



## **Inventory of the John Osborn & Co. Collection (Collection #20)**

The Brick Store Museum  
Kennebunk, Maine

Compiled by J. Butler  
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### Physical Description:

This is chiefly a collection of ledgers used by John Osborn of Kennebunkport, a “trader” (store keeper) who was evidently also involved in ship building. (The names of vessels appear in the ledgers with accounting of their costs of construction, etc.

Papers and documents that were in the ledgers have been removed to folders. These and small ledgers are stored in one box.

The ledgers were probably given in large part by Mrs. George Cousens of Kennebunk (probably a descendant, see Remich), although only two or three are so marked. At least one was given by Kenneth Roberts, as per a typed card inserted in Ledger #10. Others have no accession numbers or information about provenance. The accession numbers involved are: #1348, #2160, #2168, #3364, #2171.

The ledgers and papers cover the years 1822-62.

## Box and Folder Breakdown:

- Box 1: John Osborn and Co. Account Book. Purchases 1825-30. Acq. #2168-2.
- Folder 1: Index. "Alphabet to Ledger No.4" Paper covers. Acq. #3364.  
Index. Probably to an Osborn ledger.
- Folder 2: The Old Farmer's Almanack, 1850. "John Osborn and Co." inscribed in ink on the cover. Sheets of weather reports, census, voting results for 1850, handwritten on sheets of paper tied to Almanack. Acq. #1348.
- Folder 3: Assorted documents and papers removed from ledgers, including:  
Advertising flyer for Dr. S. B. Straw, Dental Surgeon, Kennebunk, n.d.  
Advertising flyer for J. L. Abbott, "artist" (probably photographer) Mr. Warren's Block, Kennebunk, n.d.  
Five printed slates of candidates, State elections (3 for September 1856), also handwritten results of local election, March 1856  
Printed temperance flyer, issued by William Berry, Limington, Maine, n.d.
- Folder 4: 40 receipts and IOUs removed from ledgers, dating from 1824-62.  
Also 7 undated receipts.
- Folder 5: Five assorted documents concerning accounts of various local ships, dated variously between 1853-9.
- Folder 6: Assorted newspaper fragments and pages from books, taken from ledgers
- Folder 7: Fragments of lists, notes, scratch paper, etc. taken from ledgers
- Folder 8: Subscription list for changing "band" on Captain Benaiah Littlefield sawmill near Mousam Bridge, Sept. 1830. Acq. #2171  
Eight receipts and IOUs dated 1828 and 1830, John Osborn and Co., Acq. #2168.

Also, the following ledgers:

- John Osborn and Company, Day Book #2, October 3, 1822-October 24, 1823. Acq. #21
- Day Book #4, October 24, 1824-October 20, 1825.
- Day Book #5, October 21, 1825-March 8, 1827.
- Day Book #6, March 5, 1827-December 15, 1827.
- Day Book #10, June 25, 1831-March 14, 1832.
- Day Book #21 February 9, 1854- June 5, 1860.
- Day Book. June 12, 1860- March 13, 1861.
- Journal Wells accounts, October 22, 1844- January 22, 1848.
- Ledger. 1831-44. Acq. #2160.

## Reference Resources:

See Remich.

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