Inventory of the Oliver Bourne Collection
(Collection #33)

The Brick Store Museum
Kennebunk, Maine

Compiled by J. Butler, Manuscript Curator
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Physical Description:

Oliver Bourne of Kennebunkport was a shop keeper, post master, ship owner, and active in the Methodist Church. These papers reflect his involvement in all of those areas from 1821 to 1860 as follows:

- Business in his store (receipts, bills, letters, etc.)
- Post office records between 1821-42 (receipts, drafts, quarterly reports, auditor’s reports, etc.)
- Records of the Methodist Church, 1835-60, including financial records from its construction in 1835.
- Shipping accounts, 1830-43, particularly of the schooner Jane Bourne, 1837-41.

The papers are stored in two boxes, with a few oversize papers in suitable places (see Box and Folder Breakdown).

The Collection’s acquisition number is 83.18.2.
Box and Folder Breakdown:

Box 1:
- Folder 1: Miscellaneous receipts, 1831-1834.
- Folder 2: Miscellaneous receipts, 1835.
- Folder 3: Miscellaneous receipts, 1836.
- Folder 4: Miscellaneous receipts, 1837.
- Folder 5: Miscellaneous receipts, 1838.
- Folder 6: Miscellaneous receipts, 1839.
- Folder 7: Miscellaneous receipts, 1840.
- Folder 8: Miscellaneous receipts, 1841.
- Folder 9: Miscellaneous receipts, 1842.
- Folder 10: Miscellaneous receipts, 1843.
- Folder 11: Miscellaneous receipts, 1844.
- Folder 12: Miscellaneous receipts, 1845.
- Folder 13: Miscellaneous receipts, 1846.
- Folder 14: Miscellaneous receipts, 1847.

Box 2:
- Folder 1: Miscellaneous receipts, 1848.
- Folder 2: Miscellaneous receipts, 1849.
- Folder 3: Miscellaneous receipts, 1850.
- Folder 4: Miscellaneous receipts, 1851.
- Folder 5: Miscellaneous receipts, 1852-54.
- Folder 6: Miscellaneous receipts, 1855-59.
- Folder 7: Miscellaneous receipts, 1860-83 and those with n.d.
- Folder 8: Kennebunkport post office drafts, 1825, 1826, 1841; receipts for post office deposits at Portland, July 1831 to October 1833; miscellaneous other circulars and letters, 1829-1833.
- Folder 9: Kennebunkport post office quarterly receipts, October 1820 to January 1843; quarterly mail route receipts, October 1835 to July 1837 and November 1837 to January 1841.
- Folder 10: Kennebunkport post office Examiners and Auditors reports, September 1832 – October 1842.
- Folder 11: Miscellaneous receipt books, 1837-1846.
- Folder 12: Papers, Schooner Jane Bourne, 1837-1841, including construction invoices.
Folder 13: Papers concerning the Methodist Church, Kennebunkport, 1835, including bills, receipts, subscription list, many for its construction, and miscellaneous undated documents including pew lists and a pew diagram.

Folder 14: Miscellaneous bills and receipts for the Methodist Church, Kennebunkport, 1820-1877.


Folder 17: Ledger, accounts of Simon Nowell and Hayes and Bourne, 1821-22, and one letter, dated 1829, concerning the estate of Simon Nowell, Kennebunkport.


Collection also includes Post Office Accounts Current, 1821 – 31 (not consecutive) in Miscellaneous Box (0) #3, Folder 13.

Subject Tracings:

Bourne, Oliver
Hayes, E(rastus?)
Methodist Church, Kennebunkport
Nowell, Simon
Post Office, Kennebunkport
Ships: (schooners)
  Charles
  Echo
  Elizabeth
  Frank
  Grape
  Jane Bourne
  Lavinia
  Louisa
  Lucy
  Martha
Biographical Information:  Oliver Bourne, 1797-1881

Oliver Bourne was the son of Samuel and ? Perkins Bourne (his mother was a daughter of Captain Thomas Perkins). Samuel and his wife also had a daughter Sarah.

Oliver married Jane Hatch. They had a son, Johnson.

Johnson Bourne married Mary Edgecomb. They had a son, George.

George Bourne married Martha Welch. They had two daughters, Beth and Esther Larrabee. Esther lives in the Oliver Bourne house on North Street, Kennebunkport, overlooking the cove, today (1985).

This information is from notes kept by Adelaide Day, Curator of the Kennebunkport Historical Society.

Bourne died January 4, 1881, age 84 years, at 7:30 a.m. of heart trouble. (This information may have come from the Eastern Star.)

In the Wave, Kennebunkport’s summer newspaper, which is on film at the Brick Store Museum, “Captain Oliver Bourne, our former postmaster” is mentioned July 26, 1890, peg. 3, col. 3.

In 1824 Oliver Bourne bought the present Larrabee house, North Street, from Jeremiah Washburn.

Oliver Bourne was a brother to John Bourne of Kennebunk Landing. See E. E. Bourne’s History of the Bourne Family, Coll. 7, Brick Store Museum.