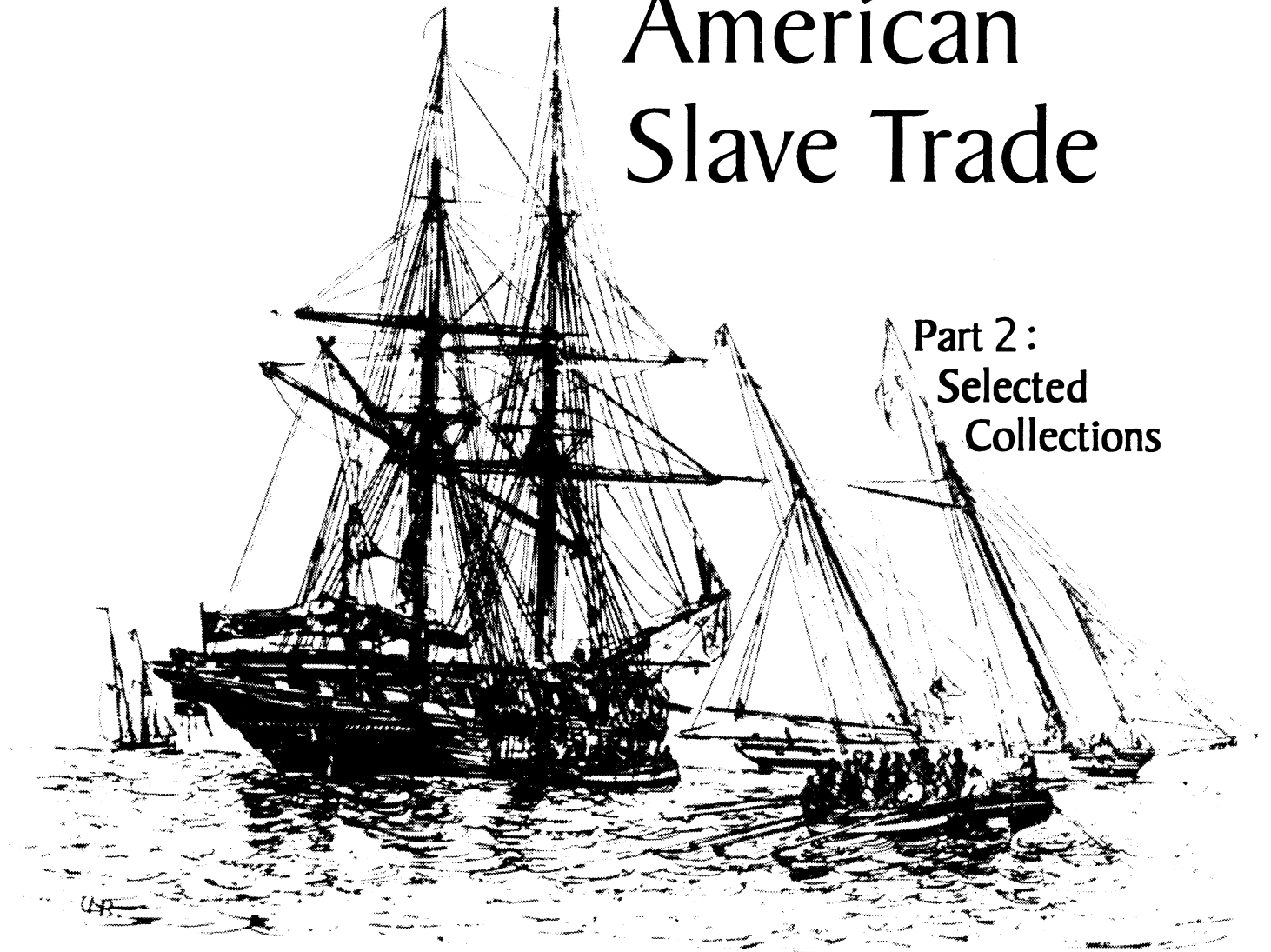


A Guide to the Microfilm Edition of

Papers of the American Slave Trade

**Part 2:
Selected
Collections**



**Series A: Selections from the
Rhode Island Historical Society**

University Publications of America

Cover: Slaver taking captives. Illustration from the Mary Evans Picture Library.

A Guide to the Microfilm Edition of

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Rhode Island Historical Society**

**Part 2:
Selected Collections**

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INTRODUCTION

On August 5, 1797, John Brown, the premier merchant and first citizen of Providence, Rhode Island, reluctantly entered federal district court in his hometown and became the first American to be tried under the U.S. Slave Trade Act of 1794. After months of out-of-court wrangling with the plaintiffs, officers of a state abolition society, it appeared that Brown would now stand trial for fitting out his ship *Hope* for the African slave trade. The voyage had concluded profitably a year earlier in Havana, Cuba, with the sale of 229 slaves.¹

Brown's accusers included his younger brother, Moses, a tireless opponent of both slavery and the slave trade since his conversion, on the eve of the American Revolution, from the family's Baptist faith to the Society of Friends. A founding member and officer of the Abolition Society, chartered in 1789, Moses Brown had been fighting Rhode Island slave traders, including brother John, for a decade, since the passage of the largely ineffective state statute of 1787 that prohibited the trade to state residents.²

In this instance, the society's traditional tactic—cajoling a pledge from the accused to forswear slaving in the future in exchange for dropping the suit—had failed. Even so, as Moses had pointedly reminded John before trial, the charges thus far were limited, involving only the comparatively mild first section of the three-year-old federal statute. A conviction would therefore require nothing more than forfeiture of the vessel, an aging one at that. What John should most fear, Moses advised, were "larger prosecutions" should he further provoke the Abolition Society by refusing to settle out of court.³

Ultimately, the elder Brown ignored his brother's mediation efforts and offered only an eleventh hour plea for a continuance to haggle over milder pledge terms. Its patience exhausted, the Abolition Society flatly rejected that ploy whereupon the case proceeded swiftly to trial. As predicted, the district court judge had little choice but to assent to the arguments and evidence in the prosecution's narrowly defined case. Consequently, John Brown lost his vessel at a local auction in late August, thereby closing the forfeiture case. When the Abolition Society again sought Brown's promise to abandon his African commerce, he refused, quickly prompting the "larger prosecutions" Moses had warned him about.⁴

Meanwhile, Moses had become suspicious of John's continuing recalcitrance. It seemed premeditated in the younger brother's view, perhaps a deliberate strategy devised by John's "friends at Newport" (i.e., slave traders) to guarantee further suits over the illegal sale of the slaves. Such litigation, while potentially more costly, would also require a jury trial, and the slave traders assumed that local juries would not convict one of their own. They were right. Within six months John Brown announced his court victory over the "Wicked and Abominable Combination I mean the Abolition Society."⁵

This insiders' view of the foregoing case of the ship *Hope* is documented, along with numerous other key prosecutions, in the correspondence of John and especially Moses Brown, now available in this microfilm series, *Papers of the American Slave Trade, Series A: Selections from the Rhode Island Historical Society*.

Moreover, Moses Brown's letters reveal not only the Abolition Society's formal legal stratagems but also its traditional policy of intense but informal negotiating with slave traders who often yielded to the group's demands without a court fight. Cyprian Sterry, for example, the principal slave trader in Providence during the 1790s with fifteen voyages to the African coast in 1794 alone, fully succumbed to the society's persistent pressure. He escaped prosecution (along with his captain, Samuel Packard) for an African voyage involving the ship *Ann* by signing a written pledge to leave the slave trade forever.⁶

Despite occasional successes in and out of court, in general the campaign against the slave traders in the wake of federal prohibition was proceeding haltingly at best. Moses Brown continued to monitor the efforts of customs officials in the Rhode Island district for the Abolition Society, which increasingly relinquished its early prosecutorial role to the U.S. Attorney's office. Congress bolstered the federal district attorney's legal arsenal with amendments to the 1794 statute in 1800 and again in 1803. Meanwhile, an aggressive secretary of the treasury appointed a special prosecutor for the district in 1801. The new laws closed the most obvious loopholes in the original act while the appointment of a resident special prosecutor provided a full-time federal agent who could focus exclusively on the escalating volume of vessels clearing state ports for Africa.⁷

Documentation for these events not only reveals the growing docket of slaver cases but also regularly exposes the personal and political dimensions of enforcement and evasion. By century's end, for example, it had become clear that slavers had rendered nearly null the local auctions designed to separate owners from their slaving vessels. African merchants and their influential supporters simply intimidated all potential bidders and then repurchased their ships for a fraction of their assessed value. To end such bogus sales-at-auction, the government in 1799 sent Samuel Bosworth, surveyor of the port of Bristol, to bid for the D'Wolf family's recently condemned schooner *Lucy*. Twice within twenty-four hours of the scheduled sale, John Brown and two D'Wolf brothers, the country's largest slave traders, visited Bosworth at home to dissuade him from his duty. Despite a threatened dunking in Bristol harbor, Bosworth "with considerable fear and trembling" arrived at the wharf on auction morning where he was met by a party of local "Indians" in unconvincing native garb and with faces blackened. No Bristol version of the patriotic tea party ensued, fortunately. Instead, Bosworth's captors hustled him aboard a waiting sailboat and deposited him two miles down the bay at the foot of Mount Hope. The government never employed that strategy again.⁸

Such an outrage was not the limit of "the trade's supporters" arrogance, however. Soon, Special Prosecutor John Leonard would personally feel the wrath of Rhode Island's African merchants. Even his limited success in libeling several of their vessels under the anemic section one was enough to prompt an attack on his person. They apparently feared that Leonard's February 1801 victory in prosecuting a D'Wolf captain caught redhanded by a U.S. Navy cruiser would set a costly precedent. Consequently, several overzealous supporters of the slave trade assaulted Leonard on the steps of the federal courthouse in Washington, D.C.⁹

Even John Brown thought this response somewhat extreme, especially as he was then involved in concocting a federal legislative solution to his slaving constituents' problem. During the hectic months between Thomas Jefferson's election and inauguration as president, Brown successfully spearheaded a move in Congress to create a separate customs district for the port of Bristol. Following passage of the requisite legislation late in February 1801 and the eventual appointment of customs officers amenable to the slave traders' needs, the effort to stop the slave trade in the courts permanently stalled. The end of Rhode Island participation in illegal African commerce would begin only years later with the implementation of the Anti-Slave Trade Act of 1807 on January 1, 1808. This now constitutional statute outlawed all foreign slave trading by American citizens in any capacity. By the time violations of this new law carried the

death penalty in 1819, Rhode Islanders, along with other New Englanders, had found new markets for their commerce and textile factories for their surplus capital. The brief revival of the slave trade in clipper ships of the antebellum era from ports such as Baltimore would proceed without them.¹⁰

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Notes

1. Jay Coughtry, *The Notorious Triangle: Rhode Island and the African Slave Trade, 1700–1807* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1981), pp. 214–215.

2. Coughtry, *The Notorious Triangle*, chapter 6. *See also* Mack Thompson, *Moses Brown, Reluctant Reformer* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press 1962), pp. 175–190.

3. Moses Brown to John Brown, March 15, 1797, Moses Brown Papers (MBP), vol. 9, no. 29, Rhode Island Historical Society (RIHS); Moses Brown to John Brown, *ibid.*, vol. 9, no. 32.

4. John Brown to Moses Brown, July 29, 31, 1797, MBP, vol. 9., nos. 43 and 44, RIHS. *See also* Coughtry, *The Notorious Triangle*, p. 215.

5. John Brown to Moses Brown, July 31, 1797, MBP, vol. 9, no. 44, RIHS and Moses Brown to John Brown, November 17, 1797, *ibid.*, vol. 9, no. 49; John Brown to James Brown, June 21, 1798, John Brown Papers, box D, RIHS.

6. John Brown to Moses Brown, MBP, vol. 9, no. 43. *See also* Coughtry, *The Notorious Triangle*, pp. 213–214.

7. Coughtry, *The Notorious Triangle*, pp. 216–222.

8. Samuel Bosworth to Oliver Wolcott, August 1799, Shepley Papers, vol. 9, no. 8, RIHS; Jonathan Russell to Albert Gallatin, March 18, 1804, *ibid.*, vol. 9, no. 7. George Howe tells the tale of the *Lucy* in his *Mount Hope: A New England Chronicle* (New York, 1959), pp. 107–108.

9. John Brown to Benjamin Bourne, February 1801, Peck Mss9005, vol. 11, no. 66, RIHS.

10. John Brown to James D’Wolf and Shearjashub Bourn (n.d. but 1800s), John Brown Papers, RIHS; John Brown to Shearjashub Bourn, February 1801, Peck Mss9005, box 11, no. 66, RIHS. The full story of the separate district issue and the eventual end of slave trading from Rhode Island is detailed in Coughtry, *The Notorious Triangle*, pp. 225–229 and 233–237.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

In the mid-seventeenth century, British and American merchants began bringing African captives into Britain's New World colonies to be sold into slavery. One hundred fifty years later, nearly all American ports had harbored, at one time or another, locally owned vessels that were likewise engaged.

Papers of the American Slave Trade documents the international traffic in slaves in Britain's New World colonies and the United States, providing access to important primary source material on the business aspect of the commerce in human beings. These comprehensive documents add significant scope and depth to the study of American involvement in the slave trade in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

Selections from the Rhode Island Historical Society (Series A)

The first segment of *Papers of the American Slave Trade, Selections from the Rhode Island Historical Society* (Series A), consists of documents from one of the premier sources for studying the growth of the slave trade. Rhode Island ports were key junctures of the "notorious triangle," in which Rhode Island rum was sold for African slaves, who then were sold in the Caribbean for molasses and sugar that were, in turn, sold to the state's rum distillers.

Series A focuses on the importation of slaves from Africa, including

- The financial concerns, risk factors, and other variables that affected commercial decision making
- Slave treatment and slave revolts on transoceanic voyages
- The effect of legislation on the trade
- Regional origins and destinations of captives
- The Caribbean economy in American colonial times
- The related molasses and rum trade.

In addition to their value for research on the slave trade, these documents are essential collections for the study of Rhode Island commerce in general around 1800. Some of the material touches on nearly every aspect of life in Providence, Rhode Island.

Brown Family Collections (Part 1)

The Brown family collections date from the early 1700s to the early 1800s. The brothers James and Obadiah Brown, leading merchants of Providence, were among the first molasses and sugar merchants from that city to engage in the African slave trade. The second generation included James's sons, Moses Brown and John Brown.

After participating in at least one slaving venture in his youth, Moses Brown became a Quaker and a leader in the movement to outlaw "that unrighteous traffic." He was instrumental in the passage of the federal Slave Trade Act of 1794, which prohibited ships destined to transport slaves to any foreign country from outfitting in American ports.

His brother, John, remained active in the business, advocating expansion of the slave trade while a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. John Brown became the first Rhode Islander tried under the 1794 legislation and suffered the forfeiture of his ship *Hope* in 1797.

Letters between the brothers and other records document these and other matters of one of America's preeminent merchant families.

Other items in Part 1 include

- The letterbook of James Brown regarding the sloop *Mary*, fitted out as the first "Guinea man" (a vessel sailing to the coast of Guinea) from Providence around 1736
- Obadiah Brown's insurance book and his other records of slaving voyages between 1753 and 1759
- The Providence Abolition Society minute book, 1789–1827.

Selected Collections (Part 2)

The papers of other Rhode Islanders with slave trade connections appear in Part 2. These businessmen lived in Providence and Newport, as well as Bristol, which became a center of the African trade in later years, until the 1808 congressional ban on importing slaves.

Among the highlights of Part 2 are

- The records of the infamous family of James DeWolf, who, in 1791 on the high seas, threw overboard a captive allegedly infected by smallpox
- The early records of Newport merchant Christopher Champlin, including records of the schooner *Adventure*, involved in the slave trade from 1773 to 1774
- The fascinating narrative by Capt. George Scott of a slave revolt on the sloop *Little George* one hundred leagues from the coast of Africa in 1730
- A logbook and other papers of Aaron Lopez concerning slaving voyages of the ships *Sally* in 1767, *Hannah* in 1768, *Cleopatra*, 1770 through 1773, and *Africa*, 1773 through 1774
- The log of the sloop *Dolphin*, which recounts a slave revolt on the ship *Liberty* off the African coast in 1795
- The letter book of the Bristol Insurance Company detailing some of the financing and risks involved in the trade, as well as the destinations and cargoes of many voyages in 1800 and 1801
- The correspondence and other records of David L. Barnes, U.S. attorney for Rhode Island
- Material on Cuban sugar and coffee plantations and the Cuban slave trade with South America
- Other records documenting the ultimately successful efforts to halt the importation of slaves
- Sailing instructions issued to slave ship captain Benjamin Bosworth
- Agreements and receipts kept by slave ship captain Nathaniel B. Whitting
- The Nicholas Peck Papers, which document the illegal involvement of Bristol in slave trading after 1807.

NOTE ON SOURCES

The collections microfilmed in this edition are holdings of the Manuscripts Division, Rhode Island Historical Society Library, 121 Hope Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02906. The descriptions of the collections provided in this user guide reproduce inventories and indexes compiled by Rick Stattler, manuscripts curator at the Rhode Island Historical Society. The inventories and indexes are included among the introductory materials appearing on the microfilm at the beginning of each collection.

Maps, courtesy of the Library of Congress Maps Division, include

“A Map of Rhode Island,” by I. Stockdale, 1794

“West Indies,” *The North American and West-Indian Gazetteer*, 1776.

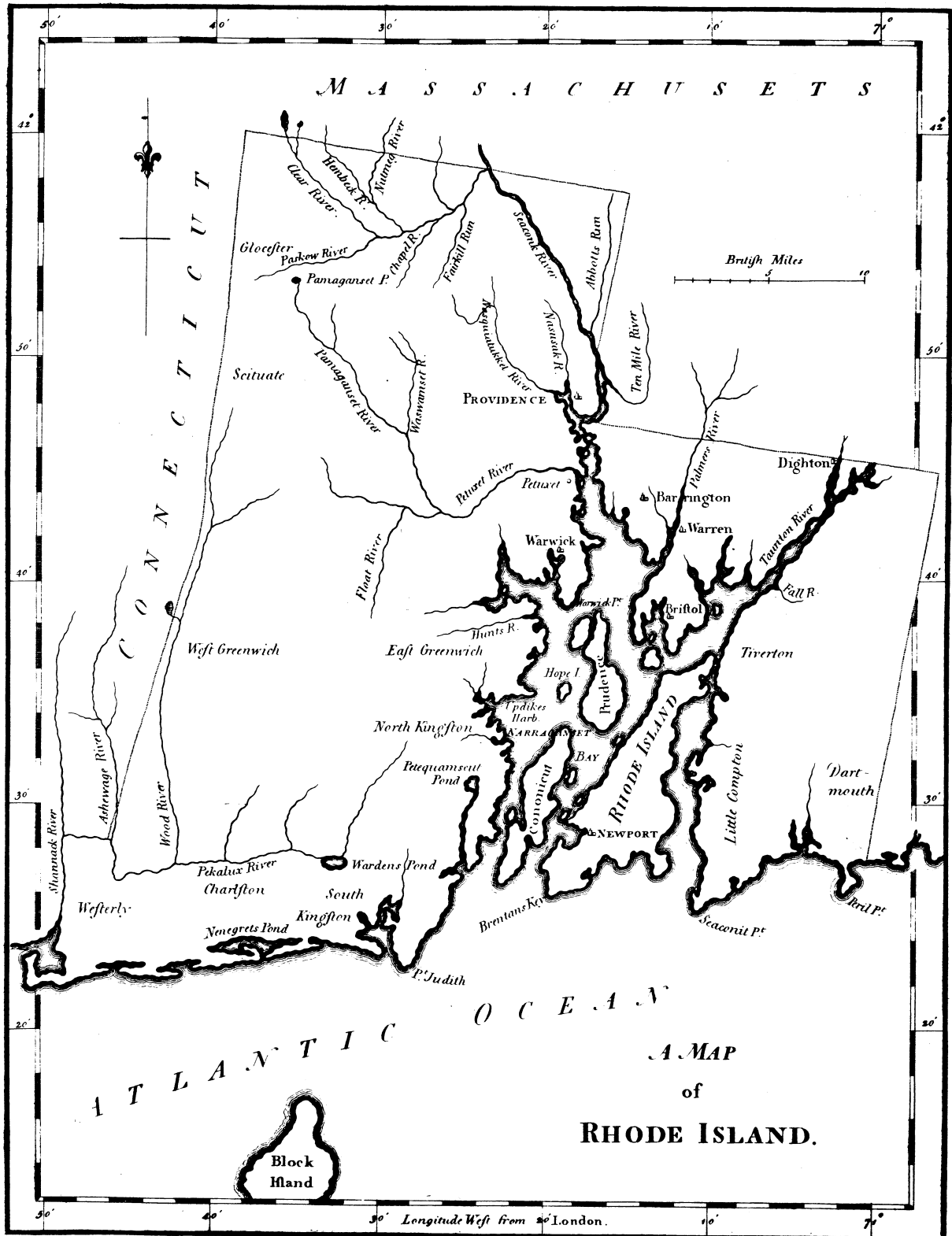
“L’Afrique,” Atlas Général, M. Brion, 1782

“The Guinea Coast about the Year 1700,” Churchill’s *Collection of Voyages*, engraved by R. W. Seale

EDITORIAL NOTE

The Reel Index for this edition provides the user with a précis of the collections included. Each précis gives information on family history and many business and personal activities documented in the collection. Omissions from collections are noted in the user guide and on the microfilm.

Following the précis, the Reel Index lists each file folder and manuscript volume. The four-digit number to the left of each entry indicates the frame number at which a particular folder begins.



A MAP
of
RHODE ISLAND.

Published July 15, 1794 by I. Stockdale, Ricadilly.

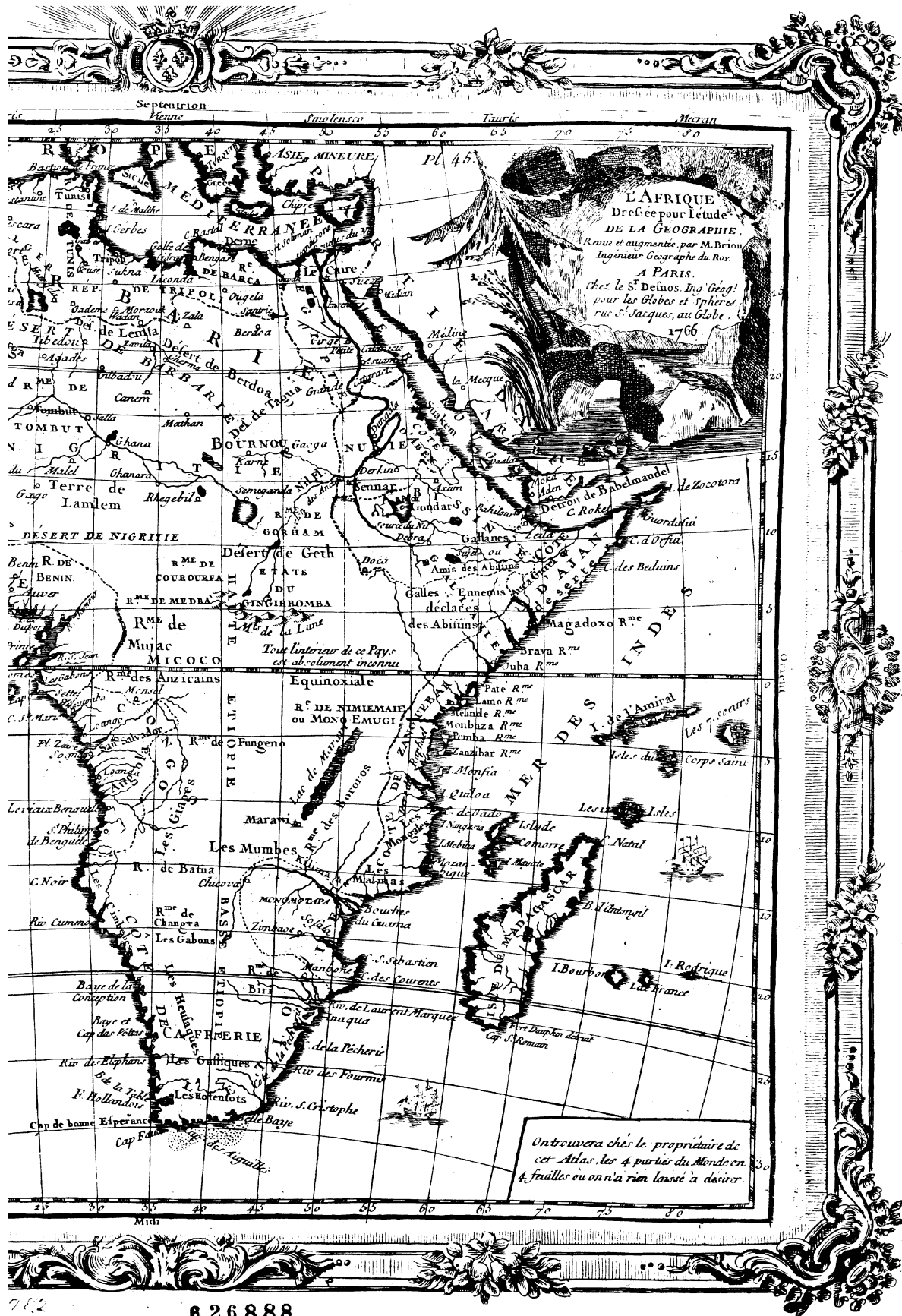




From: The North-American and the West-Indian gazetteer... London, 1776. p. xxxv.



AVERTISSEMENT.
 Les Latitudes qui sont tracées sur cette carte de cinq en cinq degrés dant de cent lieues marines, ou lieu d'une heure de chemin peuvent servir d'échelle au défaut d'une générale, incompatible avec la projection stéréographique.



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THE GUINEA COAST ABOUT THE YEAR 1700

From the map in Churchill's Collection of Voyages, engraved by R. W. Seale

REEL INDEX

Reel 1

Mss19, Jacob Babbitt Papers, 1798–1838, Bristol, Rhode Island; also Cuba and West Indies

Jacob Babbitt was born October 22, 1769, in Taunton, Massachusetts. He settled in Bristol, Rhode Island, in 1790 and began working as a silversmith. Surplus cash was put into the purchase of shares in trading vessels bound for the West Indies. By 1805, successful voyages and reinvestments enabled Babbitt to step up from artisan to merchant, with his own ships and his own sugar warehouse on the Bristol docks. During the War of 1812, he got cargoes past the British blockade by the use of forged papers (generally Danish) and concealment (disguising seaworthy vessels as leaky derelicts).

After 1820, large forest tracts near the port of Matanzas, Cuba, were cut over to clear land for sugar cane planting. Many New England merchants grew wealthy in the ensuing sugar bonanza. Babbitt's firm was deeply involved in selling food and machinery to the planters, extending credit, leasing warehouse space, managing estates, and shipping sugar to European markets. In addition to doing business for himself, Babbitt was associated in the firms of Jacob Babbitt & Co. (fl. 1817–1822) and Babbitt & Greene (fl. 1833–1836). He also acted with and as an agent for the DeWolf family. By the 1830s Babbitt had shifted much of his attention to a new business—that of textile manufacture. He ultimately owned two cotton mills in Bristol, where he died on March 8, 1850. Jacob Babbitt was the husband of Bathsheeba Stoddard (b. 1773) and father of Sarah (b. 1790) and Jacob Jr. (b. 1809).

The Jacob Babbitt Papers pertain to Babbitt's shipping and commercial activities in Bristol and the Caribbean, and in northern Europe as well, between 1798 and 1838. Included are notes, bills, accounts current of voyages, deeds, and correspondence relating to trade in merchandise and in slaves. The papers are arranged in chronological order.

Included are six volumes: Volume 1. Personal accounts ledger, 1808–1818, and Journal, 1814–1817; Volume 2. Personal accounts ledger, 1823–1824, and Journal, 1823; Volume 3. Personal accounts, 1835–1838; Volume 4. Jacob Babbitt & Co. invoice book, 1817–1820; Volume 5. Babbitt & Greene receipt book, 1833–1836; and Volume 6. Babbitt & Greene letterbook, 1835–1836.

The collection also includes one folder of individual documents: Brief letter from R. Chace, 12/5/1798; Receipt from S. Wardwell, 1800; Account statement, brig *Agnes*, 1801; Account with Giles Luther, 1801; Account, sloop *Aurora*, 1801, John B. Earl; Account with Giles Luther, sloop *Aurora*, 1802; Receipt, Billings Waldron, 1802; Deed, Babbitt and Leonard Bradford to Benjamin Bosworth, 1809; Charter party, brig *Eliza Ann*, 1810; Letter, from William Hunter, 8/30/1813; Account with brig *Maria Louisa*, 1813, and two receipts; Account with sloop *Advice*, 1813; five receipts to Capt. Thomas Mayberry, 1814; Tax receipt, 1816; Insurance receipt, 1816; Invoice of goods shipped on brig *Eliza Ann*, 1816; Invoice of

goods shipped on schooner *Olive Branch*, 1816; Receipt for cargo on brig *Eliza Ann*, 1817; Letter from Sterry & Stansbury, 3/29/1817; Circular letter from James DeWolf, 1/1/1818; Account with John W. Baker of Trinidad, 1818; Receipt re brig *Friendship*, 1818; Receipt from Benjamin Tilley, 1818; Insurance certificate, brigs *Sally* and *Olive Branch*, 1819; Receipt to Elisha Dyer, 1819; Invoice of cargo shipped on brig *Cashier*, 1820; Letter from Benjamin M. Bosworth, 5/25/1820; Letter from John W. Baker, Trinidad, 7/20/1820; Letter from John Fletcher, Russia, 8/28/1820; Letter from Samuel B. Mumford, 12/11/1820; Invoice, brig *Mount Pleasant*, 1821; Receipt to W. Goodwin, 1821; Letter from E. Elderkin, 11/7/1821; Letter from Seth Barton, 4/13/1822; Circular letter from Latting, Adams and Stewart, 2/8/1824; Letter from Beriah Browning, 10/23/1825; Letter from Edward Spalding, 2/12/1826; Letter from Edward Spalding, 2/21/1827; Letter from J. L. Pitman?, 4/28/1831; Undated memorandum, “Molasses HHds Furnished”; and Undated bit of poetry.

N.B. Several letters from Babbitt can be also found in both the DeWolf Papers (Mss382), included in this edition, and Spalding Papers (Mss23) at the Rhode Island Historical Society. A letter addressed to his son, dated 1859, can be found in the Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection.

0001	Introductory Materials. 4 frames.
0005	Volume 1, Personal accounts ledger, 1808–1818, and Journal, 1814–1817. 216 frames.
0221	Volume 2, Personal accounts ledger, 1823–1824, and Journal, 1823. 54 frames.
0275	Volume 3, Personal accounts, 1835–1838. 39 frames.
0314	Volume 4, Jacob Babbitt & Co. invoice book, 1817–1820. 15 frames.
0329	Volume 5, Babbitt & Greene receipt book, 1833–1836. 23 frames.
0352	Volume 6, Babbitt & Greene letterbook, 1835–1836. 55 frames.
0407	Folder, Loose Papers, 1798–1831. 93 frames.

Mss20, Christopher Champlin Papers, 1729–1840, Newport, Rhode Island; also Africa and West Indies

Christopher Champlin (1731–1805) was a merchant, shipowner, and financier of Newport, Rhode Island. He was born in Charlestown, Rhode Island, the oldest son of Colonel Christopher Champlin (1707–1766) and Hannah (Hill) Champlin. Earlier generations of the Champlin family had moved from Newport to the Narragansett country. The colonel became a fairly prosperous “Narragansett Planter”; however, all three brothers, Christopher, Robert, and George, moved back to Newport in the 1750s and established themselves in the mercantile community.

Christopher’s merchant career led him to engage in various trades, so long as the profits were high. He and his brother George often worked together; George was often master of the ships, with Christopher being the financier. Their first ventures included illegal trade with Spain and France. Depending on the financial climate, Christopher dabbled in privateering, the slave trade, and the West Indies trade.

In 1764, he won a contract to become a “victualizing agent,” a job that provided food, drink, and other items for the British naval ships docking at Newport. His wife, Margaret Grant, was an asset in obtaining this contract; it was Sir Alexander Grant, a London relative, who awarded the contract to Margaret’s husband and her sister Jane’s husband, John Powell of Boston. Victualizing was not necessarily profitable; however, it did provide well-needed sterling specie, a rare commodity in depressed Rhode Island.

During the war, Champlin fled Newport and supported the colonies, as did his brother George (1739–1809), who became lieutenant colonel of the First Rhode Island Militia. George later was a member of the Continental Congress and the Rhode Island legislature. He was a staunch supporter of the Constitution, as was Christopher.

Champlin did continue his trading activities during Newport's occupation. In 1780, he tried to secure a contract for supplying the French fleet, but he received only a contract for flour. He expanded his trade with the West Indies, Northern Europe, and Holland. After the Paris Peace Treaty, he continued to ship flaxseed to Ireland, in partnership with Samuel Fowler.

Christopher Grant Champlin (1768–1840), or "CGC," was the oldest child and only son of Christopher Champlin. By the 1790s he had graduated from Harvard, and he was sent on a European tour to "refine" him and ready him for a merchant's life. He returned, settled in New York, and lost a fortune in stock speculation, almost ruining his father. He returned to Newport, where he married Martha Redwood Ellery (b. 1772) in 1793. He continued to assist his father in business and in 1796 decided to run for Congress.

Like his father, CGC used opportunities for financial reward. For example, many of the friends he made in Europe became contacts for trade or financial partners. Also, to help his chances for winning a congressional seat, CGC swore that he had not speculated in southern lands and would not use his office to help his investment. In reality, CGC had speculated heavily in the Tennessee Company with his Harvard College friend, Nathaniel Prince (Prime?). He was elected and served in Congress from 1797 to 1801. During his tenure, he participated in a duel with a South Carolina congressman, James A. Bayard. Champlin was later appointed to fill a Senate term from 1809 to 1811.

He returned to Rhode Island in 1811 and concentrated on local and state politics as well as on his business ventures. Eventually he became president of the Bank of Rhode Island, an office his father had held. CGC's only male heir died young and in 1840, upon the death of CGC, the Champlin family and wealth were dispersed.

The Christopher Champlin Papers contain the records of Christopher, his brother George, and Christopher's son, Christopher Grant. The family's continuous business operations made it impossible to separate each person's own material; however, the bulk of the material belonged to Christopher Champlin. The collection dates from 1729 to 1840; the bulk dates are 1765 to 1798. The records include correspondence, accounts, receipts, account books, ships' papers, labor records, deeds, and other items. Most concern his business activities, but national and local political, as well as personal, materials are scattered throughout. Champlin's trade areas included Java, Denmark, England, Ireland, the West Indies, Cuba, Belgium, the Netherlands, Hispaniola, Batavia, Italy, Germany, St. Croix, and Surinam.

The collection is arranged in series as follows: Series I: Correspondence, 1729–1840 (1.5 linear feet); Series II: Ships' Papers, 1732–1827 (1 linear foot); Series III: Accounts, Receipts, and Orders, 1740–1822 (1 linear foot); and Series IV: Miscellaneous, 1700–1825 (0.5 linear feet).

Series I: Correspondence, 1729–1840

This series consists mostly of business letters, with news on trade and the supplying of British ships. The following are the most frequently occurring names of persons mentioned in the collection: Ayrault, Daniel, of Newport, ten letters received, 1729–1760; Babcock, Rowse (1745–1801), merchant of Westerly, Rhode Island, letter, 8/27/1786; Bowler, Metcalf (1726–1789), was partner with Champlin circa 1760; Brown, John (1736–1803), nine letters to Champlin, 1786–1799; Brown, Moses (1738–1836), letter to George Champlin, 9/24/1793; Brown, Nicholas (1729–1791), letter, 5/11/1756; Brown &

Francis, twenty-seven letters to Champlin, 1788–1793; Brymer, Alexander, merchant of Boston, dozens of letters to Champlin, 1773–1775; Clark, John Innes, merchant of Providence, draft of letter to Clark, 1801; letter from Clark, 1806; Dennie, Joseph (1768–1812), New Hampshire essayist and editor, seeks help in gaining Newport readership for his *The Museum* newspaper, 3/17/1791; Dudley, Charles Edward (1780–1841), U.S. senator from New York, two letters, 1830; Fenner, Arthur (1745–1805), Rhode Island governor, seven letters, 1790–1801; Francis, John Brown (1791–1864), Rhode Island governor, letter on politics, 1837; Gallatin, Abraham Alfonse Albert (1761–1849), secretary of treasury, letter, 1811; Halsey, Thomas Lloyd, letter, 1792; Hazard & Robinson, mercantile firm of Charleston, South Carolina, seven letters to Champlin, 1793–1794; Ives, Thomas Poynton, two letters on politics, 1821; Jones, William (1753–1822), Rhode Island governor, political letter, 1821; Livingston, John, of New York, several letters, 1767–1772; Madison, James (1751–1836), U.S. president, letter to Champlin, 4/9/1810; Malbone, Godfrey, Jr. (1724–1785), letter, 2/23/1760; Melville, David, of Newport, letter on politics, 1824; Minturn & Champlin, mercantile firm of New York, nineteen letters to Champlin, 1794–1798; Mumford, Gideon, of East Greenwich, dozens of trade letters, 1775–1791; Nightingale, Samuel, letter, 1788; Perkins, Thomas H. (1764–1854), prominent Boston merchant, letter, 1793; Pickering, Timothy (1745–1829), U.S. secretary of state, draft of letter from Champlin, 1799; Potter, Elisha R., of South Kingstown, Rhode Island, letters, 1798 and 1821; Rotch, William (1734–1828), of New Bedford, letter, 1803; Russell, Nathaniel, of Savannah, trade letter, 1788; Tillinghast, N., of Taunton, letter, 1812; Tillinghast, Stephen, of Providence, two letters, 1792; Updike, Daniel E., of Wickford, letters re Washington Academy, 1802 and 1805; Waterhouse, Benjamin (1754–1846), physician, letter, 2/11/1784; and West, Benjamin (1730–1813), letters re almanacs, 1782, 1786.

Correspondence is foldered as follows: Box 1. Folders 1–14 (1729–1788); Box 2. Folders 15–36 (1789–1796); Box 3. Folders 37–61 (1797–1805); and Box 4. Folders 62–76 (1806–1840, n.d.) and Folder 77 (Invitations and acceptances).

Series II: Ships' Papers, 1732–1827

This series includes bills, receipts and accounts of ships, crew lists, wages, and custom house documents. Some accounts, bills, and receipts might have ended up in Series III if the ship's name was not clear, and ship correspondence is most often in Series I. The ships included are the British vessels Champlin was supplying, slave ships (e.g., the *Adventure*) and merchant ships. Merchant voyage records include customs documents from Gutenberg, Sweden; St. Petersburg, Russia; Haiti; Surinam; Africa; and Denmark. Some are identified by the final port.

Victualizing records include orders and vouchers, and the ships involved are identified as such below. Some flaxseed trade ships were: *Enterprise*, *Don Galvez*, *Belle*, *Hope*, *Hannibal*, and *William*. Some of the ships involved with Northern Europe and Russian trade were *Richmond*, *Enterprise*, and *Elizabeth*.

Series III: Accounts, Receipts, and Orders, 1740–1822

Accounts include those for servicing the British ships, both to and from Champlin to the British Navy. These often list amounts and costs of supplies. Also included are business and shipping accounts for trade, including those to and from Europe, the West Indies, and Africa. Champlin's flaxseed business with Ireland is recorded, as well as slaving trips. The accounts are for the supplying of Champlin's ships and the selling of cargo both in the United States (the colonies) and abroad. Personal accounts are normally for cloth, food, and some items from Europe. Labor accounts are also part of the series,

including slaves hired out to Champlin. There are receipts from Aaron and Moses Lopez, Peleg Thurston, Alexander Brymer, and many others. Bills of exchange, current price lists at other ports, stock, notes, and miscellaneous financial records, including Revolutionary War payment memos, are also included.

Series IV: Miscellaneous, 1700–1825

This series contains papers from Christopher Champlin (1684–1734) and (1707–1766) as well as Christopher Grant Champlin. Included are Charlestown lands deeded from Narragansett sachems and others to the Champlins; depositions concerning the parentage of Charles and George Ninegret (Champlin seemed to support Charles); sachem deed to the Narragansett Church; accounts and receipts to Christopher Champlin, guardian of Thomas Ninegret, infant sachem (1752); appraisal of Nicholas Easton land; leases; deed of sale for a slave; power of attorney to Abraham Redwood Ellery; contract for flour (French); Newport town records; and power of attorney to C. Champlin for his father’s estate in Westerly (1734).

N.B. Other Champlin items located at the Rhode Island Historical Society can be found in the following collections: Rhode Island Historical Society Miscellaneous Manuscripts (included in this edition); Mason’s Newport; Peck Collection (included in this edition); John Brown Papers (included in *Papers of the American Slave Trade, Series A, Part 1*); U.S. Custom House Papers; and Benjamin Bourne Papers. Other papers of the Champlin family are located in the following repositories: Baker Library, Harvard University (Powell-Champlin Papers); Newport Historical Society (Champlin Papers and George Wetmore Collection, both included in UPA’s *Papers of the American Slave Trade, Series B, Part 2*); and New York State Library (Champlin Papers). *See also* Lough, George J., *The Champlins of Newport* (Diss., U. Conn., 1977); Massachusetts Historical Society, *Commerce of Rhode Island, 1726–1800*, published in series 7 of the Massachusetts Historical Society Collections, volumes 9 and 10, 1915; and *Biographical Cyclopedia of Rhode Island*, “Christopher Champlin,” p. 107.

Reel 1 cont.

0500	Introductory Materials. 66 frames.
0566	Box 1, Folder 1, 1729–1749. 20 frames.
0586	Box 1, Folder 2, 1750–1757. 107 frames.
0693	Box 1, Folder 3, 1758–1759. 57 frames.
0750	Box 1, Folder 4, 1760. 67 frames.
0817	Box 1, Folder 5, 1761–1762. 56 frames.
0873	Box 1, Folder 6, 1763–1772. 50 frames.
0923	Box 1, Folder 7, 1773. 92 frames.

Reel 2

Mss20, Christopher Champlin Papers, 1729–1840 cont.

0001	Box 1, Folder 8, 1774. 78 frames.
0079	Box 1, Folder 9, 1775–1780. 60 frames.
0139	Box 1, Folder 10, 1781–1784. 70 frames.
0209	Box 1, Folder 11, 1785. 36 frames.
0245	Box 1, Folder 12, 1786. 53 frames.

0298 Box 1, Folder 13, 1787. 60 frames.
 0358 Box 1, Folder 14, 1788. 79 frames.
 0437 Box 1, Folder 15, 1789. 82 frames.
 0519 Box 1, Folder 16, 1790. 48 frames.
 0567 Box 2, Folder 17, January–June 1791. 70 frames.
 0637 Box 2, Folder 18, July–December 1791. 52 frames.
 0689 Box 2, Folder 19, January–February 1792. 40 frames.
 0729 Box 2, Folder 20, March–April 1792. 52 frames.
 0781 Box 2, Folder 21, May–June 1792. 38 frames.
 0819 Box 2, Folder 22, July–September 1792. 41 frames.
 0860 Box 2, Folder 23, October–December 1792. 44 frames.
 0904 Box 2, Folder 24, January–April 1793. 42 frames.
 0946 Box 2, Folder 25, May–September 1793. 36 frames.

Reel 3

Mss20, Christopher Champlin Papers, 1729–1840 cont.

0001 Box 2, Folder 26, October–December 1793. 19 frames.
 0020 Box 2, Folder 27, January–June 1794. 32 frames.
 0052 Box 2, Folder 28, July–December 1794. 45 frames.
 0097 Box 2, Folder 29, March–May 1795. 33 frames.
 0130 Box 2, Folder 30, June–July 1795. 47 frames.
 0177 Box 2, Folder 31, August–September 1795. 33 frames.
 0210 Box 2, Folder 32, October–December 1795. 28 frames.
 0238 Box 2, Folder 33, January–March 1796. 31 frames.
 0269 Box 2, Folder 34, April–May 1796. 31 frames.
 0300 Box 2, Folder 35, June–July 1796. 23 frames.
 0323 Box 2, Folder 36, August–December 1796. 26 frames.
 0349 Box 2, Folder 37, January–June 1797. 33 frames.
 0382 Box 2, Folder 38, July–September 1797. 37 frames.
 0419 Box 3, Folder 39, October–December 1797. 25 frames.
 0444 Box 3, Folder 40, January–February 1798. 26 frames.
 0470 Box 3, Folder 41, March 1798. 30 frames.
 0500 Box 3, Folder 42, April–May 1798. 37 frames.
 0537 Box 3, Folder 43, June–August 1798. 33 frames.
 0570 Box 3, Folder 44, September–November 1798. 24 frames.
 0594 Box 3, Folder 45, December 1798. 37 frames.
 0631 Box 3, Folder 46, January–February 1799. 48 frames.
 0679 Box 3, Folder 47, March–June 1799. 39 frames.
 0718 Box 3, Folder 48, July–December 1799. 32 frames.
 0750 Box 3, Folder 49, January–June 1800. 36 frames.
 0786 Box 3, Folder 50, July–August 1800. 40 frames.
 0826 Box 3, Folder 51, September–December 1800. 31 frames.
 0857 Box 3, Folder 52, January–February 1801. 47 frames.
 0904 Box 3, Folder 53, March–June 1801. 32 frames.
 0936 Box 3, Folder 54, July–December 1801. 49 frames.
 0985 Box 3, Folder 55, January–June 1802. 39 frames.

Reel 4

Mss20, Christopher Champlin Papers, 1729–1840 cont.

- 0001 Box 3, Folder 56, July–December 1802. 45 frames.
0046 Box 3, Folder 57, January–June 1803. 55 frames.
0101 Box 3, Folder 58, August–December 1803. 47 frames.
0148 Box 3, Folder 59, January–August 1804. 39 frames.
0187 Box 3, Folder 60, September–December 1804. 26 frames.
0213 Box 3, Folder 61, 1805. 43 frames.
0256 Box 3, Folder 62, 1806. 66 frames.
0322 Box 4, Folder 63, January–June 1807. 45 frames.
0367 Box 4, Folder 64, July–December 1807. 45 frames.
0412 Box 4, Folder 65, January–June 1808. 45 frames.
0457 Box 4, Folder 66, July–December 1808. 40 frames.
0497 Box 4, Folder 67, 1809. 55 frames.
0552 Box 4, Folder 68, 1810. 35 frames.
0587 Box 4, Folder 69, 1811. 47 frames.
0634 Box 4, Folder 70, 1812–1815. 44 frames.
0678 Box 4, Folder 71, 1816, 1818, and 1820. 34 frames.
0712 Box 4, Folder 72, 1821. 63 frames.
0775 Box 4, Folder 73, 1822–1824. 31 frames.
0806 Box 4, Folder 74, 1825–1829. 44 frames.
0850 Box 4, Folder 75, 1830–1840. 45 frames.
0895 Box 4, Folder 76, Undated. 33 frames.
0928 Box 4, Folder 77, Invitations and acceptances, Undated. 28 frames.

Reel 5

Mss20, Christopher Champlin Papers, 1729–1840 cont.

- 0001 Box 4, Folder 1, Schooner *Adventure*, 1763–1774. 57 frames.
0058 Box 4, Folder 2, Brigantine *Anstes*, 1757, and Ship *Arethusa*, 1773. 12 frames.
0070 Box 4, Folder 3, Brigantine *Bayonne*, 1788–1794 (see Thomas Dickason correspondence). 95 frames.
0165 Box 4, Folder 4, Brigantine *Bowler*, 1760 (Jamaica); Sloop *Bebrig* (deposition); Brigantine *Betsey*, 1783; and Brigantine *Brandywine*, 1806–1807. 27 frames.
0192 Box 5, Folder 5, Ship *Cygnnet*, 1765–1766 (victualizing). 42 frames.
0234 Box 5, Folder 6, Sloop *Catherine*, 1758–1759 (Monte Cristo); Sloop *Chaleur*, 1764 (victualizing); Ship *Chance*, 1759 (Jamaica); Brigantine *Charming Nancy*, 1759 (Monte Cristo); Sloop *Charming Polly*, 1752; Ship *Cleopatra*, 1768; Ship *Courier*, 1820 (list of dimensions); Ship *Charlotte*, n.d.; and [Scow?] *Cruzer*, 1773 (victualizing). 57 frames.
0291 Box 5, Folder 7, Sloop *Dolphin*, 1739–1765; and Sloop *Delaware*, 1764. 15 frames.
0306 Box 5, Folder 8, Sloop *Endeavor*, 1761; Ship *Enterprise*, 1761–1764; Brigantine *Elizabeth*, 1790, 1796–1798 (St. Petersburg–Copenhagen; see Robinson, Robert correspondence); and Sloop *Express*, 1816. 33 frames.
0339 Box 5, Folder 9, Sloop *Fanny*, 1760 (Tortola); Ship *Five Brothers*, 1801; Brigantine *Fame*, 1809 (Charlestown); Ship *Friendship*, 1781–1782; Ship *Frederick Augustus*, 1806; and Brigantine *Fame of Newport*, 1810. 33 frames.
0372 Box 5, Folder 10, Brigantine *George*, 1757–1782 (privateer of war). 60 frames.

- 0432 Box 5, Folder 11, Brigantine *Gaspee*, 1773 (victualizing); Ship *Good Intent*, 1796 (Fort Dolphin); Sloop *George Champlin*, 1824–1827 (Rio de Janeiro) (Nov. 18, 1825, letter from John Randall, consulate in Copenhagen); and Ship *Glascow*, 1775 (victualizing). 51 frames.
- 0483 Box 5, Folder 12, Ship *Hydra*, 1785–1786. 32 frames.
- 0515 Box 5, Folder 13, Schooner *Halifax*, 1773 (victualizing); Ship *Hinde*, 1775 (victualizing); Ship *Hope*, 1765 (England); Ship *Hope*, 1800 (Amsterdam); Ship *Hope Thomas Wall*, 1792; and Ship *Hope of Newport*, 1800–1807. 28 frames.
- 0543 Box 5, Folder 14, Sloop *Industry*, 1747–1781; Frigate *Java*, 1817 (Oliver Hazard Perry ship); Ship *Lizard*, 1772–1773 (victualizing); Brigantine *John*, 1788; Schooner *Lark*, 1795; Ship *Laurel*, 1781; and Brigantine *John Adams*, 1806. 27 frames.
- 0570 Box 5, Folder 15, Sloop *Mary*, 1745; Ship *Maidstone*, 1755–1766 (victualizing); Sloop *Molly Oliver*, 1760 (Seward Islands?); Schooner *Magdalen*, 1773 (victualizing); and Ship *Mercury*, 1773 (victualizing). 56 frames.
- 0626 Box 5, Folder 16, Sloop *Nancy*, 1758–1759 (Monte Cristo). 149 frames.
- 0775 Box 5, Folder 17, Ship *New Concert*, 1758–1760; Sloop *Neptune*, 1765–1773; Sloop *Newport*, 1784; Ship *New Elizabeth*, 1767 (sugar, Antigua); and Sloop *New York*, 1773 (Ireland). 27 frames.
- 0802 Box 5, Folder 18, Ship *Ocean*, 1809–1821 (London–Sweden). 112 frames.
- 0914 Box 5, Folder 19, Sloop *Patience*, 1732–1738 (West Indies); Ship *Polly & Fanny*, 1759; Sloop *Peace of Plenty*, 1773; Ship *Peggy*, 1773–1774, 1784–1785 (Lisbon) (inc. wage book); Brigantine *Prifeilla*, 1782; Sloop *Peter*, 1758 (potential prize); and Folder 19a, Ship *Peggy*, 1773–1776 (victualizing). 55 frames.

Reel 6

Mss20, Christopher Champlin Papers, 1729–1840 cont.

- 0001 Box 5, Folder 20, Brigantine *Rising Sun*, 1800–1804 (Rotterdam–Havana). 90 frames.
- 0091 Box 6, Folder 21, Brigantine *Rowena*, 1801–1805 (Amsterdam–Liverpool). 237 frames.
- 0328 Box 6, Folder 22, Sloop *Ranger*, 1749–1767; Sloop *Richmond*, 1764 (North Carolina); Ship *Rose*, 1774–1775 (victualizing); Brigantine *Richmond*, 1782, 1786–1787 (Hamburg); and Schooner *Revenge*, 1809–1811. 51 frames.
- 0379 Box 6, Folder 23, Ship *Senegal*, 1768–1770 (victualizing). 41 frames.
- 0420 Box 6, Folder 24, Sloop *Swan*, 1773–1775 (victualizing). 46 frames.
- 0466 Box 6, Folder 25, Brigantine *Sanderson*, 1744–1747; Brigantine *Seaflower*, 1746; Ship *Welcome*, 1756; Ship *Squirrel*, 1764 (victualizing); Schooner *St. John*, 1768 (victualizing); Sloop *Sally*, 1789 (London); Schooner *Sultan*, 1769–1770; Sloop *Three Sallys*, 1763 (North Carolina); Ship *Tristram*, 1773 (London); and Brigantine *Wainscot*, n.d. 67 frames.
- 0533 Box 6, Folder 26, Ship *Union*, 1803–1806, 1815 (Batavia). 44 frames.
- 0577 Box 6, Folder 27, Schooner *Windmill*, 1759–1763 (Monte Cristo). 34 frames.
- 0611 Box 6, Folder 28, Unidentified Ship Records, 1762–1802 (includes Champlin victualizing contract, “Outline of a contract respecting an expedition to China,” August 1788, and list of supplies for a frigate (Java?)). 40 frames.
- 0651 Box 6, 1740–1749. 22 frames.
- 0673 Box 6, 1750–1757. 37 frames.
- 0710 Box 6, 1758–1759. 83 frames.
- 0793 Box 6, 1760–1764 (Folder 1 of 2). 67 frames.
- 0860 Box 6, 1760–1764 (Folder 2 of 2). 82 frames.
- 0942 Box 6, 1765 (Folder 1 of 3). 58 frames.

Reel 7

Mss20, Christopher Champlin Papers, 1729–1840 cont.

0001	Box 7, 1765 (Folder 2 of 3). 85 frames.
0086	Box 7, 1765 (Folder 3 of 3). 71 frames.
0157	Box 7, 1766–1769 (Folder 1 of 2). 58 frames.
0215	Box 7, 1766–1769 (Folder 2 of 2). 59 frames.
0274	Box 7, 1770–1772 (Folder 1 of 2). 56 frames.
0330	Box 7, 1770–1772 (Folder 2 of 2). 70 frames.
0400	Box 7, 1773. 70 frames.
0470	Box 7, 1774–1775. 71 frames.
0541	Box 7, Account book (victualizing), 1775. 59 frames.
0600	Box 7, 1775–1779. 10 frames.
0610	Box 7, 1780. 71 frames.
0681	Box 7, 1781. 65 frames.
0746	Box 7, 1782. 79 frames.
0825	Box 7, 1783 (Folder 1 of 2). 55 frames.
0880	Box 7, 1783 (Folder 2 of 2). 94 frames.
0974	Box 7, 1784 (Folder 1 of 2). 61 frames.

Reel 8

Mss20, Christopher Champlin Papers, 1729–1840 cont.

0001	Box 7, 1784 (Folder 2 of 2). 62 frames.
0063	Box 8, Account books, 1786–1787. 33 frames.
0096	Box 8, 1785–1789. 43 frames.
0139	Box 8, 1790–1799. 32 frames.
0171	Box 8, 1800–1805. 71 frames.
0242	Box 8, 1806–1822. 13 frames.
0255	Box 8, Undated. 91 frames.
0346	Box 8, Bills of exchange, 1758–1807. 28 frames.
0374	Box 8, Financial records—miscellaneous, 1743–1780. 20 frames.
0394	Box 8, Price lists, 1760–1810. 70 frames.
0464	Box 8, Petty Ledger #2, 1768–1772. 142 frames.
0606	Box 8, Invoice book, 1769–1804. 89 frames.
0695	Box 8, Ledger, 1783–1786. 56 frames.
0751	Box 8, Account book, 1781–1802. 140 frames.
0891	Box 8, Indian deeds and depositions, 1700–1745. 19 frames.
0910	Box 8, Indian deeds and depositions, 1746. 50 frames.
0960	Box 8, Indian deeds and depositions, 1753–1761 and undated. 28 frames.
0988	Box 8, Indian deeds—Thomas Ninegret, 1756–1757. 37 frames.
1025	Box 8, Miscellaneous records—includes G. Champlin bequeath to the First Congregational Church in Newport, City of Newport subscription, French contract for flour, military schools in France, Newport town records (1800, 1825), power of attorney (1742–1765), license (photocopy of original). 33 frames.

Reel 9

Mss20, Christopher Champlin Papers, 1729–1840 cont.

- 0001 Box 8, Pattern book (cloth). 12 frames.
0013 Box 8, Voting Records, 1807–1821. 12 frames.
0025 Box 8, Wills, deeds, leases, 1731–1790. 47 frames.
0072 Box 8, Wills, deeds, leases, 1790–1813. 39 frames.
0111 Box 8, Wood family bible (one page) listing children born 1730–1747. Little Compton vital records indicate these are the children of John Wood by two different wives. Oversized signatures from brig *George*, n.d. (vellum—half of it missing); Deeds: Timothy Stanley of Farmington, Connecticut, to Christopher Champlin, Westerly, 1735; Stanton York of Charlestown to Jesse Champlin of Charlestown, 1776; and “A list of vessels convoyed by the United States Frigate *George Washington*...” February 4–October 1, 1799 (lists ships, masters, owners, cargo where from and where bound). 16 frames.

Mss365, Nicholas Cooke Papers, 1764–1778, Providence, Rhode Island; also West Indies

Nicholas Cooke (1717–1782) spent his early life as a sea captain and later operated a distillery and a ropemaking business. He was twice elected for one-year terms as deputy governor of Rhode Island, in 1768 and in 1775. He became governor in November 1775 after Tory sympathizer Joseph Wanton was deposed. He served through May 1778, then declined another term. Cooke married Hannah Sabin in 1740 (d. 1792) and had twelve children.

This collection consists of letters received by Governor Cooke and drafts of letters sent. A list of letters is arranged by folder below. The collection also includes typescripts of thirteen letters from George Washington to Cooke, dated 1775–1777, available in photostat form from the Rhode Island State Archives. Much of the collection consists of financial papers concerning the Caribbean sugar trade, including trade in sugar, molasses, rum, and other products.

- 0127 Introductory Materials. 7 frames.
0134 1764, June 25. 3 frames.
0137 1768, July 24–December 24. 3 frames.
0140 1771, September 18. 2 frames.
0142 1772, May 5–November 14. 5 frames.
0147 1773, April 14–May 3. 8 frames.
0155 1775, April 5–December 31. 110 frames.
0265 1776, January 7–November 20. 91 frames.
0356 1777, January 1–July 23. 23 frames.
0379 1778, November 28. 3 frames.
0382 Undated. 13 frames.

***Mss382, DeWolf Papers, 1751–1864,
Bristol, Rhode Island; also Africa, Cuba, and West Indies***

The DeWolf family of Bristol, Rhode Island, engaged in numerous sea-related enterprises that included the slave trade, privateering, merchant marine, insurance, banking, and Cuban sugar and coffee plantations. Much of the activity centered around Senator James DeWolf (1764–1837), who succeeded his father, Mark Anthony DeWolf (1726–1792), as the family’s business patriarch. A biographical sketch of Senator DeWolf appears in the *Dictionary of American Biography*. After his extensive slave-trading career came to a halt, he founded the Arkwright Mill in Coventry; owned the *Yankee*, which was the most successful privateer in the War of 1812; and served as a U.S. senator from 1821 to 1825.

Two-thirds of this collection is made up of documents and correspondence. These are generally concerned with privateering in the War of 1812, plantation operations, and politics. The bulk are letters addressed to James DeWolf and his brother, John DeWolf (1760–1841). Unfortunately, the financial activities of George DeWolf (1779–1844) and the Russian trade of “Northwest” John DeWolf are merely glimpsed. The slave trade is represented by a relatively few important letters and documents.

Account books, cargo invoices, bills, and receipts make up an unusually small part of this mercantile collection. The privateer *Yankee* is quite well-documented by eight account books and a logbook. Other financial records include a few slave invoices, plantation records, and bank shares.

Series I: Correspondence and documents, 1751–1864

This series includes all DeWolf family activities. Because these affairs were so complex and interrelated, a chronological order has been adopted in preference to arbitrarily assigned subjects. Box 1, Folders 1–73, 1751–1812; Box 2, Folders 74–123, 1813–1820; Box 3, Folders 124–186, 1821–1825; Box 4, Folders 187–225, 1826–1834; and Box 5, Folders 226–282, 1834–1864 and undated.

Series II: Merchant marine accounts, 1795–1864

This series includes all DeWolf financial shipping records, divided into three subseries: slave trade, privateering, and general commerce, the latter being arranged by name of vessel.

Sub-series 1, Slave trade: Sales of slaves from ship *Juno*, 12/4/1795; Oversized folder. Sales of slaves from ship *Juno*, 1796; and Sales of slaves from brig *Three Sisters*, 10/12/1807.

Sub-series 2, Privateer accounts: Journal of the privateer *Yankee*, 1812–1813; List of prizes by brigantine *Yankee*, 1812–1813; Account book of brigantine *Yankee*, May–July 1813; Account book of brigantine *Yankee*, 1813; Account book of brigantine *Yankee*, 1813–1815; Account book of brigantine *Yankee*, 1814–1815; Account book of brigantine *Yankee*, January 1815; Crew list of schooner *Yankee Lass*, April 16, 1814; Receipt book of brigantine *Yankee*, 1814; and Articles of agreement and crew list, brigantine *Yankee*, undated.

Sub-series 3. Shipping accounts: *Aspasian* (brig), 1823; *Balance* (ship), 1838–1839; *Busy* (brig), 1824–1827; *Caroline* (brig), 1816–1819; *Catherine Ann* (schooner), 1819; *D. R. DeWolf* (schooner), 1863; *Eliza Ann* (brig), 1821; *General Jackson* (ship), 1815–1821; *Leonidas* (ship), ca. 1825; *Lisboa* (schooner), 1819; *Mount Hope* (brig), 1813; *Mount Pleasant* (brig), 1820–1823; *New Columbia* (brig), 1824; *Olive* (schooner), 1812–1820; *Prize* (brig), 1823; *Remittance* (brig), 1823; *Retrieve* (brig), 1807; *Roger Williams* (ship), 1824–1825; *Salley* (sloop), 1829; and *William* (ship), 1825–1826.

Series III: Plantation accounts, 1818–1852

Records of supplies, maps, receipts, and slave lists for the family's Cuban coffee and sugar plantations.

Sub-series 1, Mary Ann: Plats, ca. 1820; and Inventories, 1818–1820.

Sub-series 2, Mount Hope: Invoices and accounts, 1836–1838.

Sub-series 3, New Hope: Slave lists and miscellaneous bills, 1846–1852.

Sub-series 4, General plantation accounts: Slave lists, ca. 1839; and Miscellaneous bills and receipts, 1839–1852 and undated.

Series IV: Banks and banking accounts, 1820–1825

Sub-series 1, Mount Hope Bank: Share, 1823.

Sub-series 2, Bank of Bristol: Shares, 1825.

Series V: Mount Hope Insurance Company accounts, 1836

Receipts, 1836.

Series VI: Rhode Island Turnpike Company accounts, 1806

Shares, 1806.

Series VII: Miscellaneous personal bills and receipts

Receipts for postage, 1800–1801; Property taxes, 1813–1816; Miscellaneous receipts, 1797–1834; Undated list of names and signatures of unknown significance and undated index to unknown ledger; and 1821 memorandum book of George DeWolf.

N.B. DeWolf-related material that has not been interfiled with the DeWolf Papers can be found in other collections at the Rhode Island Historical Society Library, including the John Brown Papers (Mss312, included in UPA's *Papers of the American Slave Trade, Series A, Part 1*): Letters, 2/23/1800 and 3/15/1800, John Brown to James Brown re interest of James DeWolf in ship. Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection (Mss9001); the Peck Collection (Mss9005); and the Shepley Papers (Mss9006) are included in this edition. Other collections documenting later generations of the family are available to researchers on site at the RIHS library. Other institutions with DeWolf materials include the Baker Library at Harvard University and the Bristol, Rhode Island, Historical Society.

Reel 9 cont.

0395	Introductory Materials. 14 frames.
0409	Box 1, Folders 1–73, 1751–1812. 209 frames.
0618	Box 2, Folders 74–123, 1813–1820. 184 frames.
0802	Box 3, Folders 124–174, 1821–1825. 129 frames.

Reel 10

Mss382, DeWolf Papers, 1751–1864 cont.

- 0001 Box 3, Folders 175–186, 1825. 45 frames.
0046 Box 4, Folders 187–225, 1826–1834. 157 frames.
0203 Box 5, Folders 226–282, 1834–1864 and undated. 146 frames.
0349 Box 5, Folder 1, Sub-series 1, Slave trade, Sales of slaves from ship *Juno*, 12/4/1795. 4 frames.
0353 Oversized folder, Sub-series 1, Slave trade, Sales of slaves from ship *Juno*, 1796. 2 frames.
0355 Box 5, Folder 3, Sub-series 1, Slave trade, Sales of slaves from brig *Three Sisters*, 10/12/1807. 3 frames.
0358 Box 6, Volume 1, Sub-series 2, Privateer accounts, Journal of the privateer *Yankee*, 1812–1813. 87 frames.
0445 Box 6, Volume 2, Sub-series 2, Privateer accounts, List of prizes by brigantine *Yankee*, 1812–1813. 3 frames.
0448 Box 6, Volume 3, Sub-series 2, Privateer accounts, Account book of brigantine *Yankee*, May–July 1813. 46 frames.
0494 Box 6, Volume 4, Sub-series 2, Privateer accounts, Account book of brigantine *Yankee*, 1813. 123 frames.
0617 Box 7, Volume 5, Sub-series 2, Privateer accounts, Account book of brigantine *Yankee*, 1813–1815. 81 frames.
0698 Box 7, Volume 6, Sub-series 2, Privateer accounts, Account book of brigantine *Yankee*, 1814–1815. 132 frames.
0830 Box 7, Volume 7, Sub-series 2, Privateer accounts, Account book of brigantine *Yankee*, January 1815. 21 frames.
0851 Box 7, Volume 8, Sub-series 2, Privateer accounts, Crew list of schooner *Yankee Lass*, April 16, 1814. 3 frames.
0854 Box 6, Volume 9, Sub-series 2, Privateer accounts, Receipt book of brigantine *Yankee*, 1814. 45 frames.
0899 Oversized folder, Sub-series 2, Privateer accounts, Articles of agreement and crew list, brigantine *Yankee*, undated. 5 frames.
0904 Box 8, Folder 1, Sub-series 3, Shipping accounts, *Aspasian* (brig), 1823. 2 frames.
0906 Box 8, Folder 1a, Sub-series 3, Shipping accounts, *Balance* (ship), 1838–1839. 7 frames.
0913 Box 8, Folder 2, Sub-series 3, Shipping accounts, *Busy* (brig), 1824–1827. 7 frames.
0920 Box 8, Folder 3, Sub-series 3, Shipping accounts, *Caroline* (brig), 1816–1819. 12 frames.
0932 Box 8, Folder 4, Sub-series 3, Shipping accounts, *Caroline* (brig), 1816–1819. 20 frames.
0952 Box 8, Folder 5, Sub-series 3, Shipping accounts, *Caroline* (brig), 1816–1819. 10 frames.
0962 Box 8, Folder 6, Sub-series 3, Shipping accounts, *Caroline* (brig), 1816–1819. 11 frames.
0973 Box 8, Folder 7, Sub-series 3, Shipping accounts, *Catherine Ann* (schooner), 1819. 7 frames.
0980 Box 8, Folder 8, Sub-series 3, Shipping accounts, *D. R. DeWolf* (schooner), 1863. 1 frame.
0981 Box 8, Folder 9, Sub-series 3, Shipping accounts, *Eliza Ann* (brig), 1821. 4 frames.
0985 Box 8, Folder 10, Sub-series 3, Shipping accounts, *General Jackson* (ship), 1815–1821. 36 frames.
1021 Box 8, Folder 11, Sub-series 3, Shipping accounts, *Leonidas* (ship), ca. 1825. 4 frames.
1025 Box 8, Folder 12, Sub-series 3, Shipping accounts, *Lisboa* (schooner), 1819. 3 frames.
1028 Box 8, Folder 13, Sub-series 3, Shipping accounts, *Mount Hope* (brig), 1813. 1 frame.
1029 Box 8, Folder 14, Sub-series 3, Shipping accounts, *Mount Pleasant* (brig), 1820–1823. 20 frames.

- 1049 Box 8, Folder 15, Sub-series 3, Shipping accounts, *New Columbia* (brig), 1824. 3 frames.
- 1052 Box 8, Folder 16, Sub-series 3, Shipping accounts, *Olive* (schooner), 1812–1820. 6 frames.
- 1058 Box 8, Folder 17, Sub-series 3, Shipping accounts, *Olive* (schooner), 1812–1820. 4 frames.
- 1062 Box 8, Folder 18, Sub-series 3, Shipping accounts, *Prize* (brig), 1823. 1 frame.
- 1063 Box 8, Folder 19, Sub-series 3, Shipping accounts, *Remittance* (brig), 1823. 1 frame.
- 1064 Box 8, Folder 19a, Sub-series 3, Shipping accounts, *Retrieve* (brig), 1807. 4 frames.
- 1068 Box 8, Folder 20, Sub-series 3, Shipping accounts, *Roger Williams* (ship), 1824–1825. 7 frames.
- 1075 Box 8, Folder 21, Sub-series 3, Shipping accounts, *Salley* (sloop), 1829. 1 frame.
- 1076 Box 8, Folder 22, Sub-series 3, Shipping accounts, *William* (ship), 1825–1826. 6 frames.

Reel 11

Mss382, DeWolf Papers, 1751–1864 cont.

- 0001 Box 8, Folder 1, Sub-series 1, Mary Ann, Plats, ca. 1820. 4 frames.
- 0005 Oversized folder, Sub-series 1, Mary Ann, 3 Plats, ca. 1820. 4 frames.
- 0009 Box 8, Folder 2, Sub-series 1, Mary Ann, Inventories, 1818–1820. 5 frames.
- 0014 Box 8, Folder 1, Sub-series 2, Mount Hope, Invoices and accounts, 1836–1838. 5 frames.
- 0019 Box 8, Folder 1, Sub-series 3, New Hope, Slave lists and miscellaneous bills, 1846–1852. 10 frames.
- 0029 Box 8, Folder 1, Sub-series 4, General plantation accounts, Slave lists, ca. 1839. 3 frames.
- 0032 Box 8, Folder 2, Sub-series 4, General plantation accounts, Miscellaneous bills and receipts, 1839–1852 and undated. 16 frames.
- 0048 Box 8, Folder 1, Sub-series 1, Mount Hope Bank, Share, 1823. 2 frames.
- 0050 Box 8, Folder 1, Sub-series 2, Bank of Bristol, Shares, 1825. 2 frames.
- 0052 Box 8, Folder 1, Receipts, 1836. 3 frames.
- 0055 Box 8, Folder 1, Shares, 1806. 2 frames.
- 0057 Box 8, Folder 1, Receipts for postage, 1800–1801. 3 frames.
- 0060 Box 8, Folder 2, Property taxes, 1813–1816. 2 frames.
- 0062 Box 8, Folder 3, Miscellaneous receipts, 1797–1834. 19 frames.
- 0081 Box 8, Folder 4, Undated list of names and signatures and undated index to unknown ledger. 30 frames.
- 0111 Box 8, Folder 5, 1821 memorandum book of George DeWolf. 25 frames.

Mss17, Harris Family Papers, 1640–1860 (Capt. George Scott Narrative, 1730), Newport, Rhode Island; also Africa

The following document is the 1730 testimony of George Scott of Newport, master of the slaving sloop *Little George*, which was just beginning the long voyage back to Rhode Island from Africa when a slave revolt broke out. This was one of the earliest known revolts on a Rhode Island slave ship, and one of the very few successful ones. Two sailors and the ship's doctor, John Harris, were killed, as well as several of the slaves. The captain, first mate, cabin boy, and two other crew members were barricaded in the cabin. Their attempt to construct a bomb was unsuccessful; the bomb "burnt the man that had the fuze in his hand almost to death" and destroyed most of their gunpowder, as well as their clothes. The slaves' continuous efforts to storm the cabin failed, and they managed to pilot the ship back to shore with the crew still trapped in the cabin. After the Africans had beached the half-burned vessel and liberated themselves on shore, the ship's crew managed to row away on the lifeboat for five or six leagues before

being picked up by another ship. At the time of their rescue, the crew of the *Little George* were “in a weak and miserable condition, having had nothing to subsist upon during the nine days we were under this affliction but raw rice.” This testimony is signed “per John Kilton,” who apparently wrote it out.

A nearly identical version of this account was published in the *Boston News Letter* on May 6, 1731. The Harris family would have been particularly interested if they were related to the ship’s doctor, John Harris, who was killed in the revolt. This document is part of the Harris Family Papers, but it has no apparent relation to the rest of the papers.

Reel 11 cont.

0136 Introductory Materials. 1 frame.
0137 Captain George Scott Narrative, 1730. 3 frames.

Mss541, Lopez Papers, 1756–1782, Newport, Rhode Island; also Africa and West Indies

Aaron Lopez was born in Portugal in 1731. His family was Jewish but outwardly professed Christianity because of the continuous persecutions of the Inquisition, and he was baptized under the name of Duarte Lopez. Between 1748 and 1750, most of Aaron’s family settled in Newport, Rhode Island, known for religious tolerance. Aaron, his wife, and his daughter joined them in 1752. Over the next twenty years, Aaron Lopez was a major force in making Newport both the leading Jewish community in America and the second-largest mercantile port (after New York City). He was instrumental in founding the Touro Synagogue, the first in the colonies. He was also a pioneer in the spermaceti industry, and he engaged in a wide variety of mercantile activities, including the slave trade.

Lopez’s business was ruined by the American Revolution. Along with many Newport merchants, Lopez had somewhat of a reputation for Tory leanings. His merchant ships were preyed upon by both sides in the conflict. Furthermore, the British occupation of the town and the general devastation of the war finished Newport as a leading port city. During much of the war, Lopez lived in Leicester, near Worcester, Massachusetts. After the British had been driven from Newport in 1782, Lopez set out to help rebuild his home city but never made it back; he drowned in a pond while tending to his horse.

The collection was compiled from many different sources, but it consists solely of Aaron Lopez’s personal business papers, including 102 letters received, two account books, a logbook covering voyages of five different ships, and other miscellaneous papers.

N.B. There are several Aaron Lopez documents in the Samuel Nightingale II Papers (Mss588, subgroup 2) included in this edition. There is also a single 1773 agreement re the ship *King Fisher* in the extra-illustrated edition of George C. Mason’s *History of Newport* included in *UPA Papers of the American Slave Trade, Series B, Part 1*. A letter to Joseph Bennett dated 1760 is filed under Bennett in the Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection (Mss9001-B). Other larger collections of Lopez papers can be found at the Newport Historical Society (included in *UPA’s Papers of the American Slave Trade, Series B, Part 2*) and the American Jewish Historical Society. Researchers may wish to consult: Chyet, Stanley F., *Lopez of Newport: Colonial American Merchant Prince* (Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1970); Davis, Paulette, “Aaron Lopez: Patriot or Loyalist?” (College paper at Rhode Island Historical

Society, 1992); and Gutstein, Morris Aaron, *Aaron Lopez and Judah Touro* (New York: Behrman's Jewish Book House, 1939).

Reel 11 cont.

- 0140 Introductory Materials. 8 frames.
- 0148 Folder 1, Store blotter, 10/31/1770–12/27/1770. 88 frames.
- 0236 Folder 2, Store blotter, 12/29/1774–3/3/1775. 94 frames.
- 0330 Folder 3, Logbook for ships owned by Lopez & Rivera, mostly in slave trade: Ships: *Sally* (1767); *Hannah* (1768); *Cleopatra* (1770–1773); *Africa* (1773–1774); and *Washington* (1783). 76 frames.
- 0406 Folder 4, Correspondence, 1756–1769. 29 frames.
- 0435 Folder 5, Correspondence, 1770–1771. 25 frames.
- 0460 Folder 6, Correspondence, 1772. 43 frames.
- 0503 Folder 7, Correspondence, 1773–1779. 32 frames.
- 0535 Folder 8, Correspondence, 1780. 47 frames.
- 0582 Folder 9, Correspondence, 1781. 37 frames.
- 0619 Folder 10, Correspondence, 1782–1783. 34 frames.
- 0653 Folder 11, Miscellaneous, 1756–1767: Bill of lading, sloop *Industry*, 1756; Account with Joseph and William Rotch, sloop *Hummingbird*, 1760; Oath of allegiance (citizenship), Aaron Lopez and Isaac Elizar, 1761; Crew list, ship *America*, 1765; Order for spermaceti candles from M. Crowley, 1766; and Account with John Newdigate, 1767. 15 frames.
- 0668 Folder 12, Miscellaneous, 1769–1774: Sales of sundries from sloop *Industry*, and accounts with Jones & Moe, 1769–1770; Accounts of ship *Cleopatra*, 1773; Supplies of ship *Cleopatra* for trip to Africa, 1773; Ship *Cleopatra* to Isaac West, 1773; Ship *Cleopatra* cargo booklet, 1773; and Bill of sale, slave Charles, from Joseph Holloway of Exeter to Aaron Lopez, 1774. 19 frames.

Mss549, Malbone Family Collection, 1728–1825, Newport, Rhode Island; also West Indies

The Malbone family in America originated in Virginia with Peter Malbone (1667–1738). Several branches of his family tree are represented here. His son Godfrey Malbone Sr. (1695–1768) became one of the wealthiest men in Newport through privateering and the triangle trade, though the family fortunes ebbed after his death. He had two sons: Godfrey Jr. (b. 1724, d. Pomfret, Conn., 1785) and John (1735–1795). Godfrey Jr. married Catherine Brinley. John's son, Edward Greene Malbone (1777–1807), became a prominent portrait painter.

Francis Malbone (d. 1791) was born in Virginia, probably the son or grandson of Peter. He settled in Newport and entered into trade with his brother Evan Malbone; after Evan's death in 1784, his partner was briefly Daniel Mason. Francis Sr. had at least two sons, Saunders (b. 1764) and Francis Jr. Francis Malbone Jr. (1759–1809) served as supercargo on several trade journeys, and he was also active as a colonel in the Newport Artillery Company. Francis Jr. served as a U.S. congressman from 1793 to 1797 and was elected a U.S. senator in 1809, but he died shortly after taking office. He married Freelove Sophia Tweedy, and they had several children, including William T. (b. 1783) and Reodolphus (b. 1784). There were at least two Evan Malbones, father and son. The elder was married in Newport in 1738 to Mary Brewer; he died in 1784. Both Evanses later settled in Connecticut.

The most important item is the Godfrey Malbone Sr. account book, which gives detailed accounts of the early triangle trade. Also noteworthy are the Evan & Francis Malbone letter book and the various estate records.

There are several Malbone items in other collections at the society; a list is provided after the inventory.

Reel 11 cont.

- 0687 Introductory Materials. 7 frames.
- 0694 Volume 1. Godfrey Malbone Sr. account book, 1728–1738. 190 frames.
- 0884 Folder 1. Godfrey Malbone Sr., Miscellany: Deposition of Joseph Knowlton of Boston re cistern, March 27, 1729; Deposition of John Browne of Boston, Sept. 5, 1729, re distillery [was RIHSM 11–8]; Deed from Philip Simmons of land in Rochester, Mass., 1729, mss. copy; Deed from Joseph Atkins of land in Rochester, Mass., 1729, mss. copy; Receipt for deed of Rochester land, Joseph Ashley, 1729; Letter from William Coddington, April 23, 1740; Bill for coach ordered from England, 1742, typescript copy; Account with William Vernon, to Godfrey Jr. & John Malbone, nine items, 1743–1766; Remarks on William Vernon’s account, undated; Deed to Charles Paxton, land in Conn., 1763, mss. copy [was RIHSM 12-53]; and List of William Vernon’s ships, 1751–1766 [typescript copy from Mass. Hist. Soc.], 41 frames.
- 0925 Folder 2. John Malbone: Letter from [unidentified person] and Benjamin Austin of Boston, 10/29/1790, with draft of response; and Account with Elijah Bates, 1792. 5 frames.
- 0930 Folder 3. Godfrey Jr. and John Malbone estates: Administration certificate of John Malbone, 1792; Petition of John Malbone and Francis Brinley to probate court, 1793 (mss. copy); Inventory of John Malbone estate, 1796; Court file on estate of Godfrey Jr. and John Malbone, 1809 (1810 mss. copy); four accounts of Francis Brinley with estates of John Malbone and Godfrey Malbone Jr., 1797–1822; and Notes on accounts with Brinley and Malbone estates, 1825, four pages. 42 frames.
- 0972 Folder 4. Malbone family accounts with the estate of William Hunter [#1986.12]: With John Malbone, 1771–1776; With Katherine Malbone, 1768–1776; With estate of Godfrey Malbone Sr., 1763–1768; and With estate of Godfrey Malbone Jr., 1764–1774. 12 frames.
- 0984 Folder 5. Evan & Francis Malbone letter book, 1763–1764, twenty pages [#1914.14.1]. Includes correspondence and crew lists re West Indies trade. 22 frames.
- 1006 Folder 6. Francis Malbone Sr.: Testimony re Jonathan Hazard vs. Enoch Hazard, 10/29/1768 [#1946.10.11]; Document re William Godfrey’s court costs, 1770; and Prayer in unknown hand, undated, unsigned. Found filed under Francis Malbone. 6 frames.
- 1012 Folder 7. Francis Malbone Jr.: Deed to Peleg Clarke of Newport land, from Francis Malbone Jr. and Evan Malbone Jr., 1791; and three receipts for Francis Brinley Sr. estate to Francis Brinley Jr., 1805. 6 frames.
- 1018 Folder 8. Reodolphus Malbone: Deed to mother Freelove Malbone, 1821; Account with father Francis Malbone’s estate, 1814; and Power of attorney to mother Freelove Malbone, 1814. 7 frames.
- 1025 Folder 9. William T. Malbone: Power of attorney to mother Freelove Malbone, 1811; and Power of attorney to mother Freelove Malbone, 1812. 6 frames.

***Mss9001-B, Miscellaneous Manuscripts (Benjamin Bosworth Papers, ca. 1806),
Bristol, Rhode Island; also West Indies***

These two documents are addressed to a Captain Bosworth, probably of Bristol, Rhode Island. Captain Bosworth served as master on the following ships, and probably others: Schooner *Concord*, bound for Africa, 9/30/1806 (Owned jointly by Bosworth and Paul Nelson. Arrived at Charleston in June 1807 with eighty slaves. Crew of seven. Reregistered 7/9/1807 with Bosworth as captain. Captured 1808.); Brig *Eliza Ann*, bound for Havana, 12/15/1809, mostly foodstuffs; and Sloop *Philadelphia*, co-owned from 1807 to 1812 (registered as master 6/24/1807 and 7/29/1809). He also was co-owner of the bark *Fair Eliza* from 1805 to 1808, but he was not the master.

There are two undated single-page documents in this collection. Both are unsigned drafts of sailing orders for voyages to Africa, in the same handwriting. One is addressed to “Cap. Bosworth,” while the other is not addressed. Both give detailed instructions regarding contacts and procedures for procuring slaves. One describes a certain point on the coast where “you will discover a signal pole at [Seallem?] Point & if the Factory is not destroyed th will be a flag posted white with a cross.” The captain was instructed to “trade by ounces, price from 3 to 4 ounces pr. Head,” probably in gold.

Reel 11 cont.

- 1031 Introductory Materials. 5 frames.
1036 Folder, 1806: Item 1. Order to Captain Bosworth, unsigned [circa 1806] and Item 2. Order to unnamed captain, unsigned [circa 1806]. 3 frames.

Reel 12

***Mss9001-B, Miscellaneous Manuscripts
(Bristol Insurance Co. Letterbook, 1800–1801),
Bristol, Rhode Island; also Africa and West Indies***

The Bristol Insurance Company insured many of the merchant ships sailing from Bristol, Rhode Island, to China, the West Indies, and the African coast in the early nineteenth century. Its directors were the leading merchants of Bristol: Samuel Wardwell, Shearjashub Bourn, Charles Collins, Nicholas Peck, Henry Bradford, and several members of the DeWolf family. The company was founded before February 1800 and continued at least through 1806. The insurance industry was an integral part of the transatlantic slave trade, though from a discreet distance.

This volume is not exactly a traditional letterbook with copies of outgoing correspondence. It contains copies of approved requests for insurance by shipowners, the names of the two or three directors that approved the request, and an endorsement by the insured party agreeing to the rate set. The requests usually give some information on the proposed itinerary and the expected value of the cargo. In some cases the parties apparently haggled over terms; on one request by Padius Thurston, the directors agreed to “take the above risque out to Havanna at 12 prct. and home from Havanna at 10 prct.” Thurston then wrote, “I will give ten & eight,” which the company agreed to. As all of the signatures appear to be in the

same hand, these agreements are probably copies of the original signed documents, which may have been given to the insured parties.

- 0001 Introductory Materials. 3 frames.
0004 Bristol Insurance Co. Letterbook, 1800–1801. 71 frames.

***Mss9001-G, Miscellaneous Manuscripts (Isaac Gorham Papers, 1774–1795),
Bristol, Rhode Island; also Africa and West Indies***

Isaac Gorham (1747–1795) was a sea captain from Bristol, Rhode Island, the son of Isaac (1713–1760). He married Sarah Thomas (d. 1835) and had nine children. Isaac died at sea, as did two of his three sons. One of his daughters, Jemima (1775–1798), married prominent Bristol merchant Nicholas Peck (1762–1847).

A logbook dated 1785 through 1790 is the most important part of this collection. Most of the log describes journeys between Bristol and what is now Haiti. One journey, working under Captain John DeWolf, was a slaving voyage to Africa.

A couple of other Gorham documents appear in the Whitting Family Papers, 1772–1786 (Mss9001-W), including an agreement to deliver a slave to the West Indies in 1783 and later testimony that the slave had been captured as contraband by the British.

N.B. Gorham, Henry S., The Gorham Family of Rhode Island, Bristol Branch (Boston, 1900).

Reel 12 cont.

- 0075 Introductory Materials. 5 frames.
0080 Folder 1, Logbook, 1785–1790. Includes: 1785, 3/10–4/16, as master of *Beaumont* from Boston to Cape Francis in Hispaniola; 1785, 12/3–12/8, on unknown ship; 1786, 2/2–4/7, on schooner *Betsey*; 1786, 5/28–6/17, on unknown ship from Bristol to Penobscot, Maine, and back; [one page of accounts with crew, 10/1786]; 1786, 7/24–10/5, on unknown ship from Bristol to Port-au-Prince, Hispaniola, and back; 1786, 10/30–1787, 3/17, on *Betsey* from Bristol to Hispaniola and back; 1787, 7/10–7/15, diary of work done in port on *Enterprise*; 1787, 9/17–12/18, on brig *Enterprise*, John DeWolf, master, from Bristol to Africa; 1788, 3/30–6/10, return trip?; 1788, 7/16–8/8, from “Eustate Rode” to Rhode Island; 1788, 11/15–11/25, from Bristol to ?; 1789, 3/4–3/30, Cape Francis to ?; 1789, 6/14–6/29, Cape Francis to ?; 1789, 7/24–8/24, Bristol to ?; 1789, 9/24–10/17, Cape Francis to ?; [one page of sales from cargo of *Betsey* at Cape Francis, 9/22/1789]; 1790, 1/26–2/3, Cape Francis to ?; and [three pages of miscellaneous accounts]. 99 frames.
0179 Folder 2. Miscellaneous: Receipt from Samuel Clark, 5/24/1774; Account with Stephen Smith, 1774; Receipt from Francis Commo, 12/9/1777; Receipt from William Barton for share of sloop *Rebecca*, 8/3/1782; Request for pay, Sampson Sims, schoolteacher, 6/7/1784; Receipt from Paul Spear Jr. for account with ship *Beaumont*, 3/5/1785; Account with Estansen & Raybaud re ship *Beaumont*, 1785; Note of exchange from Wall, Tardy & Co., 6/1/1785; Receipt from Caleb Wheaton, for cleaning watch, 10/26/1786; Receipt from Thomas Dennis, 6/24/1788; Receipt from William Anthony, 4/27/1789; Customs certificate, 10/19/1789; French shipping document for the *Betsey*, 1/23/1790; Receipt from Hezekiah Usher 2nd, 9/23/1790; Receipt from Moses van Doorn?, tailor, 7/9/1791; Account with Nathaniel Phillips, for books and schooling, 1791; Receipt from Joseph Mackrill, 8/7/1793; Receipt from David Montaignut, notary public, Savannah, 12/23/1793; Request by the

Philanthropic Society to attend funeral of Capt. Samuel Brown, Warren, Rhode Island, 9/11/1794; Receipt from Welcome Arnold, 4/15/1795, for six casks of rum; Receipt from Gideon Hull, 4/20/1795; Receipt from Hezekiah Usher for water, dated “Gambia River, Town Gillepus,” 7/7/1795; Account with Phillip Balley for cargo including “2 boys slaves,” undated. 26 frames.

***Mss9001-P, Miscellaneous Manuscripts
(Providence Insurance Co. Letterbook, 1801–1806),
Providence, Rhode Island; also Africa and West Indies***

The Providence Insurance Company was founded in 1799 as the first insurance company in the town of Providence, Rhode Island. Its business was exclusively marine insurance, in merchant ships engaged mostly in the coastal, European, West Indies, and China trades. Although the company insured some ships bound for Africa, its charter forbid insuring any ships directly involved in the slave trade, which by that time had been banned in Rhode Island. The company also made loans to manufacturing firms and invested in federal bonds. The company merged with the Washington Insurance Company (est. 1800) in 1815 to become the Providence Washington Insurance Company, which remains a successful Providence institution.

This letterbook is 261 pages long and consists of copies of letters sent by the company’s officers, mostly in response to requests for insurance. Most of the letters are initialed by secretary John Mathewson Jr., president Amos Maine Atwell, or his successor Otis Ammidon.

N.B. The society also has a large collection of Providence Washington Insurance Company records (Mss22), which include minutes and other papers of the Providence Insurance Company. Roelker, William Greene, and Collins, Clarkson A., III, *One Hundred Fifty Years of the Providence Washington Insurance Company, 1799–1949* (Providence, Rhode Island: 1949).

Reel 12 cont.

0205 Introductory Materials. 3 frames.
0208 Providence Insurance Co. Letterbook, 1801–1806. 143 frames.

***Mss9001-W, Miscellaneous Manuscripts
(Whitting Family Papers, 1772–1786), Africa***

Nathaniel B. Whitting (ca. 1743–1780) was a sea captain from Warren, Rhode Island. In 1771, he married Roby Luther (ca. 1740–1797), daughter of John and Susannah Luther of Warren. Nathaniel died at sea in 1780, and Roby remained in Warren for the rest of her days.

There is still a gravestone in their memory in Warren’s North Burial Ground, recently transcribed by John Sterling and placed on his database of Rhode Island cemetery data. While the grave and their marriage record spell the name Whiting, both Nathaniel and Roby signed their names as “Whitting.”

This collection includes several documents from a slaving voyage along the coast of Africa in 1773 and 1774, including an agreement with a local governor to deliver slaves, accounts with several merchants, and a list of slaves taken. These serve as unusually explicit descriptions of slaving voyages.

Whitting sailed as a first mate on the journey and became master after the death of Captain Thomas Rogers.

The collection also includes papers of Whitting's widow, Roby, and her difficulties with a young slave named Fantee in 1783. Fantee was leased to Edward Jones of Providence, did not work to Jones's satisfaction, was accused repeatedly of stealing, escaped, was recaptured, was imprisoned, and was then returned to the widow Whitting. She immediately entrusted him to Captain Isaac Gorham to sell as a field hand in the West Indies. On the journey, however, Gorham's ship was captured by a British warship, and Fantee was confiscated as contraband. His fate after this point is unknown.

Reel 12 cont.

- 0351 Introductory Materials. 5 frames.
- 0356 Folder 1, Nathaniel B. Whitting, 1772–1774: Sailing instructions to “Capt. Nath’l Whiteing” as master of sloop *Little Polly*, 6/2/1772, Bound for Newfoundland and Sweden, detailed advice on escaping detection; Agreement, Thomas Rogers as master of the *Polly*, with Henry Woortman, Dutch governor at Apam, to exchange fifteen thousand gallons of rum for sixty-five slaves, 9/10/1773; List of slaves taken, 1773–1774; Brig *Polly*, account with R. Miles, 2/5/1774; Account of brig *Polly* with Stevenson, Went & Wanton, 2/11/1774; Account with Henry Woortman, 2/10/1774; Account with Sandys Deakin, 12/24/1773; Account with the estate of Thomas Rogers, 6/25/1774; Inventory of the estate of Thomas Rogers, 8/10/1774. 16 frames.
- 0372 Folder 2, Roby Whitting, 1782–1786: Lease of slave boy Fantee from Roby Whitting to Edward Jones of Providence for one year, 5/22/1782; Letter from Edward Jones, 1/17/1783: Sending home Fantee, he complains of theft, deceit, and “every vice under the sun,” and asks for restitution for damages; Letter from James Manning, Providence, 2/1/1783: Fantee in jail for stealing, long record of bad behavior; Receipt from Isaac Gorham for Fantee, 2/6/1783: “To be brought to West Indies on sloop *Patty*, to be disposed of on the best terms possible”; “Memorandum of Cash Paid at Providence for Fantee,” 2/14/1783; Letter from James Bourn of Newport, 2/15/1783: Caleb Gardner offers to insure Fantee for 30 percent on voyage; Testimony of Isaac Gorham re 1783 loss of Fantee to British sloop, 6/20/1786: Describes Fantee as “about Eighteen or Twenty Years Old a Healthy Active Lad.” 12 frames.

Mss588, Nightingale-Jenckes Papers, 1742–1926, Providence, Rhode Island; also Africa and West Indies

This collection is arranged in subgroups corresponding to the names of family members covered in this collection. There are more detailed inventories for each of the subgroups. These are the records of four generations of the Nightingale family, including papers of in-law William F. Megee and Edwin T. Jenckes. Although Jenckes was a protégé of his uncle, Samuel Nightingale III, there seems to have been no formal partnership.

This collection consists of the papers of Samuel Nightingale I, II, and III; William F. Megee Sr.; Edwin T. Jenckes; various relatives of Jenckes's wife from the Borland and related families; and various descendants of Samuel Nightingale III. There are separate finding aids for each of these seven subgroups. Collectively, these papers are an important record of a Rhode Island mercantile family from 1751 to 1825, active in trade locally, nationally, and in China and South America.

Subgroup 1: Samuel Nightingale I (1715–1786)

Historical Note. Samuel Nightingale Sr. (1715–1786) was the founder of the Nightingale family in Providence, Rhode Island. The son of Joseph Nightingale (1677–1725), he was raised in Braintree, Massachusetts, and graduated from Harvard in 1734; early in life he was a clergyman. He lived in Pomfret, Connecticut, for some years and settled in Providence in 1751. There he operated a distillery, invested in mercantile ventures, served as justice of the peace from 1752 to 1761, and then was chosen for three terms as associate justice of the state supreme court through 1768. Nightingale returned to Pomfret for much of the Revolution, from 1778 to 1781. Samuel married Abigail Belcher in 1740. Their seven surviving children were Samuel Jr. (1741–1814), William, Sarah (1744–1830) (m. Thomas Munro), Abigail (1745–1825) (m. Sylvester Richmond), Joseph (1747–1797), Mary or “Polly” (1754–1803) (m. James Gramont), and Lydia (1760–1823) (m. Abijah Warren). Samuel II became a prosperous merchant, and Joseph was even more successful as founder of the merchant partnership Clark & Nightingale.

Description. This subgroup includes Box 1, and one oversized volume in Box 11, and consists of 0.5 linear feet, papers of Samuel Nightingale I (1715–1786), usually denoted “Sr.” after his son entered business in 1760. This subgroup of the collection consists for the most part of various account books kept by Nightingale. There are no correspondence files and very few loose papers. The entries before 1752 relate to northeastern Connecticut rather than Providence. It is possible that some of Nightingale’s papers after 1760 might have been misidentified as belonging to his son Samuel II. Samuel II had a very distinctive hand, however, and seems to have played the major role in family business after reaching adulthood. Conversely, some of the papers in this collection dated after 1760 may well be Samuel II’s.

Subgroup 2: Samuel Nightingale II (1741–1814)

Historical Note. Samuel Nightingale II (1741–1814) was the son of Samuel Nightingale (1714–1786), born in Pomfret, Connecticut. He was raised in Providence, Rhode Island, and he became a successful merchant, operating a store in Providence. He invested in the East India and coastal trade and was supposedly associated with the firm of Brown & Ives. He also served as treasurer for the town of Providence from 1797 to 1814 and as a deacon in the First Congregational Church of Providence. He was active in raising money for the church via lottery. He served on a committee to evaluate the possibility of public education in Providence in 1767, and in the aftermath of the Boston Tea Party in 1774 he was appointed to a correspondence committee. He did not serve in the Revolution, though he served on a committee to plan defenses for Providence in 1775, served as chair of the town’s Committee of Inspection, and his schooner *La Committee* was captured briefly by British privateers. Samuel Nightingale II was usually denoted “Jr.” until his father’s death in 1786 and was sometimes denoted “Sr.” after his son entered business ca. 1800. By his wife, Susanna Crawford (1741–1790) he had six surviving children: Abby (1768–1853, unmarried); Susan (1771–1841) (m. William F. Megee Sr.); Mary (1773–1841) (m. Ebenezer Jenckes); Candace (1778–1832) (m. Horatio G. Bowen); Eliza (1780–1863, unmarried); and Samuel III (1782–1851).

Description. This subgroup includes Box 2, Box 3 (oversized), and Box 4 (oversized) and consists of 2 linear feet, papers of Samuel Nightingale II (1741–1814). This subgroup of the collection includes a partial correspondence file from 1766 to 1791 and extensive accounts from Nightingale’s mercantile activities. There are also accounts from his work on the First Congregational Church lottery. A memorandum book from the 1760s, sometimes referred to as a diary, contains notes on accounts and an occasional mention of weather. One of the most interesting items is an account of Nightingale’s

involvement in a July 4th celebration from 1788. This is apparently the same celebration that the Providence press described as drawing out five thousand revelers. Nightingale coordinated the loan of immense quantities of forks, knives, plates, and platters from many of the town's leading citizens, and he kept careful account of how many items were lost or damaged during the festivities. Prominent among the correspondents are Benjamin Mason, Benjamin Bourne, and Aaron Lopez. Nightingale's involvement in the case of the privateer *La Committee* also caused him to correspond with financier Robert Morris and Virginia statesmen Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and Theodorick Bland. There are two signed Madison letters in this collection, as well as one from Jefferson. There is another unsigned letter apparently in Madison's hand.

Subgroup 3: Samuel Nightingale III (1782–1851)

Historical Note. Samuel Nightingale III (1782–1851) was the son of Samuel Nightingale II (1741–1814). He was raised in Providence, Rhode Island, and followed his father into the mercantile trade. In 1805, he served as a supercargo to the East Indies and China aboard the ship *Hazard*, owned by his uncle, William F. Megee Sr. and John Corlis. He became owner of at least three ships registered from Providence: 1806–1810, brigantine *Nancy*, with John Rogers (Spain, coastal trade); 1809–1815, ship *Mary Ann*, with John Corlis and John Rogers (coastal trade); and 1816–1821, ship *Atlas* (coastal trade). Nightingale eventually moved into the textile industry and became owner of Georgiaville Mills at Georgiaville, Rhode Island. He also served as president of the National Exchange Bank in Providence and was active in the town's First Congregational Church. He died in Hampton, New Hampshire. Nightingale was generally referred to as "Jr." until his father's death in 1814. Samuel Nightingale III married three times: to Harriet Rogers (d. 1812), Elizabeth K. Thompson (1791–1819), and Harriet's sister, Eliza Rogers (1790–1870). He had six children, including Susan E. (1809–1883, unmarried); Harriet F. (1810–1894, unmarried); Rev. Crawford (1816–1892); Edwin J. (1824–1879); Samuel A. of Worcester (1828–1906); and Horatio R. (1828–1885).

Description. This subgroup includes Box 5 and consists of 1 linear foot, papers of Samuel Nightingale III, usually denoted "Jr." until his father's death in 1814. The bulk of this subgroup of the collection relates to Nightingale's mercantile career from 1801 to 1820. There are also extensive accounts and correspondence with his nephew, Edwin T. Jenckes, a merchant of South America and Florida, dated 1820 through 1836; Nightingale apparently took care of his Providence affairs. There are also family deeds, accounts of estates managed by Nightingale, and a small amount of 1849 correspondence. There does not seem to be much, if any, material relating to his textile career. This collection includes several letters relating to Nightingale's uncle, William F. Megee, including ten letters from W. F. Megee Jr. dated 1819–1821, one written as a child and dated 1/11/1804; a letter to W. F. Megee Jr. dated 9/24/1821; a letter from Edwin T. Jenckes dated 7/21/1821 discussing Megee's death; and letters discussing W. F. Megee Jr. dated 9/16/1818 and 9/2/1822.

Subgroup 4: William F. Megee Sr. (1765–1820)

Historical Note. William Fairchild Megee Sr. (1765–1820) of Providence served as supercargo on board John Brown's ship *George Washington* on the first trading voyage from Rhode Island to China and the East Indies in 1787. He sailed again to China in 1789, and he later owned or co-owned several ships active in the trade. He also engaged in the slave trade in South America from his sloop *Resource* as late as 1806 and may have been a partner with merchant Edward Carrington on some ventures. Megee died in

Canton in 1820, where he was operating as a factor. He owned the following ships registered in Providence, and possibly others: 1795, ship *Susan*, with William Clarke and Joseph Nightingale; 1798, ship *Palmyra*, with John Innes Clark; 1798–1808, ship *Resource*, with John Corlis and later with Amos T. Jenckes; 1801, ship *Hazard*, with John Corlis; 1801, ship *John and Charles*, with John Corlis; 1801, ship *Susan*, with John Corlis; 1803, ship *Abby & Sally* (sole owner); 1803–1804, schooner *Silvia* (sole owner—condemned as unseaworthy); and 1803–1804, brigantine *Industry* (sole owner). He married Susan Nightingale (1771–1841), daughter of Samuel Nightingale II (1741–1814). They had one son, William F. Jr. (1795?–1826), a sea captain who died on the coast of Africa. William F. Megee Jr. also owned a share of the ship *Two Catherines* from 1822 until his death. He left a son of his own, William C. Megee.

Description. This subgroup includes Boxes 6 and 7 and consists of 1.5 linear feet, papers of William F. Megee Sr. (1765–1820), a son-in-law of Samuel Nightingale II. This subgroup of the collection includes correspondence files and accounts from 1791 to 1808, the bulk covering 1800 to 1805. There are also family deeds from 1791 to 1811. There is very little relating to Megee's early service with the Brown family. There are extensive accounts relating to Megee's ship *Resource*. For the most part, the papers are organized only by year, and they may not be in chronological order within the folders. Accounts, receipts, and invoices can be found interfiled with the correspondence.

Subgroup 5: Edwin T. Jenckes (1797–1847)

Historical Note. Edwin T. Jenckes (1797–1847) was the son of Ebenezer Jenckes of Providence (1773–1799) and Mary T. Nightingale (1773–1841), daughter of Samuel II (1741–1814). Ebenezer was a merchant; he died in St. Thomas when Edwin was an infant. Mary lived as a widow in the Nightingale family estate on the east side of Providence until her death in 1841. Edwin was the couple's only surviving child. Edwin followed his father to the sea, first shipping out as a clerk aboard the ship *Lion* for Edward Carrington in 1817. He received early assistance from his uncle, Samuel Nightingale III, who for many years afterwards managed Jenckes's affairs in Providence. From 1817 to 1825 Jenckes served as supercargo and commercial agent for Edward Carrington & Co., in charge of much of the firm's business in South America and the East Indies. He also engaged in his own ventures during this period, in partnership with Daniel W. Frost. In 1828 he built Waterford Plantation in St. John's County, Florida, near St. Augustine, where he spent the remainder of his life. Edwin married his first cousin, Hannah Bowers Jenckes (1800–1862). It is unknown whether they had any children. She was the daughter of his father's brother, Joseph Jenckes. She had two brothers who are mentioned in the papers: Jerethmel B. Jenckes (b. 1807) and Joseph S. Jenckes (1804–1888) of Indiana.

Description. This subgroup includes Boxes 8 and 9 and consists of 1.5 linear feet, papers of Edwin T. Jenckes (1797–1847), a grandson of Samuel Nightingale II; nephew of Samuel Nightingale III and William F. Megee. Virtually all of this subgroup of the collection relates to Jenckes's commercial activities from 1817 to 1825, including correspondence and shipping accounts, mostly from the ports of Santiago and Valparaiso in Chile. Some of the letters are addressed to Jenckes's business partner, Daniel W. Frost. Other correspondence of note includes letters from Edward Carrington and letters from Jenckes's mother Mary dated 4/17/1821, 1/7/1824, and 2/1824. The 1821 letter includes a postscript on Rhode Island politics by Horatio G. Bowen. One interesting letter from William Rea dated 9/2/1822 contains interesting information on deaths, marriages, buildings being constructed, and shipping in Providence. Other material relating to Jenckes can be found in subgroup 3, the Samuel Nightingale III

Papers, from 1820 onwards, including correspondence written from Florida. See also an extract from a log kept by Jenckes aboard the brig *Osprey*, dated 1821, in the logbook collection.

N.B. Related items in other collections at the Rhode Island Historical Society Library include Christopher Champlin Papers, Letter from Samuel Nightingale II, 11/24/1788; Cushing Papers, Deed from Samuel Nightingale II to Nath. Cushing, 1787; Field Papers, p. 43, Bill of groceries from Samuel Nightingale II, March 1764; Carrington Papers; Log of snow *Susan* and ship *Palmyra*, 1797–1798; Log of ship *Resource*, 1803–1804; Shepley Papers, vol. 15, p. 145, A ship's protest filed by Megee and J. I. Clark re ship *Palmyra*, 11/8/1798; and Rhode Island Manuscripts, vol. 1, p. 73, Deposition of Nathaniel Fellows re Megee's schooner *Antelope*, 1804.

Reel 12 cont.

0384	Introductory Materials. 8 frames.
0392	Description of Subgroup 1. 3 frames.
0395	Box 1, Folder 1, Accounts, 1742–1747. Pomfret, Connecticut. 277 frames.
0672	Box 1, Folder 2, Daybook, 1751–1786. 28 frames.
0700	Box 1, Folder 3, Scraps removed from daybook. 15 frames.
0715	Box 1, Folder 4, Accounts, 1740–1766. Indexed in front. 50 frames.
0765	Box 1, Folder 5, Navigation and distillery accounts, 1752–1775. 93 frames.
0858	Box 1, Folder 6, Receipt book, 1760–1770. Unidentified list of sermons on inside cover. 17 frames.
0875	Box 1, Folder 7, Letter, 1758, from Gerard G. Beekman of New York. 3 frames.
0878	Box 1, Folder 8, Insurance certificates: sloops <i>Susannah</i> and <i>Victory</i> , 1760. 6 frames.
0884	Box 1, Folder 9, Will, 1786. 3 frames.
0887	Box 1, Folder 10, Deeds and agreements, 1752–1764. Distillery and dock land. 20 frames.
0907	Box 11, Oversized volume 1. Ledger, 1751–1763. Later entries in the hand of Samuel Nightingale II. 176 frames.

Reel 13

Mss588, Nightingale-Jenckes Papers, 1742–1926 cont.

0001	Description of Subgroup 2. 11 frames.
0012	Box 2, Folder 1, Correspondence, 1766–1767. 55 frames.
0067	Box 2, Folder 2, Correspondence, 1768–1769. 41 frames.
0108	Box 2, Folder 3, Correspondence, 1769 (moldy). 5 frames.
0113	Box 2, Folder 4, Correspondence, 1774–1778 (no 1770–1773). 39 frames.
0152	Box 2, Folder 5, Correspondence, 1780–1781 (no 1779), Correspondence, Mostly re schooner <i>La Committee</i> . 44 frames.
0196	Box 2, Folder 6, Correspondence, 1782–1788. 35 frames.
0231	Box 2, Folder 7, Correspondence, 1791, undated (no 1789–1790). 8 frames.
0239	Box 2, Folder 8, Loose accounts, Joseph Bennett accounts, 1759–1760. 6 frames.
0245	Box 2, Folder 9, Loose accounts, 1766–1769; Includes accounts with Aaron Lopez; Clark & Nightingale; Nicholas Brown; and others. 124 frames.

- 0369 Box 2, Folder 10, Loose accounts, 1770–1779; Includes accounts with Nicholas Brown & Co., sloop 3 *Sallys*, and others. 107 frames.
- 0476 Box 2, Folder 11, Loose accounts, 1781–1789; Includes accounts re schooner *La Committee*, *Providence Gazette*, and father's estate. 37 frames.
- 0513 Box 3, Oversized folder 1, Loose accounts, Rhode Island state note accounts, 1782–1793. 24 frames.
- 0537 Box 3, Oversized folder 2, Loose accounts, Accounts for July 4th celebration, 1788. 7 frames.
- 0544 Box 3, Oversized folder 3, Miscellaneous accounts, 1766–1784; Includes accounts with Nicholas Brown & Co.; the Spermaceti Manufactory; John Brown; and others. 30 frames.
- 0574 Box 2, Folder 12, Miscellaneous, Complaint vs. Ezekiel Warner for note unpaid, 1776; and Quitclaim deed to Ebenezer Jenckes, 1798. 7 frames.
- 0581 Box 2, Folder 13, Miscellaneous, Deed from Ebenezer Jenckes to Lydia Allen, and then to Samuel Nightingale II, 1803. 5 frames.
- 0586 Box 2, Folder 14, Miscellaneous, Memoranda re sloop 3 *Sallys* and Capt. Simons, ca. 1770. 4 frames.
- 0590 Box 3, Oversized folder 4, Miscellaneous, Letter testamentary re father's estate, 1787. 3 frames.
- 0593 Box 3, Oversized volume 1, Daybook B, 1763–1764. 177 frames.
- 0770 Box 3, Oversized volume 2, Daybook C, 1762–1764. 139 frames.
- 0909 Box 2, Folder 15, Daybook D, 1764–1765. 228 frames.

Reel 14

Mss588, Nightingale-Jenckes Papers, 1742–1926 cont.

- 0001 Box 2, Folder 16, Daybook, 1766–1767. 288 frames.
- 0289 Box 4, Oversized volume 3, Ledger, 1762–1763. In rear, accounts of Bennet & Nightingale, 1761–1766. 182 frames.
- 0471 Box 4, Oversized volume 4, Ledger D, 1764–1768. 143 frames.
- 0614 Box 4, Oversized volume 5, Ledger E, 1766–1774. 285 frames.
- 0899 Box 3, Oversized folder 5, Ledger [F?], 1767–1802. Disbound and incomplete. 182 frames.
- 1081 Box 2, Folder 17, Petty ledger 1, 1767–1775. 183 frames.

Reel 15

Mss588, Nightingale-Jenckes Papers, 1742–1926 cont.

- 0001 Box 2, Folder 18, Index to petty ledger, 1769. 30 frames.
- 0031 Box 2, Folder 19, Blotter book, 1766–1770. 88 frames.
- 0119 Box 4, Oversized volume 6, Blotter book B, 1769–1771. 99 frames.
- 0218 Box 2, Folder 20, Blotter book, 1772–1777. 42 frames.
- 0260 Box 4, Oversized volume 7, Invoice book, 1769–1773. Accounts with Hayley & Hopkins of London and Clark & Nightingale of Providence. 53 frames.
- 0313 Box 4, Oversized volume 8, Invoice book, 1761–1766 and 1786, 1788. 36 frames.
- 0349 Box 2, Folder 21, First Congregational Church lottery accounts, Book, 1771–1772. 51 frames.
- 0400 Box 2, Folder 22, First Congregational Church lottery accounts, Book, 1771–1772. 45 frames.
- 0445 Box 2, Folder 23, First Congregational Church lottery accounts, Book, 1773. 27 frames.

- 0472 Box 2, Folder 24, First Congregational Church lottery accounts, Book, 1774. 74 frames.
 0546 Box 2, Folder 25, First Congregational Church lottery accounts, Loose accounts, 1772–1774 and undated. 6 frames.
 0552 Box 2, Folder 26, 1762–1770, Miscellaneous inventories, memoranda, and accounts. 56 frames.
 0608 Box 2, Folder 27, 1765–1785, Miscellaneous meetinghouse lottery accounts, state note accounts, etc.; Accounts for gunpowder in Revolution; and 1761–1766, Miscellaneous memoranda and “diary.” 132 frames.
 0740 Description of Subgroup 3. 5 frames.
 0745 Box 5, Folder 1, Correspondence, 1801–1809. 75 frames.
 0820 Box 5, Folder 2, Correspondence, 1810, 1–6. 79 frames.
 0899 Box 5, Folder 3, Correspondence, 1810, 7–12. 78 frames.
 0977 Box 5, Folder 4, Correspondence, 1811, 1–3. 52 frames.
 1029 Box 5, Folder 5, Correspondence, 1811, 4–6. 56 frames.

Reel 16

Mss588, Nightingale-Jenckes Papers, 1742–1926 cont.

- 0001 Box 5, Folder 6, Correspondence, 1811, 7–9. 78 frames.
 0079 Box 5, Folder 7, Correspondence, 1811, 10–12. 55 frames.
 0134 Box 5, Folder 8, Correspondence, 1812. 33 frames.
 0167 Box 5, Folder 9, Correspondence, 1813–1818. 41 frames.
 0208 Box 5, Folder 10, Correspondence, 1819–1820 (mostly re ship *Atlas*). 92 frames.
 0300 Box 5, Folder 11, Correspondence, 1820–1825. 93 frames.
 0393 Box 5, Folder 12, Correspondence, 1826–1829. 38 frames.
 0431 Box 5, Folder 13, Correspondence, 1830–1831. 52 frames.
 0483 Box 5, Folder 14, Correspondence, 1832. 38 frames.
 0521 Box 5, Folder 15, Correspondence, 1833–1836. 53 frames.
 0574 Box 5, Folder 16, Correspondence, 1848–1849 and undated. 24 frames.
 0598 Box 5, Folder 17, Correspondence, 1809, 1811, 1817 (moldy). 14 frames.
 0612 Box 5, Folder 18, Accounts, *Atlas* (ship), 1816–1820. 99 frames.
 0711 Box 5, Folder 19, Accounts, *Hazard* (ship), 1801–1806. 76 frames.
 0787 Box 5, Folder 20, Accounts, *Mary Ann* (ship), 1809–1810. 82 frames.
 0869 Box 5, Folder 21, Accounts, *Mary Ann* (ship), 1811. 76 frames.
 0945 Box 5, Folder 22, Accounts, *Mary Ann* (ship), 1812–1815. 88 frames.

Reel 17

Mss588, Nightingale-Jenckes Papers, 1742–1926 cont.

- 0001 Box 5, Folder 23, Accounts, *Mary Ann* (ship), 1807–1812 (moldy). 38 frames.
 0039 Box 5, Folder 24, Accounts, *Nancy* (ship), 1807–1810. 64 frames.
 0103 Box 5, Folder 25, Accounts, New ship construction, 1809–1812. 96 frames.
 0199 Box 5, Folder 26, Accounts, New ship construction, 1809–1812. 82 frames.
 0281 Box 5, Folder 27, Joseph S. Cooke estate, original receipts, 1801–1812. 9 frames.
 0290 Box 5, Folder 28, Joseph S. Cooke estate, 1840–1845. 212 frames.
 0502 Box 5, Folder 29, Estate account book: Enos Hitchcock, 1803–1808 and Samuel Nightingale II, 1814–1820. 36 frames.
 0538 Box 5, Folder 30, Shipping book, 1806. 20 frames.

- 0558 Box 5, Folder 31, Inventory, 1816. 9 frames.
- 0567 Box 5, Folder 32, Ledger, 1806–1813. 53 frames.
- 0620 Box 5, Folder 33, Account book, 1807–1813; Also served as letterbook, 1807. 31 frames.
- 0651 Box 5, Folder 34, Laborers book, 1808–1809. 12 frames.
- 0663 Box 5, Folder 35, Deeds, 1810–1851. 43 frames.
- 0706 Box 5, Folder 36, Miscellaneous, 1807–1812. 42 frames.
- 0748 Box 5, Folder 37, Miscellaneous, 1827–1833, mostly re Edwin T. and Joseph S. Jenckes. 63 frames.
- 0811 Box 11, Oversized folder 1, Accounts for ships *Mary Ann*, *Atlas*, *Nancy*, and “New ship.” 40 frames.
- 0851 Description of Subgroup 4. 6 frames.
- 0857 Box 6, Folder 1, Correspondence and loose accounts, 1791–1797. 52 frames.
- 0909 Box 6, Folder 2, Correspondence and loose accounts, 1798–1800. 116 frames.
- 1025 Box 6, Folder 3, Correspondence and loose accounts, 1801. 93 frames.

Reel 18

Mss588, Nightingale-Jenckes Papers, 1742–1926 cont.

- 0001 Box 6, Folder 4, Correspondence and loose accounts, 1802. 47 frames.
- 0048 Box 6, Folder 5, Correspondence and loose accounts, 1803, 1–7. 70 frames.
- 0118 Box 6, Folder 6, Correspondence and loose accounts, 1803, 8–10. 120 frames.
- 0238 Box 6, Folder 7, Correspondence and loose accounts, 1803, 11–12. 57 frames.
- 0295 Box 6, Folder 8, Correspondence and loose accounts, 1803, *Abby & Sally*. 108 frames.
- 0403 Box 6, Folder 9, Correspondence and loose accounts, 1804, 1–5. 155 frames.
- 0558 Box 6, Folder 10, Correspondence and loose accounts, 1804, 6–12. 189 frames.
- 0747 Box 6, Folder 11, Correspondence and loose accounts, 1805, 1–4. 175 frames.
- 0922 Box 6, Folder 12, Correspondence and loose accounts, 1805, 5–8. 102 frames.

Reel 19

Mss588, Nightingale-Jenckes Papers, 1742–1926 cont.

- 0001 Box 6, Folder 13, Correspondence and loose accounts, 1805, 9–12. 155 frames.
- 0156 Box 6, Folder 14, Correspondence and loose accounts, 1806–1820. 131 frames.
- 0287 Box 6, Folder 15, Deeds, 1791–1811. 75 frames.
- 0362 Box 6, Folder 16, Miscellaneous, Personal accounts, 1791–1805. 158 frames.
- 0520 Box 6, Folder 17, Miscellaneous, Accounts with John Lippitt, 1795–1800. 60 frames.
- 0580 Box 6, Folder 18, Miscellaneous, Invoice book, 1803–1805. 30 frames.
- 0610 Box 6, Folder 19, Miscellaneous, Sales accounts, Canton, 1803–1805. 19 frames.
- 0629 Box 6, Folder 20, Miscellaneous, Farm accounts, 1803–1807. 50 frames.
- 0679 Box 6, Folder 21, Miscellaneous, Accounts with John Lippitt, 1805. 23 frames.
- 0702 Box 11, Oversized volume 2, Miscellaneous, Index to unknown account book, ca. 1792–1801. 27 frames.
- 0729 Box 11, Oversized folder 2, Miscellaneous, *Abby & Sally* accounts. 26 frames.
- 0755 Box 11, Oversized folder 3, Miscellaneous, Oversized letters (copies interfiled in collection) and three pages from account book, 1805. 19 frames.
- 0774 Box 7, Folder 1, Ship *Resource* and *Eliza* accounts, 1797–1803. 81 frames.
- 0855 Box 7, Folder 2, Ship *Resource* account book, 1802–1803. 63 frames.
- 0918 Box 7, Folder 3, Ship *Resource* account book, 1802–1803. 40 frames.

- 0958 Box 7, Folder 4, Ship *Resource* account book, 1805–1807. 23 frames.
 0981 Box 11, Oversized volume 1, Ship *Resource* seamen account book, 1805–1806. 31 frames.
 1012 Box 7, Folder 5, Ship *Resource* import certificate, 1800, Providence. 2 frames.
 1014 Box 7, Folder 6, Ship *Resource* loose accounts, 1805–1806. 43 frames.

Reel 20

Mss588, Nightingale-Jenckes Papers, 1742–1926 cont.

- 0001 Box 7, Folder 7, Ship *Resource* loose accounts, 1806. 96 frames.
 0097 Box 7, Folder 8, Ship *Resource* loose accounts, 1806–1807. 37 frames.
 0134 Box 11, Oversized folder 1, Ship *Resource* loose accounts, 1800–1807. 20 frames.
 0154 Description of Subgroup 5. 5 frames.
 0159 Box 8, Folder 1, Correspondence and accounts, 1817–1820. 154 frames.
 0313 Box 8, Folder 2, Correspondence and accounts, 1821, 1–3. 119 frames.
 0432 Box 8, Folder 3, Correspondence and accounts, 1821, 3–8. 120 frames.
 0552 Box 8, Folder 4, Correspondence and accounts, 1821, 8–10. 123 frames.
 0675 Box 8, Folder 5, Correspondence and accounts, 1821, 10–12. 47 frames.
 0722 Box 8, Folder 6, Correspondence and accounts, 1822, 1–5. 149 frames.
 0871 Box 8, Folder 7, Correspondence and accounts, 1822, 5–7. 148 frames.
 1019 Box 8, Folder 8, Correspondence and accounts, 1822, 7–9. 124 frames.

Reel 21

Mss588, Nightingale-Jenckes Papers, 1742–1926 cont.

- 0001 Box 8, Folder 9, Correspondence and accounts, 1822, 9–10. 81 frames.
 0082 Box 8, Folder 10, Correspondence and accounts, 1822, 11–12. 134 frames.
 0216 Box 8, Folder 11, Correspondence and accounts, 1822, 12. 72 frames.
 0288 Box 8, Folder 12, Correspondence and accounts, 1823, 1–2. 109 frames.
 0397 Box 8, Folder 13, Correspondence and accounts, 1823, 2–4. 146 frames.
 0543 Box 8, Folder 14, Correspondence and accounts, 1823, 4–12. 15 frames.
 0558 Box 8, Folder 15, Correspondence and accounts, 1823, 1–12. 184 frames.
 0742 Box 8, Folder 16, Correspondence and accounts, 1824, 1–3. 180 frames.
 0922 Box 8, Folder 17, Correspondence and accounts, 1824, 2–7. 210 frames.

Reel 22

Mss588, Nightingale-Jenckes Papers, 1742–1926 cont.

- 0001 Box 8, Folder 18, Correspondence and accounts, 1824, 8–12. 130 frames.
 0131 Box 8, Folder 19, Correspondence and accounts, 1825, 1–3. 71 frames.
 0202 Box 8, Folder 20, Correspondence and accounts, 1825, 3–9. 154 frames.
 0356 Box 8, Folder 21, Correspondence and accounts, 1818–1823, mold damage. 104 frames.
 0460 Box 8, Folder 22, Correspondence and accounts, 1824–1825, mold damage. 58 frames.
 0518 Box 9, Folder 1, Account book, 1822–1823. 40 frames.
 0558 Box 9, Folder 2, Account book, Frost, Jenckes & Co., 1822–1824. 44 frames.
 0602 Box 11, Oversized volume 1, Account book, 1822–1823. 57 frames.
 0659 Box 9, Folder 3, Ship *George* accounts, 1822. 51 frames.
 0710 Box 9, Folder 4, Ship *Lion* accounts, 1824. 58 frames.

- 0768 Box 9, Folder 5, Ship *Nautilus* accounts, 1818–1823. 90 frames.
 0858 Box 9, Folder 6, Ship *Thomas/Mapocho* accounts, 1823. 34 frames.
 0892 Box 9, Folder 7, Ship *Thomas/Mapocho* accounts, 1823. 76 frames.
 0968 Box 9, Folder 8, Ship *Thomas/Mapocho* accounts, 1823. 64 frames.
 1032 Box 9, Folder 9, Ship *Viper* accounts, 1819–1820. 94 frames.

Reel 23

Mss588, Nightingale-Jenckes Papers, 1742–1926 cont.

- 0001 Box 9, Folder 10, Ship *Viper* accounts, 1819–1820. 129 frames.
 0130 Box 9, Folder 11, Textile samples, 1821. 3 frames.
 0133 Box 9, Folder 12, Undated miscellany. 25 frames.
 0158 Box 11, Oversized folder 1, Accounts of miscellaneous ships: *George, Lion, Mapocho/Thomas, Nautilus, Osprey, Viper*. 70 frames.
 0228 Box 11, Oversized volume 2, Memoranda book, brig *Mapocho/Thomas*, 1821–1824. 30 frames.

Mss9005, Peck Collection, 1636–1939, Rhode Island; also Africa and West Indies

Frederick S. Peck (1868–ca. 1945) was born in Providence, Rhode Island, and spent most of his life as a resident of the Peck family homestead in Barrington, Rhode Island. He was very active in state Republican Party politics. He served as town clerk of Barrington, was elected a state representative in 1911, and served in that capacity for fifteen years. He served as state commissioner of finance from 1926 to 1934, when the position was eliminated.

Peck was also an amateur historian and genealogist; he amassed a very important collection of Rhode Island–related manuscripts, which were placed at the Rhode Island Historical Society Library in 1943 and 1944.

Peck collected a wide variety of Rhode Island manuscripts; the papers described here cover from 1637 through 1939. Not everything that Peck donated can be found here, though. Many items have been transferred to other manuscript collections over the years for ease of access, including several Roger Williams letters and extensive papers of Benjamin Bourne and Zachariah Allen. Descriptions of the items within each box appear at the beginning of the box. Many items relate to commerce in Rhode Island and some relate to the slave trade in Africa and the West Indies. A list of omissions from Mss9005, Peck Collection, 1636–1939, is provided on Reel 25, Frame 0652. Omissions consist of miscellaneous papers and genealogy.

- 0258 Introductory Materials. 9 frames.
 0267 Box 1, 1636–1739. 169 frames.
 0436 Box 2, 1740–1765. 191 frames.
 0627 Box 3, 1766–1775. 168 frames.
 0795 Box 4, 1776–August 1778. 229 frames.

Reel 24

Mss9005, Peck Collection, 1636–1939 cont.

0001	Box 5, September 1778–1779. 214 frames.
0215	Box 6, 1780–1781. 183 frames.
0398	Box 7, 1782–1785. 227 frames.
0625	Box 8, 1786–June 1792. 182 frames.
0807	Box 9, July 1792–1794. 115 frames.

Reel 25

Mss9005, Peck Collection, 1636–1939 cont.

0001	Box 10, 1795–1797. 114 frames.
0115	Box 11, 1798–February 1801. 187 frames.
0302	Box 12, April 1801–1827. 146 frames.
0448	Box 13, 1828–1849. 143 frames.
0591	Box 14, 1850–1939. 61 frames.
0652	List of Omissions from Mss9005, Peck Collection, 1636–1939. 1 frame.

Mss16, Nicholas Peck Papers, 1790–1849, Bristol, Rhode Island; also Africa and West Indies

Nicholas Peck (1762–1847) was a merchant of Bristol, Rhode Island. He invested in maritime commerce, shipping goods in and out of Bristol and other ports. Typical cargoes carried out included lumber, vegetables, grain, nails, and most importantly rum. Usually the voyage was to the south, along the Atlantic coast, stopping at ports to sell such cargo as might turn a profit, and purchasing new cargo along the way. Peck, like many New England merchants, also dealt in slaves, which would be purchased in small lots along the “Guinea” coast of Africa and brought back across the ocean to the Caribbean where they were sold. If all went well, the ships would then return to Bristol with cash; letters of credit; and cargoes of molasses, tobacco, salt, and other goods. Peck outfitted at least one fishing voyage to northern waters, and we also find here records of cargoes sold in the Netherlands.

Coinvestors usually were found among one’s fellow merchants. Often the ship’s master had a share in the voyage. Nicholas Peck and his sons were variously engaged in mercantile adventures with Henry Munro, Samuel Townsend, John Brown, John Wardwell, Thomas Church, Nathaniel Gladding Jr., and the Providence firm of Brown & Wardwell. Charles Collins, a merchant and investor in slaving voyages, was also the Bristol collector of customs.

Cargoes were purchased with cash and sight drafts. The vessels might be owned by the Pecks themselves or in combination with the master and other investors. They were willing to risk cargoes in vessels that were not entirely seaworthy, as is seen from anguished letters sent by the ships’ masters. One captain (Nathaniel Gladding Jr., 1825) informed Peck that “it would have been a hundred or two dollars in your pocket if you could believe those who had experience of the sea knew as much about them as yourself but tis a distemper I dispare your ever being cured of.”

The profit to be made on a successful trading voyage was far greater than the cost of a vessel. The ships and cargoes were insured against a sobering list of perils by such companies as the Bristol Insurance Company, the Warren Insurance Company, the Mount Hope Insurance Company, and the Newport Insurance Company.

Peck was born in 1762, the son of Jonathan Peck (1724–1797) and Mary Throop (d. 1803). In 1784, he married the first of his three wives, Elizabeth Smith (1766–1796), daughter of Stephen. Among his children were Mary (b. 1787), wife of Dr. Samuel W. Briggs; Nicholas Jr. (b. 1789); John II (1791–1838); and Viets (b. 1814). Peck later married Jemima Gorham (1774–1798), daughter of Capt. Isaac Gorham, and then Jemima’s sister, Sally Gorham, who survived him.

This collection consists of papers dated 1790 to 1849. Included are correspondence, bills, receipts, ledgers, insurance certificates, and ships’ papers regarding U.S. coastal trade and the African slave trade. The loose papers are arranged chronologically by year. One particularly interesting unsigned document dated 1812 gives instructions to a ship captain to trade for slaves at the mouth of the Gallinus River, at Cape Mount, and on the Gold Coast of Africa, and instructs the captain to land the slave cargo at Trinidad.

N.B. Peck, Ira B., *A Genealogical History of the Descendants of Joseph Peck* (Boston: Alfred Mudge & Son, 1868). An account book of Nicholas Peck can also be found in the holdings of the Bristol Historical Society. Account books belonging to Peck’s father, Jonathan Peck (1724–1797), and grandfather, Jonathan Peck (1698–1757), can be found in the Jonathan Peck Papers (Mss610) at the Rhode Island Historical Society. Papers of Nicholas Peck’s son, Viets Peck, also comprise a separate small collection (Mss611).

0653	Introductory Materials. 6 frames.
0659	Box 1, Folder 1, Loose papers, 1790–1799. 48 frames.
0707	Box 1, Folder 2, Loose papers, 1800–1809. 111 frames.
0818	Box 1, Folder 3, Loose papers, 1810–1819. 210 frames.

Reel 26

Mss16, Nicholas Peck Papers, 1790–1849 cont.

0001	Box 1, Folder 4, Loose papers, 1820–1829. 173 frames.
0174	Box 1, Folder 5, Loose papers, 1830–1839. 11 frames.
0185	Box 1, Folder 6, Loose papers, 1840–1847. 5 frames.
0190	Box 1, Folder 7, Ledger, 1790. 75 frames.
0265	Box 1, Folder 8, Waste book, 1794–1795. 70 frames.
0335	Volume 1, Ledger “B,” 1794–1795. 192 frames.
0527	Volume 2, Ledger “E,” 1803–1812. 235 frames.
0762	Box 2, Folder 1, Journal, 1801–1802. 35 frames.
0797	Box 2, Folder 2, Daybook, 1810–1812. 197 frames.
0994	Box 2, Folder 3, Ledger, 1815–1817. 94 frames.

Reel 27

Mss16, Nicholas Peck Papers, 1790–1849 cont.

0001	Box 2, Folder 4, Journal, 1824–1826. 141 frames.
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***Mss231, Rhode Island State Records Collection
(Registry of Newport Vessels, 1785–1790),
Newport, Rhode Island***

These records were maintained by an intendant of trade appointed by the governor of Rhode Island. This position was established by an act of the General Assembly passed in June of 1776 for “regulating Trade within this state, and establishing proper Offices for entering and clearing Vessels and Merchandise, and granting Registers, shewing the Property of the Vessels...” The position probably did not become active in Newport until after the British occupation ended in October of 1779. Apparently, no duties were collected. It was not until July of 1789 that the United States Customs Service was empowered by the U.S. Congress to collect duties, under the purview of the Treasury Department. Only on June 14, 1790, were the Rhode Island customs districts of Providence and Newport established.

This volume recorded all ships departing Newport, Rhode Island, for the five years preceding the creation of a federal customs service. The information for each ship includes date cleared, vessel name, master’s name, tons of capacity, number of guns, number of crew, date and place built, date and place of registration, owners’ names, general cargo, and destination. Each entry also bears the master’s signature regarding the cargo description, which is generally quite specific. Most of the ships listed are bound for destinations along the Atlantic coast; a few are bound for the West Indies, and a handful are shipping rum to Africa as part of the triangle slave trade.

The register begins on November 21, 1785, and only covers ships leaving port. It continues through June 21, 1790, the week after the Newport Customs House was legally established. There was probably an accompanying volume for ship entries, which has not been located. The records from 1779 to 1785 are presumed lost; weekly summaries sometimes appeared in the *Newport Mercury* after 1783. Records after 1790 can be found in the Newport Customs House records; parts are available at the National Archives and at the Newport Historical Society.

The volume is arranged chronologically and is 289 pages long minus missing pages. A typed index for both captains and names of vessels was prepared circa 1907, but this only covers through 1788. Apparently, the last third of the book was lost and was restored at some point after the index was compiled. Several other pages have long been missing from the volume, including pages 2, 3, most of 62 and 63, 138 through 147, 164, 165, 246, and 247. A page is torn out from between 160 and 161, but no entries appear to be missing. A signature has been cut out from page 80. The last page is from an unrelated account book dated 1815 to 1828.

The volume is accompanied by five loose ship registration certificates dated 1784 through 1788. These certificates generally duplicate information in the clearance register, but three are from dates not covered in the volume.

N.B. The volume and index were formerly cataloged as “Vault M N-472, Newport, Rhode Island—Ship Registers.”

0142	Introductory Materials. 4 frames.
0146	Volume 1, Register of Clearances, 1785–1790. 143 frames.
0289	Folder 1, Partial index to register, covering 1785–1788. 32 frames.

- 0321 Folder 2, Loose registration certificates: 1784/06/05, sloop *Industry*, Samuel Lee, master; 1785/11/19, sloop *Joanna*, Benjamin Allen, master; 1786/04/07, sloop *Polly*, Thomas Carpenter, master; 1787/10/16, schooner *Hibernia*, Jabez Barney, master; and 1788/05/14, schooner *Phebe*, Stephen Smith, master. 11 frames.

***Mss9003, Rhode Island Historical Society Miscellaneous Manuscripts
(Vol. 9, Pages 37–38), 1735–ca. 1756, Africa***

The first document is an account between the owners of the sloop *Freelove*, a slave ship bound for Africa with Joseph Wanton as the captain. The second document is a 1735 invoice for cargo aboard the sloop *Endeavor*, bound for the West Indies.

N.B. The first document arrived as a gift of John Howland in 1832. It is cited by Jay Coughtry in *The Notorious Triangle: Rhode Island and the African Slave Trade, 1700–1807*, on page 46. The provenance of the second document is unknown.

- 0332 Introductory Materials. 4 frames.
0336 Vol. 9, Pages 37–38, 1735–ca. 1756. 4 frames.

***Mss9003, Rhode Island Historical Society Miscellaneous Manuscripts
(Vol. 19, Pages 1–152), Newport, Rhode Island;
also Africa and West Indies***

These papers are with few exceptions the papers of Newport merchant Christopher Champlin (1731–1805), dating mostly from 1763 to 1776. They relate to his various mercantile activities, especially his commissions provisioning the British navy. Champlin was also commissioned to supply the American navy at the outbreak of the Revolution. Correspondence in these papers seems to indicate that for a short while he was supplying both sides. When Newport was occupied by the British, however, Champlin did leave the town with all other patriots, settling in Norwich, Connecticut, for three years.

Champlin was intermittently involved in the slave trade. There is little on the slave trade in this selection of papers, other than a few documents relating to the slave ship *Adventure* from 1771.

N.B. These papers belong with the Christopher Champlin Papers (Mss20) appearing on Reels 1–9 of this edition, but through an oversight they were not included when that collection was processed in 1981. Unfortunately, they were found too late to be included with the Champlin Papers on microfilm. Researchers wishing to consult the original copies of these items should be advised that they are now refiled as a part of Mss20.

Reel 27 cont.

- 0340 Introductory Materials. 7 frames.
0347 Box 1, Pages 1–79. 143 frames.
0490 Box 2, Pages 80–152. 128 frames.

Mss9004, Rhode Island Manuscripts
(Volume 5, Pages 1–142 and Volume 6, Pages 1–89), 1756–1806,
Newport and Providence, Rhode Island; also Africa and West Indies

These items are for the most part official correspondence received by David Leonard Barnes (1760–1812), the judge of the U.S. District Court in Providence, Rhode Island. Barnes was born in Scituate, Massachusetts, the son of Rev. David Barnes. He graduated from Harvard University and briefly practiced law in Taunton, Massachusetts, before settling in Providence. In 1801, Benjamin Bourne retired from the federal district judgeship. Ray Greene was chosen by President Adams to replace him, but before Greene was formally confirmed President Jefferson entered office and replaced Greene with David Barnes. Barnes served as a federal judge until his death in 1812. He is buried in Swan Point Cemetery.

- 0618 Introductory Materials. 3 frames.
- 0621 Volume 5, Item 1, Introduction and inventory. 11 frames.
- 0632 Volume 5, Items 2 to 57, Mostly letters received by Barnes 1801–1806 from Albert Gallatin (1761–1849), secretary of the treasury under Thomas Jefferson. Most of these letters are simply transmitting copies of court cases. 110 frames.
- 0742 Volume 5, Items 58 to 89, Mostly letters received by Barnes 1792–1805 from Edmund T. Ellery of Newport. 74 frames.
- 0816 Volume 5, Items 90 to 129, Mostly letters received by Barnes 1798–1805 from William Ellery (1727–1820), signer of the Declaration of Independence and at that time customs collector for the port of Newport. 91 frames.
- 0907 Volume 5, Items 130 to 142, Letters received by Barnes 1796–1804 from various persons. 27 frames.
- 0934 Volume 6, Items 1 to 29, Mostly letters received by Barnes 1792–1803 from various persons, including a 1798 Moses Brown letter on page 10. 62 frames.
- 0996 Volume 6, Items 30 to 34, Miscellaneous court and shipping documents, 1776–1799. 32 frames.
- 1028 Volume 6, Items 35 to 40, Documents from slave brig *Louisa*, 1797. 8 frames.

Reel 28

Mss9004, Rhode Island Manuscripts
(Volume 5, Pages 1–142 and Volume 6, Pages 1–89), 1756–1806 cont.

- 0001 Volume 6, Items 41 to 90, Letters received by Barnes 1792–1805 from various persons and miscellaneous shipping and legal documents, 1756–1805. 146 frames.

Mss9006, Shepley Papers (Vol. 6, Pages 87–88 and 116), ca. 1827, Africa

The following pages are from an unsigned, undated diary or memoir by a Rhode Islander involved with the African trade, probably written in 1827. It gives a detailed description of trading for ivory along the west African coast from Ghana to Sierra Leone, including encounters with Africans, Englishmen, Danes, and a Capt. Dailey of the Providence brig *Helen* “who I had not seen for three years.” The art of haggling for ivory with African chieftains is discussed especially carefully. The author mentions several times that the slave trade had been brought to a virtual halt by well-enforced legislation.

N.B. Related collections include Andrews Family Papers at the Rhode Island Historical Society Library; Log of the brig *Helen* at the Rhode Island Historical Society Library; U.S. Customs House Records, Port of Providence at the Rhode Island Historical Society Library; Entries and clearances register, 1818–1827, and Seaman’s protection registers. Published materials of note include *Ship registers and enrollments of Providence, Rhode Island, 1773–1939* (Providence: National Archives Project, 1941); Dailey’s death notice in the *Providence Journal*, October 3, 1845; and Jay Coughtry’s *The Notorious Triangle*.

0147 Introductory Materials. 2 frames.
0149 Vol. 6, Pages 87–88 and 116, ca. 1827. 7 frames.

***Mss9006, Shepley Papers (Vol. 9, Pages 7–8), 1799–1804,
Bristol, Rhode Island; also Africa and West Indies***

This collection comprises a letter, March 17, 1804, from Jonathan Russell (1771–1832) to Secretary of the Treasury Albert Gallatin, protesting his removal as customs collector for the Port of Bristol. Russell felt that his successor, Charles Collins Jr., was unsuited for the position. Collins remained as collector until 1820.

The 1804 letter, in discussing a kidnapping incident involving Samuel Bosworth, mentions that “a history of the transaction was given at the time by the Surveyor, to Mr. Walcott the then Secretary of the Treasury.” There follows a draft or copy of the letter here referred to, a four-page fragment that appears to have been written in August 1799, from Samuel Bosworth to Secretary of the Treasury Oliver Walcott. It describes in more detail the kidnapping incident mentioned in the 1804 letter. More details on this incident, which effectively deterred federal prosecution of Bristol slavers for years to come, are provided in Jay Coughtry’s *The Notorious Triangle*, pp. 217–218.

Reel 28 cont.

0156 Introductory Materials. 2 frames.
0158 Vol. 9, Pages 7–8, 1799–1804. 7 frames.

***Mss828, Ships Logs (Sloop Dolphin (Rising Sun), 1795–1797),
Africa and West Indies***

This diary kept by an unknown seaman from 1795 to 1797 is one of the few known surviving accounts of a slaving voyage; this one seems to have been a failure. The crew initially set out in the ship *Dolphin*, changed over to the sloop *Rising Sun* in St. Thomas, and upon reaching Africa quickly took on twenty-one slaves. The ship then suffered serious damage in a tornado and remained on an island for almost a year with the crew attempting repairs while the captain traveled to the mainland to procure more slaves. The *Rising Sun* was pronounced unfit for sailing, and the diarist joined on with the crew of the Boston-bound sloop *Fame*. The *Fame* was sidetracked by storms and was forced to land in Charleston, South Carolina. The diarist then signed on with the *William*, which eventually made its way up to New York before discharging its crew; he then caught another sloop back to Newport, ending his account.

Further research in Newport customs records could probably help identify the diarist; the diary arrived with a collection of Peck and Gorham family papers. Caleb Eddy (probably 1768–1851) was master and owner of the *Dolphin* and the *Rising Sun*; other crew members seem to be Mr. Cleveland, William Cole, Ezekiel Layton, Mr. Ormsbee, and Samuel Hill.

- 0165 Introductory Materials. 2 frames.
0167 Sloop *Dolphin (Rising Sun)*, 1795–1797. 13 frames.

***Mss757, Tillinghast Papers, 1738–1824,
Newport and Providence, Rhode Island; also Africa and West Indies***

The person most prominently featured in this collection is Jonathan Tillinghast (1760–1806) of Providence. He was a sea captain and owner of several ships active in the Caribbean trade.

Joseph Tillinghast (1728–1789) was the father of Jonathan, and was a sea captain as well. He spent most of his life in Newport but eventually settled in Providence. He was oddly enough one of three sea captains named Joseph Tillinghast active in Providence during the late eighteenth century. His wife, Lydia Harris (1738–1822), survived him by many years.

Jonathan Tillinghast (1698–1774) was grandfather of the Captain Jonathan mentioned above and father of Joseph.

John Tillinghast (1696–1775) was brother of the senior Jonathan, and thus great-uncle of Captain Jonathan Tillinghast. John was a prominent citizen of Newport, a founder of the Redwood Library, and an original trustee of what became Brown University. John never married, and he left his considerable estate to his numerous siblings, nieces, and nephews.

The large majority of this collection consists of mercantile correspondence and accounts of Jonathan Tillinghast (1760–1806), including almost all of pages 13 to 223. Much of the correspondence is addressed to or from St. Croix (now in the British Virgin Islands) and Cape Francois, Haiti. One item, a Mediterranean passport for the snow *Susan* dated 1799 on page 81, bears the signature of President John Adams.

Other important items are the will and estate papers of John Tillinghast, much of pages 1–13; the will of Jonathan Tillinghast (1698–1774), p. 7; accounts for Lydia (Harris) Tillinghast scattered throughout the collection, but especially in pages 224–233; and miscellaneous papers of Joseph Tillinghast (1728–1789) scattered through pages 4 to 17. The chronological order is lost from pages 233 through 253, which are mostly undated papers relating to all of the above.

N.B. Tillinghast, Rose C., *The Tillinghast Family 1560–1971* (1972), pp. 15–17, 132–133.

Reel 28 cont.

- 0180 Introductory Materials. 5 frames.
0185 Box 1, Index and pages 1–26, 1738–1793. 257 frames.
0442 Box 2, Pages 27–75, 1793–1798. 458 frames.
0900 Box 3, Pages 76–115, 1798–1801. 357 frames.

Reel 29

Mss757, Tillinghast Papers, 1738–1824 cont.

0001	Box 4, Pages 116–164, 1801–1803. 267 frames.
0268	Box 5, Pages 165–200, 1803–1806. 211 frames.
0479	Box 6, Pages 201–253, 1804–1824. 181 frames.

Mss232, U.S. Government Records Collection (Rhode Island Distillery Books, 1791–1799), Newport, Rhode Island

Rum produced for the African slave trade had fueled Rhode Island's economic expansion before the Revolution. Though it gradually declined in importance after the war, it was still the exclusive domain of the state's leading merchants. When the U.S. Congress declared an excise tax on distilled spirits in 1791, this had the dramatic result of inspiring the Whiskey Rebellion in western Pennsylvania, but the reaction was more peaceful in Rhode Island. While western distilleries were often small operations run by backwoods farmers to supplement their meager incomes, the Rhode Island rum distilleries were a major industry, and the excise tax was just another business expense.

These two volumes were kept by federal treasury collectors appointed to collect the excise tax. They seem to have monitored every distillery in the state, giving a rare comprehensive look at an entire industry. The volumes are arranged into accounts by distillers and give weekly tallies of gallons distilled and removed, with a running tally of stock on hand. The weekly duties on spirits shipped are given, including the abatement for leakage. They also describe whether the rum was of domestic or foreign material and whether it was first or second proof. The volumes cover from 1791 through 1799, with a few entries for 1800. There are also a few loose quarterly reports giving less detailed information through 1802.

The distilleries taxed in this volume were almost all in Providence or Newport, with the major exception of Bourn & Wardwell in Bristol. The distillers were among the state's merchant elite, and they include John Brown (1736–1803), Welcome Arnold (1745–1798), and the Clark & Nightingale firm. Distilling made sense for merchants involved in the slave trade, who had easy access to molasses and needed rum to ship to Africa. Distilling their own rum cut out a middleman. Some distillers, including John Brown, also expanded beyond rum into gin production.

The excise collectors remained constant through both volumes. Daniel S. Dexter and Paul Allen were the collectors for Providence distilleries, George Sears was the collector in Newport, and Samuel Bosworth handled the one distillery in Bristol.

N.B. An item at the Rhode Island Historical Society closely related to this collection is an account book filed under "Bourn & Wardwell," dated 1796–1798. It is apparently the record book kept by the distillery to settle their accounts with the excise collector, and it includes much of the same information as this collection, plus data on where their rum was shipped.

Reel 29 cont.

- 0660 Introductory Materials. 6 frames.
- 0666 Volume 1, Accounts with distillers, 1791–1795. 197 frames
- 0863 Volume 2, Accounts with distillers, 1794–1800. 123 frames.
- 0986 Folder 1, Loose papers found in volume 2; includes quarterly reports arranged by distiller, 1799–1802. 18 frames.

Mss159, Warren Insurance Co. Records and Policy Books, 1801–1901, Warren, Rhode Island; also Africa and West Indies

The Warren Insurance Company was incorporated in 1800 with four hundred shares and total capital of \$40,000. Its primary business was marine insurance, serving Warren's booming mercantile trade. In the earliest years of the company, insuring slave traders was an important part of its business. The company seems to have been less active after 1845, but it continued to elect directors. As late as 1885, George L. Cooke Jr. was serving as secretary of the company.

Probably the most important part of this collection, and certainly the most voluminous, is the series of fourteen policy books, covering the years 1805 to 1844 in a complete run, of which the first two are included in this edition. A list of omissions from Mss159, Warren Insurance Co. Records and Policy Books, 1801–1901, appears on Reel 30, Frame 0007. Items dating 1807–1844 and 1885–1901 are omitted.

Reel 30

- 0001 Introductory Materials. 6 frames.
- 0007 List of Omissions from Mss159, Warren Insurance Co. Records and Policy Books, 1801–1901. 1 frame.
- 0008 Volume 1, 1805–1806 for policies 501–750. 252 frames.
- 0260 Volume 2, 1806–1809. 253 frames.

SUBJECT INDEX

The following index is to the major subjects and persons found in *Papers of the American Slave Trade, Series A, Selections from the Rhode Island Historical Society, Part 2: Selected Collections*. The arabic number before the colon refers to the reel number, and the four-digit number after the colon refers to the frame number at which the material about the subject or person begins. Thus the entry 5: 0543 refers to the series of documents that begins on Frame 0543 of Reel 5. Researchers can find the description of the material by referring to the appropriate section of the Reel Index. Detailed indices of individual collections may be found in the introductory materials appearing at the beginning of each collection.

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9: 0111

Antigua

Jacob Babbitt Papers 1: 0001–0407

Arethusa

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–
9: 0111

Arnold, Welcome

Isaac Gorham Papers 12: 0075–0179
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Atlas

Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–
23: 0228

Auchmuty (Robert N.), Newport

Rhode Island Distillery Books 29: 0660–
0986

Austin, Benjamin, of Boston, 1790

Malbone Family Collection 11: 0687–
1025

Babbitt, Jacob

Jacob Babbitt Papers 1: 0001–0407
DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111

Babcock, Henry

Nicholas Cooke Papers 9: 0127–0382

Baker, John W.

Jacob Babbitt Papers 1: 0001–0407

**Banks and banking—Bristol, Rhode
Island**

DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111

Barnes, David Leonard

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28: 0001

Barton, Seth

Jacob Babbitt Papers 1: 0001–0407

Batavia, Java, Indonesia—commerce

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–
9: 0111

Bayonne

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–
9: 0111

Beaumont

Isaac Gorham Papers 12: 0075–0179

Bebrig

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–
9: 0111

Beekman, Gerard G.

Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–
23: 0228

**Bennet, Joseph, of Coventry, Rhode
Island**

Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–
23: 0228

Bennet & Nightingale

Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–
23: 0228

Betsey

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–
9: 0111

Isaac Gorham Papers 12: 0075–0179

Blackstone Canal

DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111

Bland, Theodorick

Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–
23: 0228

Borden, Richard

DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111

Bosworth, Benjamin M.

Jacob Babbitt Papers 1: 0001–0407
Benjamin Bosworth Papers 11: 1031–
1036

Bosworth, Samuel

DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111
Shepley Papers 28: 0156–0158

**Bourn & Wardwell (Shearjashub Bourn
and [otherwise unidentified] Wardwell),
Bristol**

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0986

Bourne, Benjamin

DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111
Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–
23: 0228

Peck Collection 23: 0258–25: 0652

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Miscellaneous Manuscripts 27: 0618–
28: 0001

Bowen, Horatio G.

Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–
23: 0228

Bowen, P.

Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–
23: 0228

Bowler

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–
9: 0111

Bowne, Robert

Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–
23: 0228

Bradford, Benjamin W.

DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111

Bradford, Leonard J.

Jacob Babbitt Papers 1: 0001–0407

Bradford, William

Nicholas Peck Papers 25: 0653–27: 0001

Brandywine

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–
9: 0111

Briggs, Lemuel W.

Nicholas Peck Papers 25: 0653–27: 0001

Brinley, Francis

Malbone Family Collection 11: 0687–
1025

Brinley & Littlefield, Newport

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0986

Bristol, Rhode Island

Jacob Babbitt Papers 1: 0001–0407
Benjamin Bosworth Papers 11: 1031–1036
Bristol Insurance Company Letterbook 12: 0001–0004
DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111
Isaac Gorham Papers 12: 0075–0179
Nicholas Peck Papers 25: 0653–27: 0001

Bristol Insurance Company

Bristol Insurance Company Letterbook 12: 0001–0004

British ships

Nicholas Peck Papers 25: 0653–27: 0001

Brown, John

Malbone Family Collection 11: 0687–1025
Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228
Nicholas Peck Papers 25: 0653–27: 0001
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Shepley Papers 28: 0156–0158

Brown, Moses

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Miscellaneous Manuscripts 27: 0618–1028; 28: 0001

Brown, Nicholas

Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228

Brown, Samuel

Isaac Gorham Papers 12: 0075–0179

Brown & Francis

Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228
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Brown & Ives

Warren Insurance Company Records 30: 0001–0260

Brown, Benson & Ives

Rhode Island Distillery Books 29: 0660–0986

Browning, Beriah

Jacob Babbitt Papers 1: 0001–0407

Building

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111

Bull, Henry

Nicholas Peck Papers 25: 0653–27: 0001

Burges, Tristram

DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111

Business records

Rhode Island—Bristol

Jacob Babbitt Papers 1: 0001–0407
Benjamin Bosworth Papers 11: 1031–1036
DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111
Isaac Gorham Papers 12: 0075–0179
Nicholas Peck Papers 25: 0653–27: 0001

Rhode Island—Newport

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111
Lopez Papers 11: 0140–0668

Canton, China

Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228

Carrington, Edward

Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228

Catherine

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111

Chaleur

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111

Champlin, Christopher

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111
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Miscellaneous Manuscripts 27: 0340–0490

Champlin, Christopher Grant

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111

Champlin, George

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111

Chance

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111

Charlestown, Rhode Island

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111

Charleston, South Carolina

Nicholas Peck Papers 25: 0653–27: 0001; 28: 0165–0167

Charlotte

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111

DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111

Charming Nancy

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111

Charming Polly

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111

China

Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228

Clark, John Innes

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Clark & Nightingale

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Clarke, Peleg

Malbone Family Collection 11: 0687–1025

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Cleopatra

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111

Coastal shipping

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111

Nicholas Peck Papers 25: 0653–27: 0001

Coddington, William

Malbone Family Collection 11: 0687–1025

Coffee trade

DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111

Collins, Charles

DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111

Collins, Charles, Jr.

Shepley Papers 28: 0156–0158

Collins, John

Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228

Commerce

Africa

Jacob Babbitt Papers 1: 0001–0407

Benjamin Bosworth Papers 11: 1031–1036

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Shepley Papers 28: 0147–0149, 0156–0158

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Tillinghast Papers 28: 0180–29: 0479

Antigua

Jacob Babbitt Papers 1: 0001–0407

Batavia

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111

China

Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228

Cuba

Jacob Babbitt Papers 1: 0001–0407

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111

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Europe

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111

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Germany

Jacob Babbitt Papers 1: 0001–0407

Hispaniola

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111

Java

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111

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Registry of Newport Vessels 27: 0142–0321

Russia

Jacob Babbitt Papers 1: 0001–0407

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St. Croix

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111

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St. Thomas

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South America

Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228

Connecticut

Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228

Cooke, George L., Jr.

Warren Insurance Company Records
30: 0001–0260

Cooke, Joseph S.

Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228

Cooke, Nicholas

Nicholas Cooke Papers 9: 0127–0382

Corlis, John

Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228

Corning, John

DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111

Courier

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111

Courts—U.S. District, Providence, Rhode Island, Manuscripts

27: 0618–28: 0001

Cranston, Henry Y.

DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111

Crary, Archibald & Co.

Rhode Island Distillery Books 29: 0660–0986

Cruzer

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111

Cuba

Jacob Babbitt Papers 1: 0001–0407

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111

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Customs

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Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111

Dailey, Daniel D.

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Deblois, Lewis

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DeBlois, Stephen

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Rhode Island—Bristol

Jacob Babbitt Papers 1: 0001–0407

Rhode Island—Charlestown

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111

Delaware, 1764

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111

DeWolf, Benjamin

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DeWolf, Charles

DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111

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DeWolf, George

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DeWolf, James

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DeWolf, John

DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111

DeWolf, Levi

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DeWolf, Mark A.

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DeWolf, Nancy B.

DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111

DeWolf, William

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DeWolf, William H.

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DeWolf family

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Dickason, Thomas

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Diman, Byron

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Diman, Francis M.

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Distilleries

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Durfee, Job

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Earl, John B.

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Eddy, Caleb

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Elderkin, Eleazar

Jacob Babbitt Papers 1: 0001–0407

Elizabeth

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–
9: 0111

Ellery, Abraham Redwood

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9: 0111

Ellery, Christopher

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Ellery, Edmund T.

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Ellery, William

Nicholas Cooke Papers 9: 0127–0382
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Shepley Papers 28: 0156–0158

Endeavor

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–
9: 0111

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Miscellaneous Manuscripts 27: 0332–
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Enterprise

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–
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Europe

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–
9: 0111
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Express

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9: 0111

Fame

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–
9: 0111
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Fame of Newport

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–
9: 0111

Fanning, George

Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–
23: 0228

Fanny

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–
9: 0111

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Whitting Papers 12: 0351–0372

Faures, F. L.

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23: 0228

Fenner, James

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**First Congregational Church
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23: 0228

Five Brothers

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–
9: 0111

Fletcher, John

Jacob Babbitt Papers 1: 0001–0407

Fourth of July celebrations

Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–
23: 0228

- Francis, John**
Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228
- Francis, John B.**
DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111
- Franklin, Benjamin**
DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111
- Frederick Augustus**
Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111
- Freelove**
Rhode Island Historical Society
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- French, Zachariah**
Nicholas Peck Papers 25: 0653–27: 0001
- French spoliation claims**
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30: 0001–0260
- Friendship**
Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111
- Frost, Daniel W.**
Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228
- Frost, Jenckes & Company**
Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228
- Furnaces—Rhode Island**
DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111
- Gallatin, Albert**
Rhode Island Historical Society
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- Gardner, Joshua & Company**
Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228
- Gaspee**
Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111
- George**
Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111
- George Champlin**
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- Georgia**
Shepley Papers 28: 0156–0158
- Germany**
Jacob Babbitt Papers 1: 0001–0407
- Ghana**
Shepley Papers 28: 0147–0149
- Gibbs, Samuel**
Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228
- Gibbs & Channing**
Rhode Island Distillery Books 29: 0660–0986
- Gladding, Nathaniel, Jr.**
Nicholas Peck Papers 25: 0653–27: 0001
- Glascow**
Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111
- Good Intent**
Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111
- Gorham, Isaac**
Whitting Papers 12: 0351–0372
- Gorton, Isaac**
DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111
- Gray, Ebenezer**
Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228
- Griswold, Rev. George**
DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111
- Haiti**
Tillinghast Papers 28: 0180–29: 0479
- Halifax**
Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111
- Hall, J. P.**
DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111
- Hancock, Blanchard**
Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228
- Havana, Cuba**
Nicholas Peck Papers 25: 0653–27: 0001
- Hayley, Mary**
Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228
- Hayley & Hopkins**
Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228
- Hazard, Benjamin**
DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111
- Hazard, Enoch**
Malbone Family Collection 11: 0687–1025
- Hazard, Jonathan**
Malbone Family Collection 11: 0687–1025
- Hazard, Rowland G.**
DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111
- Hazard family**
Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228

- Helen**
Shepley Papers 28: 0147–0149
- Hinde**
Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111
- Hispaniola**
Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111
- Hitchcock, Daniel**
Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228
- Hitchcock, Enos**
Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228
- Hope**
Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111
- Hope of Newport**
Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111
- Hope Thomas Wall**
Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111
- Howard family**
Peck Collection 23: 0258–25: 0652
- Howell, Jeremiah B.**
DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111
- Hunter, Henry**
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- Hunter, William**
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- Hydra**
Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111
- Imlay, John**
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- Indians of North America—land titles**
Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111
- Indians of North America—Narragansetts**
Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111
Nicholas Cooke Papers 9: 0127–0382
- Industry**
Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111
- Insurance, marine**
Bristol Insurance Company Letterbook 12: 0001–0004
- Providence Insurance Company
Letterbook 12: 0205–0208
Warren Insurance Company Records
30: 0001–0260
- Ives, Moses B.**
DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111
- Ivory trade**
Shepley Papers 28: 0147–0149
- Java**
Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111
- Jefferson, Thomas**
Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228
- Jenckes, Amos T.**
Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228
- Jenckes, Ebenezer T.**
Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228
- Jenckes, Edwin T.**
Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228
- Jenckes, Joseph S.**
Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228
- Jews**
Lopez Papers 11: 0140–0668
- John**
Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111
- John Adams**
Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111
- Jones, Edward**
Whitting Papers 12: 0351–0372
- Jones, John Coffin**
Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111
- Juara & Martel**
DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111
- Kidnapping**
Shepley Papers 28: 0156–0158
- Kilton, Joseph**
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- Knight, Nehemiah R.**
DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111
- Knowlton, Joseph**
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- La Committee**
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- Lake, Borden**
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- Lanman, James**
DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111
- Lark**
Benjamin Bosworth Papers 11: 1031–1036
Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111
- Laurel**
Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111
- laVigna, Coulaux, merchant**
Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–23: 0228
- Lee, Thomas, of Boston**
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- Liberty**
Rhode Island Historical Society
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- Lippitt, John**
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- Little George**
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- Little Polly**
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Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111
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- Louisa**
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- Lucy**
Shepley Papers 28: 0156–0158
- Madison, James**
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- Magdalen**
Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111
- Magee, William F.**
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- Maidstone**
Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111
- Malbone, Evan**
Malbone Family Collection 11: 0687–1025
- Malbone, Francis, Jr.**
Malbone Family Collection 11: 0687–1025
- Malbone, Francis, Sr.**
Malbone Family Collection 11: 0687–1025
- Malbone, Godfrey, Jr.**
Malbone Family Collection 11: 0687–1025
- Malbone, Godfrey, Sr.**
Malbone Family Collection 11: 0687–1025
- Malbone, John**
Malbone Family Collection 11: 0687–1025
- Malbone, Reodolphus**
Malbone Family Collection 11: 0687–1025
- Malbone, William T.**
Malbone Family Collection 11: 0687–1025
- Manning, James**
Whitting Papers 12: 0351–0372
- Mapocho**
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- Marchant, Henry**
Nicholas Cooke Papers 9: 0127–0382
- Martin, Simeon**
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- Martinique**
Nicholas Peck Papers 25: 0653–27: 0001
- Mary**
Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–9: 0111

Mary Ann

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Mason, Benjamin

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Mason, Daniel

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Mason, John

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Mawdsley, John

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Maxwell, Adam

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23: 0228

Megee, James

Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–
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Megee, William F.

Warren Insurance Company Records
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Megee, William F., Jr.

Nightingale-Jenckes Papers 12: 0384–
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Jacob Babbitt Papers 1: 0001–0407
DeWolf Papers 9: 0395–11: 0111
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Newport

Christopher Champlin Papers 1: 0500–
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