

INVENTORY OF THE
CHARLES WALN MORGAN PAPERS
IN THE OLD DARTMOUTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
WHALING MUSEUM LIBRARY

Content: Chiefly ship's papers and similar business and personal papers of a New Bedford, Mass., whaling agent and merchant, 1817-1900.

Volume: 3 linear feet.

Provenance: Donors include Mrs. E. B. Kresge, William Tallman, and Mary Hussey Mandell, 1904-1974.

Restrictions: None.

Processed By: Barbara E. Austen.

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INTRODUCTION

Portions of the material in this collection were given to the Old Dartmouth Historical Society by Emily M. Hussey in September 1904; Harold R. Sweet on 5 September 1936; Mrs. E. B. Kresge on 24 August 1937; William L. R. Gifford on 31 October 1940; Charles R. Phillips, Sr., on 30 April 1965; William Tallman on 29 June 1966; and by Mary Hussey Mandell on 28 August 1974.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Charles Waln Morgan was born in Philadelphia, Penn., in 1796. By 1818, he had moved to New Bedford, Mass., where he entered into business as a partner of William Rotch, Sr., and Samuel Rodman, Sr., in their merchant shipping firm. Morgan later became an independent merchant and whaling agent. From 1819 until his death in 1861, he owned all or partial interest in various whalers, such as the HECTOR (Ship), HESPER (Ship/Bark), and MARIA (Ship) and several merchant vessels, including the brigs PARTHIAN and TROY. In addition, he invested in an iron works in Duncannon, Penn., with his wife's brother-in-law, William Logan Fisher (1781-1862); owned a candleworks in New Bedford; supplied United States lighthouses; and was active in civic affairs. In 1819, he married Sarah Rodman (1793-1888), daughter of Samuel Rodman, Sr. Their only son was Samuel Rodman Morgan (1824-1891).

Samuel Griffiths Morgan (1816-1893) was employed as a clerk by his uncle, Charles Waln Morgan, until about 1836. At that time, he formed a partnership with William G. E. Pope (1815-ca. 1869) known as Pope & Morgan. This New Bedford, Mass., firm acted as agent for such vessels as the BRAGANZA (Bark) and CHANDLER PRICE (Ship).

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The bulk of material in this collection consists of ship's papers for twenty whaling and merchant vessels which Charles Waln Morgan owned or had an interest in or for which he acted as agent from 1817-1850. These records encompass correspondence from the vessels' captains; agent/owner accounts for outfits, disbursements and settlements of individual voyages; crew papers, including Whalemens' Shipping Papers; consular and customs records; bills and receipts; and similar material. Another significant portion of records reflect Morgan's activities supplying United States lighthouses from 1834-1837. These materials include correspondence; accounts; a bill of lading and an invoice; financial records of the GAZELLE (Ship), which carried lighthouse supplies; and bills and receipts, the majority of which concern supplies for and repair

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE (cont.)

work done at the Isles of Shoals Lighthouse, White Island, N.H. Additional materials, dating 1817-1866, encompass legal documents, including his marriage certificate; financial records; incoming and outgoing business and personal correspondence, including a letter from Benjamin Rotch concerning the failure of the Davis Strait, Greenland, whale fishery, 1836; and a handwritten copy, with later additions, of a lecture on whales and whaling which Morgan delivered at the New Bedford Lyceum and a list.

The papers of Samuel Griffitts Morgan consist of ship's papers for the BRAGANZA (Bark) and CHANDLER PRICE (Ship), 1840-1862, for which Pope & Morgan acted as agent; and a letter to Charles Waln Morgan, 1839. Loum Snow (1810-1871), took over as agent for the CHANDLER PRICE about 1861 and his accounts conclude the last voyage in the ship's account book. Another member of the Morgan family, Samuel Rodman Morgan, is represented by a business letter to Lindley Fisher, 1849, and a bill, 1853.

Members of the Fisher, Rodman, and Wister families, related to the Morgans by marriage, are represented by outgoing correspondence, 1838-1864, the bulk of which is addressed to either Charles Waln Morgan or his wife, Sarah Rodman Morgan. These letters primarily concern the finances of the iron works in Duncannon, Penn., or family news from Wakefield, Penn. Of particular note are the letters of Elizabeth Rodman Fisher (1810-1875) and William Logan Fisher which describe the area around Duncannon and production at the iron works. John Wister (1829-1900) is represented by newspaper clippings, including his obituary, ca. 1895, 1900.

Researchers should note that additional material concerning Morgan, Fisher, Rodman, and Wister families can be found in the following collections: Mss 2, Rotch Collection; Mss 4, Rodman Collection; Mss 56, Business Records Collection; and Mss 64, Biographical Collection. In addition, material concerning William G. E. Pope can be found in Mss 56. A printed work which can provide additional information is THE ROTCHES (1947) by John M. Bullard.

- Sub-group 1. Charles Waln Morgan Papers, 1817-1866.
Ship's papers for twenty vessels; legal documents; financial records; and lecture and list. 2½ feet.
- Sub-group 2. Morgan Family Papers, 1839-1862. Samuel Griffitts Morgan and Samuel Rodman Morgan. 9 items.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE (cont.)

- Sub-group 3. Fisher Family Papers, 1836-1850. Elizabeth Rodman Fisher; Sarah Lindley Fisher; Thomas Rodman Fisher; and William Logan Fisher.
14 items.
- Sub-group 4. Rodman Family Papers, 1848-1850, 1863-1864. Benjamin Rodman and Thomas Rotch Rodman.
11 items.
- Sub-group 5. Wister Family Papers, 1846-1847, ca. 1895, 1900. John Wister and Sarah Logan Fisher Wister.
5 items.

DESCRIPTION

Box 1

Sub-group 1. Charles Wain Morgan Papers, 1817-1866

Series A. ABIGAIL (Ship) Records, 1836, 1842

Folder 1. Correspondence, 1836, 1842

Series B. BENEZET (Bark) Records, 1833-1836

Folder 1. Letter from captain, 1836
 " 2. Agent/owner accounts, 1833, 1836
 Volume 1. Disbursement accounts, 1834-1835
 Folder 3. Items removed from Volume 1
 " 4-5. Crew papers, 1833-1836. Include Whalemens'
 Shipping Paper
 " 6. Customs records, 1836
 " 7-10. Bills and receipts, 1833, 1836
 " 11. Memoranda, 1836

Series C. CHARLES W. MORGAN (Ship) Records, 1845

Folder 1. Letter from captain, 1845

Series D. CLARICE (Bark) Records, 1835-1837

Sub-series 1. 1835-1836 voyage, 1835-1836

Folder 1. Agent/owner accounts, 1835-1836
 " 2. Crew papers, 1835-1836
 " 3. Customs records, 1836
 " 4. Bills and receipts, 1836
 " 5. Memorandum, 1836

Sub-series 2. 1836-1837 voyage, 1836-1837

Folder 1. Letter from captain, 1836
 " 2. Agent/owner account, 1836
 " 3-4. Crew papers, 1836. Include Whalemens'
 Shipping Paper
 " 5. Customs records, 1836
 " 6. Bill of exchange, 1836
 " 7-9. Bills and receipts, 1836
 " 10. Memorandum, 1837

Box 1 (cont.)

Sub-group 1 (cont.)

Series E. CONDOR (Ship) Records, 1831-1850

- | | | |
|--------|-------|---|
| Folder | 1. | Correspondence, 1833-1836, 1842 |
| " | 2. | Agent/owner accounts, 1831-1832 |
| Volume | 1. | Memorandum book, 1832. Includes lists of provisions and stores and labor accounts |
| " | 2. | Outfitting book, ca. 1832 |
| Folder | 3-4. | Crew papers, 1836-1837. Include Whalemen's Shipping Paper |
| Volume | 3. | Crew accounts, 1846-1847. Include disbursement accounts |
| Folder | 5. | Sea Letter, 1850 |
| " | 6. | Customs records, 1832 |
| " | 7. | Certificate of weight, 1832 |
| " | 8. | Bill of exchange, 1832 |
| " | 9-15. | Bills and receipts, 1831-1832 |
| " | 16. | Memorandum, ca. 1832 |

Series F. EMILY MORGAN (Ship) Records, 1836, 1842

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|--------|----|----------------------------|
| Folder | 1. | Correspondence, 1836, 1842 |
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Series G. ENTERPRISE (Ship) Records, 1817-1818

- | | | |
|--------|----|--|
| Folder | 1. | Letter to captain giving permission to enter port, 1817 |
| " | 2. | Agent/owner account, 1818. "Cost of outfits . . . for France and Whaling Voyage" |

Box 2

Series H. FRANCES HENRIETTA (Ship) Records, 1842-1848

- | | | |
|--------|--------|---|
| Folder | 1. | Correspondence, 1842, 1844 |
| " | 2. | Agent/owner accounts, 1843-1845 |
| " | 3-8. | Crew papers, 1843-1845. Include Whalemen's Shipping Paper |
| " | 9. | Consular bill, 1844 |
| " | 10. | Customs receipt, 1844 |
| " | 11. | Manifest, ca. 1844 |
| " | 12. | Order of payment, 1845 |
| " | 13-14. | Bills and receipts, 1843-1845 |
| " | 15. | Memoranda, 1848 |

Series I. GEORGE AND MARTHA (Ship) Records, 1820-1823

- | | | |
|--------|----|---------------------------------|
| Folder | 1. | Agent/owner accounts, 1821-1822 |
| " | 2. | Bills and receipts, 1822-1823 |
| " | 3. | Memorandum, 1820 |

Box 3

Sub-group 1 (cont.)

Series J. HECTOR (Ship) Records, 1826-1843

- Sub-series 1. 1829-1831 voyage, 1826-1831
 - Folder 1. Agent/owner accounts, ca. 1829, 1831
 - " 2-3. Crew papers, 1830-1831
 - " 4. Bills and receipts, 1826-1829

- Sub-series 2. 1832-1834 voyage, 1830-1834
 - Folder 1. Letter from captain, 1833
 - " 2. Agent/owner account, 1830
 - " 3. Whalemens's Shipping Paper, 1832
 - " 4. Customs bill, 1832
 - " 5. Manifest, 1832
 - " 6-12. Bills and receipts, 1831-1834

- Sub-series 3. 1834-1837 voyage, 1834-1837
 - Folder 1-2. Agent/owner accounts, 1835-1837
 - " 3-5. Crew papers, ca. 1836-1837
 - " 6. Customs bill, 1837
 - " 7. Bill of exchange, 1837
 - " 8-9. Bills and receipts, 1834-1837

- Sub-series 4. 1838-1840 voyage, 1837-1838
 - Folder 1. Agent/owner accounts, 1837
 - " 2-3. Crew papers, 1838. Include Whalemens's Shipping Paper
 - " 4. Bill of exchange, 1838
 - " 5. Bill of lading, 1838
 - " 6-13. Bills and receipts, 1837-1838
 - " 14. Memorandum, 1838

- Sub-series 5. 1843-1847 voyage, 1843
 - Folder 1. Sea Letter, 1843

Box 4

Series K. HESPER (Ship/Bark) Records, 1820-1835

- Sub-series 1. 1825-1826 voyage, 1820-1826
 - Folder 1. Agent/owner account, 1825
 - " 2. Customs bill, 1826
 - " 3. Bills and receipts, 1820-1826

- Sub-series 2. 1826-1828 voyage, 1826
 - Folder 1. Agent/owner accounts, 1826
 - " 2. Crew papers, 1826
 - " 3. Customs bill, 1826
 - " 4-6. Bills and receipts, 1826

Box 4 (Cont.)

Sub-group 1, Series K (cont.)

- Sub-series 3. 1831-1834 voyage, 1831-1834
 Folder 1. Letter from captain, 1831, 1833
 " 2. Agent/owner accounts, 1831, 1834
 " 3-4. Crew papers, 1831-1833. Include Whalemens' Shipping Paper
 " 5. Customs bills, 1834
 " 6. Bill of exchange, 1834
 " 7-8. Bills and receipts, 1831-1834

- Sub-series 4. 1834-1838 voyage, 1834-1835
 Folder 1. Whalemens' Shipping Paper, 1834
 " 2. Customs bill, 1834
 " 3-7. Bills and receipts, 1834-1835

Series L. MAGNOLIA (Ship) Records, 1831-1846

- Folder 1. Correspondence, 1831-1836, 1845
 " 2. Consular bill, 1846

Series M. MARIA (Ship) Records, 1834-1838

- Sub-series 1. 1834-1836 voyage, 1834-1835
 Folder 1. Bills, 1834-1835

- Sub-series 2. 1836-1837 voyage, 1836-1837
 Folder 1. Letter from captain, 1836
 " 2. Agent/owner accounts, 1836-1837
 " 3. Whalemens' Shipping Papers, 1836
 " 4. Customs bills, 1836
 " 5. Insurance records, 1836. Statement of loss
 " 6. Bill of exchange, 1836
 " 7. Orders of payment, 1837
 " 8-14. Bills and receipts, 1836

- Sub-series 3. 1838-1840 voyage, 1838
 Folder 1. Bills, 1838

Box 5

Sub-group 1 (cont.)

Series N. PARTHIAN (Brig) Records, 1820-1824

- Folder 1. Correspondence, 1821-1822
- " 2-4. Agent/owner accounts, 1821-1823
- " 5-6. Crew papers, 1821-1823. Include crew lists
- " 7-8. Consular records, 1821-1823. Include account of merchandise thrown overboard and survey of leak and protest concerning damage to vessel from storm
- " 9. Customs records, 1821-1824
- " 10. Bills of lading, 1821-1822
- " 11. Manifests, 1823, 1824
- " 12. Invoice and freight list, 1822, 1823
- " 13. Sales receipt for vessel, 1821
- " 14-27. Bills and receipts, 1820-1823
- " 28. Memoranda, 1822-1823

Series O. PIONEER (Bark) Records, 1830-1842

- Folder 1. Correspondence, 1830, 1836
- " 2. Agent/owner accounts, 1839, 1842
- " 3. Whalemens' Shipping Paper, 1839

Series P. RODMAN (Ship) Records, 1831-1850

- Folder 1. Correspondence, 1831-1849
- Volume 1. Outfitting book, 1847
- Folder 2. Bond concerning deceased crew member, 1833
- " 3. Sea Letter, 1833
- " 4. Bill, 1850

Series Q. ROSCOE (Ship) Records, 1833

- Folder 1. Letter from captain, 1833

Box 6

Series R. TROY (Brig) Records, 1824-1828

- Folder 1. Agent/owner accounts, 1825
- " 2. Crew papers, 1825
- " 3. Consular records, 1828. Survey report
- " 4. Customs records, 1825
- " 5. Insurance policy, 1827
- " 6-9. Bills and receipts, 1825-1826

Series S. WILLIAM BROWN (Schooner) Records, 1836

- Folder 1. Insurance policy, 1836

Box 6 (cont.)

Sub-group 1 (cont.)

Series T. WINSLOW (Ship) Records, 1820-1821

- Folder 1. Agent/owner accounts, 1820-1821
- " 2. Crew papers, 1820
- " 3. Customs bill, 1820
- " 4-8. Bills and receipts, 1820-1821
- " 9. List of books on board vessel, 1820

Box 7

Series U. Legal Documents, 1817, 1819, 1844-1866

- Folder 1. Power of attorney certificate, 1817; deed, 1844; "memorandum of agreement," 1847, copied 1876
 - " 2. Marriage certificate, 1819
 - " 3. Correspondence relating to Morgan's estate, 1866
 - " 4. *Insurance Policy, North 6th St. Bath House, 1848*
- Series V. Financial Records, 1818-1858

Sub-series 1. Bills and receipts, 1818-1858

- Folder 1. 1818-1819
- " 2. 1820
- " 3-4. 1821
- " 5-7. 1822
- " 8-10. 1823
- " 11. 1824
- " 12-13. 1825
- " 14. 1826-1859
- " 15-19. 1849-1853
- " 20. 1854, 1858

Sub-series 2. Accounts current, 1819

- Folder 1. 1819

Sub-series 3. Balance sheets, 1820, 1837

- Folder 1. 1820, 1837

Sub-series 4. Memoranda, ca. 1836

- Folder 1. ca. 1836

Series W. Correspondence, 1820-1857

- Folder 1. Incoming, 1829-1848
- " 2. Outgoing, 1820-1857
- " 3. Letter fragment, ca. 1836

Box 7 (cont.)

Sub-group 1 (cont.)

Series X. Lighthouse Records, 1834-1837

Sub-series 1. Correspondence, 1836
 Folder 1. 1836

Sub-series 2. Accounts, 1835-1836
 Folder 1. 1835-1836

Sub-series 3. Bill of lading and invoice, 1836
 Folder 1. Invoice, 1836; bill of lading, 1836

Sub-series 4. GAZELLE (Schooner) records, 1835-1836
 Folder 1. Accounts, 1836
 " 2-3. Bills and réceipts, 1835-1836

Sub-series 5. Bills and receipts, 1834-1837
 Folder 1. 1834-1835
 " 2-5. 1836-1837

Series Y. Lecture and List, 1837, ca. 1860

Folder 1. Handwritten copy of lecture, with later revisions, delivered by Morgan at the New Bedford Lyceum, 1837
 " 2. List of "Birds in the Glass Case," ca. 1860

Box 8

Sub-group 2. Morgan Family Papers, 1839-1862

Series A. Samuel Griffitts Morgan Papers, 1839-1862

Sub-series 1. Correspondence, 1839
 Folder 1. 1839

Sub-series 2. BRAGANZA (Ship) records, 1840
 Folder 1. Sea Letter, 1840

Sub-series 3. CHANDLER PRICE (Ship) records, 1848-1862
 Folder 1. Correspondence, 1850, 1852
 Volume 1. Outfitting book, 1857
 " 2. Crew accounts, 1848-1862. Include accounts kept by Loum Snow formerly OPHS #310
 Folder 2. Report to the House of Representatives, Committee on Commerce, 1848

Series B. Samuel Rodman Morgan Papers, 1849, 1853

Folder 1. Letter to Lindley Fisher, 1849
 " 2. Bill, 1853

Box 8 (cont.)

Sub-group 3. Fisher Family Papers, 1836-1850

Series A. Elizabeth Rodman Fisher Papers, 1838-1840

Folder 1. Correspondence, 1838-1840

Series B. Sarah Lindley Fisher Papers, 1841

Folder 1. Letter to Sarah Rodman Morgan, 1841

Series C. Thomas Rodman Fisher Papers, 1849-1850

Folder 1. Letters to uncle, Charles Waln Morgan, 1849-1850

Series D. William Logan Fisher Papers, 1836-1850

Folder 1. Correspondence, 1836-1850

Sub-group 4. Rodman Family Papers, 1848-1850, 1863-1864

Series A. Benjamin Rodman Papers, 1863-1864

Folder 1. Letters to "nephew," 1863-1864

Series B. Thomas Rotch Rodman Papers, 1848-1850

Folder 1. Letters to uncle, Charles Waln Morgan, 1848-1850

Sub-group 5. Wister Family Papers, 1846-1847, ca. 1895, 1900

Series A. John Wister Papers, ca. 1895, 1900

Folder 1. Biographical and obituary clippings, ca. 1895,
1900

Series B. Sarah Logan Fisher Wister Papers, 1846-1847

Folder 1. Letters to aunt, Sarah Rodman Morgan, 1846-1847

ADDED ENTRIES

Abigail (Ship)
 Account books--New Bedford, Mass.--1834-1862
Benezet (Bark)
Braganza (Ship)
 Brazil--Commerce--United States
 Business records--Mass.--New Bedford
 Businessmen--Mass.--New Bedford
 Businessmen--Penn.--Duncannon
Chandler Price (Ship)
Charles W. Morgan (Ship)
Clarice (Bark)
 Commercial agents--Mass.--New Bedford
Condor (Ship)
 Domestic relations--Mass.--New Bedford
 Domestic relations--Penn.--Duncannon
 Domestic relations--Penn.--Wakefield
 Duncannon, Penn.--Description
 Duncannon, Penn.--Industries
 Duncannon Iron Works, Duncannon, Penn.
Emily Morgan (Ship)
Enterprise (Ship)
 Family--Mass.--New Bedford
 Family--Penn.--Duncannon
 Family--Penn.--Wakefield
 Fisher, Elizabeth Rodman, 1810-1875
 Fisher, Sarah Lindley, 1785-1865
 Fisher, Thomas Rodman, 1803-1861
 Fisher, William Logan, 1781-1862
 Fisher family
Frances Henrietta (Ship)
Gazelle (Schooner)
George and Martha (Ship)
 Germany--Commerce--United States
Hector (Ship)
Hesper (Bark)
Hesper (Ship)
 Iron industry and trade--Penn.--Duncannon
 Iron-works--Penn.--Duncannon
 Isles of Shoals Lighthouse, White Island, N.H.
 Lectures and lecturing--Mass.--New Bedford
 Lighthouses--United States
Magnolia (Ship)
Maria (Ship)
 Marriage licenses--Mass.--New Bedford
 Merchant marine--Mass.--New Bedford
 Merchant seamen--Mass.--New Bedford
 Merchant seamen--Mass.--New Bedford--Salaries, pensions, etc.
 Merchant ships--Mass.--New Bedford
 Merchants--Mass.--New Bedford

ADDED ENTRIES (cont.)

Morgan, Charles Waln, 1796-1861
 Morgan, Samuel Griffitts, 1816-1893
 Morgan, Samuel Rodman, 1824-1891
 Morgan, Sarah Rodman, 1793-1888
 Morgan family
 Morgan Papers
 Nail makers--Penn.--Duncannon
 New Bedford, Mass.--Commerce
Parthian (Brig)
Pioneer (Bark)
 Pope, William G E 1815-ca. 1869
 Pope & Morgan, New Bedford, Mass.
 Portugal--Commerce--United States
 Rodman, Benjamin, 1794-1876
 Rodman, Thomas Rotch, 1825-1905
Rodman (Ship)
 Rodman family
Roscoe (Ship)
 Russia--Commerce--United States
 Shipmasters--Mass.--New Bedford
 Shipping--Mass.--New Bedford
 Ship's papers
 Snow, Loum, 1810-1871
 Sweden--Commerce--United States
Troy (Brig)
 United States--Commerce--Brazil
 United States--Commerce--Germany
 United States--Commerce--Portugal
 United States--Commerce--Russia
 United States--Commerce--Sweden
 Whalers
 Whales--Addresses, essays, lectures
 Whaling--Greenland--Davis Strait
 Whaling--Mass.--New Bedford
 Whaling--Mass.--New Bedford--Addresses, essays, lectures
 Whaling--Mass.--New Bedford--Agents
William Brown (Schooner)
Winslow (Ship)
 Wister, John, 1829-1900
 Wister, Sarah Logan Fisher, 1806-1891
 Wister family
 Women--Penn.--Wakefield--Social conditions