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Finding Aid For

# **Caroline Salles Lynch Gwinn Collection**

USS Constitution Museum Collection [2309.1]

**Finding Aid**  
**Caroline Salles Lynch Gwinn Collection,**  
**1835-1909**

**Summary Information**

**Title:** Caroline Salles Lynch Gwinn Collection

**Inclusive Dates:** 1835-1909

**Extent:** 1.251 Linear Ft.

**Catalog Number:** 2309.1

**Language of Material:** English

**Repository:** USS Constitution Museum

**Processed by:** Brittany Newberry, 2015

**Access and Use**

**Access Restrictions**

Records are unrestricted.

**Copyright**

Copyright status is unknown.

**Citation**

USS Constitution Museum Collection.

**Acquisitions and Provenance**

The USS Constitution Museum purchased the collection in 2015, along with the writing desk belonging to Caroline Salles Lynch Gwinn (Catalog Number: 2309.2).

**Biographical Sketch**

Caroline Salles Lynch was born in 1803. She married John Gwinn III, then a lieutenant in the United States Navy, on December 22, 1823 at St. Peter's Church in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The couple had four children:

Elizabeth (Lizzie) Bruce; b. abt 1825; d. November 13, 1876

Margaretta Lynch; b. June 11, 1826; d. August 4, 1892

William L.; b. May 29, 1829; d. March 15, 1830

John (Jack); b. September 12, 1836; d. unknown

Elizabeth remained single. Margaretta married Paul Shirley on November 5, 1850. John's marital status is unknown. In 1849, Caroline learned of her husband's death in a letter, dated September 7, from USS *Constitution's* assistant surgeon. Following Captain Gwinn's death, Caroline received a widow's pension of 50 dollars per month.

Caroline died at age 61 on June 1, 1864 and was buried alongside her husband at the Glenwood Cemetery in Philadelphia. In 1931, both John and Caroline's remains were reinterred at Arlington National Cemetery. The Library of Congress also holds a collection of John Gwinn Papers.

### Scope and Content

The Caroline Salles Lynch Gwinn Collection provides insight into the life and household matters of a military family in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Included is a copy of Caroline and John's marriage certificate, correspondence between Caroline, John, and their children; a letter informing Caroline of her husband's death while he was in command of USS *Constitution* in 1849; and photographs, pamphlets, and ephemera.

**Key People:** Caroline Salles Lynch Gwinn, Captain John Gwinn, John (Jack) Gwinn, Elizabeth (Lizzie) B. Gwinn ("EBJ"), Captain Garrett. J. Pendergrast, Sally Norris (Elizabeth Norris Pepper), Mrs. Mary Pepper

### Arrangement

Box 1: Folders 1-53

Box 2: Folders 54-91

Box 3: Folders 92-114

### Folder List

Box	Folder	
1	1	Testimony of the Dead and the Living, n.d.
	2	Political Writings, n.d.
	3	Collection of prose, "Chatterbox," n.d.
	4	Note, n.d.
	5	Letter from unknown to Mrs. Mary Pepper, n.d.
	6	"The Principles Advantages of Banks," n.d.
	7	Letter from unknown to Mrs. Mary Pepper, n.d.
	8	Note from George Morris, n.d.
	9	Letter from Betty to Sally Morris, n.d.
	10	Letter from Betty to Sally Morris, n.d.
	11	Letter from Caroline S. Gwinn to her son, John Gwinn, n.d.
	12	Letter from Caroline S. Gwinn to her son, John Gwinn, n.d.
	13	Letter from John Gwinn to his son, John Gwinn, n.d.
	14	Letter from John Gwinn to his son, John Gwinn, n.d.
	15	Letter from John Gwinn to his son, John Gwinn, n.d.
	16	Letter from Mrs. A. E. Gillingham to Mr. Gwinn, n.d.
	17	Envelope, n.d.
	18	Letter from Captain John Gwinn to Captain Garrett J. Pendergrast, January 19
	19	Letter from Elizabeth B. Gwinn to Mrs. Mary Pepper, February 18
	20	Memorandum, February 27
	21	Letter from John Gwinn to his son, John Gwinn, March 16
	22	Letter from Captain John Gwinn to Captain Garrett J. Pendergrast, March 16
	23	Letter from Caroline S. Gwinn to her son, John Gwinn, May 12
	24	Letter from Caroline S. Gwinn to her son, John Gwinn, May 28

Box	Folder	
	25	Letter from John Gwinn, to his son, John Gwinn, June 1
	26	Letter from Caroline S. Gwinn to her son, John Gwinn, June 9
	27	Letter Elizabeth B. Gwinn to Mrs. Mary Pepper, June 17
	28	Letter from John Gwinn to his son, John Gwinn, June 20
	29	Letter from Elizabeth B. Gwinn to Mary Pepper, June 29
	30	Letter from unknown to Mrs. Henry Pepper, July 12
	31	Letter from John Gwinn to his son, John Gwinn, July 17
	32	Letter from Elizabeth B. Gwinn to Mary Pepper, July 25
	33	Letter from Elizabeth B. Gwinn to Mary Pepper, July 29
	34	Letter from John Gwinn to Captain G.J. Pendergrast, August 5
	35	Letter from (?) N.B. Norris to Sally Pepper, August 6
	36	Letter from Elizabeth B. Gwinn to Mrs. Mary Pepper, August 10
	37	Letter from Elizabeth Norris Pepper to her mother, Mrs. Henry Pepper, August 21
	38	Letter from Hannah Stephenson to Margaretta and Caroline Lynch, August 22
	39	Letter from Elizabeth B. Guinn to Mary Pepper, November 18
	40	Receipt, February 1835
	41	Letter from D.A. Lynch to John Gwinn, June 1836
	42	Note from Dr. DeLancey to Ladies of St. Peter's Church, March 20, 1838
	43	Letter (?) N. B. Norris to Sally Pepper, August 10, 1839
	44	Academy of the Protestant Episcopal Church...Holydays, Commendation of Captain John Gwinn,184-
	45	Letter from Catherine to Sally Norris, February 10, 1841
	46	Testimony of the Friends of Philadelphia for the Western District, October 20, 1841
	47	Letter from John Gwinn to Commander G.J. Pendergrast, March 27, 1843
	48	Letter from Henry Pepper to his wife, October 15, 1845
	49	Letter from Elizabeth B. Gwinn to John (Jack) Gwinn, June 26, 1846
	50	Letter from Anne Stephenson to Caroline S. Gwinn, March 4, 1847
	51	Letter from Anne Stephenson to Caroline S. Gwinn, June 6, 1847
	52	Letter from and to unknown, March 8, 1848
	53	Letter from Captain John Gwinn to his son, John Gwinn, November 12, 1848
2	54	Letter from Captain John Gwinn to his son, John Gwinn, April 21, 1849
	55	Letter from Paul Shirley to Mrs. John Gwinn, August 27, 1849
	56	Letter from Assistant Surgeon P.J. Horwitz to Mrs. Caroline S. Gwinn, September 7, 1849
	57	Letter from Assistant Surgeon P.J. Horwitz to Captain Thomas Hayes, September 7, 1849
	58	Letter from Paul Shirley to Mrs. Gwinn, October 10, 1849
	59	Letter from H.W. Harris to Mrs. Gwinn, October 31, 1849
	60	Certificate of Marriage for John Gwinn and Caroline S. Lynch, November 2, 1849
	61	Letter from H. W. Harris to Mrs. Gwinn, November 8, 1849
	62	Letter from H. W. Harris to Mrs. Gwinn, November 17, 1849
	63	Letter from H. W. Harris to Mrs. Gwinn, January 15, 1850
	64	Letter from Jr. Mills to Mrs. Captain John Gwinn, February 13, 1850
	65	Letter from H. W. Harris to Mrs. Gwinn, March 27, 1850
	66	Letter from the Secretary of the Navy, William Ballard Preston to Dr. Thomas Norris, Chief of the Bureau of Medicine, March 23, 1850
	67	Letter from Elizabeth B. Gwinn to John (Jack) Gwinn, June 6, 1850
	68	Letter from Benj J. Cahoon (?) (BJC) to Mrs. John Gwinn, March 7, 1851
	69	Letter from Benj J. Cahoon (?) (BJC) to Mrs. John Gwinn, March 10, 1851
	70	Letter from Benj J. Cahoon (?) (BJC) to Mrs. John Gwinn, March 21, 1851

Box	Folder	
	71	Letter from Lizzie N.B. to Mrs. Henry Pepper, August 1, 1851
	72	Letter from Henry Pepper to his wife, July 17, 1853
	73	Letter from Caroline S. Gwinn to Elizabeth (Lizzie) B. Gwinn, August 16, 1853
	74	Letter from Henry Pepper to his wife, October 23, 1853
	75	Letter from William Gwinn to his sister, November 3, 1853
	76	Letter from Mary (?) to Lizzie, July 17, 1854
	77	Letter from Henry Pepper to his wife, October 25 & 29, 1854
	78	Auditor Note from Joseph A. Clay to Mrs. Sally N. Pepper, February 8, 1855
	79	Letter from William Gwinn to his sister, April 8, 1855
	80	Letter from Lizzie B. Coleman to her aunt, May 16, 1855
	81	Letter from John Martin Cornell to John Gwinn, May 29, 1855
	82	Letter from John Gwinn to his mother, Caroline S. Gwinn, June 1, 1855
	83	Letter from Caroline S. Gwinn to her son, John Gwinn, June 6, 1855
	84	Letter from Elizabeth B. Gwinn to John (Jack) Gwinn, June 7, 1855
	85	Letter from John Gwinn to his mother, Caroline S. Gwinn, June 10, 1855
	86	Letter from Caroline S. Gwinn to her son, John Gwinn, June 14, 1855
	87	Letter from Caroline S. Gwinn to Elizabeth (Lizzie) B. Gwinn, July 17, 1855
	88	Letter from Anne Stephenson to Caroline S. Gwinn, December 1, 1855
	89	Letter (IOU) from Paul Shirley to John Gwinn, March 23, 1857
	90	Letter from H. S. Spackman to Mrs. Sally Pepper, July 9, 1859
	91	Letter from Sarah to Sally N. Pepper, July 30, 1859
3	92	Notes, December 1860
	93	Petition, May 29, 1861
	94	Financial and Real Estate Notes, c. 1863
	95	Receipts for funeral preparations, 1864
	96	Receipts from the estate of Caroline Gwinn, 1864
	97	Receipts from the estate of Paul Shirley, 1864
	98	Letter from Paul Shirley to Mr. John Gwinn, January 31, 1865
	99	Letter from M[argaretta] L[ynch] Shirley to Mary, September 27, 1870
	100	Letter from Henry Vaux to his grandmother, Mrs. Pepper, March 26, 1886
	101	Four Photographs, n.d.
	102	Photographs, n.d.
	103	Newspaper Clippings, n.d.
	104	Paper Cutouts, n.d.
	105	Pressed Flower, n.d.
	106	Copper Printing Plate, n.d.
	107	Copper Printing Plate, n.d.
	108	Pamphlet, "Brief Title of Fair Hall and Sepviva Estates," n.d.
	109	Pamphlet, "Will of Henry Seybert," n.d.
	110	Pamphlet, "A Biographical Sketch of Robert Vaux and Richard Vaux," n.d.
	111	Pamphlet, "The Philadelphia Tea Party of 1773," December 17, 1873
	112	Pamphlet, "Obituary Notice of Henry Seybert," October 5, 1883
	113	Pamphlet, "In Memoriam, Hon. Richard Vaux," March 26, 1895
	114	Pamphlet, "The Journal of the Friends' Historical Society," January 1909