



The Steven H. Korman Collection of  
Presidential Letters & Memorabilia

...appoint  
...of three hundred dollars per  
annum —  
January 12, 1795  
G. Washington

You will find the Reports annexed  
indorsed? — does any formal  
warrant or Commission issue? If so,

I suppose you could have  
time for your birthday -  
days are an apt reminder  
and your nation are so p  
with your family.

We wish you all happiness  
so many of us the securi  
can freely grow. May y  
in fullness and achievem  
add to the pride and grat  
from its heart today.



This catalog was published for the exhibit of The Steven H. Korman Collection of Presidential Letters & Memorabilia at Drexel University, Philadelphia, September 24, 2019.

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An interview with Steven H. Korman is available at [drexel.edu/StevenKormanPresidentialCollection](http://drexel.edu/StevenKormanPresidentialCollection).

**Drexel University gratefully acknowledges the generous support of Steven H. Korman in making this exhibit and catalog possible.**

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**Cover:**

**Detail of George Washington commemorative button, Button with the Great Seal of the United States and CAT 1, Letter from Commissioner of Revenue, Tench Coxe, to Secretary of the Treasury, Alexander Hamilton, signed by President George Washington, January 12, 1795**

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**Inside Cover:**

**Detail of CAT 33, Birthday Note from President Lyndon B. Johnson to Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara, June 9, 1967**

.....

**Frontispiece:**

**Detail of CAT 10, Fractional Currency, 50¢, 4th Issue, New York, New York, March 3, 1863**

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Foreword by John Fry, President, Drexel University


I am delighted and honored to introduce you to the Steven Korman Presidential Collection, a remarkable written record of the innermost thoughts of some of America's greatest leaders. Steven Korman's collection is a wonderful addition to the more than 6,000 pieces of fine and decorative arts in The Drexel Collection, and it enhances Drexel's standing as a national center for scholarship and research.

Our founder, Anthony J. Drexel, believed strongly in the educational value of the collection that he assembled upon launching the Drexel Institute of Art, Science and Industry. It thrives to this day as a tool for teaching, research and a source of enlightenment and enjoyment. As a friend and confidant to President Ulysses S. Grant, A.J. Drexel no doubt would be inspired by the addition to his collection of presidential correspondence from Grant, as well as Grant's fellow presidents.

My deepest gratitude, of course, goes to Steve Korman for placing his important collection in our care. The Korman family means so much to Drexel University. Three generations have served as members of the Drexel Board of Trustees: Steve, his father and, now, his son. The Kormans also have a multi-generational legacy of philanthropy that, most recently, was seen in their support for the wonderful transformation of the Korman Center and the creation of the Korman Quadrangle.

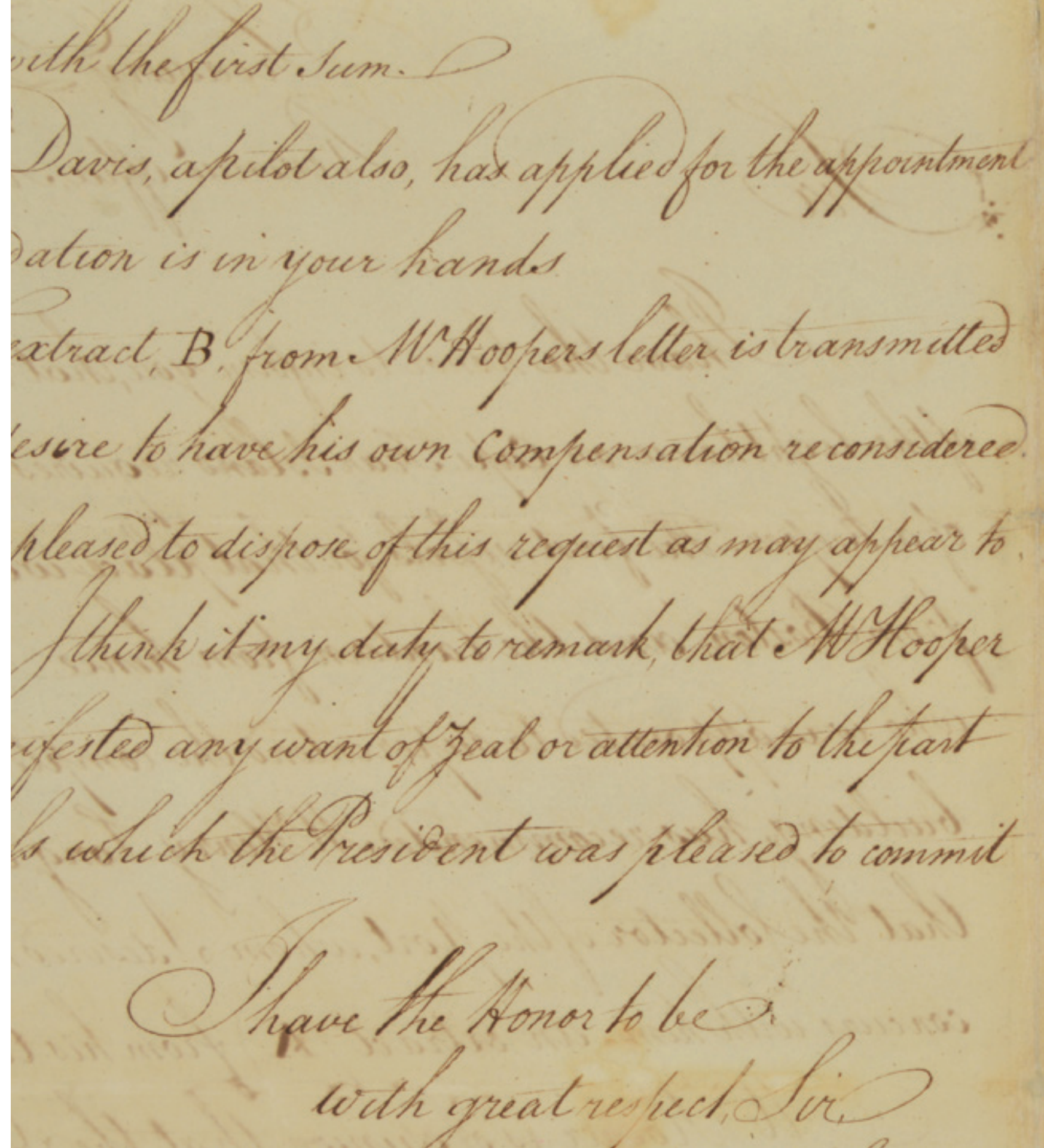
I hope that everyone who experiences the Steven Korman Collection will find it engaging, intriguing and inspirational.

Sincerely,



John Fry  
President

**Opposite:**  
**Detail CAT 1.** Letter from Commissioner of Revenue, Tench Coxe, to Secretary of the Treasury, Alexander Hamilton, signed by President George Washington, January 12, 1795



Dear Friends,

What a pleasure it is to share the letters of our presidents with you. I have collected these letters for 50 years. My grandfather, Hyman Korman, had an immeasurable influence on me and it was he who inspired my passion for history.

I remember asking him when I was 19 years old about civil rights back in his day. He explained that when he was my age, the Civil War had only been over for about 30 years and America was still living in its shadow! At that moment I recognized that history was right in front of me. I wanted to understand it and to touch it. Collecting these extraordinary letters has achieved both for me.

Choosing Drexel as the home for my letters is part of my history too. My father was a Director of the Board, I shared that honor, and now my son serves as a Director. Moreover, Drexel represents all that is good in our country. Its mission from its inception and continuing today is reaching into the community and opening opportunity to all.

What inspires me most about these letters is that they show the human side of figures we find in history books who otherwise could remain as cold as the bronze statues dedicated to them. Some of the letters read like stories. They show many of the values that are dearly needed today. Lincoln

releases confederate officers based on a promise to farm, not fight. Thomas Jefferson meets James Madison at Gordon's, the local pub, to strategize the War of 1812. Although almost a century and diverse backgrounds separate them, both show their understanding of their role as leaders.

Each letter tells what it is like to be president with immediacy because each was written when the presidents served in that office. With each presidency we see our nation change and we feel it grow.

Integrated in the collection are buttons and ribbons adding color and a tactile dimension. They are symbols, headlines, and they shout, "look at me—vote for me!" Drexel is also connected to the history of our nation and I hope that by bringing my collections together with Drexel's collections, we can see those connections come to life.

I hope as you read these letters you feel that history is not merely a thing of the past. It is us. It is today. The decisions made now are built on



decisions of the past, the good, the bad, and the ones with outcomes still to be seen.

It is said that collections reflect the collector. For me, these letters represent the faith I feel in our nation. The letters are meant to speak to you and me. My hope is that they inspire pride and yes, love of our great land.

Respectfully,

Steven H. Korman

Figure 1. Campaign and Commemorative Buttons

Date Range: 1933 – 2016  
Ink, paper, metal, plastic  
Varying sizes



**Figure 2:**  
**President Theodore Roosevelt Medals**

A fleet from the United States Navy completed a journey around the globe from December 16, 1907 to February 22, 1909 by order of President Theodore Roosevelt. The fleet's mission was to both extend friendly visits to numerous countries while also displaying the power of the U.S. Navy.

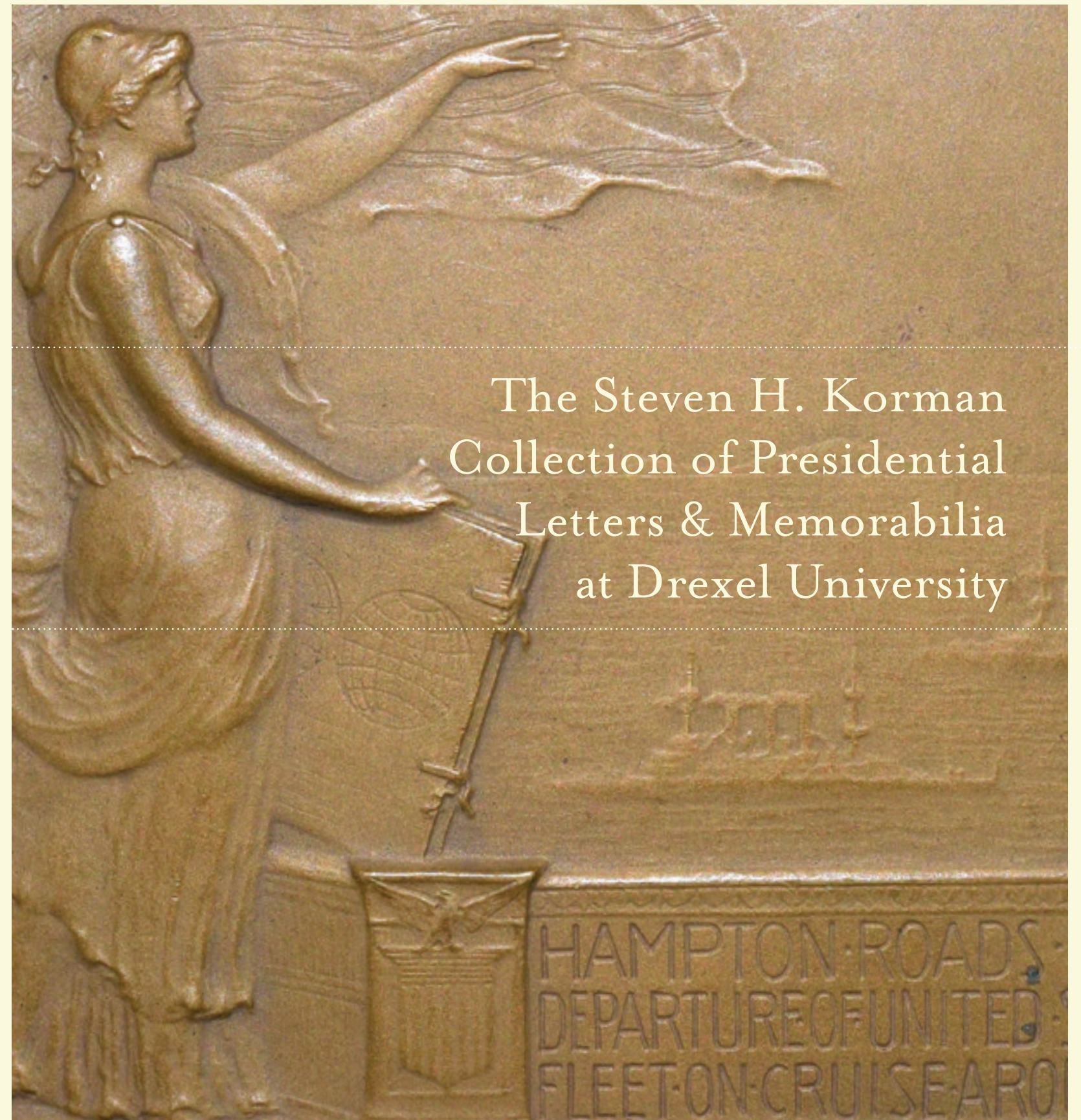
Charles E. Barber, obverse; George T. Morgan (Charles Barber's assistant), reverse  
 1907  
 Bronze

Purchased by Drexel Museum, Philadelphia, 1909

**Obverse:** Profile bust of T. Roosevelt, facing left inscribed "THEODORE/ROOSEVELT" to the left of the profile, and "PRESIDENT/OF THE/UNITED/STATES" to the right. "BARBER" is stamped in small letters at the bottom right corner.

**Reverse:** Victory holding the world map, waving to three ships departing at the right. There is a putti behind her holding a large American flag. Inscribed at lower right "HAMPTON•ROADS•DEC•16•1907/DEPARTURE•OF•UNITED•STATES•ATLANTIC/FLEET•ON•CRUISE•AROUND•THE•WORLD". "MORGAN" is stamped in the bottom left corner.

Acc. No. 1304 A, B



The Steven H. Korman  
 Collection of Presidential  
 Letters & Memorabilia  
 at Drexel University

**W**hen Anthony J. Drexel founded the Drexel Institute of Art, Science and Industry in 1891, he envisioned a forward-thinking, innovative institute of higher education that would evolve with the fortunes of Philadelphia and of the United States. It was a time of rapid economic growth and Philadelphia, as a major manufacturing center and with its recent success as the host of the Centennial International Exposition of 1876, held a prominent place in the nation's landscape of burgeoning, urban industrialization. The education offered at Drexel was to be applied, practical and experiential, so that graduates could assume their place in the workforce as managers and innovators. At the same time, the founder wished to ensure that students developed a contextual understanding of their rapidly changing world — through an appreciation of the fine craftsmanship, design and historical significance associated with American and European art, decorative arts and furniture. To this end, he dedicated funds for the purchase of these museum-quality materials now housed in The Drexel Collection, the

*the founder wished to ensure that students developed a contextual understanding of their rapidly changing world*

University's flagship collection of art of over 6,000 pieces. Dating from this early commitment, Drexel became a collecting institution and continued to build on its holdings of mainly 19th and early 20th century materials. Expansion of the collections over time has included the Fox Historic Costume Collection, first established in the 1890s; the specimens and research materials of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University; the Legacy Center archives on the history of women in medicine and homeopathy, as well as audio archives and graphic design collections. From the founding of the Institute and early museum collection, Drexel University has been home to invaluable objects of the university's and nation's history. With the addition of the Steven H. Korman Collection of Presidential Letters & Memorabilia, Drexel is continuing its legacy as a steward of our cultural heritage.

*Since the University's founding, Drexel has had a history with key players in the United State's government. Through leadership, research, educational and professional opportunities, Drexel University has continued to form relationships with many facets of the government, including the Executive Branch. The Steven Korman Presidential Collection not only ties into Drexel's preexisting collections, but it also expands them. Among the early materials purchased and donated to Drexel was a collection of commemorative presidential and United States medals, including U.S. Centennial Medals (Figs. 3 and 4) and an election medal for President Ulysses S. Grant (Fig. 6).*



**Figure 3:**  
**U.S. Centennial Medal**

Artist Unknown  
1876  
Pewter  
Gift of Mrs. Troth, 1897

**Obverse:** Memorial Hall, well detailed in low relief on plain ground, with "MEMORIAL HALL" above and "TO COMMEMORATE THE CENTENNIAL/ANNIVERSARY OF THE/UNITED STATES/PHILA JULY 4/1876"

**Reverse:** Independence Hall, well detailed in low relief, with "PROCLAIM LIBERTY THROUGH-OUT THE LAND AND UNTO ALL THE PEOPLE THEREOF" around the top edge and "INDEPENDENCE HALL/JULY 4 1776/PATD. FEBRY. 10.1874" below.

Acc. No. 1296



**Figure 4:**  
**U. S. Centennial Award Medals**

These award medals were created for the Centennial Exhibition. One of the medals in The Drexel Collection was awarded to a J. B. Rohrman for the manufacture of Japanned tinware.

H. Mitchell, SC  
1876  
Bronze  
Gifts of Mrs. S. M. Lauterback, 1898 and Mrs. A. Elizabeth Van der Veer Rohrman, 1921

**Obverse:** Seated classical female figure, facing left, extending a laurel wreath in her right hand. Border of 38 stars and 4 rondels with seated classical figures. Below the seated figure is "H. MITCHELL.SC." stamped in small letters.

**Reverse:** "INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION/PHILADELPHIA, MDCCCLXXVI" around the outer edge of the wreath and "AWARDED BY/UNITED STATES/CENTENNIAL/COMMISSION" in the center.

Acc. No. 1298 A, B

Paris, France  
Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> 1878

My dear Mr. Drexel

We just arrived here yesterday morning from our tour through Spain. A most delightful trip it was, but with some discomforts of travel, we had however every comfort that could be found and every other Spain is generally a very poor country with various districts, but a better people than I expected to find. My impression is that the Spanish people would be industrious if they could find

a reward for their labor, and that the Nation might become again a prosperous one. I wish you had been with me.

On my arrival at Paris I determined to change my mind and to return home by India, China & Japan. The Sec. of the Navy was kind enough to send me an invitation to accept passage by the Richmond, which was to leave the States on the 10<sup>th</sup> of Dec. via the Mediterranean for the Asiatic Squadrons, which letter I received at Gibraltar. I acknowledged the receipt of the letter with thanks for the courtesy, but said that I had determined to return by the Atlantic. But I added, that if I should change my

Paris, France  
Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>, '78

My dear Mr. Drexel:

We just arrived here yesterday morning from our tour through Spain. A most delightful trip it was, but with some discomforts of travel. We had however every comfort that could be given, and every attention. Spain is generally a very poor country, with resources destroyed, but a better people than I expected to find. My impression is that the Spanish people would be industrious if they could find a reward for their labour, and that the Latin might become — again — prosperous. I wish you had been with me.

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before the sailing of the Richmond, I would cable him. On the 6<sup>th</sup> I did so. I wish you could go along. It would be the best medicine you could receive. The Sec. of the Navy would be glad to offer you a passage so far as Govt. Steamers carry us. When I sent my dispatch to the Sec. of the Navy Mrs. Grant said she wished she could take May Drexel with her. It is probably too late for anything of that kind now: but if it is possible, and you wish it, ask the Sec. of the Navy if there would be any objection, and cable me so that I may communicate with the Commander of the steamer on his arrival in the Mediterranean. But if you come we can fix a place for you either with me or in a hammock. Mr. Childs is such a sailor — having been in the Navy in early life — that I would not ask him to witness my contortion in a heavy sea. He would not enjoy it for a six months voyage.

I have written to Fred to get a leave of absence to accompany me. Whether he can do so I do not know. I hope he will be able to. It will be very valuable to him and a great pleasure to me.

Give our love to Mr. and Mrs. Childs, to Mr. and Mrs. Boni (?) and to Mr. and Mrs. Paul, and say to Mr. Boni (?) and Mr. Childs that I shall write to them before I sail — and while away.

I hope you will write to me often if you do not conclude to join "the Ship" and take a good rest.

Mrs. Grant's and my love and regards to all your family.

Very Truly Yours,  
U. S. Grant [signature]

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Very Truly Yours  
U. S. Grant

Figure 5:  
Letter from President Ulysses S. Grant to Anthony J. Drexel, December 13, 1878

After completing his second presidential term in 1877, Ulysses S. Grant set off on a world tour that would last two years. He entrusted his finances to the banking firm of his friend, Anthony J. Drexel. In this letter, President Grant writes about his trip and expresses several times his wish that Mr. Drexel could join him.

Ulysses S. Grant, 1822-1885  
Paris, France  
Drexel Family Collection, Drexel University Archives  
Image courtesy of the Drexel University Archives





**Figure 6:**  
**Ulysses S. Grant Medal**

Grant was a close personal friend of A. J. Drexel and often dined with the family when in Philadelphia. The central lines on the reverse are from James Beattie's 1771 poem "The Progress of Genius." The statement around the edge is from a dispatch that Grant sent to Washington during the Battle of Spotsylvania Courthouse (11 May, 1864).

Hugues Bovy

**Obverse:** Profile bust of General Ulysses S. Grant, facing left, in uniform with three stars, in high relief. The inscription "GENERAL U.S. GRANT" is along the top edge and the inscription "(1868) HUGUES BOVY FECIT GENEVE (SUISSE)" is along the bottom edge.

**Reverse:** Inscription "I INTEND TO FIGHT IT OUT ON THIS LINE IF IT TAKES ALL SUMMER" is along the outer edge, with "PATIENT OF TOIL, / SERENE AMIDST ALARMS, / INFLEXIBLE IN FAITH, / INVINCIBLE IN ARMS." in the center.

1868  
Bronze

Gift of Anthony J. Drexel, 1893

Acc. No. 1322



**Figure 7:**  
**George Washington Commemorative Button**

This metal button with the initials "G W" within an oval at the center and around the edge the words: "LONG LIVE THE PRESIDENT" is similar to the plain Roman GW monogram center commemorative buttons, which were handmade and would be displayed prominently on outerwear.

Artist Unknown  
Date Unknown  
Metal

Gift of George W. Childs, 1892

Acc. No. 1952



**Figure 8:**  
**Benjamin Franklin Medal or Plaque**

This cast iron medal or plaque has a portrait bust of Benjamin Franklin facing right in high relief, with a high relief border and loop for hanging.

Artist Unknown  
Date Unknown  
Cast Iron

Gift of Mrs. Troth, 1897

Acc. No. 1293



**Figure 9:**  
**Ulysses S. Grant Monument Medal**

Commemorative medals mark significant events, people and places, with this medal highlighting all three—the dedication date of the monument, the Grant monument and president Ulysses S. Grant.

Tiffany & Co.  
1897

Bronze

Purchased by Drexel Museum, 1901

**Obverse:** Profile head of U.S. Grant, facing right, in high relief, inscribed: "GENERAL ULYSSES S. GRANT" with four stars below and the American Numismatic and Archaeological Society seal with 3 oak leaves and the inscription "PARVA NE PERSANT" along the top edge of the seal and "SOCI•AMERI•NUMIS•ET•ARCHÆOL" at the bottom edge.

**Reverse:** Façade of the Grant Monument with "DEDICATED NEW YORK APRIL 27 1897" above, and "ISSUED BY THE AMERICA NUMISMATIC/ AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY" below. Stamped with "TIFFANY & CO." at the bottom.

Acc. No. 1299



**Figure 10:**  
**Medal of Henry Clay**

Henry Clay (1777–1852) represented Kentucky in the United States Senate four times spanning the years 1806–1852 and served as the 9th U.S. Secretary of State.

Artist Unknown  
1852

Bronze

Purchased by Drexel Museum, Philadelphia, 1907

**Obverse:** Profile bust of Senator Henry Clay, middle-aged, facing left in high relief with "HENRY CLAY" above and "BORN APRIL 12, 1777. DIED JUNE 29, 1852" below.

**Reverse:** An arm and hand resting on a scroll with the words "AMERICA SYSTEM./SOUTH A...E...O...IONS/COM...E...MISES" draped over a rock inscribed "CONSTITUTION" with "THE ELOQUENT DEFENDER OF NATIONAL RIGHTS/ AND NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE" inscribed above.

Acc. No. 1302

The Drexel University Archives includes a personal letter between President Grant and the founder (Fig. 5), who was a longtime friend, mentor and confidant to President Grant and whose daughter Frances Drexel Paul was a bridesmaid in President Grant's daughter's wedding at the White House. President Grant even offered Anthony J. Drexel the position of secretary of the treasury, which he declined, though he would continue to offer advice to the president when needed, especially on Grant's visits to Philadelphia.

The Steven H. Korman Collection of Presidential Letters & Memorabilia is a fitting and very welcome addition to Drexel's growing collections in art and historical materials, and a reminder of Mr. Korman's assessment that "history is right in front of us" providing valuable context and insight into our own times.

The Steven Korman Presidential Collection encompasses a wide range of American history with materials from George Washington to George W. Bush. The collection includes presidential pardons, appointments, photographs and inauguration and impeachment tickets. All of these documents are rounded out with pieces of memorabilia like a fifty-cent paper bill from 1863 (Cat. 10), campaign buttons and commemorative ribbons (Cat. 41), a chess set with the presidents up through George W. Bush, and White House chocolates.

The strength of the Steven Korman Presidential Collection is in the letters between leaders and historical figures in U.S. history. These 25 letters written by the presidents of the United States showcase differences between their personalities and communication styles. The letters, accompanied by images of the presidents, are both handwritten and typed, and all contain the signatures of the presidents, with many on White House letterhead. Some of the earliest letters include a 1795 note about the appointment of a lighthouse keeper that was signed by George Washington and Alexander Hamilton (Cat. 1) and a personal letter from President Thomas Jefferson to James Madison, who was then secretary of state, about visiting Madison in Montpelier while traveling from Monticello to Washington, D.C. (Cat. 3). 19th century presidents are also well represented, from a letter of attorney and advice from Andrew Jackson in 1822 (Cat. 6) to a written missive from Abraham Lincoln to U.S. Representative Benjamin Loan about appointing a new military surgeon in Jefferson City, Missouri (Cat. 11). From more recent times, the collection has a letter from John F. Kennedy to Jason Epstein, a publisher at Random House Publishing, about the importance of access to American literary classics (Cat. 31) and one from Warren G. Harding to John Wanamaker, the owner of the largest department store in the country, advocating for an employee of Wanamaker's to receive a raise (Cat. 24).

The generous donation of the Steven Korman Presidential Collection enables The Drexel Collection to grow its holdings in presidential materials and letters, allowing for a unique focus which will serve current and future Drexel students, faculty and staff who wish to learn more about the nation's history and leaders.



**Figure 11:**  
**Abraham Lincoln Centennial Medal**

Jules Eduard Roine  
1908  
Bronze  
Purchased by Drexel Museum, 1908

**Obverse:** Profile bust of Abraham Lincoln, facing left, in high relief, with the inscription "ABRAHAM LINCOLN" along the upper edge and "1809" and "1865" at the bottom on either side of the profile bust. "J.E. ROINE COPYRIGHT" and "114Co<script>" stamped at the bottom edge.

**Reverse:** A half laurel and half oak wreath with the inscription "LIBERATOR" at the top, "•EMANCI-PATION•/•PROCLAMATION•/SIGNED/JANU-ARY•FIRST•1863•/Abraham Lincoln<script>" at the center, and "1909/CENTENNIAL•COMMEMORA-TION" at the bottom edge.

Acc. No. 1308



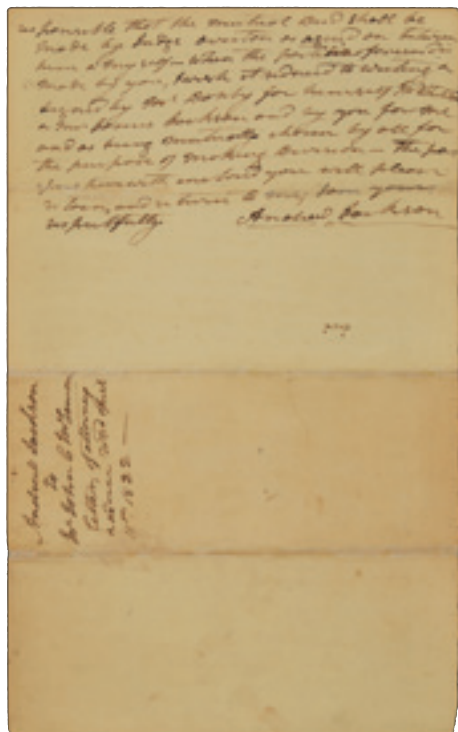
**Figure 12:**  
**Adoption of the Constitution Centennial Medal**

George T. Morgan  
1887  
Bronze  
Purchased by Drexel Museum, Philadelphia, 1901

**Obverse:** Profile bust of George Washington, facing right with the inscription "PRESIDENT OF THE CONVENTION 1787" around the edge. "MORGAN" is inscribed under the shoulder.

**Reverse:** A horizontal rectangle with Independence Hall in low relief with a "frosted" finish. At the top are two heads in a circular frame with the labels "HAMILTON" and "MADISON". The inscription "CENTENNIAL OF THE ADOPTION/OFF THE/ CONSTITUTION" is at the bottom.

Acc. No. 1312



**CAT 6.** Verso. A "Letter of Attorney and Advice" to John McLemore, April 11, 1822  
**Andrew Jackson (American, 1767-1845)**

Autograph Letter Signed  
April 11, 1822  
Ink on paper  
Glazed, matted and framed  
Letter: 12 3/4 x 7 3/4 in.; Frame: 19 1/2 x 22 in.  
18.005.0029

the purpose of making you  
open here with one bond you will  
return, and return to me; I am  
respectfully  
Andrew J

The Steven H. Korman  
Collection of Presidential  
Letters & Memorabilia  
Illustrated Checklist and Essays

to  
John C. McLemore  
of attorney  
in dated April  
22



.....  
**CAT 1.** Letter from Commissioner of Revenue, Tench Coxe, to Secretary of the Treasury, President Alexander Hamilton, signed by George Washington, January 12, 1795  
**President George Washington (American, 1732-1799)**

Autograph Endorsement Signed  
 January 12, 1795  
 Ink on paper  
 Glazed, matted and framed  
 Letter: 9 5/8 x 15 in.; Frame: 30 1/2 x 24 1/2 in.  
 18.005.0001

Tench Coxe reported to Alexander Hamilton, having been appointed as Commissioner to the Revenue in 1793. In this letter to Hamilton, Coxe recommended Henry Long as keeper of the Cape Fear Lighthouse in North Carolina. Hamilton accepted Coxe's recommendation and included President George Washington's signature on his response to Coxe to make the appointment official.

Both of the lighthouses mentioned, Cape Fear and Bald Head, were located in North Carolina. Protecting the coastlines was a high priority for the government. In 1790, President Washington signed a tariff act that put into existence the Revenue Cutter Service to enforce tariffs on trade goods coming in across the Atlantic ocean, and to prevent smuggling. "Cutters" were large vessels working under the federal government. Under the Department of the Treasury, this service would later become known as the Coast Guard, which was the only armed sea force for the United States until a permanent standing Navy was founded in 1794. When Coxe wrote to Hamilton, the Bald Head lighthouse had been newly built as a landmark for safe passage into Cape Fear River. Bald Head and Cape Fear were two of four lighthouses along this passage. This set of lighthouses guided passing ships into the Port of Wilmington, which was one of the major seaports for international trade in the colonial era.

Treasury Department  
Revenue office, March 11 1794

Sir

I have the honor to inform you, that the situation of the lighthouse on Cape Fear Island requires the appointment of a keeper. The first vessels for that place will take the oil from Boston and the lantern from hence. Mr. Hooper, who was appointed to superintend the completion of the building, has recommended M Henry Long and he mentions that the collector of the port, whom I desired him to consult, concurs with him. An extract A from his letter is enclosed. Mr. Hooper is of opinion that the salary should be 300 or 350 dollars per annum, and that the latter sum is not too much. There being a good new house well situated for taking fish and for piloting, and Mr. Long being of that occupation, there appears ground to expect he would be

Henry Long

Commissioner of the Revenue  
March 11 1794

Secretary of the Treasury  
March 11 1794

be satisfied with the first sum.

Isaac Davis, a pilot also, has applied for the appointment his recommendation is in your hands.

The extract B from Mr. Hooper's letter is transmitted to show his desire to have his own compensation reconsidered. You will be pleased to dispose of this request as may appear to you proper. I think it my duty to remark that Mr. Hooper has not manifested any want of zeal or attention to the part of the business which the President was pleased to commit to him.

I have the honor to be  
with great respect Sir,  
Your most obed't servant  
Tench Coxe  
Commissioner of the Revenue

The Secretary of the Treasury

[Washington's approval]

Let Henry Long be appointed with a salary of three Hundred dollars per annum - January 12, 1795  
G. Washington [signature]

[Hamilton's response]

You will find the [illegible] endorsed? Does any formal warrant or commission offer? If so, Be so good as call on the Sec of State for the purpose  
Mr. AH [signed]

The 14 Jan 1795 - Keeper of the Bald Head L. House

Henry Long is appointed  
with a salary of three hundred dollars per  
annum - January 12, 1795  
G. Washington

You will find the President's sanction  
is desired? - does any formal  
warrant or commission offer? If so,  
be so good as call on the  
Sec of State for the purpose  
4th AH

2d. 14 Jan 1795 - keeper of Cape Fear  
Head L. House

Comissn of the Revenue  
March 11th 1794  
Respecting a keeper of the Light house on Cape Fear Island.  
With the appointment of a keeper for Bald H. L. House to  
confer with Mr. Coxe  
Henry Long [signature]

[Body of the letter]

Treasury Department  
Revenue office, March 11th: 1794

Sir

I have the honor to inform you, that the situation of the lighthouse on Cape Fear Island requires the appointment of a keeper. The first vessels for that place will take the oil from Boston and the lantern from hence. Mr. Hooper who was appointed to superintens the completion of the building has recommended M Henry Long and he mentions that the Collector of the Port, whom I desired him to consult, concurs with him. And extract A from his letter is enclosed.

Mr. Hooper is of opinion that the Salary should be 300 or 350 dollars/annum, and that the latter sum is not too much. There being a good new house well situated for taking fish and for piloting and Mr. Long being of that occupation, there appears ground to expect he would be

[over]

be satisfied with the first sum.

Isaac Davis, a pilot also, has applied for the appointment his recommendation is in your hands.

The extract B. from Mr. Hoopers letter is transmitted to show his desire to have his own compensation reconsidered. You will be pleased to dispose of this request as may appear to you proper. I think it my duty to remark that Mr. Hooper has not manifested any want of zeal or attention to the part of the business which the President was pleased to commit to him.

I have the Honor to be  
With great respect Sir,  
Your most obed't: Servant  
Tench Coxe [signature]  
Commissioner of the Revenue

The Secretary of the Treasury

[Washington's approval]

Let Henry Long be appointed with a salary of three  
Hundred dollars per annum - January 12, 1795  
G. Washington [signature]

[Hamilton's response]

You will find the [illegible] endorsed? Does any formal  
warrant or commission offer? If so, Be so good as call on  
the Sec of State for the purpose  
Mr. AH [signed]

The 14 Jan 1795 - Keeper of the Bald Head L. House



Three years before this ship's passport was issued, the Secretary of State, Thomas Jefferson, declared that such documents were necessary for protection of American trade and the safety of American ships and their crews. The French declared war on Great Britain and the Netherlands in February 1793, putting American shipping at risk, and Jefferson was anxious to ensure that America's neutrality in the conflict would be honored. These special passports were intended to confirm American neutrality and to protect the ships if apprehended and boarded by any of the combatants. In an opinion written by Jefferson noting that such passports were essential, he explicitly stated that they should be signed by the President of the United States.



.....  
**CAT 2. Ship's Passport signed  
 by President George Washington  
 George Washington (American, 1732-1799)**  
 Printed Form with Washington's Signature  
 December 17, 1796  
 Ink on paper  
 Glazed, matted and framed  
 Document: 15 ½ x 12 ½ in.; Frame: 24 ½ x 27 ¾ in.  
 18.005.0009

President des Etats Unis d'Amérique  
A tous ceux qui les présentes, FERRONT :

President of the United States of America  
To all who shall see these presents, GREETING:

President van de Vereenigde Staaten van America  
Als alle die groeten hi denzelve welinge jellen van SALUT :

SOIT NOTOIRE, que faculté et permission a été accordée  
maître ou com-  
mandant du navire appelé  
de la ville de  
de la capacité de  
ou environ, se trouvant présentement dans le port et  
pour

BE IT KNOWN, That leave and permission, are hereby  
given to  
master or commander of the  
of the burthen of a  
tons or thereabouts, lying at present in the port of  
bound for  
and laden with

DOEN TE WEEËTEN dat by eenen vryden permiffie  
gegeeven werd en  
Schipper en  
Bevelhebber van het Schip (of vaartuijg:) genaamt  
groot  
Tonnen of daer ontrent, leggende tegenwoordig  
in de Haaven van  
en beladen met

Indian Corn & Flour

to depart and proceed with his said  
on his said voyage, such  
and the said

Indian Corn & Flour

qu'après que son navire a été visité, et avant son départ, il  
précitera serment entre les mains des officiers, autorisés à cet  
effet, que le dit navire appartient, à un ou plusieurs citoyens  
des Etats Unis d'Amérique dont l'acte sera mis à la fin des  
présentes; de même qu'il gardera et fera garder par son  
équipage les ordonnances et réglemens maritimes, et remettra  
sans délai les lieux de naissance et la demeure des per-  
sonnes composant l'équipage de son navire, et de tous ceux qui  
s'y embarqueront, lesquels il ne recevra pas à bord sans la  
consentance et la permission des officiers autorisés à ce; et  
dans chaque port ou havre, où il entrera avec son navire, il  
fera un rapport fidèle de ce qui l'est passé durant son  
voyage, et il portera les couleurs, armes et enseignes des Etats  
Unis durant son dit voyage.

having been visited  
having been visited  
and the said  
belongs to one or more of the citizens of the United States  
America, and to him or them only.

omte vertrekken, en met zyn voornoemd Schip of vaartuijg  
deselvs gemelde reize voort te zetten, zodanig Schip of Vaar-  
tuig gevisiteert zynde, en de voornoemde Schipper of Bevel-  
hebber onder Eede, voor den daer toe gefielden officier ver-  
klaart hebbende dat het gemelde Schip of vaartuijg aan een of  
meerder onderdanen, volk, of Ingezetenen van de Vereenigde  
Staaten van America, toebehoort, enaan hem (of hant) alleen.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have subscribed my name to the  
Presents, and affixed the Seal of the United States of America  
thereto, and caused the same to be countersigned by  
Gray Deputy Collector of the Customs  
at Alexandria in the Year of our  
said seven hundred and ninety four

IN GETUIGENIS WAAR VAN ik deze tegenwoordige met mijn  
naam hebbe onderschreef, en het Zegel van onse Vereenigde  
Staaten van America daer aan hebbe, en het Zegel daer  
countersigneren door  
in het jaar van onze Heeren Christ, een duizend seven  
honderd en

En Temoïn de quoi, nous avons signé les présentes et y avons  
fait apposer le sceau des Etats Unis, et les avons fait contre-  
signer par  
à Alexandria le  
sur de

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have subscribed my name to the  
Presents, and affixed the Seal of the United States of America  
thereto, and caused the same to be countersigned by  
Gray Deputy Collector of the Customs  
at Alexandria in the Year of our  
said seven hundred and ninety four

IN GETUIGENIS WAAR VAN ik deze tegenwoordige met mijn  
naam hebbe onderschreef, en het Zegel van onse Vereenigde  
Staaten van America daer aan hebbe, en het Zegel daer  
countersigneren door  
in het jaar van onze Heeren Christ, een duizend seven  
honderd en

By the President.  
Edm. Randolph  
Vincent Gray

RENISSIMES, Puiffants, Hauts, Illufres, Nobles, Ho-  
norables, Venerables, Sages, et prudens Seigneurs, Em-  
perours, Rois, Républiques, Princes, Ducs, Comtes, Barons,  
Seigneurs, Bourgeois, Echevins, Consailleurs, Comtes,  
aussi Juges, Officiers, Maîtres, Mandataires, Julliciers, et  
Regents de toutes les bonnes villes et endroits, les Ecclesiasti-  
ques ou feculiers, qui verront ou entendront les présentes en-  
tentes. Nous  
avoir faisons, que le Capitaine du  
Schouner de la ville de  
(ayant comparu devant nous) a déclaré sous serment, que le  
navire nommé le  
d'environ  
tonneaux,  
commandé actuellement est un bâtiment des Etats Unis  
d'Amérique, et qu'aucun citoyen ou sujet des puissances présen-  
tement en guerre n'y a aucune part ou intérêt soit directe-  
ment ou indirectement, et ainsi que Dieu lui soit en aide,  
et comme nous désirerions voir prospérer le dit Capitaine dans  
ses affaires légitimes, vous prions et requérons, vous tous et  
chacun de vous séparément dans les lieux où le dit Capitaine  
pourra arriver, avec son bâtiment et sa cargaison, de vouloir  
bien le recevoir avec bonté, et de le traiter de la manière qu'il  
convient, lui permettant, en payant les droits et frais d'usage  
de pa  
naviguer et fréquenter les ports, passages  
et tout  
effet de vapeur à ses affaires, où et de la ma-  
nère que vous jugerez convenable: De quoi vous serons volontiers

MOST Serene, Serene, most Puissant, Puissant, High, Ill-  
lustrious, Noble, Honourable, Venerable, wife and prudent,  
Lords, Emperors, Kings, Republics, Princes, Dukes, Earls, Edle,  
Barons, Lords, Burgomasters, Schepens, Counsellors, as also  
Judges, Officers, Justiciaries and Regents of all the good cities,  
and places, whether Ecclesiastical or Secular, who shall see  
these presents, or hear them read,  
make known, that the master of  
the Schooner  
called upon oath, that the vessel, called the  
of the burthen of about  
tons, which he at present navigates, is of the  
United States of America, and that no subjects of the present  
belligerent powers have any part or portion therein, directly  
nor indirectly, so may God Almighty help him. And, as we wish  
to see the said master prosper in his lawful affairs, and to each  
of them separately, where the said master shall arrive, with his  
vessel and cargo, that they may please to receive the said  
master with goodness, and to treat him in a becoming manner,  
permitting him, upon the usual tolls and expences, in passing  
and repassing, to pass, navigate, and frequent the ports, passes  
and territories, to the end to transact his business, where, and  
in what manner he shall judge proper: Whereof we shall be  
willingly indebted.

ALDER Doorluchtigste, Doorluchtigste, Doorluchtigste,  
Grootachtigste, Grootachtigste, Hoogh ende welghebore,  
Edle, Eerachtigste, Acht baare, wyse, voorfichtige, Heeren,  
Baronen, Lords, Burgomasters, Schepens, Counsellors, als  
alsoe, Julliciers, Koningen, Republiken, Princes, Fursten, Herten,  
Regents van alle de goede steden, plaatsen, Rechten, Oudicieren,  
Julliciers ende, and places, whether Ecclesiastical or Secular, who shall see  
these presents, or hear them read,  
make known, that the master of  
the Schooner  
called upon oath, that the vessel, called the  
of the burthen of about  
tons, which he at present navigates, is of the  
United States of America, and that no subjects of the present  
belligerent powers have any part or portion therein, directly  
nor indirectly, so may God Almighty help him. And, as we wish  
to see the said master prosper in his lawful affairs, and to each  
of them separately, where the said master shall arrive, with his  
vessel and cargo, that they may please to receive the said  
master with goodness, and to treat him in a becoming manner,  
permitting him, upon the usual tolls and expences, in passing  
and repassing, to pass, navigate, and frequent the ports, passes  
and territories, to the end to transact his business, where, and  
in what manner he shall judge proper: Whereof we shall be  
willingly indebted.

In Witness and for cause whereof, we affix hereto the Seal of  
Mayorality of the Town of Alexandria  
this twenty ninth day of August

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have subscribed my name to the  
Presents, and affixed the Seal of the United States of America  
thereto, and caused the same to be countersigned by  
Gray Deputy Collector of the Customs  
at Alexandria in the Year of our  
said seven hundred and ninety four

we apposer aux présentes le Sceau de  
the Town of Alexandria  
this twenty ninth day of August

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have subscribed my name to the  
Presents, and affixed the Seal of the United States of America  
thereto, and caused the same to be countersigned by  
Gray Deputy Collector of the Customs  
at Alexandria in the Year of our  
said seven hundred and ninety four

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have subscribed my name to the  
Presents, and affixed the Seal of the United States of America  
thereto, and caused the same to be countersigned by  
Gray Deputy Collector of the Customs  
at Alexandria in the Year of our  
said seven hundred and ninety four

GEORGE WASHINGTON,  
No. 41 President of the United States of America.

To all who shall see these presents, GREETINGS:  
BE IT KNOWN, That leave and permission, are hereby  
given to Joshua Eldridge, master and commander of the  
Schooner called the Salem Packet of the burthen of ninety  
six tons or thereabouts, lying at present in the port of  
Alexandria bound for Aporto and laden with Indian Corn  
& Flour to depart and proceed with his said Vessel & Cargo  
on his said voyage, such Schooner having been visited and  
the said Joshua Eldridge having made oath before the  
proper officer, that the said Schooner belongs to one or  
more of the citizens of the United States of America,  
and to him or them only.

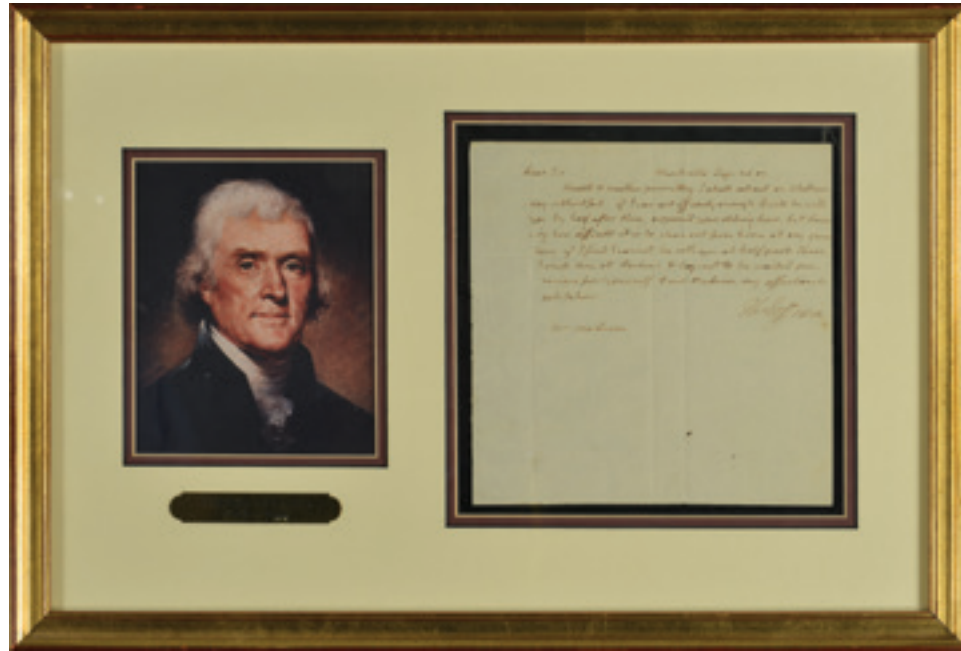
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have subscribed my name to the  
Presents, and affixed the Seal of the United States of  
America thereto, and caused the same to be countersigned  
by Vincent Gray Deputy Collector of the Customs at  
Alexandria the Twenty ninth day of August in the year of our  
Lord Christ, one thousand seven hundred and ninety four.

G. Washington [signature]  
By the President.  
Edm. Randolph [signature]  
Countersign'd  
Vincent Gray [signature]

MOST Serene, Serene, most Puissant, Puissant, High  
Illustrious, Noble, Honourable, Venerable, wife and  
prudent, Lords, Emperors, Kings, Republics, Princes,  
Dukes, Earls, Barons, Lords, Burgomasters, Schepens,  
Counsellors, as also Judges, Officers, Justiciaries and  
Regents of all the good cities and places, whether Ecclesias-  
tical or Secular, who shall these patents, or hear them read.  
We, Robert [Meare] Mayor of Alexandria, make known,

that the master of the Schooner Salem Packet appearing  
before us, has declared upon oath, that the vessel, called  
the Salem Packet of Alexandria of the burthen of about  
ninety six tons, which he at present navigates, is of the  
United States of America, and that no subjects of the  
present belligerent powers have any part or portion therein,  
directly nor indirectly, so may God Almighty help him.  
And, as we wish to see the said master prosper in his lawful  
affairs, our prayer is, to all the before-mentioned, and to  
each of them separately, where the said master shall arrive,  
with his vessel and cargo, that they may please to receive the  
said master with goodness, and to treat him in a becoming  
manner, permitting him, upon the usual tolls and expences,  
in passing and repassing, to pass, navigate, and frequent  
the ports, passes and territories, to the end to transact his  
business, where, and in what manner he shall judge proper:  
Whereof we shall be willingly indebted.  
In Witness and for cause whereof, we affix hereto the Seal  
of Mayorality of the Town of Alexandria this twenty ninth  
day of August, one thousand Seven Hundred Ninety four  
Robert Meare Mayor [signature]

[over]  
Register'd at my Consular Office in Aporto the 14th of  
November, One Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety Four,  
and cleared for Alexandria. Witness my hand and Seal  
B. deClamouse Browne. [signature]  
Deputy Counsel



Thomas Jefferson wrote this note to his Secretary of State James Madison about a plan to pay a brief visit to Madison at his Virginia estate, Montpelier. During the summer of 1807, despite a war with Great Britain on the horizon, Jefferson lived mainly at his estate, Monticello, some 20 miles away from Montpelier. Gordon's, referenced in the letter, was a tavern, formally called Nathaniel Gordon's Tavern, located in Gordonsville, Virginia, about halfway between Monticello and Montpelier, Virginia. Jefferson would often stay at Madison's home on his way to Washington, D.C. During Madison's two-term presidency from 1809 to 1817 Jefferson frequently advised him. In one of the very last letters Jefferson sent to Madison before his death in 1826, Jefferson noted that their fifty-year friendship had been a constant source of happiness for him.

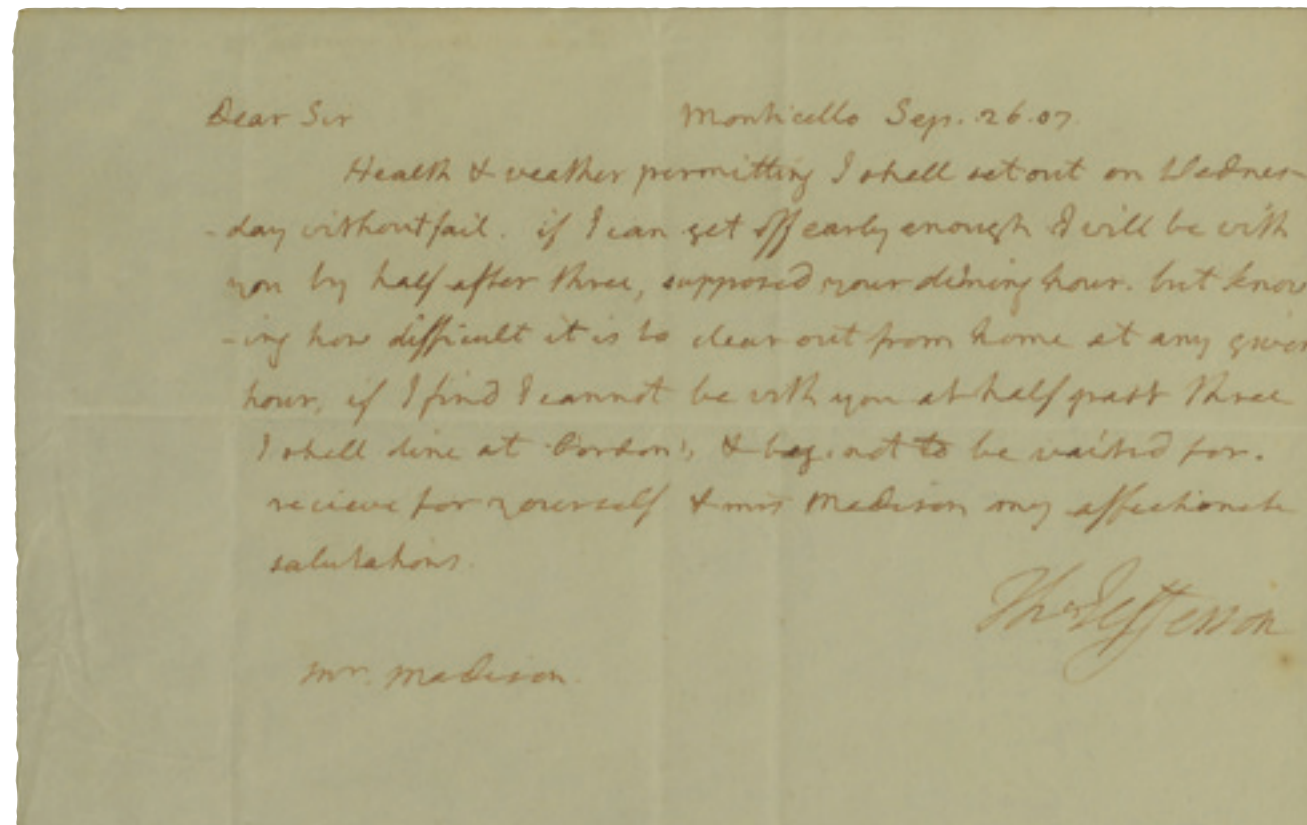
Dear sir, Monticello Sep. 26.07.  
 Health and weather permitting I shall set out on Wednesday without fail. If I can set off early enough I will be with you by half after three, supposed your dining hour. but knowing how difficult it is to clear out from home at any given hour, if I find I cannot be with you at half past three I shall dine at Gordon's & beg not to be waited for. Receive for yourself, & Mrs. Madison my affectionate salutations.

Th. Jefferson [signature]

Mr. Madison

[over]

Madison James Sep 26.07

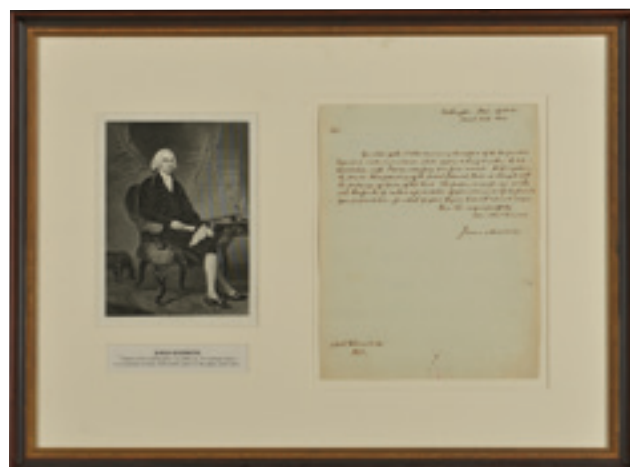


**CAT 3.** Letter from President Thomas Jefferson to James Madison, September 26, 1807  
**Thomas Jefferson (American, 1743-1826)**

Autograph Letter Signed  
 Monticello, September 26, 1807  
 Ink on paper  
 Glazed, matted and framed  
 Letter: 7 ½ x 7 ½ in.; Frame: 13 x 19 ¾ in.

18.005.0017





This letter was written on March 26th, 1802 in answer to Jacob Clement's claim for redress on the capture of his boat, the *Experience*, which had been carrying lumber and provisions when it was seized by the French in 1796. At the time of the claim, James Madison was Jefferson's Secretary of State. Madison believed Clement's claim was worthy, and suggested that it be taken up by Edward Livingston, who was Minister Plenipotentiary to France (an early term for "ambassador").

**CAT 4.** Letter from President James Madison to Jacob Clement, Esq., March 26, 1802

**James Madison (American, 1751-1836)**

Autograph Letter Signed

March 26, 1802

Ink on paper

Glazed, matted and framed

Letter: 10 ½ x 8 ½ in.; Frame: 17 ½ x 23 ¾ in.

18.005.0035

Washington Dept. of State.

March 26th. 1802.

Sirs

Your letter of the 20<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup> concerning the capture of the Brigantine *Experience* under circumstances which appear to bring it within the late Convention with France, was some time since received. Mr Livingston, the Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States at Paris, is charged with the patronage of claims of this kind. The proper course for you to take will therefore be, to make a representation of your case, and also to forward your papers to him, for which purpose they are herewith returned to you.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,

Your Obedt Servant,

James Madison [signature]

Jacob Clement Esq

Phila

Washington, Dept. of State,  
March 26th 1802.

Sir,

Your letter of the 2<sup>o</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup> concerning the capture of the Brigantine *Experience* under circumstances which appear to bring it within the late Convention with France, was some time since received. Mr Livingston, the Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States at Paris, is charged with the patronage of claims of this kind. The proper course for you to take will therefore be, to make a representation of your case, and also to forward your papers to him, for which purpose they are herewith returned to you.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,

Your Obedt Servant,

James Madison

Jacob Clement Esq  
Phila.



This document was signed by 20 American congressmen in 1847 as an autographed gift. It is accompanied by a full length lithograph portrait of John Quincy Adams.

Quincy Adams was the 6th President of the United States, and after the end of his term, was elected to serve in the House of Representatives. It was at this time that he signed this letter, along with nineteen of his fellow congressman.

The person to whom the letter is addressed, Reverend William Walsh, was a Roman Catholic priest from Halifax, Nova Scotia. Born in Ireland, Walsh became the first archbishop in 1852 outside of Quebec in the British controlled North America.

dschc [added by hand, pencil]

Washington, Dec. 13th, 1847

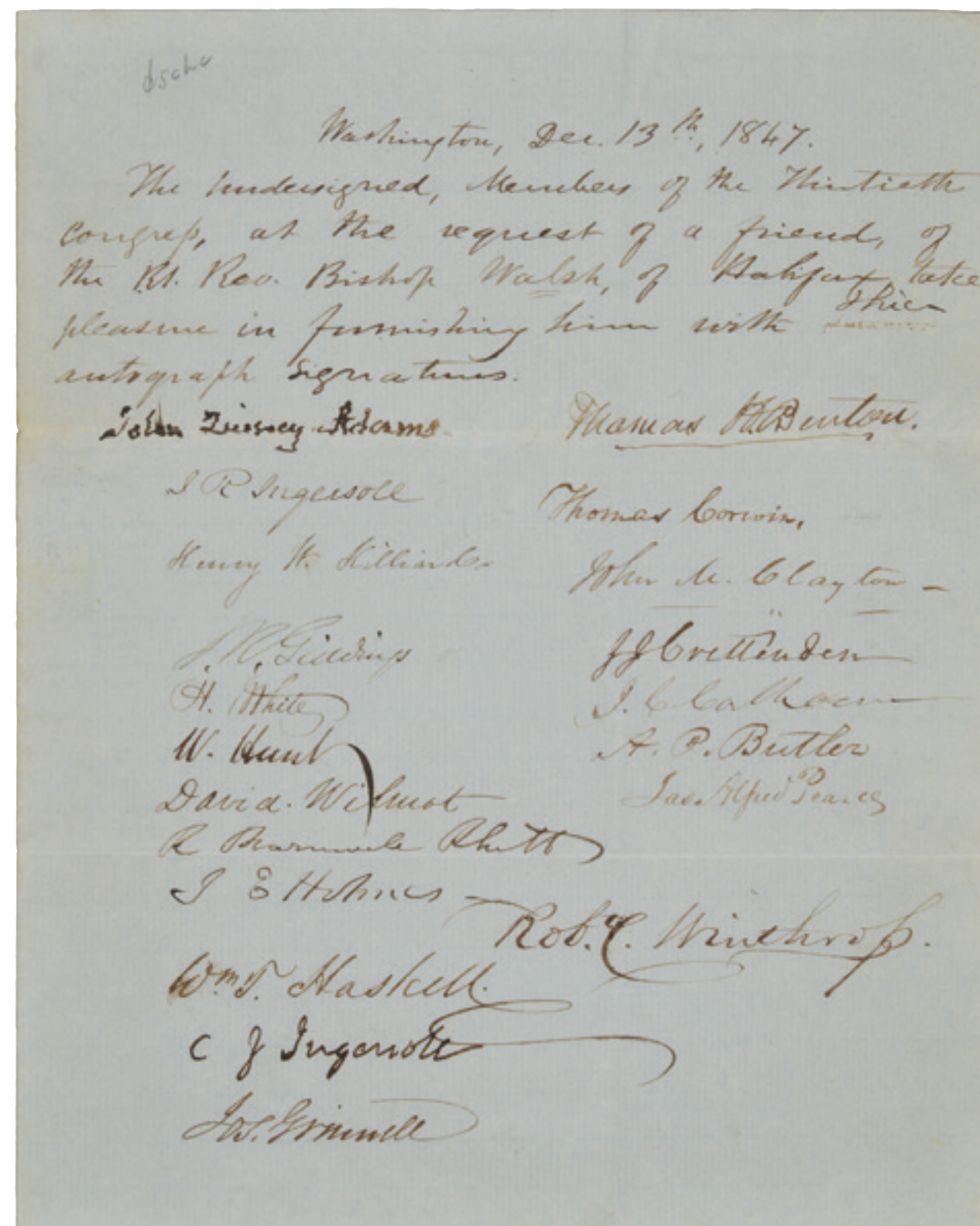
The undersigned, Members of the Thirtieth Congress, at the request of a friend, of the Rt. Rev. Bishop Walsh, of Halifax take pleasure in furnishing him with <sup>^</sup>thies[crossed out] autograph signatures.

John Quincy Adams	Thomas H. Benton
JR Ingersoll	Thomas [illegible]
Henry W. Hilliard	John M. Clayton
ILLEGIBLE SIGNATURE	JJ Crittenden
H. White	J. C Calhoun
W. Hunt	A. P. Butler
David Wilmot	Jas Alfred Pearce
R. Barnwell Rhett	
J E Holmes	
Rob.t. Winthrop	
Wm. T. Haskell	
C. J. Ingersoll	
Jos. Grinnell	

.....  
**CAT 5. Letter with Twenty Congressional Signatures, December 13, 1847**  
**John Quincy Adams (American, 1767-1848)**

Letter Signed  
 December 13, 1847  
 Ink on paper  
 Glazed, double matted and framed in a gilt wood frame  
 Letter: 10 x 8 in.; Frame: 18 x 23 ¼ in.

18.005.0034





This April 11, 1822 letter was written to authorize the recipient to divide or separate out 500 acres of a tract of land owned by Jackson and several partners. This would shelter Jackson, who was then running for president, from a conflict between the rest of his partners and Judge John Overton. Judge Overton was a close friend of Andrew Jackson. In 1794, he worked as a land speculator and he and Jackson purchased the Rice tract upon which the town of Memphis was founded. In 1821, one year before this letter, Judge Overton, William B. Lewis and John H. Eaton formed a committee for the advancement of Jackson's presidency.

**CAT 6.** A "Letter of Attorney and Advice" from Andrew Jackson to John McLemore, April 11, 1822

**Andrew Jackson (American, 1767-1845)**

Autograph Letter Signed  
 April 11, 1822  
 Ink on paper  
 Glazed, matted and framed  
 Letter: 12 ¼ x 7 ¾ in.; Frame: 19 ½ x 22 in.

18.005.0029

*Sir*  
Nashville April 11th 1822  
When Mr P Darby returns to Nashville you will have the goodness to make [Division] as of the land between Mr. James Jackson, Lenken [illegible surname] and Patrick [Darby], and myself of the other land, including five hundred acres of the 1000 acres [illegible] in the home of [illegible first name] Pennell [illegible name 2] — in the [Division] if it can be so managed, it will be well to give me the 500 acres out of the [illegible name 2] tract of 1000 as I am to convey my interest to Judge Overton — and as I am informed, that there is an adverse claim to this tract set up by Ephraim Davidson — and the balance of my part out of one of the tracts that adjoins one of Judge Overton on the [illegible] — connection — as soon as this is done, I wish Mr. Darby for himself Lenken [illegible surname] and James Jackson to execute the enclosed release and when I make the conveyance of my part to Judge Overton I will execute to him a [surrender] release — Deeds to be made mutually from Judge Overton to us, agreeable to all of us, and from us to him agreeable to all of us without responsibility on either part. Mr. Darby says in his letter to me that the one half of the part surrendered by W. Wharton shall be mine. If this is done — it will be well, and will enable me to comply fully with Judge Overton in the terms of the agreement but I am entitled to but the one fourth and so have said o the Judge — I have [labored] hard to bring about this compromise, without any view to my own interest, but at a sacrifice of all interest so that of [illegible] and of friendship and I wish this business speedily closed, when the division is made, and the release executed say to Mr. Darby I wish to see him, and I will be — will be

Nashville April 11th 1822

Sir  
When W. P. [Darby] returns to Nashville you will have the goodness to make [Division] as of the land between Mr. James Jackson, Lenken [illegible surname] and Patrick [Darby], and myself of the [illegible] land, including five hundred acres of the 1000 acres [illegible] in the home of [illegible first name] Pennell [illegible name 2] — in the [Division] if it can be so managed, it will be well to give me the 500 acres out of the [illegible name 2] tract of 1000 as I am to convey my interest to Judge Overton and as I am informed, that there is an adverse claim to this tract set up by Ephraim Davidson — and the balance of my part out of one of the tracts that adjoins one of Judge Overton on the [illegible] — connection — as soon as this is done, I wish Mr. Darby for himself Lenken [illegible surname] and James Jackson to execute the enclosed release and when I make the conveyance of my part to Judge Overton I will execute to him a [surrender] release — Deeds to be made mutually from Judge Overton to us, agreeable to all of us, and from us to him agreeable to all of us without responsibility on either part. Mr. Darby says in his letter to me that the one half of the part surrendered by W. Wharton shall be mine. If this is done — it will be well, and will enable me to comply fully with Judge Overton in the terms of the agreement but I am entitled to but the one fourth and so have said o the Judge — I have [labored] hard to bring about this compromise, without any view to my own interest, but at a sacrifice of all interest so that of [illegible] and of friendship and I wish this business speedily closed, when the division is made, and the release executed say to Mr. Darby I wish to see him, and I will be

[over]  
responsible that the mutual Deed shall be made by Judge Overton as agreed on between him and myself — When the [illegible] is made by you, I wish it indeed to writing and signed by Mr. Darby for himself. [Illegible surname] and Mr. James Jackson and by you for me and as being mutually chosen by all for the purpose of [Division] — That happens herewith enclosed you will please retain, and return to me, I am yours respectfully  
Andrew Jackson  
[signature]

Andrew Jackson to Mr. John McLemore, letter of attorney, [ & advice ] dated April 11th, 1822 -

responsible that the mutual Deed shall be made by Judge Overton as agreed on between him and myself — When the [illegible] is made by you, I wish it indeed to writing and signed by Mr. Darby for himself. [Illegible surname] and Mr. James Jackson and by you for me and as being mutually chosen by all for the purpose of [Division] — That happens herewith enclosed you will please retain, and return to me, I am yours respectfully  
Andrew Jackson  
[signature]

Andrew Jackson  
To  
Mr. John C. McLemore  
Letter of attorney  
& advice  
11th 1822



When President James K. Polk wrote this note to Secretary Robert Walker, the United States was at war with Mexico. Walker served as Secretary of the Treasury and helped to finance the Mexican-American War for Polk, dutifully supporting the annexation of Texas and other foreign affairs initiatives during his time in office. The issues of slavery would follow him when he became governor of Kansas in 1857. Although he had previously owned slaves before his time in politics, Walker wanted Kansas to be a free state, and was able to secure that for the Union, deciding to resign from office after serving a mere seven months. He was a strong supporter of the Union and voiced many anti-slavery opinions.

Four months after this message was written, in September of 1847, the American army would successfully capture the capital of Mexico, Mexico City.

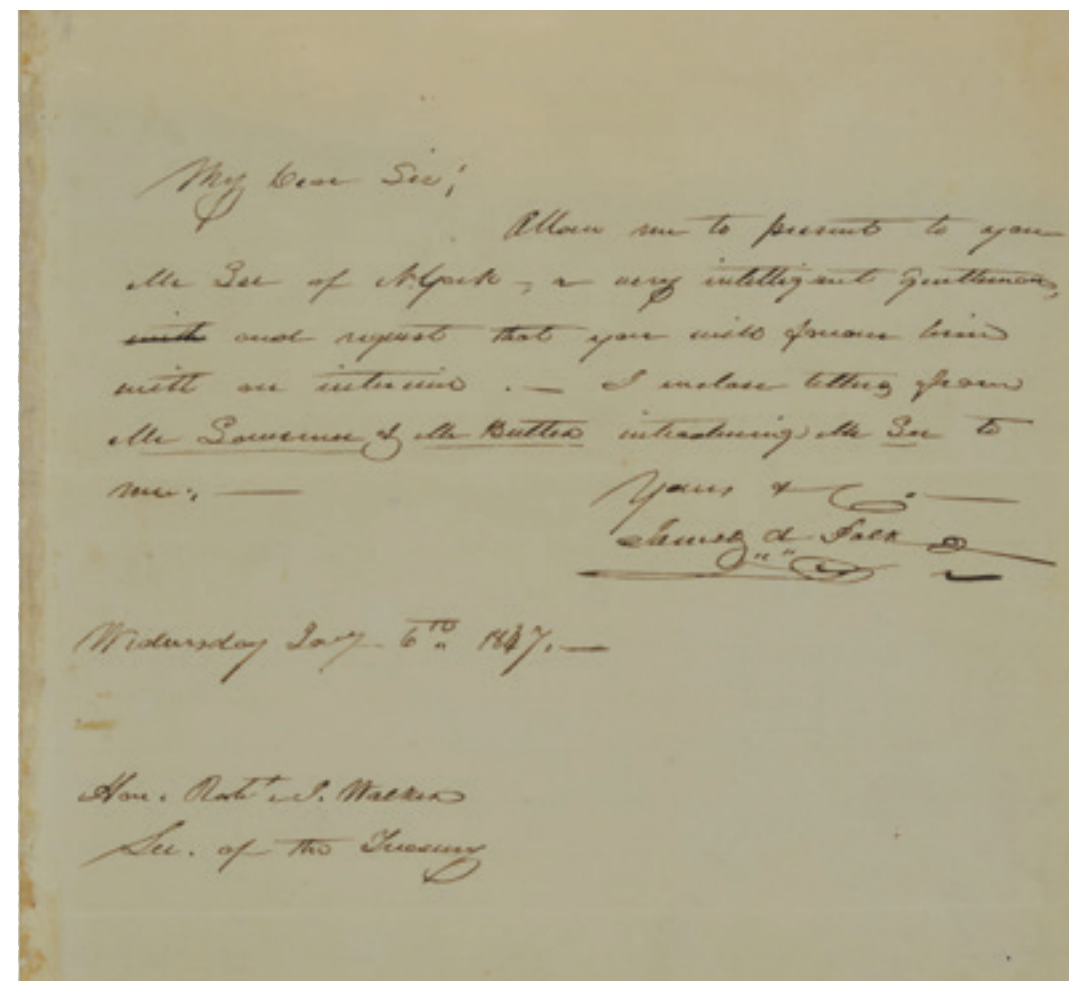
My Dear Sir:

Allor me to present to you the Sec. of N. York — a very intelligent gentleman, with [crossed out] and request that you will favor him with an interview. — I enclose letters from Mr. Lawrence of the Bulletin introducing the Sec to me. —

Yours [illegible]  
James K Polk [signature]

Wednesday May 6th 1847. —

Hon. Robt J. Walker  
Sec. of the Treasury



**CAT 7.** Letter from President James K. Polk to Secretary of the Treasury Robert J. Walker, May 6, 1847

**James K. Polk (American, 1795-1849)**

Autograph Letter Signed  
May 6, 1847  
Ink on paper  
Glazed, matted and framed  
Letter: 10 x 8 in.; Frame: 19 ¼ x 22 ¾ in.

18.005.0026

James Buchanan, born in 1791, became the 15th president in 1857, a year after this note to James MacManus, an attorney, deputy attorney general and member of the Pennsylvania Assembly from Centre County, Pennsylvania. MacManus was an avid supporter of Democratic candidates, including Buchanan during his run for president.

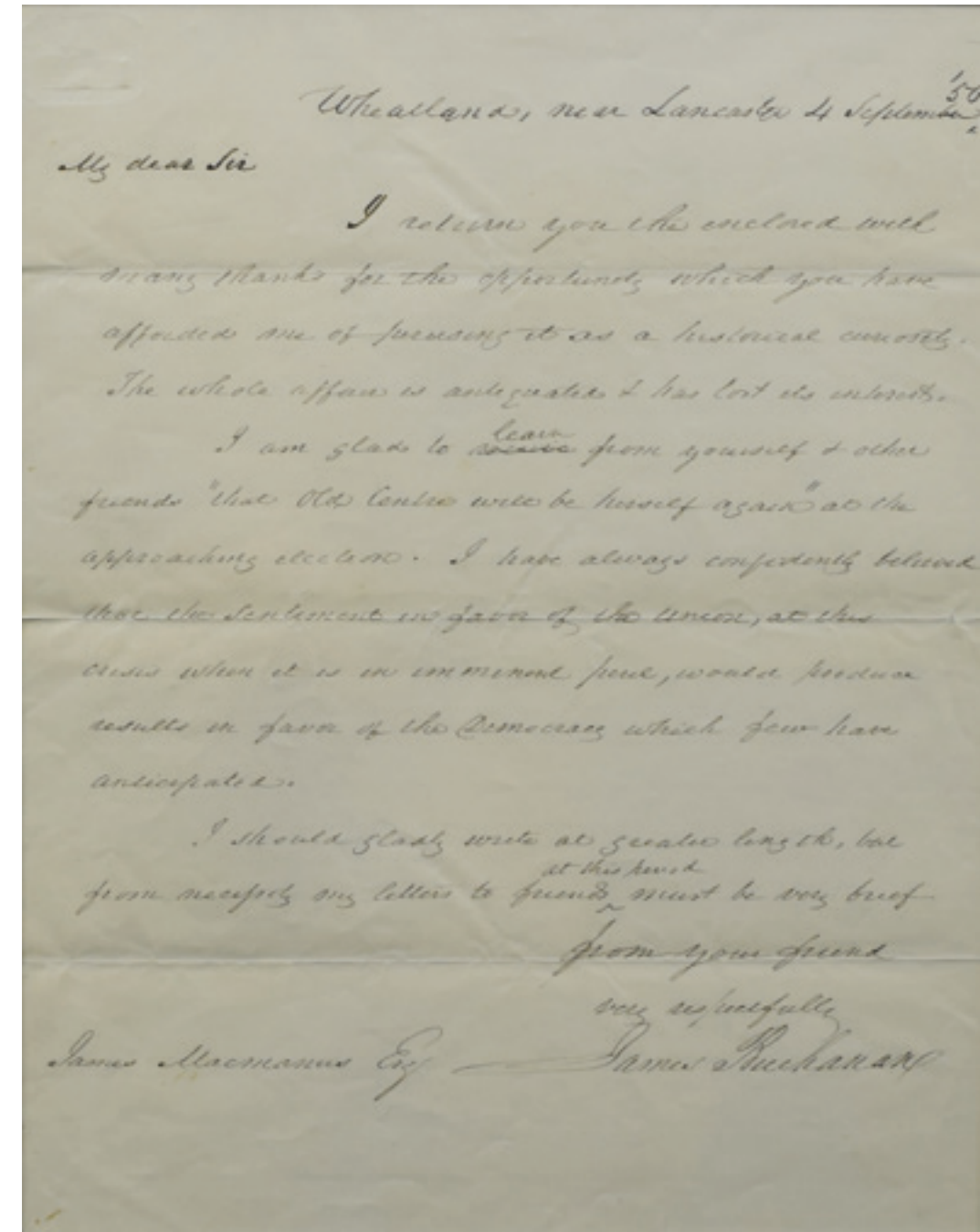
Buchanan served in the U.S. Senate until 1845 when he was appointed to serve as Secretary of State under James K. Polk. As president, Buchanan maintained that whether or not to abolish slavery should be up to the individual states to determine. His stance, along with many other factors such as the Supreme Court's Dred Scott decision, further increased tensions between anti-slavery and pro-slavery activists. In the end of his presidency, Buchanan left the slavery question up to successor, President Abraham Lincoln, and retired to his home Wheatland, in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. It was here that he finally decided on his policies and supported President Lincoln and the Union cause during the Civil War.

It is not known what item of "historical curiosity" MacManus shared with Buchanan, but Buchanan's recognition of MacManus' comment that "old centre will be herself again" suggests the hope that Centre Country would break in Buchanan's favor in the election.

Wheatland, near Lancaster, 4 September ^'56  
My dear sir,  
I return you the enclosed with many thanks for the opportunity which you have afforded me perusing it as a historical curiosity. The whole affair is antiquated and has lost its interest.  
I am glad to learn from yourself and other friends 'that old centre will be herself again' as the approaching election. I have always confidently believed that the sentiments in favor of the union, at this crisis when it is in imminent peril, would produce results in favor of the democracy which few have anticipated.  
I should gladly write at length, but from [illegible] my letters to friends ^at this period must be very brief.

From your friend  
Respectfully  
James MacManus Esq      James Buchanan [signature]

.....  
**CAT 8. Letter from James Buchanan to James MacManus, September 4, 1856**  
**James Buchanan (American, 1791-1868)**  
Autograph Letter Signed  
September 4, 1856  
Ink on paper  
Glazed, matted and framed  
Letter: 8 x 10 in.; Frame: 16 x 19 ½ in.  
19.002.0002





.....  
**CAT 9.**  
*"Portrait of President Abraham Lincoln"*  
**Abraham Lincoln (American, 1809-1865)**  
 Unsigned  
 Lithograph in color  
 Glazed, matted and framed  
 Unframed: 12 ½ x 8 ½ in.; Framed: 24 ¼ x 20 ¼ in.  
 18.005.0011

A fifty cent paper currency note from the New York National Bank Note Company in New York, with a portrait of President Abraham Lincoln on the front, dated from during the Civil War.

During the Civil War, paper money was increasingly used as coinage was melted down for ammunition and weapons. The Union designed and created what were commonly known as Greenbacks to help pay for the Civil War. This newer form of paper money was not backed by gold, and subsequently caused inflation after the war when the government had to pay back war bonds. The Greenbacks were first issued in the Legal Tender Act on February 26, 1862, and were promises that the government would honor these bank notes. This was instead of banks traditionally issuing currency that was backed by the silver or gold they had in their vaults. The war was expected to end quickly, but when it didn't, Lincoln and the Department of the Treasury issued another Legal Tender Act to print and put into circulation these non-interest bearing monetary notes that were printed in green ink. As seen in this fifty cent note, signatures of John Allison and Colby Spinner of the American Bank Note Company were printed onto the bill to prevent counterfeiting. This bill comes after the famous Greenbacks, but lacks the serial numbers that started appearing on money in 1862 as an additional measure against illegal copies. The red seal on this note is typical of this and the Greenbacks issued by national banks.

After the Civil War, this paper currency stayed in circulation as Americans began to accept that that paper money was "as good as gold." In 1879, the government planned to convert the money back to its basis in gold, but groups such as farmers and the Greenback Party, a political party determined to see paper money widely adopted, argued that in times of financial strain (such as the Panic of 1873), paper money provided a much-needed financial cushion and made borrowing more affordable.

[front]  
*"UNITED STATES/Fractional Currency StampS/FIFTY (50) CENTS"*  
*"Receivable for all United States"*  
*"ACT MARCH 3rd 1863"*  
 Signed by "John Allison, Register" and "Colby Spinner, Treasurer"  
*"American Bank Note Co. NY"*

[back] (surrounded on all four sides by variations of "FIFTY CENTS")  
*"This note is exchangeable for United States Notes by the assistant treasurers and designated depositaries of the United States in sums not less than three dollars. Receivable in the payment of all dues to the United States, less than five dollars except customs. US"*  
*"National Bank Note Co. New York"*



.....  
**CAT 10.**  
**Fractional Currency, 50c, 4th Issue**  
**New York, New York**  
 March, 3, 1863  
 Ink on paper  
 Glazed, matted and framed  
 Note: 1 ½ x 4 in. Frame: 10 ½ x 12 ½ in.  
 18.005.0027



A request from Brigadier General Ben Loan of Missouri to President Abraham Lincoln that Dr. Richard A. Wells be appointed examining surgeon of the U.S. military hospital located there. The letter was also signed by seven other state officials, along with a recommendation by the Surgeon of Medical Science.

Accompanying it is a small portrait of Lincoln and his approval, with a note to forward to the Secretary of War, Edwin Stanton, on April 14, 1863.

Toward the midpoint of the Civil War, the pressing medical needs were apparent as Union doctors were unprepared for the number of battlefield injuries and casualties. Physicians were often overworked and ill-prepared for the sheer volume of injuries, but numerous advancements in medical understanding and technology were achieved because of these tragedies. Dr. Wells would have most likely contributed to these advancements through his expertise as a surgeon from the University of Virginia. Examples of these medical advancements would have been the anesthesia inhaler, ambulances, prosthetics, and increased sanitation in battlefield hospitals upon the discovery and popularity of germ theory.

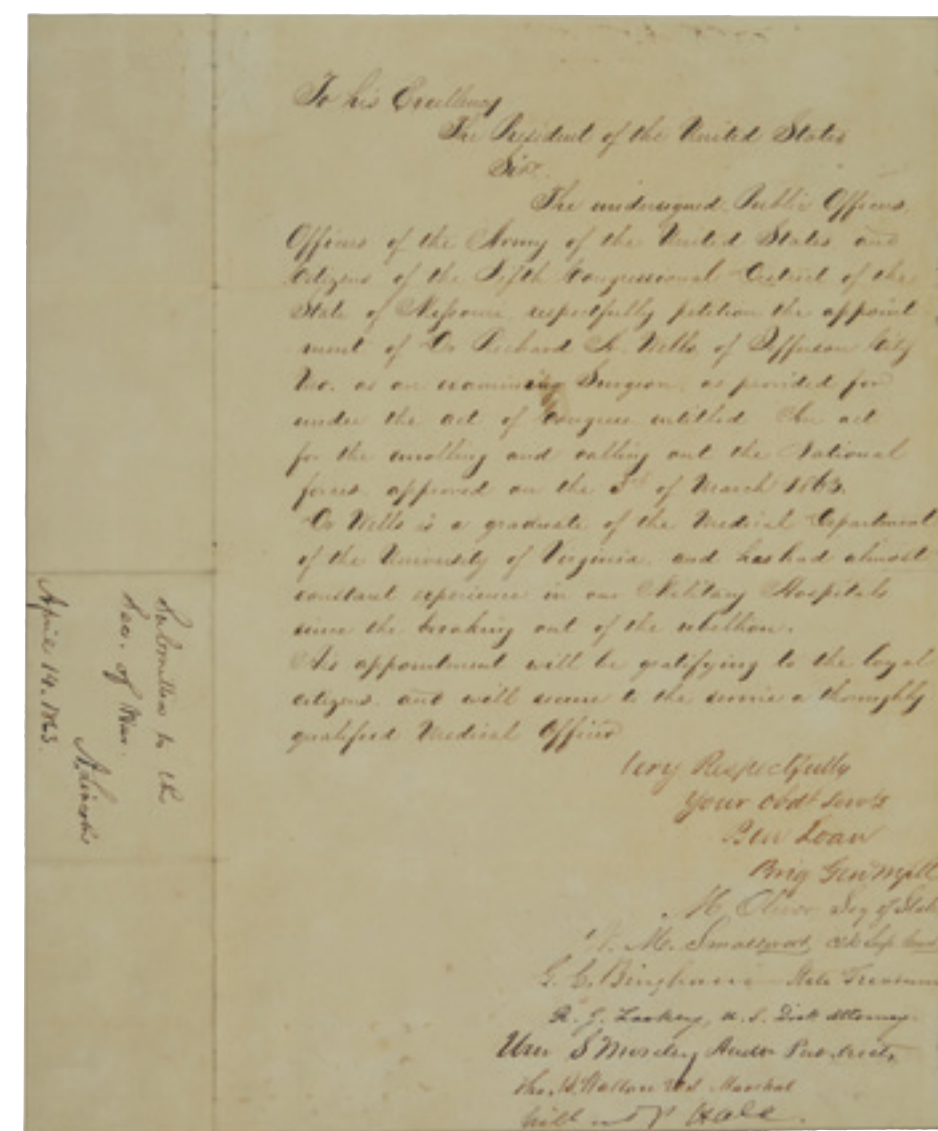
The role of Brigadier General is the lowest ranking General role in the military. Ben Loan was commissioned to this role in the Missouri State Militia.

Submitted to the Sec. of War  
A. Lincoln [signature]  
April 14, 1863

[Body of letter]  
To his Excellency  
The President of the United States  
Sirs,

The undersigned Public Officers,  
Officers of the Army of the of the United States and Citizens  
of the Fifth Congressional District of the State of Missouri,  
respectfully petition the appointment of Dr. Richard A.  
Wells of Jefferson City Mo. As an examining Surgeon, as  
provided for under the Act of Congress entitled 'An act for  
the enrolling and calling out the National forces, approved  
on the 3rd of March 1863.  
Dr. Wells is a graduate of the Medical Department of  
the University of Virginia. and has had almost constant  
experience in our Military Hospitals since the breaking o  
ut of the rebellion.  
His appointment will be gratifying to the loyal citizens,  
and will secure to the service a thoroughly qualified  
Medical Officer.

Very Respectfully  
Your Obedt Servts  
Ben Loan  
Brig Gen [illegible]  
Mr. Oliver, Sec of State  
Mr. M. Smallwood [illegible] Sup. Court  
G. C. B [illegible] State Treasurer  
R. J. Laskey, U. S. Dist. Attorney.  
W. S. Mosley Audr Pub. recs.  
Tho. [illegible]. Wallace US Marshal  
Will [illegible] Hale.

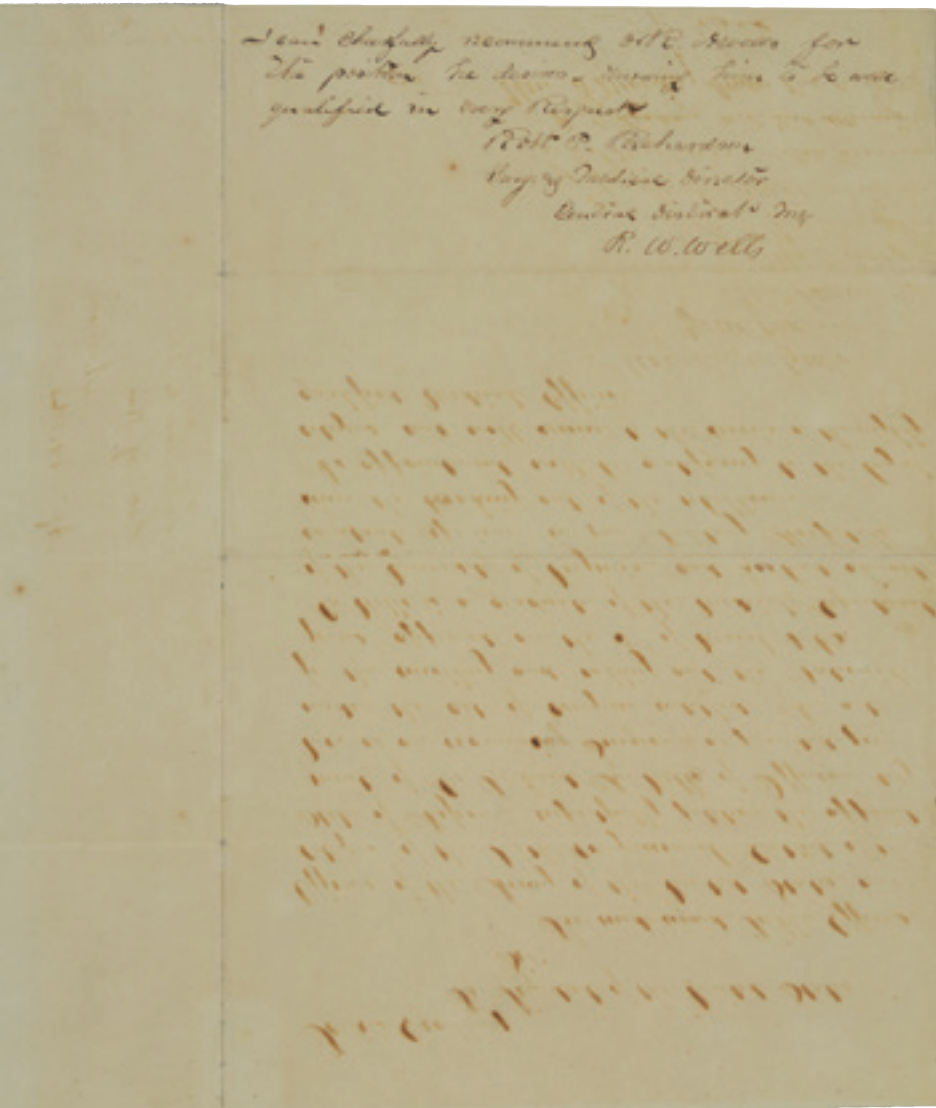


**CAT 11.** Letter from Brigadier General Ben Loan to President Abraham Lincoln, April 14, 1863  
**Abraham Lincoln (American, 1809-1865)**

Autograph Note Signed  
April 14, 1863  
Ink on paper  
Glazed, matted and framed  
Letter: 12 ¼ x 10 in.; Frame: 18 ¼ x 21 ¾ in.

18.005.0006





[over]  
 I can cheerfully recommend Dr. R. Wells for the position he desires. Knowing him to be well qualified in every Respect.  
 [illegible] P. Richardson  
 Surg. and Medical Director  
 Central District Mo.  
 R. W. Wells



As the Civil War raged on, President Lincoln proclaimed that soldiers who fought for the Confederacy would be pardoned if they pledged their allegiance to the Union. The Proclamation of Amnesty and Reconstruction reads:

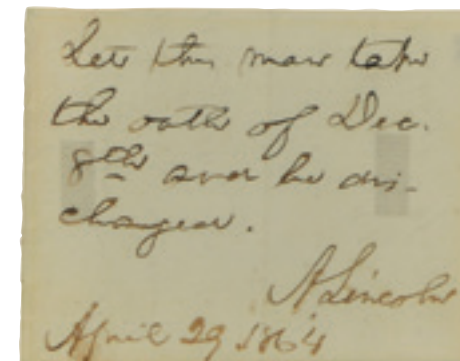
*I, [NAME], do solemnly swear, in the presence of Almighty God, that I will henceforth faithfully support, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States, and the union of states thereunder; and that I will, in like manner, abide and faithfully support all acts of Congress passed during the existing rebellion with reference to slaves....So help me God.*

This note, possibly clipped from a larger document, from April 29, 1864 reads:

*Let the man take of the oath of Dec. 8th and be dis-charged.*

*A Lincoln [signature]*

April 29, 1864

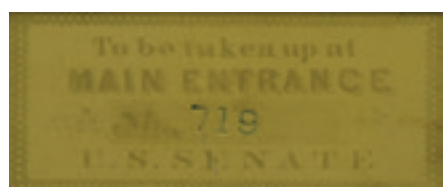


While common soldiers could apply for such pardons by swearing allegiance to the Union, the Proclamation exempted Confederate military and political leaders from pardon.

.....  
**CAT 12.** Signed Note from  
 President Abraham Lincoln, April 29, 1864  
**Abraham Lincoln (American, 1809-1865)**

Autograph Note Signed  
 April 29, 1864  
 Ink on paper  
 Glazed, matted and framed  
 Note: 2 ½ x 3 ¼ in.; Frame: 20 ¼ x 19 ¼ in.

18.005.0028



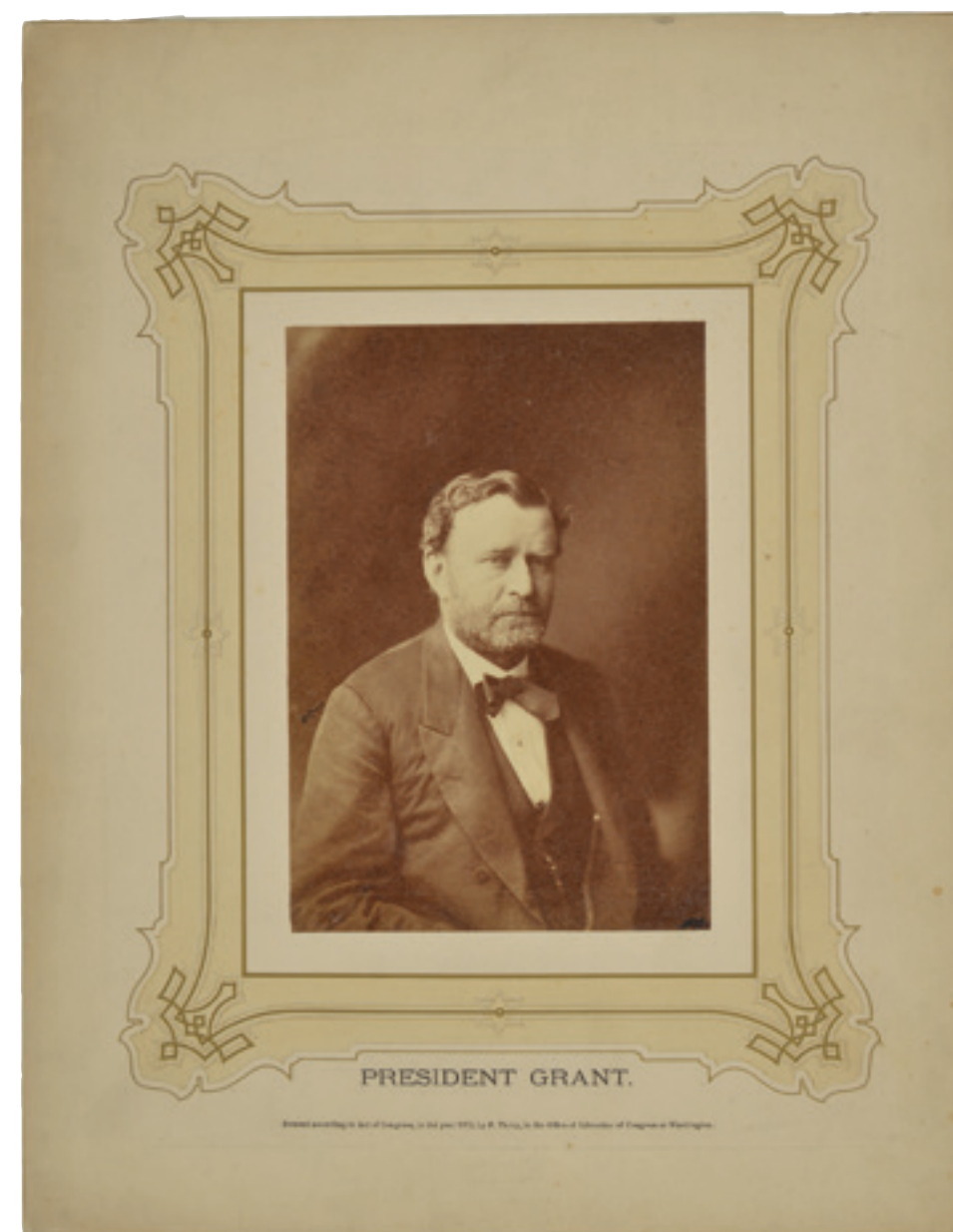
An admission ticket to observe the U.S. Senate impeachment proceedings of President Andrew Johnson on April 1, 1868, complete with its detached stub, marked “To be taken up at Main Entrance, No. 719.”

The impeachment proceedings took place from March 13 to May 26, 1868, and as the first-ever presidential impeachment attempt, riveted the public’s attention. The Senate ultimately acquitted Johnson by a single vote.

The primary charge against the president, brought by the House of Representatives, was violation of The Tenure of Office Act, passed largely to protect the tenure of Edwin M. Stanton, a member of the Radical Republican Party whom Johnson inherited from his predecessor Abraham Lincoln as Secretary of War. Johnson vetoed the bill and then attempted to replace him with Brevet Major General Lorenzo Thomas, of whom the House did not approve. This struggle between the executive and legislative branch, over matters of policy—in this case, how political reconstruction would take place after the Civil War—was the first to test how impeachment of a president might work. With Johnson’s survival, the precedent was set that mere policy differences were unlikely to result in successfully removing a president from office.

.....  
**CAT 13.** *Ticket to U.S. Senate Impeachment of President Andrew Johnson, April 1, 1868*  
**Andrew Johnson (American, 1808-1875)**

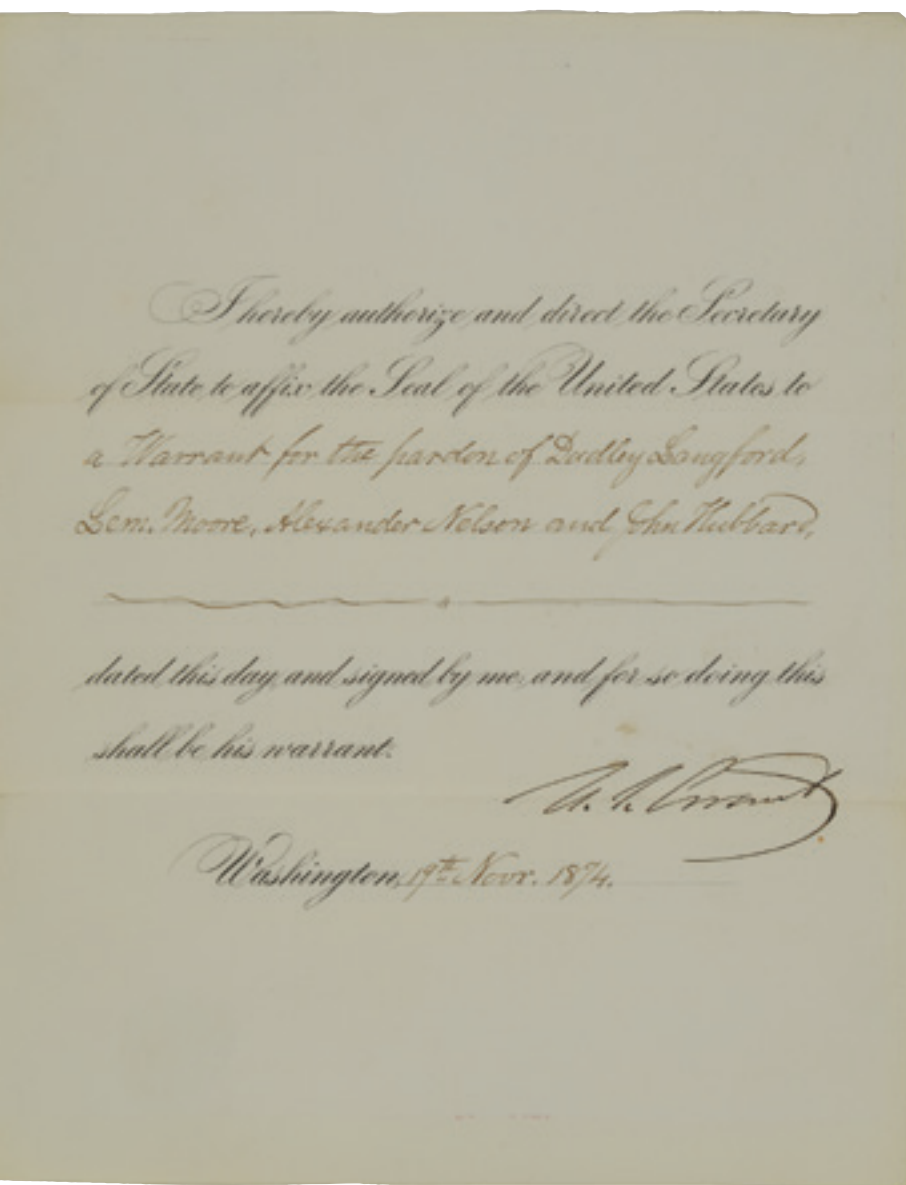
Typed Letter  
April 1, 1868  
Ink on paper  
Glazed, matted and framed  
Ticket: 2 ¾ x 3 ¼ in.; Stub: 1 ¼ x 2 ¾ in.; Frame: 13 ¼ x 15 ½ in.  
19.002.0002



Succeeding the almost-impeached Andrew Johnson, Union General Ulysses S. Grant was elected president in 1869 to a still divided country. His efforts to reconstruct the Southern states after being divided into five military zones after the Civil War were admirable but insufficient to fully unite the nation.

.....  
**CAT 14.** *Portrait of President Ulysses S. Grant*  
**Ulysses S. Grant (American, 1822-1885)**

Photogravure  
Glazed, matted and framed in silver-tone frame  
Unframed: 11 ½ x 9 in.; Framed: 22 x 18 in.  
18.005.0038



President Grant pardoned over 1,300 individuals during the course of his presidency. It is not known what crimes these men were convicted of, but as most of the pardons of former Confederates were granted by Andrew Johnson and Abraham Lincoln, these pardons were likely unrelated to the Civil War.

*I hereby authorize and direct the Secretary of State to affix the Seal of the United States to a Warrant for the pardon of Dudley Langford, Gen. Moore, Alexander Nelson and John Hubbard, dated this day and signed by me and for so doing this shall be his warrant.*

Ulysses S. Grant  
[signature]

Washington, 19th Novr. 1874.

.....  
**CAT 15.** Pardon given by President Ulysses S. Grant for Dudley Langford, Gen. Moore, Alexander Nelson and John Hubbard, November 19, 1874

**Ulysses S. Grant (American, 1822-1885)**

Signed and Completed Printed Form  
November 19, 1874  
Ink on paper  
Glazed, matted and framed  
Letter: 9 ½ x 8 in.; Frame: 15 ½ x 19 ¼ in.

18.005.0019



Don Albert Pardee was first nominated by President Ulysses S. Grant to serve as a judge with the United States District Court for Louisiana on December 14, 1874. The Senate did not act on the nomination, but after consulting with the Judiciary Chair, as seen in this letter, Grant re-nominated him in March 1875. Nevertheless, he was not confirmed until nominated yet again by Grant's successor, James Garfield, in 1881. In this letter, Grant showed that he was solicitous of the opinion of Senate Judiciary Committee Chair, George F. Edmunds, a formidable Republican senator from Vermont.

Executive Mansion,  
Washington. [stamped green ink]  
Feb 27th 1875.

Sir:

Your note of yesterday enquiring if I wish the name of Pardee, nominated for District Judge of La withheld any longer is received. In answer I would state that I made the nomination believing it to be the best I could make from the candidates named for the office. I have seen or heard nothing since to change that view except the two statements made by the chairman of the Judiciary Committee at our last interview. [illegible initials]

If they cannot be satisfactorily explained I would say that the nomination was an unfit one to be confirmed. In that case I would be glad of a suggestion from the Republican members of the Judiciary Com--mittee, as to whom they would think the best of, my judge-ment leaning rather towards Beckwith. I would be glad however if there should be no action before Monday next, before which time I will see the Chairman of the Committee.

Very truly yours  
U. S. Grant [signature]

Hon. Geo. F. Edwards  
Ch: Judiciary Com.  
U.S. Senate.

.....  
**CAT 16.** Letter from President Ulysses S. Grant to Geo. F. Edmunds, February 27, 1875  
**Ulysses S. Grant (American, 1822-1885)**

Autograph Letter Signed  
February 27, 1875  
Ink on paper  
Glazed, matted and framed  
Letter: 9 ¼ x 6 ¼ in.; Frame: 27 ½ x 35 in.

18.005.0004

Executive Mansion,

Washington.

Feb'y 27<sup>th</sup> 1875.

Sir:

Your note of yesterday enquiring if I wish the name of Pardee, nominated for District Judge of La, withheld any longer is received. In answer I would state that I made the nomination believing it to be the best I could make from the candidates named for the office. I have seen or heard nothing since to change that view except the two statements made by the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee at our last interview.

If

If they cannot be satisfactorily explained I would say that the nomination was an unfit one to be confirmed. In that case I would be glad of a suggestion from the Republican members of the Judiciary Committee, as to whom they would think the best of, my judgment leaning rather towards Beckwith. I would be glad however if there should be no action before Monday next before which time I will see the Chairman of the Committee.

Very truly yours  
W. V. Wood

Hon. Geo. F. Edmunds

Ch: Judiciary Com.

U. S. Senate.



Autograph collecting has long been a popular activity. This note from former President Rutherford B. Hayes was in response to James Howarth's request for an autograph of William Hunt, the Secretary of the Navy under James Garfield. It is not known why Hayes was the "middleman" in this exchange, but both were Ohioans, and the casual tone of this note suggests that they knew one another, and that he was happy to use his connections to do him the favor. The Hunt autograph would have been taken from correspondence some years old, however, as he had died in 1884.

Fremont, O.  
21 Apr 1887

Dear sir:

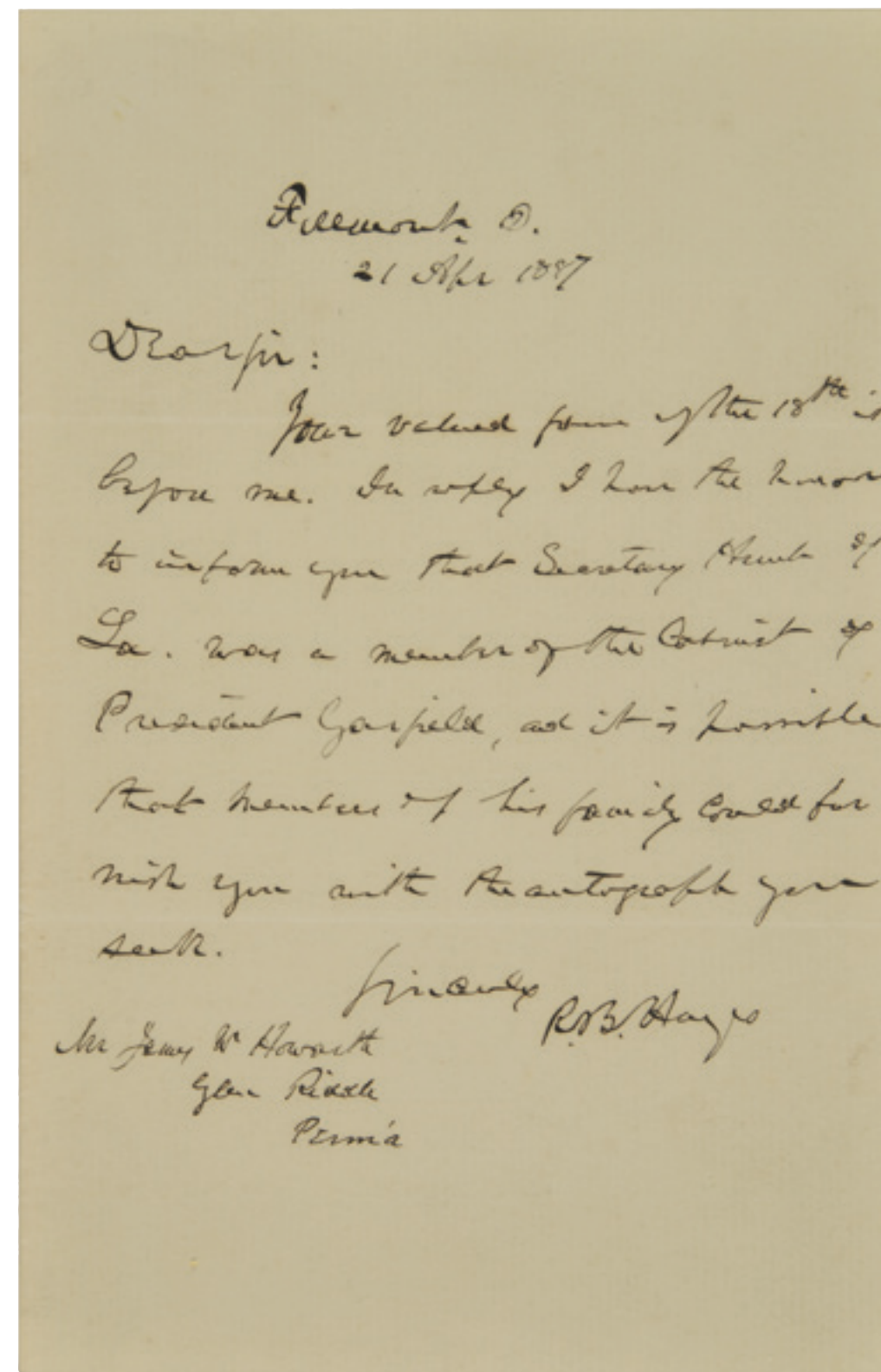
Your letter from the 18th is before me. In reply I have the honor to inform you that Secretary Hunt of La. was the member of the Cabinet of President Garfield, ask if is possible that member of his family could fur-nish you with An autograph you seek.

Friendly,  
RBHayes [signature]

Mr. James W. Howarth  
Glen Riddle  
Penn'a

**CAT 17.** Letter from President Rutherford B. Hayes to James Howarth, April 21, 1887  
**Rutherford B. Hayes (American, 1822-1893)**

Autograph Letter Signed  
April 21, 1887  
Ink on paper  
Glazed, matted and framed  
Letter: 9 5/16 x 6 3/8 in.; Frame: 15 3/4 x 19 1/2 in.  
18.005.0018





James Garfield was the 20th president of the United States, elected into office on March 4, 1881. He was assassinated six months into his presidency on September 29, 1881. In this letter, he advocated for restoring the Civil War pension of one Mr. Hempsy, likely a fellow Ohioan.

No 1. [red ink]

Menton, Ohio Aug 14 1880  
 [stamped in blue ink with "Aug 14"  
 and "80" added by hand in black ink]

Gen. J. A. Bentley  
 Washington D.C.

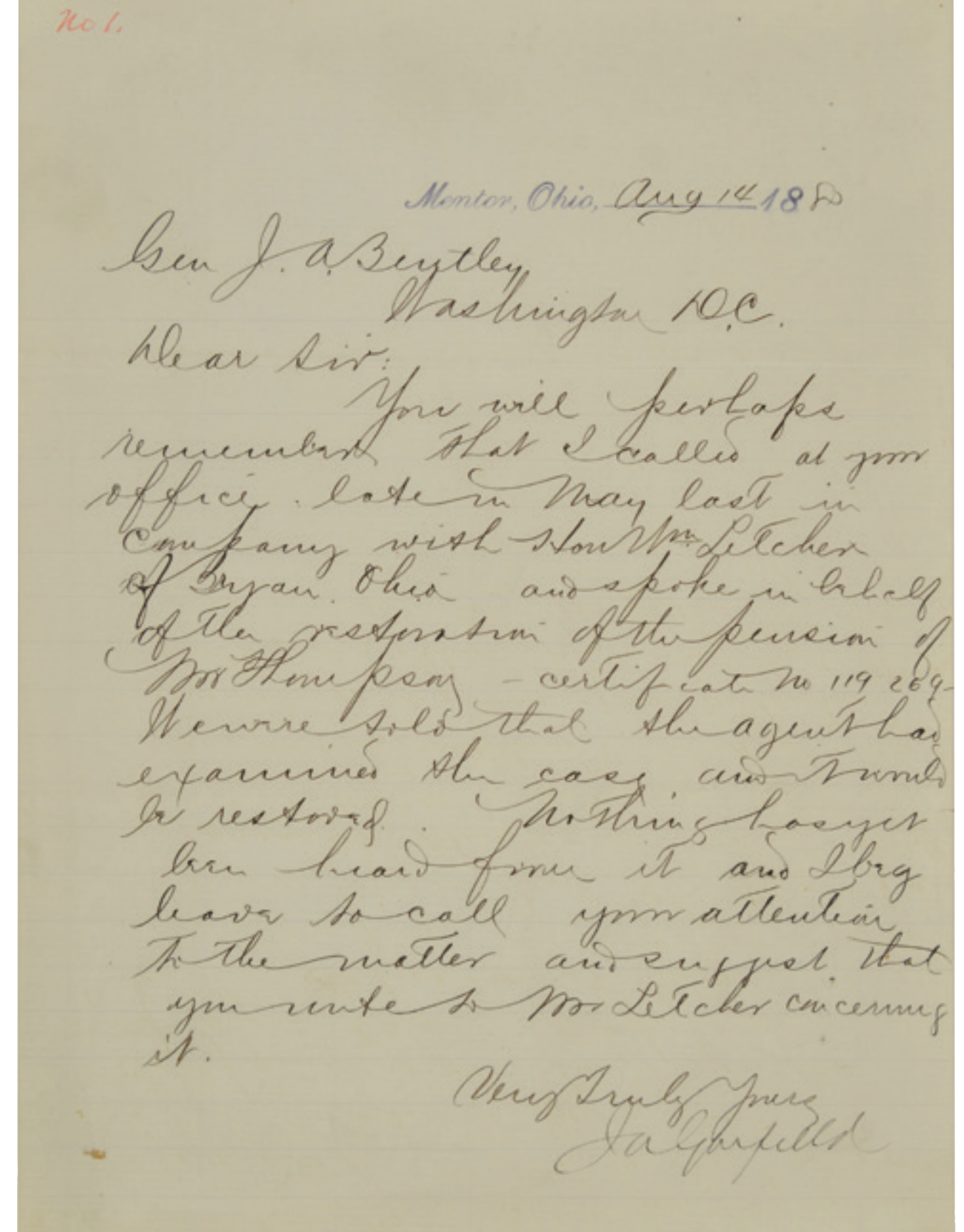
Dear Sir,

You will perhaps remember that I called at your office late in May last in company with Hon. Wm. Letcher of [Bryan], Ohio and spoke on behalf of the restoration of the pension of Mr. [Hempsey] — certificate no 119269 — We were told that the agent has examined the case and [funds] are restored. Nothing has yet been heard from it and I beg leave to call your attention to the matter and suggest that you write to Mr. Letcher concerning it.

Very Truly Yours,  
 Ja Garfield [signature]

**CAT 18.** Letter from James Garfield to J.A. Bentley, August 14, 1880  
**James A. Garfield (American, 1831-1881)**

Autograph Letter Signed  
 August 14, 1880  
 Ink on paper  
 Glazed, matted and framed  
 Letter: 10 ½ x 8 in.; Frame: 16 ¾ x 19 in.  
 18.005.0012



President Theodore Roosevelt appointed former Captain of Infantry Jacob F. Kreps of West Newton, Pennsylvania to Major of Infantry. Months earlier, Kreps translated German regulations for machine-gun detachments as Commissary of the 22nd Infantry. During this time, the United States was not at war, but President Roosevelt had been involved in some matters regarding the Russo-Japanese War, which many claim set the stage for World War One. For his role in the treaty that ended the Russo-Japanese War, in 1905, President Roosevelt was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

THE MILITARY SECRETARY'S OFFICE RECORDED  
 [stamped in blue ink] September 4, 1906 [illegible]  
 THE MILITARY SECRETARY. [stamped in blue ink,  
 in upper corner]

THE PRESIDENT  
 OF  
 THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

To all who shall see these Presents, Greeting:  
 Know Ye, That reposing special trust and confidence in the Patriotism, Valor, Fidelity, and Abilities of Jacob F. Kreps, I do appoint him Major of Infantry in the service of the United States: to rank as such from the third day of July nineteen hundred and six. He is therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of Major by doing and performing all manner of things thereunto belonging.

And I do strictly charge and require all Officers and Soldiers under his command to be obedient to his orders as Major. And he is to observe and follow such orders and directions, from time to time, as he shall receive from me, or the future President of the United States of America, or the General or other superior Officers set over him, according to the rules and discipline of War. This Commission to continue in force during the pleasure of the President of the United States, for the time being, and until the end of the next session of the Senate.

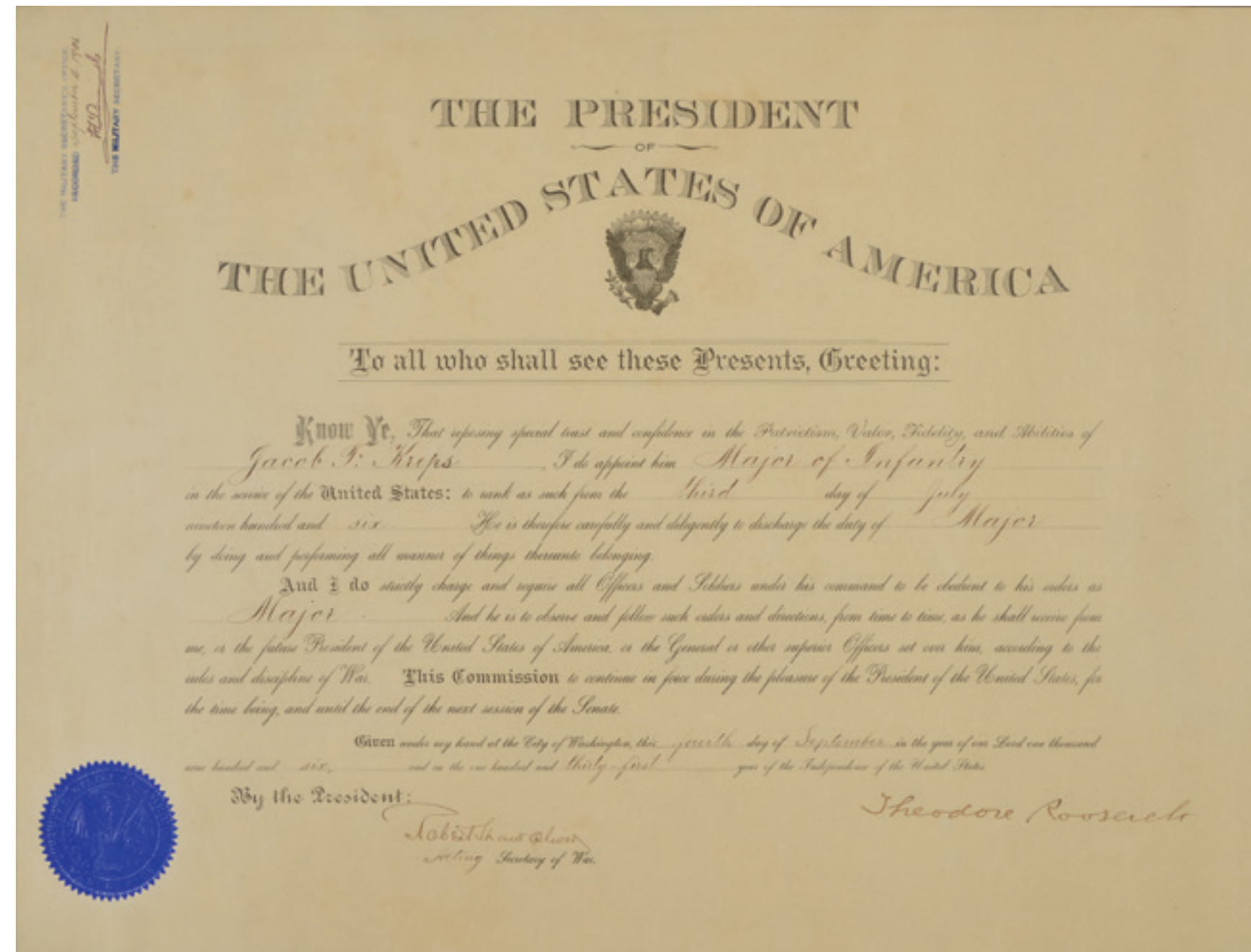
Given under my hand at the City of Washington, this fourth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and six, and in the one hundred and thirty-first year of the Independence of the United States.

By the President: Theodore Roosevelt [signature]  
 Robert Shaw Oliver [signature]  
 Acting Secretary of War

[Blue seal "United States of America W. H. Office"]

**CAT 19. Appointment of Jacob F. Kreps to Major of Infantry by President Theodore Roosevelt, September 4, 1906**  
**Theodore Roosevelt (American, 1858-1919)**

Partly Printed Document Signed  
 September 4, 1906  
 Ink on paper  
 Glazed, matted and framed  
 Document: 15 3/4 x 20 3/4 in.; Frame: 22 1/4 x 27 in.  
 18.005.0007





In this letter to the Secretary of the Congress of The National Arbitration and Peace Congress, Robert Ely, President Roosevelt apologized for not being able to address that body in person. He instead sent remarks that could be read at the meeting. In his remarks to the Peace Congress, read out a couple of weeks later, he noted his respect for the purpose of the Peace Congress, wished them well and described how the United States government itself was working to train other nations in self-government, noting his own administration's efforts in exporting democratic ideals.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 2, 1907.

My dear Mr. Ely:

I have your letter of the 30th ultimo. I fear it will be impossible for me to come on to speak, as I had hoped. My work continues very heavy here. I shall write, however, at some length.

It was a very realy pleasure to see your body the other day and talk with you.

Sincerely yours,

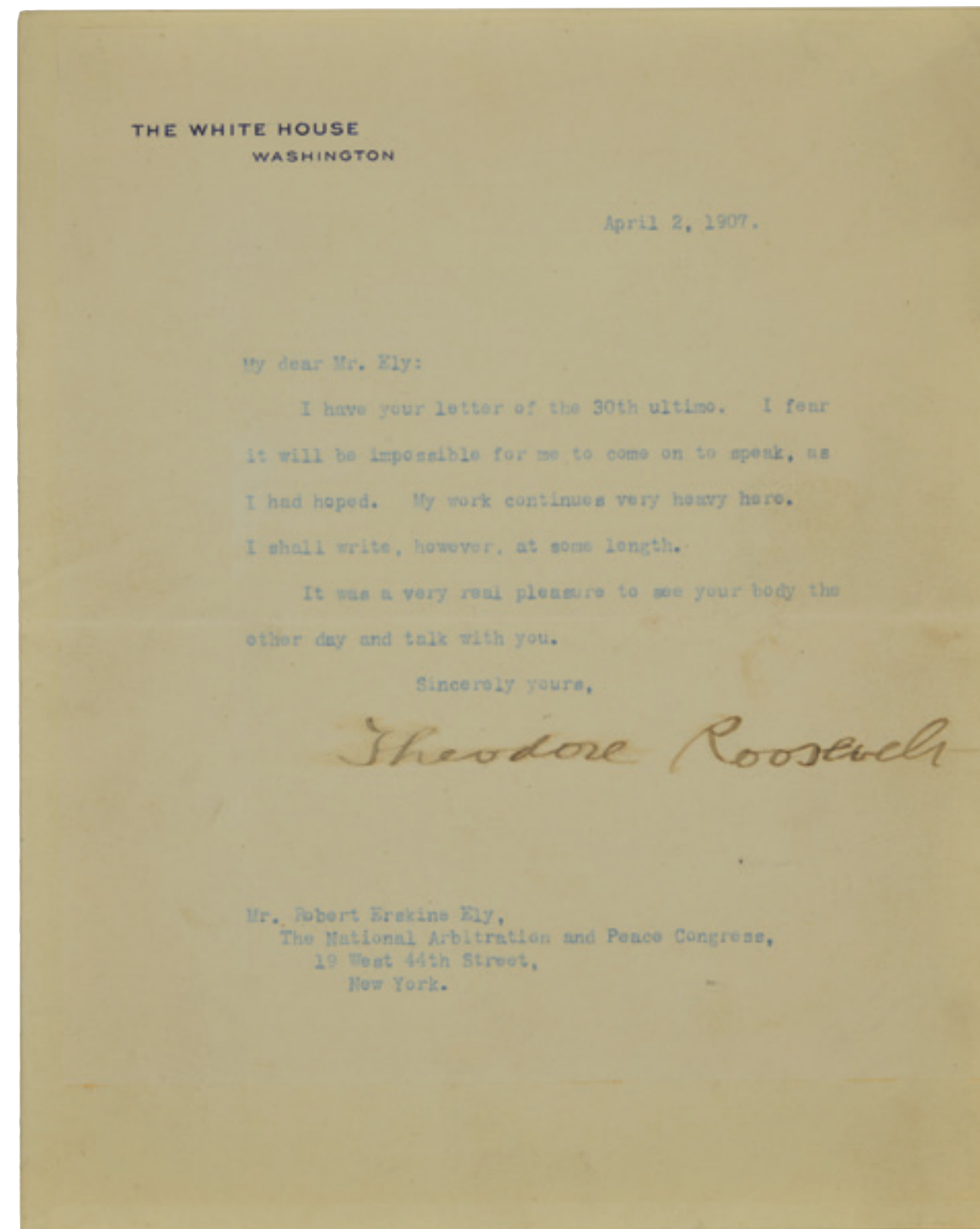
Theodore Roosevelt [signature]

Mr. Robert Erskine Ely,  
The National Arbitration and Peace Congress,  
19 West 44th Street,  
New York.

**CAT 20.** Letter from President Roosevelt to Robert E. Ely, April 2, 1907  
**Theodore Roosevelt (American, 1858-1919)**

Typed Letter Signed  
[Washington, D.C.], April 2, 1907  
Hand signed in black ink on paper  
Glazed, matted and framed  
Letter: 7 ½ x 6 ¾ in.; Frame: 14 x 19 in.

18.005.0013



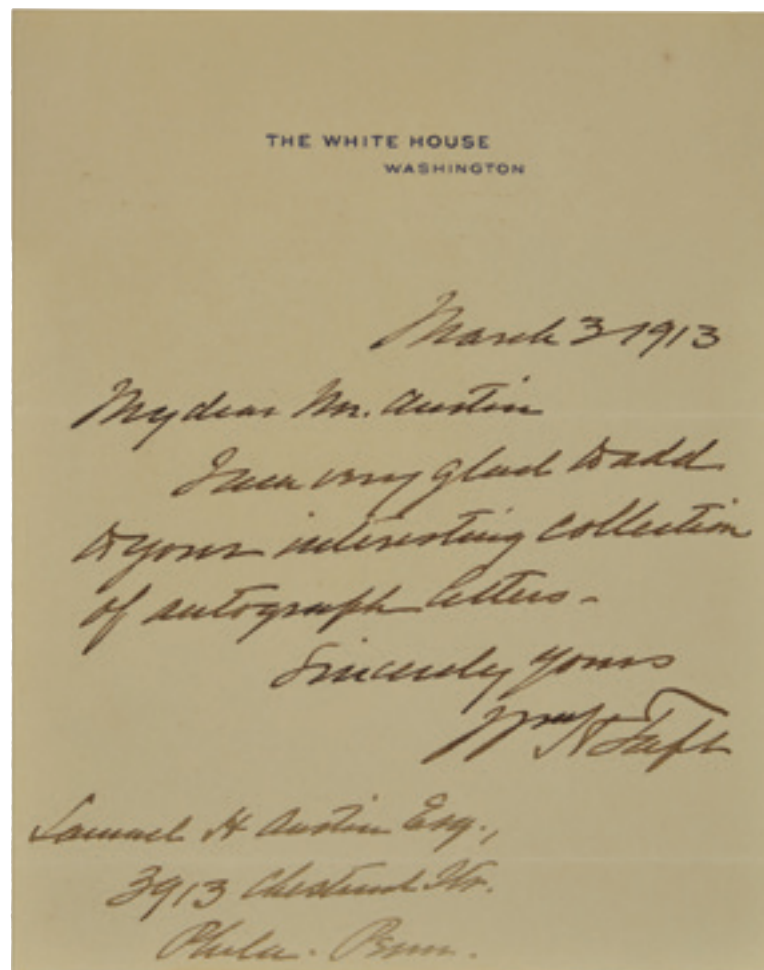




Another letter attesting to the popular activity of collecting autographs, this brief note supplies President William Howard Taft's autography to Samuel Austin, an attorney in Philadelphia.

President Taft was the 27th President of the United States, and served in both the executive and judicial branches of the government during his lifetime.

.....  
**CAT 21.** Letter from President William H. Taft to Mr. Samuel Austin, March 3, 1913  
**William Taft (American, 1857-1930)**  
 Autograph Letter Signed  
 [Washington, D.C.]. March 3, 1913  
 Signed in ink on paper  
 Glazed, matted and framed  
 Letter: 10 x 7 ½ in.; Frame: 13 ½ x 17 in.  
 18.005.0031

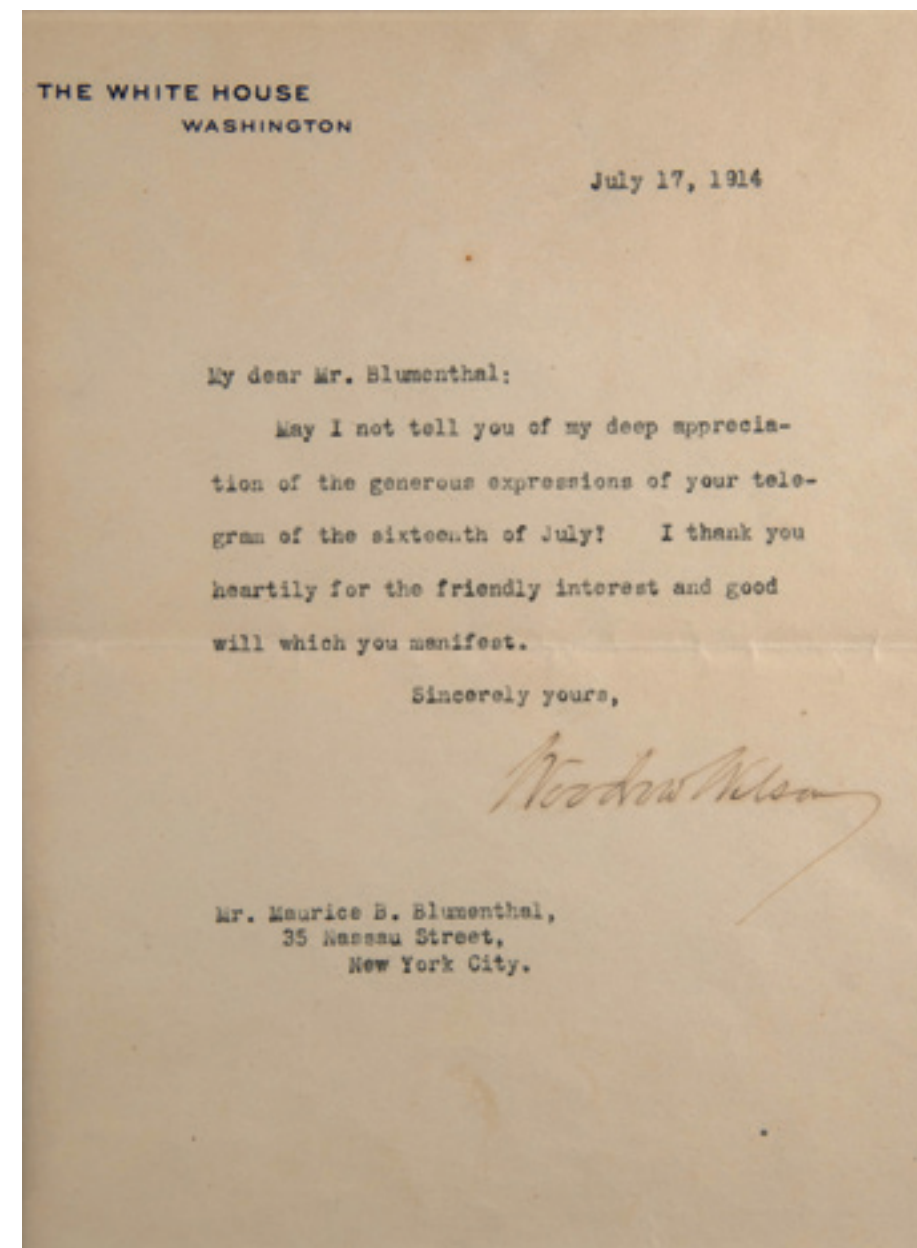


THE WHITE HOUSE  
 WASHINGTON  
 March 3, 1913  
 Mr dear Mr. Austin  
 I am very glad to add to your interesting collection of autograph letters.  
 Sincerely Yours  
 William H. Taft [signature]  
 Samuel H Austin Esq.,  
 3913 Chestnut Str.  
 Phila. Penna.

Maurice B. Blumenthal was a New Yorker, active in Democratic politics, prominent in the Tammany Society, and served in a variety of elected and appointed positions in New York.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
 WASHINGTON  
 July 17, 1914  
 My Dear Mr. Blumenthal:  
 May I not tell you of my deep appreciation of the generous expressions of your telegram of the sixteenth of July: I thank you heartily for the friendly interest and goodwill which you manifest.  
 Sincerely yours,  
 Woodrow Wilson [signature]  
 Mr. Maurice B. Blumenthal,  
 35 Nassau Street,  
 New York City.

.....  
**CAT 22.** Letter from President Woodrow Wilson to Maurice B. Blumanthal [sic], July 17, 1914  
**Woodrow Wilson (American, 1856-1924)**  
 Typed Letter Signed  
 July 17, 1914  
 Ink on paper  
 Glazed, matted and framed  
 Letter: 7 ¾ x 6 in.; Frame: 14 ¾ x 20 ½ in.  
 18.005.0021





This letter, written by President Woodrow Wilson, served as a character reference for Roy W. Howard, to bolster Howard's efforts to establish improved lines of communication and access to news intelligence between the United States and the countries of South America. Howard was a prominent American newspaperman with the E. W. Scripps Company.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

June 27, 1916

To Whom It May Concern:

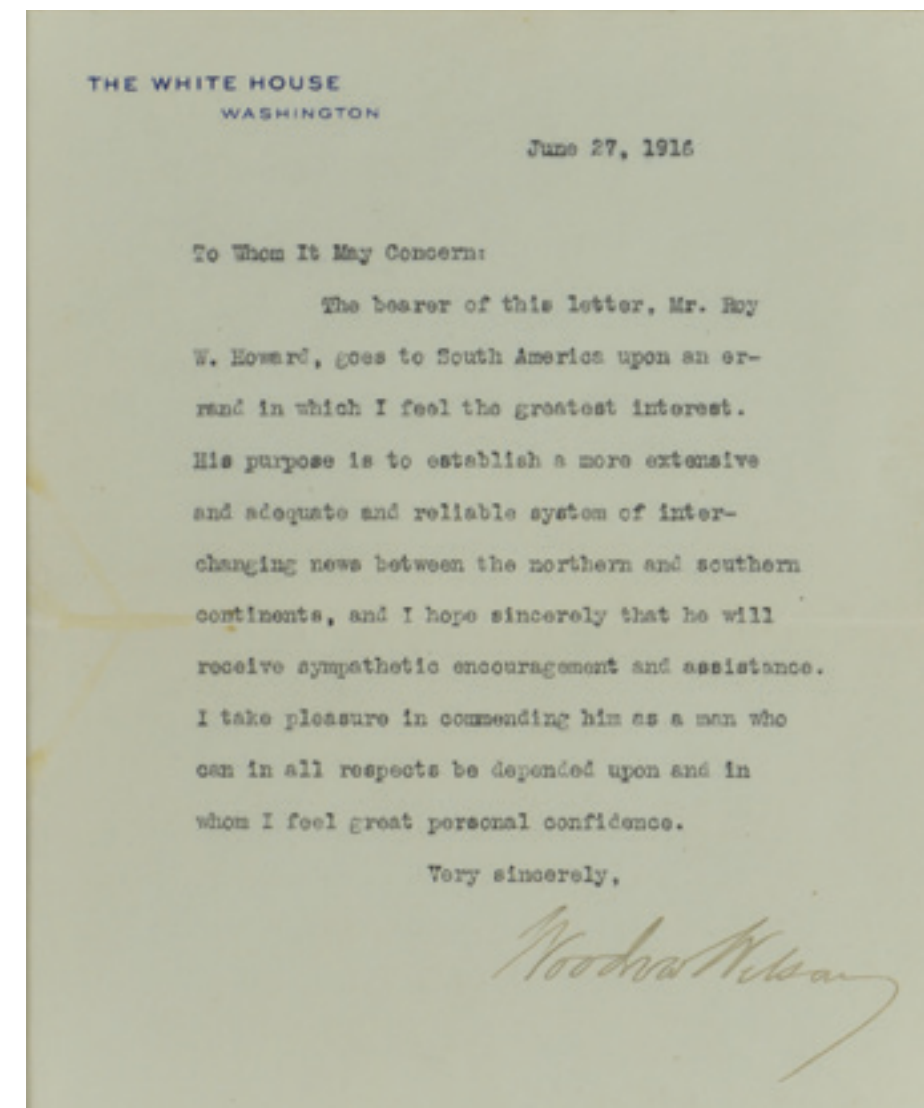
*The bearer of this letter, Mr. Roy W. Howard, goes to South America upon an errand in which I feel the greatest interest. His purpose is to establish a more extensive and adequate and reliable system of inter-changing news between the northern and southern continents, and I hope sincerely that he will receive sympathetic encouragement and assistance. I take pleasure in commending him as a man who can in all respects be depended upon and in whom I feel great personal confidence.*

Very sincerely,  
Woodrow Wilson [signature]

.....  
**CAT 23. Letter of Introduction from President Wilson for Roy W. Howard, June 27, 1916**  
**Woodrow Wilson (American, 1856-1924)**

Typed Letter Signed  
June 27, 1916  
Ink on paper  
Glazed, double matted and framed in a gilt wood frame  
Letter: 7 ½ x 6 ¼ in.; Frame: 14 ½ x 17 in.

18.005.0037



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

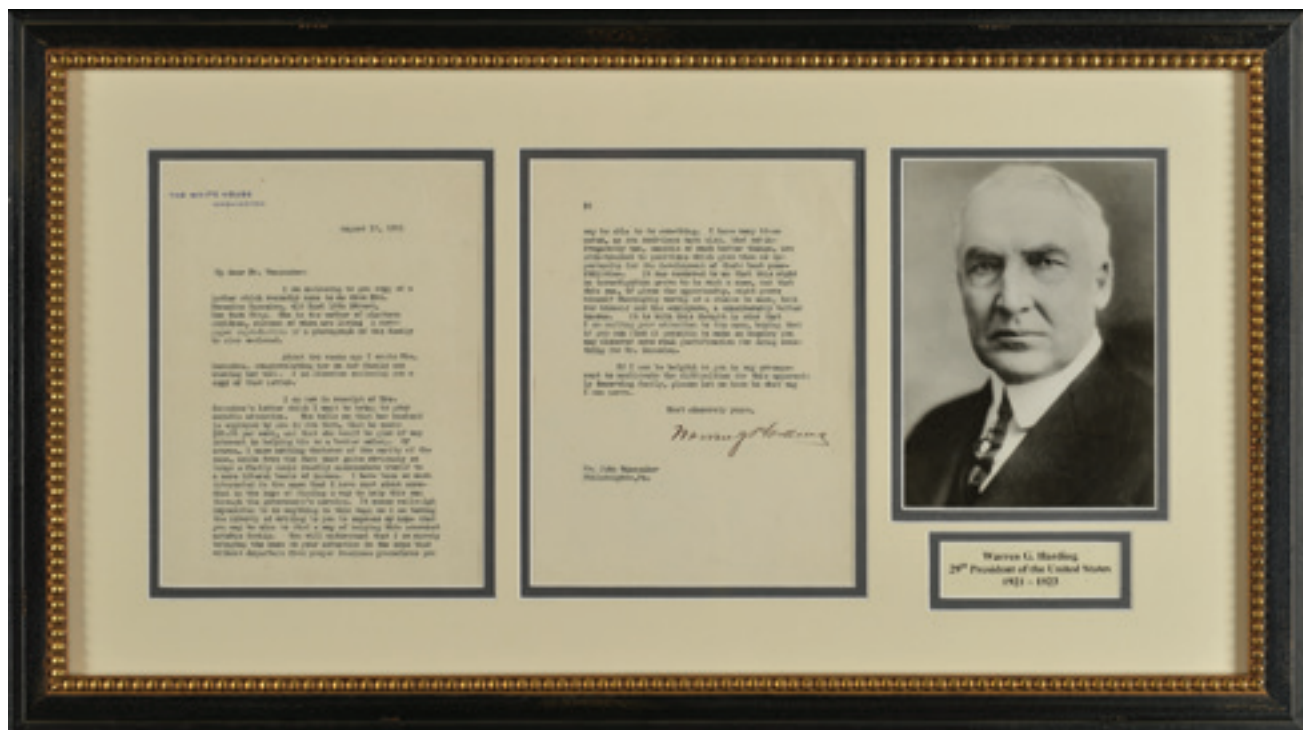
June 27, 1916

To Whom It May Concern:

The bearer of this letter, Mr. Roy W. Howard, goes to South America upon an errand in which I feel the greatest interest. His purpose is to establish a more extensive and adequate and reliable system of inter-changing news between the northern and southern continents, and I hope sincerely that he will receive sympathetic encouragement and assistance. I take pleasure in commending him as a man who can in all respects be depended upon and in whom I feel great personal confidence.

Very sincerely,

*Woodrow Wilson*



U. S. presidents receive thousands of daily pleas for assistance by Americans and in this case, we can see that President Warren G. Harding took up the case of the Zaccahea family in advocating for a higher salary for a Wanamaker department store employee. Mrs. Zaccahea, mother of 19 children, wrote to the President to see if he could persuade John Wanamaker, owner of the largest department store in the country, to give his employee, Mr. Zaccahea, a raise. While we do not know if Wanamaker acted on Harding's request, it is likely he did, as Wanamaker was philanthropic, and very politically connected.

.....  
**CAT 24.** Letter from President Warren G. Harding to John Wanamaker, August 19, 1921  
**Warren G. Harding (American, 1865-1923)**

Typed Letter Signed  
 August 19, 1921  
 Ink on paper  
 Glazed, matted and framed  
 Letter: 8 ½ x 6 ½ in.; Frame: 25 ¾ x 14 ½ in.  
 18.005.0022

THE WHITE HOUSE  
 WASHINGTON

August 19, 1921

My dear Mr. Wanamaker:

I am enclosing to you a copy of a letter which recently came to me from Mrs. Domenico Zaccahea, 419 East 19th Street, New York City. She is the mother of nineteen children, sixteen of whom are living. A news-paper reproduction of a photograph of the family is also enclosed.

About two weeks ago I wrote Mrs. Zaccahea, congratulating her on her family and wishing her well. I am likewise enclosing you a copy of that letter.

I am now in receipt of Mrs. Zaccahea's letter which I want to bring to your attention. She tells me that her husband is employed by you in New York, that he earns \$20.00 per week, and that she would be glad of any interest in helping him to a better salary. Of course, I know nothing whatever of the merits of the case, aside from the fact that quite obviously so large a family could readily accommodate itself to a more liberal basis of income. I have been so much interested in the case that I have cast about some-what in the hope of finding a way to help this man through the government's service. It seems well-nigh impossible to do anything in this way; so I am taking the liberty of writing to you to express my hope that you may be able to find a way of helping this somewhat notable family. You will understand that I am merely bringing the case to your attention in the hope that without departure from proper business procedures you

THE WHITE HOUSE  
 WASHINGTON

August 19, 1921

My dear Mr. Wanamaker:

I am enclosing to you copy of a letter which recently came to me from Mrs. Domenico Zaccahea, 419 East 19th Street, New York City. She is the mother of nineteen children, sixteen of whom are living. A news-paper reproduction of a photograph of the family is also enclosed.

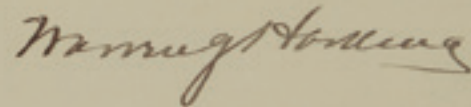
About two weeks ago I wrote Mrs. Zaccahea, congratulating her on her family and wishing her well. I am likewise enclosing you a copy of that letter.

I am now in receipt of Mrs. Zaccahea's letter which I want to bring to your amiable attention. She tells me that her husband is employed by you in New York, that he earns \$20.00 per week, and that she would be glad of any interest in helping him to a better salary. Of course, I know nothing whatever of the merits of the case, aside from the fact that quite obviously so large a family could readily accommodate itself to a more liberal basis of income. I have been so much interested in the case that I have cast about some-what in the hope of finding a way to help this man through the government's service. It seems well-nigh impossible to do anything in this way; so I am taking the liberty of writing to you to express my hope that you may be able to find a way of helping this somewhat notable family. You will understand that I am merely bringing the case to your attention in the hope that without departure from proper business procedures you

may be able to do something. I have many times noted, as you doubtless have also, that not infrequently men, capable of much better things, are side-tracked in positions which give them no opportunity for the development of their best possibilities. It has occurred to me that this might on investigation prove to be such a case, and that this man, if given the opportunity, might prove himself thoroughly worthy of a chance to earn, both for himself and his employers, a considerably better income. It is with this thought in mind that I am calling your attention to the case, hoping that if you can find it possible to make an inquiry you may discover some real justification for doing something for Mr. Zaccahea.

If I can be helpful to you in any arrangement to ameliorate the difficulties for this apparently deserving family, please let me know in what way I can serve.

Most sincerely yours,



Mr. John Wanamaker  
Philadelphia, Pa.

[second page]

may be able to do something. I have many times noted, as you doubtless have also, that not infrequently men, capable of much better things, are side-tracked in positions which give them no opportunity for the development of their best possibilities. It has occurred to me that this might on investigation prove to be such a case, and that this man, if given the opportunity, might prove himself thoroughly worthy of a chance to earn, both for himself and his employers, a considerably better income. It is with this thought in mind that I am calling your attention to the case, hoping that if you can find it possible to make an inquiry you may discover some real justification for doing something for Mr. Zaccahea.

If I can be helpful to you in any arrangement to ameliorate the difficulties for this apparently deserving family, please let me know in what way I can serve.

Most sincerely yours,  
Warren G. Harding [signature]

Mr. John Wanamaker  
Philadelphia, Pa.



**CAT 25.** Letter from President Calvin Coolidge to Governor Len Small of Illinois, March 10, 1927

**Calvin Coolidge (American, 1872-1933)**

Typed Letter Signed  
March 10, 1927  
Hand signed in black ink on paper  
Glazed, matted and framed  
Letter: 8 ¼ x 6 ¾ in.; Frame: 16 ½ x 25 in.

18.005.0039

President Calvin Coolidge was in his second term when he wrote this letter, written apparently after an invitation from Governor Len Small, suggesting that Coolidge and his wife consider summering in the state of Illinois. In the end, Coolidge chose to spend the summer at a home in Custer State Park, South Dakota.



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 10, 1927.

My dear Governor Small:

*Please accept the sincere thanks of Mrs. Coolidge and myself for the hospitality of the State of Illinois so graciously extended by you, I know we would receive a hearty welcome there.*

*To select a summer home is a difficult matter and many attractive suggestions have been made. It will be some time before I can reach a final decision.*

Very truly yours,  
Calvin Coolidge [signature]

Hon. Len Small,  
Chicago, Illinois.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 10, 1927.

My dear Governor Small:

Please accept the sincere thanks of Mrs. Coolidge and myself for the hospitality of the State of Illinois so graciously extended by you. I know we would receive a hearty welcome there.

To select a summer home is a difficult matter and many attractive suggestions have been made. It will be some time before I can reach a final decision.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to be "Calvin Coolidge".

Hon. Len Small,  
Chicago, Illinois.



This is a condolence letter to Elizabeth Annabelle Butler, daughter of former Oregon Representative, Judge and Congressman Robert R. Butler. Congressman Butler died in Washington, D. C. only two days before President Herbert Hoover's message to Miss Butler.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

January 9, 1933.

My dear Miss Butler:

I am deeply grieved to learn of the death of your distinguished father and I wish you to know of my profound sympathy for you in this bereavement. As Circuit Judge of the Eleventh Judicial District of Tennessee and as Representative in the Congress from Oregon, his many services to country will be gratefully remembered.

Yours faithfully,  
Herbert Hoover [signature]

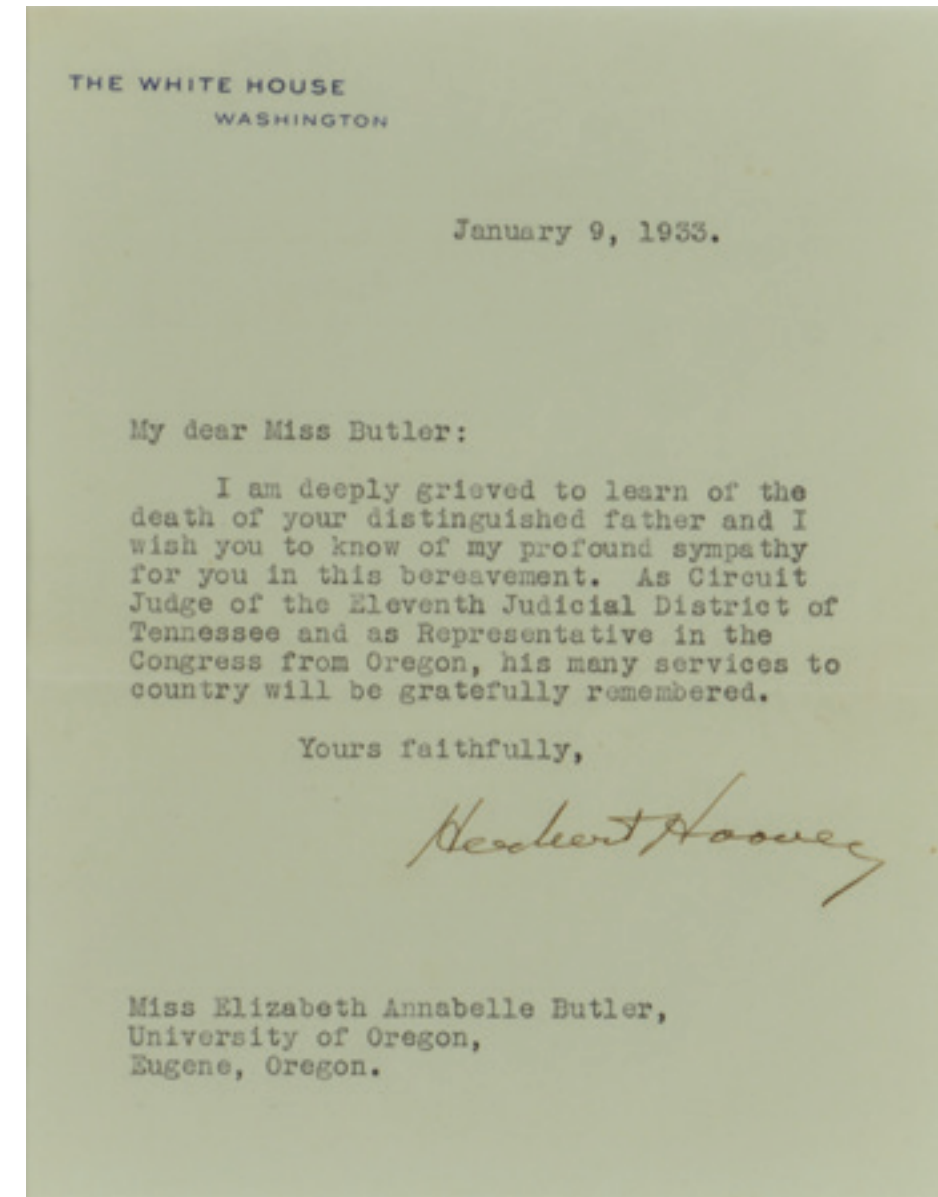
Miss Elizabeth Annabelle Butler,  
University of Oregon,  
Eugene, Oregon.

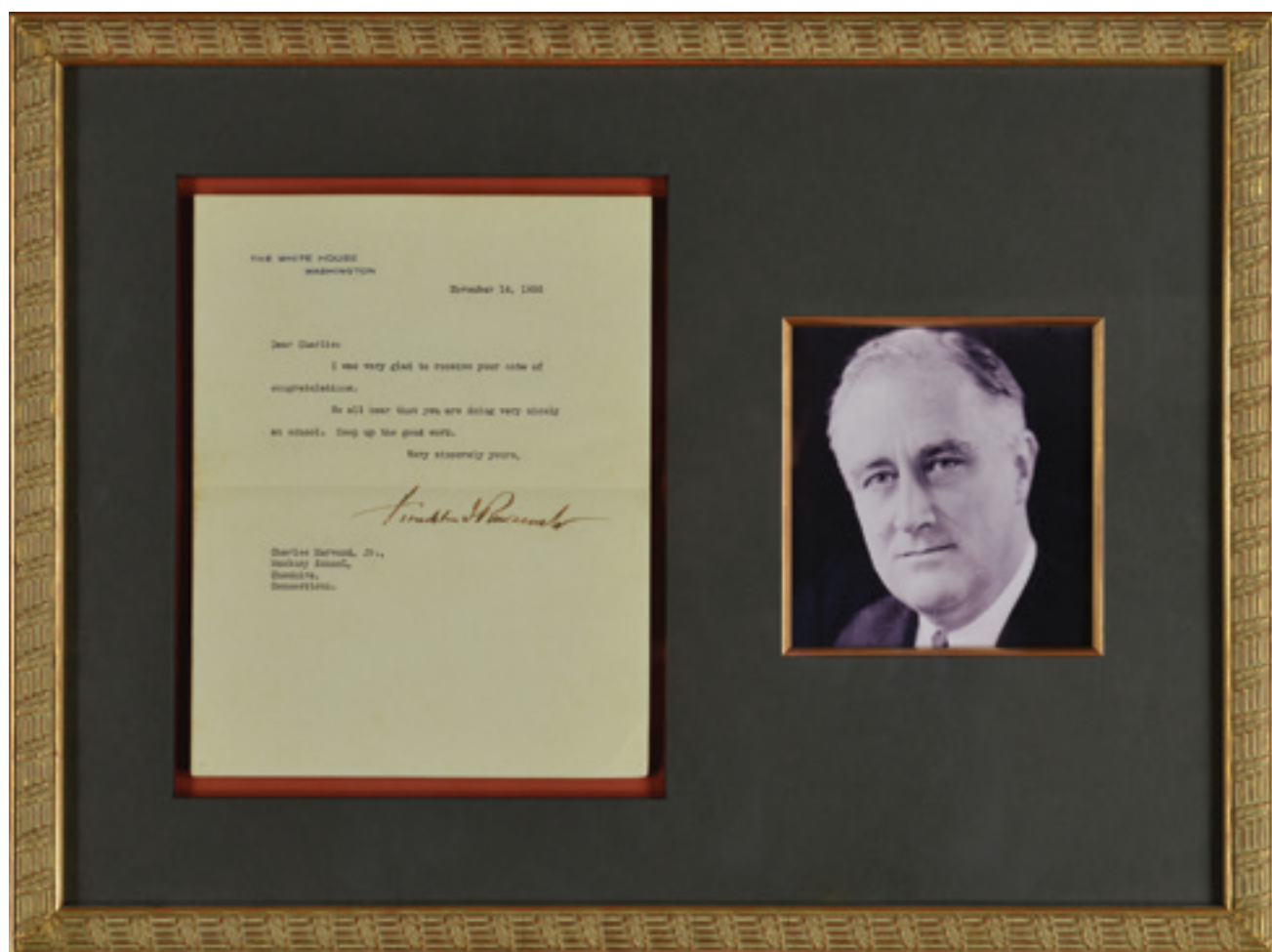
.....  
**CAT 26.** Letter from President Herbert Hoover to Elizabeth Butler, January 9, 1933

**Herbert Hoover (American, 1874-1964)**

Typed Letter Signed  
Washington D.C.: January 9, 1933  
Ink on paper  
Glazed, matted and framed  
Letter: 7 x 5 ½ in.; Frame: 13 ¼ x 18 ¼ in.

18.005.0025





**CAT 27.** Letter from President Franklin D. Roosevelt to Charles Harwood, Jr., November 14, 1936  
**Franklin D. Roosevelt (American, 1882-1945)**

Typed Letter Signed  
 November 14, 1936  
 Glazed, matted and framed  
 Letter: 8 ¾ x 7 in.; Frame: 14 ½ x 19 ½ in.  
 18.005.0016

Charles Harwood was a lawyer and politician in New York and served as Governor of the United States Virgin Islands, a patronage appointment by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The appointment was controversial and opposed by many in Roosevelt's administration, as it was hoped that he would appoint an African American to the post, and Harwood spent most of his governorship in Washington. His son, Charles Harwood, Jr., must have been thrilled to receive this congratulatory note from the President some years—some five years before the controversial appointment.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
 WASHINGTON

November 14, 1936

Dear Charlie:

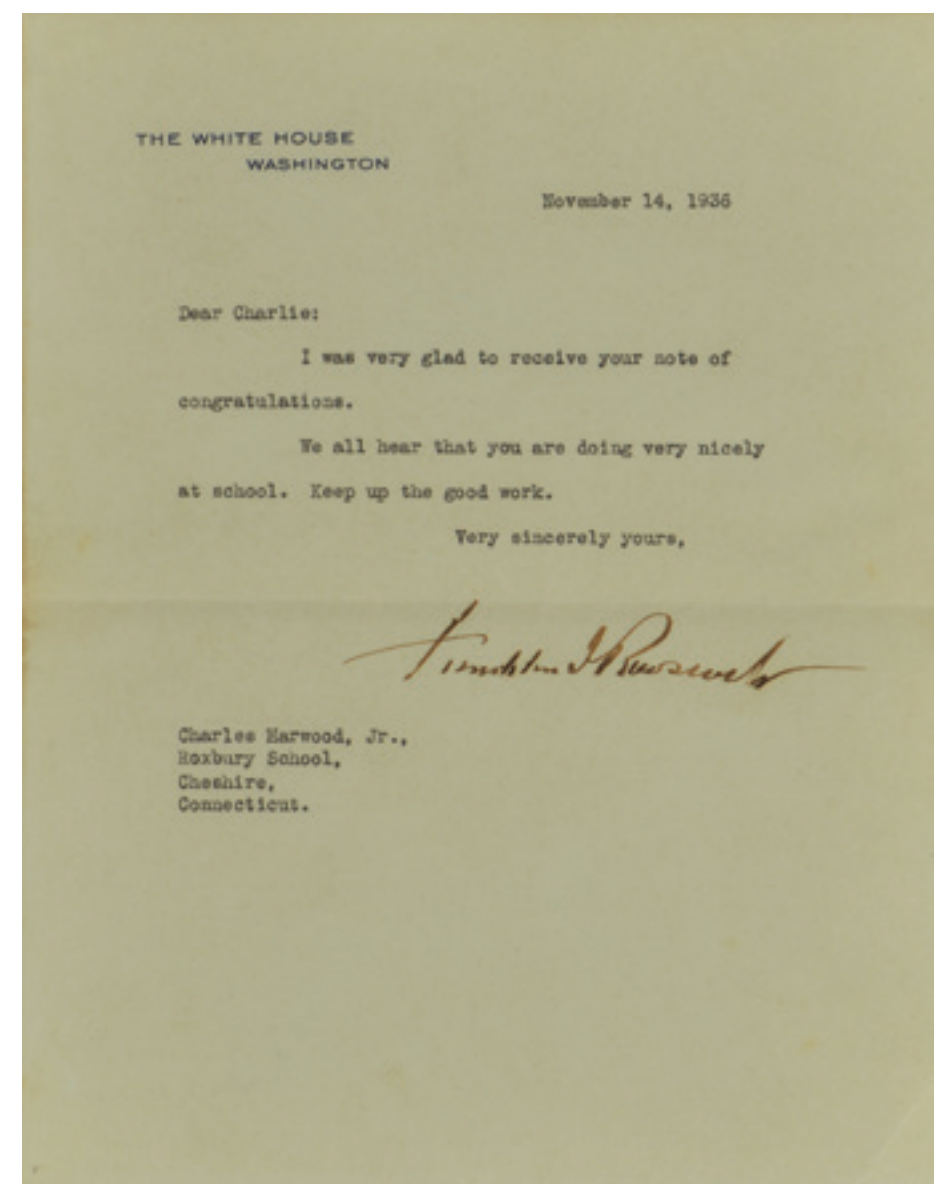
I was very glad to receive your note of congratulations

We all hear that you are doing very nicely at school. Keep up the good work.

Very sincerely yours,

Franklin D Roosevelt [signature]

Charles Harwood, Jr.,  
 Roxbury School,  
 Cheshire,  
 Connecticut.



THE WHITE HOUSE  
 WASHINGTON

November 14, 1936

Dear Charlie:

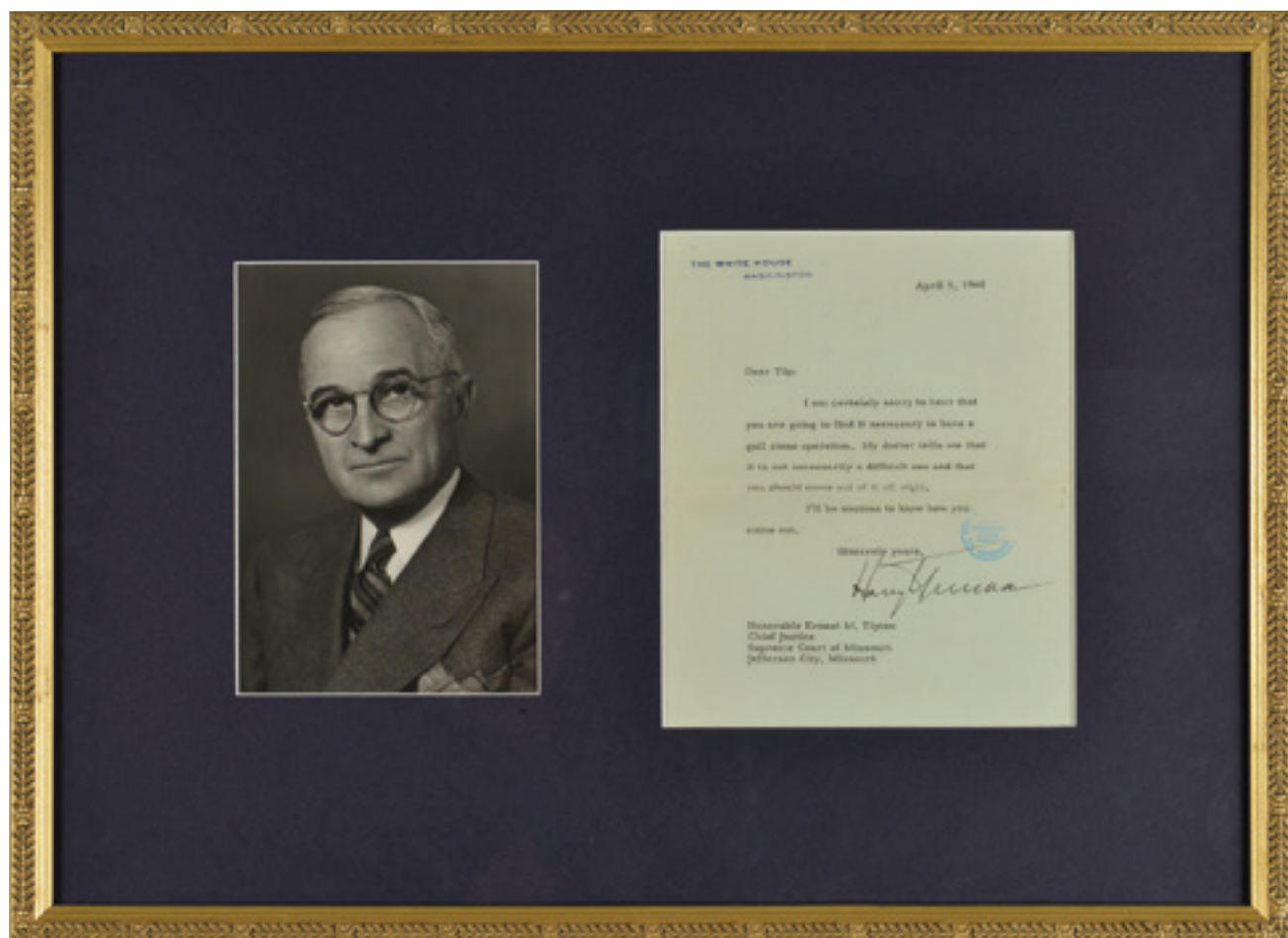
I was very glad to receive your note of congratulations.

We all hear that you are doing very nicely at school. Keep up the good work.

Very sincerely yours,

Franklin D Roosevelt

Charles Harwood, Jr.,  
 Roxbury School,  
 Cheshire,  
 Connecticut.



**CAT 28.** Letter from President Harry S. Truman to the Honorable Ernest M. Tipton, April 5, 1948  
**Harry S. Truman (American, 1884-1972)**

Typed Letter Signed  
 April 5, 1948  
 Hand signed, ink on paper  
 Glazed, matted and framed  
 Letter: 8 x 6 ¾ in.; Frame: 14 ¾ x 20 ¼ in.  
 18.005.0014

THE WHITE HOUSE  
 WASHINGTON

April 5, 1948

Dear Tip:

I am certainly sorry to hear that you are going to find it necessary to have a gall stone operation. My doctor tells me that it is not necessarily a difficult one and that you should come out of it all right.

I'll be anxious to know how you come out.

Sincerely yours,  
 Harry Truman [signature]

Honorable Ernest M. Tipton  
 Chief Justice  
 Supreme Court of Missouri  
 Jefferson City, Missouri

THE WHITE HOUSE  
 WASHINGTON

April 5, 1948

Dear Tip:

I am certainly sorry to hear that you are going to find it necessary to have a gall stone operation. My doctor tells me that it is not necessarily a difficult one and that you should come out of it all right.

I'll be anxious to know how you come out.

Sincerely yours,

Harry Truman

Honorable Ernest M. Tipton  
 Chief Justice  
 Supreme Court of Missouri  
 Jefferson City, Missouri



This photo captures a moment in April of 1960 when John F. Kennedy was campaigning in the small town of Ona, West Virginia for the Democratic West Virginia primaries. He stands with a local man in front of the post office and general store. Because the primaries would be held on May 10th of that year, Kennedy was eager to visit as many states as possible and convince people to vote for him as his campaign for the presidency began. As a practicing Roman Catholic, carrying the mostly Protestant state of West Virginia was a significant win.

Jacques Lowe, the photographer, became the official campaign photographer for Kennedy. He became very close with the future president, and was even offered the position of official White House Photographer. He declined, but remained a close friend of J.F.K. and his family.

Transcription:

*Lower Right (signature): "Joan C"*



**CAT 29.**  
**"Jack Kennedy"**

Jacques Lowe (American, 1930-2001)  
 1960  
 Silver gelatin Photograph  
 Glazed, matted and framed  
 Image: 11 ½ x 8 in.; Frame: 20 ½ x 16 ½ in.  
 18.005.0036



**CAT 30.** 1960 Democratic  
 National Convention Ticket  
**John F. Kennedy (American, 1917-1963)**

1960  
 Ink on paper  
 Glazed, matted and framed  
 Ticket: 2 ¾ x 6 7/8 in.; Frame: 27 x 18 in.  
 18.005.0010



.....  
**CAT 31.** Letter from President John F. Kennedy to Jason Epstein of Random House, April 1, 1963  
**John F. Kennedy (American, 1917-1963)**

Typed Letter Signed  
 April 1, 1963  
 Ink on paper  
 Glazed, double matted and framed in gilt and wood-tone frame  
 Letter: 9 ½ x 6 in.; Frame: 15 x 19 in.

18.005.0023

In this letter to Jason Epstein, a publisher at Random House Publishing, President John F. Kennedy registered his approval for an ambitious proposal to publish American literary classics. Kennedy enjoyed the arts and literature and had great regard and recognition for culture. President Kennedy and his wife Jackie often invited authors such as Robert Frost and various Nobel Prize winners to the White House to honor them and their works.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
 WASHINGTON

April 1, 1963

Dear Mr. Epstein,  
 I am much interested in the proposal, which I understand to have been made by Mr. Edmund Wilson, for the publication of the writings of the classic American writers in well-edited, inexpensive and complete editions. The absence of such comprehensive editions of our great writers represents a sad vacancy in our national culture; and I hope very much that it will be remedied in the near future. If the project can receive appropriate support, I know that its fulfillment will do a great deal to display, both our own people and to the world, the richness of the American literary heritage.

Sincerely,  
 John Kennedy [signature]

Mr. Jason Epstein  
 Random House, Inc.  
 457 Madison Avenue  
 New York 22, New York

Photo caption -  
 With best wishes  
 John Kennedy [signature]

THE WHITE HOUSE  
 WASHINGTON

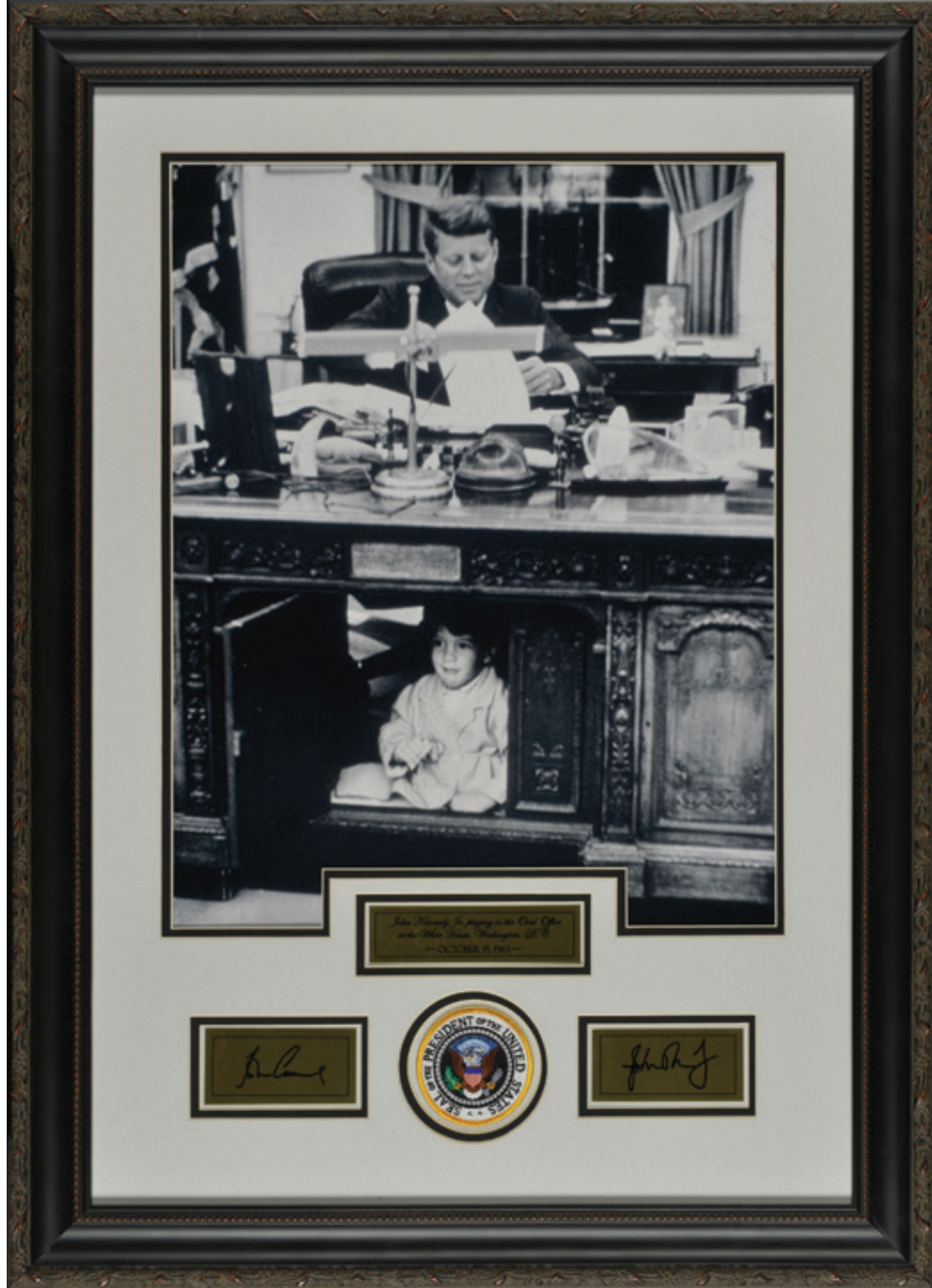
April 1, 1963

Dear Mr. Epstein:

I am much interested in the proposal, which I understand to have been made by Mr. Edmund Wilson, for the publication of the writings of the classic American writers in well-edited, inexpensive and complete editions. The absence of such comprehensive editions of our great writers represents a sad vacancy in our national culture; and I hope very much that it will be remedied in the near future. If the project can receive appropriate support, I know that its fulfillment will do a great deal to display, both to our own people and to the world, the richness of the American literary heritage.

Sincerely,  
 John Kennedy [signature]

Mr. Jason Epstein  
 Random House, Inc.  
 457 Madison Avenue  
 New York 22, New York



.....  
**CAT 32.** *Photograph of President John F. Kennedy and John F. Kennedy Jr.*  
**John F. Kennedy (American, 1917-1963)**

October 15, 1963  
Glazed, matted and framed  
Image: 20 x 16 in.; Frame: 32 ¾ x 23 ¾ in.

18.005.0002



President Lyndon B. Johnson's wry reference to "these troubled days" in this birthday note to Robert S. McNamara, his embattled Secretary of Defense, shows how the backdrop of the war in Vietnam overshadowed everything in Johnson's administration. McNamara served from 1961 to 1968, spanning both Kennedy's administration and Johnson's. By the time this letter was written, McNamara had placed some 500,000 active troops in Vietnam. Because of the increasing controversy surrounding American involvement in the Vietnam War, his reputation was starting to sour with the public. By November 1967, McNamara would announce his resignation from the Department of the Defense. In the year after his resignation from office, 3.5 million Americans would be deployed to Vietnam, a staggering number that angered many anti-war protestors.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
June 9, 1967

Dear Bob:  
I suppose you could have picked a more tranquil time for your birthday — and yet these troubled days are an apt reminder of why your President and your nation are so proud and glad to celebrate with your family.

We wish you all happiness because you have assured so many of us the security in which joy and purpose can freely grow. May your own years always grow in fullness and achievement. Age, I know, will only add to the pride and gratitude America offers you from its heart today.

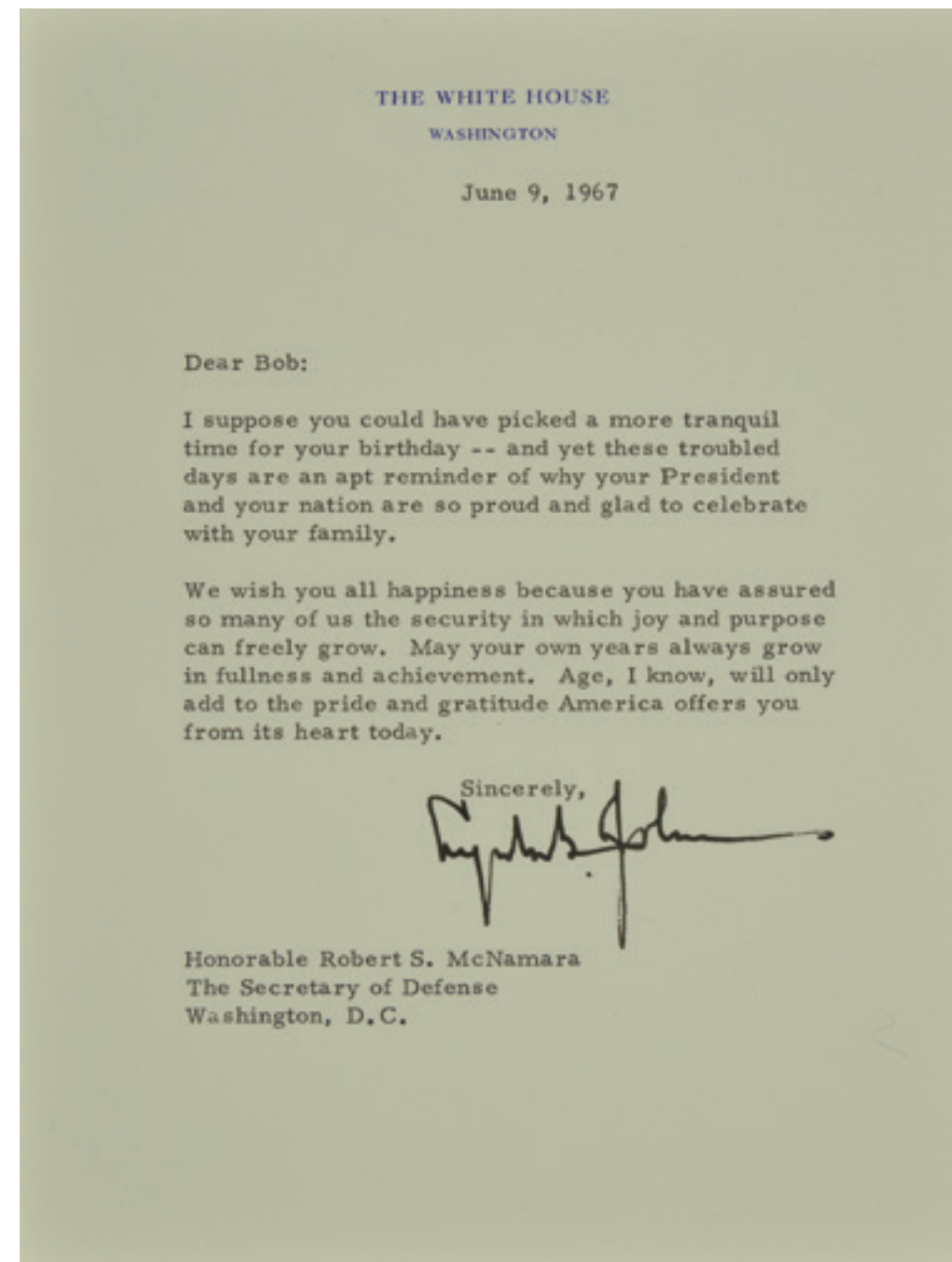
Sincerely,  
Lyndon B. Johnson [signature]  
Honorable Robert S. McNamara  
The Secretary of Defense  
Washington, D.C.

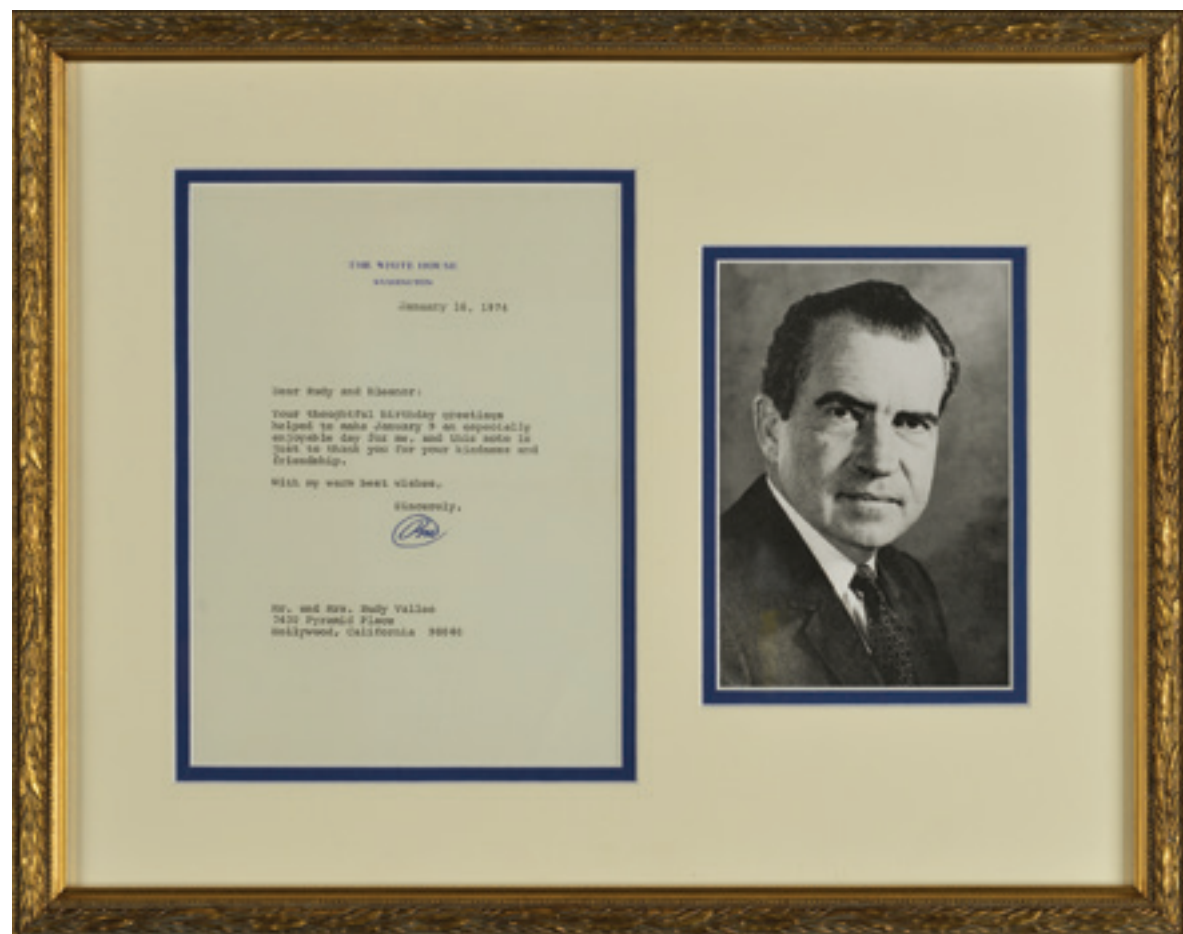
.....  
**CAT 33. Birthday Note from President Lyndon B. Johnson to Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara, June 9, 1967**

**Lyndon B. Johnson (American, 1908-1973)**

Typed Letter Signed  
June 9, 1967  
Ink on paper  
Glazed, matted and framed  
Letter: 8 x 7 in.; Frame: 13 ¼ x 17 ½ in.

18.005.0015



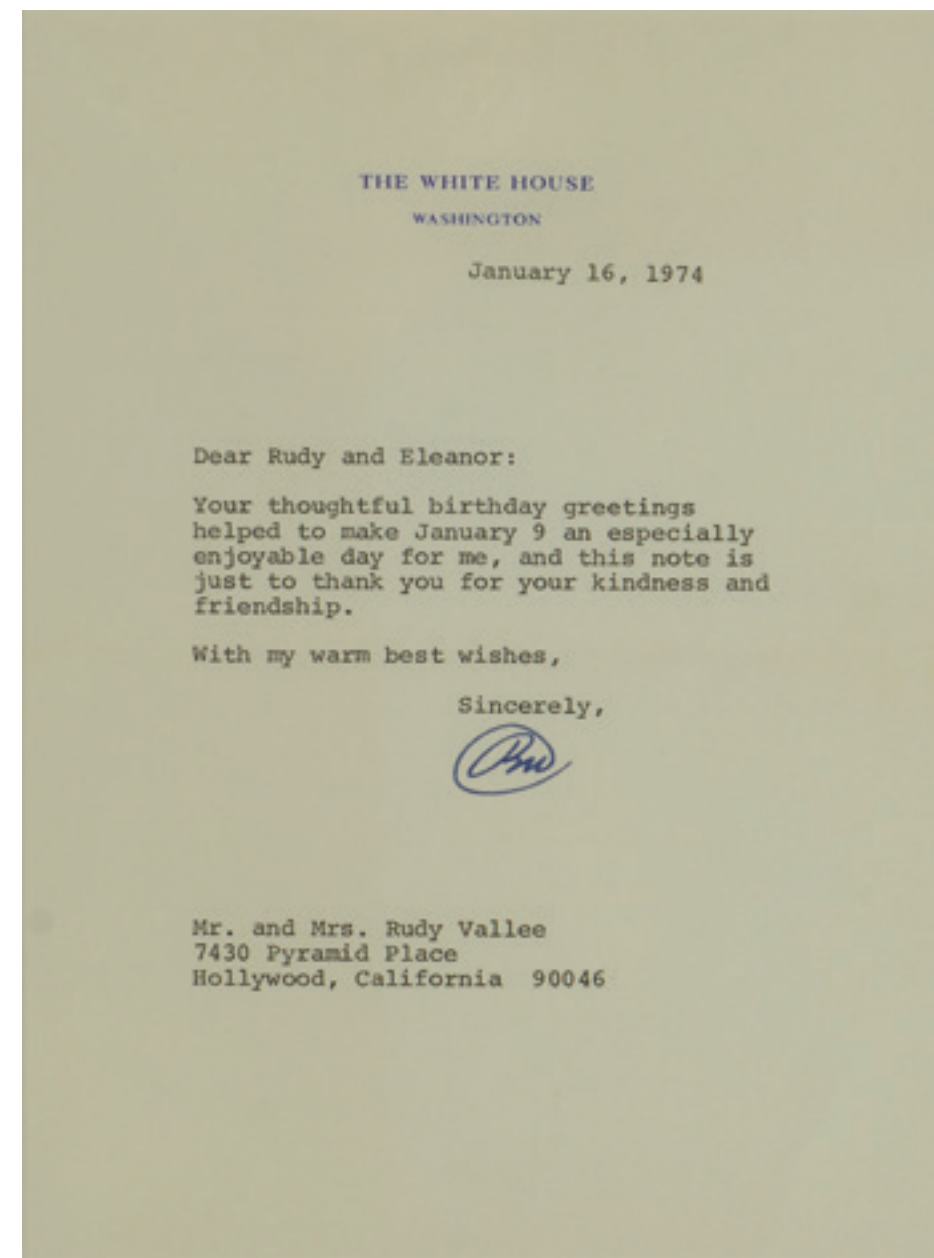


Rudy and Eleanor Vallee were Hollywood royalty in the 1950's—he was an actor, singer and radio personality, while she was an actress. The couple were keen supporters of Richard Nixon's political career, including during his run for president in the Republican primary, in which he faced off against actor and former governor of California, Ronald Reagan.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
January 16, 1974

Dear Rudy and Eleanor:  
Your thoughtful birthday greetings helped to make January 9 an especially enjoyable day for me, and this note is just to thank you for your kindness and friendship.  
With my warm best wishes,  
Sincerely,  
Rich [signature]

Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Vallee  
7430 Pyramid Place  
Hollywood, California, 90046



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
January 16, 1974

Dear Rudy and Eleanor:  
Your thoughtful birthday greetings helped to make January 9 an especially enjoyable day for me, and this note is just to thank you for your kindness and friendship.  
With my warm best wishes,  
Sincerely,  
[Signature]

Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Vallee  
7430 Pyramid Place  
Hollywood, California 90046

**CAT 34.** *Thank You Letter from President Richard Nixon to Rudy and Eleanor Vallee, January 16, 1974*

**Richard Nixon (American, 1913-1994)**

Typed Letter Signed  
January 16, 1974  
Ink on paper  
Glazed, matted and framed  
Letter: 9 x 6 ¾ in.; Frame: 13 ¾ x 17 ¼ in.

18.005.0020



Formerly a popular actor, Ronald Reagan began his political career in 1968 when he ran for Governor of California as a Republican and defeated his opponent by almost one million votes. When Reagan was inaugurated as president in 1981, he and his wife, Nancy, brought a new era of Hollywood-style glamour to the White House. His two terms saw massive tax reductions, increases in military spending and deregulation of business, all of which became core to the Republican party's platform for the coming generation of conservatives. He also made the historic appointment of Sandra Day O'Connor, the first female Supreme Court Justice. Most notably, his administration is credited with bringing a close to the Cold War with his famous plea "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!"

*Stamped SIMI VALLEY CA FEB 9 2005*  
*Signed Ronald Reagan*  
*RONALD REAGAN 1911-2004*  
*40th President*  
*THE PRESIDENT AT THE BRADENBURG GATE*  
*"MR. GORBACHEV, TEAR DOWN THIS WALL!"*

*On stamp*  
*Ronald Reagan*  
*37USA*



**CAT 35. President Reagan Stamps and Envelope  
 Ronald Reagan (American, 1911-2004)**

Block of Mint First Day Cover Stamps  
 of President Reagan  
 Glazed, matted and framed  
 Stamp Sheet: 6 ¼ x 5 in.; Envelope: 3 ¾ x 6 ½ in.;  
 Frame: 17 ¾ x 12 in.

18.005.0024



Reagan’s speech included the instantly famous words: *“Secretary General Gorbachev, if you seek peace—if you seek prosperity for the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe—if you seek liberalization: come here, to this gate. Mr. Gorbachev, open this gate. Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall.”*

The split between East and West Germany came about as the Second World War came to a close in 1945. The Allies split Germany into four “allied occupation zones” dividing up control of the recently defeated Germany. The Eastern part went to the Soviet Union, while the Western part went to the United States, Great Britain and France. The Communist government of the German Democratic Republic (East Germany) began construction of the Berlin Wall on August 13th, 1961. It was a tall concrete wall with barbed wire and was called the “Antifaschistischer Schutzwall” or the “Antifascist Bulwark.” The wall’s stated purpose was to keep fascists from coming into East Germany, but it mainly served to keep people from defecting from East Germany to West Germany. The wall became a symbol of the Cold War between East and West that characterized the next several decades.

In 1989, the Cold War seemed to be coming to a close, 44 years after World War II ended. The East Berlin Communist Party spokesman had announced starting at midnight on November 9th, citizens of East Germany were allowed to cross over to West Germany, bringing unity to Berlin for the first time since 1945. At midnight that day, people started to head to the checkpoints to cross over. The citizens took to the streets in celebration, chanting “Tor Auf!” or “Open the Gate!” Many hammered away at the wall, breaking off pieces. Then came the bulldozers that would finish breaking down the wall, finally unifying Berlin.

**CAT 36. Piece of Berlin Wall**  
**Ronald Reagan (American, 1911-2004)**

Stone, photograph  
 Glazed, matted and framed  
 Frame: 29 x 25 in.

18.005.0003



THE WHITE HOUSE  
 WASHINGTON  
 August 5, 1993

Dear Neal:

*I want to thank you personally for your vote in support of our economic growth and deficit reduction plan.*

*The winners tonight are middle class Americans and the people who stood by them. We promised deep reductions in federal spending, a return to tax fairness, investments in the skills and productivity of our people, and incentives to create jobs and expand businesses. And we delivered on our promises. With our plan in place, middle income families will enjoy lower interest rates, more jobs, greater incentives for work, and more affordable college loans.*

*With nearly \$500 billion in deficit reduction, this plan will help revive America's economy, and restore the living standards of the people we represent. You can be very proud of your vote.*

*Perhaps most important, we sent a strong signal to the people of the United States that Washington can act -- promptly and decisively -- in the national interest. Your vote was not only good for the economy, it will help strengthen our people's faith in democracy.*

*Thank you for your vote, your hard work, and your dedication to the American people.*

With best wishes,

Sincerely,  
 Bill [signature]

The Honorable Neal Smith  
 House of Representatives  
 Washington, D.C. 20515

This letter thanked Representative Smith for his support of President Bill Clinton's Deficit Reduction Plan of 1993. This act raised federal income taxes and fuel taxes, as well as increased the corporate income tax rate. The plan also included over 200 billion dollars in spending cuts, which enabled the United States to have a surplus budget for the first time since the 1960s.

**CAT 37.** Letter from President Bill Clinton to the Honorable Neal Smith, August 5, 1993  
**Bill Clinton (American, B. 1946)**

Typed Letter Signed  
 August 5, 1993  
 Ink on paper  
 Glazed, matted and framed  
 Letter: 10 ½ x 8 in.; Frame: 17 x 19 ¼ in.

18.005.0032



Printed on official White House letterhead and signed by president George W. Bush. Stephen H. Korman is a prominent Philadelphian philanthropist and businessman, and founder of Korman Communities, a real estate company with international dealings.

George W. Bush was the 43rd president of the United States and faced the issue of terrorism, both in America and abroad. Bush is mostly associated with his reactions to the 9/11 attacks in New York City on September 11, 2001. As a result, he increased spending for the national defense and military, and invaded Iraq as part of the War on Terror.

Bush was an avid reader during his time in the White House, and especially admired Abraham Lincoln. The book Korman sent to Bush, *Lincoln in the Times*, was a book co-authored by David Herbert Donald and Harold Holzer. It was both a biography and a compilation of historical newspaper articles from the *New York Times* which followed Lincoln's life and career. The book compiled all articles about Lincoln by this well-known newspaper and put them into a timeline that follows the Civil War era president's rise in politics, to the events after his assassination. Bush was no doubt inspired by Lincoln, and even received the 2019 Lincoln Leadership Prize, due to his efforts to instill what he called "compassionate conservatism" during his two terms as president. This idea strived to encourage better education, tax cuts and overall volunteering

and community building, often through religious organizations. Bush and his wife, Laura, encouraged literacy and education across America, publicly stating that they believed that children deserved to feel safe in their spaces of learning.

[Presidential seal in gold]  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

January 18, 2006

Mr. Steven H. Korman  
Chief Executive Officer  
Korman Communities  
Suite 300  
450 Plymouth Road  
Plymouth Meeting, Pennsylvania 19462

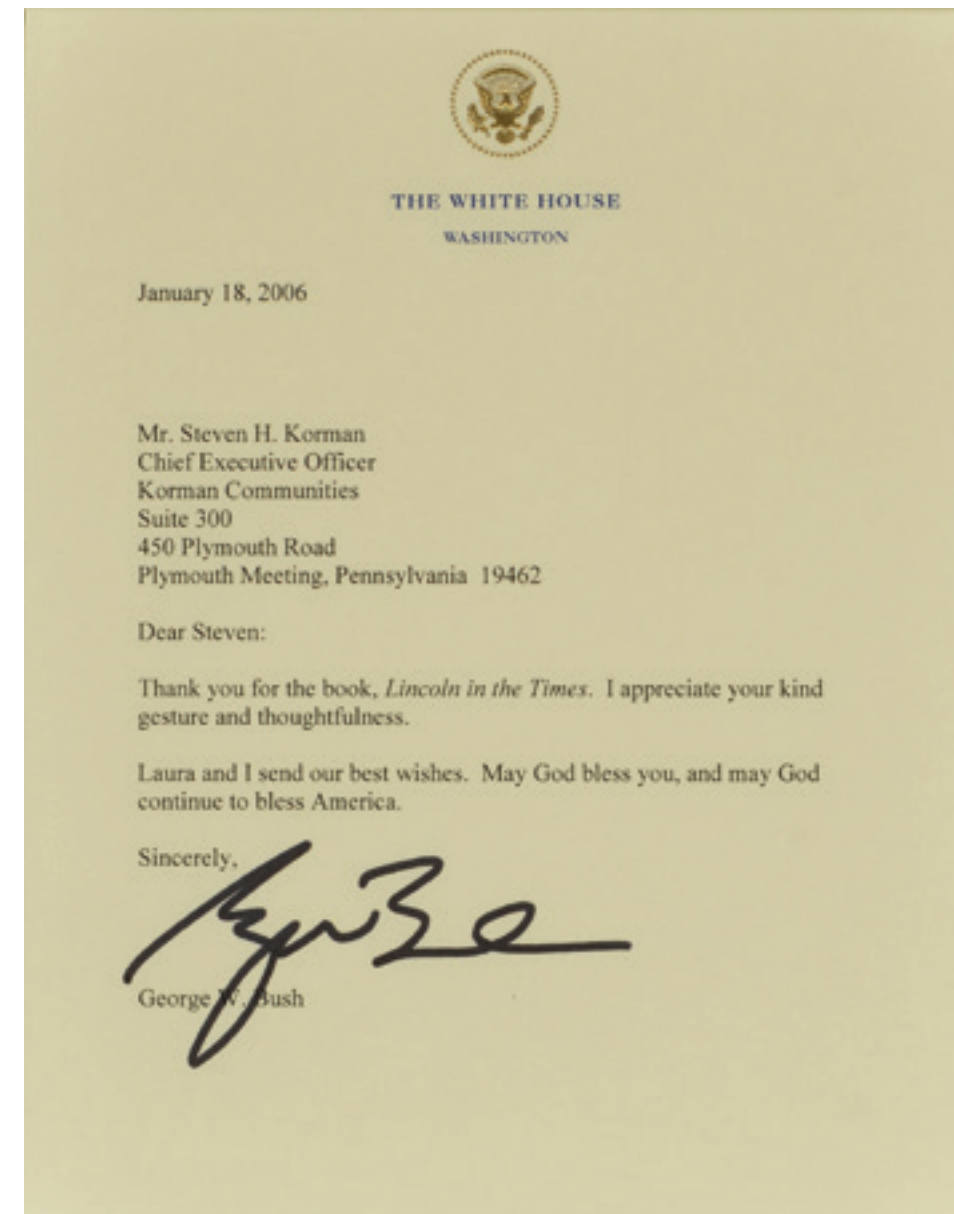
Dear Steven:

Thank you for the book, *Lincoln in the Times*. I appreciate your kind gesture and thoughtfulness.

Laura and I send our best wishes. May God bless you, and may God continue to bless America.

Sincerely,  
George Bush [signature]

George W. Bush



.....  
**CAT 38.** *Thank You Letter from President George W. Bush to S. H. Korman, January 18, 2006*

**George W. Bush (American, B. 1946)**

Typed Letter Signed  
January 18, 2006  
Ink on paper  
Glazed, matted and framed  
Letter: 8 ¼ x 6 ½ in.; Frame: 13 x 14 ¾ in.

18.005.0030

ראש הממשלה  
THE PRIME MINISTER

22 December 1969

My dear Mr. Korman:

I am writing to you as one of Israel's proven friends. I am sure you understand that we are passing through difficult days, attempting to carry on in the face of the enmity which surrounds us. In spite of the war, we are working every day to fulfill our destiny as a nation and a land worthy of our people's needs. We continue to welcome new immigrants and to integrate them as soon as possible!

The challenges of this moment are enormous and the strain sometimes unbelievable - but not unbearable. A source of strength is our conviction that you will listen.

If it were possible for you to come to Jerusalem, I would be delighted to receive you in person and tell you in detail the problems facing our people. Since that might not be feasible and time is urgent, I am sending to you, within the next few weeks, my personal emissaries to explain in depth, with new confidential material, some of these problems. I want you to listen to them with open hearts and minds, as though you were listening to me.

Within a few days after you receive this letter, you will receive a telephone call from a member of the Israeli diplomatic staff in the United States, informing you of the time and place of the meeting.

The solidarity of the Jewish people will enable us to surmount present difficulties and face the future unafraid.

With warmest thanks,

Golda Meir

Mr. Stephen Korman  
Hyman Korman, Inc.  
Post Office Box 339  
Jenkintown, Pennsylvania 19046

Golda Meir was an Israeli politician who worked for the Israeli government as a Minister of Labor and Foreign Minister. She worked in these roles from the 1940s to the 1960s. During her time in Israeli politics, she became the only woman to have served as prime minister of Israel. She became a prominent Israeli leader and her characteristics are what made her well known, with many people seeing her as strong willed, determined and being very blunt and straightforward.

[Hebrew letters]

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 December 1969

My dear Mr. Korman:

I am writing to you as one of Israel's proven friends. I am sure you understand that we are passing through difficult days, attempting to carry on in the face of the enmity which surrounds us. In spite of the war, we are working every day to fulfill our destiny as a nation and a land worthy of our people's needs. We continue to welcome new immigrants and to integrate them as soon as possible!

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Within a few days after you receive this letter, you will receive a telephone call from a member of the Israeli diplomatic staff in the United States, informing you of the time and place of the meeting.

The solidarity of the Jewish people will enable us to surmount present difficulties and face the future unafraid.

With warmest thanks,  
Golda Meir [signature]

Golda Meir

Mr. Stephen Korman  
Hyman Korman, Inc.  
Post Office Box 339  
Jenkintown, Pennsylvania 19046

.....  
**CAT 39. Letter from Golda Meir to  
Steven Korman, December 22, 1969  
Golda Meir (Israeli, 1898-1978)**

Typed Letter Signed  
December 22, 1969  
Type written letter on official  
Prime Minister Stationary  
Glazed, matted and framed  
Letter: 10 ¼ x 8 in.; Frame: 16 ¾ x 14 ¾ in.

18.005.0033

This screenprint was created as part of a limited edition of 248, making this #70 in the series. The piece was created by artist Chaim Mekel and depicts United States Presidents (from left to right) George H. W. Bush, Ronald Reagan, Jimmy Carter, Gerald Ford, and Richard Nixon in front of an American flag. Mekel's signature is in the lower left corner. Mekel was an Israeli artist, born in Austria in 1946.



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**CAT 40.**

**Five US Presidents**

Chaim Mekel, American School (20th/21st Century)

Edition 70 of 248

Screenprint on rice paper with watercolor inks

Glazed, matted and framed

Unframed: 19 ¾ x 32 ½ in.; Framed: 35 x 47 in.

18.005.0005



The ribbon on the left commemorates George Washington with a portrait popular in the 1800s and the motto *E Pluribus Unum*—out of many, one—a core principle of American unity.

The middle ribbon commemorates the 54th gathering of the Grand Army of the Republic in Paterson, New Jersey in 1921. The Grand Army of the Republic was created on April 6, 1866 upon the end of the Civil War as a way to bring together veterans from all branches of the military who had served in the Civil War. The organization also started what is now known as Memorial Day as a way to commemorate and honor all of the soldiers who had lost their lives serving the Union or who had served in active duty.

The ribbon on the right commemorates the centennial of the founding of the city of Paterson, New Jersey, which was in part founded by Alexander Hamilton. In 1792, Hamilton was integral in establishing the Society for the Establishment of Useful Manufactures, a group which then went on to found Paterson, New Jersey as a hub of industry.

**CAT 41.**  
**Three Commemorative Ribbons**

1792-1921 (range)  
 Silk  
 Glazed, matted and framed  
 Ribbons: left: 10 x 2 ½ in.; center: 12 x 2 ½ in.;  
 right: 10 x 2 ½ in.; Frame: 22 ¼ x 26 ¼ in.

18.005.0035

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