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Artifacts Collection

Title: Roger Brooke Taney Miniature Portrait, c.1840

Artifact/Collection Number: AC 00285

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1003-63

DICKINSON COLLEGE
LIBRARIAN'S OFFICE
CARLISLE - PENNSYLVANIA

July 13, 1959

Boyd Lee Spahr, Esq.,
"Sea Ledges,"
Manset, Maine.

Dear Mr. Spahr:

I was very happy to find your letter here on returning from a few days of work in Philadelphia. I am trying hard to finish my Franklin-portraits book this summer - or at least get it within sight of completion - and am going up to Yale for the purpose at the end of this week. Your note on the new Conway letter came this morning. I have sent the memo on it to Dr. Malcolm, and shall await its arrival with much interest. The Mr. Brown to whom Conway writes is probably Alexander Brown, author of The Genesis of the United States, published in 1891.

The miniature of Taney offered us by Miss Helena L. Pinkney of Washington (with an "assist" from her friend, Miss Mary Mason Lee) has also just arrived. It is on ivory, a charming, original life portrait, painted I should say, 1840-45, and I very much hope that you can give it to us. I shall have it photographed for you. It comes in a daguerreotype case obviously not meant for it, since there is an original daguerreotype of someone else underneath. It was given to Taney by Marian Campbell, who later married Samuel Laurence Gouverneur, Jr. She must have been a daughter of James M_ason Campbell, the Baltimore lawyer who was Taney's favorite son-in-law. I shall try to get from the ladies further details on the family history, as our biographies of Taney are not very helpful. Miss Pinkney is asking \$150.00 for the miniature, which seems to me a very reasonable price.

As for the Wayne material about which I wrote you, the Hirschl and Adler Gallery is sending us (this is my fee for expertising the portrait) some school books from the Wayne attic, possibly Isaac Wayne's, and photostats or microfilm of the old War Department letter books.

In the meantime, all goes well in the Library as a whole - though we have suffered from the long illness of Art Kahler's son, and our clerical assistant of several years' standing, Nell Barr, has been taken very seriously ill, and will probably not return to library work. A young fellow has come as an assistant to Arthur Flandreau in the Reference Department. We are expecting four ranges of steel stack which will enable us to enlarge the Reference Room, and to bring down important runs of periodicals now stored in the attic. One eye still, of course of the ex-Chapel.

Yours, as ever,

Charles S. Allen

DICKINSON COLLEGE
CARLISLE - PENNSYLVANIA
LIBRARIAN'S OFFICE

Paper from back of Taney miniature :

Judge Taney given me

by him

MCG

Frederick

*Judge Taney given me
by him. MCG
Frederick*

[Blank paper strip]

Samuel L. Gouverneur, Sr.,

m. (1) Hester Maria Monroe,
daugh. of James Monroe

(2) Mary Digges Lee, of
Frederick, Co., Md.

Samuel L. Gouverneur, Sr.,

m. Mariah Campbell daugh. of
James C., of New York. -

July 29, 1959

Miss Helena L. Pinkney,
The Monmouth,
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Miss Pinkney:

I was happy to find your letter here on my return, and also one from our Dickinsoniana Collection's "angel," agreeing to make us a gift of the miniature. A check will be going to you shortly.

We do not have a copy of "As I Remember," and are sending for one. It would be very interesting to learn just what the Taney-Campbell connection was - just what sort of personal association inspired the gift of the little picture to Marian Campbell. If you should find anything more, do, please, let us know of it.

Very sincerely yours,

Charles Coleman Sellers

July 29, 1959

Miss Helena L. Pinkney,
Apt. 401, The Monmouth,
1819 G Street, N.W.,
Washington 6, D. C.

In account with Dickinson College,
Dickinsoniana Collection,
Carlisle, Pa.

Miniature portrait of R. B. Taney

\$150.00

As I Remember; recollections of Amer. Society during
the 19th Century. N.Y. & L. Appleton - (1911)

Mrs Merion Campbell Gouverneur
Amer. Memories. Boston 33; 243-5
Dec. 1911

Apt. #401. The Monmouth
1819 of Street. h.w
Washington 6. D.C
July 18th 1959

Dr Charles E. Sellers
Dickinson College
Carlisle. Penn.

Dear Dr Sellers: _____

Thank you for your letter of the
13th last.

Merion Campbell (1881-1914) was
the daughter of Seneca Judge James Campbell
of New York. and grand-daughter of Judge
Manuel Campbell of New York. Her
remembrances, "As I Remember," were
published by Appleton & Company in
1911. As far as I can find out there
is no connection with the Campbells
of Baltimore.

When I find further information I will
send it to you.

Sincerely yours.

Hatzua d. Rubiny

"SEA LEDGES"
SHORE ROAD
MANSET, MAINE

7/20/59

Dear Charlie

I did not answer
sooner your letter of the 15th
just as you said in it that you
were going to Yale later last
week and may not even now
be back at Caribou, but probably
will be by the time you receive
this. Our mails are strangely
irregular here. We usually
get the Sunday papers - Phila
and N.Y. - on Monday, but some
times on Tuesday, and then on
Tuesday or Wednesday the papers
for the preceding Friday or
Saturday will come. Little-
wise note letters.

I hope that you do get your
Franklin - portraits book finished
this summer. No doubt your
New Haven visit will include
seeing Whit. Dr Edgel, for
reasons I cannot relay to him -
I've never filled my chair
after Whit left. Perhaps he
was waiting for Wing's return -
and, although the latter has an
Endowed chair.

I enclose a cheque for
\$150 for the Tansy window fund.
From what you say, we should
love it. Please tell Edgel but

Keep your eye on the ex-
chapel. I intend to take this
up with the Allston Church people
when the pro-Edgel and anti-
Edgel feeling has died down
yours
S.S.

As I Remember. Recollections of American Society during
the Nineteenth Century. N.Y. & L. (Appleton), 1911.

Ded. to father, Judge James Campbell, "whose benign
influence I still feel," and to husband, Samuel L.
Gouverneur, Jr., "The companion and pillar of strength
of my later years."

Harriet - 1855.

W.C.W.O.

The Mount
1819 of A. H. W.
Washington 6. D. C.
August 24th 1959

Year Tr Sellers: _____

Thank you for the check for
the Teney min intere, which would
have been acknowledged ere this but
for my absence for the city.

I am glad the little portrait
has found a home at Dickinson
College.

Sincerely yours
Helena L. Timney

July 13, 1959

Miss Helena L. Pinkney,
1819 G Street, N. W.,
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Miss Pinkney:

The miniature has arrived safely. I am quite charmed with it, and hope very much that we can purchase. We have already two portraits of Taney, but both of advanced age, and this one is interesting also because of the family association.

If it would not be too much trouble, I would be very grateful for some additional names and dates. Was Marian Campbell a daughter of James Mason Campbell, of Baltimore, the Taney son-in-law? Anything on the family background would be interesting - the biographies are so preoccupied with affairs of the law, that one can learn very little of this other side from them.

Our Taney enthusiast is in Maine, but I can expect to hear from him in about a week, and shall get in touch with you at once.

Sincerely yours,

Charles Coleman Sellers

June 24, 1959

Miss Helena L. Pinkney,
Apt. 401, 1819 G Street, N.W.,
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Miss Pinkney:

I have just returned from a brief absence to find Miss Lee's letter on the miniature of Roger B. Taney.

We have a collection of Taney letters here and, while we already have an oil portrait, I believe this miniature might be an interesting addition also.

Can you send it here on approval, and let me know the price? My part will then be to find a donor, but I can give you a decision, I think, within about ten days. It should be well wrapped, and sent by insured or registered mail.

Sincerely yours,

Charles Coleman Sellers

of Mrs Helena L. Pinkney

Apt 401 - 1819 Q. St. N. W.

Washington D. C.

June 14. 1959

Librarian

Dickinson College

Carlisle Penn.

Dear Sir:

For your consideration & soon to be offered at private sale here is a charming miniature on ivory of Justice Roger B. Taney (1777-1864). This oil portrait is approx $2\frac{1}{2} \times 3$ in a daquerro-type frame approx $2\frac{1}{2} \times 2$, and is by an unknown artist. It shows the Justice as a young man. On the back is written "Judge Taney to 'H. C.'" It was given to Maria Campbell by the Judge. She married Samuel Lawrence Gouverneur, Sr. James Munroe only grandson.

For particulars, please reply to

of Mrs Helen S. Pinkney
Oct 401-1819
Miss Helera Pinkney, who will have
charge of this matter.

Very truly yours
Richardson

(Miss) Mary Cass Lee

to your committee
offer of private sale has a
clearing committee on way of
Prop. B. Town 177-184. This oil
part is approx 3 in a bag
from approx 2 1/2 x 2, and is by an
unknown extent. It shows the
a good way. On the back is water
Town to M. G. It was given to
samples of the bags. The
General Business Government, Dr. Jones
numbers only 184000.
for particulars, please refer *

The Mount
1819 of St. U. W.
Washington G. D. C.
July 10th 1959

Dr Charles E. Sellers
Dickinson College
Caniside. Penn.

Dear Dr Sellers:

Thank you for your letter of June 24th which
would have been answered ere this but for
my absence from the city.

The miniature of Justice Taney has been
forwarded to you. On the back of the
miniature is written - "Judge Taney - M.C.F."
It was given by Judge Taney to Maria
Campbell, who married Samuel Gouverneur,
only grandson of James Monroe. It is
privately owned, and has never been
offered for sale before. The price is

One hundred & fifty (\$150⁰⁰) Dollars.

I trust you will find a dozen. It would
be so nice to have the miniature with
the Toney letters & portrait.

Sincerely yours
(Miss) Helene A. Toney

Smith - 455

James Mamm Campbell - Beth. Lang
m. Anne, eldest daughter

b. 1777
m. 1806

1809

Steiner 44
do Anne Arnold Key P.,
b. 1808 -
m. James Mamm Campbell
Mar 27, 1834.