Signed, Sealed & delivered in province of war 14 on Daub The Bartlett Papers presented to the Eliot Historical Society June 1, 2015

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A. G. 1817.

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In Withour whereof I have hereunto set my Hand Seal this twenty seem day of February 164 101

by Laura Burnham and Rolfe Voltaire

LAURA BURNHAM Derry, New Hampshire

Laura Burnham is a direct descendant of the Bartletts of Eliot, Maine, and has devoted over forty years to researching her entire family tree. She was employed as the Assistant Librarian at Pinkerton Academy for thirtyseven years before retiring in 2013. She is a long-time member of the Robert Frost Homestead Board of Trustees and has served on its Executive Committee for nearly twenty years. Laura and her husband live in Derry, NH and are the parents of three grown children and grandparents of four wonderful grandchildren.

ROLFE VOLTAIRE Nottingham, New Hampshire

Rolfe Voltaire has taught Architecture and Design at Pinkerton Academy in Derry, New Hampshire for 30 years. In 1976, Rolfe purchased Griffin Hardware in Newmarket, New Hampshire with W. David Halloran. Rolfe sold his interest in the business in 1982 to pursue a career in teaching and moved to neighboring Newfields a few years later. During and following his tenure at the hardware store, Rolfe was a member of the Newmarket Planning Board, was the Building Inspector for four years and was a founding member of the Newmarket Development Corporation, dedicated to revitalizing the old mill town.



GRIFFIN HARDWARE Newmarket, New Hampshire c. Early 20th century

The Griffin family owned and operated the business from the early 1890s until 1952. Judge James Bartlett Griffin was the last remaining Griffin family member to operate the hardware business. In addition to running the hardware business, he sold insurance, was a member of the Newmarket School Board and was a local district court judge for many years.

The Bartlett family papers were found in a badly burned wooden crate on the third story of the barn located on the property of Griffin Hardware. It had survived an early 20th century fire that nearly destroyed the barn along with the hardware store and the 14-room luxury apartment above the storefront.

While sitting next to each other at a Pinkerton Academy staff meeting about 15 years ago, Laura mentioned that she had recently visited the New England Historic Genealogy Society in Boston researching her family lineage. When she told Rolfe that her family name she was researching was the Bartletts from Maine, Rolfe told Laura that he had a charred wooden box of old letters, deeds and receipts dating back a couple of hundred year that might interest her. The rest is history. The documents had been written and saved through the ages by Laura's ancestors.

General description of the Voltaire Collection:

The Bartlett Papers

This collection of primary documents date from the 1770s through the early 1900s. Beginning with the division of land from the estate of John Heard in 1751, the historical record of the Bartlett family unfolds across several centuries ending with tax receipts dated June 1, 1918 in the names of Sylvester and James W. Bartlett (Webster Lot in South Berwick, Maine). Over the years, these precious documents were...for the most part...lovingly preserved, stored and passed down from generation to generation of Bartlett family members ending with Judge James Bartlett Griffin, their the last known family custodian.

There are several miscellaneous materials such as "The Valuation List of the Second Part of Kittery" (1791) and "Legislative Acts" (1759) contained with the other papers, but the majority of original documents in the Voltaire Collection are the handwritten wills, estate inventories, land deeds, receipts, business transactions, and personal correspondence of several generations of the Bartlett family members descended from Nathan and Shuah (Heard) Bartlett of Eliot Maine.

The documents in this collection can be evaluated in three ways...as a genealogical record of the Bartlett family, as an historical record of an era in Eliot/Kittery, but most importantly, as a social portrait of early American life in New England from a very personal and sometimes intimate perspective.

Dr. Hall Jackson (1739-1797), the man responsible for the introduction of digitalis into America, was well-known in New England as both physician and patriot. A prominent Portsmouth, New Hampshire physician, Dr. Jackson gained a reputation as an accomplished surgeon and innovative practitioner.

In September of 1783, Dr. Jackson wrote a request for payment for services rendered to Nathan Bartlett (1737-1775) addressed to his widow, Sarah (Shapleigh) Bartlett. On January 25, 1790, Dr. Jackson issues a hand-written receipt to Sarah Bartlett for payment in full of all accounts.

Laura Burnham June 1, 2015

99

Request for payment From: Dr. Hall Jackson Widow of Nathan Bartlet late of Kittery

Portsmouth Sep: 9th 1783

In the course of more than twenty years Practice, necessity has obliged me to open an innumerable number of small Accounts. These accounts considered collec--tively amount to a very considerable sum. but separately are of little value, and would not defray the expense of repeated appli--cations to each Person: I am under an absolute necessity of closing my old books and beginning a new sett: I have therefore engaged a Person to write to every one without exception, who have been indebt--ed to me more than months, earnestly requesting them to discharge the same immediately, if convenient, if not, that they would give their Note payable in three, six, or twelve months, as they pledge. Those who are regardless of this very necessary and reasonable request, will loose the opportunity of setteling their Accounts personally with their humb: servt [humble servant] Hall Jackson

· Contronouth Januar Buit Bartle Admanatoration to the her late tate of Ansband Nathand Deceased 718.16 1200 Shilling! Lacotul and money it. being to much due to an raid hustand fallo no el accounts & dema a 2 Eital mo for his due to ull.

Handwritten letter From: Pastor Alvra Hatch To: Nathan Bartlett, East Eliot Dated: November 11, 1850 light blue paper

East Wilton

Nov 11th 1850th

Dear Brother Bartlett

I believe we promised to write you after we got onto our circuit, and were settled. Consequently I suppose you have long been looking for a line from us. Well I have concluded, while we are away from home, on a visit, with a borrowed and very poor pen to fulfill my promise.

I was quite sick that night after I left your house - but went the next day to Biddeford - and Wednesday to Portland. - Wife and children got to P. [Portland] about noon that day after leaving your house. They had a terrible hot time of it in the cars, and Mrs. H. declared she had rather ride in my carriage than in the cars, if it took her a month to go. We rode that afternoon to Durham - the next day to Livermore - Friday about noon we got to Wilton. The children stood the journey much better than we had expected they would. At present we are all pretty well - though we all have had a very bad cough this fall, - the children are hardly over it yet. The babe has been quite sick - is better now - we could not tell what was the matter with her - as soon as her mother weaned her, she began to pine away and has become very poor. Emma has been quite unwell - but is well now. She says tell Aunt Bartlett, when mother goes to Lowell she is coming up to stay with her and be vaccinated - She sends her a KISS

Wife says she has so much she wants to say she can hardly begin to say anything - but she wants to see you all very much. If she had wings she would very soon light down in Eliot. - But we soon hope to meet to part no more.

My circuit is large and hard to travel - I have three sabbath appointments, - half of the time at Wilton upper village - quarter at the Lower village and a quarter in Temple. As to the country, it is all up hill and down. The people are very kind, not much of the life and power of religion. The church is low, and but little struggling for salvation. O that the Lord would revive his work and convert sinners. My own souls [soul's] prosperity has for the most part been good - bless the Lord. The Lord being my helper I shall serve him, though the world should fall. - Now I hope you are all getting on well in the service of the Lord. Tell Sylvester, James and Justin, Lucinder, Elizabeth, and Sarah we want to hear that they are prospering in the work of the Lord and the way to heaven.

I was <u>up</u> to brother Kennisons four weeks ago. They were then all

well - want you to visit them very much. Sister K. is a real talker, made me feel at home first rate, while I was there.

This is a fine farming country - crops generally pretty good - some failures in wheat - and in some places potatoes rot very badly - but hay enough, and cheap from four to six dollars in haying time, and from six to eight afterwards. Butter 12 1/2 cents - potatoes 25. Apples 17 cents. Wood from one to two and a half, all propercut for the stove - but still I had rather be west.

You must remember us to all our old friends and enemies if we have any in Eliot.

There is one subject I want to speak a word about viz. the late Fugitive Slave Bill so called. Its match I think in our country cannot be found, It is one of the most infamous, hateful, abominable, anti-christian, imscriptual, despotic, tyrannical, devil-daring, God defying, and heaven provoking concoctions that ever eminated from the bottomless pit of the devils den. In my humble opinion it is perfectly unconstitutional as it is wicked and I do not think there is depravity enough in man to make it more wicked than it now is. I feel solemnly and sacredly bound to disregard and dispise it. I do, I must, I will violate it, break and trample it under foot every opportunity my righteous God gives me. I know our help is from God, and we must humble ourselves before him and seek his pardoning mercy. The Lord pity us.

Write me immediately on the receipt of this - tell all the boys and girls we should be glad to have a letter from them. Affectionately yours. Alvra Hatch

If the society in Eliot have bought the bed-stead we left there in the parsonage house, just say brother Tine he may put the money in your hands, and I will give you direction what to do with it the next time I write you. If it is not sold, I think it must be soon or I shall have it moved.

Well girls how does that rose bush look? We wish we would have it here, we should think a great deal of it. I dont think it is hardly fare we should single out for so many long moves. Still it is what we cannot well help so long as we belong to the itinerancy. Perhaps we shant always be in these traces. But hitherto the Lord has helped us and I expect he still will if we are faithful.

There are but few circuits or stations so well able to support preaching as Eliot - and it certainly [is] a great shame they should require methodist preachers to pay from \$75, to \$1500.00 a year to support preaching in the places. My view is, God wont always require it of preachers - wither the people must do differently, or they must do without the gospel. For if god takes care for oxen - certainly the laborer is worthy of his hire. Will the Lord suffer such an increase of goods - and make church paupers of his servants? But I do not complain - for I have learned how to be in want, if not to abound. I have never yet starved or frose -Bless the Lord. Amen FUGITIVE SLAVE ACTS, a series of local, state, and federal acts intended to discourage runaways

among slaves, to punish those who harbored such persons, and to make possible the recovery by slaveowners of their slave property. Such laws existed in colonial America and had predecessors in acts requiring magistrates to recover runaway indentured servants by armed force and increasing the time a fugitive was required to serve. The development of the American slave system is reflected in the evolution of these laws.

In 1672 legislation in Virginia authorized killing a runaway who resisted arrest and public payment of his value. A similar law existed in Maryland. In North Carolina by an act of 1715 a person swearing he had killed a fugitive in self-defense while apprehending him was not held accountable. Persons harboring fugitives were required to make payments to owners. An act of 1741 rewarded persons who captured a runaway and increased the fine on harborers.

⁷ Emancipation in the northern colonies and the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 rendered the status of fugitive slaves in free territory a problem. The ordinance did recognize the right of owners to reclaim slaves, and the Constitution provided similar support for slaveowners.

Under the Constitution, Congress passed two major pieces of legislation concerning runaway slaves—the Fugitive Slave acts of 1793 and 1850. The act of 1793 authorized the claimant or his agent to arrest runaways in any state or territory and to prove orally or by affidavit before a magistrate that the fugitive owed service. Thereupon the magistrate issued a certificate to the applicant for removing the fugitive to the state or territory from which he had fled. Any person knowingly harboring a fugitive or obstructing his arrest was liable to a \$500 fine for each offense.

The Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 was part of the Compromise of 1850. It was intended to supplant the law of 1793, which had proved to be ineffective in halting runaways or suppressing aid given to them. The new law added U.S. commissioners to the usual courts to issue warrants for the arrest of fugitives and certificates for their removal from the state. The claimant's affidavit was all that was necessary to establish ownership, making the enslavement of free blacks possible and likely. Once arrested, an alleged fugitive was taken before a commissioner, who determined the matter summarily. Citizens were required to assist in carrying out the law. Anyone harboring, concealing, or rescuing a fugitive was liable to a fine of \$1,000, six months' imprisonment, and civil damages of \$1,000 for each runaway with whom he was involved. A U.S. marshal or any of his deputies refusing to execute a warrant for the arrest of an alleged fugitive was subject to a \$1,000 fine and civil damages. A commissioner received \$10 for issuing a warrant but only \$5 for discharging a person of being a runaway; thus, it was financially beneficial to find in favor of a person claiming to be an owner.

The result of the 1850 law was a period of slave hunting and kidnapping of free men and women, movement of blacks from free states to Canada, and increased activity by the underground railroad. The situation regarding fugitives was one of the slaverelated issues that increased tensions throughout the 1850's and helped to bring on the Civil War.

> [Stanley W. Campbell, The Slave Catchers.] HENRY N. DREWRY

Stair, a Step

Stead, a Place

Steed, a Horse

Stile, to go over

Stear, a young Bullock

Steer, to guide a ship

Page SIX

Settlement of the Estate of Capt. Nathan Bartlett⁷ (John³ Richard² Richard) Shuah (Heard) Bartlett's share.

"Articles set off to the Widow for	or her Thirds April 16th 1776		
To a bed 3, 10. 0. 1 Coverlid 12/. 2 Quilts 12/. 2 Blankets 12/.			
Suit of curtains 60/. 4 pair sheets 60/ round Oak table 9/			
Tea table 5/. pair hand Irons 10/. 8 pillow cases 9/. chest drawyers			
a looking glass 80/. Shovel & Tongs 5/. 1 pine desk 9/. 1 Trammel 2/.			
brass ladle 3/. flesh fork 6d [doz.] box & heaters 6/. bed pan 6/.			
Round Great Chair & pan 10/. one Cow 66/. D. 8.5.0.			
Six small & one Great Chair 10	5/. 6 patty pans. 2/.		
Old Pewter 73 lbs. 23/.			
& baking pans 4/6 Iron pot 4/. Skillet 2/6 frying pan 9/.			
Small grass shead 15/. 2 buckets 5/. Wheelers 3/.			
2 Churns 5/6 trays 13/6			
		33. 3. 6	
Reverse:		00.0.0	
Sole, of a fish	Style, to way of Writing		
Soul, of a man	Stood, did stand	<i></i>	
Some, a part	Study, an Embossment		
Sum, the whole	Streight, not crooked		
Son, a Male Child	Strait, a narrow		
Sun, in the Heavens	Succour, Help		
Soon, quickly	Sucker, a young Twig		
Swoon, to Fainting	Sue, to make Suit		
Sore, an Ulcer	Sew, with a needle		
Soar, to mount upward	Sound, a Noise		
Sword, a Weapon	To swoon, to faint		
Stare, to look earnestly	Tail, the End		

LB note: This is one of the most interesting pieces in the Voltaire Collection in my opinion. Firstly, it is an important document listing the items assigned to Shuah Bartlet as Nathan's surviving widow.

Tail, a Story

Tame, not Wild

Thame, a Town

Tare, did Tear

Tare, weight allow'd

Tear, to rend in Pieces

The paper has been folded and is stuck together but a small portion peeled off reveals that the inside contains evidence that someone, most likely a child, was learning to write the alphabet in the cursive style and practicing how various letters should be properly connected together. Shown are the following combinations: $cu \ cy$ da obviously written first by the teacher and then under each perfectly made pair of letters, a practice version made by the student. When held up to a light, the lesson is as follows and repeats down the page: Ba be bi bo bu by ca ce ci co cu cy da.

Thirdly, the reverse of this page contains a meticulously scribed lesson in homophones. It is my opinion that the teacher here was John Heard Bartlett, who was a teacher in Kittery after graduating from Harvard and who was also the Executor of his father Nathan Bartlett's will in April of 1776. The spelling and penmanship also indicate that the document was penned by a highly educated individual. It is also my conclusion that the document listing the Widow's share subsequently being used in the above cited ways indicates to me that paper in 1776 was quite a precious thing and that my forbearers obviously believed that no portion of a page should be wasted regardless of the information therein contained.

Bartlett Papers Page SEVEN

Widow's thirds - settlement of the estate of Captain Nathan Barttlett Shuah (Heard) Bartlett's Share

articles Set off to the Will for her whinds of the ogibto abod 3.10 0. Moverlid nf. 2 Such 121. Ablanhet 12/ . . . 5. 6.0 Suit of Curtains bof Apair theels bof round out Sable of - 6, 9.0 Suit of Curtains both Apairs hoods toop round onk crown of 0.9.0 Jea table 31. pair hand from 10% pillow cases of cherd town st 1 10.2 tooking year of Shood Gronger To pine dest of them? A 200.0 brak ladle 31 flash fork 6? box Oh ators 61. box pan 61. 0.16.6 Pound Great Chair Open 10% one Cons 66/ 1990 8.6.0 19.1.0 Vix small Done Great Chair 16% brall, pans 2% ad person vall 22/ 2.1.0 Value of pans 116 From pol 4! Thillet 2% for frying pan 9% 9.1.0 male way video of 10% the for the for the form of the form of 1.0 1 33.3.6



Bartlett Papers Page EIGHT

Myle, to way of Writing Jole, of a Jush Mood, did sland Soul, of a man Study an Imbo fiment Some, apart Streight, not crooked Sum, the whole Strait, norow Son, a. Male thild Juccour, Helje Jun, in the Heavens. Joon, quickly Jucker, a young Jurg Joon Swoon, to fainling Jus, to make Suit Jer an Illeer Sur, with a needle Tour, to mount upward Jound, a Maife Sword, a Heapon To fwoon, to faint Stare, to look carnestly Jail, the End Stair, a Stop Jale, a Story Stead, a Place Same, not wild Seed, a Horfe Thame, a Town Stear, a young mullock Sarc, weight allow? Stear, to quide a Ship Jear, to rend in Ries Stile, to go over Jave, did Jear

Voltaire Collection Handwritten Essays by Daniel Goodwin

"		1	Vo. 2	2				
			-					
	1	On Female Education						
		No. of Concession, Name	-					
	By		D		G			
			-					

Education ought ever to be considered by all persons, to be of the greatest consequence to both sexes. While the Education of the males has been attended to with the greatest care that of the females has in a great measure been neglected as being considered of little or no consequence. Who doubts but the female mind is as capable of receiving instru= tion [sic] as that of the males. But if it is negl= ected and remains uncultivated, its intrinsic qualities will never be discovered. What better expedient will will [sic] parents find than to fill the minds of their daughters with such a fund of useful knowledge as "

Reverse:

"and therefore we should be incapable of doing business by signs or certain modus of expression and with the tongue we can converse and explain our wishes to one another in an intell= =igent manner so as to be able to be understood by the one we speak to and can do business with dispatch & accuracy. And without the tongue we can do nothing by signs. One would suppose that such an organ of speech and of so great importance to the body as the tongue that it would be continually employed in praising him who formed it, but it is the reverse. From that same thing come forth praises and curses. The longer is an unruly member full of deadly poison which cor= =rups the soul and sets one part against the other and ferments confusion between the soul and body which cannot be tamed. but you can tame the fowls of the air the fishes of the sea and all the creeping things on the face of the Earth but the Tongue no man can tame. Farewell

L.B. Note: The initials under the title of these essays and a comparison of the writing on this page with that in letters penned by Daniel Goodwin indicate to me that this is indeed his work. Each essay, the 1st on female education, the 2nd on the tongue, is incomplete leading me to speculate that the remaining passages on these subjects were written on the right hand side of this page and sometime in the past decade, severed from this original and lost. Daniel A. Goodwin graduated from Berwick Academy in 1837.

VOLTAIRE COLLECTION

Handwritten inventory of belongings of Nathan Bartlett willed to grandson James Bartlett

Back of document titled
"Acct. of Things
delivered to Dependence
Shapleigh This
Receipt for James Bart[let]."
*signed repeatedly as if practice signatures by Louis and James
Bartlett
also Jn Hill (John Hill)

		LS	
James	pewter 71b	1. 5.	6.
	ander & Coffpot 1/.		0
	Iron Kittles 7/.		4
	bs 5/6 meat cask 3/.	.0. 9.	6
	rrel tub & urndlet 9/		
	r & pillows & bedstead		0
	spindle 8/		0
	brass candlestick 3/.		0
	yard] 3/. 1 garter loom		0
	d 1/3 Walnut Table 24/.	1. 5.	
	plater[s] w D. plates :	13/. 0.17.	0
	6 small earthen bowls	. 0.17.	0
3 porringers & cups 1			
1 basket 1/. 6 broken		. 0. 7.	0
		15. 2.	5
old bottle cask 1/. c	thees press 1/6	0. 2.	
pine table 1/6 14 bus	-	. 2. 3.	
warming pan 3/. cover		. 0.12.	
Cattle Sheep & Swine		.17. 9.	

32. 9.11

Kittery April 17th 1776

Rec. of John Heard Bartlet Executor to the testament of his father Capt Nathan Bartlet deceas'd the above aticles amounting to the sum of thirty-two pounds nine shillings and eleven pence Lawful money as Guardian for James Bartlet Grandson and one of the Heirs of the Said deceas'd which I promise to pay on de mand as often and so fast as claims on the Estate shall arise, or charges in Settling said Estate shall require as Witness my hand_____

L 32. 9.11

Dependence Shapleigh

Bartlett Papers Page ELEVEN

Vames bouter plat 1.5.6. tin Lanthorn 3/ Clend & fypol 1/ . O . 1.0 Anives & forks 5 14. 2 Sron hilles 7/ . 0. 12. 11 for your 1/ tuby 5/6 meat cash 2/ 0.9.0 toashittle of Moybar tuboundletigh 0.11.0 bod underled bolfler & pillow Pheasted 3.10.0 case draw 100/ 15 pint 8/ .. 5.3.0 a pair hellows Asp. brak candlestich 3%. 0.70 gittle Stilyard of I Garle vloom of 0.4.0 shop I hinife & Mooleurd, 1/3 Walnut Lable 24/ 4 printury 4/. Idelf plates 10 Deplates 13/ 1.5.3 2 small delf bouch 1/6 wmall earthen low of 0. 6.10 3 porringer Huger 1/10 a december 8/6 16affact 1/. 6 broken Chain 6/. foot 0.7.0 1.5.2.5 old bottle case if thees prop ifb 0.2.6 mie table 1/6 121 bufht com 42/ . -2.3.6 Warming pan of coverlid gf. 0.12.0 Cattle Sheep Drivine . 11.9.0 32.9.11 Thiltery apt of the orthe The of John Hourd Prortlet Executor to the tellan of his father laget Sathan Bartlet deceard the above articles amounting to theserm of Thirty the pounds nine thillings and eleven pence Lawful money as Guardian for James Prartlet Grandson and one of the leirs of the said ducasd which I promise to pay on de -mound as often and so fast as claimes or dimands on the latale shall arise, or charges in Settling said Estate shall require as Witness my hand Dependence Thanleigh 32.9.1.

87

Handwritten Document

To the Overseers of the Poor of the Town of Lebanon. Gentlemen, This is to notify you that the late James Dore and Family; Inhabitants of your Town, have been chargeable to the Town of Eliot at four Dollars per Week in his Last Sickness, and we shall continue to charge two Dollars per Week for his Family untill you remove the Same. Doctor's Bill not included. Signed Aza Allen May 7.th D. 1812. Eliot, Samuel Leighton per order of John Hammond Overseers of the Poor of Eliot



The documents in this booklet have been compiled and presented by Laura Burnham from a collection of Bartlett family papers donated to the Eliot Historical Society by Rolfe Voltaire on June 1, 2015.