

Bell, Isaac, 1768-1860.

Papers, 1787-1940.

0.5 linear ft. (11 items in 1 box).

Biography: Isaac Bell, an East India merchant, was born in Stamford CT in 1768. His Loyalist family brought him to New York City in 1776 and to St John, New Brunswick in Canada for the duration of the Revolutionary War. He entered the shipping business, returned to New York in 1792 and sailed as supercargo in 1798 on the first of three voyages to China which would secure his fortune. He was associated in business with Archibald Gracie and with Moses, Nehemiah, and Fitch Rogers. His fortune later declined due to both the Panic of 1837 and to disastrous fires. He died in 1860.

Summary: There is a letterbook/accountbook of 347 p., 1790-1856, containing 466 draft copies of his commercial and social correspondence with shipping agents in Great Britain, France, Spain, Portugal, Holland, Germany, China, Canada, as well as in the United States. The correspondence concerns Bell's business arrangements, the various cargos he shipped and their disposal, political affairs affecting the shipping trade, laws and treaties of various countries to be dealt with, taxes, embargoes, piracy, threats of war, and other pertinent events.

A second account book of 84 p. (many are blank), 1787-1852, for the Ship *Stephania* and others contains ships' records for 1799 to 1828 and miscellaneous accounts up to 1857.

There is a one volume carbon typescript (113 p.) of genealogical notes and reminiscences by Gordon Knox Bell (Regent of the University of the State of New York and grandson of Isaac Bell) and others, ca. 1940.

There is also an essay and lists of the residents of Greenwich Street (including the Bell and Rogers families) by Elizur Yale Smith with related correspondence, 1940.

Organization: Selected materials cataloged; remainder arranged.

Donor: Gift of Gordon Knox Bell, Jr., 1957.

Permission to publish materials must be obtained in writing from the Librarian for Rare Books and Manuscripts.

Finding aid: Contents list. 2p.

1. Anderson, Joseph, 1757-1837. 2. Bell, Gordon Knox, 1871-1955. 3. Bell family. 4. Boss, John Linscom, 1780-1819. 5. Brown, James, 1766-1835. 6. Cambreleng, Churchill Caldorn, 1786-1862. 7. Carrington, Edward, 1775-1843. 8. Clay, Henry, 1777-1852. 9. Coster, John G., 1762 or 3-1844. 10. De Peyster, Frederick, 1758-1834. 11. Forsyth, John, 1780-1841. 12. Gallatin, Albert, 1761-1849. 13. Gracie, Archibald, 1755-1829. 14. Hussey, Jostah, 1768?-1839. 15. Jones, Thomas K. (Thomas Kilby). 16. Lenox, Robert, 1759-1839. 17. Osborn, Gardner. 18. Rogers, Moses. 19. Rogers, Nehemiah. 20. Rogers family. 21. Sands, Comfort, 1748-1834. 22. Smith, Elizur Yale. 23. Smith, Nathan, 1770-1835. 24. Tudor, William, 1779-1830. 25. Voght, C. (Caspar), Freiherr von, 1752-1839. 26. Wolcott, Oliver, 1760-1833. 27. Wright, William Henry DeCourcy, 1795-1864. 28. Clipper ships. 29. Coffee industry. 30. Commerce--United States. 31. Cotton trade. 32. Export marketing. 33. Exports--China. 34. Freight and freightage. 35. Indiamen. 36. Insurance, Marine. 37. International trade. 38. Marketing. 39. Merchant marine. 40. Merchant ships. 41. Pirates--Mediterranean Region. 42. Rope trade. 43. Sailing ships. 44. Shipmasters. 45. Shipping. 46. Ships--Cargo. 47. Ships--New York. 48. Silk industry. 49. Sugar trade. 50. Tea trade. 51. Textile industry. 52. Wine trade. 53. Boston (Mass.)--Commerce. 54. Canada--Commerce--United States.

55. Charleston (S.C.)--Commerce. 56. China--Commerce--United States. 57. East Asia--Commerce--United States. 58. East Indies--Commerce--United States. 59. France--Commerce--United States. 60. Germany--Commerce--United States. 61. Great Britain--Commerce--United States. 62. Madeira Islands--Commerce--United States. 63. Mediterranean Region--Commerce--United States. 64. Netherlands--Commerce--United States. 65. New Orleans (La.)--Commerce. 66. New York (N.Y.)--Commerce. 67. New York (N.Y.)--Merchants. 68. New York (N.Y.)--Social life and customs. 69. Portugal--Commerce--United States. 70. Saint John (N.B.)--Commerce. 71. Spain--Commerce--United States. 72. United States--Commerce. 73. United States--Foreign relations. 74. Account books. 75. Bills of lading. 76. Drawings. 77. Essays. 78. Genealogies. 79. Invoices. 80. Lists. 81. Manifests. 82. Manifests, Ships'. 83. Receipts. 84. Reminiscences. 85. Shipping records. 86. Businessmen--Canada. 87. Businessmen--United States. 88. Commission merchants--New York. 89. Merchants--New York. 90. Ship captains--United States. 91. Supercargos.

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ISAAC BELL LETTERBOOK

Bell, Isaac, 1768-1860

v.p., 1790-1856

To Many recipients

466 drafts & copies of letters in bound letterbook, p. 34-347.

Letters to:

Amory Callender & Co. (New Orleans)	Thomas Davidson
Jonathan Amory & Son	Dawes Stephenson & Co. (London)
Joseph Anderson, 1757-1837	Elizabeth De Hart
Bachman	Delaroche, Armand Delessert & Co. (Nantes)
Henry Barclay	Delarrard & Co. (Barcelona)
Abraham Bates	Lewis Delesdernier
Tomas Belden	Depaw Deas & Co. (Charleston, S.C.)
James Bell	Frederick De Peyster, 1758-1834
George Bilden	Noah Disbrow
Daniel L. Bishop	Samuel H. Drake
Richard Black	Drake Mitchell & Co.
John A. Bleeker	Anthony Dugan
William Blodget	John Duncan
J.J. Bose & Co. (Bordeaux)	John Duncan & Co.
John Linscom Boss, Jr., 1780-1819	DuRiveray & D'Ivernois (Le Havre)
Bradford Gilbert & Co.	P. & C. Van Eeghen (Amsterdam)
James Brown, 1766-1835	John Ellis
Noah Brown	Henry Farnum
Miles R. Burke	Fenno & Cox
Jonah Burr	Duncan Ferguson
Charles Cadogan	David Finlayson
Churchill Caldor Cambreleng, 1786-1862	John Forsyth, 1780-1841
John A. Camp	Nathan Frink
John G. Camp	Curwen Gale
John G. Camp, Jr.	Albert Gallatin, 1761-1849
John Campbell	Gans
The Hoppon of Canton, China	Edward Gernou
Capron & Cornwall	John Gernou
A. Capron Lille	Colin Gillespie
Thomas Carberry	A. Gower
Edward Carrington	Archibald Gracie, 1755-1829
Chew	John Graham & Co.
Chunqua	William Graham
Lewis Clapier & Cp.	William Graham & Bros. (Glasgow)
Francis Clappier & Co. (Marseilles)	Grant Hepburn & Co.
Henry Clay, 1777-1852	Grant Webb & Co.
Charles H. Coffin	Gray & Pankey
Conway & Davidson	T. Greene
Costello Brothers & Co. (Cadiz)	Grevignie & Co. (Malaga, Spain)
Henry A. & John G. Coster	Hagarty & Jerdein
H. & J. Coster & Co. (New York)	James Hagerty
Henry Coster & Co.	Peter Halc
Couderc, D(?). P. Brants	Thomas Hanford
Peter Couderc, Jr.	J. Harmony
Charles Sidney Cox	Harrison & Sherrill
Cromelein Davis & Co.	James Hepburn
Crookshank	R.B. Hilliard
Crump & Hart	Charles Holland
Abraham Davenport	Thomas Hunloke
Wendell David	Josiah Hussey

ISAAC BELL LETTERBOOK (Cont.)

Letters to:

Charles Hyber
Jacobs & Co. (Rheims)
Samuel Jeffries
Paul Jenkins
Abraham G. Jennings
Jonathan Jones
Thomas K. Jones & Co. (Boston)
Elisha King
Kirkpatrick & Grevignie
Henry Kustner
Labouchere & Co. (Rotterdam)
John H. Ladd & Co.
LaRue & Palmer (Le Havre)
Jessel Lawrence
A. Le Lieivre
Robert Lenox, 1759-1839
Stephen Jefferson Lewis
Lewis & Douglass
John Lightbourne
Lindblad & Co.
William McGillivray
Alexander McGregor & Co.
J. & Peter McIver & Co. (London)
James McKinlay
Charles Mackinnon
Arthur McLellan
R.I. Macy
Mayer & Lohman
Thomas March Millbridge
Mills & Disbrow
N. Moran
William Hodgkinson Morewood
Morewood & Co. (Hamburg)
F.W. Morse
Mumford
Thomas Murdock
John Murray & Sons (New York)
Murray, Sansom & Co. (London)
William Nott & Co.
J. & I.H. Perkins
George Philips
George Phillips
John C. Phillips
Sarah Powell
John Rae
Andrew Rainsford
J.O. Rees
Reis & Beale
Aquila Rich
John Richards
Richard Richards
Benjamin Rogers
Moses Rogers
Moses Rogers & Co. (New York)
Nehemiah Rogers
Rogers & Aspinwall (New York)
D. Saint
H.T. Sampayo (Lisbon)
Comfort Sands, 1748-1834
William Scott
Nathaniel Searle, Jr.
Aaron Seaman
Edmund Seaman
Angus Shaw
Robert Shedden
Robert Shedden & Sons
Elias Shipman
Simson
Henry Smith
Nathan Smith, 1770-1835
Henry Staples
James Stewart
John Sykes
Talcott & Bowen
Talcott & Bowers (New Orleans)
Isaac Tomlinson
William Tudor, 1779-1830
Alexander Turnbull
Jacob Van Uyten & Co.
Caspar, Freiherr von Voght, 1752-1839
R.R. Voris
Walker & Kennedy
Robert Watts
John G. Weafer
Thomas Welsh, Jr.
Benjamin C. Wilcocks
John Williams
William & Francis (Philadelphia)
Winslow & Huske
Oliver Wolcott & Co. (New York)
Joseph Wood
Woodberry
William Henry DeCourcy Wright, 1795-1864
Zimmerman & Frazier & Co.