

PENOBSCOT MARINE MUSEUM

Inventory for
Manuscript Collection

PMM 56

Captain Charles W. Grant Papers

1843-1873

1 box
0.5 linear feet
Accession No. 331 and LB1994.101

Stephen Phillips Memorial Library

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PMM 56

Captain Charles W. Grant Papers

Grant, Charles W., 1820-1883

Papers, 1843-1873

1 box (.5 linear feet)

Ship captain from Winterport, Maine

This collection contains shipping papers, accounts, and correspondence from Captain Charles W. Grant of Winterport, Maine. The bulk relates to maritime business, including detailed letters, freight lists, and crew lists for voyages Grant made carrying a wide variety of cargoes along the coast, to the West Indies, and to Europe. There is also some personal correspondence from Grant's immediate family.

In English, Spanish, and Dutch.

Corinne Bernard; Gift; Accession #331; Winterport Historical Association; Gift; 1994;
LB1994.101

Finding aid available, folder level control

Subject Headings:

Grant, Charles W., approximately 1822-
OCEAN GUIDE (brig)
KATE WHEELER (bark)
Winterport (Me.)
Coastwise shipping
Cotton trade
Diplomatic and Consular Service, American
Grain trade
Lumber trade
Merchant mariners
Merchant ships
Schooners
Ship captains
Shipping
Shipwrecks
Sugar trade

Local Subject Headings:

Salt trade
Transatlantic trade
West Indies trade

Acquisition:

The bulk of this collection was donated to the Penobscot Marine Museum by Corinne Bernard. A small group of papers was donated later by the Winterport Historical Association.

Restrictions:

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

Condition:

This collection is generally in good condition. There are creases, small tears, and occasional mouse damage. A few papers were mended in the past with adhesive tape that has become yellow and brittle.

Processing Note:

The 1994 addition has been integrated into the collection, though separated with polypropylene sheets.

Historical Note:

Captain Charles W. Grant (1820-1883) of Winterport, Maine, had a long and varied maritime career that spanned the Civil War. He became a captain in the early 1840s, and, over the next thirty years, undertook everything from local coasting trips to transatlantic voyages. Rather than specializing in a particular cargo or route, Grant tended to take any cargo that offered: cotton, salt, sugar, coal, grain, lumber, cement, and mixed cargoes, to ports along the eastern seaboard, Cuba and other Caribbean islands, Demerara, and Italy. Many of the vessels that Grant commanded were owned in Bangor, Frankfort, or other Penobscot River towns; at least one, the schooner ATLANTIC, Grant owned outright.

Charles W. Grant and his wife, Catharine (1820-1896) lived in Winterport. They had one daughter, Julietta (1851-1927).

Scope & Content:

This collection contains business and personal papers that span Captain Charles W. Grant's career at sea. The bulk are business papers, documenting the affairs of the schooner RICHMOND, schooner KANHAWA, brig CAROLINE E. KELLY, brig OCEAN GUIDE, bark KATE WHEELER, bark JANE M. THURSTON, brig EXECUTIVE, schooner ATLANTIC, and brig HATTIE, when Grant was captain aboard. The collection includes detailed freight lists, bills of lading, crew lists and articles of agreement, customs forms, bills and accounts, protests, and bills of sale, though not all document types are present for all vessels. Business correspondence between Grant, his managing owners, and merchants in various ports, further documents the antebellum and post-Civil War affairs of an American merchant captain.

Personal material is limited to a folder of correspondence addressed to Grant from his wife, brothers, and close family, describing family life in Winterport and beyond.

Box and Folder List:

Box	Folder	
1	1	Business correspondence, 1850-1873
	2	Personal correspondence, 1853-1872
	3	Business correspondence, 1843-1851
	4	Business correspondence, 1849-1860
	5	Shipping records, schooner RICHMOND
	6	Shipping records, schooner KANHAWA, 1846-1847
	7	Shipping records, schooner T.O. THOMPSON, 1849-1850
	8	Shipping records, brig CAROLINE E. KELLY, 1851-1852
	9	Shipping records, brig OCEAN GUIDE, 1855-1856
	10	Shipping records, bark KATE WHEELER, 1857-1858
	11	Shipping records, bark JANE M. THURSTON, 1860
	12	Shipping records, brig EXECUTIVE, 1861
	13	Shipping records, schooner ATLANTIC, 1865
	14	Shipping records, brig HATTIE, 1869-1870