



The New York Public Library
Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

Bernard Peyton letters to his wife

1856-1857

MssCol 2395

Summary

Creator: Peyton, Bernard, 1826-1906

Title: Bernard Peyton letters to his wife

Date: 1856-1857

Size: 76 leaves, 29 cm; 76 leaves, 29 cm

Abstract: Bernard Peyton (1826-1906) of Charlottesville, Virginia and San Francisco, California, was an American businessman and entrepreneur. Bernard Peyton letters, 1856 June-1857 April, in typescript carbon copy, consist of eighteen letters written mostly from Russia to his wife Estelle at the Peyton family plantation, Farmington, near Charlottesville, Virginia. The letters relate to Peyton's two journeys to Russia and his plans to establish American commerce on the Amur River in Siberia. He describes voyages; his travels in Europe, Russia and Siberia; his activities in St. Petersburg and Moscow; his journey by sled from Moscow to Irkutsk with another American, Perry McDonough Collins; and a trip to Kyakhta to observe Russian-Chinese border trade. Peyton returned to Virginia for a brief visit in the Fall of 1856; his letters also refer to his wife's concerns over his absence, and to family matters at Farmington, including brief mention of the slaves there.

Alternative Form Available: Available on microfilm; New York Public Library; *ZL-501

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Creator History

Bernard Peyton (1826-1906) of Charlottesville, Virginia and San Francisco, California, was an American businessman and entrepreneur.

Scope and Content Note

Bernard Peyton letters, 1856 June-1857 April, in typescript carbon copy, consist of eighteen letters written mostly from Russia to his wife Estelle at the Peyton family plantation, Farmington, near

Charlottesville, Virginia. The letters relate to Peyton's two journeys to Russia and his plans to establish American commerce on the Amur River in Siberia. He describes voyages; his travels in Europe, Russia and Siberia; his activities in St. Petersburg and Moscow; his journey by sled from Moscow to Irkutsk with another American, Perry McDonough Collins; and a trip to Kyakhta to observe Russian-Chinese border trade. Peyton returned to Virginia for a brief visit in the Fall of 1856; his letters also refer to his wife's concerns over his absence, and to family matters at Farmington, including brief mention of the slaves there.

Key Terms

Geographic Names

Europe -- Description and travel

Russia -- Commerce -- United States

Russia -- Description and travel

Siberia (Russia) -- Description and travel

United States -- Commerce -- Russia

Subjects

Plantation life -- Virginia

Names

Peyton, Bernard, 1826-1906

Collins, Perry McDonough, 1813-1900

Peyton, Estelle