Sturgis Library Archives  
Town and Local History Collection  

MS. 148  
Boult Family Documents and Correspondence, 1763-1885  

Extent: Two boxes  

Scope and Content Note: The collection consists of documents and correspondence dating from 1763 to 1885 related to the Boult family of Osterville. Of interest are a series of letters regarding the family’s search to discover their connections to the Prince family of Great Britain and possibly receive an inheritance from that family.  

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


Related collections: Sturgis Library also owns the Boult/Bolt family Bible, also donated by Judith Staples, MS. 106.  

Processed by: Cataloged by Judith Staples (retained her cataloging); processed by Lucy Loomis, July 2018.  

CONTENTS:   

Box 1 includes undated material through 1854; Box 2 contains materials dated 1856-1885  

BOX 1  
Fldr 1    Boult family line and miscellaneous transcribed letters  
Fldr 2    Envelopes: London, Brookline, Brockton  
Fldr 3    From James Segee to Mr. Everett  
Copy of early letter re Prince family  
Fldr 4    From Mary [Boult] Lovell to Charles [Boult]  
Note regarding poor condition of house occupied by tenants  
Fldr 5    From Polly to Aunt Betsy  
Letter written on a steamer – news of friends  
Fldr 6    Handwritten line of Princes in the U. S.  
Fldr 7    Handwritten notes on request for Prince heirs and info on connection  
Fldr 8    List of children of Dr. Seth Ames and descendants  
New Bedford and Mattapoisett
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Local News – the Factory articles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Newspaper article from Yarmouth Register regarding Dr. Thomas Prince, Associate Pastor of Old South Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>From Sarah Hallet to Charlotte Boult re visiting plans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Sepia tone photo, Martinez California</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Scrap of note to Mrs. Elizabeth Lazell, Dedham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Undated letter from Charles Boult to James Segee Response to 8/9 letter re Somerly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Wed Feb 20 (?) From unknown admirer to Charlotte Phinney (later Boult) Barnstable Discussion of friends, visiting, salaries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Wed Feb 20 (?) Typescript copy of same letter by A. L.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17</td>
<td>2.25 Note from L. W. Leonard to Mrs. Boult regarding ride to Barnstable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18</td>
<td>2/26 From M. Humphreys of New York to C. W. Boult of Osterville. Note re correspondence forwarded to E. B. H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>9/26 New York Humphreys envelope</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21</td>
<td>5.10.1763 From John Ames of Boston [son] to Elisabeth Ellis of Rochester [mother]. Letter before sailing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>23</td>
<td>3.5.1790 Sale of land in Osterville. Marcy Cole to Simeon Lovell. 2 shillings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24</td>
<td>3.25.1791 Sale of land in Osterville</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fldr 27  4.14.1821 Sale of land of Simeon Lovell to Mary E. and Betsy P. Lovell. $100

Fldr 28  1.27.1834 Deed. Betsy Lovell from Joseph Blish, Osterville, 5 acres, $12


Fldr 30  May 1845
  1. Nathan B. Shurtleff (?) copies of records relating to the family of Rev. Thomas Prince
  2. 2nd letter re Price connections (?)

Fldr 31  10.4.1847 From J.H. to Horatio G. Somerly. Letter regarding Prince family given to Eliza Boul

Fldr 32  1.8.1848 Copy of letter from John Prince to wife, Elizabeth. 6.12.1715 Newport made by James Lovell.

Fldr 33  1.10.1848 Statements re Samuel Prince as inhabitant of Sandwich and info re baptisms at Congregational Church of West Barnstable.

Fldr 34  1.17.1848 James W. Lovell of Osterville. Prince family research ad sources. Osterville connections.

Fldr 35  1.17.1848 James P. Lovell research of Prince family including Town of Barnstable records

Fldr 36  2.12.1848 (?) Valentine to Isabella D. Coleman (first wife of Charles Boul, 1828-1850), Cotuit Port

Fldr 37  1.12.1849 From Mary Ward, East Granville to Aunt Clement and Uncle Ben Emmons, Long Island, NY

Fldr 38  5.19.1850 From James Segee, Woodstock, N.B. to Father, Mother, Sister. Family news followed by request for Prince on “particulars”

Fldr 39  8.9.1850 – 12.2.1850 From Wm. Monday

BOX 1  Fldr 40  3.3.1851 From James Segee, Woodstock to Aunt, North
Falmouth. Plans trip to pursue quest for Prince line info.

Fldr 41  Copies of letters in a small notebook regarding Prince family research
- 6.27.1851 From James Segee to Aunt,
- 11.16.1851 From A. G. Somerly, London, to James Segee, Wareham
- 3.28.1861 S.L. Boult, Osterville to Fisher & Son, London

Fldr 42  6.27.1851 From: Segee (?) Wareham to Aunt, North Falmouth
Prince line info

Fldr 43  6.27.1851 From James Segee, Wareham to Aunt. Recap of Prince connections and expenses

Fldr 44  7.3.1851 From Stephen A. Tripp, New Bedford to James Segee, Wareham

Fldr 45  7.3.1851 From James Segee, Wareham to Mrs. William Ellis, North Falmouth. Detail of expense money received and disappointment on not being able to find information

Fldr 46  7.5.1851 From James Segee to Charles Boult, Osterville. Explanation of Prince family connections.

Fldr 47  7.6.1851 Receipt from Wm. Ellis for expense money provided by heirs of Mercy Lovell

Fldr 48  11.16.1851 Copy of letter from Somerly, London, regarding his expertise and required funds


Fldr 50  7.4.1852 From James Segee, Woodstock, N.B. to Friends. Copied letter from Somerly

Fldr 51  9.09.1852 and 11.29.1852 From James Segee, Woodstock, N.B., to Oliver Cotton, Osterville, expressing willingness to go to England to research info on John Prince’s birth

Fldr 52  12.15.1852 Rebekah Boult and Betsey Lovell statement
agreeing to divide any proceeds into 9 shares

- 1.6.1853 From H. G Somerly, London to James, Segee, Woodstock. Recap of Prince info found in Univ. records
- 1.31.1853 From James Segee to Friends, Osterville. Reassurance about verity of Prince connection.

Fldr 54 3.5.1853 From James Segee, Woodstock to Charles Boul. Need for funds for trip to England

Fldr 55 4.1.1853 and 5.9.1853 From Charles Boul, Osterville to James Segee. Unable to send more money.

Fldr 56 4.1.1853 From Charles Boul (?) of Osterville to James Segee of New Brunswick. Answer to J’s letter – states reluctance of heirs to pursue search.

Fldr 57 7.8.1853 From Martha Boul Coffin, Martinez, CA to Aunts, Osterville. Family news and husband’s ferry business.

Fldr 58 August 1853. Statement as to Prince claim – Segee married to an Ellis

Fldr 59 8.22.1853. From E.N. Ellis, Pocassett to Cousin Betsey, Osterville (?) Expresses willingness to send expense $ to purchase claim.

Fldr 60 9.1.1853 From Betsy Lovell, Osterville to James Segee. Wondering how connection between Rev. John Prince and John Prince the Elder was determined.

Fldr 61 10.19.1853 From E.N. Ellis, Pocassett to Aunt Betsey (Lovell). Suggests they ask that B. F. Hallett meet with Somerly to go over Prince claim

Fldr 62 11.9.1853 Copies of correspondence – Segee and Henry Bliss, Esq. London

Fldr 63 11.29.1853 From Oliver C. Coffin, Martinez, CA to Charles Boul and Charlotte, Osterville. Miscellaneous news including information on Simeon Leonard’s vessel.

Fldr 64 11.30.1853 From James Segee, Woodstock, N.B. to Charles Boul, Osterville. Wish to contact Mr. Somerly.
BOX 1

Fldr 65  12.12.1853 From Oliver Coffin, Martinez, CA to Charles Boult, Osterville. Commercial dealings – mentioned Simeon Leonard’s vessel and the Prince affair

Fldr 66  1.7.1853 From James Segee, Woodstock, NB to Charles Boult, Osterville. No info found by Somerly; trip to England needed

Fldr 67  3.20.1854 From Charles Boult, Osterville to James Segee, New Bedford. Hopeful search


BOX 2

Fldr 1  5.25.1856 Bill of sale of the Schooner Hannah Willets

Fldr 2  7.5.1857 From James Segee, Wareham to Charles Boult, Osterville. Copy of letter to Wm. Munday, Esq. re Prince Line.

Fldr 3  • 8.8.1857 From E. W. Humphreys, NY, to Capt. C. W. Boult, Boston. Request for Prince line info.
 • 8.8.1857 Copy from Wm. Munday to James Segee
 • 8.26.1857 From James Segee to Aunt

Fldr 4  3.30.1858 From Charles Hinckley, Mariposa, CA to George Hinckley. Prayer meeting converts, thoughts on spiritualism.

Fldr 5  1.17.1859 From Erastus Scudder to Charles Boult. 1/8 of Schooner Gazette

Fldr 6  • 5.27.1859 Receipt for medical attention – 5 visits to wife from Dr. Henry McCollum to Thomas Ames.
 • Undated – note re charges for clothing

Fldr 7  8.16.1859 IOU from Robert Lovell to Cornelius Lovell

Fldr 8  3.5.1860 Deed. Charles Boult buys his father’s home
BOX 2

Fldr 9
- 2.19.1861 From W. W. S. Ordeton to S. L. Boult. Instructions to obtain return on money

Fldr 10
3.6.1861 From Fisher & Son, London to S. L. Boult, Osterville. Request for additional money

Fldr 11
3.9.1861 Declaration of homestead by Charles Boult with photograph

Fldr 12
6.5.1861 Deed – C. W. Boult from Lemuel Hamblin. Osterville 10 acres.

Fldr 13
6.24.1861 From George Hinckley, Osterville to Capt. Boult, Boston. Request to receive and obtain goods.

Fldr 14

Fldr 15

Fldr 16
11.13.1863 List of items bought by C. W. Boult in Boston @ Massasoit Color Varnish Works

Fldr 17
3.26.1864 From John Case, Camden, ME to George Hinckley, Osterville. Comments about visit to Camden, regards to acquaintances

Fldr 18
- Portion on NY Herald 8.19.1863
- 11.28.1873 Paid receipt S. L. Baker Jr. & Co. to G.H.H.
- 1.13.1865 Handwritten note to George H. Hinckley
- 4.20.1868 Request to G.H.H. to call school district meeting

Fldr 19
10.25.1865 A. L. typed copy of letter from Sarah Hallett to Charlotte Boult.

Fldr 20
10.25.1865 From Sarah Hallett, Shanghai to Charlotte Boult (her sister), Osterville. News of voyage, deaths, vessel, etc.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BOX 2</th>
<th>Fl Dr 21</th>
<th>1.7.1867 Receipt for services from G. G. Hinckley to C. W. Boult</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fl Dr 22</td>
<td>3.13.1868 Receipt from Geo. Guy for 1/32 of Schooner Hannah Willets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fl Dr 23</td>
<td>11.5.1869 From Hezeldiah Coffin to Chas. Boult (?) Inquire about proposition to search for Prince family connection</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fl Dr 24</td>
<td>11.29.1872 From Henry Young (?Younge) Kingston Jamaica, to Mr. Bolt (sic) Boston. Comments on Boston fire and return to his family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fl Dr 25</td>
<td>Cards, family correspondence of Charlotte Boult with one dated 1875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fl Dr 26</td>
<td>2.7.1875 From Juliet to Frank Boult. News of family and friends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fl Dr 27</td>
<td>9.1.1875 List of purchases from Nicholson, Frost &amp; Company by C. W. Boult</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Fl Dr 28</td>
<td>2.18.1877 From Aunt Mary, Cambridge, to Dear Nephew Frank Boult, Osterville. Cautions him to continue school and not go to sea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fl Dr 29</td>
<td>6.3.1880 From Charles W. Boult, Boston.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fl Dr 30</td>
<td>10.10..1880 From C.W. Boult to Mr. Ellis. Request for copy of Prince pedigree done by J. S. Segee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fl Dr 31</td>
<td>10..22.1880 From Sara Barnes, Wareham to Charles Boult, Osterville. Note that her father is dead as is Stephen Burgess’s wife</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fl Dr 32</td>
<td>10.26.1880 From Nathan Ellis, New Bedford to Charles Boult, Osterville. Informs him that J. Segee’s widow married Elmer Barnes and all Prince papers destroyed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fl Dr 33</td>
<td>10.25.1880 From Mary Jenney, New Bedford, to Charles Boult and Betsy Lovell. Copy of article requesting contact from heirs of the Prince family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fl Dr 34</td>
<td>2.14.1881 From Sarah Barnes (formerly Segee) to Charles Boult. Sending paper with additional information on Mercy Ellis line back to Elizabeth Prince</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BOX 2

Fldr 35  2.19.1881 From Mrs. Barnes formerly Segee. Thomas Prince info

Fldr 36  2.23.1881 From Mrs. Howard Lovell. Copy of notes re unsuccessful efforts to communicate with Humphrey

Fldr 37  5.2.1881 From Sara Barnes to Charles Boul. No word from Humphreys. Has letter written in 1764.

Fldr 38  5.25.1883 From Edw. Humphreys to C.W. Boul. Expects to leave England for Holland and return home in July.

Fldr 39  5.29.1883 to Charles W. Boul Trip to Holland to see Rev. Prince, 102, and last will and testament of James Prince


Fldr 42  7.1.1883 From Jess Noble Wing to Charles Boul. Note stating their family’s interest in the Prince property claim.

Fldr 43  7.17.1883 From J.N. Wing to Capt. Charles Boul. Surprised that C.B. was not aware of their branch of the Prince family.

Fldr 44  7.27.1883 From Elmer Barnes, Wareham to Charles Boul Osterville. Surprised that letter gave names of her sister’s children as claimants as she does not feel they are nearest living relatives.


Fldr 46  9.29.1883 From Sarah S. Barnes, Wareham, to Charles Boul, Osterville. As she is in poor health she would like a list of heirs to determine if meeting could be in Wareham.

Fldr 47  10.2.1883 From N.L. Ellis to Capt. Charles Boul requesting details for proposed meeting of heirs at Mrs. Barnes’ in Wareham with Humphreys.
10.2.1883 from F. H. Leonard of Brookline to Capt. C.W. Boult of Osterville. Willing to share in Humphrey’s expenses. States his mother is sister to J. N. Wing.

10.21.1883 From Mrs. Tamaleir Leonard, Brookline, to Capt. Charles Boult, Osterville. Request for info to be sent to her and list of 4 heirs.

11.1883 From Edw. Humphreys to C. W. Boult. Suggested contract language for an agreement re Prince clan.

11.8.1883 From Charles Boult to John P. Lovell. Copy suggesting acceptance of Humphrey’s terms and services.


11.10.1883 From Sarah S. Barnes to Charles Boult, asking for any new info.

From Mrs. J. N. Newell, Caribou, Boulder City, CO to Capt. Boult. Interest in pursuing search with Humphreys. James Segee was her Uncle. Mrs. Leonard is her sister.

11.16.1883 From Nathan Ellis, New Bedford to Capt. Boult. States lawyer he has spoken to says Humphreys is a fraud and they should disassociate themselves from him.


1.7.1884 From W.L. Ellis, S.L. Boult, and C.L. Boult to E.B. Humphreys, NY. Declination of services.

1.7.1884 From N.L. Ellis to Capt. Charles Boult. Expressing dissatisfaction with Mr. Humphreys.

2.2.1884 From Sarah Barnes to Charles Boult. Reiterates dissatisfaction with Humphreys.
11.15.1885 From Nathan Ellis to Capt. C.W. Boult.
Meeting in New Bedford proposed. Reflections on
Humphrey’s visit.