

## Sturgis Library Archives

### MS. 187

### E. L. Jerauld Correspondence, 1875-1886

**Extent:** 1 clamshell box

**Scope and Content Note:** The collection consists of 30 letters written by E. (Ensign) L. Jerauld of East Harwich, MA, Captain of the schooner *Racine*, to the ship owners Edward F. and Charles W. Potter of Dartmouth, MA. These letters are an important chronicle of cod fishing on the Grand Banks in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Includes information on overseeing the Potters' interest on Cape Cod (properties and cranberries), buying bait for voyages, outfitting voyages, repairing the ship, hiring crews, etc. Also describes the plight of the "poor fisherman" and the demise of the codfish industry, finally selling the decrepit *Racine* for \$125.

Also included in the collection are labels for "Cap't. J." brand fish and three advertising cards for fish and seafood wholesalers.

**Biographical and historical information:** Ensign L. Jerauld, born in 1834, was a son of James and Olive (Eldridge) Jerauld, and grandson of James and Hannah (Cash) Jerauld. Mr. Jerauld was engaged in the Cape Cod fishing industry, beginning in 1845. He was the face of the "Cap't. J." brand of fish. He was married, in 1857, to Keziah N., daughter of Isaac and Bethia (Nickerson) Bearse. They had six children: Wilbert H., Myra E., E. Curtis, Ellen K., Oliver D. and Ermond G.

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**Acquisition:** Purchased from Swann Galleries, New York, 2022.

**Processed by:** Lucy Loomis, December, 2022.

#### **Related collections:**

MS. 102 – Jerauld family collection 1930-2012

MS. 165 -- Jerauld, Thayer, and Trayser collection

#### **CONTENTS:**

- FLDR 1
- 2 "Cap't J." brand advertising cards
  - 3 wholesale commission fish dealer advertising cards
    - The High Stoker Company
    - N. S. Gates Warner Prankard Co., Inc.
    - Chesebro Brothers

FLDR 2 E. L. Jerauld letters, 1875-1886

- Dec 12, 1875
- Dec 27, 1875
- Dec 6, 1878
- Jan 22, 1879
- Feb 3, 1879
- Mar 4, 1879
- Mar 14, 1879 (?)
- Mar 20, 1879
- Mar 24, 1879
- Jun 2, 1879
- Sep 3, 1879
- Oct 13, 1879
- Nov 14, 1879
- Dec 27, 1879
- Aug 27, 1880
- Jun 5, 1881
- Jan 23, 1882
- Feb 22, 1882
- Feb 24, 1882
- Apr 21, 1882
- Apr 28, 1882
- Jun 10, 1882
- Oct 11, 1882
- Nov 21, 1882
- Dec 18, 1882
- Feb 19, 1882
- Apr 23, 1883
- Dec 18, 1883
- Jan 20, 1885
- Feb 3, 1885
- Jul 8, 1885
- Aug 11, 1885
- Mar 5, 1886
- Apr 12, 1886