Sturgis Library Archives
Town and Local History Collection

Ship Captains, Crew, and Families Photo Albums
MS. 120

Extent: 2 albums

Scope and Content Note: The collection consists of two albums of primarily carte de visite photographs of ship captains, their wives, their children, relatives, ship crew members, and some unconnected and unidentified people, most originally from Cape Cod. The majority of the photographs are dated 1870 and 1871. A number of them are taken in San Francisco, California and Liverpool, England. Most of the identified people lived in Harwich, Dennis, Chatham and Yarmouth.

It is unclear who owned the original album. The photographs were received already removed from the original album, though in many cases the captions were saved and accompany the photos. In some cases there is information on the back of the photo, in many cases not. Whoever wrote the captions appears to have known the people in the photos and the captions often supply information that is not on the back of the photo. Handwriting is sometimes a challenge and some names are spelled differently on the photo and the caption. We have retained as much information about the photo as possible and noted questions where handwriting is unclear or information provided is conflicting.

Access: Unrestricted. Credit Sturgis Library Archives for publication purposes.

Acquisition: Purchased at Eldred’s Auction House, Dennis, MA, 2012.

Processed by: Lucy Loomis, January 2014.

Contents: See following pages for contents. Photos are placed in albums in alphabetical order, and pages are numbered.
Album 1  Page 1  
- Capt. Anderson, Ship U. L. or H.L. Richardson  
- Cyrus Baker  

Page 2  
- Benj [Benjamin] Baker, Dorch. [Dorchester], David Baker’s son  

Page 3  
- Susie Thacher Baker, West Dennis  
- Byron Baxter, W. Harwich and Prov. [Provincetown?]  

Page 4  
- Captain Isaac Bearse and wife Kate Kelley Bearse, West Harwich  
- Capt. Isaac Bearse’s Ship 1865  

Page 5  
- Miss Ellie Bigley, San Francisco 1871  

Page 6  
- Gen. [General] W. C. Blaisdell, So. Boston, killed in the Civil War  
- Mrs. W. C. Blaisdell, his wife  

Page 7  
- Captain and Mrs. Bliffin, Ship Columbus  
- Master Bliffin  

Page 8  
- Capt. B. Bray, San Francisco, 1870, Ship Comet, So. Yarmouth  
- Frank Chase, West Harwich  

Page 9  
- Mr. and Mrs. Erastus Chase, Ship Radiant, San Francisco 1870  
- Erastus Chase, W. Harwich  

Page 10  
- Mrs. Caleb Chase, W. Harwich & Boston  
- Aberdeen Childs, W. Dennis  

Page 11  
- Luther Childs, W. Dennis  
- Evelyn Childs, Married Wes Evans  

Page 12  
- Mr. Coffin  
- John Crocker, So. Yarmouth
Ms 120:
Ship Captains, Crew, and Families Photo Albums

ALBUM 1

Page 13
- Mr. J. Crocker of San Francisco, Liverpool Eng., 1871
- [Mrs. J. Crocker] 1871

Page 14
- Lincoln Crowell, Capt. Levi Crowell’s son, W. Dennis
- Howes Crowell, Publisher, Capt. Levi Crowell’s son, W. Dennis

Page 15
- Susie Crowell, W. Dennis
- Capt. Peter Henry Crowell

Page 16
- Priscilla Doane, Capt. Abather Doane’s daughter
- Capt. Dumphey, Ship H. F. Sanford

Page 17
- Capt. Thos. [Thomas] Ellis, West Harwichport
- Albert Bradley Freeman

Page 18
- Capt. Joh Frost, Ships Conqueror and Agenor (?)

Page 19
- Capt. Gapley, Ship E. H. Gapley
- Capt. Givers, Ship Oracle, San Francisco, 1870

Page 20
- Maud Harris or [Harrison] Age 12
- Ada Harrison, Age 10

Page 21
- Charlie Hayward

Page 22
- Grace Heutz
- Annie Kelley Heutz, W. Harwich

Page 23
- Cyrus P. Howes, North Dennis & San Francisco

Page 24
- Capt. Charles T. Husans (?), Ship J. B. Lincoln
- Mrs. M. Husans (?), Ship J. B. Lincoln

Page 25
- Abbie Jones
- Emma Kelley Jones, W. Harwich

Page 26
- Capt. Johnson, Ship Richard Bersleed, San Francisco, Cal. 1871

Page 27
- Anthony Kelley, W. Harwich and Wincester
- Fred Kelley, Eng. On Rev. Boat Chandler
Album 1  Page 28  
- Gershom Kelley, Dennisport  
- Robt. W. Kelley, W. Harwich and Newtown

Page 29  
- Mrs. Capt. Lord, Ship E. Harriman (?)

Page 30  
- Capt. Mitchel, Ship L. Rich  
- Mrs. Capt. Mitchel

Page 31  
- Shoemaker Mombury(?)

Page 32  
- Lieut. Mudt and/or W. B. Mullett

Album 2  Page 33  
- John Nickerson, Nancy Thayer’s brother, W. Dennis, So. Yarmouth

Page 34  
- Thos. Thacher Nickerson, Nancy Thayer’s brother, So. Dennis  
- Thos. Thacher Nickerson

Page 35  
- Pitman “Stevedore”, San Francisco  
- Mrs. H. C. Pitman, San Francisco, 1870

Page 36  
- Freeman Conant Rogers, So. Dennis

Page 37  
- Capt. Scott, San Francisco, Dec. 1870  
- Mrs. Capt. Scott, San Francisco, Dec. 1870

Page 38  
- Capt. D. A. Scribner, Liverpool, England, of Ship St. Charles (also S. D. Lueir (?), Topsham, ME, June 1, 1871.

Page 39  
- Capt. Davis Small  
- Mrs. Davis Small  
- Master Johnnie Small  
- No. 26 3rd Street, San Francisco, California 1870

Page 40  
- Mrs. Capt. T. Smith, Barque “Admiral”, San Francisco, California, Oct. 28, 1871  
- Miss Almena Modesta Sparrow, Chatham, Mass., Rec’d at San Francisco, California 1871
Album 2

Page 41
- Lowell Spencer, San Francisco, 1870
- Will Stetson, We. Harwich

Page 42
- Ella Baker Taylor, Dennisport

Page 43
- Mrs. John Taylor “To my dear niece – Aunt Lizzie, Age 67, Nov 1865.”
- Capt. John Taylor

Page 44
- Thos. Thacher, W. Dennis. Eleazer Thacher [his] brother drowned off Jersey Coast
- Mrs. Thos. Thacher (Hannah)

Page 45
- Harry Thacher, Dorchester. Sad (?) Shepard Drug
- Henry [Harry] Thacher

Page 46
- Willis Thacher, Cobb Aldrich Co.
- Mrs. Fred K. Wellington, East Boston

The officers and crew members pictured on pages 47-49 appear to be members of the United States Revenue Cutter Service, which had ships stationed in the Atlantic and Pacific in the late 1800s. In 1915 the Revenue Cutter Service merged with the United States Life-Saving Service to become the United States Coast Guard.

Page 47
- Lieut Howe, Rev. Officer
- Rev. Cutter Officer, Mr. Jefferson, Leicester, England June 1871

Page 48
- Rev. Officer
- Stemshorn Proprietor, _____ Hotel, Elbe Hotel, Rev. Cutter Officer

Page 49
- Lieutenants of the Rev. Cutter
- 1st and 2nd mates of Capt. David Kelley, on Ship Ericson

Page 50
- Miss Middleton
- No Name, Boston, Sept. 16th, 1873

Page 51
- 4 photos, unnamed women and man
Album 2  Page 52  
- Two girls, no names
- Two babies, no names

Page 53  
- Four babies, no names

Page 54  
- No name. “With thanks for much kindness received, P.C.C.”
- No name

Page 55  
- 4 men, no names

Page 56  
- Four unmarked photos, no names

Page 57  
- Four unmarked photos, no names. One photo inscribed to “Uncle Lee & Aunt Dora”

Page 58  
- 4 travel photos (probably purchased in a shop) of native/local women and scenes in unknown locations

Page 59  
- 4 hand colored photos of people in native dress

Page 60  
- 3 unknown people and a photo/advertising card for the Coliseum, International Peace Jubilee, Boston

Page 61  
- Unidentified people in an Asian country (China?)
- Edwin Booth
- John Greenleaf Whittier