

# PENOBSCOT MARINE MUSEUM

Inventory for  
Manuscript Collection

**PMM 101**

**James B. Parse Log-Books**

1900 - 1913

3 volumes  
.25 linear feet  
Accession No. 1985.49-51

**Stephen Phillips Memorial Library**

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# PMM 101

## James B. Parse Log-Books

**Parse, James B., 1868-1928**

Log-books, 1900-1913

3 volumes (.25 linear feet)

Steamship captain from Searsport, Maine

Three unofficial log-books kept by James B. Parse for steamships under his command. These provide daily notes on weather, steaming conditions, positions, and other factors affecting the progress of steamers on regularly scheduled routes and in tramping trades. Two of the three are for vessels owned by the American-Hawaiian Steamship Company; the third is for the steamer EVELYN.

In English

Source unknown; 1985; LB1985.49-51

Finding aid available; folder level control

Subject Headings:

Parse, James B., 1868-1928

American-Hawaiian Steamship Company

Logbooks

Coastwise shipping

Steamboats

Local Subject Headings:

West Indies trade

### **Acquisition:**

This collection was received from an unknown source in 1985.

### **Restrictions**

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

### **Condition:**

This collection is mostly in good condition. The bindings of all three volumes are fragile; the spine and coverboards are detached from the log of the EVELYN. All three exhibit wear commensurate with use.

### **Related Materials:**

More material from the American-Hawaiian Steamship Company can be found in PMM 61, the Turner & Blanchard Records, and in PMM 67, the Curtis-Kneeland Family Papers.

### **Historical Note:**

James B. Parse (1868-1928) was a steamship captain from Searsport, Maine. The son of Nicholas Parse, a British-born ship carpenter, Parse spent most of his career as a captain on steamships that operated from New York. His commands included the steamer EVELYN, owned by Miller, Bull & Knowlton; the PATHFINDER, owned by the U.S.-Porto Rico Navigation Company; and a number of steamers owned by the American-Hawaiian Steamship Company. Most of Parse's voyages were coastal, to ports in the Mid-Atlantic, American Gulf coast, or Puerto Rico.

**Scope and Content:**

Three informal log-books kept by James B. Parse for steamships that he commanded in the early twentieth century. The earliest log, for the steamer EVELYN, contains a brief daily record of sailing conditions, progress, loading and unloading in port, calculations for navigation, and notes on errors therein. The other two logs, kept for trips on the steamers TEXAN, MINNESOTAN, OREGONIAN, VIRGINIAN, and other vessels owned by the American-Hawaiian Steamship Company, follow a regular format with brief notes weather conditions, landmarks, and ships passed alongside tables recording positions, time, and speed. These two logs were only kept while at sea; activities in port are not recorded.

**Item List:**

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| MS 430 | Log-book, steamer EVELYN, 1900-1903  |
| MS 431 | Log-book, steamers OREGONIAN, VIRGINIAN, CLAIFORNIAN, MISSOURIAN, ISTHMIAN, and TEXAN, 1907-1911 |
| MS 432 | Log-book, steamers TEXAN and MINNESOTAN, 1911-1913   |