INVENTORY OF THE

RICKETSON COLLECTION

IN THE OLD DARTMOUTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

WHALING MUSEUM LIBRARY

Content: Correspondence, business records, journals, and other papers of a New Bedford and Boston, Mass., family, 1795-1958.

Volume: 4 linear feet.

Provenance: Principally a gift of Eva Hughes, 8 May 1968.

Restrictions: None.

Processed By: Patricia J. Albright, with assistance from Edna Carlson.

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INTRODUCTION

Most of the papers in this collection were given to the Old Dartmouth Historical Society on 8 May 1968 by Eva Hughes, a relative of Edith Guerrier's long-time companion, Margreta A. Hughes. Related documents, presented to the Society between 1903-1923 by Walton Ricketson, also comprise a portion of the collection.

HISTORICAL NOTE

Members of the Ricketson family of New Bedford and Boston, Mass, trace part of their American ancestry to William Ricketson, a Quaker who settled in Dartmouth, Mass., around 1684. One of his descendants, Daniel Ricketson (1745-1824), was a merchant and ship chandler who operated a business at New Bedford with his son, Joseph (1771-1841), from about 1795-1819. Joseph Ricketson's son, Daniel (1813-1898), achieved a measure of fame as the author of two local histories, HISTORY OF NEW BEDFORD (1858) and NEW BEDFORD OF THE PAST (published posthumously, 1903), and two volumes of poetry. He is better known, however, as a friend and early admirer of Henry David Thoreau and as a correspondent of numerous contemporary American writers and abolitionists, including Amos Bronson Alcott, Ralph Waldo Emerson, William Lloyd Garrison, Oliver Wendell Holmes, and John Greenleaf Whittier. In 1834, Daniel Ricketson married Maria Louisa Sampson (1813-1877), by whom he had four children: Arthur (1835-1912), Anna (1836-1927), Walton (1839-1923), and Emma Louisa (1841-1874). Walton Ricketson was a sculptor of some note who, with his sister Anna, edited two collections of Daniel Ricketson's writings in 1902 and 1910. Edith Guerrier (1870-1958), daughter of Emma Louisa Ricketson and George Pearse Guerrier (1837-1911), was an artist, author, and librarian who served as supervisor of all Boston Public Library branches from 1899-1940. She also founded the Saturday Evening Girls (S.E.G.), a Boston-based library club for working women, in the early 1900s; wrote a children's book, WANDERFOLK IN WONDERLAND, in 1903; helped establish Paul Revere Pottery, Inc., a firm associated with the S.E.G. which made and sold quality ceramic ware between 1906-1942; and served as a volunteer in the Hoover Food Administration during the 1914-1918 world war.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Materials in this collection chiefly relate to Daniel Ricketson and his grandaughter, Edith Guerrier. The former individual's papers, dating from ca. 1840-1918, include one or more letters from Emerson, Garrison, Holmes, and Whittier, as well as drafts of several of Ricketson's outgoing correspondence. Comprising another major segment of his papers

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE (cont.)

is a group of his journals and writings, including an 1844 account of a trip through New England to Montreal and Quebec and his notes on religious subjects which also contain vital records transcribed from those of the Society of the Friends in Rhode Island, ca. 1863. Similarly, Edith Guerrier's papers principally consist of correspondence, ca. 1891-1957, and journals of her travels in England, France, and the Caribbean, 1922-1937. Probably the most valuable item among her papers is a lenghty autobiographical sketch in which Guerrier discusses her family, describes her childhood and education, and depicts many aspects of her long association with Boston's branch library system, the S.E.G., and Paul Revere Pottery, Inc.

Also included in this collection are a journal and ledger of Daniel Ricketson & Sons, 1795-1819, and correspondence of Daniel Ricketson's brother, Joseph (1815-1876), his wife, Maria Louisa Sampson Ricketson, and four children. These materials, which include letters to Anna Ricketson from Albert Bierstadt and R. Swain Gifford, are complemented by correspondence and other papers of several relatives by marriage, notably George Pearse Guerrier, whose papers contain letters from Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and William Lloyd Garrison, 1874-1879, as well as other correspondence and documents relating to his life and activities. Finally, the Ricketson Collection also encompasses post cards and greeting cards exchanged by the family of Margreta A. Hughes between ca. 1898-1923.

Materials in the Ricketson Collection have been organized into sub-groups representing letters and other papers of family members. These sub-groups are listed in the inventory in chronological order according to the birthdate of each person. All incoming correspondence is divided first by year, then alphabetically arranged by name of writer. Genealogical and biographical notes concerning the Ricketsons, compiled by Philip F. Purrington and Alton Bailey, are available for consultation in the Collection File for Mss 13.

Sub-group 1. Daniel Ricketson & Son Records, 1795-1819. Journal and ledger. 2 items.

Sub-group 2. Daniel Ricketson Papers, ca. 1840-1918. Business and personal correspondence; poems, essays, journals, and notes; estate records; memorial. 1½ feet.

Sub-group 3. Maria Louisa Sampson Ricketson Papers, 1842, 1874. Personal letters to Daniel Ricketson and a cousin. 2 items.

Sub-group 4. Joseph Ricketson Papers, 1863-1866. Personal letters to George Pearse Guerrier. 11 items.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE (cont.)

Sub-group 5. Arthur Ricketson Papers, 1869. Personal letters to George Pearse Guerrier. 2 items.

Sub-group 6. Anna Ricketson Papers, 1857-1930. Personal correspondence and estate records. 21 items.

Sub-group 7. George Pearse Guerrier Papers, 1863-1939. Business and personal correspondence; legal documents; military and occupational papers; travel journals; genealogical notes; receipts; obituary and death certificate. 6 inches.

Sub-group 8. Walton Ricketson Papers, 1863-1923. Business and personal correspondence; diaries; copyright papers; bills and receipts. 4 inches.

Sub-group 9. Emma Louisa Ricketson Guerrier Papers, 1865-1872. Personal letters to George Pearse Guerrier. 10 items.

Sub-group 10. Mary Elizabeth Bliss Ricketson Papers, 1915-1920. Personal letters to Edith Guerrier. 6 items.

Sub-group 11. Louisa E. Ricketson Papers, 1915-1920, 1952-1954. Personal letters to Edith Guerrier. 10 items.

Sub-group 12. Edith Guerrier Papers, ca. 1891-1958. Business and personal correspondence; journals, notes, autobiographical sketch, and other writings; legal documents; programs, clippings, and tribute. 1 foot.

Sub-group 13. Hughes Family Papers, ca. 1898-1923. Post cards and greeting cards, ca. 1898-1923. 4 inches.

DESCRIPTION

Sub-group 1. Daniel Ricketson & Son Records, 1795-1819

Series A. Financial Records, 1795-1819

Volume 1. Journal, 1795-1803
" 2. Ledger, 1795-1819

Sub-group 2. Daniel Ricketson Papers, ca. 1840-1918

Series A. Correspondence, 1854-1896

Sub-series 1. Incoming, 1854-1896
Folder 1. 1854, 1856-1857
" 2. 1862-1863, 1866, 1868-1869
" 3. 1883-1884, 1888, 1891, 1894, 1896

Sub-series 2. Outgoing, 1862-1886
Folder 1. 1862, 1868, 1871, 1874, 1882, 1886

Series B. Poems, Essays, Journals, and Notes, ca. 1840-1910

Folder 1. Notes, poems, "rules of conduct," and sketch concerning Thoreau, ca. 1840-1895
Volume 1. Bible, with notes and annotations, ca. 1840.
" 2. Journal of trip to Quebec and Montreal, 1844
" 3. Annotated copy of HISTORY OF NEW BEDFORD, 1858 ← 1st acquisition of ODHS, 1903
" 4. Notes on religion and transcripts from vital records of Rhode Island Society of Friends, ca. 1863
Folder 2. Genealogical notes concerning Ricketson, Russell, and Thornton families, ca. 1880-1898
" 3. Typescript draft of DANIEL RICKETSON: AUTO-BIOGRAPHIC AND MISCELLANEOUS, 1858-1890, edited and published by Anna and Walton Ricketson, 1910
" 4. Extracts from above work, ca. 1910

Series C. Estate Records, 1878-1918

Folder 1. Appointment as administrator of Maria Louisa Ricketson's estate, 1878
" 2-3. Will, trustee deeds, certificates, 1878-1891
" 4-6. Correspondence, deeds, bills of complaint, and memoranda concerning settlement and division of Ricketson's estate, 1898-1918

Series D. Memorial, 1898

Folder 1. Resolution honoring Ricketson, 1898

Sub-group 3. Maria Louisa Sampson Ricketson Papers, 1842, 1874

Series A. Correspondence, 1842, 1874

Folder 1. Letters to Daniel Ricketson, 1842, and a cousin, Betsey L. Hammond, 1874

Sub-group 4. Joseph Ricketson Papers, 1863-1866

Series A. Correspondence, 1863-1866

Folder 1. 1863-1866

Sub-group 5. Arthur Ricketson Papers, 1869

Series A. Correspondence, 1869

Folder 1. 1869

Sub-group 6. Anna Ricketson Papers, 1857-1930

Series A. Correspondence, 1857-1919

Sub-series 1. Incoming, 1857-1919
Folder 1. 1857, 1860, 1862, 1874, 1894
" 2. 1901-1903, ca. 1906, 1910, 1919

Sub-series 2. Outgoing, 1885, 1895, 1917
Folder 1. 1885, 1895, 1917

Series B. Estate Records, 1921-1930

Folder 1. Correspondence, wills, and financial accounts, 1921-1930

Sub-group 7. George Pearse Guerrier Papers, 1862-1939

Series A. Correspondence, 1862-1906

Sub-series 1. Incoming, 1862-1906
Folder 1. 1862, 1864, 1866
" 2. 1866-1867
" 3. 1874, 1876, 1879
" 4. 1880-1881, 1888
" 5. 1893, 1895-1896, 1898
" 6. 1899
" 7. 1903, 1905-1906

Sub-series 2. Outgoing, 1879-1906
Folder 1. 1879, 1885, 1889-1891
" 2. 1892
" 3. 1894-1895, 1899, 1906

Sub-group 7 (cont.)

Series B. Legal Documents, 1867, 1905

Folder 1. Certificate of marriage to Emma Louisa Ricketson, 1867
" 2. Will, 1905

Series C. Military Papers, 1861-1908

Folder 1. Muster roll, military orders, appointments, discharge certificates, and pension records, 1861-1864, 1892, 1908

Series D. Occupational Papers, 1885, 1888

Folder 1. Charter, constitution, and by-laws of Kendall and Southern Kansas Bridge Co., 1885. Annotated by Guerrier as company president.
" 2. Notice from Guerrier as Register of Deeds, Hamilton Co., Kansas, 1888

Series E. Travel Journal and Genealogical Notes, 1893-1894, 1905

Volume 1. Journal of travels in Great Britain, with Cunard Line sailing schedule, 1893-1894
Folder 1. Genealogical notes, 1905

Series F. Receipts, 1872, 1874, 1888

Folder 1. 1872, 1874, 1888

Series G. Obituary and Death Certificate, 1911, 1939

Folder 1. Obituary, 1911
" 2. Certificate describing cause of Guerrier's death, 1939

Sub-group 8. Walton Ricketson Papers, 1863-1923

Series A. Correspondence, 1863-1922

Sub-series 1. Incoming, 1898-1922
Folder 1. 1898, 1913, 1917, 1922

Sub-series 2. Outgoing, 1863-1921
Folder 1. 1863, 1876, 1900, 1921

Sub-group 8 (cont.)

Series B. Diaries, 1906-1923

Volume 1-6. January 1906-March 1907
" 7-11. March 1907-December 1908
" 12-14. January 1909-June 1910
" 15. June 1910-September 1911
" 16-18. September 1911-December 1912
" 19-20. December 1912-May 1915
" 21-23. May 1915-August 1917
" 24-26. August 1917-August 1918
" 27-30. September 1918-September 1920
" 31-33. February 1921-January 1923

Series C. Copyright Papers, 1885-1913

Folder 1-2. Correspondence and certificates concerning copyright on sculpture, 1885-1913

Series D. Bills and Receipts, 1902

Folder 1. Concerning publication of Daniel Ricketson's writings, 1902

Sub-group 9. Emma Louisa Ricketson Guerrier Papers, 1865-1872

Series A. Correspondence, 1865-1872

Folder 1. 1865, 1867-1868, 1871
" 2. 1872

Sub-group 10. Mary Elizabeth Bliss Ricketson Papers, 1915-1920

Series A. Correspondence, 1915-1920

Folder 1. 1915-1920

Sub-group 11. Louisa E. Ricketson Papers, 1915-1920, 1952-1954

Series A. Correspondence, 1915-1920, 1952-1954

Folder 1. 1915-1920, 1952-1954

Sub-group 12. Edith Guerrier Papers, ca. 1891-1958

Series A. Correspondence, ca. 1891-1957

Sub-series 1. Incoming, 1900-1957
Folder 1. 1900, 1907
" 2. ca. 1923, 1927-1928
" 3. 1932, 1940
" 4. 1943-1944, 1946
" 5. 1950
Volume 1. 1950-1951
Folder 6. 1952-1953, 1957

Sub-series 2. Outgoing, ca. 1891-1954
Folder 1. ca. 1891, ca. 1918-1919, 1921
" 2. 1931, 1940, 1953-1954

Series B. Journals, Notes, and Other Writings, 1922-ca. 1950

Volume 1. Journal concerning trip to France and England, 1922
" 2. Notes on Daniel Ricketson and the Ricketson family, ca. 1923
" 3. Journal concerning trip to Caribbean Islands, 1937, illustrated with photographs
Folder 1. Notes on history of Paul Revere Pottery, Inc., ca. 1942
Volume 4-6. Notes for autobiographical sketch, ca. 1945-1948
Folder 2-4. Draft of autobiographical sketch, ca. 1945-1950
Folder 5-7. Typescript of autobiographical sketch, ca. 1950
Folder 8. "S.E.G. Camp Song," written by Edith Guerrier, n.d.

Series C. Legal Documents, 1870, 1903-1940

Folder 1. Copies of birth certificate, 1870, 1922, 1940
" 2. Agreement concerning publication of WANDERFOLK IN WONDERLAND, 1903

Series D. Programs, Clippings, and Tributes, 1891, ca. 1938-1958

Folder 1. Graduation program, Vermont Methodist Seminary, 1891, listing Edith Guerrier's name
" 2. Biographical clippings and a tribute, ca. 1938-1958

Sub-group 13. Hughes Family Papers, ca. 1898-1923

Series A. Correspondence, ca. 1898-1923

Folder 1-5. Post cards and greeting cards exchanged by members of Margreta A. Hughes' family, ca. 1898-1923, with holograph notes and salutations

ADDED ENTRIES

Account books--New Bedford, Mass.--1795-1819
Artists--Mass.--New Bedford
Artists--Mass.--New Bedford--Correspondence, reminiscences, etc.
Artists--United States--Correspondence, reminiscences, etc.
Authors--Correspondence, reminiscences, etc.
Authors, American--Mass.--Boston
Authors, American--Mass.--Concord
Authors, American--Mass.--New Bedford
Book clubs--Mass.--Boston
Boston, Mass.--Clubs
Business records--Mass.--New Bedford
Cards, Christmas SEE Christmas cards
Cards, Greeting SEE Greeting cards
Caribbean area--Description and travel
Christmas cards
Daniel Ricketson & Son, New Bedford, Mass.
Decedents' estates--Mass.--New Bedford
Descent and distribution SEE Distribution of decedents' estates
Diaries--New Bedford, Mass.--1906-1923
Distribution of decedents' estates--Mass.--New Bedford
Draft Riot, 1863
England--Description and travel--1901-1945
European War, 1914-1918--Civilian relief--United States--
Washington, D.C.
European War, 1914-1918--Food question--United States--
Washington, D.C.
European War, 1914-1918--United States--Washington, D.C.--
Women's work
France--Description and travel--1919-1944
Freed slaves SEE Freedmen
Freedmen
Freedmen in the United States SEE Freedmen
Girls--Societies and clubs--Mass.--Boston
Girls' clubs SEE Girls--Societies and clubs
Great Britain--Description and travel--1801-1900
Greeting cards
Guerrier, Edith, 1870-1958
Guerrier, Emma Louisa Ricketson, 1841-1874
Guerrier, George Pearse, 1837-1911
Guerrier family
Heugh family
Hewes family
Hews family
Hues family
Hugh family
Hughes, Margreta A. d. 1967
Hughes family
Hughs family
Huse family
Huws family
Librarians--Mass.--Boston
Library clubs--Mass.--Boston

ADDED ENTRIES (cont.)

Massachusetts--History--Civil War, 1861-1865
Merchants--Mass.--New Bedford
Montreal, Quebec--Description
New Bedford, Mass.--Authors
New Bedford, Mass.--Commerce
New Bedford, Mass.--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Public opinion
New England--Description and travel--1775-1865
New York (City)--Draft Riot, 1863 SEE Draft Riot, 1863
Paul Revere Pottery
Paul Revere Pottery, Inc., Brighton, Mass.
Poetry
Poets, American--Mass.--Amesbury--Correspondence, reminiscences, etc.
Poets, American--Mass.--Cambridge--Correspondence, reminiscences, etc.
Poets, American--Mass.--New Bedford
Pottery, American--Mass.--Brighton
Quebec, Quebec--Description
Refugees, Afro-American SEE Freedmen
Ricketson, Anna, 1836-1927
Ricketson, Arthur, 1835-1912
Ricketson, Daniel, 1745-1824
Ricketson, Daniel, 1813-1898
Ricketson, Joseph, 1771-1841
Ricketson, Joseph, 1815-1876
Ricketson, Louisa E 1868-1958
Ricketson, Maria Louisa Sampson, 1813-1877
Ricketson, Mary Elizabeth Bliss, 1845-1926
Ricketson, Walton, 1839-1923
Ricketson Collection
S.E.G. SEE Saturday Evening Girls, Boston, Mass.
Saturday Evening Girls, Boston, Mass.
Scupltors--Mass.--New Bedford
Ship chandlers--Mass.--New Bedford
Sims, Thomas M fl. 1851-1877
Single women--Mass.--Boston
Single women--Mass.--New Bedford
Snow, Benjamin, Jr., fl. 1874
United States--History--European War, 1914-1918 SEE European War, 1914-1918
Unmarried women SEE Single women
War of 1914 SEE European War, 1914-1918
Wills--Mass.--New Bedford
Women--Clubs SEE Women--Societies and clubs
Women--Mass.--Boston--Societies and clubs
Women--Mass.--New Bedford--History
Women--Mass.--New Bedford--Social conditions
Women's clubs SEE Women--Societies and clubs
Working-girls' clubs SEE Working-women's clubs
Working women's clubs
World War, 1914-1918 SEE European War, 1914-1918
Writers SEE Authors

SEPARATIONS LIST

Removed to archives:

Correspondence and legal documents concerning gifts of furniture, portraits, and other items to the Old Dartmouth Historical Society from the estates of various Ricketsons, 1928, 1958-1967. 37 items.

Removed to objects collection:

Copper plate of Daniel Ricketson house at 109 Elm St., New Bedford, ca. 1903.
Pen sketches of Walton Ricketson by F. Elwell, n.d. 2 items.
Pencil sketch of church, artist unknown, n.d.
S.E.G. pin, 1954, with descriptive pamphlet by Edith Guerrier.
Post cards and greeting cards collected by members of the Hughes family, ca. 1898-1923. Uninscribed. 53 items.

Removed to photographs collection:

Ricketson-Guerrier family photographs--
Edith Guerrier, 1875, 1950. 6 items.
George Pearse Guerrier, ca. 1891. 2 items.
Anna Ricketson, ca. 1870, 1895. 3 items.
Daniel Ricketson, n.d.
Maria Louisa Sampson Ricketson, n.d.
Walton Ricketson, ca. 1870, 1910. 3 items.
Photographs and prints of Ricketson and Guerrier family homes, ca. 1841-1900. 11 items.
Photograph of "the head of the river," New Bedford, ca. 1880. 2 copies.
Stereopticon views by T. E. M. White: Fanny Eliot and Quittacas Club, n.d. 2 items.
Photographs of Hughes family members, ca. 1909. 2 items.
Photographs relating to S.E.G. and Paul Revere Pottery, ca. 1906-1925. 4 items.
Photographs concerning Edith Guerrier's work in Hoover Food Administration, 1915-1918. 24 items.
Photographs taken at 1950 birthday celebration of Edith Guerrier. 5 items.
Photograph of Walton Ricketson's bust of Thoreau, n.d.

Removed to printed collection:

Guerrier, Edith. "S.E.G. Camp Song," n.d. ~~20 copies~~.
" " "S.E.G. Pin," 1954.
" " "Tribute to Anna Ricketson," 1927.
" Wanderfolk in Wonderland, 1903.
Mason, Lowell. Boston Handel and Haydn Society Collection of Church Music. 1834.

SEPARATIONS LIST (cont.)

Paul Revere Pottery, Inc., Brighton, Mass. Pamphlets relating to history and products of organization, ca. 1911-1942. 7 items.

Saturday Evening Girls, Boston, Mass. S.E.G. News, 1914-1917, 1954.

U.S. Dept. of the Interior. General Land Office. Circular Instructions Relative to . . . Survey of Public Lands, 1885.