

PENOBSCOT MARINE MUSEUM

Inventory for
Manuscript Collection

PMM 65

**G. Howe Wiggin
Marine Protest Logs**

1861-1912
Bulk 1891-1912

½ box
0.25 linear feet
Accession No. LB2013.10

Stephen Phillips Memorial Library

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PMM 65

G. Howe Wiggin Marine Protest Logs

Wiggin, G. Howe, 1847-1916

Papers, 1861-1912, bulk 1891-1912

½ box (0.25 linear feet)

Banker and notary public in Rockland, Maine.

Two volumes of marine protests noted in Rockland, Maine, by G. Howe Wiggin between 1891 and 1912. These contain detailed accounts of shipwrecks, groundings, and other marine accidents suffered by coasting vessels around Penobscot Bay. There are also some loose protests and receipts from a livery stable operated by Wiggin's brother, Oliver A. Wiggin.

In English.

Ed Glover; Gift; 2013; LB2013.10

Finding aid available; folder level control

Subject Headings:

Wiggin, G. Howe, 1847-1916

Wiggin, Oliver A., 1835-1880

Rockland (Me.)

Coasters (ships)

Marine accidents

Marine protests

Schooners

Shipping

Ships—maintenance and repair

Shipwrecks

Carriages and carts

Acquisition:

This collection was given to the Penobscot Marine Museum by Ed Glover in memory of Samuel Frost Glover.

Restrictions

This collection is open for research. There are no special restrictions.

Condition:

The spines are broken on both volumes and bindings are heavily damaged. The cover is completely detached on one, and very fragile on the other. Text blocks are in good condition, as are the loose papers in the collection.

Historical Note:

George Howe Wiggin (1847-1916) was a banker and notary public in Rockland, Maine. He was the son of George S. Wiggin, a stone mason who served as the Mayor of Rockland, and brother to Oliver Wiggin (1835-1880), who owned a livery stable. G. Howe Wiggin began his career as a clerk and cashier at the Rockland National Bank in the 1870s. He worked there for the remainder of his career, becoming president of the bank in the early twentieth century.

G. Howe Wiggin became a notary public in 1873. In this capacity, he was authorized to record marine protests, formal reports of accidents and mishaps at sea used by insurance companies and shippers to determine monetary responsibility for a damaged cargo or broken

shipping agreement. The captain of a damaged vessel would enter a protest with a notary on arriving in port. The protest included the captain's description of the incident and any subsequent attempts to preserve vessel and cargo. As a notary in a busy port with good repair facilities, Wiggin recorded protests continually from the 1870s until the early twentieth century.

Scope and Content:

This collection contains two volumes of marine protests heard by G. Howe Wiggin between 1891 and 1912, as well as a few loose protest forms, drafts of narratives that Wiggin used in official protests, and some family papers.

The two volumes do not contain the official protest forms; instead, they are copies of the captain's narratives as kept by Wiggin. Each protest narrative includes the name, tonnage, and home port of the vessel; the cargo and destination; and an account of the mishap and subsequent actions that either damaged the cargo or caused the captain to depart from his intended route. Very few of these involve shipwrecks or total loss of the vessel; in most cases, the schooner and captain made it to Rockland. A majority of the incidents involved coasting schooners carrying lumber, granite, and lime, a reflection of the maritime activity around Rockland and Penobscot Bay around the turn of the twentieth century..

The collection also contains a folder of receipts from Wiggin's brother, Oliver A. Wiggin, who owned a livery stable. These record payments from individuals who hired horses or carriages from Wiggin in the 1860s.

Box and Folder List:

Box	Folder	
1	1	Marine protest records, 1891-1910
	2	Marine protest records, 1910-1913
	3	Loose protests and protest drafts, 1861-1892 and undated
	4	O.A. Wiggin & Co. livery stable receipts, 1863-1867