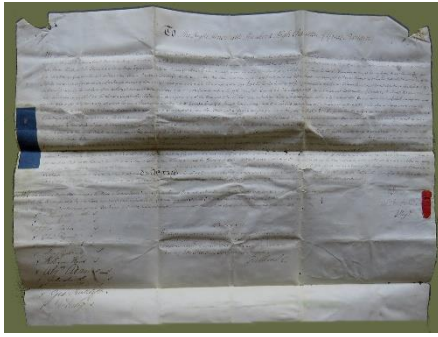
Hugh Grosvenor, 1st Duke of Westminster. ALS in Support of Armenian Christians. Grosvenor House, London: c. 1894. Significant Letter Reference Genocide

8.75" 7.25", 4 pp. on letter with raised crest, usual mail fold, title in pencil on rear page. While the date is not noted on this letter, it is likely c1884 as he mentions both the Sasun Massacre and Gladstone in the letter. Content: The Duke is

writing to an unknown sympathizer in strong support of Armenian Christians and against the Turkish Government: "Sir, I write a few lines a deference to you expressed with, in our sincere sympathy of XX with the suffering Armenian Christians, now in dire distress in consequence of the inhuman treatment the survivors of Sassun (sp) Massacres have received, and are receiving at the hands of Turkish Government."; "That Mr Gladstone himself is also writing...to take up the cause of humanity for it is that "pure & simple" which now confronts the nation the west."; "All the facts connected in the Horrors of the misdoings of the Turks have not yet been revealed, but enough has transpired, on authoring which cannot be disputed, to combine all the XX governments of world in raising one loud powerful and indignant protest against a continuance of these iniquities..."

Hugh Lupus Grosvenor, 1st Duke of Westminster, KG, PC, JP (Oct 1825 – Dec 1899), styled Viscount Belgrave between 1831 and 1845 and Earl Grosvenor between 1845 and 1869 and known as The Marquess of Westminster between 1869 and 1874, was an English landowner, and politician. He inherited the estate of Eaton Hall in Cheshire and land in and around London, spending much of his fortune in development. Although he was a member of parliament from the age of 22, and then a member of the House of Lords, his main interests were not in politics, but rather in his estates, in horse racing, and in country pursuits. He developed the stud at Eaton Hall and achieved success in racing his horses, winning the Derby on four occasions. Grosvenor also took an interest in a range of charities. At his death he was considered to be the richest man in Britain. Very Good. **\$250**





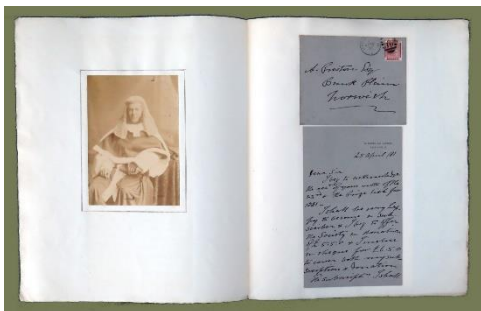
Henry Bathurst, 2nd Earl Bathurst. Manuscript Legal Document of Bankrupts; In Commission for William Stone. 11 May, 1778

23" x 27", 1 pp., fully manuscript, vellum document with three "VI Pence" stamps, red signature wax seals, docketed on the rear by Vaughn. Top two corners clipped, horizontal tear at bottom center, two (pinned) holes in top left corner, several small tears along center fold, none of which interferes with the

excellent bureaucratic hand of the document. Content: Commission of Bankruptcy for Willam Stone, *"We whose hands and seals are hereunto subscribed and set being the major part of the commissions named and authorized in and by a Commission of bankruptcy awarded and issued against William Stone of Somerset Street, Portman Square in parish of Saint Mary le Bone in County of Middleleak, bearing date at administer the seventeenth day of January in eighteenth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the third"; "We the creditors of the above named William Stone whose Names or marks are hereunto subscribed", followed by the signatures of fellow citizens twelve (12) creditors of Stone. Document signed and endorsed by The Right Honourable the Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain: Henry Bathurst.*



Henry Bathurst, 2nd Earl Bathurst (May 1714 – Aug 1794), was also known as The Lord Apsley. He had a distinguished career as a British lawyer and politician eventually rising to Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain. In January 1774 he was instrumental in writing the Intolerable Acts which he supported in parliament and the courts, most notably the Boston Port Act which gave rise to the Boston Tea Party and revolution. King George III held faith with Bathurst as the Speaker for the House of Lords. The 2nd earl's letters show he was kindly man with a reserved temperament. He was good patrician master taking care of his workers, he paid more than most employers, and ensured they saw a doctor if necessary. Very good. **\$475**

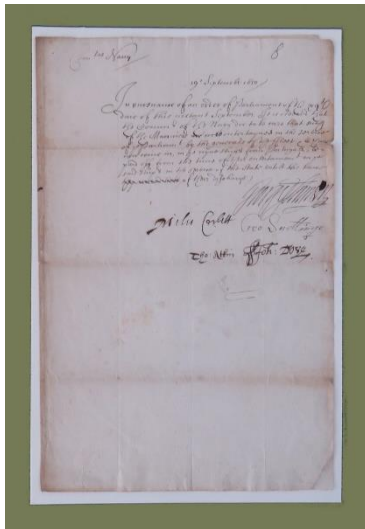


Sir Nathaniel Lindley. Autographed Letter Signed. 19, Craven Hill Gardens, Hyde Park, W.: April 25, 1881.

7" x 4.5", 3pp. on personal stationery with address, with original mailing envelope. Both letter and envelope are mounted inside a folio containing Lindley's biography on the cover and photo of him on page 2.

Nathaniel Lindley, Baron Lindley (Nov 1828 – Dec 1921) was a respected English judge and described on the recto of folio as follow;

"Born in 1828, at Acton Green, Middlesex. Eldest son of the late Dr. John Lindley, Professor of Botany at University College, London. Educated at that University, he was called to the bar at the Middle Temple in November 1850, and became a Queen's Counsel in January 1872. Was appointed a Judge of the Common Pleas division of the Supreme Court of Judiclure in May 1875. Is the author of "Introduction to the Study of Jurisprudence" and "A Treatise on the Law of Partnership and Companies." He was knighted on his appointment to the bench." Mount Lindley in Antarctica is named after him. Fine. **\$175**



Corbet, Miles, George Snelling, George Thomson. Parliamentary Financial Document Signed; By Three Members of Government, One of Who Signed the Death Warrant for Charles I. London: September 19, 1650.

14" x 8", 1 pp., docketed on rear, fade along the folds, small chip at one fold, signed by three members of government who committed regicide by signing the death warrant for Charles I in 1644, following the English Civil War. They were among a total of 59 Parliamentary and Cromwell loyalists. George Snelling (Southwark, Surrey), George Thomson

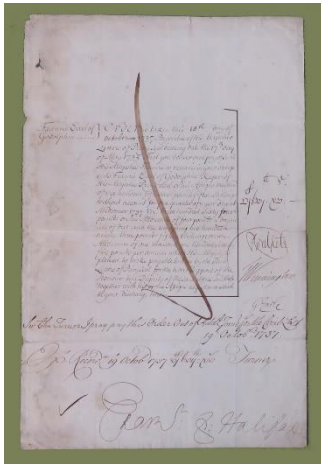
Miles Corbet (1595–1662) succeeded his brother John as MP for Yarmouth, England, serving from 1640 to 1653 and signed Charles I's death warrant. In 1644 he was made clerk of the Court of Wards. In 1649 Oliver Cromwell granted the estate of Malahide Castle to. The castle was returned to its ancestral owners in 1660 with the restoration of Charles II. In 1655 Corbet was appointed Chief Baron of the Irish Exchequer. After the Restoration of Charles II of England in

1660, Miles Corbet, like many of the 59, fled England. He went to the Netherlands where he thought he would be safe. However, with two other regicides he was arrested by the English ambassador to the Netherlands, returned to England, put on trial, found guilty and then executed on 19 April 1662.

George Thomson (c. 1607–1691) was an English merchant and Parliamentarian soldier, an official and politician. Maurice Thomson, the Virginia settler was an older brother, and George was there as a significant figure from 1623, before returning to London as a merchant trading with Virginia and the Caribbean. In 1643 Thomson held the commission of captain of a troop of horse under the Earl of Bedford. In the following year he attained the rank of colonel. Losing a leg in action, he retired from military service. Thomson was returned to parliament for Southwark, probably in August 1645, then in 1651 was appointed a member of the English Council of State. In 1652 he was appointed to the committee for the admiralty, the committee for the Ordnance, and the committee for trades, plantations, and foreign affairs. Thomson was dismissed from his posts of commissioner of the customs and of the army and navy, as well as from his other offices. After the Restoration of 1660, Thomson went to ground at the residence of his brother Maurice and occupied himself with anti-Royalist intrigues. On 31 October 1661 a warrant was issued for his arrest. After some time in obscurity, Thomson was nominated to the commission of accounts, and returned to public life.

George Snelling was the second member of Parliament from Southwark along with Thomson. When in 1647 the Presbyterians and the City of London tried to negotiate peace with the king on their terms, without reference to the New Model Army and the Independents, Thomson and his fellow Southwark MP, distiller George Snelling, mobilised their local militia and opened London Bridge to let the army cross the Thames and seize control of Parliament. Very good.

"Coin to Navy. 19th September 1650, In pursuance of an order of Parliament of this 19th dait of this instant of Sepember. It is ordered the the somm & of the Navy...of Parliament by the general of the fleet...from Portugal, be paid off from this time." \$350



George Montagu, 1st Earl of Halifax. Document of Decree for the Order of Francis Earl of Godolphin; Signed with a Flourish by Four Members of Parliament. London: October 19, 1737.

14.5" x 9.5", 1 p., in readable, precise secretarial hand signed by all necessary functionaries. Usual folds, several chips on left edge, away from text, two small, 1/4" tears at the top, smudging and fade along the edges. Docketed on rear by Godolphin that "Rec'd the full contents within mentioned, Nov 3d, 1737" and Witnessed by John Mace.

George Montagu, 1st Earl of Halifax PC KB (c. 1684 – 1739), of Horton, Northamptonshire, was a British politician who sat in the House of Commons from 1705 to 1715 when he became a peer. In 1714 he was appointed Auditor of the Exchequer, which he held for the rest of his life. He was made a Privy Councilor

on 27 November 1717, Lord Justice in 1720 and Keeper/Ranger of Bushy Park. He was appointed a Knight, Order of the Bath (K.B.) in 1725

The second Baron Godolphin, of Helston in the County of Cornwall, was in the Peerage of Great Britain in 1735 for Francis Godolphin. The 2nd Earl died on 17 January 1766.

Sir Charles Turner, 1st Baronet (1666 – 1738) of Warham, Norfolk was a British lawyer and Whig politician who sat in the English and British House of Commons for 43 years from 1695 to 1738. He was a brother-in-law of Sir Robert Walpole, and held public office almost continuously from 1707. By 1730 was the longest serving MP in the House of Commons. In 1720 Turner was appointed Lord of the Treasury.

Thomas Winnington PC (1696 – 1746) was an English Whig politician who sat in the House of Commons from 1726 to 1746.

"Order is taken this 10th day of October 1737 By virtue of His Majesties Letter of Privy seal bearing seal the 17th day of May 1735 That you deliver and pay of such His Majesties Treasure as remains in your charge unto Francis Earl of Godolphin Keeper of his Majesties Privy Seal or his assigns the sum of six hundred fifty seven pounds fifteen shilling without account for pre quarter of a year due at Midsommer 1737." **\$475**

AMERICAN HISTORICAL LETTERS



Schuyler, Philip. Autograph Letter Signed. Albany, NY: May 9th, 1778. Benevolent letter of financial support to a church leader.

9" x 7", 1 p., docket on rear, professionally repaired on verso, small fold tears taped, no text affected. Toned, strong hand on both sides of deep ink visible. "Ph. Schuyler" signature is powerful, clear and heavily underlined. The generous General Schuyler is bequeathing his Congressional salary to the church.

Albany, May 9th 1778

Sir, Be pleased to pay the Reverend Mr. Eilardus Westolo on order, whatever sum may be due to me for my services as one of the Delegates Representing the State In Congress from the Eleventh of May 1778 to the Eighteenth of June Following both days inclusive being Fourty days.

I am Sir , Your Humble Servant, Ph. Schuyler

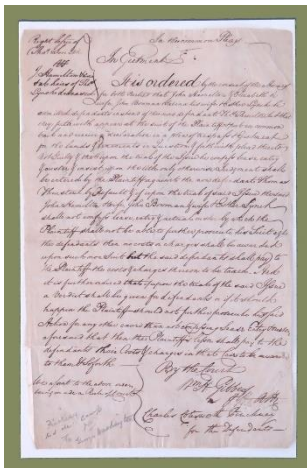
To the Treasurer of the State of New York

Docketed: 1776 May 10th Examined & Allowed One hundred & Sixty Dollars for the Service above mentioned, Comfort Sands Aud Genl.

Docketed on verso: Received of Wm. Gerardus Banker Treasurer of the State of New York the sum of one hundred & fifty dollars for the purposes within mentioned Albany June 3, 1778 Eilardus Westerlo

Philip John Schuyler, (Nov 1733 - Nov 1804), was commissioned one of the four major generals in the Continental Army, later became a political leader, and member of the Continental Congress. Born into a prominent New York family, Schuyler served in the provincial army during the last French and Indian War (1755–60), rising to the rank of major. After the war he went to England (1761–63) to help negotiate the settlement of colonial war claims. He served in the New York Assembly (1768–75) and was a delegate to the Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia (1775–77). When the Revolutionary War broke out in 1775, Schuyler was again a member of the Continental Congress (1778–80), and then served in the New York state senate (1780–90). He campaigned actively in New York for ratification of the new U.S. Constitution, and was one of his state's first two U.S. senators. In 1791 he was defeated for reelection by Aaron Burr, and returned to the state senate. He recaptured his seat from Burr in 1797, but was forced by ill health to retire less than a year later. He was the father of Elizabeth Schuyler Hamilton and the father-in-law of Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton.

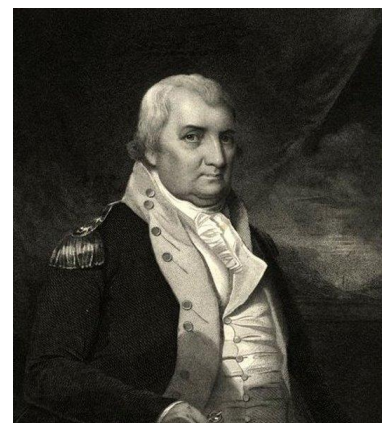
Eilardus Westerlo (October 30, 1738, Kantens, Netherlands – December 26, 1790, Albany, New York) was a Dutch Reformed minister who worked in the United States. He spent his career, from October 1760 until December 1790, as pastor of the Dutch Reformed Church in Albany. During this period, the United States fought for its independence, and the Dutch Reformed Church in North America gained its independence from the mother church in the Netherlands. **\$650**



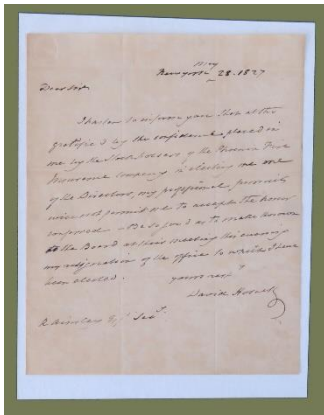
Pinckney, Charles Cotesworth. Legal Decree In Favor of His Client. October 27, 1788. South Carolinian Revolutionary War hero and two time Presidential Candidate.

13" x 8.25", 1 p., in the neat, legalese hand of a court clerk, docketed on the rear Oct. 27th 1788, and signed again by Wm H. Gibbes. Usual folds from filing, a few small chips at edges, otherwise a very collectible document. This case decided the rule of ejectment. Ejectment is a lawsuit brought to remove a party who is occupying real property in trespass. Not the same as an eviction it is against someone who has tried to claim hereditary title to the property.

Charles Cotesworth Pinckney (Feb 1746 – Aug 1825) was an early American statesman of South Carolina, Revolutionary War veteran, and delegate to the Constitutional Convention. He was twice nominated by the Federalist Party as its presidential candidate in 1804 and 1808, losing both elections. After being educated in Europe, Pinckney began to practice law in Charleston. He was first elected to a seat in the colonial legislature in 1770. When war erupted with Great Britain, Pinckney stood with the American Patriots; He was a member of the first South Carolina provincial congress, which helped transition from being a British colony to being an independent state. During the Revolutionary War, his courageous service leading troops garnered him great respect from General Washington. Washington twice offered him positions in the cabinet as Secretary of State or of War, he declined both in favor of plenipotentiary to France.



"In Ejectment...It is ordered by the consent of the attorney for both parties that..." \$525

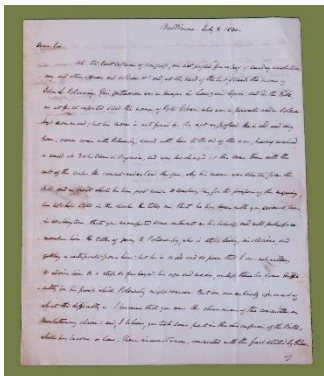


Hosack, David. Autograph Letter Signed. New York: May 28, 1827. Alexander Hamilton's death attendant doctor and noted horticulturist.

9.75 x 7.75, 1 p., usual mail folds, lightly aged, includes a fine engraved portrait. Content: Hosack declines his election to the Board of Directors to the Phoenix Fire Insurance Company, *"In the confidence placed in me by stockholders.. in electing me on of the Directors, my professional commits will not permit me to accept the honor confirmed – Be so good as to make known to the Board at their meeting this evening my rejection of the office to which I have been elected."*

David Hosack, M.D., F.R.S. (Aug 1769 – Dec 1835) was a noted American physician, botanist, and educator. Hosack was the family doctor of Alexander Hamilton, and is perhaps best known as the doctor present

during Hamilton's duel with Aaron Burr in Weehawken, New Jersey on July 11, 1804. Hosack, who was a friend to both Hamilton and Burr, treated Hamilton after Burr fired, and accompanied him across the river to the dockside home of William Bayard Jr., where Hamilton died the next day. Hosack had also treated Hamilton's son Philip after he was fatally shot by George Eacker in a duel at the same location in 1801. At Alexander Hamilton's funeral, Hosack was one of the pallbearers. Three years after the duel, Burr was tried and acquitted on a charge of treason for a conspiracy to form a new nation in the Louisiana Territory. Hosack loaned Burr money for passage on a ship to Europe, where Burr lived for several years in self-imposed exile to escape his creditors and the notoriety resulting from the trial. His contributions to society were much greater as the founder of a medical school at Rutgers, the founder and first president of the New York Horticultural Society and a patron to budding scientists and artists such as Samuel F Morse and Thomas Cole and Washington Irving. Hosack lost most of his real estate wealth in the Great Fire of New York in 1835 and died from a stroke a week later. Fine. **\$200**



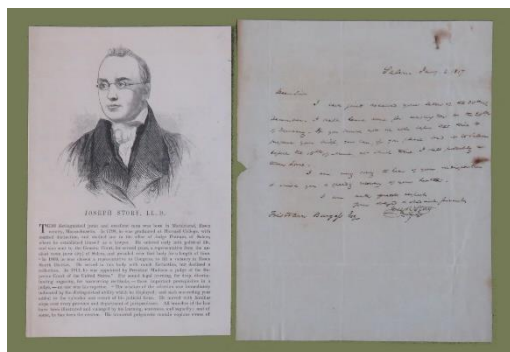
Wirt, William. Autograph Petition of Law; On Behalf of Revolutionary War Soldier. Baltimore: July 2, 1830. Archetype of the office of U.S. Attorney General and prosecutor of Aaron Burr.

9.75" x 8", 2 pp., in neat, petite hand of the longest serving U. S. Attorney General. Docketed on rear by Wirt and addressed to the Honorable Tristram Burges Member of Congress, Providence R. I. Content: The letter is seeking confirmation about Pvt. Peter Cleer's service and wound's during the war so that he may receive beneficiary per Congressional approval. *"stood the name of Peter Cleer, who was a private under in Polanski's command, but his name is not found in the act as passed."* Wirt goes on to seek Burges assistance for this veteran, *"I perceive that you were the chairman of the committee on revolutionary claims and*

I believe you took some care in the discretion of the bill"

William Wirt (Nov 1772 – Feb 1834) was a statesman who is credited with turning the position of United States Attorney General into one of influence. He was the longest serving Attorney General in U.S. history. He was also the Anti-Masonic nominee for president in the 1832 election. Wirt grew up in Maryland but passed the Virginia bar in 1792. After holding various positions, he served as the prosecutor in Aaron Burr's trial for treason. He won election to the Virginia House of Delegates in 1808 and was appointed as a United States Attorney in 1816. The following year, President James Monroe appointed him to the position of United States Attorney General. Wirt remained in that office for the next twelve years, serving under Monroe and John Quincy Adams. He continued his law career after leaving office, representing the Cherokee in Cherokee Nation v. Georgia. Wirt County, West Virginia, is named in Wirt's honor.

Tristram Burges (Feb 1770 – Oct 1853) was a U.S. Representative from Rhode Island as a Federalist and served for ten years. He was appointed chief justice of the Supreme Court of Rhode Island in May 1815, serving for just one year. Burges was elected to the US Congress in 1825 and served for ten years. He was known for his witty repartee with Anti-New England Virginian John Randolph. He favored a protective trade tariff, and he lost reelection because he refused to accept a tariff compromise proposed by Henry Clay. Fine. **\$200**



Story, Joseph. Autographed Letter Signed. Salem, MA: January 2, 1817. Supreme Court Justice who wrote and read the U.S. v. Amistad Africans decision in 1841.

9.75" x 7.5", 1 pp., mailing folds, chip on left margin not affecting text, two 1/2" dark spots also away from text. Letter from Supreme Court Justice to Rhode Island Supreme Court Justice, Tristram Burges. Content: Story details his personal schedule so that Burges may send him his legal brief to the appropriate location, *"I will leave home for Washington on the 20th of January. If you should not be able before that time to prepare your brief, you can, if you*

please send it to Salem before the 15th of March."

Joseph Story (Sep 1779 – Sep 1845) was a lawyer and jurist who served on the Supreme Court of the United States from 1812 to 1845, during the Marshall Court and early-Taney Court eras. He is most remembered for his opinions in The Amistad case, and especially for his magisterial Commentaries on the Constitution of the United States, first published in 1833. Dominating the field in the 19th century, this work is a cornerstone of early American jurisprudence. It is the second comprehensive treatise on the provisions of the U.S. Constitution and remains a critical source of historical information about the forming of the American republic. Historians agree that Justice Story reshaped American law—as much or more than Marshall or anyone else—in a conservative direction that protected property rights. He was uniquely honored in the historical Steven Spielberg film *Amistad* when he was portrayed by retired Justice of the Supreme Court Harry Blackmun.

Tristram Burges (Feb 1770 – Oct 1853) was a U.S. Representative from Rhode Island as a Federalist and served for ten years. He was appointed chief justice of the Supreme Court of Rhode Island in May 1815, serving for just one year. Burges was elected to the US Congress in 1825 and served for ten years. **\$225**

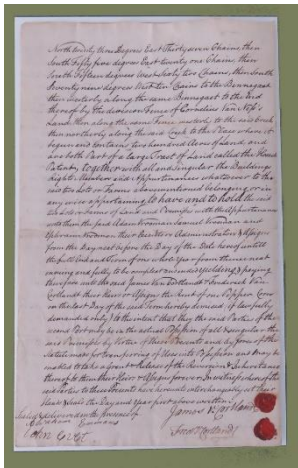


Mason, Ralph and Anna. Property Deed. Suffolk County, MA: 1675. Massachusetts Bay Colony in the year and land of King Philips War

10.25" x 15", 1 p, of deep brown ink in practiced clerical hand of the period. Reinforced with archival tape on the rear along mail folds and a few small holes along the fold, lightly chipped along right margin. Two wax seals at the signature block where Ralph Mason leaves his mark of an oversized "R".

Recorded Nov 22, 1676 at the County of Suffolk. As a nearly 350 year old document in a newly forming country, this deed is collectible for both the beauty of its cherished script and historical significance of a burgeoning nation. Good +.

"To all Christian people to whom this present Deed shall declare to me Ralph Mason and Anna his wife of Boston in New England...in consideration of valuable sums of money in hand...and truly paid by Thomas Bill of Boston, afore said yeoman....Signed Sealed and delivered in consideration of." **\$350**



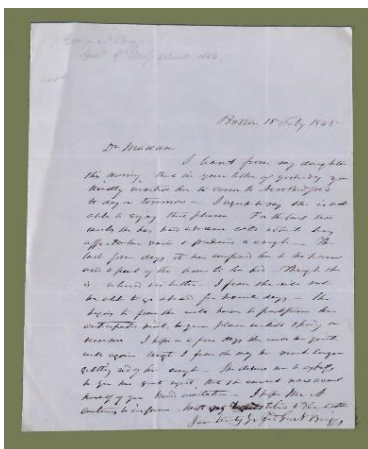
Van Cortlandt, James and Fred[erick] Van Cortlandt. Property Deed Signed and Sealed. Albany County, NY: January 14, 1775. Property transfer by one of the most distinguished of New York families.

12.75" x 7.75", 2pp Secretariially written and very neat and legible hand. Ink spot top right corner, weakness at historical folds, age toned, three file folds, otherwise Fine. Two rad seals affixed adjacent to the names of signatories.

The Van Cortlandt family was an influential political dynasty from the seventeenth-century Dutch origins of New York through its period as an English colony, then after it became a state, and into the nineteenth century. Among its legacy is Van Cortlandt Park and the Van Cortlandt House Museum in Bronx, the town of Cortlandt in northern Westchester County, Van Cortlandt Manor in the village of Croton-on-Hudson to its south. Among the family tree are members of the Philipse family, van Rensselaer family, Schuyler family, Livingston family, the Jay family (including John Jay, the Founding Father and first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court).

The Vrooman Family, three of whom members were purchasing this property, were also historically relevant to the history of upstate New York, though not quite as influential as the Van Cortlandts. The family primarily aggregated in Vroomans Land, Schoharie, New York. Their family had significant losses in the Indian massacre of Schoharie in May 1780. Very good.

"...Between James Van Cortlandt and Frederick Van Cortlandt both of the little Yonkers in Westchester County and Adam Vrooman, Samuel Vrooman and Ephraim Vrooman all of Schoharie in the County of Albany...For and in consideration of the the Sum of Five Shillings current Money of the Province of New York...sell unto the said parties...two certain Farms on Lots of Land at a place know by the name of Sankhaick in the said county of Albany...[followed by the measurements and abutments of said property]...to have and hold...set their hands & Seals the day and year first above written. James V.Cortlandt / Fred V. Cortlandt Sealed and delivered in the presence of Abraham Emmans" **\$250**

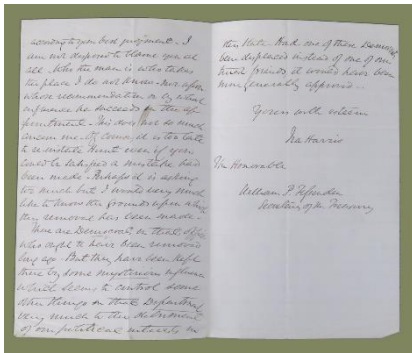


Briggs, George Nixon. Autograph Letter Signed. Boston, MA: July 18, 1845. Notable character in the 1800's Crime of the Century – The Parkman Murder.

9.75" x 7.75", 1 pp., **Signed as the 19th Governor of Massachusetts.** Mailing folds, ink smudge in last line, previous note in pencil at top. Content: Gov. Briggs apologies that his daughter, Harriet, is sick in bed and unable to spend a few days away. He writes true concern for her welfare.

George Nixon Briggs (Apr 1796 – Sep 1861) began his career as a lawyer, was soon voted in the U. S. House of Representatives and ultimately to the Governorship from 1844 to 1851. His political bent was as a conservative Whig, serving on the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads. He was also a regular advocate of temperance, abstaining from all alcohol

consumption, this personal trait going back to his revival in the Second Great Awakening. Although he sought to avoid the contentious issue of slavery, he protested South Carolina policy allowing the imprisonment of free African Americans. He supported capital punishment, notably refusing to commute the death sentence of John White Webster for the murder of George Parkman, which came to be known as the Crime of the Century (19th). Fine. **\$150**



Harris, Ira. Autographed Letters Signed To William P. Fessenden, Secretary of the Treasury; Removal of Isaac O. Hunt. Albany, NY: August 29, 1864. Self proclaimed "Best Friend" of Abraham Lincoln.

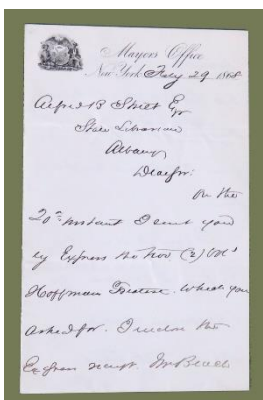
9.125" x 5.5", 3 pp. ALS on folded stationery, docketed on rear. Usual mail folds, two ink spots on rear bottom right away from any text. Content: Senator Harris expresses displeasure to the Secretary of the Treasury reference the dismissal of one of his loyal patronage appointments. Harris had a noted reputation of freely speaking his opinions.

Ira Harris (1802-1875) New York Senator was among President Lincoln's "most frequent evening visitors." His frequent presence made him privy to the President's patronage — so much so that the President once claimed that he looked underneath his bed each night to check if Senator Harris was there, seeking another patronage favor. In February 1861, Harris was elected a U.S. Senator from New York to succeed William H. Seward who did not seek re-election, but would be appointed U.S. Secretary of State by Lincoln. His daughter Clara Harris and his stepson/future son-in-law Henry Rathbone were the Lincolns' guests at Ford's Theatre on April 14, 1865, when the president was shot and killed by John Wilkes Booth. Booth stabbed Rathbone in the arm when he tried to stop the assassin from escaping. Clara and Henry were married in 1867, but were also step siblings – Harris had remarried to Pauline Rathbone, Henry's mother.

Albany August 29 1864 -My dear sir I had just learned, to my great surprise, that Isaac O Hunt had been removed from office as an appraiser. Unless there is some cause for his removal that has never come to my knowledge, it is a serious mistake. We have very few a sufficient Republic is in any branch of the custom house and he was among the best. I can't let things that some maligned influence has brought about his removal. He was, I think, the only man connected with the revenue department who was associated appointed upon my recommendation and there are several reasons... why I feel a little sensitive on the subject of his removal.

"... Perhaps it is asking too much but I would like to know the grounds upon which his removal has been made.

There are Democrats in that office who ought to have been removed long ago.... Had one of the Democrats been displaced instead of one of our true friends it would have been more generally approved. Yours and with esteem, Ira Harris. Addressed to The Honorable William P. Fessenden, Secretary of the Treasury. \$250

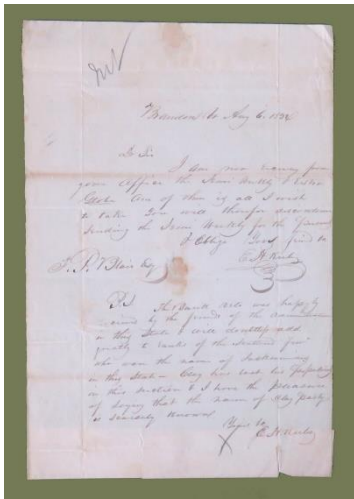


Hoffman, John T. ALS to Alfred B. Sheet, NY State Librarian. New York: July 29, 1868. Last New York City Mayor to become elected governor.

8" x 5", 3 pp, usual mail folds, on Mayor's Office Letterhead with NYC crest, some ink feathering to signature.

John Thompson Hoffman (Jan 1828 – Mar 1888) was the 23rd Governor of New York. He was also Recorder of New York City (1861–65) and the 78th Mayor of New York City (1866–68). Connections to the Tweed Ring ruined his political career, in spite of the absence of evidence to show personal involvement in corrupt activities. He is to date the last New York City mayor elected Governor of New York. The two volume set referred to in this letter is likely: "Treatise upon the estate and rights of the corporation of the city of New York, as proprietors. New York, E. Jones, 1862" Fine.

Dear Sir: On the 20th instant I sent you by Express the two (2)Vol. Hoffman Treatise which you asked for. I enclose the Express receipt. J W Beach informs me you have not rec'd them. I hope they are not lost as I cannot replace them." \$100

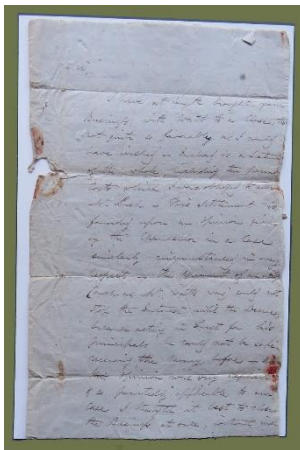


Keeler, E. [Eleazer]. ALS to Francis P. Blair. Brandon, VT: August 6, 1834. Political 'Kingmaker' is addressed with public opinions

11.75" x 7.75, 1p folio, signed twice, docketed on rear with remnants of red wax, two fold tears at the bottom not infringing on text. Content: Opinions regarding the bank veto by Andrew Jackson and decline of Henry Clay's popularity, declining his semi-monthly subscription to the Globe, *"The Bank veto was happily received by the friends of the administration in this state...I have the pleasure to saying that the name of the Clay Party is scarcely known"*

Eleazer Keeler was the first town clerk of Keeler Township, Michigan (west of Benton Harbor) in 1839 and filled other positions of trust in the township. He was the son of the town's founder, Wolcott H. Keeler. He traveled to Michigan from Vermont with his father who had acquired 480 acres of government land on which to build the town.

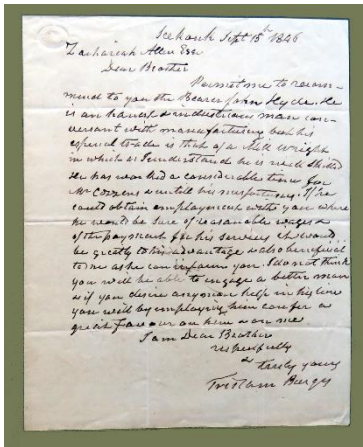
Francis Preston Blair Sr. (Apr 1791 – Oct 1876) was an American journalist, editor, and influential figure in national politics advising several U.S. presidents across party lines. Blair was an early member of the Democratic Party, and a strong supporter of Andrew Jackson, helping him win Kentucky in the 1828 election. From 1831 to 1845, Blair worked as Editor of the Washington Globe, the propaganda tool for the Democratic Party. Despite being a Kentucky slaveholder, he eventually opposed the expansion of slavery into the west. He supported the Free-Soil Party ticket of Martin Van Buren in 1848. In 1854, he left the Democratic Party and helped establish the Republican Party. Blair served as an advisor to President Abraham Lincoln during the Civil War. In 1861, he was sent by Lincoln to offer command of a large Union army to Colonel Robert E. Lee, who declined, and instead joined the Confederacy. Very good +. **\$150**



Van Vechten, Abraham. Autograph Letter Signed. np: June 1, 1797. Early New York Attorney General, political leader and Alexander Hamilton's Albany Bank designate.

12.75" x 7.75", 2 pp. docketed on the folded rear panel to: Evans Whorry, Esq, at or near Little Falls / To the care of Wm Porteous. Age toned, usual mail folds, hole along left margin where wax was removed, not affecting front page, interrupting two words on the second page, not his signature. Content: Van Vechten informs his client that he has done his best to represent him in light of the facts of the case, *"This Settlement is founded upon an opinion given by the Chancellor in a case similarly circumstanced in every respect...I thought it best to close the business at once, without incurring further costs"*,

Abraham Van Vechten (December 5, 1762 – January 6, 1837) was an American lawyer and a Federalist politician who served twice as New York State Attorney General. In 1784, he married Catharina Schuyler (1766–1820), eldest daughter of Philip P. Schuyler (1736–1808) of the prominent Schuyler family. In 1792, he was elected one of the first directors of the Bank of Albany. From 1796 to 1797, he was Assistant Attorney General for the Fifth District, comprising four Counties. He was a Federalist presidential elector in 1796, and cast his votes for John Adams and Thomas Pinckney. Van Vechten was among the first lawyers admitted to the bar after the adoption of the New York State Constitution and ranked among the most gifted men of that time. Very good. **\$225**



Burges, Tristram. Autograph Letter Signed. Providence, RI: September 15, 1846.

10" x 8", 1 p, folded stationary, docketed on verso to Zachariah Allen, Esq, North Main St. Content: Letter of recommendation for John Hyde, "...an honest industrious man conversant with manufacturing as a mill wright,"

Tristram Burges (Feb 1770 – Oct 1853) was a U.S. Representative from Rhode Island as a Federalist and served for ten years. He originally studied medicine but upon the death of his father he abandoned the study of medicine. He was graduated from what is now Brown University and became a prominent member of the Federalist Party. He was appointed chief justice of the Supreme Court of Rhode Island in May 1815, serving for just one year. Burges was elected to the US Congress in 1825 and served for ten years. He was known for

his witty repartee with Anti-New England Virginian John Randolph. He favored a protective trade tariff, and he lost re-election because he refused to accept a tariff compromise proposed by Henry Clay.

This letter is addressed to Zachariah Allen (Sep 1795 – Mar 1882) who was an American textile manufacturer, and scientist-inventor from Providence, Rhode Island. He was educated at Phillips Exeter Academy and at Brown University where he graduated in 1813. In 1822 he constructed a woolen mill in which he incorporated innovative fire-safety features and his own mechanical improvements. He also built the first hot-air furnace system for the heating of homes. In 1833 he patented his best-known device, the automatic cut-off valve for steam engines. Allen was also a prolific writer of scientific texts and wrote numerous books and articles during his lifetime. Fine. **\$150**