



Inventory of the Cousens Family Collection (Collection #45)

The Brick Store Museum
Kennebunk, Maine

Compiled by J. Butler, Manuscript Curator
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Physical Description:

This collection of papers, objects, and books pertinent to or once the property of members of Kennebunk's Cousens family, was given to the Museum by the widow of Theodore Wells Cousens. It includes a Cousens family bible with early genealogy (see genealogical reference material attached to this inventory), papers of George Cousens, who was Collector of Customs for the Kennebunk District when it was phased out ca 1920, and drawings and sketches by Walter Cousens.

Also part of this collection contains early photographs of Pauline Harper Ford and her children. Her daughter Nancie was the mother of George and Walter Cousens. A chart showing the Ford's connection to the famous Adams family (John Quincy Adams) is labeled "Adams Ancestry of Cousens Family."

A few photographs (snapshots) of the house on Portland Street where the Cousens family lived and of George Cousens dressed as Uncle Sam and riding an old fashioned bicycle are in the photograph file.

This small collection has interest because of the quality of the objects given with it, because of information it provides about various mid-nineteenth century Kennebunk Family connections, and because of George Cousens' connection to the Custom House.

Other Ford family materials were given under acquisition number 83.13.

This collection bears acquisition number 85.10.1-16.

Box and Folder Breakdown:

Box 1:

- Folder 1: Miscellaneous papers of George C. Cousens including notification of his appointment as Collector of Customs, District of Kennebunk, 1906 and a list of imports of rum into the district as copied from the Impost Book (now owned by the Maine Historical Society); letters to Cousens from various U. S. Congressmen and Senators and one or two other letters, 1913 - 1943; acquisition papers from the Brick Store Museum to Cousens, 1943 and 1945; a copy of the 1929 reprinting of the "By-Laws of Hope Cemetery Corporation" with an obituary clipped from the newspaper for Cousens; and an order form for "Who's Who in the East" and copy of Cousens' entry, no date. Printed "Historical Sketch of the Congregational Church of Kennebunk" by Clarence Lombard.
- Folder 2: Page from the *Genealogical and Family History of the State of Maine*, Vol. I, New York, Lewis Historical Publishing Company, 1909, containing Cousens family genealogy.
- Folder 3: Miscellaneous copies of *The Comet*, Kennebunk High School newspaper, 1884 and 1885, containing articles written by Carl Cousens, brother to George.
- Folder 4: Pencil sketches by Walter Cousens, who signed himself "Cous."
- Folder 5: Sketchbook of Walter Cousens.
- Folder 6: Marriage certificate Oliver M. Cousens and Miss Nancy Ford, Kennebunk, December 10, 1862.
- Folder 7: Collection of notes and newspaper clippings removed from Cousens' copies of Bourne and Remich. Includes collection of articles about "sea serpents."

This collection also includes the following books:

Bourne's *History of Wells*
Remich's *History of Kennebunk*
Freeman's *History of Cape Porpoise* (autographed)
Barry's *Chronicles of Kennebunk* (paper)
Barry's *A Stroll Thro' the Past*
Gilpatrick's *Kennebunk History* (revised edition)

Also, Cousens family bible with genealogical information.

Charts titled "Adams Ancestry of Cousens Family" are stored in Folio Box 3, Folder 9.

Numerous daguerreotypes and tintypes are stored with such photographs.

Miscellaneous snapshots are in the photographs file under numbers 85.10.15.

Daguerreotype of unknown woman and two children, 85.10.3, is in Daguerreotype Box 1

Unknown woman, 85.10.6, is in D. Box 2

Unknown woman and young man, 85.10.4 is in D. Box VI

Pauline Harper Ford (Mrs. George) 85.10.7 Tintype Box 1

Genealogy and Other Reference Material

The following information was supplied by the donor:

Pauline Harper Ford married an Osborn and lived at 1 Portland Street. She had two children (from a previous marriage?): Nancie Ford and John Quincy Adams Ford. John Q. A. Ford was named for an Adams ancestor.

Pauline and John Q. A. Ford are buried in Hope Cemetery.

Nancie Ford married Oliver Cousens. Their children were Walter, Carl, and George Cousens.

Theodore Wells Cousens was a son of George.

Photocopies from Cousens Family Bible

FAMILY RECORD.			
BLESSED ARE THE DEAD WHO DIE IN THE LORD.			
Deaths.			
	Born	Married	Died
Jeremiah M. Cousens	July 10, 1770	Mar. 12, 1814	Nov. 25, 1871
Ruth Kezinger	May 17, 1770	Nov. 11, 1814	May 5, 1821
Abiga Keimball	Apr. 27, 1776	Apr. 7, 1822	Aug. 28, 1875
William T. Cousens	Dec. 15, 1814	Dec. 31, 1848	
Maria Saxe, Union, Pa.			
Abigail C. Cousens	June 10, 1817	Oct. 22, 1848	
Edward W. Cousens, Lond. 1818			
Joseph H. Cousens	Oct. 5, 1819	Feb. 22, 1848	
Sarah Kuning			Oct. 11, 1875
Sarah M. Cousens	Mar. 2, 1825	July 6, 1856	Died Mar. 1, 1876
John H. Seward	June 6, 1821		
Ruth Ann Cousens	Oct. 6, 1825	Mar. 8, 1848	Apr. 13, 1892
Thomas S. Sunkin, Sunkin, Me.	" " 1821		Mar. 27, 1892
Fayette M. Cousens	Aug. 12, 1828		Jan. 25, 1908
Estelle C. Cousens	Sept. 21, 1834		Mar. 24, 1856
Oliver Andrew Cousens	May 4, 1837		
Henry Ford		Oct. - 1845	
Harriet K. Cousens	1875	1875	1875
Paul	1875	1875	1875
George E.	Jan. 25, 1871	Sept. 22, 1875	1945
Taylor, Me. (a)	1875	1875	1875

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