



The New York Public Library  
Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

**John Thompson papers**

1877-1881

MssCol 2979

## Summary

**Creator:** Thompson, John

**Title:** John Thompson papers

**Date:** 1877-1881

**Size:** 0 linear feet (1 box)

**Abstract:** Papers consist of a diary and correspondence belonging to American seaman John Thompson. Diary was kept from Sept. 1879-1880 on board the U.S.S. Alaska on a trip from Panama to Peru, where the ship docked at Arica, Coquimbo, Callao, Ancud, Mollendo, Pisco, and Chimbote. Mentions blockade and some battles of the Tacna Arica dispute between Chile and Peru. From Peru, the ship sailed to Ave Maria Bay (Nu Khiva) [sic], Marquesas Islands; and Samoa, where the ship docked at Pago Pago and Apia. From there, the ship traveled to Honolulu, San Francisco, and Mare Island, California. Also included are sketches; a letter to Thompson dated Sept. 20, 1881; and letters dated 1877 from "Warren" (perhaps a relative), who served as a sailor on the ship Independence on a trip from Boston to Valparaiso and Iquique, Chile.

**Access:** Advance notice required.

**Preferred citation:** John Thompson papers, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

## Scope and Content Note

Papers consist of a diary and correspondence belonging to American seaman John Thompson. Diary was kept from Sept. 1879-1880 on board the U.S.S. Alaska on a trip from Panama to Peru, where the ship docked at Arica, Coquimbo, Callao, Ancud, Mollendo, Pisco, and Chimbote. Mentions blockade and some battles of the Tacna Arica dispute between Chile and Peru. From Peru, the ship sailed to Ave Maria Bay (Nu Khiva) [sic], Marquesas Islands; and Samoa, where the ship docked at Pago Pago and Apia. From there, the ship traveled to Honolulu, San Francisco, and Mare Island, California. Also included are sketches; a letter to Thompson dated Sept. 20, 1881; and letters dated 1877 from "Warren" (perhaps a relative), who served as a sailor on the ship Independence on a trip from Boston to Valparaiso and Iquique, Chile.

## **Key Terms**

### **Geographic Names**

American Samoa -- Description and travel -- 19th century

Chile -- Description and travel -- 19th century

Honolulu (Hawaii) -- Description and travel -- 19th century

Marquesas Islands (French Polynesia) -- Description and travel -- 19th century

Peru -- Description and travel -- 19th century

Samoa -- Description and travel -- 19th century

### **Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Diaries

Sketches

### **Subjects**

Tacna-Arica question

### **Names**

Thompson, John

Alaska (Screw gunboat)

Independence (Ship : 1814-1913)