

# Scott J WINSLOW Associates, Inc. *Americana*

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**Scott J. Winslow  
Associates, Inc.  
P.O. Box 10240  
Bedford, N.H. 03110**

**(800) 225-6233  
(603) 641-8292  
Fax: (603) 641-5583**

**email:**

**onlinesales@scottwinslow.com**

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## The American Revolution

An especially interesting area of collecting remains that of material pertaining to the American Revolution. As the catalyst for the birth of a new nation and a magnificent form of government, it has always been one of the most historically significant periods in the history of our nation. Those interested in this rich and remarkably well documented era in the history of America are fortunate that so many source documents of fine content and great historical importance continue to be available at affordable levels. Offering a rich, firsthand perspective into this transformative period, these documents offer a real, human perspective often lost in historical texts and in television or cinematic works.

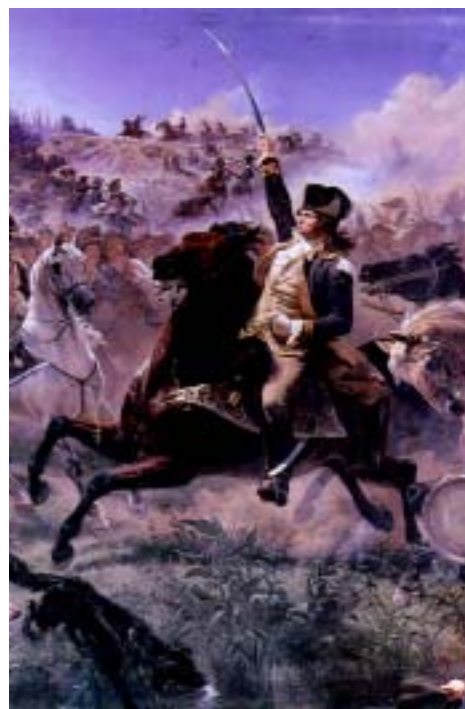
Through the collecting and study of these documents one can gain a far greater appreciation of the suffering and sacrifices that were made by those involved in and affected by the hardships of the revolution. Whether one's interest lies in the daily lives of the many soldiers that suffered the bitter winter at Valley Forge and succumbed in far greater numbers to disease, the few important and influential generals and politicians of the American Revolution, or those courageous Signers of the Declaration of Independence, great satisfaction is to be gained through collecting autographs and manuscripts from this fascinating period.

In the face of all hardships suffered by the troops and all the political maneuvering and clandestine power struggles of rival generals, no one can ever forget that one man stood above the rest to become the leader of "General Washington's Army" and the reluctant first President of the United States in April of 1789. In honor of the Revolution and its devoted leader, we are pleased to offer this interesting selection of documents related to the conflict that bore the American nation as well as the political minds that drafted and signed its Declaration of Independence.

As you peruse this catalog, remember that this is just a sampling of our constantly changing inventory. As always, please feel free to contact us with regarding your specific area of interest.

*"for losses sustained & charges of sickness in and returning from service in General Washington's Army"*

See page 4



# American Revolution



**AN IMPORTANT LETTER SIGNED BY MESHECH WEARE AS CHAIRMAN OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY IN WHICH HE WRITES TO JOSIAH BARTLETT AND NATHANIEL PEABODY JUST DAYS AFTER THE BATTLE OF BENNINGTON**

**MESHECH WEARE** (1713 – 1786). Colonial leader, Revolutionary patriot and jurist. One of the single most influential revolutionary leaders in New Hampshire during the war. One page. 8 ½" x 11 ½". Weare writes ordering immediate assistance for the just recently victorious troops at the Battle of Bennington. Weare writes forwarding the Committee of Safety instructions requesting them "Immediately to repair to Bennington, and do every thing in your power to assist the sick and wounded men of General Starks Brigade of the Militia of this State, and to consult with & advise General Stark with respect to any further operations – and to procure an exact amount of the late action of General Starks with the British Troops. And further you are empowered to do and transact any matters and things with respect to said Brigade that you may think necessary." A fine letter written just days after the American militia under General John Stark defeated two Hessian detachments near Bennington, Vermont during Burgoyne's advance southward. In excellent condition.

**\$3,500**



**1776: HIRE OF WAGGON FROM HARTFORD TO CAMBRIDGE IN THE LEXINGTON ALARM**

"for Hire of his Waggon from Hartford to Cambridge & elsewhere in Lexington Alarm"

**OLIVER ELLSWORTH** (1745-1807). A member of the Pay Table Committee, a delegate to the Federal Constitutional Convention, Appointed by President Washington to Chief Justice of the United States and Minister Plenipotentiary to France.  
**Colonel THOMAS SEYMOUR** (1735-1829) First Mayor of Hartford, Connecticut.

Autograph Document Signed as a member of the Pay Table Committee, also signed by Thomas Seymour.

One page, dated March 14, 1776. Order to the State Treasurer John Lawrence to, "Pay Mr. John Thomas Thirty Five Shillings for Hire of his Waggon from Hartford to Cambridge & elsewhere in Lexington Alarm and charge the Colony, T. Seymore, O. Ellsworth." On the reverse, John Thomas has signed above his note: "Hartford, March 1776, Received of Treasurer John Lawrence One Pound fifteen Shillings being the contents." The 'Lexington Alarm' of April 19, 1775 was one of the most important and pivotal moments in our entire history.

A week before this document was penned, March 7, the British evacuated Boston after 2000 men, led by a John Thomas and aided by heavy cannonade, occupied the city during the night of March 4-5. There is no confirmation that the leader during the Siege of Boston is the same John Thomas who signed this document. Our Declaration of Independence would be signed three months later. 8" x 5", archival tape applied to light fold separation on verso, else Fine. A superb document directly related to the Battle of Lexington - Rare. **\$2,500**



**CLOTHING FOR THE ARMY**

Document Signed. Preston, (Conn.) Dec. 4, 1781. 7½" x 2¼". Ordering "Ephraim Herrick Treasury for this Town pay Capt. William Belcher one Pound fourteen shillings in silver out of this towns money for clothing for the army.", Signed by five Selectmen for the town of Preston: Amos Avery, Andr. Huntington, Asa Smith, Samuel Leonard, and Elias Brown. **\$275**

**PAY CERTIFICATES FOR AFRICAN AMERICAN SOLDIERS FOR SERVING IN THE CONTINENTAL ARMY**

We're pleased to have recently acquired an historically significant collection of Revolutionary War pay notes for black soldiers serving in the Continental Army. Material related to African Americans during the war is quite scarce and remains as an important reminder of the contributions made by these heroic men. Please inquire as to additional items available from this collection which are not shown herein.



**PRINCE DUPLEX**

[AMERICAN REVOLUTION - BLACK HISTORY]. 8 ¼" x 3 ¾". DS. 1 page. Hartford, June 1, 1782. Partly-printed Treasury-Office order to pay "Mr. Prince Duplex" who hath served in the Connecticut Line of the Continental Army, the sum of Four pounds, six shillings & one penny...." Duplex Signed on verso "Prince Duplex." He engaged in the battles of Germantown and Monmouth. Pension papers state that he was a free man of color. He is listed as Duplessis in the Abstract of Graves of Revolutionary War Patriots Prince. Duplex died Oct. 29, 1825, aged 71 years. A great reminder of the role that Black Americans played during the revolution. Punch cancelled. Folds. Fine. **\$1,500**



**BRISTOL BAKER**

[AMERICAN REVOLUTION - BLACK HISTORY]. DS. 8 1/4" x 3 3/4". 1 page. Hartford, June 1, 1782. Partly-printed Treasury-Office order to "pay Bristol Baker, who hath served in the Connecticut Line of the Continental Army..." From New Haven, Baker served from 1777 - 1783. Signed with his "X" on verso. Fold split has been repaired. **\$1,250**



**THE STORY OF THE SLAVE PHAROAH HART AND HIS MASTER AN AFRICAN AMERICAN SOLDIER SERVING IN THE CONTINENTAL ARMY RECEIVES HIS PAY - OR DOESN'T ?**

Pharoah Hart, a black slave from Farmington, Connecticut fought for our collective liberty alongside other patriots in the Continental Army to help make America free.

His Master, General Selah Hart, promised him his freedom in return for three years of service in the Army. Hart fought battles in Germantown, Pennsylvania in 1777 & Monmouth, New Jersey in 1778. He was freed after his service, but not without a disagreement over his army wages. The now former slave had agreed to give his owner, Selah Hart, a portion of his wages, but Selah demanded and received all of them. [Donahue, *Speaking for Ourselves*, 1998 Farmington Historical Soc.].

We offer two Connecticut Fiscal Revolutionary War certificates:

\* Partly-Printed Continental Army note. 1 page. 8" x 3 ¾". Hartford, June 1, 1780. Partly-printed Treasury-Office issued to "**Gen. Selah Hart, Master to Pharoah Hart**" who hath served...the sum of Eleven Pounds seventeen shillings and six pence..." Punch Hole cancelled. Folds, edges frayed some. The back contains a number of Interest payment endorsements up through 1789. **Excellent example of Strong slave name to a General no less, and documentation of the practice of giving the black slaves the surname of their owners.**

\* Partly-Printed Continental Army note. 1 page. 8" x 3 ¾". Hartford, June 1, 1782. Partly-printed Treasury-Office issued to "**Mr. Pharoah Hart**" who hath served in the Connecticut Line of the Continental Army, the sum of Ten pounds seventeen shillings and six pence..." **Signed by Peter Colt as Treasurer; Grandfather of Gun Maker Samuel Colt.** Unsigned by Hart and blank on verso. Crisp Uncirculated, Uncancelled. Choice.

Hart never received the pay certificate, as the Treasury Office printed this, issued it, but it never made it into circulation as these uncirculated variations were issued to soldiers either lost in action or possibly deserted. This case presents an unusual payment story, in that he had already been receiving pay, or his Master had been, then they issued a new certificate. This one, two years later - In his own, fully emancipated name. A pay, it shows, he never received - in fighting for freedom for his countrymen. The two items together make this an exceptional offering of the fight of the black man, the slave, the master, fiscal paper and the Revolutionary War. **\$1,450**

**PAYMENT FOR LOSSES SUFFERED DURING THE CAMPAIGN IN WHICH WASHINGTON'S ARMY CROSSED THE DELAWARE RIVER , SURPRISING HESSIAN FORCES AT THE BATTLE OF TRENTON**



**ELLSWORTH PAYS MAJOR ZABDIEL ROGERS FOR "LOSSES SUSTAINED...FROM SERVICE IN GENERAL WASHINGTON'S ARMY"**

**OLIVER ELLSWORTH** (1745-1807). A Revolutionary War figure from Connecticut, Ellsworth served as the Supreme Court's second Chief Justice. ADS. 1page. 8" x 8". Hartford, Connecticut, March 21<sup>st</sup>, 1777. A war-dated document signed "O Ellsworth" as a member of a Connecticut state committee: "Sir, Pay Maj. Zabdiel Rogers Forty two Pounds Two Shillings & Nine Pence being the Balance due to the 20<sup>th</sup> Regt. of Militia for their Losses Sustained & charges of Sickness in & Returning from Service in General Washington's army as per acct. & charge the State - Hartford, March 21<sup>st</sup>, 1777." Signed by Ez. Williams and O. Ellsworth. Signed on verso by Zabdiel Rogers acknowledging receipt of payment. **ZABDIEL ROGERS** (1737 - 1808). At the advent of the American Revolution, Zabdiel Rogers was a Major in John Durkee's 20<sup>th</sup> Connecticut regiment. Present at the historic first battle in America's struggle for independence, The Battle of Long Island, Rogers was among the disheartened Continentals that crossed into New York City behind a defeated George Washington. Pursued by British forces, General Washington and his men were forced northward through the city to Harlem Heights, where they suffered further losses. General Washington, now with only 500 disheartened and poorly equipped men under his command, was then forced to flee into the icy countryside. It was at this pivotal moment that the American commander devised the daring plan that would change the course of the war. Crossing the icy Delaware River under the cover of darkness on Christmas, Washington led his small force against Hessian troops encamped at Trenton. Taking nearly 1000 prisoners during the battle, Washington's army pushed on towards Princeton, where they again took their enemy by surprise. These two historic, timely victories gave Washington and his men the courage, hope and supplies that sustained them during the harsh winter of 1777 and allowed the America Colonies to continue their struggle for independence. A choice reference to "General Washington's Army" and related to such a historic event in American history. **\$2,500**

**Designer of the First Submarine to be used in Combat**



**HE DESIGNED AND BUILT THE FIRST SUBMARINE AND TORPEDO BOAT IN 1776 THE TURTLE**

**DAVID BUSHNELL** (1742 - 1824) American inventor during the Revolutionary War. He is credited with creating in 1775, while studying at Yale University, the first submarine ever used in combat, known as the Turtle. His idea of using water as ballast for submerging and raising his submarine is still in use today, as is the screw propeller, which was first used in the Turtle.

While at Yale, he proved that gunpowder exploded under water. With this, he also came up with mine barrage in 1777. He also invented the first time bomb. He combined his ideas in an attempt to attack British ships which were blockading New York Harbor in the summer of 1776 by boring through their hulls and implanting time bombs, but failed every time due to a metal lining in the ships hull to protect against parasites in their previous station, the Caribbean. The Turtle eventually sank.

Document Signed. Connecticut, September 15, 1780. One page. 8" x 6½". "Sir, Pay Capt. David Bushnell Twenty Six Pounds Connecticut Currency and Charge the State Pay table Office Septemr 15<sup>th</sup> 1780." Bushnell Signs on verso "David Bushnell" as having received the Contents. Signed also by **SAMUEL WYLLYS** (1739-1823) led a regiment in the siege of Boston. Fort Wyllys was named in his honor; and **ELEAZER WALES**, Member of the Committee Paytable, as well as the Connecticut Treasurer, John Lawrence. In Fine condition. Bushnell's autograph is quite scarce and highly desirable. **\$3,000**



**A BRITISH SOLDIER RECEIVES HIS PAY FOR FIGHTING THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

Partly printed Document signed. 1779. 6¼" x 7½". Elaborate Royal vignette top. British soldiers pay receipt for service to the Second Troop of His Majesties Life Guards, under Lord Robert Bertie. Lord Bertie (1721 - 1782) was stationed in America at this time. Paying "...the sum of 100 pounds...on Account of Pay, Arrears of Payment, Off-Reckonings, Stoppages for Horses Forage, as well as in all other respects..." Signed by Joseph Robbins with two witness signatures. In 1777, General Lord Robert Bertie's Regiment was sent to reinforce the British garrison of Philadelphia. It arrived in time to participate in General Sir Henry Clinton's withdrawal across New Jersey to New York, and fought at the Battle of Monmouth Courthouse in June, 1778. For the remainder of 1778 and 1779, the Regiment formed part of the garrison of New York. Extremely Fine.

\$575



**REVOLUTIONARY WAR PAYROLL FOR THE REGIMENT COMMANDED BY WM S. SMITH, AIDE TO CAMP TO GENERAL SULLIVAN, STAFF OF GENERAL WASHINGTON**

Document Signed. October 1778, 1 page, 12½" x 8". Payroll of Field & Staff & Non-Commissioned Staff in the Regiment Commanded by William S. Smith Lt. Col. For the Month of Oct. 1778. Signed by Jonathon Hastings, Capt. Commander. Names of the soldiers "William S. Smith, Lt. Col. Thomas Edwards Adt., Robert Williams, Paymaster, Abner Harmon, Sgt, Major, Ebenezer Freeman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Maj. Serg, John Scott, Major. Time of Service for each is listed, the pay amount, subsistence, amount of Pay & Subsistence. Appears to be written from the fort at Pawtuxet, Rhode Island, late Col. Lee's Regiment.

Lt. Col. William Stephens Smith(1755-1816) was the son-in-law of President John Adams, a brother-in-law of President John Quincy Adams and an Aide-de-camp to General John Sullivan in 1776. He was on the staff of General Lafayette in 1780 and 1781, and then transferred to the staff of General Washington. He was secretary of the Legation at London in 1784 and returned to America in 1788; he was appointed by President Washington to be United States Marshal for the district of New York in 1789, and later supervisor of revenue. Some toning, split at fold, else Fine. A Very Rare document.

\$900

**"the enemies armies are moving on all quarters... for heavens sake for your country's sake and for your own sake exert yourself on getting your men and sending them forward without a moments loss of time..."**

Autograph Letter Signed. "In Committee of Safety" May 5<sup>th</sup> 1777. 1 pp. Bedford, NH. Daniel Moore to Captain Samuel Philbrick of Weare NH his frustration at not being able to raise enough troops needed to fight the battle for Independence:

**"...Whereas it has been represented that many towns in this state not withstanding their unweariend endeavors in offices of large bounties have not yet been able to procure their full quota of men for the continental service.**

**Therefore at this critical season to the end that the men to complete the battalions may immediately march, the committee are of opinion that such delinquent towns may satisfy their number at present with men enlisted for eight months or a year as they see fit provided they will be careful to provide others to take their stores when the time of these are out they now send sixty continentals or state bounty can be advanced to any but such as enlist for the war for three years as the votes of congress and the general court of this state forbid it. The travel —to be paid when they pass muster. This resolve was passed at the desire of several towns the true copy of my orders from Josiah Bartlett committee of this state.**

**PS Capt Philbrick the enemies armies are moving on all quarters for heavens sake for your country's sake and for your own sake exert yourself on getting your men and sending them forward without a moments loss of time. Fail not in so doing."**

Choice revolutionary war content. \$1,750



**HORSES FOR WASHINGTON'S ARMY**

1780, Pa. Anderson PA 1. Lancaster County, Pennsylvania bond issued in which George Wambles "has furnished this State, for the use of the United States, one sanel horse, 14 years old 15 hands high which has for a wagon —been appraised by two Freeholders, on their affirmation at the sum of twenty- four pounds specie exchange sixty continental and for which the State is now justly indebted to him in that Sum, with Interest." Washington's Army was in dire need of horses and these were issued to horse owners who both willingly and unwillingly saw their horses march of with the army. Fine.

\$650

## A Fine Quartermaster's Ledger



### EXTRAORDINARY MUSEUM QUALITY LEDGER LISTING FIRE ARMS, PISTOLS, CASKS, BALLS AND PIG LEAD FOR THE REVOLUTION

Large format Revolutionary War Ledger dated February 14, 1782, through March 19, 1782, detailing ordnance stores, vouchers issued to & by whom forwarded. A wonderful and detailed ledger measuring 17¾" x 11 ½" consisting of eight holographic pages listing the individual names of over 160 Revolutionary soldiers from Dutchess & Columbia Counties, N.Y. as well others such as Catskill NY and a few other random towns. Atop each page is the heading to account for: Fire Arms, Chests, Boxes, Powder, Barrels, Casks, Balls, Pigs lead, Flint, Cartouche boxes, Pistols, "Teirces" (sic) Belts, etc. Some of the prominent family names include Rensselaer, Rockefeller, Van Deusen, Pane, Ostrander, Rees, Tenbrook, Blatner, Muller, Warner, Thomas, Decker; just a few. Evidence suggests it could be Col Clinton's 3rd NY Regiment, but not certain. In thick brown burlap ragpaper wraps with strong ink gall calligraphy on front: "**Ordnance Stores Forwarded.**" Folded at center, minor toning internally at folds, in generally Fine condition. Beautiful. **\$4,000**



### MAJOR GENERAL IN THE CONTINENTAL ARMY, SAMUEL HOLDEN PARSONS

**SAMUEL HOLDEN PARSONS** (1737-1789) Revolutionary War Major General, later led settlement scheme in Ohio. Autograph Document Signed. Aug. 31, 1775. One page. 8" x 4". Just a few months

after Parson's answered the Lexington Alarm, and after planning the first great offence of the war, the capture of Fort Ticonderoga, he writes a character reference for Capt. John Ely (1707-1795), "*certified by Col. Samuel H. Parsons*" In it's entirety:

*"Since Captain Ely has commissioned in my regiment he has conducted himself as afar as I have been able to observe as a faithful and good officer & gives good Content on his own Company he's never so fat as I know or have heard been guilty of any thing which would impeach his moral character or detract from his character as a Soldier.."* Some dampstaining. Very Good. **\$500**



### RATIONS AT MOUNT INDEPENDENCE 1777

Manuscript Document. Mt. Independence. June 6 1777- "**A provision (sic) Return of a Party of me belonging to Col. Leonard's Regt.**" One page. 6" x 4" What follows is a list of rations for Staff Officers by Lieut. Blake such as Flour, Beef, Pork, Soap, Candles, Molasses, Indian Meal, Salt, Milk, etc..." Neatly drawn and organized in deep, dark pen. Col David Leonard's Regiment (1737-1804) served as major at the Lexington Alarm, as lieutenant colonel 1776 and 1777 as colonel of Hampshire County, Mass. Militia.

In July of 1776, Mount Independence was named by troops camped there in honor of the Declaration of Independence. From July 1776 to July 1777, thousands of Americans garrisoned this site.

By June of 1777, under the command of General St. Clair, inadequate supplies and sorely undermanned, Fort Independence was vulnerable. This list of rations provides evidence of the scant supplies available to for some 29 men. Fort Independence would be captured by the British in July of 1777. In Fine Condition. **\$750**

### ALONG WITH ETHAN ALLEN & BENEDICT ARNOLD HE HELPED PLAN, MARCH TO AND CAPTURE FORT TICONDEROGA

#### MAJOR MOTT OF CONNECTICUT ACCEPTING PAYMENT FOR JOHN TRUMBULL



Document Signed. Preston, (Conn.) Dec. 9, 1782. 6¼" x 2½". Pay order authorizing Ephraim Herrick to pay to "**Maj. Edward Mott Ten pounds Silver Money for John Trumbull one of our Continental Soldiers Sum years Gone**". Signed by the Selectmen for the town of Preston: Elias Brown Asa Smith Amos Clift & Isaac Avery. Signed and Inscribed by Mott on verso: "*Pay the contents of the within order to William Witter Esq. - Edward Mott.*"

Edward Mott of Preston, Connecticut was captain in the Sixth Regiment, May 1775-February 1776, and the leader of the Connecticut men dispatched by Deane April 29 to imple

ment the plan for capturing Ticonderoga. He was with Ethan Allen and met up with Arnold on their march to that on that momentous day in our first offensive action and victory in the American Revolution.

The acceptance for payment for Trumbull, "*One of our Continental Soldiers Some years Gone*," is no doubt the famous painter son of Conn. Governor Trumbull. John Trumbull served as a soldier in the war, rendering a particular service at Boston by sketching plans of the British works, witnessed the famous Battle of Bunker Hill, and was 2<sup>nd</sup> aide-de-camp to Washington. He resigned from the army in 1777.

His most famous painting, the iconic "Declaration of Independence" hangs today in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda. Splendid association of these two names on a Fine looking revolutionary document. **\$350**



**“I have no knowledge that Col. Worthington or any other gentleman (producing a proper pass) hath ever been molested in passing any of my guards... and if subjected to this dishonorable control must (with reluctance) beg your Excellency to give me an honorable discharge”**

**DR. JOHN ELY** (1737-1800), Captain in the 6th Connecticut regiment, (raised a regiment at his own expense.); 1775, promoted major, 1776, and was colonel of the 4th battalion, 1777, when captured at Long Island. He was not exchanged until 1780, and during that time acted as physician to the smallpox patients on Long Island.

Autograph Letter. 1777. Saybrook, Connecticut. One page. 8¼” x 12”. Retained copy docketed in the hand of Connecticut Revolutionary hero **Colonel John Ely**: “*Letter Sent to his Excellency 1777*” In writing to the Governor of Connecticut, the author requests an honorable discharge after dealing with what appears some military shenanigans. Concerned with the behavior of his superiors and private and petty “bickerings.” this emotional missive penned in the heat of the Revolutionary War, provided the worrisome details encountered, the standards of officers guards giving clearances to pass to Colonel Worthington and others, and the commanders complaint how his regiment is subject to ‘capricious humor and dishonorable control.’ He requests to be let go, honorably:

*“May it please your Excellency, Received your Excellency’s favor of the 5<sup>th</sup>.”*

*I note the contents and as it is my duty so it shall ever be my utmost purpose to execute the commands of my superiors consistent with the trusts of my constituents, the good of my Country, the confidence of my superiors and the honor of my office, nor shall any party or petty differences (sic) or private bickerings ever in the least stand in the way of executing my publick trusts, except they inevitably stand in contrast with my office and duty.*

*Sensible (sic) of the great burden of your Excellency’s Publick and important concerns (I) must beg your Excellency’s pardon for the trouble of this, which I should not, the principal part of my last passed unnoticed of waved, on which (I) beg to be more explicit, I return your Excellency, thanks for the honor conferred on me in yours of ye 2nd, as an experienced officer*

*I have ever endeavoured a faithful discharge of my duty and have (for ought I know) steered clear of publick censure and am sorry if these of my command have not. As to my officers and guards at Saybrook, so far as I have been made acquainted (they) have been faithful in their duty and (I) know not that they are justly censured. I have no knowledge that Col. Worthington or any other gentleman (producing a proper pass) hath ever been molested in passing any of my guards. Without which (the pass) it is not supposable he or any other gentleman can be known to My different guards, and without which boats or vessels may not with safety to our posts and guards or even this state, be suffered to pass, nor I myself able to answer for those consequences that may insue.*

*Although with the utmost readiness and pleasure I will obey and execute (as far as is in ay power) every order of my superiors in due subordination, so long as continued in my command, yet if any regiment must be subject to the uncontrollable command of the capricious humor of an individual who is of a different department and I myself subject to be less a commander without a command, (I) must stand in most disagreeable light unable to answer the just expectations of any constituents, without the confidence of any superiors, and unable to support the honor of my office and if subjected to this dishonorable control must (the with reluctance) beg your Excellency to give me an honorable discharge.”*

Pen is light, paper dampstained some, small holes at folds, VG. A most unusual and interesting Revolutionary War item. **\$900**



### RARE SUBSTITUTE FOR SERVING IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

Partly printed Substitute Document. August 27, 1778 York County, Pennsylvania. One page. 6” x 8” for Joseph Updegraff, saddler, with judgment and costs signed by Justice of the Peace. “*The constable of York Township John Hay, Lieutenant...obtained judgment...expended in procuring a substitute to serve in the militia in the 8<sup>th</sup> Class of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion...*”

The judgment was for 40 pounds, but “*for want of goods take the Bodey and Deliver him to the Keeper of the County Gaol to be dealt according to the Law*”.

The Pennsylvania Militia was organized under an act of March 7, 1777 and it provided for compulsory enrollment by the constables of all able-bodied male whites between the ages of 18 and 53. Exemptions were extremely limited, and an estimated 60,000 men were enrolled. Only in extreme cases was any individual militia man required to drill with his neighbors as many as twelve times each year, and at most he was called upon to perform during the entire course of the war, two or possibly three, short tours of active duty. A man who failed to report for drill merely paid an Exercise Fine. A militiaman called for active duty who found such duty inconvenient was permitted to hire a Substitute to march and fight in his stead. Frequently no substitute was furnished, but instead a Substitute Fine was paid. Militia fines became an important source of revenue. Membership in the Associators differed greatly from membership the militia, for, technically, enrollment in the Associators was voluntary, while membership in the militia was strictly compulsory with the obligation legally defined.

Here in this case, Pvt. Joseph Updegraff was legally obliged to serve and failed. The cost to procure a substitute he likely couldn’t or wouldn’t pay, so he was put in jail. It appears he may have later served, as Pennsylvania Archive records show a Joseph Updegraff, saddler was on the Militia payroll as apprehending British deserters and prisoners and bringing them to the stockade, York Co, 1784. Verso has some Pennsylvania Dutch/German writing

We have never encountered a Revolutionary War substitution form. Small splotch atop o/w Fine. Extremely Rare. **\$1,500**

**JOHN HANCOCK'S NE'ER DO WELL BROTHER  
MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM HEATH  
NATHANIEL BARBER JR.**



**WILLIAM HEATH** (1737-1814) Major General in the Continental Army during the Revolution. Political leader from Massachusetts. He commanded Massachusetts forces during the last stage of the Battle of Lexington and Concord in April 1775.

**NATHANIEL BARBER JR.** (1728 - 1787), Commissary of military stores at Boston until 1781 and later state naval officer.

**EBENEZER HANCOCK** (1741-1819) Brother of Declaration Signer, Boston hardware merchant, Deputy paymaster general for the Eastern District in June 1776.

Document Signed. Head Quarters Boston, July 1, 1777. One page. 8¼" x 12". Pay order to **Maj. Nathaniel Barber** "To **Ebenezer Hancock, Paymaster General to the Forces of the United States of America**" signed by **Maj. General William Heath**. "By his Honor's Command" Signed "**W. Heath M.G.**"

On verso, in bold letters atop, "**The United States**" paying Barber for his wages, ("equal to 626 dollars") for 6 months, to John Austin and Samuel Lord, both Conductors of the ordinance stores in Boston. Addressed to, signed and inscribed by **Ebenezer Hancock**, "*Boston July 1, 1777, I certify the above to be right, Eben Hancock, Depy Paymaster Genl.*" Signed by Nathaniel Barber Jun. as Commissary of Military Stores. Docketed and in generally Fine condition. **\$1,500**



**WAGONS & HORSES FROM  
ALBANY TO SARATOGA  
FROM THE COMMISS-  
SIONER OF CONSPIRACIES**

**JOHN J. BEEKMAN** (1733-1802) Revolutionary Patriot, Merchant, Firemaster. Early in the American conflict, Beekman joined the crusade as a member of the Committee of Correspondence. He was active in Indian diplomacy, appointed mayor of Albany in June 1783.

Autograph Document Signed from the Commissioners of Conspirisey (sic). Albany, July 3, 1779. One page. 7" x 6¼". List of charges received from John M. Beekman, Isaac D. Fonda & Matthew Vischen, Esq, Commissioner of Conspiracies, the amount of *labour* account: "**to my wagon & horses from Albany to Saratoga being 32 miles, ½ day detained my waggon, To my wagon from Albany, Jacob Cooper 16 miles, 1 ½ days detained my wagon.**"

The Albany Committee of Correspondence, Safety, and Protection was formed over the winter of 1774-1775 to mobilize local opposition to the so-called Intolerable Acts. The Commissioners for Detecting and Defeating Conspiracies succeeded the Committee of Correspondence as the enforcement arm of the political revolution. The Albany County board of this organization functioned from 1778 to 1781. The commissioners met for the last time on August 30, 1781. Although most of the commissioners were residents of the city of Albany, much of their business was related to the greater Albany County countryside as the so-called "enemies of liberty" had been, for the most part, "neutralized" within the city limits. [Source: U Albany, Sean O'Mara].

Without much more to go on than

**REVOLUTIONARY WAR P.O.W.  
PERMIT ME MY COLONEL TO HAND YOU THE  
CERTIFICATE OF PRISONER EXCHANGE**



*You will Observe it Signed by our friend Joshua, as well as your humble Servant and tho as long since as Oct last you I cannot but Suppose it will be agreeable to you to receive it now -*

*I participate in the happiness resulting from the transaction and I hope the ensuring Campaign may enable you as well as many others to feel sensibly the agreeable change - make my compl if you please to the Gentleman of your Regt with whom I have the honor to be acquainted & Commenced with freedom at all times..." Signed boldly at conclusion: "Abm Skinner".*

their captives in any manner they saw fit.

In 1780 Abraham Skinner became Commissary General of Prisoners and negotiated agreements partial exchanges and persuasions with the enemy which held our patriots captive. Skinner himself was taken prisoner in Germantown 4 October 1777.

On Sept. 22, 1782, George Washington replaced Skinner, but not before he had signed an agreement earlier that same year with Joshua Loring, the British commissioner of prisoners, to exchange General Burgoyne who was taken at Saratoga in 1777 and was now free on parole, "for an equivalent of 1,047 officers and soldiers, and other officers for their equivalent in rank on the other side." Fold split at center, a few age spots, o/w Fine. **\$950**

Autograph Letter Signed. Commissary of Prisoners Office Camp at Phillipsburgh July 12th 1781. One page, folio. Abraham Skinner, Letter from the Commissary General of Prisoners to a Colonel regarding prisoner exchange.

*"Permit me my Dr. Colonel to hand you the enclosed Certificate of your exchange"*

American prisoners captured before 1778 were not legally 'prisoners of war'. Not until March 25, 1782, (six months after Yorktown) did Parliament pass a law designating Americans as prisoners of war, allowing them to be detained, released or exchanged. This method of dealing with 'rebel' prisoners provided the British with a free hand to treat



the trip to & from such important revolutionary locations, we can only speculate what venture the important Albany committee found and with what remnant is documented here. Their mission to root out and brand the enemies of American Independence & freedom as *Tories* or *Loyalists*. Fascinating revolutionary document in Fine condition.

\$375



**COMMITTEE OF SAFETY  
MEMBER TO MESHECH  
WEARE  
"PRESIDENT OF THE  
STATE OF  
NEW HAMPSHIRE"**

Autograph Letter Signed. Charlestown (NH) March 15, 1784. One page. Folio. Letter from Col. Samuel Hunt, member of the Committee of Safety to Meshech Ware (sic), President of the State of NH requesting to settle account for money due. Col. Hunt beseeches the *President*:

*"...Some time in the year 1781 I was appointed Store Keeper to receive & forward Stores to the Army by Col Hatch & the Committee of Safety for State supplied me att (sic) three Different times with twelve hundred pounds New Emission money to go forward on Beef Cattle to the army, But before the summer was ended the money would not pay expenses on the road & a small part o the money was left in my hands I applied to Col. Hatch for a settlement But he said the State ought to settle with me...I mentioned the matter to the committee of Safety at Exeter."*

He continues on with details of receipts ending with a strong, clean

*"Sam'l Hunt"* at the conclusion. Charlestown, N.H., situated at the western boundary of the state was a post of considerable importance. It was made by the State a depository of Military stores of which Lieut. Colonel Samuel Hunt was the custodian. Here, companies from NH on their march to Canada, or Ticonderoga or Crown Point received their supplies of ammunition and necessary equipment. Charlestown was chosen the place of rendezvous for the army of General John Stark on its way to Bennington and was also in the war path of other NH forces doing service at Saratoga and Stillwater, and bringing the ultimate surrender of Burgoyne and other important conflicts.

Meshech Weare was the first "President" of NH. He served from 1776 to 1785.

The term "President of the State of New Hampshire" was the official styling of the position, until 1791, when the New Hampshire Constitution was amended to replace "President" with "Governor." Docketed on verso. A very attractive letter with good Revolutionary War content. Fine. \$400

**IN THE FRESH HEAT OF LEXINGTON & CONCORD AND  
ONE DAY AFTER THE CAPTURE OF FORT  
TICONDEROGA PAYING FOR THE DEFENSE OF THE  
COLONY TO PATRIOT & INDIAN  
FIGHTER MAJOR RETURN JONATHON MEIGS IN THE  
AMERICAN REVOLUTION**



**OLIVER ELLSWORTH** (1745-1807). A Revolutionary War figure from Connecticut, Ellsworth served as the Supreme Court's second Chief Justice. Manuscript Document Signed, as a member of the Connecticut Pay Table. One page. 7½" x 6". May 11, 1775. To John Lawrence, State Treasurer, asking that he "Pay to **MAJOR RETURN JONATHON MEIGS** (1734-1823 - Soldier, Indian Agent, American Revolutionary Officer) the sum of three hundred pounds money in Bills...paymaster of the fourth Company in the Second Regiment now raised for the Defense of this Colony and charge the same to act. Of Colony..." Meigs marched with a company of light

infantry to the vicinity of Boston immediately after the battle of Lexington, just weeks before this document was signed and was assigned to duty under Col Benedict Arnold just after with the rank of major. He accompanied the expedition through Maine to Canada, and was captured in the assault on Quebec, but was exchanged during the following year. He then devoted his energies toward raising a regiment, and in 1777 was promoted to colonel. In May, 1777, at the head of 170 men. he attacked the British troops at Sag Harbor, L. I., making ninety prisoners, and destroying twelve vessels and much forage without the loss of a man. For this brilliant exploit, congress voted him thanks and a sword. Colonel Meigs commanded a regiment under Gen Anthony Wayne at the storming of Stony Point, and was honorably mentioned by Washington. An extraordinary document signed by exceptional men at an extremely important moment in our history. In choice condition. \$575

**BOND FOR RAISING A REGIMENT DURING  
THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**



[AMERICAN REVOLUTION]. Partly-printed bond for raising a Company in the Continental Army. 8 ½" x 12". January 22, 1777. Connecticut. Partly-printed bond obligation between "John Lary and John Nichols, Jr., both in the State of Connecticut, are holden and bound to the Governor and company of said State, in the Sum of Two Thousand Pounds Lawful Money, to be paid to said Governor and Company, or their Successors, to which payment to made and done, we jointly and severally bind ourselves, our heirs, etc. Seal with our seals this day of January 22, AD 1777." "THE CONDITION OF THE ABOVE OBLIGATION IS, That Whereas the above bounden Josiah Lary is appointed Captain of, and to raise a Company in the Continental Battalion, to be commanded by Philip B. Bradley Colonel; and will receive out of the Treasury of said State, for each non-commission Officer and Private of said Company, the Ten Pounds encouragement for their inlisting granted by the State, in Addition to Continental Encouragement..." A fine demonstration of the process of raising funding and the payment of bounties to soldiers in order to form regiments in the Continental Army. Very fine. \$575

# Signers of the Declaration of Independence



## A TRIPLE SIGNED – SIGNERS OF THE DECLARATION DOCUMENT!

Signed by three of the signers on one Revolutionary War related document.

**OLIVER WOLCOTT** (1726-1797), political leader in the American Revolution, signer of the Declaration of Independence.

**ROGER SHERMAN** (1721-1793) American political leader, born in Newton, Mass. Sherman helped to draft and signed the Declaration of Independence.

**SAMUEL HUNTINGTON** (1731-1796), political leader in the American Revolution, signer of the Declaration of Independence. He was a delegate (1775-84) to and president (1779-81) of the Continental Congress before serving as governor of Connecticut.

A VERY RARE association of three signers together on one exceptional document. Connecticut Comptrollers Office pay document dated Hartford May 14<sup>th</sup>, 1779: "To John Lawrence Esq. Treasurer... Pay to Jonathon Fitch Esq. Sheriff of the County of New Haven Forty Eight pounds lawful money for attending the General Assembly...and distributing Laws and Proclamations for the Year Past."

While individually, these three signers are available, this is an extraordinary document bearing the signatures of three of Connecticut's four signers of the Declaration of Independence. Very Rare to find all three signers on the same document. **\$5,500**



## WAR SUPPLIES FOR THE REVOLUTION AS THE CENTER OF GOVERNMENT FLEES FROM THE BRITISH JUST AFTER LEXINGTON AND CONCORD IN 1775 BY DECLARATION SIGNER ELBRIDGE GERRY AND GENERAL BENJAMIN LINCOLN

**ELBRIDGE GERRY** (1744-1814). Signer of the Declaration of Independence from Massachusetts; Vice-President of the United States under Madison; Member of U.S. House of Representatives (1st and 2nd Congress). Gerry was a prominent and controversial Massachusetts politician best known today for being the eponym of the term, Gerrymander.

**BENJAMIN LINCOLN** (1733-1810). Lincoln was a Revolutionary War general and the new nation's first Secretary of War from 1781 to 1783.

Partly printed Autograph Document Signed from the Chamber of Supplies, Watertown, August 2, 1775. Pay note to Samuel Kellogg for 19 Pounds, 4 Shillings. Signed by members of the Committee of Supplies, David Cheever, Elbridge Gerry and Benjamin Lincoln. 8 ¼" x 3 ¼". Fine.

In the weeks following the battle of Concord & Lexington an army was gathered and the Provincial Congress, the sole governing body of Mass. Bay, moved to Watertown. Here the arsenal would serve as a key temporary location for our American Patriots military stores to keep them out the hands of the British. George Washington was Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army and first met Massachusetts leaders of the revolution here at Watertown on July 2, 1775, one month before this document was signed.

This was payment to Kellogg for supplies or services for the Army. An extraordinarily rare document from the heart of the revolution in the days just following the Shot Heard Round the World.

Very edge of corner torn, affecting no text. Exceptionally historic! **\$3,900**



**MILITARY COMMISSION SIGNED BY  
ELBRIDGE GERRY**

**ELBRIDGE GERRY** (1744-1814). Signer of the Declaration of Independence from Massachusetts; Vice-President of the United States under Madison. DS. 1 page. Partly-printed appointment of a military officer. Massachusetts, 1811. Commission signed as governor appointing "Joseph Bowman, Gentleman," as a Paymaster in the Third regiment of Infantry in the First Brigade in the Seventh Division of the Militia. Singed "**E Gerry**" on the left under a large state seal and at the bottom by Benjamin Homas, Secretary of the commonwealth. 15" x 9 1/2" A little browning at the fold marks and a few hints of foxing otherwise. Fine. **\$750**



**"...guilty of uttering and passing a counterfeit dollar..."**

**Future signer of the Declaration of Independence signs his payment for "prosecuting a counterfeiter"**

**SAMUEL HUNTINGTON** (1731-1796) Signer of Declaration of Independence from Connecticut. Document Signed by Samuel Huntington while in service of the office of the King's attorney regarding a charge of Counterfeiting a dollar: "Sir, please to pay out of the publick Treasury Saml Huntington Esq. Kings Attory for the New London County the Sum of Eleven pounds Six Shillings & four pence it being the whole amount of a bill of Cost taxd in the Case...Joseph Butler who was Committed to Goal on Suspicion of his lieing (sic) Guilty of Uttering and passing a Counterfeit Dollar who is now Discharged. Dated at New London, October 1, 1766." Signed on the reverse in beautiful pen: "Saml Huntington." Also signed by Joseph Gale. 7 1/2" x 4" Early and unusual. Fine. **\$950**

**A CHOICE RARE ASSOCIATION OF TWO OF  
CONNECTICUT'S SIGNERS OF THE  
DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE ON A  
SINGLE DOCUMENT**

**ROGER SHERMAN** (1721-1793). Statesman. Sherman is the only man to sign all four of the following important American documents (from Connecticut): the Articles of Association, Declaration of Independence, Articles of Confederation, and the U.S. Constitution.

**SAMUEL HUNTINGTON** (1731-1796). Signer of the Declaration of Independence from Connecticut.

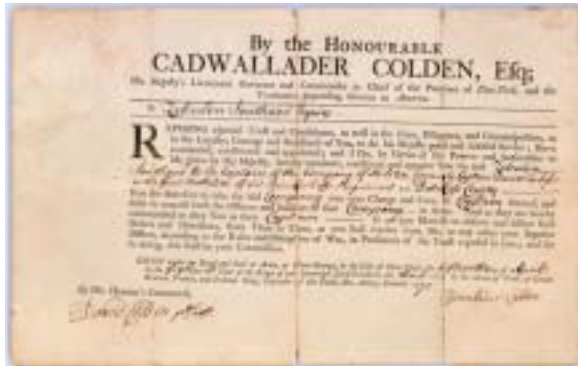
MDS. 1 page. To John Lawrence Esqr. Treasurer of the State of Connecticut.

"Sir Please to pay unto George Pitkin Clerk of the Supr. Court One hundred & twenty nine pounds & twelve shillings being the balance of his account for fees & expenditures paid at the adjourned Supr. Courts in the Counties of Fairfield & New Haven Decemr. 1778: and charge the state in amount for the same."

By order of Roger Sherman & Samuel Huntington – Assistants. Also signed by Jedediah Huntington. A fine and rare association of two Connecticut Signers signing on a single document.

**\$3,500**

# Colonial America



## THE LAST BRITISH GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK

### CADWALLADER COLDEN APPOINTS ZEBULON SOUTHARD TO CAPTAIN OF THE MILITIA 1775

**CADWALLADER COLDEN** ( 1688-1776 ) was a physician, farmer, surveyor, botanist, and a lieutenant governor and Commander in Chief for the Province of New York.

On November 1, 1765 Cadwallader was confronted by a huge crowd carrying an effigy of him in a parade to protest the Stamp Act. He was likely one of the oldest British governors in New York.

**GILBERT LIVINGSTON** (1742-1806) Member of NYS Assembly in 1777, Surrogate 1778 and Master in Chancery 1781. A member of the New York Constitutional Convention 1788, and a Presidential Elector for Thomas Jefferson in 1800.

Document Signed. New York, April 15, 1775 Commission for Zebulon Southard to be Captain of the Company of Militia in Dutchess County, NY. Signed by Cadwallader Colden as his "Majesty's Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of New-York, and the Territories depending thereon in America". Signed on verso by Gilbert Livingston affirming Southard had taken his oath. Signed also by David Colden. Impressed royal stamp atop. A rare military appointment delivered at particularly volatile time in American history. Just a few days after this was penned, Paul Revere would take his legendary trip to warn of the British and then the "shot heard round the world" would ring at Lexington to officially begin the American revolution. Couple of minor fold splits. Fine.

**\$1,500**



## LENGTHY TEXT WRITTEN AND SIGNED BY SALEM WITCH TRIAL JUDGE SAMUEL SEWALL

### SAMUEL SEWALL (1652-1730)

British-American colonial merchant and jurist. In 1692 he was appointed to preside at the Salem witch trials, in which 19 people were executed. Later admitting the error of the court's decision, he stood silently in the Old South Church in Boston in 1697 while his confession of error and guilt was read aloud.

Autograph Document Signed. Boston, October 30, 1709. 1 page. Folio. Accounting and half-page decision signed by Samuel Sewall con-

cerning Mrs. Sarah Barrister executrix of the Estate of Mr. Thomas Barrister. First half of document is in the hand of Sarah Banister and itemizes "seamstresses/clothier's supplies, being linen, cloth, thread, silk, handkerchief, button, blue salloon, (sic) , etc". It is headed: "Samuel Wilson of Newtown To Thomas Barrister."

The bottom half is fully in the pen of the Witch Trial Judge, dated November 2, 1709. Judge Sewall notes that "Mrs. Sarah Barrister, Executrix" now of the deceased Thomas Barrister presented to him this account and he compared it with her Journal and ledger. Aaron Stucky, the Bookkeeper at the time of the delivery and ever since made oath it was true.

He ruled in her favor. **12 full lines on legal size paper by Sewall, plus the line with his autograph "Samuel Sewall."**

Only occasionally do examples of Sewall's autograph turn up in the manuscript market, but it is rare to find much written fully in his pen. This being a case involving a woman and not that long after he recanted his guilty verdicts (the only judge to do so in the infamous trails), and begged for forgiveness. The noble act, some have asserted, marked the moment modern American values and attitudes were born. In Choice condition. **\$3,500**

## EARLY COLONIAL RHODE ISLAND BOND DATED 1670



Document Signed. Rhode Island July 29, 1670. 1 page. 7 1/2" x 11". Bond of "Gersham Wardell of Rhode Island in New England" for 110 pounds to Samuel Shrimpton (1643-1698, Lieutenant colonel in the militia, and on the Governor's Council under Gov. Andros and King James II), of Boston, witnessed by Sam. Barnard and William Puddy. Fine wax seal intact and almost as clean as when written. An exhibit piece.

**\$650**

# Historical Autographs



## A CHOICE SIGNATURE OF MARTHA WASHINGTON WITH SUPERB FAMILY PROVENANCE

**MARTHA WASHINGTON** (1731 - 1802). Signature cut from a larger sheet. "**M Washington**" on a small piece of laid paper. 2½" x ½". n.p. n.d. This signature was likely cut from one of her letters.

Martha's signature is far more difficult to obtain than her famous husband's. This example is accompanied by an 1852 note of provenance written by Esther Marie Lewis, the mother of George Washington Lewis, and a direct descendant of Martha Washington. The note states: "Autographs of Mrs. Martha Washington for G. Washington Lewis his Great-Great Grandmother left by his Grandmother E. P. Lewis (Written by his mother EM Lewis)". E.P. Lewis (nee Eleanor Parke Custis) was the daughter of John Custis, Martha's son, who was adopted by George Washington after he married Martha. This is a wonderful opportunity for the serious autograph collector to obtain a signature that is historically significant, very rare, and which can be tied directly to the family. A fine example of this rarity with great provenance. **\$9,500**

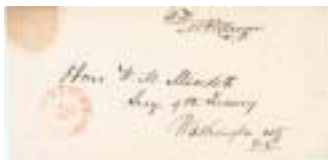


## A WONDERFUL, PRIMITIVE, SIGNED CARTE-DE-VISITE PHOTOGRAPH OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

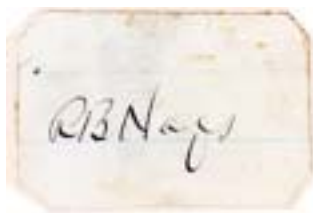
### THE 'BEARDED' ABRAHAM LINCOLN — OSTENDORF 0-9 OR HOW EARLY PHOTOGRAPHERS RESPONDED TO THE HUGE DEMAND FOR IMAGES OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN WITH A BEARD!

**ABRAHAM LINCOLN**. (1809-1865). Wonderful, and somewhat primitive, Carte-de-Visite Photograph Signed, "A. Lincoln," as President. Lincoln is depicted in a full-face bust pose looking slightly to the right and forward. Boldly signed "A. Lincoln" under his image. Housed in a late 19<sup>th</sup> Century photographic case.

It was during the United States Presidential campaign of 1860 that photography first came into widespread use in the political arena. Images of Abraham Lincoln, the lankly Illinois presidential hopeful, proliferated as photographers rushed to capitalize on the lucrative new medium of photography. Then, with Election Day less than a month away, Lincoln, a lifelong beardless man, received a letter from 11 year old Grace Bedell urging him to grow a beard. Whether or not this influenced his decision, Lincoln became the nation's first bearded President when he took his Oath of Office. With the public clamoring for images of their bearded president, photographers who had images of a clean-shaven Lincoln that they were unable to sell quickly responded by adding beards to images taken during the campaign of 1860! This common alteration, achieved by either painting on the image or scratching a beard into the negative, is often seen in period photographs of Lincoln. Our image, Ostendorf 0-9, with its bold early signature of Lincoln on the lower photographic surface, is based upon a photograph taken in 1860. A wonderful chance for today's collector to capture a remarkable piece of Lincolnia. **\$29,500**



**MILLARD FILLMORE** (1800-1874). 13<sup>th</sup> President of the United States. Free Franked Address Panel. Signed "Free M. Fillmore V.P." as Vice President. Addressed entirely in Fillmore's hand to "Hon. W.M. Meredith, Secy. Of the Treasury, Washington D.C." Circular, red postal cancellation "ALBANY APL 10" Staining at upper right corner. **\$295**



## RUTHERFORD B. HAYES

**RUTHERFORD B. HAYES** (1822-1893) 19<sup>th</sup> President. Clipped signature mounted to another sheet. 2 1/4" x 1 ½" *R.B. Hayes* Some soiling. **\$245**

**THE FUTURE PRESIDENT DISCUSSES LOCAL NEW HAMPSHIRE POLITICAL STRATEGY**

**“...the neighboring towns should be represented not by a few delegates but by the party en Mass – You will see the Candia people & I hope that no efforts to secure a large meeting will be neglected...”**



**FRANKLIN PIERCE** (1804-1869). Fourteenth President of the United States. Autograph Letter Signed. Concord, Sept. 3, 1845. 8” x 10”. One page with integral address leaf addressed to “Chandler E. Potter, Manchester, NH,” blue postal stamp. Pierce writes to Judge Potter on what appears to be a celebratory meeting, most likely a grand tribute to Levi Woodbury, the undisputed leader of the Jacksonian Democracy in New England, who had been named as a U.S. Supreme Court Justice:

*“My Dear Sir, I am glad to see that Gov. Woodbury is to be at Candia on the 16<sup>th</sup>. It ought to be a real Meeting of the Masses – It can only be made what it should be by Hats and suitable arrangements in the adjoining & neighboring Towns – In 1840 there were committees appointed in different Towns of arrangement who exerted themselves to get up large companies to attend at places of rendezvous who appointed on the route when the people met & then precluded to the place of meeting in procession. Similar exertions should be made for the 16<sup>th</sup> at Candia, Deefield, Raymond Chester and the neighboring towns should be represented not by a few delegates but by the party en Mass – You will see the Candia people & I hope that no efforts to secure a large meeting will be neglected – Such a meeting in that region won’t be attended with the best results.”*

On the side he writes: *“Will you not have a great procession from Manchester with a band of music?”* The year this was penned, Pierce had declined the Democratic nomination for governor, and also an appointment to the seat in the U.S. Senate made vacant by the

resignation of Judge and earlier Governor, Levi Woodbury. In 1845 President Polk offered Pierce the U.S. attorney-generalship, which he also declined. He did accept however, an appointment as Federal District Attorney for NH. It is clear at this time he was certainly not an office seeker - few men, in the prime of their lives, would have given up a seat in the Senate for the practice of law, though his eternally melancholic wife Jane certainly had some play in it. He was at this time concentrating on running New Hampshire politics. The following year, the Mexican American war would see him become Brigadier General and send him later to the highest seat in the land.

The recipient, Judge Chandler Potter was justice of the Manchester Police and was, perhaps, “more thoroughly versed in Indian lore and history than any other man in New England, if not in the country” according to Meade’s *The Merrimack River, Its Source and Tributaries*, 1869. Potter’s “History of Manchester” 1856 has been well acclaimed. An insightful civic minded letter from our 14<sup>th</sup> president as a lawyer, a decade before pinnacle of political leadership. Light toning from earlier framing, otherwise in Fine condition. **\$1,500**



27<sup>th</sup> President of the United States, and only president to have been a Chief Justice. Autograph Letter Signed, “Wm. H. Taft,” as Chief Justice, on imprinted Supreme Court of the United States, Washington D.C. letterhead. One page, octavo. Washintgon D.C. February 21, 1922. Also signed by his wife, HELEN H. TAFT (1861-1943), First Lady. To “Robbins Lewis Esq., Princeton N.J.” Taft writes:

“Dear Sir, Mrs. Taft and I are glad to be included in such a distinguished company and have pleasure in signing ourselves Sincerely Yours Wm. H. Taft Helen H. Taft.”

An unusual opportunity to procure the signatures of William H. Taft and his wife, Helen, on a single document. **\$750**

**WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT AND HIS WIFE, HELEN SIGN ON AN IMPRINTED SUPREME COURT LETTERHEAD**

**WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT** (1857-1930). American politician,



**HARDING ALS IN WHICH HE DECLINES AN INVITATION**

**WARREN G. HARDING** (1865-1923). Twenty-ninth President of the United States. (1921-1923). Autograph Letter Signed, “W.G. Harding,” as United State Senator from Ohio, on United States Senate, Washington D.C. letterhead.

One page, quarto. June 6, 1917. To “Senator Frank B. Brandegee, Senate offices.” Harding writes:

*“My Dear Senator Brandegee: I would rejoice to be your luncheon guest next Sunday, June 10, because it is easy to anticipate a fully good time, but I find myself tied up by the coming of family guests to whom I am committed for that day. You will therefore have to strike my name from the list, for which I am very selfishly sorry.”*

A nice one-page example of an ALS early in Harding’s political career. Nice for framing. **\$575**

## STANDARD OIL CASE, THE “DESPOTS” WITH JUDICIAL POWER, CORPORATE CONTROL & POWER, CONCENTRATION OF WEALTH AND EVEN THE DRED SCOTT DECISION DISCUSSED



**THEODORE ROOSEVELT** (1858 - 1919). 26th President of the United States. Typed Letter Signed. “Theodore Roosevelt”; Oyster Bay, N.Y., July 25, 1908. 1 page on White House stationery. Includes the original typed letter-press copy of the missive to which Roosevelt, the “Trust Buster” was responding. Addressed to Reuben D. Silliman, a Wall Street Jewish lawyer and former Circuit Court judge, who was influential in both the presidencies of Teddy Roosevelt and William Taft. With the inclusion of the original letter sent to Roosevelt, a rare occurrence when collecting presidential letters, we can gather the full scope and depth of what the president meant in his reply when he emphasizes:

*“I think your letter is absolutely right. It is a matter of utter astonishment to me how men hesitate before facts which we cannot blink unless we are willing to see some grave convolutions in this country...”*

The Republican 1908 convention had just been held a month before, and it was a foregone conclusion William H. Taft would be the party’s nominee. Two years earlier, Roosevelt had “busted” Standard Oil’s monopoly. Roosevelt was on his way out. His last two years in office he grew increasingly distrustful of big business, despite its close ties to the Republican party in every large state. Public opinion had been shifting to the left after a series of scandals, and big business was in bad odor. Abandoning his earlier caution and conservatism, Roosevelt freely lambasted his conservative critics and called on Congress to enact a series of radical new laws — the Square Deal — that

would regulate the economy. In this exceptional letter his friend Silliman covers deeply important matters of the day that reflect on the Justice system and reminds us of just how in a span of a 100 years, few things change: Silliman’s four page letter:

Dear Mr. President:

The Standard Oil decision of the Circuit Court of Appeals is another illustration of the underlying truth of the principles we have been trying to work out into something tangible to the end that they may be applied in some satisfactory form of remedial legislation or otherwise made effective.

That decision shows how wholly negative is the action of the courts. It demonstrates, and to my mind it demonstrates conclusively, that the root of the disappointments experienced by the people and your administration is in the present character of the court control of commerce under a divided sovereignty.

I am not sure that it is right to speak of a “divided sovereignty” any longer. May we not as well concede at once that if the courts and the vested interested are able to maintain their present position there is not only a single sovereignty but that it finds lodgment in the singularly complicated, far removed and negative action of the courts?

The decisions in the Employer’s Liability and Minnesota cases, and, to a lesser extent, in the Standard Oil case,

show how repressively the courts are using their powers, while the Minnesota case, especially, indicates almost humorously in certain of its paragraphs, how the Supreme Court has come to feel that it alone is vested with wisdom and can adequately deal with the country’s complicated problems.

The Supreme Court and nearly all the inferior courts, acting under the influence of its leadership, have taken to themselves somewhat of the airs of benevolent despots and have exercised with the sublime confidence of one holding the reins of arbitrary power, and largely in the interest of more or less corrupt vested interests, the delicate privilege of setting at naught the people’s will as expressed through the action of the other coordinate branches of government.

The Congress, the Attorney General, the State Legislatures, the State Attorneys General, one or all, no longer have the wisdom to deal with property questions. Nothing is even supposed to be settled (I had almost said sound) until, having been enacted as legislation, it is brought into court, negatively examined and re-examined, and then re-enacted and examined again. So on ad infinitum.

The process has developed the most fine spun and interminable system of perpetuating iniquity that the human mind has yet devised. While one scheme of swindling is sought to be reached a new form is devised.

But the property of the country continues to pass into the control of fewer and fewer hands, until today the welfare of every man, woman and child is to a large extent capable of being deeply influenced by the caprice of a few wealthy citizens who have already transferred their social aspirations and spheres of action to the more congenial environment of Europe where they are free to express their abnormal ambition without the criticism of those who finally must pay the bills.

If there is to be any independent manhood in this country the tendency toward consolidation must be checked even if the prevailing system of corporate control and ownership has to be rooted out at its foun-

dations. What re property improvements worth if the final end of is all is monopoly and the one man control of all avenues of employment? A dependent people is necessarily servile. A servile people is never happy.

I still believe, and I am sure that you agree with me, that the constitution originally contemplated one sovereign power qualified to act in the field of national commerce when and to the extent that the Congress, in its wisdom, should find the conditions of the country required it.

This does not mean that the government of the country is to be concentrated on the banks of the Potomac, nor that all commercial controversies can be transferred into the federal courts. Those matters will continue to be subject to the discretionary control of the congress and there need be little, if any, change in the machinery of our government.

The recognition of the principle would, however, bring about uniformity of law and simplicity of enforcement. It would mean the unfettering of power to do justice, the ability to stop abuses, the abridgment of subtlety and the end of the reign of complicated negation. We will never reach the root of the trouble until we have established one legislative body with full power to express the people’s will.

The Dred Scott decision forced the civil war and this country knew no peace until it had been done away with. Nor will we be permanently relieved of the present curse of complicated inequity until we reestablish the first principles of righteousness. I do not mean to be an alarmist, but there is food for thought in the trend of thing. As you have often expressed it, though in other words, it is vain to expect that the will of the people can be eternally thwarted – and may I add, even under a maze of technical sophistry which cannot be understood by them, though the source be one which [ we] would naturally wish to respect.”

Includes the original White House envelope with postal mark from Oyster Bay, July 26, 1908. Last page of Silliman’s letter has tear with small amount of loss, o/w Fine.

**\$2,500**

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*www.pass-co.com*



**PHINEAS T. BARNUM** (1810-1891). American showman. Autograph Letter Signed, "P.T. Barnum," on stationary bearing a profile of Abraham Lincoln. One page, octavo. "Waldemere, Bridgeport Ct." June 30, 1880. Verso bears a detailed line drawing of Lincoln's Tomb in Springfield, Illinois. Barnum writes:

"Abraham Lincoln's cheerfulness and wit were invaluable to him in the taxing years of our civil war. Cheerfulness to a good man or woman is always a mighty sustaining power. Mr. Lincoln's unwavering faith that Good would finally overcome Evil buoyed his spirits through the darkest hours. Of Mr. Lincoln's inflexible honesty & purpose, there is but one opinion throughout the world, He was a noble whole-souled tender hearted man. He was a model President of this model Republic. His fame is justly immortal. P.T. Barnum"

P.T. Barnum, the consummate showman, was also a staunch Republican, and a vocal supporter of Abraham Lincoln. In this heartfelt letter, Barnum recalls the martyred former president, gone for fifteen years. An attractive letter with line drawings on recto and verso written by America's greatest showman that offers heartfelt commentary upon one of the nation's greatest presidents and enduring symbols, Abraham Lincoln. **\$2,750**



**FIVE LINES IN ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S HAND**

**ABRAHAM LINCOLN** (1809-1865). Sixteenth President. Circa 1850. 1 1/4" x 7 5/8". An autograph fragment of a legal complaint filed by Lincoln on behalf of a client. Lincoln writes five lines that detail the nature of a case as follows; "And for special causes of demarrer, the defendant sets down the following, to wit: 1<sup>st</sup> That no time is alleged as to when the mill in the declaration mentioned, was erected and completed" As a local attorney in Springfield, Illinois, Lincoln represented clients for a wide variety of reasons. One can imagine Lincoln longing for the simplicity of this legal battle concerning a mill while embroiled in the bitter struggle to save the Union. A fine document from the early legal career of one of the nation's most beloved Presidents and powerful orators. Certified Authentic by PASS-CO. **\$895**



**ALEXANDER GARDNER SIGNED CHECK**

**ALEXANDER GARDNER** (1821 - 1882) Photographer, worked for Matthew Brady's studio until 1862. Second only to Brady for his fame and importance as a Civil War photographer. Published Gardner's Photographic Sketch Book of the War. After the war Gardner finally traveled West to his promised land, photographing along the way. Partly-printed bank check drawn on Riggs & Co. payable to Rebecca J. Ashley in the amount of \$400. April 9, 1881. Accomplished in his hand and signed by Gardner as Secretary of The Masonic Mutual Relief Association of the District of Columbia. Printed on blue paper with nice orange imprinted revenue at center. Bank cut cancellation just slightly touches Gardner's signature. A scarce and desirable autograph from this important Civil War photographer. Extremely Fine. PASS-CO Certified. **\$2,900**

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**A U.S. GRANT FOUR LANGUAGE SHIPS PAPER FOR THE WHALING SHIP REINDEER WHICH WAS LOST TO ARTIC ICE IN 1871**

**ULYSSES S GRANT** (1822-1885). Eighteenth President and General-in-chief of the Union armies during the Civil War. DS. 1page. 21 1/2" x 16 1/2". October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1870. A partly printed ships paper signed "U.S. Grant" as President and "Hamilton Fish" as Secretary of State. Grant approved "leave and permission are hereby given to B.F. Loveland master or commander of the ship called Reindeer of the burden of 332 33/100 tons, or thereabouts, lying at present in the port of New Bedford bound for the Pacific Ocean and laden with Provisions, utensils, & stores for a whaling voyage..." Attached embossed white paper seal at bottom.

Many whalers headed north to the Artic in search of more fertile whaling grounds. Reaching the Artic by mid summer after the melt out and departing by late summer prior to being trapped by the approaching ice flows was critical. In 1871, 33 whalers were lost as a result of being trapped in an earlier than normal ice flows. The ship Reindeer for which this pass was issued in 1870 was one of those ships. Professionally repaired at a couple of folds. Fine. Accompanied by a PASS-CO silver pass. **\$3,900**



**SCARCE REPUBLIC OF NICARAGUA SCRIP SIGNED BY SELF-PROCLAIMED RULER WILLIAM WALKER**

**WILLIAM WALKER** (1824-1860). American physician, lawyer, journalist and soldier of fortune who attempted to conquer several Latin America countries during the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century.

With a civil war raging in the Central American republic of Nicaragua, a rebel faction hired William Walker, recently acquitted for attempting to conquer the Mexican territories of Baja California and Sonora, as a mercenary. Somehow evading U.S. authorities charged with preventing his departure, Walker sailed from San Francisco in May of 1855 with 57 men loyal men. Supported by nearly two hundred locals and one hundred Americans then living in the republic of Nicaragua, Walker handily defeated the Nicaraguan army in early September and took the capital of Granada just one month later. Despite the obvious illegality of his expedition, Walker was able to install Partico Rivas as a puppet president and even had his regime recognized by U.S. President Franklin Pierce! Soon after his election as Nicaragua's president in the uncontested election of 1856, Walker found himself in an precarious position. With many troops lost to cholera or dissertation, he proved no match for the combined might of a Central American coalition and a mercenary force bankrolled by Cornelius Vanderbilt, Walker's recently betrayed business partner. Repatriated to the U.S., it was not long before Walker, still dreaming of conquest, attempted a return to Latin America. After being arrested a number of times enroute, he succeeded in reaching Honduras. Captured by the Royal Navy, Walker was executed by firing squad in September of 1860, bringing to an end the colorful life of one of America's most enigmatic figures. Fine.

**\$4,500**



*PASS-CO Certified  
and Encapsulated  
Stocks and Bonds*



**EMPORIUM REAL ESTATE &  
MANUFACTURING COMPANY OF  
MOUND CITY**

1857, Illinois. Stock certificate for 1 share. Black on tan paper. Two outstanding panoramic river scene vignettes, at top center a view from the countryside and at left a busy city view. Small dog head vignette at bottom. Uncancelled, PASS #STGC02548, grade EF. **\$1,250**



**AN EARLY AMERICAN EXPRESS  
COMPANY STOCK SIGNED BY FARGO,  
BUTTERFIELD AND HOLLAND**

1865, New York. Stock certificate for 4 shares. Black. Vignette of a dog head at center surrounded by a busy railroad and river scene, attached adhesive revenue stamp at top left. Signed as president by JOHN BUTTERFIELD, as Secretary by WILLIAM G. FARGO and as Treasurer by ALEX HOLLAND. **WILLIAM G. FARGO** (1818 - 1881). Expressman. **JOHN BUTTERFIELD** (1801 - 1869). Expressman; Financier His activities stretched to steaming, plank roads and railroads. Uncancelled, PASS #STGC21273, grade VF. **\$795**



**REVENUE EXTENSION SILVER  
MINING COMPANY OF NEVADA**

1866, Nevada. Stock certificate for 3 shares. Brown/Black with attached orange adhesive revenue stamp at bottom center. Gorgeous multi-vignetted certificate with a panoramic view of a mining scene along the entire bottom of the piece. Standing allegorical female at left border, and standing miner with pick axe at right border. Uncancelled, PASS #STGC11652, Grade VF. **\$950**



**CONFEDERATE GENERAL  
WILLIAM MAHONE**

1871, Virginia. Stock certificate for 1 share of the Atlantic, Mississippi & Ohio RR Company. Green & Black with orange imprinted revenue at center. Engraved vignette of steam locomotive passing through mountains. Signed as president by **WILLIAM MAHONE** (1826 - 1895), Confederate general during the Civil War, politician. Distinguished himself during the siege of Petersburg and in retreat to the Appomattox surrender. A highly attractive certificate with broad appeal. Uncancelled, PASS #STGC11703, grade EF, score 529. **\$245**



**A SUPERB RARE AND GRAPHIC AMERICAN  
NAUTILUS SUBMARINE COMPANY**

1856, New York. Stock certificate for 10 shares. Black. Very attractive certificate with a large top center vignette of a harbor with ships, an early submersible anchored to the sea floor salvaging cargo. Allegorical females with eagle at left, small submersible at bottom. Uncancelled, PASS #STGC32077, Grade EF. **\$2,500**





**THE ARGONAUT SALVAGE CORPORATION SIGNED BY SIMON LAKE**

1920, Maine. Stock certificate for 100 shares. Green/Black. Attractive top center vignette of two allegorical females seated on a globe with a harbor scene in the background. Signed by Simon Lake as President. **SIMON LAKE** (1866-1945). Inventor; Submarine pioneer. His contributions to the navy and the marine industry were widespread, and his inventive genius places him among the important naval architects in American history. His submarine business ventures were never terribly successful, however, and he died a poor man. Uncancelled, PASS #STGD23467, grade AU. **\$200**



**CHICAGO, INDIANAPOLIS AND LOUISVILLE RAILWAY COMPANY**

1910, Indiana. \$1000 Specimen Bond certificate. Orange/Black. Beautiful top center vignette of a steam locomotive at station. Coupons attached at top. Four hole punch cancellations at bottom where the officers' signatures would be. Stamp SPECIMEN in red at officers' signatures. PASS #STGD17099, grade EF. **\$175**



**EDISON ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING COMPANY OF SAVANNAH**

Georgia. Specimen Stock certificate. Purple. Vignette at top left of an allegorical female figure holding a lighting bolt in the clouds above the United States. Two hole punch cancellations at bottom where the President's signature would be. Stamp SPECIMEN in red. PASS #STGC25528, grade CU UNC. **\$245**



**SCARCE EARLY FIRST NEW HAMPSHIRE TURNPIKE COMPANY SHARE CERTIFICATE DATED 1801**

Partly printed manuscript document issuing John Blydenbugh of Durham as Proprietor of Share number 83 in the New Hampshire Turnpike Road. Dated 1801, the year the turnpike was completed. 2 pp. Signed by Samuel Elliot, Treasurer and Isaac Waldron. 6½" x 8½" in beautiful calligraphy, the second printed transfer page was never utilized, evidence Bickford never transferred his shares.

**THE FIRST TURNPIKE CORPORATION OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

"the proprietors of the New-Hampshire turnpike road," was chartered June 16, 1796. It was completed in 1801. It connected Portsmouth, New Hampshire's only seaport, with the state capitol. This first historic turnpike is now much of what is the present Route 4. It ran 36 miles from the Piscataqua Bridge in Durham to the interior settlements finally ending in Concord NH.

PASS #STGC00944, grade EF. **\$400**



**A COLORFUL, GRAPHIC AND RARE GREAT EUROPEAN AMERICAN EMIGRATION LAND COMPANY**

1868, New York. Stock certificate for 2 shares. Red/Green with attached embossed gold company seal at lower left. Vignette of a farm house, farmer with hay wagon and various farm animals at top right. A very attractive large format certificate. Uncancelled, PASS#STGC28104, grade VF. **\$1,250**