



The New York Public Library
Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

Samuel Hill papers

1813-1822

MssCol 1397

Summary

Creator: Hill, Samuel, 1777-1825

Title: Samuel Hill papers

Date: 1813-1822

Size: 3 v., 1 oversize folder

Source: Gift,; Lawrence H. Stanton,; 1926

Abstract: The Samuel Hill papers consist of his autobiography, his journal of a voyage of the brig Ulysses, unidentified poetry, and writings by F. Stanhope Hill about Samuel Hill, all bound in one volume; a bound copy of the autobiography in negative photostat, edited and incomplete; and the illustrated journal and logbook of the ships Ophelia and Packet in one volume.

Alternative Form Available: Journal and logbook of the Ophelia and the Packet; available on microfilm; New York Public Library; *ZL-319

Preferred citation: Samuel Hill papers, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Related Materials:

Related collections in other repositories and published extracts from the Journal and logbook of the Ophelia and Packet are identified in Malloy, Mary. *Devil on the Deep Blue Sea: the Notorious Career of Captain Samuel Hill of Boston*. Jersey Shore, PA: Bullbrier Press, 2006

The Collection of Rosanna Duncan Sanderson, G.W. Blunt White Library, Mystic Seaport, CT, contains her research notes on Samuel Hill and his voyages

Creator History

Samuel Hill (1771-1825) of Machias, Maine and Boston, Massachusetts, was a ship captain.

Scope and Content Note

The Samuel Hill papers consist of his autobiography, his journal of a voyage of the brig Ulysses, unidentified poetry, and writings by F. Stanhope Hill about Samuel Hill, all bound in one volume; a bound copy of the autobiography in negative photostat, edited and incomplete; and the illustrated journal and logbook of the ships Ophelia and Packet in one volume. |||Autobiography (1 v., 42 p.), dated on board the ship Packet at sea, 14 June 1819, recounts his early life and career at sea, including voyages to England, Germany, West Indies, Java, Japan, Spain, the Pacific Northwest coast of America, and China; the rescue of John R. Jewitt from Nootka Indians; fur trade and China trade ventures; his capture by the British during the War of 1812, the rescue of three Malaysians off Sumatra; his acquaintance with Protestant missionary Robert Morrison (1782-1834) in China, and other matters, including an account of his religious conversion. |||Bound with the autobiography is his brief journal of a voyage during the War of 1812 as master of the letter-of-marque brig Ulysses from Boston to Savannah for cargo, thence with cotton for France, noting capture of the brig by H.M.S. Majestic, his parole at Halifax, and return to Boston, 1813-1814 (2 leaves); a sheet of unidentified poetry; and a small amount of undated notes and writings about Samuel Hill by his grandson, F. Stanhope Hill, author and former U.S. naval officer. A related volume contains an edited, incomplete copy of the autobiography in negative photostat. |||Also, journal and logbook, 1815 January-1822 July (1 v., 352 p.) of two voyages: the Ophelia from Boston to Chili, Hawaii, Batavia, Canton and return to Boston, 1815-1817; and the Packet from Boston to Chili, with voyages between Chile and Canton, then Chile to Canton and return to Boston, 1817-1822, describing places encountered in voyages and landings, including Valparaiso and Santiago, Chile, with reference to trade and the independence movement in Chile; the Galapagos, Sandwich and other Pacific islands; Canton; and other locales. Illustrations by Hill include a landscape drawing, chart, and coastal views.

Key Terms

Geographic Names

Chile -- History -- War of Independence, 1810-1824
China -- Commerce -- United States
Hawaii -- Description and travel
Islands of the Pacific -- Description and travel
Northwest, Pacific -- Description and travel
Oceania -- Description and travel
South America -- Description and travel
United States -- Commerce -- China
United States -- History -- War of 1812 -- Personal narratives

Subjects

Conversion -- Personal narratives
Fur trade -- Northwest, Pacific
Indians of North America -- Northwest, Pacific
Nootka Indians
Privateering
Seafaring life
Voyages and travels
Voyages around the world

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Logbooks
Memoirs

Occupations

Ship captains

Names

Hill, Samuel, 1777-1825

Hill, F. S. (Frederic Stanhope), 1805-1851

London Packet (Ship)

Lydia (Brig)

Ophelia (Ship)

Otter (Brig)

Ulysses (Brig)