

PENOBSCOT MARINE MUSEUM

Inventory for
Manuscript Collection

PMM 85

Cyrus W. Chadwick Papers

1859 – 1896

1 box
.5 linear feet
Accession No. 1953.10

Stephen Phillips Memorial Library

Penobscot Marine Museum
11 Church St., Searsport, Maine 04974
penobscotmarinemuseum.org
207-548- 2529 ext. 212 | libraryresearcher@pmm-maine.org

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PMM 85

Cyrus W. Chadwick Papers

Chadwick, Cyrus W., 1845-1912

Papers, 1859-1896

1 box (.5 linear feet)

Sea captain and ship broker from Cushing, Maine

Shipping papers and correspondence from Cyrus W. Chadwick from the 1870s and 1880s, when he was active as a fisherman and coasting schooner captain out of Cushing and Thomaston, Maine. Business papers, the bulk of the collection, include bills and receipts from the schooners that Chadwick commanded, as well as correspondence with merchants and ship brokers along the Atlantic seaboard. Family papers include letters among Chadwick, his brothers and father, all seafarers, as well as receipts for domestic purchases.

In English

Museum purchase; 1953; 1953.10

Finding aid available; folder level control

Subject Headings:

Chadwick, Cyrus W. (Cyrus Warren), 1846-1912

CARRIE WALKER (schooner)

JENNIE F. WILLEY (schooner)

LIZZIE CHADWICK (schooner)

Dunn & Elliot (Thomaston, Me.)

Coasters (ships)

Coastwise shipping

Fishers

Fishing

Lumber trade

Merchant mariners

Schooners

Shipping

Ships—Equipment and supplies

Local Subject Headings:

Ice trade

Acquisition:

This collection was purchased in 1953.

Restrictions

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

Condition:

This collection is mostly in good condition, with light wear commensurate with age.

Related Materials:

More materials from Cyrus W. Chadwick and the LIZZIE CHADWICK, JENNIE F. WILLEY, and CARRIE WALKER are at Maine Maritime Museum in MS-73, the Dunn & Elliot Papers.

Historical Note:

Cyrus W. Chadwick (1845-1912) was a fisherman, sea captain, and later, a shipbroker from Cushing, Maine. He spent his early career fishing, going as far afield as Cape Cod and Block Island Sound after mackerel. He left fishing to command cargo schooners in the early 1870s, and spent the next twenty years in carrying ice, lumber, and other cargoes along the Atlantic coast. A number of the coasting schooners that Chadwick commanded were built and owned by Dunn & Elliot of Thomaston, including the LIZZIE CHADWICK, JENNIE F. WILLEY, and CARRIE WALKER. Chadwick retired from the sea in the early 1890s and moved to New York. There, he was part of the Chadwick & Potter ship brokerage, which did business with many Maine ships.

Cyrus W. Chadwick was the son of Cyrus H. Chadwick, who was a sailor, and Nancy Stone. His brothers Thomas, James O., and Alton Chadwick also followed the sea. Cyrus W. Chadwick married Helen Trefethan (b. 1844) in 1869. Only one of their children, Lizzie F. (b. 1879), survived to adulthood.

Scope and Content:

This collection contains shipping papers and correspondence from Cyrus W. Chadwick from the 1870s and 1880s, when he was active as a fisherman and coasting schooner captain from Cushing, Maine. The bulk consists of business papers, much of which are shipping records for the schooners CARRIE WALKER, JENNIE F. WILLEY, LIZZIE CHADWICK, SILVER SPRAY, and other coasting vessels that Chadwick commanded. Most of these are bills, receipts, and accounts for routine expenses in port, including provisions, supplies, towage, port duties, and crew wages. Chadwick's coasting business, especially the ice and lumber trades, is also documented in his correspondence with the merchants and ship brokers he worked with. Chadwick's fishing career more scantily documented, and is primarily represented by correspondence and some ephemera.

Material from the Chadwick family is a small, if detailed, portion of the collection. Correspondence between Chadwick, his father, and his brothers describes the family's varied maritime activities. There are also letters between Chadwick and his wife, Helen, and her friends and relations as well as funeral cards, advertisements, and other domestic ephemera.

Box and Folder List:

Box	Folder	
1	1	Cyrus W. Chadwick, bills and accounts, 1863-1896
	2	Business correspondence, 1869-1880
	3	Business correspondence, 1881-1894
	4	Family correspondence, 1872-1889
	5	Contracts, notes, and ephemera
	6	Shipping papers, schooner ANNA CHADWICK, 1889
	7	Schooner CARRIE WALKER, 1875-1877
	8	Schooner JENNIE F. WILLEY, 1874-1882
	9	Schooner LIZZIE CHADWICK, 1884-1889
	10	Schooner NILE, 1865
	11	Schooner OCEAN QUEEN, 1863-1867
	12	Schooner PEARL, 1870-1884
	13	Schooner SILVER SPRAY, 1872-1874