OLIVIA S. T. PRUYN, COLLECTOR.
FAMILY PAPERS, 1604-1856.
GUIDE
Summary: Journal-account book (1823) kept by George Talcott, U.S. Army Ordnance Department, while on an official surveying trip through Ohio, Kentucky, and Tennessee; one letter to Talcott from Winfield Scott (1842) concerning a recently invented machine for throwing shot; thirty-six Mexican War letters, chiefly to Talcott at Washington, D.C., from Benjamin Huger, Scott’s chief of ordnance, concerning the capture of Vera Cruz, the march on Mexico City, the storms of Chapultepec, and the numerous difficulties encountered on this campaign; but also from Alexander Brydie Dyer, describing the action taken to quell the Taos uprising and other events; and from Josiah Gorss, George Douglas Ramsay, and other officers; one diary (1841-1842) of Talcott’s son, Sebastian Visscher Talcott, kept during the official survey of the Northeastern boundary of the United States. Also, personal and business correspondence and accounts, estate settlement papers, deeds, bills, and miscellaneous papers of the related Talcott, Shearman (Sherman), Bosard, and Gibson families; fair copies of 17th and 18th century wills and inventories. Places represented include Braintree, Essex County, England; Glastonbury; Wethersfield; Connecticut; Albany; Canandaigua; New York City; Rochester; and Utica, New York; and Danville, Illinois.


Cite as: Olivia S. T. Pruyn, Collector, Family Papers, #2087. Department of Manuscripts and University Archives, Cornell University Libraries.

PRUYN, OLIVIA S. T., Collector. Family Papers, 1604-[1787-1856]; 8 in. Include a journal-account book (1823) kept by George Talcott, U.S. Army Ordnance Department, while on an official surveying trip through Ohio, Kentucky, and Tennessee; one letter to Talcott from Winfield Scott (1842) concerning a recently invented machine for throwing shot; thirty-five Mexican War letters, chiefly to Talcott at Washington, D.C. from Benjamin Huger, Scott's chief of ordnance, concerning the capture of Vera Cruz, the march on Mexico City, the storming of Chapultepec, and the numerous difficulties encountered on this campaign, but also from Alexander Brydie Dyer, describing the action taken to quell the Taos uprising and other events, and from Josiah Gorgas, George Douglas Ramsay, and other officers; one diary (1841-1842) of Talcott's son, Sebastian Visscher Talcott, kept during the official survey of the Northeastern boundary of the United States. Also, personal and business correspondence and accounts, estate settlement papers, deeds, bills, and miscellaneous papers of the related Talcott, Shearman (Sherman), Bogart, and Gibson Families; fair copies of 17th and 18th Century wills and inventories. Braintree, Essex County, England; Glastonbury, Wethersfield, Connecticut; Albany, Canandaigua, New York City, Rochester, Utica, New York; Danville, Illinois. (2087)
Pruyn, Olivia S  T collector.  
Family papers, 1604-1856.  2 boxes.
In Cornell University Library, Collection of Regional History and University Archives (2087)

Journal-account book (1823) kept by George Talcott, U. S. Army Ordance Dept., while on an official surveying trip through Ohio, Kentucky, and Tennessee; 35 Mexican War letters, chiefly to Talcott at Washington, D. C., from Benjamin Huger and others; diary (1841-42) of Talcott's

(Continued on next card)

(Card 2)

Pruyn, Olivia S  T collector.  
Family papers, 1604-1856.  (Card 2)

son, Sebastian Visscher Talcott, kept during the official survey of the Northeastern boundary of the U. S.; personal and business correspondence and accounts, estate settlement papers, deeds, bills, and miscellaneous papers of the related Talcott, Shearman (Sherman), Bogart, and Gibson families; and copies of 17th and 18th century wills and inventories. Places represented include Braintree, Eng., Glaston-

(Continued on next card)

(Card 3)

Pruyn, Olivia S  T collector.  
Family papers, 1604-1856.  (Card 3)

bury and Wethersfield, Conn., Danville, Ill., and Albany, Canandaigua, New York City, Rochester, and Utica, N. Y.


Gift of Miss Pruyn, 1961.

Library of Congress  

MS 66-791
Pruyn, Olivia S. T., Collector. Family Papers, 1604-[1787-1856].

*Include a journal—account book (1823) kept by George Talcott, U.S. Army Ordnance Department, while on an official surveying trip through Ohio, Kentucky, and Tennessee; one letter to Talcott from Winfield Scott (1842) concerning a recently invented machine for throwing shot; thirty-six Mexican War letters, chiefly to Talcott at Washington, D.C. from Benjamin Huger, Scott's chief of ordnance, concerning the capture of Vera Cruz, the march on Mexico City, the storming of Chapultepec, and the numerous difficulties encountered on this campaign, but also from Alexander Brydie Dyer, describing the action taken to quell the Taos uprising and other events, and from Josiah Gorgas, George Douglas Ramsay, and other officers; one diary (1841-1842) of Talcott's son, Sebastian Visscher Talcott, kept during the official survey of the Northeastern boundary of the United States. Also, personal and business correspondence and accounts, estate settlement papers, deeds, bills, and miscellaneous papers of the related Talcott, Shearman (Sherman), Bogart, and Gibson Families; fair copies of 17th and 18th Century wills and inventories. Braintree, Essex County, England; Glastonbury, Wethersfield, Connecticut; Albany, Canandaigua, New York City, Rochester, Utica, New York; Danville, Illinois. 8 in. (360 pcs., 2 MS vols.).

Main entry:

Pruyn, Olivia S. T., Collector. Family Papers, 1604-[1787-1856].

Cross references to main entry:

Scott, Winfield, 1786-1866
Talcott, Sebastian Visscher, 1812-
*Talcott, George Henry, 1854
Bogart Family
Gibson Family
Shearman (Sherman) Family
United States (Northeastern boundary)
U.S. Army (Ordnance Department)

Cards made on Mexican War letters listed on separate sheet.
GEORGE TALCOTT JOURNAL
1823-1824
1 Vol.

from the Olivia S. T. Pruyn Papers
Olivia S.T. Pruyn, Collector. Family Papers.

J. Greiman's Notes:

360 pcs. in all. 2 diaries.

Box I

Sept. 11, 1604- Sept. 17, 1823

Legal documents:

2. Inventory of John Talcott Estate- June 4, 1660, Hartford, Conn.

Letters:

1. Family letters.
   a) Toriee Goodrich, Charles Dickinson, and Jedediah Waterman form co-partnership in a ship chancellory line. Dec. 20, 1802. (chandler-?)
   b) receipts, bills, letters of attorney.
   c) July 10, 1812- 2 letters, War of 1812. George Talcott begs G.T. Jr. to come home to Glastenbury before the British fleet gets him.
   d) letters from Angelica Talcott to George Talcott, June 26, 1816, July 17, 1816, and Aug. 13, 1816.
   e) letters (inventories) by Sherman.
   f) July 7, 1817- Letter to Capt. Talcott from J. Miller Byent (?) asking Talcott for permission to have the President use his horse.
   g) Watts Sherman:
      accounts- receipts and expenditures, accounts of Estate, Aug. 27, 1816, Dec. 6, 1819, Dec. 11, 1819, Aug. 23, 1820, Aug. 31, 1820.
   h) letter to Isaac H. Bogart from George Talcott- Dec. 18, 1820, subject: burning of steam boat; boilers explode, narrow escape for George and Angelica and children.


Maria Sherman- one of the executors of Watts Sherman Estate, Jan. 31, 1821.
Olivia S. T. Pruyn, Collector. Family Papers. #2087

J. Greiman's Notes:

Will of Watts Sherman (New York City) Inventory of Estate- April 5, 1822.
i) Letter to Maria Sherman from Olivia Sherman- Aug. 5, 1822, Account of Watts Sherman Estate- Nov. 6, 1822.
j) 2 letters to Maria Sherman from Robert (husband) Nov. 17, 1822.
   Amanda L. Sherman Account- Feb. 18, 1823
   Opinions on Will of Watts Sherman by Judge Jonas Platt- May 26, 1823.
   Also opinion of Joseph Kirkland.

150 pieces.

Children: sons: Henry, James, Charles A. daughters: Maria, Lucy, Olivia (Sally).

Diary: (brown leather cover, string clasp)
   Includes: Descriptions of 1. cities in Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York.
   2. transportation
   3. food
   4. roads
   5. countryside
   6. Dams
   Itinerary- day by day account of regions surveyed.
   Accounts- expenses.

Box II
Sept. 17, 1823- Dec. 10, 1838.
- 2 letters of Administration on the estates of Olivia and Lucy A. Sherman.
  Administrator: Robert Shearman- Sept. 17, 1823.
- Personal property record of Watts Sherman- Sept. 8, 1824. 2 Accounts of Watts Sherman Estate- Sept. 8, 1824.
- Certificate to George Talcott for degree of Master Mason in Lawrenceville, Pa. 1824.
- E.B. Sherman lease to James H. Hackett- for 2 years from May 1, 1825, land and buildings in Utica- Genesee St.
- Deed of above land from E.B. Sherman and wife Sarah to Robert Sherman, Sept. 1, 1825.
Olivia S.T. Pruyn, Collector. Family Papers.

J. Greiman's Notes:

- Sept. 30, 1823- Letter from Robert Sherman to Alexander Seymour and Sands Higinbotham about Inventory of Olivia and Lucy Sherman from their executor of Watts Sherman Estate.
- November 15, 1823 Letter to Mrs. Robert Sherman (Maria) from Robert, about search for Jane Wilson and the meeting of friends.
- Nov. 23, 1823- Will of Robert Sherman, Rhode Island.
- Feb. 28, 1824- Watts Sherman Estate Account.
- March 17, 1824-Letter to Joshua Hathaway, Esquire (Surrogate of County of Oneida from Robert Sherman ) "statement and report of the Olivia and Lucy Sherman estate.
- Sept. 24, 1824- Letter to Robert Sherman from Maria Sherman about illness of Maria's illness and profession of faith in God.
- Dec. 22, 1824- Letter to Mr. R. Sherman from B.B. Lansing, Utica business.

Legal Documents:
- July 1, 1825- certificate- 10 shares in the US Lombard Assoc. for George Talcott.
- Jan. 12, 1827- Deed from Alexander Seymour and Sands Higginbotham to Robert Sherman for Watts Sherman's estate.
- Dec. 7, 1829- Revised last will of Robert Sherman.
- March 24, 1830- Robert Sherman and Samuel Thomson partnership agreement "partners in trade under firm of Sherman and Thomson."
- July 23, 1830- Honor Sherman's authorization for Thomas S. Taylor to lease her real estate in Rhode Island (town of Exeter) and transact her business.
- March 10, 1830-1-Samuel Thomson signs over to Robert Sherman his right title and interest in and to the partnership debts, full power to collect and receive debts. 2- Accounts of debts to be collected and received.
- March 10, 1831- [Bond] - Samuel Thomson breaks partnership with Robert Sherman and turns over all his rights and interests in the firm.
- 1- one obligation: within 18 months of listed date, Thomson must pay 3,000 for payment of uncollected debts.
- 2- accounts of debts.
- Feb. 3, 1827- Will of Robert Sherman, Jr. (daughter- Olivia Sherman)
April 23, 1830, agreement: W. Barron Williams rents from Robert Sherman a 2-story store on Carrole St. in Rochester.

April 23, 1831 Williams receives 2,000 from R. Sherman in settlement with account in the agreement.

Jan. 1, 1832 Account of W.P. Sherman Estate (William Pitt ?)

Jan 1, 1832 Bond of Robert Sherman to Willette H. Sherman the sum of 4 thousand.

Jan 1, 1832 Bond of R. Sherman to Willette H. Sherman the sum of nine thousand.

Jan 10, 1832 Bond R. Sherman to Jonathan Sherman the sum of 2,000.

Jan 10, 1832 Bond R. Sherman to Jonathan Sherman the sum of 2,000.

March 8, 1832 R. Sherman in account with W. Barron Williams.

April 10, 1832 Williams' promise to pay R. Sherman $414.56 after 13 months.


Sept. 13, 1832 Williams' promise to pay Sherman 242.45 after 4 months.

Sept. 10, 1832 Account of back debts of late firm of Sherman and Thomson.

Sept. 10, 1832 statement of property purchases of Robert Sherman.

Oct. 30, 1832 Statement of indebtedness of Samuel Lizer to R. Sherman and Bob Jones (about 200 dollars.)

Nov. 22, 1832 Elisha Cary turns over all right, title and interest in the lumber at rear of Henry Seymour's lot.

Jan. 23, 1833 Sherriff's certificate stating sale of land (Utica) owned by Abby Jane Flanreau in favor of Robert Sherman.

July 1, 1833 Robert Sherman transfers to EBEN B. Sherman the right to collect and receive the debts and notes of his accounts for endorsing his 6 promissory notes which total 2,928.86.

Also account.

LETTER to daughter Olivia Sherman from Robert Sherman July 19, 1833 R.S. illness.

Aug. 19, 1833 W.B. Williams notes due to R. Sherman.

April 10, 13, 1833 W.B. Williams notes endorsed to Robert S.

1834 Gideon Sherman and wife give up all rights and titles to Robert Sherman's will to inherit his real estate when R.S.'s wife, Honor, dies. Gideon-son of R.S. of Rhode Island.

2 Bills of R. Sherman-1835. (for nails, shoes for horse, etc.)

July 28, 1835 25 week subscription to Utica Observer R.S.
Olivia S.T. Pruyn, Collector. Family Papers. #2087

J. Greiman's Notes:

- 1835 and 1836- Bills of R.S. for misc. material (and receipts)
- Jan. 1, 1837 Bill of Deborah Rowland for 32.20 to the late firm of Sherman and Thomson.
- Sept. 7, 1838 Utica E.B. Sherman informs Olivia Sherman of death of her father, Robert.

144 pieces.

Box III
Dec. 21, 1838- July 28, 1856 and undated.
Diary kept by Sebastian Vischer Talcott, son of George Talcott (who kept other diary) of Albany. He married Olivia Sherman, daughter of Robert Sherman.
April 28, 1841 to Aug. 27, 1842- In Army
Green leather-
Includes: Accounts- expenses.
S.V.T. assessed and surveyed lands - N.Y. St. John's River, Mass., Conn.
2 pencil drawings by S.B. Talcott of Lake Trois Sammon (?).
1 page comparison of Prismatic Compasses June 24, 1842.
1 page comparison of Chronometers June 1841.
- Dec. 26, 1838 Utica Certificate giving Willett H. Sherman the letters of Administra-
tion of the Robert Sherman Estate.
- Dec. 26, 1838 surrogate Letter of Administration on the personal Estate of R.S. to W.H.S.
- Sept. 7, 1839, June 1839- Accounts of R.S. estate.
- Oct. 5, 1839- Lara Sherman as widow of R.S. releases all claims of estate to W.H. Sherman
- 1839 Map 1) disputed territory upper N.Y. lower Canada
- 1839, 40- Bill and receipts of R.S. estate.

Personal Letters:
- letter to Lieut. Col. Talcott from Winfield Scott, subject: Mr. Bonton's machine (invention) for throwing shots (balls) Feb. 14, 1842.
- letter to Col. Talcott from Andrew Meneely (West Troy Albany N.Y.) "wants to sell levelling and surveying instruments to government--- asks Talcott to help him." May 17, 1842.
Olivia S.T. Pruyn, Collector. Family Papers.

J. Greiman's Notes:

- letter 2 invitations to Col. Talcott to visit the US ship "Princeton" at Greenleap Point(?) Feb. 14, 1844, from Capt. R.F. Stockton.
- Personal letters to Olivia Sherman Talcott from E.B. Sherman Utica 1844.
- letter to E.B. Sherman from Olivia Talcott "wants settlement papers of father's estate and advice on selling grandfathers farm to Cousin Joseph".
- letter to Col. Talcott from James Baldwin Nov. 15, 1845, subject: school tax in district; money used to build a school.
- letter to Col. Talcott from W.H. Sherman Jan. 17, 1846. subject: administration of R.S. Estate also farm in Rhode Island.
- March 21, 1846 Estate R.S. to Estate E.B. Sherman.
- March 21, 1846 Estate R.S. To estate WH Sherman.
- letter June 1, 1846 to S.V. Talcott from W.H. Sherman subject: selling farm in Rhode Island to cousin Joseph, investigation of funds paid by R.S. to Mrs. Holchetrass (?) a larger amount than entitled to receive.
- letter Oct. 21, 1846 to S.V. Talcott from Mr. Duncan subject: value of farm in Rhode Island worth 300.
- Nov. 10, 1847, Washington, to S.V. Talcott from James Buchanan introducing Charles Kugler Esq.
- 1851- The Sherman family line.
- July 28, 1856, Danville, Ill. Redemption of real estate taxes. Andrew Hale turns over right to land to S.V. Talcott.

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Misc. undated:

Descriptions of Franklin and St. Lawrence County, N.Y.

66 pieces.
Concerned mainly with the Talcott and Sherman [Shearman] families. Contain legal documents such as wills, estate inventories, leases, deeds, partnership agreements, bonds, letters of administration, powers of attorney, and estate transferrals of the two families; accounts of estates, debts, receipts, bills, and expenditures; personal and family letters, including correspondence between George Talcott and George Talcott, Jr. (July 10, 1812); George Talcott and his wife, Angelica Talcott (June 26, 1816-August 13, 1816); George Talcott and his father-in-law, Isaac H. Bogart (Dec. 18, 1820); Maria Shearman, daughter of Watts and Olivia Sherman and wife of Robert Shearman, and her sister, Olivia Sherman (August 5, 1822); Maria Shearman and Robert Shearman (Nov. 17, 1822, Nov. 15, 1823, Sept. 24, 1824); Robert Shearman and daughter, Olivia M. Shearman (July 19, 1833); Olivia [Shearman] Talcott and Eben B. Shearman (1844); Sebastian Vischers Talcott, husband of Olivia Shearman, and Willette H. Shearman (January 17, 1846-June 1, 1846); a report stating the opinions of Judge Jonas Platt and Joseph Kirkland on the will of Watts Sherman (May 26, 1823); a certificate issuing ten shares in the United States Lombard Association for George Talcott; a sheriff's certificate in favor of Robert Shearman in the selling of land in Utica owned by Abby Jane Flandreau (January 23, 1833); a map of disputed territory in the Upper New York--Lower Canada area (1839); a statement showing the redemption of real estate taxes, wherein Andrew Hale turns over his rights to land in Danville, Ill. to Sebastian Vischer Talcott (July 28, 1856); a paper with genealogy of the Sherman family; undated descriptions of Franklin County and Town of Bloomfield, St. Lawrence County, in New York State; two diaries--one diary kept by George Talcott, United States Army, consisting of a surveyor's record of land in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York
with an account of expenses and an itinerary of daily accounts of regions surveyed (June 1823); one diary by Sebastian Vischer Talcott of Albany, son of George Talcott, consisting of an account of expenses and regions surveyed—New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut—a comparison of chronometers, a comparison of Prismatic Compasses, and two pencil drawings of Lake Trois Sa.mm.an [?] (April 28, 1841—August 27, 1842); two invitations of Colonel Talcott to visit the U.S. ship "Princeton" from Captain R. F. Stockton (Feb. 14, 1844); a certificate giving George Talcott the degree of Master Mason.

Non-family correspondence between:

Captain George Talcott and J. Miller Eyant (?) concerning a request to have the President use Talcott's horse (July 7, 1817); Robert Shearman and Alexander Seymour, Sands Higinbotham concerning the inventory of the Olivia and Lucy Sherman estate (Sept. 30, 1823); Robert Shearman and Surrogate Joshua Hathaway, Esquire, concerning a statement and report of the Olivia and Lucy Sherman estate (March 17, 1824); Robert Shearman and B. B. Lansing concerning Utica business plans (December 22, 1824); Major George Talcott and Hon. Lewis Cass, Department of War, Washington D.C., concerning a request for suggestions for an alteration in military code (May 25, 1832); Colonel Talcott and Winfield Scott concerning an invention by Mr. Bouton which throws shots (balls) (February 14, 1842); Colonel Talcott and Andrew Keneely concerning assistance in selling levelling and surveying instruments to the government (May 17, 1842); Colonel Talcott and James Baldwin concerning the collection of school taxes in a district where there is no school (Nov. 15, 1845); Sebastian Vischer Talcott and Mr. Duncan concerning the value of a farm in Rhode Island (October 21, 1846); Sebastian Vischer Talcott and James Buchanan concerning the introduction of Charles Kugler, Esquire (Nov. 10, 1847); Sebastian Vischer Talcott and W. H. Seward concerning Mr. Babcock and his invention of a new combination of metals (January 26, 1850).
Olivia S.T. Pruyn, Collector. Family Papers.

Box 4

Mexican War Letters, listed on separate pages.

ACCD 02/23/88
George Talcott court martial: photocopy of pamphlet "Review of the Testimony given before the General Court Martial, upon the Trial of Brig. General George Talcott, in June and July, 1851; and of the Proceedings of the Court. By a Counsellor at Law. To Which is Appended a copy of the Record of the Trial." Albany: Joel Munsell, 58 State Street, 1851. 112 pp. Original in National Archives.
OLIVIA S. T. PRUYN, COLLECTOR. CHECKLIST OF MEXICAN WAR LETTERS; 36 letters (37 items)

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>WRITER</th>
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<th>OTHER COMMENTS</th>
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<td>Dec. 13, 1846</td>
<td>Major Craig</td>
<td>John F. Lee</td>
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<td>Dec. 31, 1846</td>
<td>John F. Lee</td>
<td>George Talcott</td>
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<td>George Talcott</td>
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<td>Benj. Huger</td>
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<td>Benj. Huger</td>
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<td>Mar. 25, 1847</td>
<td>Benj. Huger</td>
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<td>Mar. 28, 1847</td>
<td>Benj. Huger</td>
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<td>Mar. 30, 1847</td>
<td>Benj. Huger</td>
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<td>Apr. 1, 1847</td>
<td>A. B. Dyer</td>
<td>George Talcott</td>
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<td>Apr. 5, 1847</td>
<td>Benj. Huger</td>
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<td>Apr. 8, 1847</td>
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<td>Apr. 10, 1847</td>
<td>W. W. S. Eliss</td>
<td>George D. Ramsay</td>
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<td>May 21, 1847</td>
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<td>George Talcott</td>
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<td>May 29, 1847</td>
<td>J. Gorgas</td>
<td>A. R. Hetzel</td>
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<td>Jun. 4, 1847</td>
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<td>George Ramsay</td>
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<td>George Talcott</td>
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<tr>
<td>33. Oct. 27, 1847</td>
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**SUMMARY:**

29 letters to Talcott, 21 from B. Huger
4 from Dyer
2 from Ramsay
1 from Gorgas
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3 letters to Hetzel, all from Gorgas
2 letters to Ramsay, 1 each from Bliss and Byrne
1 letter to Lee, from Craig
1 letter to Worth, from B. Huger

Corr., KJ, 2/64.
Cards made on Mexican War Letters:

Added entries: [to all]

Dyer, Alexander Brydie, 1815-1874 [3]
Gorgas, Josiah, 1818-1883 [2]
Huger, Benjamin, 1805-1877 [3]
Lee, (Captain) John Fitzgerald, 1802-1884 [2]
Ramsay, (Captain) George Douglas, 1802-1882 [3]
Worth, William Jenkins, 1794-1849 [1]

Cross references:

Mexican War (military operations)
Pueblo Indians (Taos Uprising, 1847)
Hetzel, (Captain) Abner Rivière, -1869
Craig, (Major) Henry Knox, -1869
Taylor, Zachary, 1784-1850
Bliss, William Wallace Smith, -1850
Byrne, (Doctor) Bernard Myles, -1850

Note on Benjamin Huger’s letter to George Talcott, Dec. 8, 1847 (last para.):

"Gen[l] S[cott]'s official dispatches we hear must have reached Washington on 12th
Novr. The first two sets were lost - and private letters had reached giving
most incorrect and one sided accounts. - These private letters have been the
indirect cause of the Arrest of Gen[l] [William Jenkins] Worth, [Gideon Johnson]
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DAB says of Worth (1794-1849): at end of Vera-Cruz-Mexico City expedition, Worth
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DAB on Pillow (1806-1878): Pillow considered himself Polk’s special representative
--had confidential correspondence with Polk -- quarrel with Scott -- Scott charged him with authorship of
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should be taken against Pillow. Polk though: Pillow to be greatly persecuted by Scott.
Letters, Santa Fe, N.M., Feb. 17, 1847, to Lt. Colonel George Talcott, Ordnance Dept., Washington, D.C., from A. B. Dyer, in which the writer gives an account of military action taken to quell the uprising of the Pueblo Indians in January 1847, at La Cañada (present Santa Cruz) and San Fernando de Taos; Santa Fe, April 1, 1847, unofficial request to be allowed, should the war end, to return to the States before the next winter; Santa Fe, August 11, 1847, stating that he has just written a formal request that he be relieved from further duty in New Mexico and discussing the progress of the war, difficulties facing the U.S. in governing the territory, and plundering of wagon trains by prairie Indians; Chihuahua, Mexico, April 6, 1848, describing the pursuit of General Frias [?] from El Paso del Norte to Chihuahua and the subsequent engagement at Santa Cruz de Rosales and speculating concerning an armistice and treaty of peace.


INFORMATION ON THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE OBTAINED FROM THE ABOVE SOURCES:

Burne, Bernard Kyles, born in Ireland, appointed from Md., Ass't. Surgeon May 20, 1836. Major Surgeon March 31, 1853. Died Sept. 6, 1860. On pp. 612 of Wilcox's History Of The Mexican War he is listed as Assistant Surgeon (rank of Captain).

Hetzel, Abner Riviere, born in Penna., appointed from Penna., entered West Point Military Academy July 1, 1823 and graduated July 1, 1827. In History of the Mexican War he is listed as Ass't. Quartermaster (rank of Captain). Died July 20, 1847 at Louisville, Ky.


Craig, Henry †, Major in the Ordnance Dept. of U. S. Army, died 1869.

Lee, John Fitzgerald, died June 17, 1884
Ramsay, (Captain) George Douglas, 1802-1882  #2087

Pruyn, Olivia J. T., Collector. Family Papers, 1604-[1787-1856].

Letter to Col. George Talbot, Washington, from Ramsay, April 19, 1847, concerning problems facing the staff corps of supplies in the field, failure of army to confer as agreed upon his plan enclosing a copy of letter, Monterey, Mexico, April 12, 1847, to him, from W. H. J. Bliss, Assistant Adjutant General, quoting from a letter the latter has just received from the Commanding General [Taylor] the effect that Ramsay

(Cont. Card 2)

Ramsay, (Captain) George Douglas, 1802-1882  #2087

Pruyn, Olivia J. T., Collector. Family Papers, 1604-[1787-1856].

served actively on his staff in the attack on Monterey on March 23rd; letter, August 31, 1847, Ramsay to Talbot, enclosing a copy of a letter Ramsay has just received from his friend, Dr. B. H. Byrne, U.S.A., dated August 25th, from Saltillo, and containing an excerpt from a letter written by an Englishman from Mexico City on the 14th, in which the latter describes

(Cont. Card 3)

Worth, William Jenkins, 1794-1849  #2087

Pruyn, Olivia J. T., Collector. Family Papers, 1604-[1787-1856].

Letter (2 fair copies in different hands) from Benjamin Huger to General Worth, written from the National Palace of Mexico, September 15, 1847, in which he reports on the operations of the siege train after the storming of Chapultepec. See also Gorgas, Josiah.
Among the materials in the Collection of Miss Olivia S. T. Pruyn recently acquired by the Collection of Regional History & University Archives, Cornell University, are a diary, 1841-42, kept by Sebastian Talcott while on an official government survey of the northeast boundary, and thirty-four Mexican War letters. The war letters, official and unofficial, describe scenes and combat. Among the correspondents are Benjamin Huger, General Scott's chief of ordnance on the march from Vera Cruz to Mexico City, Alexander Brydie Dyer, chief of ordnance of the army invading New Mexico, later in command of Union ordnance during the Civil War, and Josiah Gorgas, subsequently chief of ordnance, CSA, and the father of William C. Gorgas.
TALCOTT, SEBASTIAN VISSCHER, civil engineer, surveyor, author, was born November 24, 1812, in New York city, N. Y. On the election of Horatio Seymour as governor of New York in 1862, Talcott was appointed by him quartermaster-general of the state, with the rank of brigadier-general, and served through the administration. He compiled and published "The Talcott Pedigree"; and "Genealogical Notes of New York and New England Families."

Herringshaw's Encyclopedia of American Biography
(Chicago, Ill: American Publishers' Association, 1901)
with an account of expenses and an itinerary of daily accounts of regions surveyed (June 1823); one diary by Sebastian Vischer Talcott of Albany, son of George Talcott, consisting of an account of expenses and regions surveyed—New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut—a comparison of chronometers, a comparison of Prismatic Compasses, and two pencil drawings of Lake Trois Sa.mm.an (? ) (April 28, 1841-August 27, 1842); two invitations of Colonel Talcott to visit the U.S. ship "Princeton" from Captain R. F. Stockton (Feb. 14, 1844); a certificate giving George Talcott the degree of Master Mason.

Non-family correspondence between:

Captain George Talcott and J. Miller Eyant (?) concerning a request to have the President use Talcott's horse (July 7, 1817); Robert Shearman and Alexander Seymour, Sands Higinbotham concerning the inventory of the Olivia and Lucy Sherman estate (Sept. 30, 1823); Robert Shearman and Surrogate Joshua Hathaway, Esquire, concerning a statement and report of the Olivia and Lucy Sherman estate (March 17, 1824); Robert Shearman and B. B. Lansing concerning Utica business plans (December 22, 1824); Major George Talcott and Hon. Lewis Cass, Department of War, Washington D.C., concerning a request for suggestions for an alteration in military code (May 25, 1832); Colonel Talcott and Winfield Scott concerning an invention by Mr. Bouton which throws shots (balls) (February 14, 1842); Colonel Talcott and Andrew Keneely concerning assistance in selling levelling and surveying instruments to the government (May 17, 1842); Colonel Talcott and James Baldwin concerning the collection of school taxes in a district where there is no school (Nov. 15, 1845); Sebastian Vischer Talcott and Mr. Duncan concerning the value of a farm in Rhode Island (October 21, 1846); Sebastian Vischer Talcott and James Buchanan concerning the introduction of Charles Kugler, Esquire (Nov. 10, 1847); Sebastian Vischer Talcott and W. H. Seward concerning Mr. Babcock and his invention of a new combination of metals (January 26, 1850).
Olivia S.T. Pruyn, Collector. Family Papers.

Box 4

Mexican War Letters, listed on separate pages.

ACCD 02/23/88
George Talcott court martial: photocopy of pamphlet "Review of the Testimony given before the General Court Martial, upon the Trial of Brig. General George Talcott, in June and July, 1851; and of the Proceedings of the Court. By a Counsellor at Law. To Which is Appended a copy of the Record of the Trial." Albany: Joel Munsell, 58 State Street, 1851. 112 pp. Original in National Archives.
# Checklist of Mexican War Letters

**Olivia S. T. Pruyn, Collector**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Writer</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
<th>No. of Pcs.</th>
<th>Other Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 13, 1846</td>
<td>Major Craig</td>
<td>John F. Lee</td>
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<td>Original</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 31, 1846</td>
<td>John F. Lee</td>
<td>George Talcott</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Original</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 17, 1847</td>
<td>A. B. Dyer</td>
<td>George Talcott</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>Feb. 20, 1847</td>
<td>Benj. Huger</td>
<td>George Talcott</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Original</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 27, 1847</td>
<td>Benj. Huger</td>
<td>George Talcott</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Original</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 9, 1847</td>
<td>Benj. Huger</td>
<td>George Talcott</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Original</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 20, 1847</td>
<td>Benj. Huger</td>
<td>George Talcott</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 25, 1847</td>
<td>Benj. Huger</td>
<td>George Talcott</td>
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<td>Original</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 28, 1847</td>
<td>Benj. Huger</td>
<td>George Talcott</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 30, 1847</td>
<td>Benj. Huger</td>
<td>George Talcott</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Original</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 1, 1847</td>
<td>A. B. Dyer</td>
<td>George Talcott</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Original</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 5, 1847</td>
<td>Benj. Huger</td>
<td>George Talcott</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Original</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 8, 1847</td>
<td>Benj. Huger</td>
<td>George Talcott</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Original</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 10, 1847</td>
<td>W. W. S. Bliss</td>
<td>George D. Ramsay</td>
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<td>Apr. 20, 1847</td>
<td>George Ramsay</td>
<td>George Talcott</td>
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<td>Apr. 28, 1847</td>
<td>Benj. Huger</td>
<td>George Talcott</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Original</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 18, 1847</td>
<td>Benj. Huger</td>
<td>George Talcott</td>
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<td>Original</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 21, 1847</td>
<td>Benj. Huger</td>
<td>George Talcott</td>
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<td>Original</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 29, 1847</td>
<td>J. Gorgas</td>
<td>A. R. Hetzel</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Fair Copy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun. 4, 1847</td>
<td>Benj. Huger</td>
<td>George Talcott</td>
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<td>Original</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun. 5, 1847</td>
<td>J. Gorgas</td>
<td>A. R. Hetzel</td>
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<td>Fair Copy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun. 9, 1847</td>
<td>J. Gorgas</td>
<td>A. R. Hetzel</td>
<td>1</td>
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*See #29.
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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
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<th>RECIPIENT</th>
<th>NO. of PCS.</th>
<th>OTHER COMMENTS</th>
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<td>23. Aug. 6, 1847</td>
<td>Benj. Huger</td>
<td>George Talcott</td>
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<tr>
<td>25. Aug. 25, 1847</td>
<td>B. M. Byrne</td>
<td>George Ramsay</td>
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<td>Fair Copy</td>
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<td>26. Aug. 26, 1847</td>
<td>J. Gorgas</td>
<td>George Talcott</td>
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<td>(but initialized by &quot;SM&quot;)</td>
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<td>George Talcott</td>
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<td>30. Sept. 27, 1847</td>
<td>Benj. Huger</td>
<td>George Talcott</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Original (?) (perhaps copy?)</td>
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<td>31. Sept. 27, 1847</td>
<td>Benj. Huger</td>
<td>George Talcott</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Original (&quot;unofficial&quot;)</td>
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<td>George Talcott</td>
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(Cont. Card 3)

Worth, William Jenkins, 1754-1849  #2037

Pruyn, Olivia S. T., Collector. Family Papers, 1604-1787-1856].

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_Herringshaw's Encyclopedia of American Biography_

(Chicago, Ill: American Publishers' Association, 1901)