



Collection 654

**Thompson Family
Papers**

**1607-1936 (bulk 1770-1870)
22 boxes, 80 vols., 16.5 lin. feet**

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Processed by: Joanne Danifo
Processing Completed: May 2006

Finding aid revised: August 2018

Finding aid revised by: Cary Hutto

Sponsor: Processing made possible by grants from the
Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the Phoebe
W. Haas Charitable Trust

Restrictions: None.

Related Collections at Nathan Trotter and Company, Collection 1674

HSP: Henry Drinker Papers, Collection 1767
Abel James Diary, Collection 317
Grace Growden Galloway Papers, Collection 225
Thomas Nickelson letters, Collection 1995

Thompson Family
Papers, 1607-1936 (bulk 1770-1870)
22 boxes, 80 vols, 10 lin. feet

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Abstract

Jonah Thompson (1702-1780), a Quaker minister from Compton, England sent his son John Thompson (1744-1819) to America in 1770, where he aided fellow Quaker Anthony Benezet. John Thompson helped Benezet run his Quaker school for a few years, but soon became a merchant. He married Rebecca Chalkley James, who was the daughter of merchant Abel James. They had five children that lived to adulthood: James B. (1785-1818); Jonah (1786-1861); Rebecca (1790-1866); George (b. 1794); and Samuel (1797-1851). Shortly after the death of their brother James, Jonah and George became the proprietors of the Phoenix Nail Works in 1821, which specialized in the manufacture of iron nails, and they owned a store on Front Street in Philadelphia. George also assumed the title of warden at the Eastern State Penitentiary from 1839 to 1850, and held financial interests in the Pennsylvania Salt Company. James B. Thompson appears to have been the only Thompson brother to marry. He married Lydia Poultney and had two children, Rebecca (1811-1881), who married Isaac P. Morris, and John James (1815-1875), who married Elizabeth Hough Trotter (1818-1886). John James Thompson joined his brother-in-law in the firm I.P. Morris and Company in 1847, which specialized in iron manufacturing and supplying. The firm would eventually be renamed the Port Richmond Iron Works. John J. Thompson's three sons, James Beaton, Charles Trotter, and John James, followed their father in the iron trade. Elizabeth Hough Trotter Thompson's brothers also were involved in the metal manufacturing. Charles West Trotter (1827-1903) and William Henry Trotter (1822-1898) operated Nathan Trotter and Company, which manufactured tin items.

The Thompson Family Papers span from 1607 to 1936. The majority of the documents and volumes date between the late eighteenth and late nineteenth centuries. The materials are rich in mercantile records; land papers; information about different aspects of the iron works industry; correspondence, both business and personal, involving various Thompson family members and associates; scenic prints; portraits; and pictures of Quaker meeting houses and many sites in the Thompsons' native England. The papers of George Thompson, John J. Thompson, Abel James, and the various estate papers comprise the majority of this collection.

Background note

Jonah Thompson, the patriarch of the Thompson family, was born in 1702 in England to Isaac and Hannah Thompson. He was an active Quaker minister and established a Friends school in Compton, Dorcestershire, England around 1735. It was also around this time that he married Mary Beaton. Jonah Thompson and Mary Beaton Thompson had six children who lived to adulthood – Samuel (1747-1759); Mary (1739-1783); Sarah (1742-1801); John Thompson (1744-1819); Thomas Thompson (1746-1826); and Ann (b. 1750). Most of the Thompsons' children remained in England, including Thomas who would continue his father's work at the Quaker school in Compton. Jonah and Mary remained in England and died in 1780 and 1787, respectively. They are interred in Yeovil, Somersetshire, England.

In 1770, John Thompson (d. 1819) departed from his hometown of Compton for America. Upon his arrival, his father (d. 1780) requested that he help fellow Quaker Anthony Benezet (1713-1784) run his school in Philadelphia. Anthony Benezet was born in France in 1713, received his education in London, and immigrated to America in 1831. He served as a schoolmaster in Germantown and then became the head of the Friends' English School of Philadelphia. Benezet held this position until about 1759, when he established a school for girls. A decade later, Benezet retired from this position and continued to teach freed slave children at his home. With the support of his fellow Quakers, Benezet established the Negro School at Philadelphia. It was this project that spurred Jonah Thompson to send his son John to Philadelphia in 1770. John aided the busy Benezet for several years, most likely until Benezet's death in 1784. John Thompson soon set his sights upon a mercantile career.

In 1782, John married Rebecca Chalkley James, who was the daughter of Abel James, (1724-1790) a prominent Philadelphia merchant and Henry Drinker's business partner. Abel James had gained national attention as one of the Quakers who was exiled to Winchester, Virginia in 1777 for refusing to support the American Revolution. John and Rebecca Thompson had five children that lived to adulthood: James B. (1785-1818), Jonah (1786-1861), Rebecca (1790-1866), George (b. 1794), and Samuel (1797-1851). John (d.1819) continued to work as a merchant on Front Street until his death in 1819.

Upon the death of their father, several of the Thompson children branched out into various occupations. Brothers Jonah and George, who were employed mainly as merchants, became the proprietors of the Phoenix Nail Works around 1821. The Phoenix Nail Works, located in what is now Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, was established at the turn of the nineteenth century for the production of iron nails. Lewis Wernwag, who built the Fairmount wooden bridge over the Schuylkill River, became the manager of Phoenix around 1813. At the mill they used different coal mining techniques and manufacturing processes to make iron nails sold at the company's store in Philadelphia. By 1824 it had become one of the largest manufacturers of nails in the United States. The Thompson brothers operated a store for the Phoenix Nail Works on South Front Street in Philadelphia.

Eventually, George Thompson was involved in copper and coal mining and the Pennsylvania Salt Company. By 1839, George had taken the position of warden of the

Eastern Penitentiary, a position he held until about 1850. While George Thompson's death date is unclear, his brother Jonah died in 1861.

George and Jonah Thompson's brother, James B. Thompson, married Lydia Poultney (1788-1871) in 1809. He followed his father's career path and became a merchant in Philadelphia. He and Lydia had two children, Rebecca (1811-1881) and John J. (1815-1875) before his death in 1818. Lydia and her children continued to reside with John's brother Jonah at 219-221 Walnut Street until her death in 1871. John and Lydia's children married into prominent Philadelphia families with Rebecca marrying Isaac P. Morris (1803-1869) and her brother John J. Thompson marrying Elizabeth Hough Trotter (1818-1886).

John J. Thompson joined his brother-in-law and Lewis Taws in the firm I.P. Morris and Company, which was located on Walnut Street. Established in 1828 by Isaac P. Morris, his brother Joseph P. Morris, and his cousin Levi Morris, the company manufactured iron and brass castings, steam engines, and boilers. Lewis Taws joined in 1834 and John J. Thompson in 1847. During his time at the firm, it relocated to Port Richmond where it would remain as the Port Richmond Iron Works. John J. Thompson continued to work there until the 1870s. John J. and his wife Elizabeth had several children, including John James (1858-1938), James Beaton (1855-1915), Charles Trotter (1856-1919), and Susan Trotter (1853-1879). John J. Thompson died in 1875 and his wife Elizabeth and children resided with her brother Charles W. Trotter until her death in 1886.

James B. and his brothers John J. (d. 1938) and Charles T. (d. 1919) carried the iron business of the Thompson family into the twentieth century. It is unclear whether John J. or Charles T. married, but James B. and his sister Susan did. Susan married James Emlen and passed away around the birth of their only son, John, in 1879. By 1890, James B. Thompson (d. 1915) was a member of the Monthly Meeting and graduated from Haverford College in 1874. He married Emilia Garrison Brinton in 1895 and they had two children, Elizabeth (b. 1896) and Daniel (b. 1899). Elizabeth married John Rozet Drexel and had one son, John, before dying in 1943. Her brother married Ann Harrison Bigelow and they had

John J. Thompson's marriage to Elizabeth Hough Trotter connected the Thompsons with three prominent nineteenth century American families – the Trotters, the Houghs, and the Newbolds. Thompson's wife Elizabeth was born 1818 in Springfield, New Jersey to Nathan Trotter (1787-1853) and Susan Hough (1785-1867), who was the daughter of Samuel and Susanna Newbold Hough. Nathan and Susan Trotter had four children in addition to Elizabeth: Edward Hough Trotter (1814-1872); George Trotter (1816-1877); William Henry Trotter (1822-1898); and Charles West Trotter (1827-1903). In the latter part of the nineteenth century, Nathan, William, and Charles Trotter operated a metals firm under the title Nathan Trotter & Co. The firm specialized in the manufacture and supply of tin-based items. The firm was under the control of William Trotter and William Weaver until 1915 (Nathan and Charles having passed away).

Another notable member of the Trotter family was Newbold H. Trotter (1827-1898), a first cousin of Elizabeth, Edward, George, William, and Charles. Newbold's parents

were Joseph Trotter (1783-1853), the brother of Nathan, and Ann Hough (b. 1821), the sister of Susan Hough Trotter. Newbold H. Trotter was born in Philadelphia in 1827, where he attended Haverford College from 1841 to 1845. While he worked as a machinist, he pursued his interest in painting. He exhibited his first painting at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in 1858 and over the next few years he would take his work to Boston and New York City. During the Civil War, he served as a member of the Germantown Guard and at the end of the war he decided to turn to painting full time. One of his paintings was displayed at the Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia in 1876. He married Annie Dawson and had one son, Spencer Trotter born on February 8, 1860.

Spencer Trotter (1860-1931) attended the Friends' Select School and Rugby Academy in Philadelphia and graduated from the Medical School of the University of Pennsylvania in 1883. He had an interest in natural history and ornithology and soon became involved in projects at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia. Upon his graduation, he served as a physician at Pennsylvania Hospital until 1888, at which time he became a professor of biology at Swarthmore College. He became dean of the faculty at Swarthmore and held several positions at the Academy of Natural Sciences. Spencer Trotter married Laura Lee in 1889 and had one son, Spencer Lee Trotter born in 1890. Trotter died on April 11, 1931.

Scope & content

The Thompson Family Papers span the dates 1607 to 1936, with the majority of the documents and volumes dating from the late eighteenth and late nineteenth centuries. The collection consists of the papers of several generations of Thompson family members dating to their arrival in Philadelphia. There are also a significant amount of materials that were produced by members of the Trotter, Hough, and Newbold families, Thompson family relatives, as well as business associates like Abel James. The papers in this collection deal mainly with the financial aspects of the mercantile and iron works trades. Abel James and John Thompson and George and Jonah Thompson were partners in separate merchant firms and this collection traces their activities in the earlier part of the nineteenth century. Members of the Thompson family were also involved in several industries including I.P. Morris and Company Iron Works (later Port Richmond Iron Works), and Phoenix Nail Works. While there are many business records in this collection, there are also many papers of a personal nature. Papers documenting Quaker meeting activities, poetry, sketches, travel journals, and personal correspondence are all well represented among the materials in the Thompson Family Papers. There is also a large amount of photographs in this collection.

The collection has been divided into nine series – *Early Thompsons, Jonah Thompson, George Thompson, James B. Thompson and Lydia P. Thompson, John J. Thompson and Elizabeth H. Thompson, Abel James, Related Families, Estates, and Miscellaneous*. The last two series have also been further divided into subseries.

Papers belonging to the early Thompsons refer mainly to Jonah Thompson (d. 1780) and his son John Thompson (d.1819), who was the first member of this Thompson family to

leave England for Philadelphia. This series spans from 1745 to 1886 and consist mainly of correspondence, some legal and financial papers, and materials that shed light on Thompson family members, such as John Thompson's marriage certificate and his estate papers. There are also materials here belonging to Samuel Thompson, John Thompson's (d. 1819) son, and Mary Thompson.

The papers of John Thompson's son Jonah (d. 1861), which span from 1783 to 1855, are comprised of correspondence, legal, and financial papers relating to the operations of the Phoenix Nail Works. There are documents that pertain to the scientific aspects of metal testing and other processes that took place the Nail Works, which Jonah operated with his brother George. There are also several folders of land information for Northern Liberties and lands in New Jersey. Correspondence and other miscellaneous papers concerning the Deaf and Dumb Association can also be found among the papers in this series.

The *George Thompson* series (1769-1876) consists of papers covering various topics – the Phoenix Nail Works, Eastern State Penitentiary, the Pennsylvania Salt Company, and miscellaneous estate and legal matters. The Phoenix Nail Works materials are similar to those found in the Jonah Thompson series. There is also a correspondence with R.A. Tilghman, who was working in the patent office in London, England. The two men corresponded about manufacturing processes and patents, presumably in relation to George's involvement in the Nail Works and the Pennsylvania Salt Company. George Thompson was also the warden of the Eastern State Penitentiary until the 1850s and there is correspondence, inspection papers, and financial records relating to his time in that position. There are also many folders of documents for the case of *Leasee of Howell v. Barclay*, which date from the later eighteenth to the mid-nineteenth century.

The *James B. Thompson and Lydia Poultney Thompson* series is the smallest in this collection, largely due to the fact that James B. Thompson's death preceded his brothers' (Jonah and George) by almost forty-five years. The materials span from 1792 to 1881 and consist mainly of correspondence and miscellaneous papers. The majority of the correspondence was written by Lydia to various family members, including her mother-in-law, Rebecca James Thompson.

The fifth series contains the papers of John J. Thompson and Elizabeth H. Thompson and covers a period of almost one hundred years (1817-1903). This series has a variety of documents and volumes. There is business and personal correspondence; the financial papers of Towner, Morris, and Company; documents related to I.P. Morris and Company; and various greeting cards and personal items belonging to Elizabeth H. Thompson. The estate information of both John J. and Elizabeth Thompson can be found among the papers in this series.

The next series consists of the papers of Abel James, who was related to the Thompsons through business and marriage. He was the business partner of merchant Henry Drinker and the father-in-law of John Thompson (d. 1819). His papers (1747-1800) include correspondence with his wife Rebecca Chalkey James, Henry Drinker, and men involved in the tobacco industry in Virginia. Letterbooks also offer information about the selling

of his estate property by trustees Henry Drinker, Joseph Swift, John Field, and Cadwalader Evans. Thomas Wharton's shipping papers have been placed with the Abel James materials, because Wharton was conducting business with James and Drinker. The papers of Abel James are rich in information concerning eighteenth century merchant activities and the prices of goods such as rum and copper. His materials contain little personal information.

Materials dealing with people related to the Thompson, mainly through marriage, have been placed in the seventh series – *Related Families* (1607-1891). The three main families represented in this series are the Houghs, the Trotters, and the Newbolds. The Houghs and the Trotters were related to Elizabeth Hough Trotter Thompson, the wife of John J. Thompson (d. 1861). There are a vast amount of items in this series, both of a personal and financial nature. Most of the financial materials were produced by Jonathan and Joseph Hough – daybooks, account statements, and estate papers. There is correspondence, photographs, journals, albums, poems, and other miscellaneous items. The personal papers were produced mainly by the women and young girls of the related families, including the Newbold sisters, Lydia, Mary, and Elizabeth, who were cousins of the Trotters. The materials of note in this series were produced by Charles Trotter (1827-1903), who was the brother-in-law of John J. Thompson, near the end of the nineteenth century. This includes correspondence, ethics lectures, and an invitation for a gala in honor of the mayor of Philadelphia.

Members of the Thompson family and Abel James oversaw estates matters for several citizens. The eighth series, *Estates*, consists of four subseries – *Lawrence Growden*, *Thomas Nickelson*, *Galloway Family*, and *Miscellaneous*. Most of the documents in this series were produced in the eighteenth century, with the exception of the estate papers for Thomas Nickelson. Lawrence Growden was the father of Grace Growden Galloway, who married Revolutionary War loyalist Joseph Galloway. Abel James and John Thompson were given power of attorney over aspects of his estate and Thomas Nickelson's, who was Growden's son-in-law. Nickelson's brother-in-law was Joseph Galloway, whose estate papers are also included in this series with Grace Galloway's, who was his wife. The majority of the papers reveal Elizabeth Galloway's role in the handling of the estates of her mother Grace Galloway and her father Joseph Galloway. There is much correspondence between her and the men given power of attorney over her father's land holdings, Abel James, John Thompson, Henry Drinker, Owen Jones and William Craig. The other two estates represented in this series were those of Robert Hare and Hannah Elton.

The *Miscellaneous* series (1614-1936), which spans over three centuries, has been divided into three subseries, *Correspondence, legal, and financial*; *Land*; and *Miscellaneous*. The papers in the first subseries could not be directly connected with members of the Thompson family with one exception. Papers involving Jonah Thompson and Abel James have been placed with the other miscellaneous Quaker correspondence and meeting minutes in the first subseries. Many of these documents date to an earlier time period – the 17th century – than the rest of the Thompson Family Papers. The land papers are mainly deeds, which also fall into 17th and early 18th centuries. Deeds involving Abel James, his son Chalkley, and George and Jonah Thompson have been placed with all the other

deeds. There are also various surveys and drafts for lands in Pittsburgh. The majority of the materials in the miscellaneous subseries are images, photographs, photo albums, and prints. Most of these materials are undated, except for several photographs. The majority of the prints depict Quaker meeting houses; English pastoral scenes; and Burlington, New Jersey. There are also many portraits. Some of the people have been identified as Trotter family members, but the majority of those pictured are unidentified.

Overview of arrangement

Series I	Early Thompsons, 1745-1886, n.d.	1.5 boxes
Series II	Jonah Thompson, 1783-1860	2 boxes, 1 FF
Series III	George Thompson, 1769-1876, n.d.	2.5 boxes, 3 FF
Series IV	James B. Thompson & Lydia Poultney Thompson, 1792-1881, n.d.	.5 box, 1 FF
Series V	John J. Thompson & Elizabeth H. Thompson, 1817-1903, n.d.	2 boxes
Series VI	Abel James, 1747-1800, n.d.	1 box, 5 FF
Series VII	Related Families, 1607-1891, n.d.	2 boxes
Series VIII	Estates, 1744-1851	3 boxes
	a. Lawrence Growden, 1744-1802	1 box
	b. Thomas Nickelson, 1772-1851	.5 box
	c. Galloway Family, 1770-1792	.5 box, 1 FF
	d. Miscellaneous, 1760-1847	1 box
Series IX	Miscellaneous, 1614-1936, n.d.	
	a. Correspondence, legal, financial, 1653-1863, n.d.	1 box
	b. Land, 1614-1843, n.d.	2 boxes, 4 FF
	c. Miscellaneous, 1793-1936, n.d.	2.5 boxes

Series description

Series 1. Early Thompsons, 1745-1886, n.d. (Boxes 1-2)

The incoming letters of John Thompson were sent mainly by his brother Thomas Thompson in Philadelphia, John's son Jonah, and Daniel Roberts, both of whom were in England. John Thompson sent letters to various family members, including his sister Mary Westcombe. In a letter to her from 1770, John Thompson recounted, in detail, his voyage from England to the United States. A copy of John Thompson's marriage certificate from 1782 can be found among these papers as well as information concerning his eight children with Rebecca James Thompson. There are also papers relating to Samuel Thompson and an album belonging to Mary Thompson, who were both siblings of John Thompson (d. 1819). Sketches of the Lawson and Thompson families are also among these papers

The legal and financial papers, which relate to his mercantile activities with Benjamin Shoemaker in Philadelphia, consist of debt information, bonds, bills, interest

statements, and deed information. There is also a group of statements relating to accounts that Thompson had with Robert Morris.

Series 2. Jonah Thompson, 1783-1860, n.d. (Boxes 2-4)

The papers of Jonah Thompson (1786-1861), the son of John Thompson and grandson of Jonah Thompson (1702-1780), consist of incoming and outgoing letters; papers for the Deaf and Dumb Association, information regarding property around Maurice River; Kensington and Northern Liberties land records; and miscellaneous notes. Thompson's major correspondent was Roberts Vaux, a fellow merchant who wrote from various cities and sent Thompson letters while the latter was trading in Philadelphia and London. There are also several letters from his cousin, who was also named Jonah Thompson, living in Compton, England and his uncle Thomas Thompson. Jonah Thompson (d. 1861) wrote often from both England and Philadelphia to his brother James Thompson, who was trading under John Thompson and Sons in Philadelphia. Some of the correspondence also relates to matters of the Maurice River Estate and George Craft. There is one letterbook that held outgoing letters that Jonah Thompson wrote to Lewis Wernberg, manager of the Phoenix Nail Works, between 1816 and 1817.

John Todhunter and Cuthebert Ralph operated a merchant firm in London. Their papers include powers of attorney, correspondence concerning bill payments, and will information. There is also a letterbook of correspondence with Jonah Thompson. A power of attorney document reveals that Jonah Thompson was granted power of attorney over the will of John Ralph in 1816. One of the letterbooks has correspondence referring to transactions between Todhunter & Ralph and the firms John Field & Son and Taylor & Newbold.

The papers for the Deaf and Dumb Association include subscription lists, donation information, and a booklet teaching instructions. In the 1830s and 1840s, Jonah Thompson, in association with John T. Lewis, Samuel Lewis, and John Coates, held interests in several lots of land in Kensington and Northern Liberties and this series has agreements, deeds, and briefs of titles relating to the lands. There are papers concerning the boundaries of the Maurice River Estate, which was superintended by George Craft and owned by Jonah Thompson.

Details of metal processes and other such topics are included among the metal information and testing documents. These papers offer ways of "obtaining zinc" and making whitewash. There are also a few folders of miscellaneous items including funeral hymns, schools notes, bound pamphlets, and small journals from Thompson's time abroad in Europe around 1812.

There are several account books in this series that related to Jonah Thompson's activities as a merchant and his involvement in the Phoenix Nail Works. The memoranda book for the Phoenix Works contains information about the manufacture of nails and the cost of machinery repairs. Similarly, the iron works books have daily observations of manufacturing processes; aspects of production; furnace sketches; and information about the construction and operations of the

refinery. Jonah Thompson also inserted relevant correspondence on the pages of this volume. Thompson's machinery book has information about the relationship between his iron works and different locales, such as the Water Works, the Conestoga Canal, and other places. There is also a lot of information concerning patents, machinery at different mills, sketches of land, and other miscellaneous items dealing with area sites (i.e. businesses, plants). The account books include ledgers, wastebooks, and a receipt book for Smith and Hawkins, who were assignees of Jonah Thompson, as well as other miscellaneous volumes. Volume 7 [Settlement of Accounts] holds record of the open accounts from a corresponding ledger. Volumes 6 and 14 [cash accounts & Jonah Thompson's references] contain a few pages of accounting information. Information concerning Thompson's accounts with John T. Lewis and the Adams County copper mines can be found in several folders and an account book. Of note is the Jonah and George Thompson account, which includes financial information pertaining to the estates of James B. and John Thompson.

Jonah Thompson compiled information concerning several prominent families into two volumes. One volume contains sketches of the Chalkley, Hingstone, and James families and the other contains sketches of the Tilton and Spicer families (see series VIII).

Series 3. George Thompson, 1769-1876, n.d. (Boxes 4-6)

George Thompson's papers are comprised of correspondence, financial papers, legal documents, and land records. There is a series of letters sent between Thompson and George Rundle and William Miller, who represented John Savage's estate in the 1830s. Around this time, Savage's estate employed Thompson to purchase land for the estate. Financial information, legal documents, and two letterbooks regarding the Savage estate have also been placed with the correspondence. Thompson was also involved in the estate matters of Hannah Elton and Robert Hare (see 9.d.).

There is also a group of papers relating to patents. Some of the documents relate to R.A. Tilghman's time in London working in a patent office. The correspondence and other papers show that Tilghman and two other associates, George T. Lewis and S. Fox Fisher, wanted to form a company to "encourage manufacturing operations in the commonwealth [Pennsylvania]." He wrote often to Thompson, who was in Philadelphia. Tilghman also made miscellaneous notes about chemical processes and drew sketches for machine patents. One of Tilghman's patents was for "caustic alkalies."

The Pennsylvania Salt Company papers also include information about patents. The correspondence shows that Thompson was the secretary of the company and had developed an efficient process for "caustic alkalies." He corresponded often with his sister Rebecca's son George T. Lewis, who was working under Rebecca's other son John T. Lewis. Thompson also wrote often to his nephew John J. Thompson. Besides the patent information, the Pennsylvania Salt Company papers also contain information relating to George Thompson's interests in manufacturing, coal, iron, copper, and the Sligo Salt and Copper Works.

George Thompson was the warden of the Eastern State Penitentiary from about 1839 to about 1850. The papers relating to his tenure as warden include correspondence, inspection papers, financials, and legal records. There are several papers that document the case of Robert Harding, who was turned away as a potential inmate of the penitentiary.

The last group of materials is a box of papers concerning the court case *Howell v. Joseph Barclay*. There are miscellaneous papers and correspondence that span nearly fifty years. The case was concerned with land in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, which the defendant claimed was purchased by Alexander Wilson for the Penn family. John Barclay and others asserted that at the time of the laying out of the city, the land was put aside for public use. In the case, Richard Smith was the plaintiff and William Stiles, who represented Barclay's interests, was the defendant and a "tenant in possession." The case was in litigation for twenty years and the property at stake was valued at over a million dollars as of 1842.

Series 4. James B. Thompson and Lydia Poultney Thompson, 1792-1881, n.d. (Boxes 7, 22)

James B. Thompson's papers are comprised of correspondence, estate information, and other miscellaneous documents. His most frequent correspondent was his brother Jonah Thompson, who was in Charleston and Philadelphia in the early nineteenth century. He also wrote often to his wife Lydia Thompson when he was away on business. The correspondence pertained to his mercantile activities and the shipment of goods. He and his brother George Thompson corresponded after the establishment of the United States Bank in 1816.

His miscellaneous papers encompass account statements for the Fellowship Fire Company, court summons, stock memos, and documents related to "the Society for Supplying the Poor with Soup." There is also a tribute by Lydia's cousin J.P. Parke written around the time of James B. Thompson's death in 1819. Thompson's estate papers are mainly financial documents, such as account statements and bill payments. Two volumes of arithmetic notes appear in this collection and were originally used from 1799 to 1800. However in the first few pages of the volume from 1799, Thompson pasted newspaper articles about peace being declared following the War of 1812. The other volume is filled completely with newspaper article covering various topics – stamp rates, merchandise prices, obituaries, and America's relations with Great Britain.

The papers of Thompson's wife, Lydia Poultney Thompson, are also included in this series. They consist of correspondence, her accounts with Jonah Thompson, and other miscellaneous papers. Her frequent correspondents included her Uncle Jacob Parke, her Aunt Mary James, cousin H.M. James, and brother-in-law Samuel Thompson. In her letter to Samuel, she recounted the death of her mother-in-law Rebecca James Thompson (1753-1837). There is also a folder with letters written by miscellaneous members of the Poultney family, such as Phebe Poultney and William Poultney. Her journal shows that she held stocks in multiple companies and that she

collected rent from several people. Any ivorytype depicting Lydia Poultney Thompson appears in this series with her birth and death dates inscribed on the back of the picture's encasement.

Series 5. John J. Thompson and Elizabeth H. Thompson, 1817-1903, n.d. (Boxes 7-9)

The papers of John J. Thompson consist of correspondence, financial papers, papers relating to Thompson's involvement in Morris, Towne and Company, and other miscellaneous documents. The correspondence is both incoming and outgoing letters and Thompson's major correspondents were his mother Lydia Poultney Thompson, his uncles Jonah Thompson and George Thompson, and his cousin John Thompson of Hitchin, who was Thomas Thompson's (1746-1826) son. The letters to George and Jonah were business related and John J. Thompson often referred to the collection of money from different business associates. Several letters mention tax information for land, which Thompson owned in the South. Many of the letters that Thompson sent to both family members and business associates shed light on his politics and the American government in the mid-nineteenth century. There is also a letterbook containing business correspondence from 1839 to 1841. John J. Thompson wrote about the settling of bills; the sale of his merchandise, which included varieties of beer; and the state of different business and banks throughout the country. He corresponded frequently with S. Thompson and Company in New Orleans, with whom he traded frequently.

The bills and receipts include tax information and Thompson's business and personal expenses. There are several school-related papers such as tuition receipts for Friend's Select School in Philadelphia and report cards sent to Thompson by Thomas Baldwin in 1866. The Morris, Towne, and Company papers are comprised of account statements, assets and liabilities information, and other various documents relating to the manufacturing company. The partners in this company were John H. Towne, Isaac P. Morris, John J. Thompson, and Lewis Taws. There are also miscellaneous papers and the estate papers of John J. Thompson in this series. John J. Thompson's ledger only contains a few pages of financial information. Another volume is a scrapbook dating to around the 1840s that contains newspaper clippings, book excerpts, and notes concerning crime and capital punishment. It appears to have been created by John J. Thompson.

There is a series of papers pertaining to land owned by Elizabeth Thompson in Germantown located on the Wissahickon Creek. The land was sold to her family, the Trotters, in 1864. A brief of title, estate papers, and correspondence with William Miller, William Stroud, and Edward Lansdale, who were the original land owners, make up this series of documents.

Series 6. Abel James, 1747-1800, n.d. (Boxes 9-10)

Abel James, the father-in-law of John Thompson (1744-1819), was a Philadelphia merchant who imported and exported items from Barbados and England in the latter part of the eighteenth century. His papers include correspondence, some personal and financial papers, papers relating to a mercantile firm he operated with

his sons and Henry Drinker. His major correspondents were his wife, Drinker, and Virginia tobacco merchants John Harper and Robert Pleasants. Most of the letters relate to his mercantile business, shipments, the prices of sugar and coal, and land interests he had in the southern part of the United States. His correspondence with Henry Drinker occurred in the 1750s when the two men were partners and were associated with the mercantile firm Neate and Pigon in London. Other papers that relate to the James and Drinker partnership are among the papers of the “Society for Promoting the Culture of Silk.” James and Drinker were involved in this society in 1774 and the documents include account statements, subscription lists, and correspondence to James Freeman of London. Freeman’s letters acknowledged the receipt of trunks of raw silk sent to England by Abel James and Benjamin Morgan of the firm James and Drinker.

The Thomas Wharton papers, which date to the end of the eighteenth century, consist of correspondence, account statements, and shipping policies for goods traveling from the United States to the Caribbean. His business appears to have had contact with the firm of James and Drinker.

Abel James also copied some of his correspondence into three letterbooks dating from 1770 to 1790. Volumes 27 and 28 show that Abel James conducted his business with Henry Drinker from England, where he had traveled for health reasons. He eventually returned in November of 1770. His third letterbook holds correspondence that dealt with the estate matters of Amos and Joseph Strettell; frequent correspondents of note were Benjamin Chew, Cadawalader Morris, and Henry Drinker. A volume titled “Minutes of the Trustees of Abel James” has information regarding the sale of some of his property in order to pay various debts between 1784 and 1788. Henry Drinker, Joseph Swift, John Field, and Cadwalader Evans were present at each meeting. Abel James also played an important role, with John Thompson (d. 1819), in the administration of the Growden, Nickelson and Galloway (see series 8).

There are two folders of miscellaneous personal and financial papers that consist of Abel James’ marriage certificate, meeting reports for the Society of Friends, his will, receipts, account statements, and bills. The financial papers contain information about his estate. Abel James formed a partnership with his sons Joseph and Chalkley and in 1783 the mercantile firm Abel James and Sons was forged in Philadelphia. In this series, there are papers that document this partnership, the financial aspects of the trading, and the debt Abel James incurred around the 1760s. The papers of Abel James and Sons include bills, bonds, correspondence, and price information for items like rum and copper. One miscellaneous volume that has been placed with the Abel James materials is titled *The Writing Master’s Assistant Containing a Concise and Practical System for Teaching and Writing* by T. Powell. This book appears to have belonged to Rebecca James, either the wife or daughter of Abel James.

Series 7. Related Families, 1607-1891, n.d. (Boxes 10-12)

The papers in this series pertain to three intertwined families – the Houghs, the Trotters, and the Newbolds. The Hough family papers consist of materials

belonging to siblings Elizabeth, Charlotte, and Jonathan, and Jane, Benjamin, and Daniel Hough. There are invitations, Elizabeth's medical bills, the wills of Jane and Benjamin, and some financial information. The majority of the Hough materials pertain to the estate of Jonathan Hough; there are daybooks, cash books, an auction book detailing his estate, and other financial documents. There is also an arithmetic notebook, which belonged to Susan Hough, the wife of Nathan Trotter.

There are also many papers related to the Trotter family, who were prominent merchants in Philadelphia. Two brothers, Nathan (1787-1853) and Joseph Trotter (1783-1853), married two Hough sisters, Susan Hough (1785-1867) and Anna Hough. The Trotter papers include correspondence between Nathaniel Trotter and his daughter Elizabeth Trotter in 1850; several accounts belonging to Joseph Trotter; Elizabeth Trotter's album that contains pictures and poems; and miscellaneous correspondence. Of note are the materials of Charles W. Trotter (1827-1903), Nathaniel and Susan Trotter's son. His sketchbook and invitations to various Philadelphia society events appear in this series, including an invitation to a dinner in honor of Mayor Fidler of Philadelphia in 1891. A volume contains ethics lectures that he authored. The Thompson family is connected to the Trotter family through John James Thompson – he married Nathan Trotter's daughter Elizabeth (1818-1886). There are also several photographs of the Trotter family from the nineteenth century (see series 8). A book of poetry has been placed with the Trotter materials, because, although unidentified, the author seems to have been acquainted with Nancy Trotter. The several poems in this volume were written about "Dorcasians," which seems to refer to a charitable society that donates clothing to the poor.

The Newbold family papers in this collection consist of correspondence, journal entries, account books, and albums of mainly Joseph, Mary H., Samuel and Lydia Newbold. Samuel Newbold (1771-1849) married Mary Hough, the sister of Susan and Anna Hough, and together they had eight children – Susannah (b. 1799), Joseph (b. 1801), Emma (b. 1802), Lydia (b. 1803), Caleb (b. 1804), Elizabeth (b. 1807), Samuel (b. 1808), and Mary H. (b. 1814). The correspondence was concerned mainly with Joseph Newbold's merchant activities as he wrote from Middletown and Philadelphia in the 1820s. There are also several letters written by the three Newbold sisters – Mary, Lydia, and Emma. Mary's papers are the most numerous and one letter of note is one which she wrote to her sister about the trial of a runaway slave in 1859. She wrote about his acquittal, the reaction of Quakers including "Little Miss Mott," and the resulting scene around the courthouse. Lydia's papers are comprised of letters, poems, invitations, and a memorial written at the time of Ann Wharton's death. One folder contains a journal written in Hillside between 1863 and 1864, most likely belonging to Mary Newbold. The volumes present among the Newbold materials are as follows: daybooks of John Newbold; letterbooks of Joseph Newbold describing his time doing business in Mexico; and albums of the Mary and Lydia Newbold, including one that contains cards and pressed flowers titled "Anti-Slavery Fair."

The folders at the end of this series contain the papers of Benjamin Poultney, Richard Wistar, William Poultney, the Spicer family, and Thomas Chalkley. Poultney

and Wistar's papers consisted of an agreement; William Poultney's journal recounted his experience traveling from London to New York in 1805; Thomas Chalkley's folder contains copies of his marriage certificates; and the Spicer family papers are comprised of Martha Spicer and Joseph Browne's marriage certificate, the letters of Ester Spicer, and the will of Nicholas Spicer. The Spicer and Chalkley families were related through marriage and Abel James married a Chalkley, Rebecca Chalkley (d. 1795). The connection between the Thompson family and the Poultney family is James B. Thompson (1785-1818), who married Lydia Poultney (1788-1871).

A volume that contains newspaper obituaries has been placed in this series, because the clippings relate to various members of the Thompson and Trotter families. Photographs of various related family members (Trotters) have been placed in the *miscellaneous* series with all the other photographs in this collection (see 9.c.).

Series 8. Estates, 1744-1851 (Boxes 12-15)

a. Lawrence Growden, 1744-1802

Lawrence Growden was the father of Grace Growden Galloway, who married Revolutionary War loyalist Joseph Galloway. His estate papers consist of the correspondence of his executors, land documents, and financial papers. The trustee of his estate was his son-in-law Thomas Nickelson and he named Elizabeth Nickelson's children and Grace Galloway's daughter. Abel James and John Thompson had power of attorney over the land matters of the Growden Estate. The land papers include information about Pennsylvania plots he owned in Richland, Langhorne Park, Hilltown, and Durham. The majority of the documents in this subseries pertain to the sale of these lands in the 1780s. The letters among these papers were written by Abel James and John Thompson, who were charged with hiring a surveyor and selling the land of the Growden Estate. The three estate ledgers in this series belonged to Nickelson, who was the trustee of the estate; there is also an estate inventory that also included information about debts.

b. Thomas Nickelson, 1772-1851

Thomas Nickelson, who was the son-in-law of Lawrence Growden, was involved in the mercantile business during the latter part of the eighteenth century. While he lived in Poole, England, he conducted business with Abel James and John Thompson. Nickelson gave James and Thompson power of attorney over some of his affairs in America. Nickelson was involved in the land matters of his brother-in-law Joseph Galloway and the estate of his father-in-law Growden.

Nickelson's estate papers include correspondence, financial papers, land information, and other miscellaneous papers. There are several folders of account statements, receipts, and correspondence produced by Nickelson's attorneys. A document written by Benjamin Chew in 1773 shows that Nickelson gave James and Thompson power of attorney "to make partition by deed or otherwise of lands in Pennsylvania which Nickelson holds as tenant in common with Joseph Galloway." The rest of the papers in this subseries pertain to lands that were part of the Nickelson estate on Lombard Street, and in Durham, Hilltown, and Langhorne Park, Pennsylvania. The major correspondents in this subseries are William Metford, E.B. Metford, and John

Jeffrey, who were Nickelson's sons-in-law, and William Rawle, and Saunders Lewis. The Metford brothers and John Jeffrey served as the executors of Thomas Nickelson's estate and the majority of their correspondence and the correspondence of Rawle and Lewis dealt with the lands owned by Nickelson. The letters pertaining to the Lombard Street land began in 1802 and reveal that John Thompson was in a dispute with the owner of the adjoining lot.

c. Galloway Family, 1770-1792

This subseries contains the papers relating to the estates of Joseph and Grace Galloway. Joseph Galloway was a loyalist during the Revolutionary War, was found to be guilty of treason, and his belongings were seized by the United States. He eventually fled to England and died there in 1803. The majority of the papers reveal Elizabeth Galloway's role in the handling of the estates of her mother Grace Galloway and her father Joseph Galloway. Elizabeth corresponded frequently with Abel James, John Thompson, Henry Drinker, Owen Jones and William Craig, because they were charged with selling the estate lands. Her letters also reveal that she wanted access to money from these sales and her inheritance from her mother's will, most likely to alleviate her father's financial hardships. Her letters, as well as those written by her father Joseph, were sent from Bristol, England between 1773 and 1789. There are only a few letters written by Joseph Galloway, but one should be noted. He wrote to his niece's husband John Jeffrey about Thomas Nickelson's estate. Nickelson, who was Jeffrey's father-in-law and Galloway's brother-in-law, was not on good terms with Joseph Galloway and subsequently gave his daughter Elizabeth Galloway an insignificant portion of his estate. Galloway's letter expressed his disappointment with Nickelson's decision.

There are also several papers regarding the legal aspects of Grace Galloway's estate. A document from 1786 shows that Henry Drinker was granted power of attorney in her estate matters. The "Memorial of Grace Galloway" contains information about the seizure of her husband's property. There are also papers that trace her inheritance of Langhorne Park after the deaths of her mother Sarah Growden and Jeremiah Langhorne.

c. Miscellaneous, 1760-1847

George Thompson was the executor of the estates of Hannah Elton and Robert Hare in the earlier part of the nineteenth century. This subseries has their estate financials and some correspondence. There are several letters sent to Hannah Elton by her brother Nathaniel Coleman.

Series 9. Miscellaneous, 1614-1936 (Boxes 15-21)

a. Correspondence, financial, legal, 1653-1863, n.d.

This subseries consists of many different types of documents, the first group of which was produced by various Quakers in the eighteenth century. There are several letters, financial and legal documents that date mainly between 1670 and 1760 and some of the authors of the letters include Jonah Thompson, Abel James, Israel Pemberton, James Harrison, and Roger Longworth. Most of the letters were written

while these men were in cities in various cities in England, such as York, London, and Bristol. Besides the correspondence, there are receipts and a few lists of expenses. Among the miscellaneous papers is a document written by an unknown other about the ramifications of the introduction of paper specie around 1722. Half of the papers in this group have unidentified authors and it is sometimes unclear where they were written. A person recorded official pleas to the king of England in a book and these pleas pertained to lands in Burlington, New Jersey in 1754.

There are three account books in this series: an unidentified daybook; the ledger of John Reynolds; and a combination of a ledger and daybook for the Hanover Furnace Company, which was located in New Jersey.

b. Land, 1614-1843, n.d.

There are several deeds in this collection that involve lands in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Virginia. They date mainly between 1766 and 1831. The most represented figures among the deeds are Joseph Smith, John Smith, Henry Hildewerth, and Alexander Wilson. Joseph Smith sold several plots in Northern Liberties in 1831; and John Smith sold two plots in 1803 and 1804 to Henry Hildewerth, who also is the purchaser in two other deeds from 1804 and 1810. Alexander granted three separate pieces of land to several men in 1821. Of note is a deed from 1814, in which John Penn, William Penn, Juliana Catherine, and John R. Coates granted Alexander Wilson land in Pittsburgh. There is a folder of information concerning land in Farmanby and there are photographs of this land in volume 79.

c. Miscellaneous, 1793-1936, n.d.

This collection has a large group of photographs, prints, and sketches, which belong mainly to the Trotter family and several members of the Thompson family. Loose photographs have been placed in an album and contain mainly Trotter family photographs. There are small portraits of Charles W. Trotter and Spencer Trotter, who was the grandson of Charles' cousin Newbold Trotter. There is also a picture of a biology class at Swarthmore taken in the 1880s. R.R. Conorro, two children, and an unidentified older woman are represented among the larger photographs. Some of the portraits are prints of drawings and they include pictures of Samuel Thompson, John Eager Howard, George, Fox, and Jonathan Trumbull.

Several photo albums that hold both identified family portraits, usually belonging to the Trotters, and unidentified family portraits belonged to Charles W. Trotter. There is also an album that has the inscription "to Lucy from John Emlen, Christmas 1889," most likely referring to Lucy Church. John Emlen was the nephew of Charles W. Trotter and the grandson of John J. Thompson and Elizabeth H. Thompson. Another album belonged to Mary Ann Evans. All of these volumes lack dates.

Another box contains both loose photographs and prints. The majority depict various homes and estates, both identified and unidentified. There are pictures of Hope Lodge, Chalkley Hall in Frankford, which was built by Abel James, Cloverdale, which was the residence of Walter Newbold, the estate of Michael Newbold, and

Augustine Newbold's home "Brookdale." There is also a series of pictures depicting the grounds of "Sugar Loaf." Captions for the pictures of "Sugar Loaf," which were written by John J. Thompson, identify Helen Newbold Trotter, John J. Thompson, Charles Trotter, John Emlen, and Lucy Church as the people depicted. A picture of Rockaway, Long Island was sent to M.H. Newbold in 1864. The pictures of Cloverdale date to 1886 and some of the "Sugar Loaf" pictures date to 1901, but most of the other pictures do not have dates. Undated pictures of Jonah Thompson's estate in Dorchester, England are also among these photographs.

There are other miscellaneous photographs of meeting houses, including Old Springfield Quaker Meeting House, which was where John J. Thompson's great-great grandparents Michael Newbold and Susannah Schomy were married in 1730. There are also prints of North Line Quaker Meeting House in Julius Wine, New Jersey (undated) and a depiction of the Quaker meeting house in New Garden, North Carolina from 1869. Two photographs date May 26, 1864 show three women and two men at "Lookout Point." There is also a series of unidentified construction pictures.

A group of prints in this series depicts pastoral scenes. England, Switzerland, Wales, and Scotland are all represented among these prints. There are prints of and iron works; a meeting house; a church; residences of Burlington, New Jersey; postcards from Niagara Falls; and postcards of people wearing traditional Swiss and Welsh clothes. There are also several sketches drawn by an unknown artist. They are mainly still life drawings done in pencil of fruit, columns, and houses. Like the photographs, most of the prints and sketches are not dated. Another volume, although not filled with photographs and sketches, has been placed in this subseries. Volume 65 contains various pressed plants and flowers and their names accompany each one. This volume lacks a date and it is unclear to whom it belonged. Another volume served as a census notebook and contains information about many of the residents of Philadelphia. Each page in this undated volume has a title, which refers to a street name (i.e. Spruce Street) and then the residents of this particular street have been listed on the page. One scrapbook has been placed with the photo albums. It does not have a specific date, but the poems, newspaper articles, and invitations range in date from the late nineteenth century to around 1901. Its creator is unclear, but most of the articles were taken from Philadelphia publications and some of the articles had connections to Haverford College.

A European journal inscribed "to My dear father, offered affectionately" recounts the travels of an unidentified person throughout England and Italy. There is also a series of three journals written by the same, unidentified author, which have details of many locations throughout England. There are also loose journal entries, poems, religious papers, and a recipe book.

Separation report

The Writing Master's Assistant Containing a Concise and Practical System for Teaching and Writing (Volume 31), has been removed to the HSP rare book collection at the Library Company of Philadelphia. It has been cataloged under the call number Am 1764 Powell 654 V.31.

Related materials

Nathan Trotter and Company, Collection 1674
Henry Drinker Papers, Collection 1767
Abel James Diary, Collection 317
Grace Growden Galloway Papers, Collection 225
Thomas Nickelson letters, Collection 1995

Other Institutions

Thompson Family Papers, 1751-1876, Haverford College, Collection 855
George Thompson Papers, 1833, 1837-1838, PHMC, Collection MG-138
Jonah Thompson Letters, Friends Historical Library of Swarthmore College.
Trotter Family Papers, Winterthur Library, Collection 325 & 2065
Nathan Trotter Papers, Winterthur Library, Collection 2063

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Ritter, Abraham. *Philadelphia and Her Merchants*. Bedminister: Adams Apple Press, 1993.
Watson, John F. *Annals of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania*
Haverford College
<http://www.haverford.edu/library/franklin/map/index.html>
Obituary of Spencer Trotter
<http://elibrary.unm.edu/sora/Auk/v048n03/p0471-p0476.pdf>
History of Bucks County, Thomas Nickelson and Grace Growden
<http://www.accessible.com/amcnty/PA/bucks/Bucks26.htm>
Durham Township, Lawrence Growden
http://www.livingplaces.com/PA/Bucks_County/Durham_Township.html
Phoenixville History
<http://www.phoenixvillechamber.org/phoenix.html>
Phoenix Iron Works, Penn State University
http://www.libraries.psu.edu/do/digitalbookshelf/27664575/27664575_part_19.pdf

Subjects

Burlington (N.J.) – History
Burlington (N.J.) – Social conditions
Copper mines and mining – Pennsylvania
Copper mines and mining – New Jersey – Bridgewater
Factories – Pennsylvania – 19th century
Iron industry and trade – 19th century

Land speculation
Land titles
Manufacturing industries – Pennsylvania
Mercantile system – United States
Merchants – Correspondence
Merchants – Pennsylvania – Philadelphia
Philadelphia (Pa.) – Commerce
Philadelphia (Pa.) – Economic Conditions
Philadelphia (Pa.) – Industries – 19th century
Philadelphia (Pa.) – Manufactures – 19th century
Philadelphia (Pa.) – Social conditions
Quakers – Pennsylvania – Philadelphia
Quakers – Social life and customs
Shipment of goods
Sugar Act, 1763
Transatlantic voyages – 18th century
United States – History – Revolution, 1775-1783
Women – Social life and customs – Pennsylvania – Philadelphia

Benezet, Anthony, 1713-1784
Chalkley, Thomas, 1675-1741
Drinker, Henry, 1734-1809
Galloway, Grace Growden, d. 1789
Galloway, Joseph, 1731-1803
Growden, Lawrence
James, Abel, d. 1790
Morris, Isaac Paschall, 1803-1869
Newbold, Lydia J.
Newbold, Mary
Poultney, William C.
Thompson, Elizabeth H., 1818-1886
Thompson, George, d. 1861
Thompson, John J.
Thompson, Jonah, 1702 or 3-1780
Thompson, Rebecca James
Tilghman, R.A.
Trotter, Charles W.
Trotter, Joseph
Trotter, Nathan, 1787-1853
Trotter, Newbold Hough, 1827-1898
Wharton, Thomas, 1730-1782

Deaf and Dumb Association (Philadelphia, Pa.)
Eastern State Penitentiary of Pennsylvania
Friends Select School (Philadelphia, Pa.)
Hanover Furnace
I.P. Morris & Company

Phoenix Nail Works
Port Richmond Iron Works
Swarthmore College – Faculty

Administrative Information

Restrictions

None

Acquisition information

Purchased (Gratz Fund).

Lydia Poultney Thompson Ivorytype: Gift of the Estate of Lydia T. Morris, 1932
(Accession 1932.2)

Preferred citation

Cite as: [Indicate cited item or series here], Thompson Family Papers (Collection 654),
The Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

Processing note

Processing made possible by grants from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the
Phoebe W. Haas Charitable Trust.

One folder contains items that have been treated for mold.

Box and folder listing

Series 1. Early Thompsons

Folder title	Date	Box	Folder
Jonah Thompson (d. 1780), sermons and outgoing correspondence	1745-1760	1	1
Agreement between Samuel Pleasants, Daniel McPherson, and Jonah Thompson	October 18, 1783	1	2
John Thompson, incoming correspondence	1781-1819	1	3-4
John Thompson, outgoing correspondence	1770-1799	1	5
John Thompson, marriage certificate and birth information	1782-1866	1	6
John Thompson, legal and financial papers	1776-1824	1	7-9
John Thompson, bonds and notes	1799	1	10
Robert Morris accounts	1793-1803	1	11
John Thompson, estate papers		1	12-29
Miss Mary Thompson's album	August 26, 1827	1	30
Samuel Thompson correspondence	1819-1851	2	1-2
Samuel Thompson financials	1819-1837	2	3-5
Miscellaneous Thompson family papers	1805-1886, n.d.	2	6
Lawson and Thompson family sketches	1812	2	7

Series 2. Jonah Thompson

Folder title	Date	Box	Folder
Incoming	1805-1850	2	8-11
Outgoing	1810-1839	2	12-16
Outgoing letterbook to Lewis Wernwag	1816-1817	2	17
Letterbook, Todhunter & Ralph	1800-1806	Vol. 1	
Letterbook, Todhunter & Ralph	1816-1826	2	18
Todhunter and Ralph, correspondence	1804-1811	2	19-23

Todhunter and Ralph, accounts	1796-1812	2	24-29
Todhunter and Ralph, powers of attorney	1799-1816	3	1-3
John T. Lewis accounts	1834-1839	3	4-6
Ledger	1835-1849	3	7
Receipts, bills, account statements	1814-1838	3	8
Book on Iron Works	1783-1824	3	9-12
Metal information and testing	1828-1830, n.d.	3	13
Taylor Estate in Northern Liberties	1843-1845, n.d.	3	14
Kensington and Northern Liberties: land records	1831-1841	3	15-16
Kensington and Northern Liberties: land sales	1831-1832	3	17
Kensington and Northern Liberties: mortgage information	1831-1844	3	18
Land information for Salem and Harrison counties	1813	3	19
Maurice River information	1817-1832	3	20
New Jersey land papers	1814-1828	3	21
Legal: miscellaneous	1802-1841	3	22
Deaf and Dumb Association: papers	1814-1816, n.d.	3	23
Deaf and Dumb Association: correspondence	1813-1820, n.d.	3	24
Deaf and Dumb Association Notebook	1814-1815	3	25
Journals while abroad	1812	3	26-28
Ledger	1816-1818	Vol. 2	
Ledger A	1828-1831	Vol. 3	
Waste book	1828-1848	Vol. 4	
Waste book B	1848-1860	Vol. 5	
Cash Accounts	1838-1848	Vol. 6	
Settlement of Accounts	1816-1817	Vol. 7	
Account book with John T. Lewis	1828-1841	Vol. 8	
Jonah Thompson and George Thompson account book	1827-1837	Vol. 9	
Account book	1827	Vol. 10	
Phoenix Works Memoranda book	1802-1827	Vol. 11	
Iron Works book	1812-1828	Vol. 12	
Book on machinery	1829	Vol. 13	
Jonah Thompson's references	1834-1855	Vol. 14	

Smith & Hawkins receipt book	1818-1828	Vol. 15	
Memoranda book	n.d.	4	25
Bound pamphlets	1852	4	26
Journal	1811	4	1
Journals	n.d.	4	2
Funeral hymns and school notes	n.d.	4	3
Miscellaneous papers	1814-1845, n.d.	4	4
Miscellaneous notes	1817-1822, n.d.	4	5
Chalkley, Hingstone, and James Families by Jonah Thompson	n.d.	Vol. 16	
Tilton and Spicer Families by Jonah Thompson	n.d.	Vol. 17	
Land surveys	1814, n.d.	20	1

Series 3. George Thompson

Folder title	Date	Box	Folder
Incoming correspondence	1846-1849	4	6-8
Outgoing correspondence	1846-1850	4	9
Iron Works letterbook & accounts	1825-1827	4	10
R.A. Tilghman incoming	1847	4	11
R.A. Tilghman outgoing	1846-1847	4	12
George Thompson related correspondence	1846-1847	4	13
Bills	1846-1849	4	14-18
Receipts	1846-1849	4	19
Bills and receipt book	1847	4	20
Account statements	1846-1849	4	21-26
Ledgers	1842-1843	4	27-28
Memoranda	1846-1847	4	29
Releases and deed poll	1826-1859	4	30
Patent Affairs: Indenture	1848	4	31
Patent: financials	1856-1873	4	32
Patent: Petitions	1831-1858	4	33
Patent: assignments	1857-1870	5	1-3
Act of incorporation & indenture	1832-1865	5	4
Patent: court documents	1869-1871	5	5
Patent affairs: notes and sketches	1846-1849	5	6
Patent affairs: specifications	1847	5	7
Patent affairs: act of incorporation & notes	1849-1850	5	8
Patent affairs: ephemera	1848-1849	5	9

Pennsylvania Salt Company: incoming correspondence	1856-1872	5	10-11
Pennsylvania Salt Company: outgoing correspondence	1854-1869	5	12-13
George Rundle & William Miller for John Savage to George Thompson	1834-1853	5	14-17
George Thompson to William Miller and George Rundle for John Savage	1833-1843	5	18
George Thompson & John J. Thompson correspondence	1835-1855	5	19
George Rundle & William Miller incoming correspondence	1833-1842	5	20
John Savage: financials	1833-1842	5	21-22
John Savage: legal papers	1832-1842	5	23
John Savage Estate, letterbook	1797-1837	Vol. 18	
John Savage Estate, letterbook	1834-1838	Vol. 19	
Land agreement (Huntington Township) with John Savage	1833	20	2
Eastern State Penitentiary: incoming correspondence	1840-1850	5	24-26
Eastern State Penitentiary: outgoing correspondence	1839-1850	5	27
Eastern State Penitentiary: inspection papers and financials	1840-1845	5	28
Eastern State Penitentiary: Robert Harding case	1843-1845	5	29
Will of George Thompson	1836-1876	5	30
Power of attorney for George T. Lewis and S.F. Fisher	1849	5	31
Fire extinguisher patent ephemera	1848-1850	5	32
Miscellaneous papers	1861-1876	5	33
Industrial sketch	n.d.	20	3
Leasee of Howell v. Barclay: correspondence	1815-1864, n.d.	6	1-17
Leasee of Howell v. Barclay: papers	1769-1854, n.d.	6	18-28
Westmoreland land survey	1769	6	29
Westmoreland land draft	1769	20	4

Series 4. James B. Thompson & Lydia Poultney Thompson

Folder title	Date	Box	Folder
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James B. Thompson, Correspondence	1808-1821	7	1
James B. Thompson, estate papers	1815-1842, n.d.	7	2-7
James B. Thompson, Miscellaneous papers	1810-1821	7	8
Lydia P. Thompson, correspondence	1808-1869, n.d.	7	9-10
Lydia P. Thompson ← to William C. Poultney	1818-1820	7	11
Miscellaneous Poultney family correspondence	1792-1805	7	12
Lydia P. Thompson's accounts with Jonah Thompson	1827-1859	7	13-16
Lydia P. Thompson, income tax papers	1863	7	17
Lease agreement	May 9, 1864	7	18
James B. Thompson, arithmetic book	1799	Vol. 20	
James B. Thompson, arithmetic book	1800	Vol. 21	
Lydia P. Thompson, journal	1862-1881	Vol. 22	
Election, Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture	1814	20	5
Ivory type of Lydia P. Thompson	n.d.	22	

Series 5. John J. Thompson & Elizabeth H. Thompson

Folder title	Date	Box	Folder
Correspondence	1834-1903, n.d.	7	19-32
Correspondence with John Thompson of Hitchin	1840-1870	8	1-4
Elizabeth H. Thompson, correspondence	1844-1875	8	5
Letterbook	1839-1841	Vol. 23	
Friends' Select School Papers	1862-1866	8	6
Report cards of John J. Thompson's son	1865-1866	8	7
Ledger	1880-1887	Vol. 24	
Bills and receipts	1838-1868	8	8-23
Towne, Morris, and Company papers	1851-1870, n.d.	8	24-31
Internal Revenue Service form	1868	8	32
Checks & estate insurance policy	1899	8	33
Memoranda book	c. 1860	8	34

Book of poetry & John J. Thompson account statements	c. 1817; 1843-1845	8	35
Estate papers	1880	8	36
Estate of Elizabeth H. Thompson, account statements	1886	8	37
Title papers for land in Chestnut Hill	1846-1883, n.d.	9	1-4
Chestnut Hill brief of title & Elizabeth H. Thompson's will	1864-1886	9	5
Chestnut Hill bond and mortgage	1886	9	6
Elizabeth H. Thompson, daybook/cashbook	1854-1867	Vol. 25	
"The Gates of Paradise: A Dream of Easter Eve"	n.d.	9	7
Greeting Cards	n.d.	9	8-9
Elizabeth H. Thompson, cards	n.d.	9	10
Capital punishment scrapbook	1840s	Vol. 26	
Miscellaneous papers		9	11-17

Series 6. Abel James

Folder title	Date	Box	Folder
Correspondence	1751-1789	9	18-19
Correspondence with Henry Drinker	December 1760-1783	9	20-21
Correspondence with Henry Drinker	1759-1769	20	6
Correspondence, Samuel Foulke to Abel James	1776-1788	9	22
Thomas Wharton, correspondence	1753-1773	9	23-26
Thomas Wharton papers	1753-1769	9	27-28
Thomas Wharton, shipping papers	1761	9	29
Thomas Wharton shipping papers	1761-1765	20	7-9
Correspondence with Robert Pleasants	1776-1783	9	30-33
Tobacco accounts with Robert Pleasants	1776-1792	9	34-37
Abel James, Correspondence with John Harper	1776-1779	10	1-2
Abel James, Tobacco accounts with John Harper	1776-1778	10	3

Abel James, Society for Promoting the Culture of Silk correspondence	May-August 1774	10	4
Abel James, Society for Promoting the Culture of Silk financials	1771-1778	10	5-6
Letterbook	April-July 1770	Vol. 27	
Letterbook	July 1770-November 1774	Vol. 28	
Letterbook	October 1785-February 1790	Vol. 29	
Abel James and Sons papers	1783-1800	10	7-19
Bills & receipts with John Thompson	1775-1790	10	20
Minutes of the Trustees of Abel James	1784-1788	Vol. 30	
Financial papers	1752-1789	10	21
Personal papers	1747-1791	10	22
Susannah James memorial	1774	20	10

Series 7. Related Families

Folder Title	Date	Box	Folder
Elizabeth Hough, invitations	1819-1847, n.d.	10	23-24
Elizabeth Hough, medical bills	1807-1849	10	25-26
Elizabeth Hough, tuition receipts	1830-1857	10	27
Elizabeth Hough, sales book & bill	1846, 1835	10	28
Elizabeth Hough account and receipt books	1846-1861	10	29
Elizabeth & Charlotte Hough, account books	1836-1838	10	30
Elizabeth & Charlotte Hough, financials	1836-1861, n.d.	11	1
Elizabeth & Charlotte Hough, land papers	1804-1855	11	2
Elizabeth Hough, account book	1838	Vol. 32	
Elizabeth Hough, receipt book	1836-1859	Vol. 33	
Jane Hough and Benjamin Hough, wills	1792-1794	11	3
Daniel Hough, will	1797	11	4
Jonathan & William Hough, wills	1781	11	5
Jonathan Hough, estate papers	1815-1844	11	6-7
Joseph N. Hough, estate auction book	December 9, 1834	11	8

Joseph N. Hough, estate cash book	1834-1836	11	9
Joseph N. Hough, estate receipt book	1834-1838	11	10
Joseph N. Hough, estate account book	1835-1836	11	11
Jonathan N. Hough, estate account book	1834-1835-1838	11	12
Jonathan N. Hough, estate financials	1832-1835	11	13
Jonathan N. Hough, estate papers	1835	11	14
Joseph N. Hough, estate daybook	1834-1835	Vol. 34	
Susan Hough, arithmetic book	1801	Vol. 35	
Hough Family, miscellaneous papers	1805-1821, n.d.	11	15-16
Correspondence, Nathaniel Trotter to Elizabeth Trotter	1850	11	17
Trotter Family correspondence	1832-1869	11	18
Joseph Trotter, rent book	1821-1848	11	18
Charles Trotter, invitations	1865-1867, n.d.	11	20
Charles W. Trotter, sketchbook	n.d.	11	21
Charles Trotter, invitation to mayoral dinner	April 30, 1891	11	22
Charles W. Trotter, Ethics lectures vol. 1	n.d.	Vol. 36	
Trotter family, miscellaneous papers	1794-1864, n.d.	11	23
Joseph Trotter, receipt book	1725-1758	Vol. 37	
Benjamin Trotter, receipt book	1733-1768	Vol. 38	
Nathan Trotter, notebook	1830s	Vol. 39	
Elizabeth H. Trotter, album	n.d.	Vol. 40	
"Dorcasian" Poetry	n.d.	Vol. 41	
Newbold Family correspondence	1816-1879	11	24
Samuel H. Newbold papers	1821-1850	11	25
Joseph Newbold, domestic letters	1828-1829	11	26
Joseph Newbold, Mexico letterbook	1827-1829	Vol. 42	
Joseph Newbold, accounts with Lippincott and Kimber	1826-1830	Vol. 43	
John Newbold, daybook	1809-1813	Vol. 44	
John Newbold, daybook	1809-1840	Vol. 45	
John Newbold, Juliustown daybook	1811-1812	Vol. 46	

Mary Newbold correspondence	1813-1859	11	27
Mary Newbold papers	1822-1850	12	1
Mary Newbold, album	December 25, 1883	Vol. 47	
Mary Newbold, "Anti-Slavery Fair"	n.d.	Vol. 48	
Lydia Newbold papers	1815-1876, n.d.	12	2-5
Lydia Newbold, album	1824-1828	Vol. 49	
Book of family poetry (Elizabeth H. Newbold)	1816-1819	12	6
Hillside Journal (Mary Newbold)	1863-1864	12	7
Miscellaneous Newbold papers	1790-1858	12	8
Benjamin Poultney and Richard Wistar papers	1783-1793	12	9
William C. Poultney, Journal while aboard the <i>Washington</i>	1805	Vol. 50	
Thomas Chalkley papers	1701-1741	12	10
Spicer family papers	1607-1760s	12	11
Obituaries	1870-1891	Vol. 51	

Series 8. Estates a. Lawrence Growden

Folder title	Date	Box	Folder
Correspondence	1782-1785	12	12
Letterbook	1771-1783	12	13
Financial	1774-1829	12	14
Ledger	1774-1790	12	15
Calculations of interest	1773-1797	12	16
Land	1773-1785	12	17
Miscellaneous Sarah Growden estate papers	1783-1790	12	18
Durham land papers	1766-1799	12	19-23
Durham land drafts	1788-1789	12	24
Durham lands, account statements	n.d.	12	25
Richland land papers	1780-1786	12	26-28
Hilltown land papers	1747-1791, n.d.	12	29-30
Langhorne Park papers	1785-1789, n.d.	12	31-33
Bensalem land papers	1774-1778	13	1
Correspondence, John Young to Abel James	1785	13	2
Miscellaneous papers	1744-1780	13	3
Growden estate inventory	1765-1783	Vol. 52	
Estate Ledger	1773-1791	Vol. 53	
Estate Ledger	1774-1796	Vol. 54	

Estate Ledger	1784-1802	Vol. 55	
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Series 8. Estates b. Thomas Nickelson

Folder title	Date	Box	Folder
Thomas Nickelson, Correspondence	1772-1787	13	4-5
John Jeffrey correspondence	1788-1794	13	6
Miscellaneous correspondence	1789-1833	13	7
Letterbook	1838-1846	13	8
Account statements	1774-1799	13	9-10
Financials	1776-1838	13	11
Land	1774-1792	13	12-13
Falls Township land	1777-1792	13	14
Richland, Hilltown, and Springfield tax receipts	1774-1783	13	15
Lombard Street lots, correspondence	1802-1851	13	16-21
Correspondence, E.B. Metford to John Thompson	1789-1833	13	22-26
Correspondence, John Jeffrey estate to John Thompson	1829-1850	13	27-28
Correspondence Saunders Lewis to John Thompson	1838-1850	13	29
Correspondence, William Rawle to Saunders Lewis	1846-1849	13	30
Lombard Street lots rent information	1806-1826	13	31
Miscellaneous Lombard Street papers	1838-1851	13	32

Series 8. Estates c. Galloway Family

Folder title	Date	Box	Folder
Grace Galloway papers	1778-1792, n.d.	14	1-5
Grace Galloway, memorial and release	n.d.	14	6
Joseph Galloway papers	1770-1785	14	7
Correspondence, Joseph Galloway to Abel James, John Thompson, et al	1773-1791	14	8
Correspondence, Elizabeth Galloway to Abel James, John Thompson, et al	1778-1789	14	9-15

Elizabeth Galloway, incoming correspondence	1786-1788, n.d.	14	16
Elizabeth Galloway, deed & draft	n.d.	14	17
Grace Galloway estate daybook	1782-1790	14	18
Grace Galloway estate ledger	1782-1789	14	19
Grace Galloway estate meeting minutes	1784-1785	14	20
Grace Galloway estate meeting minutes	1789-1790	14	21
Abel James, miscellaneous correspondence	1785	14	22
Powers of attorney and court documents	1784, n.d.	20	11

Series 8. Estates d. Miscellaneous

Folder title	Date	Box	Folder
Robert Hare Estate: financials	1809-1819	14	23-24
Robert Hare Estate: account statements	1810	14	25
Robert Hare Estate: account statements & deposition	1810-1811	14	26
Robert Hare Estate: powers of attorney & miscellaneous	1809-1847	14	27
Hannah Elton Estate: inventories	1827-1828	14	28
Hannah Elton Estate: vouchers & stocks	1815-1829	14	29
Hannah Elton Estate: receipts	1821-1831	15	1-2
Hannah Elton Estate: receipt book	1817-1824	15	3
Hannah Elton Estate: account statements	1806-1829	15	4
Hannah Elton Estate: account book	1812-1825	15	5
Hannah Elton Estate: George Thompson's account book	1827	15	6
Hannah Elton Estate: financials	1814-1828	15	7
Hannah Elton Estate: Bank book	1827	15	8
Nathaniel Coleman to Hannah Elton	1815-1825	15	9
Hannah Elton: Letterbook & Daybook	1827-1829	Vol. 56	
Sarah Parrock estate papers	1760-1795	15	10

Series 9. Miscellaneous a. Correspondence, Financial, Legal

Folder title	Date	Box	Folder
Correspondence	1769-1863, n.d.	15	11-12
Quaker correspondence	1674-1787	15	13-14
Letter about Samuel Chew, Quaker	1742	15	15
Quaker legal and financial papers	1665-1796	15	16
Quaker meeting minutes	1719	15	17
Quaker meeting minutes & "Account of William Gaskill's death"	1802, 1834	15	18
Quaker papers, Roger Longworth	1670-1674	15	19
Quaker papers, James Harrison	1671-1674	15	20
Quaker papers, Abel James & Israel Pemberton	1743-1763	15	21
Quaker papers, Jonah Thompson	1756-1758	15	22
Quaker papers	1661-1709	15	23-25
Thomas Lawson papers	1653-1657, n.d.	15	26
Correspondence, Thomas Conarro to his wife	1784	15	27
Memorial to Samuel Howell and miscellaneous correspondence	1760-1848	15	28
Census notebook	n.d.	Vol. 57	
Papers	1770-1850, n.d.	16	1-3
Army damage bills	1777-1778	16	4
Financials	1754-1861, n.d.	16	5-9
Account book	n.d.	Vol. 58	
Thomas Reynolds, ledger	1762-1776	Vol. 59	
Hanover Furnace Company, daybook & ledger	1793-1795, 1803	Vol. 60	
Daybook	1845-1850	Vol. 61	
Pleas to the King	May 1754	Vol. 62	
Papers concerning the expiration of the Sugar Act	1764	16	10
Legal papers	1676-1805, n.d.	16	11

Series 9. Miscellaneous b. Land

Folder title	Date	Box	Folder
Deed, Estate of Thomas Cooke	July 20, 1614	16	12
Thomas Budd to George Master	1688	16	13
Isaac Coats to Willam Rush	November 17, 1766	16	14
Release of Dower, Sarah Penier to Abel James	October 3, 1786	16	15

Antram Conarroe & Daniel Trotter to Thomas Conarroe	January 13, 1794	16	16
Henry Drinker to Chalkley James	October 29, 1794	16	17
Robert Morris to John Higbee	May 21, 1797	16	18
Anne Francis and Hannah Greenway	January 1, 1802	16	19
Anne Francis to Henry Hildewerth	January 1, 1802	16	20
John Smith and Henry Hildewerth	1803-1804	16	21
George Leitman and John Smith	1803, 1810	16	22
Joseph Thompson to James Clarke	March 7, 1804	17	1
John Penn, William Penn, John R. Coates to Alexander Wilson	September 26, 1814	17	2
Mortgage, Alexander Wilson to George Thompson	June 5, 1820	17	3
Alexander Wilson to Samuel Howell and John Howell	January 31, 1817	17	4
Alexander Wilson to Joseph Lewis	March 21, 1821	17	5
Alexander Wilson to William Morrison	March 26, 1821	17	6
Thomas Cadwallader to Jonah Thompson	December 16, 1817	17	7
Thomas Morris to Richard Howell	September 22, 1826	17	8
Joseph Smith to Thomas Shields	April 12, 1831	17	9
Joseph Smith to Benjamin Tally	July 12, 1831	17	10
Joseph Smith to Samuel Nightlinger	December 13, 1831	17	11
John T. Lewis to William Bennet	June 1, 1836	17	12
Nathaniel Tilly will and land papers	1751	17	13-14
Miscellaneous wills and estate papers	1790-1836	17	15
Judah Dobson, land leases	1838	17	16
Bridgewater Gap Copper Mines papers	1797-1831	18	1
Farmanby house report and plans	1894	18	2
David and James Wilson, Mount Hope lands	1819	18	3
Huntington County land drafts	1794-1843	18	4
Adams County papers	1837	18	5
Land and estate releases	1800-1834	18	6
Pine Street House papers	1799-1828	18	7

James Easton, land grants & surveys	1796	20	12-14
Plans of Pittsburgh & Easton, PA	1829, n.d.	20	15
James Easton, land grants & surveys	1796	20	12-14
Plans of Pittsburgh & Easton, PA	1829, n.d.	20	15
Land papers	1676-1820, n.d.	18	8-11
“The Tryal in West Jersey”, a copy of deeds	1676-1689	Vol. 63	

Series 9. Miscellaneous c. Miscellaneous

Folder title	Date	Box	Folder
Photographs of churches and meeting houses	n.d.	18	12
Photographs of England	n.d.	18	13-14
Pastoral scenes of England	n.d.	18	15-16
Scenes of Switzerland	n.d.	18	17-21
Prints of Wales & Scotland	n.d.	18	22
Swiss & Welsh costume prints	n.d.	18	23-24
Prints of Burlington, NJ	n.d.	18	25-26
Postcards of Niagra Falls	n.d.	18	27
Prints		18	28
Drawings	n.d.	18	29-31
Sketches and home remedies	n.d.	19	1
Watch papers	n.d.	19	2
Greeting cards	1882, n.d.	19	3-6
Cards	1864-1936, n.d.	19	7
Wall hanging	n.d.	19	8
Memorabilia	1876, n.d.	19	9
James Gallaher’s journal entry	November 8, 1831	19	10
Journal entries & religious papers	1793-1873	19	11
Journal	n.d.	19	12
Poems	n.d.	19	13
Recipe book	n.d.	19	14
Newspaper tax lists	1864-1865	19	15
Newspaper articles: Civil War	1860s	19	16
Newspapers clippings	1860s, n.d.	19	17
Scrapbook	n.d.	Vol. 64	
Plant book	n.d.	Vol. 65	
Notebook	n.d.	Vol. 66	
Poetry book	1830s	Vol. 67	

European travel journal	n.d.	Vol. 68	
British journal #1	n.d.	Vol. 69	
British journal #2	n.d.	Vol. 70	
British journal #3	n.d.	Vol. 71	
Photographs and prints	1864-1901, n.d.	Box 21	
John Emlen to Lucy, Photo Album	c. 1889	Vol. 72	
Charles W. Trotter, Photo Album #1	n.d.	Vol. 73	
Charles W. Trotter, Photo Album #2	n.d.	Vol. 74	
Mary Ann Evans, Photo Album	n.d.	Vol. 75	
Photo Album 1	n.d.	Vol. 76	
Photo Album 2	n.d.	Vol. 77	
Photo Album 3	n.d.	Vol. 78	
Photo Album 4 [black one]	n.d.	Vol. 79	
Miniature photo album	n.d.	Vol. 80	