

# Guide to the Samuel Lockwood Papers

MS 726



compiled by Steven Hensen

August 1974

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
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**CALL NUMBER:** MS 726

**CREATOR:** Lockwood, Samuel, 1803-1893

**TITLE:** Samuel Lockwood papers

**DATES:** 1822-1885

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 1 linear foot (2 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Correspondence, letterbooks, orders, journals, commissions, log extracts, mess receipts, handbook of naval rules and regulations, and other papers of Commodore Samuel Lockwood of the U.S. Navy. The papers relate principally to Lockwood's service in the War with Mexico, his command of the sloop *Cyane* in the Pacific Squadron, 1858-1860, and his command of the steamer *Daylight* as part of the Union blockade of the Confederate coast. Correspondents include Matthew C. Perry, Isaac Toucey, Gideon Welles, and John Percival.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0726>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0726>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

In part gift from Charles Eberstadt, 1973; a portion of this collection was part of the Yale Collection of Western Americana, Beinecke Rare Book Library.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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### Conditions Governing Use

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### Preferred Citation

Samuel Lockwood Papers (MS 726). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Samuel Lockwood: appointed midshipman in 1820; served in the West Indies, 1820-1825; in 1825 sailed for the Mediterranean, returning in 1827; promoted to lieutenant in 1828 and served on various ships in the Atlantic and Pacific; commissioned as commander, 1850, and commanded various ships; served in the Civil War with the North Atlantic Squadron, and participated in the blockade of Beaufort, N.C., and the capture of Fort Macon; commissioned as commodore in 1867.

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## Scope and Contents

Commodore Samuel Lockwood was born on January 24, 1803, in Norwalk, Connecticut, son of Thomas St. John and Hannah (Whitlock) Lockwood. The following summary of his naval career is reproduced from Frederic A. Holden's *History of the Lockwood Family* (Philadelphia, 1889):

Appointed midshipman, New York July 12, 1820; served in the West Indies four years and nine months; on board the sloop *Hornet* from March, 1821, two years and two months; frigate *Congress*, six months, 1823; in 1825 seven months in frigate *Constellation*, where he had yellow fever; sailed from Boston, 1826, in sloop *Warren*, for the Mediterranean, where she was actively engaged in ferreting out Greek pirates, for one year and three months, ordered to the frigate *Constitution*, to return to the United States for examination--- three months attached to her.

Promoted to Lieutenant in 1828; served on the Brazil Station, on board the frigate *Hudson* and sloop *Vandalia*, 1831-1832, one year and six months; sloop *Fairfield*, Pacific Station, two years and ten months, 1836-1837; frigate *Macedonia*, ten months, 1837-1838; Commodore Jones's Exploring Expedition, sloop *Cyane* (First Lieutenant), Mediterranean, 1838-1839, one year and six months; *Ohio*, Commodore Hull, 1839-1841, one year and eight months; rendezvous Boston, 1843-1844; Navy Yard, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, 1845-1846, frigate *Potomac* (First Lieutenant) Home Squadron, 1846-1847; blockading Vera

Cruz, in command of steamers *Petrita* and *Scourge*, 1847-1848; assisted in the capture of Vera Cruz, Tuspan, Tobasco, and blockaded Tobasco River for six months.

Commissioned as *Commander*, 1850; rendezvous Boston, 1853-1855; commanding sloop *Cyane*, Pacific Station, 1858-1860, two years and three months; commanding steamer *Daylight*, one year and four months, North Atlantic Squadron, 1861-1862, during the Rebellion; blockaded during that time Wilmington and Beaufort, North Carolina, York River and Newport News, and off Cape Henry, Virginia; while at the latter station he had an engagement with a shore battery at Lynnhaven Bay, --- succeeded in silencing the rebel battery and rescued a Baltimore ship; while blockading Beaufort, North Carolina, Commander Lockwood, commanding the flotilla station there, assisted, with a portion of the army, in the capture of Fort Macon, and the terms of surrender were signed, on the part of the United States, by General Parks and Commander Lockwood, and on the part of the rebels, by Colonel White, their commander.

Commissioned as Commodore in 1867, to rank with those of his original date; on special duty, Philadelphia, 1864-1865. [pp. 693-694]

The Samuel Lockwood Papers consist of correspondence, letter books, orders, journals, log extracts, mess receipts, reports, handbooks of rules and regulations, and other papers relating specifically to various phases of the naval career of Commodore Samuel Lockwood and to naval life in general. The papers date from 1822 to 1885, and hence touch on nearly every aspect of Lockwood's service in the United States Navy, though some aspects are more completely documented than others. These include especially his service during the War with Mexico, his command of the sloop *Cyane* in the Pacific Squadron off the coast of Central and South America, 1858-1860, and his command of the steamer *Daylight* during the Civil War blockading the coast of North Carolina and Virginia.

Papers of interest relating to Lockwood's service in the War with Mexico, include various general orders from Matthew C. Perry and G. J. Van Brunt, and accounts of battles and the blockade of Vera Cruz and Tobasco.

It is for the period while Lockwood was serving with the Pacific Squadron that the record here is perhaps most detailed. Not only are there a great many incoming letters and orders, but his official letterbook for the years 1858-1861 has also been preserved. There is a great deal of correspondence between Lockwood and Secretary of the Navy Isaac Toucey and between Lockwood and Flag Officers John C. Long and John B. Montgomery; this correspondence gives a fairly detailed and complete picture of the movements and activities of the Pacific fleet during this period. Included in this correspondence are numerous reflections and observations on the political situations in Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Mexico, Baja California, Chile, Panama, and Peru. Also of interest for this period is the rather complete picture of life aboard the *Cyane* as reflected in the various reports, duty schedules, watch and station bills, and even detailed descriptions of the ship herself.

It is Lockwood's service as part of the Union blockade of the Confederate coast during the Civil War that he is perhaps best remembered for. Papers for this period include correspondence with and orders from Gideon Welles, blockade reports, lists of vessels expected to run the blockade, a list of contraband Negroes received on board the *Daylight* in 1861, and lists of officers and crew entitled to share in prizes.

Part of the correspondence in this collection has been individually cataloged. Other correspondents of note include John Percival (29 letters between June 1838 and October 1839); William Kay Latimer (22 letters between 1839 December and April 1840); Matthew Calbraith Perry (13 letters between March and September 1847); Isaac Toucey (numerous letters for 1858 and 1859 plus many from Lockwood in his letterbook); Gideon Welles (ca. 14 letters between April 1861 and March 1865); Gershom J. Van Brunt (ca. 8 letters between July 1847 and January 1848, also one letter November 1861); John B. Montgomery (ca. 28 letters between August 1859 and December 1860). Notable correspondents from the Civil War period include Samuel L. Breese, Garret Pendergrast, Louis M. Goldsborough, Silas Stringham, and Augustus Ludlow Case.

For a more detailed and discursive description of some of these papers (especially for the Pacific Squadron years), see the various descriptions received with these papers in the Manuscripts and Archives register file, Manuscript Group Number 726.

## Collection Contents

b. 1, f. 1-14	Correspondence and orders A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.	1822, 1827-1829, 1831, 1834-1835, 1837-1848, 1851, 1855, 1858-1865, 1868, 1885
b. 1, f. 15	<a href="#">Official letterbook</a>	1858-1861
b. 1, f. 16	<a href="#">Journal on board the Frigate Congress</a>	1822 October - 1823 April
b. 1, f. 17	<a href="#">Journal of a cruise from Port Mahon to the U.S. on board the U.S. Frigate Constitution</a>	1828 April - July
b. 2, f. 18	<a href="#">Log extracts</a>	1827, 1830-1831, 1860
b. 2, f. 19	<a href="#">Commissions</a>	1829, 1850
b. 2, f. 20	<a href="#">Supplies</a>	1838-1839, 1847
b. 2, f. 21	<a href="#">Reports on prisoners</a>	1858-1860
b. 2, f. 22	<a href="#">Reports on target practice</a>	1858-1860
b. 2, f. 23	Crew lists A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.	1860-1862
b. 2, f. 24	<a href="#">List of contraband Negroes received by Daylight</a>	1861 August - September
b. 2, f. 25	<a href="#">Blockade reports</a>	1862
b. 2, f. 26	<a href="#">Rules and regulations of the sloop Cyane</a>	
b. 2, f. 27	<a href="#">Station book (3 volumes), sloop Cyane</a>	
b. 2, f. 28	<a href="#">Papers re: the sloop Cyane</a>	
b. 2, f. 29	<a href="#">Watch, Quarter, Station, and Fire Bills, U.S. Steamer Daylight</a>	
b. 2, f. 30	<a href="#">Watch, Quarter, and Station Bills, U.S. Sloop Warren</a>	
b. 2, f. 31	<a href="#">Station and Watch Bills for line of battle ship and for sloop</a>	
b. 2, f. 32	<a href="#">Signals</a>	
b. 2, f. 33	<a href="#">Cash accounts</a>	1847-1848
b. 2, f. 34	<a href="#">Ward room mess receipts, U.S.S. Fairfield</a>	1833-1835
b. 2, f. 35	<a href="#">Miscellaneous</a>	

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## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### Subjects

Armed Forces  
Mexican War, 1846-1848

### Corporate Bodies

Cyane (Sloop)  
Daylight (Steamer)  
United States. Navy

### Geographic Names

Chile -- History -- Insurrection, 1859  
Mexico -- History -- 1821-1861  
Nicaragua -- History -- Filibuster War,  
1855-1860  
United States -- Foreign relations -- Chile  
United States -- Foreign relations -- Costa Rica  
United States -- Foreign relations -- Mexico  
United States -- Foreign relations -- Peru  
United States -- History, Naval  
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865

### Genres / Formats

Ships' papers

### Occupations

Seamen  
Shipmasters

### Names

Breese, Samuel L. (Samuel Livingston),  
1794-1870  
Case, Augustus Ludlow, 1813-1893  
Conner, David, 1792-1856  
Goldsborough, Louis Malesherbes, 1805-1877  
Latimer, William K., -1873  
Lockwood, Samuel, 1803-1893  
Long, John Collins, 1795-1865  
Montgomery, John Berrien, 1794-  
Pendergrast, Garrett Elliott, 1776-1850  
Percival, John, 1779-1862  
Perry, Matthew Calbraith, 1794-1858  
Stringham, Silas Horton, 1798-1876  
Toucey, Isaac, 1796-1869  
Van Brunt, Gershom J., d. 1863  
Welles, Gideon, 1802-1878