MAIN ENTRY: LUPTON, LANCASTER PLATT, 1807-1885

TITLE: LANCASTER P. LUPTON PAPERS

COLLECTION NUMBER: 398

ACCESSION NUMBERS: NONE

SIZE: 1 HOLLINGER BOX (.45 LINEAR FEET)

INTRODUCTION:

The Lancaster P. Lupton papers are a manuscript collection of Lancaster Platt Lupton, a historic fur trader and pioneer. It consists of materials generated by Lupton as well as documents from individuals he knew personally and from members of his family. The documents date from the time he was appointed 2nd Lieutenant in the Dragoons on May 16th, 1831, up until August 13, 1936, when a family friend reports the death of Lupton's daughter, Julia Skinner. The correspondence of the later years includes the accession records. Leroy Hafen, historian of the Colorado State Historical Society began an investigation about Lupton in 1929. Hafen first contacted the postmaster in Arcata and then was able to locate a granddaughter, Mary Richert, who provided the documents in this collection. The accession records include a letter of gift from Mrs. Richert with no restrictions. Upon request, the researcher may make copies of the documents. The papers are available on a microfilm, arranged in chronological order without the series groupings referred to in this inventory. The collection is in a legal-size Hollinger Box, numbered 398, which occupies .45 cubic feet of shelf space.
BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE:

1807 Born in New York State, son of William and Julia Lupton
1825 Entered United States Military Academy at West Point, graduated 4 years later
1829 Placed in the 3rd Infantry and assigned to Jefferson Barracks
1830 Went with his company to Natchitoches, Louisiana
1831 Re-assigned to Fort Towson and aided in rebuilding the post
1833 Appointed Lieutenant in 1st Dragoons and ordered to Nashville
1835 Served on the Santa Fe Trail and at Fort Gibson
1836 Resigned from the Army in March, headed West for Fort Laramie, sometime that same year he moved to the South Platte and built Fort Lancaster.
1840 Built Fort Platte near Fort Laramie
1841 Married daughter of Cheyenne chief, Thomasina
1842 Sold Fort Platte to Sybille, Adams, & Company
1843 Capt. J.C. Fremont passes by Fort Lupton, and gives description
1844 Summer visit to his parents in Milton Rock, Wisconsin.
1845 Lupton sought re-establishment in the Army, perhaps due to rumors of War with Mexico, contacted S.W. Kearny
1846 Visited Washington, returned to Bent's Fort and wrote to Pres. Polk
1847 Informs his parents of his marriage, moves to Hardscrabble on the upper Arkansas
1848 Fremont stops to buy supplies, Lupton writes to Senator Thomas Hart Benton about Fremonts' prospects
1849 Joins group leaving Hardscrabble and Pueblo traveling by the Humboldt Route to California, subsequently he settles in Arcata
1885 August 2, Lupton passed away in Arcata, California
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE:

The Lancaster P. Lupton collection spans the years 1835 until 1937. The bulk of the material covers the period he was active as a fur trader, 1842 until 1850. The types of materials include Lupton's diary/ledger, correspondence, financial receipts of trading transactions, newspaper clippings and correspondence concerning accession. The diary/ledger is labeled as such because half of it was written as a diary, and then later Lupton made use of the same book as a record of business transactions and accounts. The correspondence for the most part is made up of letters from his family; however there are also letters of reference from his commanding officers, a letter concerning the Mexican War from Stephen W. Kearny, and a letter written by Lupton to President Polk. The financial receipts are most notable in regards to the contemporaries Lupton was dealing with, not necessarily the goods mentioned. The newspaper clippings are a collection of advertisements for rheumatism cures, the only exception being a clipping concerning the search for Lupton's descendents. The accession file contains letters written by Leroy Hafen, and by Julia Skinner-Lupton's daughter, who was able to provide some additional genealogical information. The microfilm is of the entire collection arranged in chronological order without series designation.

The early correspondence documents are letters of character written in 1835 while Lupton was at Fort Leavenworth. A gap occurs from 1835 until 1842. The greatest concentration of correspondence begins in 1842 and occurs on a regular basis until 1850. There is a sporadic collection of letters from then until 1871, when the last document is written by Lupton. The collection picks up again in 1929 with Leroy Hafen's attempt to find Lupton's descendents, and continues until 1937 when the last direct descendant, Mrs. Skinner, passes away.

A student of the mountain men or fur trade in the American West would find valuable information in the collection. Lupton was one of the West's first businessmen. In his daily transactions he came into contact with many important characters involved in trading. Examination of his financial records and correspondence provides glimpses into the lives and practices of these individuals. Lupton's movements reflect the ebb and flow of economic tides in the west from St. Louis to California. A student of the War with Mexico would certainly have to evaluate the letter written to Lupton by Stephen W. Kearny in 1845.
As in all original documents these papers will provide the researcher with a sense of identification, not only with Lupton, but with the era of the Fur Trade as well. The information in the collection will stand up under historical criticism. The documents in the collection are all written in a legible hand by well educated persons. The researcher must allow for the fact that the documents, especially in the correspondence, are sometimes dependent on each other, and it may require extra effort to study the contents of all the documents. An unfortunate aspect of the correspondence is that most of it was written by family members in response to letters written by Lupton. The thoughts and movements of Lupton during the decade of the 1840's can only be obtained through secondhand sources. In spite of this the correspondence still provides satisfying, feasible information. Another drawback is the occurrence of chronological gaps in the collection. The gaps will have to be filled in by the researcher through other sources.

The collection is housed in the one Hollinger box. The documents are organized into five folders which represent the series of the collection. The folders are labeled: diary/ledger; correspondence, containing 24 separate documents; financial transactions; newsclippings; records of accession; and the microfilm.

SERIES DESCRIPTION:

SERIES: Lancaster Lupton Diaries/Ledger 1833 - 1847
Folder 1: Diaries/Ledger, 5 items

Folder 1 contains a leather bound book, half of which is Luptons' diary; the other half was used as a ledger for some of his transactions. In the same folder there are two notes written in the same vein as some of the information in his diary and a homemade notebook which inserts into the larger volume as a continuation of the diary. The diary is very fragile; the other documents are in better shape. Physically however they were written in pencil and have smudged or faded.

SERIES: Lancaster Lupton Correspondence, 1835 - 1902
Folder 2: Correspondence, 22 items (see container list), arranged chronologically.

This folder contains letters written for the most part to Lupton. A few of the items are written by Lupton (see container list). The bulk of this communication covers the decade of the 1840's. The early letters are letters-of-character written by former commanding officers.
The later communications represent a few letters perhaps written by descendents of Lupton. The documents are fragile due to their age and must be handled carefully.

SERIES: Financial Transactions and Records, 1843 - 1882
Folder 3: Financial records, 9 items, arranged chronologically.
These receipts are representative of some of the daily transactions Lupton conducted. They reflect not only the type of goods involved, but through the dates and signatures, provide clues to the people Lupton dealt with. The documents are in good condition.

SERIES: Accession Records and Collection File, 1929 - 1937
Folder 4: Accession Records, 7 documents, arranged chronologically.
Letters written during the location and acquisition of the Lupton Manuscript collection. There are several different people involved (see container list). Most notable are the genealogical descriptions provided by Julia Skinner. These documents are all in fine condition.

SERIES: Newspaper Clippings, N. D.
Folder 5: Newspapers Clippings, arranged by provenance.
The clippings are in one small envelope and all deal with subject of rheumatic cures. The exception is a clipping which announces the search for Lupton Heirs, which must have been published in response to Hafen’s inquiries. The clippings are fragile and small and should be handled with care.

SERIES: Microfilm
Folder 6: Microfilm
**CONTAINER-LIST:**

**SERIES:** Lancaster Lupton Diaries/Ledger 1833 - 1847

**Folder # 1:** Diaries/Ledger, 5 items

**Item # 1:** Ledger/Diary, 1833 - 1847

The diary occupies over sixty three pages. It begins when he was appointed Lt. in the Dragoons; gives an account of his trip to Fort Towson; and then becomes more personal, revealing his views concerning religion. The book in later years was utilized to record business transactions. The book is in fragile condition.

**Item # 2:** Diary Inserts N.D., 2 items

These inserts are small homemade notebooks apparently created to continue Luptons' diary. The pages are numbered and fit in sequence into the large dairy. They are in fair condition, however they are written in pencil which has smudged and faded.

**Item # 3:** Single note of paper N.D. Written in pencil.

More philosophies, such as the inserts described above.

**Item # 4:** Single note of paper N.D. Written in pencil.

More philosophies as described above.

**SERIES:** Lancaster Lupton Correspondence, 1835 - 1902

**Folder # 2:** Correspondence, 22 items, arranged chronologically

**Item # 1:** WRITER: S. W. Kearny

RECIPIENT: Lt. L.P. Lupton

DATE: October 26th 1835

PAGES: one large folded, one side of script

SUMMARY:

Responding to Lancers letter of the 7th. Lupton served under him when he commanded the 3rd Regt. of Infantry at Jefferson Barracks. Lancer was in the 4th comp. of that Regt. which accompanied him from that post to Fort Towson on the Red River and remained under him till he left that post in 1832. When in 1833 he was asked to recommend a Brevet 2nd Lt. of the 3rd Regt. for promotion in the Dragoons he "unhesitatingly named yourself...".

NAMES:

Jefferson Barracks

Fort Towson on the Red River

3rd Regiment

**Item # 2:** WRITER: J.H. Vose(?) from Fort Towson

RECIPIENT: LANCASTER LUPTON at Fort Leavenworth

DATE: Nov. 5th 1835

PAGES: One large, folded to accommodate three pages of script.

SUMMARY:

Received his letter of the 7th of October. When he arrived and took command of Fort Towson on the 1st of June, he recalls Lupton being there until May 1833 when he took command of the Regt. of Dragoons. He never knew of an unfriendly feeling towards Lupton...... If there was a magistrate nearby he would put his remarks in an affidavit......

NAMES:

Fort Towson

Dragoons
**Item #3**

**WRITER:** Lt. Henry Bainbridge  
**RECIPIENT:** Lancaster Lupton  
**DATE:** Nov. 7 1835  
**PAGES:** One large, folded, two pages of script  
**SUMMARY:**  
Bainbridge has appeared before the Subscriber at the post to answer under oath interrogatories touching on the character of Lupton. Lupton in the year 1830 was assigned under his command. In the fall of that year he went with the company to Natchitoches and then up the Red River to Fort Towson...he served at the Fort until his appointment to the Dragoons in the spring of 1833. "Question- What was Lt. Lupton's general character during the time he served with you?  
Answer- An officer and a Gentleman."

---

**Item #4**

**WRITER:** Stephen W. Kearny  
**RECIPIENT:** Lupton  
**DATE:** October 5th, 1845  
**PAGE COUNT:** One page, script on both sides  
**SUMMARY:**  
Dear Sir,  
duly received letter of the 15th of?, and delayed reply until he could form some opinion as to the probable increase of our army by the next session of Congress.  
"It seems now very clear that peace between our country and Mexico will not be disturbed. Our troops will most probably not cross Mexico, nor will the Mexican cross the Rio Del Norte, thus the disputed territory will not be occupied by either." ............ "Probably someone will go to Mexico to offer to negotiate the boundary line, if Mexico accedes then the subject will be settled. If then I suppose our troops will be ordered to march to the Del Norte, establish posts on it and endeavor to maintain them. If Mexico sends her troops to dislodge them then will come the "tug of Wars" But that I do not apprehend."  
Opinion in Washington that Army will be increased next winter, but no new regiments raised, unless infantry or riflemen should be agreed to for giving some appointment to some of the leader Texians. This is the opinion of some in Washington. Do not think you would be repaid for the trouble and expense of going to Washington City.  
We have no news here which you will not see in the papers.  
**NAMES:**  
Congress  
Mexico  
Rio Del Norte  
Army, infantry and riflemen  
Texians  
Washington  
S. W. Kearny  
L.P. Lupton

---

**Item #5**

**WRITER:** Elizabeth Pardee, sister  
**RECIPIENT:** Lupton, at Milton, Rock Co., Wis.  
**DATE:** December 31, 1845  
**PAGES:** One large page folded to accommodate four pages of script  
**TYPE:** Correspondence  
**SUMMARY:**  
Elizabeth has been ill and taking Homeopathic remedy. She devotes most of the first page to this description. She has visited friend Caroline Ogden in Chicago and will return to Chicago New Years Day. Talks of parties at
home. Mentions Ball to be given for a Swede, Mr. Schnideau at the Lake House, but Elizabeth does not think her cold will allow her to go. She is glad he is at home with their parents. She regrets sincerely that he is without prospect of employment and urges him not to despair. She encourages him to consider "that all is ordered for the best, by an all wise being. Learn to believe in Him." She also asks him to trust her in confidence and write soon.

NAMES:
Elizabeth Pardee
Caroline Ogden
Chicago
Mr. Schnideau
Lake House

Item # 6: 
WRITER: W.M. Lupton, in Milton
RECIPIENT: Lancaster Lupton in Washington
DATE: May 25, 1846
PAGES: one large page folded into 4 pages of script
TYPE: correspondence
SUMMARY:
Father is assuming that he is at headquarters. Thought he would like to hear news from home, talks of his health. Julia left for a permanent residence in Elkhorn, father is sad that she left.
He is anxious to hear from Lupton in Washington..... "I think you have a strong claim on the Government. Eight years of faithful service on the frontier, which might have been continued to this day but for the uninvited and protracted suspension of your command, not withstanding your earnest and repeated solicitations for a trial, which resulted in an abandonment of the charges against you, while a resignation had been extorted from your lacerated feelings. But when, after the order to release you from your arrest, came to your knowledge and before the day fixed by the Department for the consummation of your resignation, you requested, personally, to recall it, because the occasion that prompted it ceased to exist, your reasonable solicitations might have been, and ought to have been granted. Even at this day, I think, your case presents a stronger claim, to be reinstated in your former rank, that of Capt. Bonneville some years ago. If your friend Genl. Atchison of the Senate, could feel the merits of your claim, as thus presented, his influence in that body might be successfully used in your behalf."
He then goes on to talk of the weather. In P.S. note he asks, if Lupton is going to Brooklyn if he could also bring some furniture, left at the Rev. Johnson's, back to Milton.
NAMES:
Washington
Julia
Elkhorn
Capt. Bonneville
Genl. Atchison
Rev. E. Ell. Johnson

Item #7: 
WRITER: W.M. Lupton from Milton
Recipient: Lupton, in Brooklyn, N.Y.
DATE: July 5, 1846
PAGES: one large page folded into four pages of script
SUMMARY:
He has received Lupton’s letter of the 29th May and the 15th June. “I participate in all the feelings that are connected with your disappointment.” His friends in Washington tried to serve Lancaster but his friends in congress disappointed him. He says “paper costs but little, and are received for the most part according to that standard” and encourages Lupton to gain recognition through hard work. The president, he says receives hundreds of such letters, his own experience has taught him that. However he hopes the recommendation of Gen. A and W. D. are “honorable exceptions.”

He still laments Julia’s move to Elkhorn where, As I read it, she must be a teacher as he describes her classroom. He also talks of her divorce, which he does not approve of.

Then he returns to Lupton’s affairs, “I hope you have put into effect, your plan of calling personally on the President and the Secretary of War.”...W. Polk is a gentleman of the Southern School, and cannot offer an ungracious repulse.” He then returns to family news and planting. Mr. Pardee received news of his fathers death. Again in he asks Lancaster to bring the furniture if he should again be coming through Wisconsin.

NAMES:
Washington
Gen. A.
W.D.?
Julia
Elkhorn
Secretary of War
W. Polk
Mr. Pardee

Item #8: WRITER: W. M. Lupton
RECIPIENT: Lupton at Westport, Jackson Co., Missouri
DATE: August 18th 1846
PAGES: One large folded into four pages of script
SUMMARY:
He perceived by Lancasters’ letter of July 25 & 27 that he has made up his mind to return to the Far West. He said from the beginning he had little hope for Lancasters’ success in Washington. He talks of hope and gives advice from the bible
He reminds Lancaster that Hobbie “went rather reluctantly” and he might not have had friendly feeling toward the Seers. He think that may have had an effect on Lupton’s reception. He says the ex-governor has lost favor with the democratic party and “our native state”(NY?) Mr. Medill is mentioned. “The attention you received from Mesr. Davis and Dodge, must have alleviated greatly the anxiety inseparable from your stay in Washington. It is indeed by seldom that a friend so warm and generous as Mr. Gilpin can cross your path in life”.
Luptons’ father believes, from what he has read, that Col. S will embark on command of a Regiment of Volunteers on the order of the War department. These volunteers at the end of the war can stay “at any place, provided it should then be a part of U.S. territory, without any means of returning to be provided by the Government. He viewed this as “intended to inundate the whole scheme of Col. S.”

Then he talks of money he apparently advanced to Lancaster and says for Lancaster not to worry about repaying him, anything he could do for his son..... He says he could sell the house on Adams St. in Brooklyn to advance the legacy but the real estate market is “depressed and there would be a loss of $6-800.”
NAMES:
Hobbie
Mr. Medill
Davis
Dodge
Gilpin
Col. S
Adams St.
Brooklyn

Item #9:  WRITER: Lancaster P. Lupton at Bents Fort - Arkansas
RECIPIENT: To The President of the United States, (Polk)
DATE: Nov. 8th 1846
PAGES: copy of letter i and 1/3 pages
SUMMARY:
Lupton requests that he be appointed Indian Agent "in some of the
agencies that will probably be formed in Oregon or California" He cites
his experience at Forts Towson, Gibson, and Leavenworth, and his years
spent in the vicinity of the Rocky Mountains.
He goes on to say he has no profession the energies of his youth were
spent in the service of his country and he is not asking for the
appointment for the sake of the office but as a means of subsistence.
He apparently included some testimonials from when he left the army "as
they fully show, who I am, what my qualifications are and what my
former services have been.
NAMES:
Bent's Fort
Fort Towson
Fort Gibson
Fort Leavenworth

Item #10:  WRITER: W. M. Lupton at Milton; and mother - Julia, at Milton
RECIPIENT: Lancaster, at Bents' Fort Arkansas via Fort Leavenworth
DATE: April 2nd 1847
PAGES: typewritten transcript of Father's letter.
SUMMARY: He says he has received two letter from Lupton, one dated
Sept. 11 from Westport and one dated 2 October from Bents' Fort. He hope
Lancaster succeeds in all his ventures, and cautions that Lancaster
cannot lead a life of adventure forever.
Last fall Father, Mother and Julia visited Elizabeth in Chicago, where she
underwent a "premature confinement", mother stayed until January. His
sister Julia has opened a school in Elkhorn, and was successful in
obtaining a divorce from her husband. Issac has been sick.
It is the eve of the proposal to ratify the State Constitution of Wisconsin.
No real news from the army, just rumors.
He talks of his own poor health, apparently heart problems.
The letter is taken up now by his mother, Julia. She misses him and
wishes he were home. She spent nine pleasant weeks with Thes' and
Libby they are happy, even though his warehouse burned down.
Humphreys have bought three fifths of a Propellor. Pardee is very
industrious and preservering. Cousin Rosy has returned to Brooklyn to
preach in Evans Church.
Item #11: WRITER: W.M. Lupton, Elkhorn, Walworth Co. Wis
RECIPIENT: Lancaster Lupton, Hardscrabble, Arkansas River, Recd. Dec 1848
DATE: August 6th, 1848
PAGES: One large page with four pages of script, possible page missing, and an 8x10 size page 1/4 of which is script.
SUMMARY: Received his letter of March 26. Writes that they have moved to Elkhorn, having sold the farm in Milton to Issac who recently married his cousin Julia Beardsley. Father thinks it quite probable they have not received all of each others letters and lists the dates of the ones he has from Lancaster and the one he has written. Uncle Smith was expecting to go down the Mississippi in the fall of '47, his health was delicate and he was carrying a "Daguerreotype Apparatus". He left in the middle of Sept. with a box of seeds for Lancaster, he left the box at Galena, Ill. in charge of Messrs. Stillman & Rood, merchants who promised to forward it to St. Louis. In a letter father wrote Sept of '47 he requested Lancaster forward his purchase to Alexander and Anolie?, Milton, Prach Co. Wis. [I think there is a page missing here]
The top of my third page begins with a note that he saw the announcement of the death of Mr. Tharp. Says he left some letters at Westport addressed to Lancaster "title called for". Sister Julia has also written. He is worried about an illness Lancaster has had and worries about his loneliness and suffering. Mother has visited Chicago this spring. Sister Elizabeth has a boy 5 or 6 months old. Talks of improving a rental property. Mother's health is good, he is also in good health for his years. He ends the correspondence with a request that they discuss personally with Lancaster "some plan of operations, by which, you may be permanently located nearer to us." And then closes.
NAMES:
Elkhorn
Walworth Co.
Issac
Julia Beardsley
Uncle Smith
Galena, Ill.
Messrs. Stillman & Rood
St. Louis
Alexander and Anolie?
Prach Co.
Mr. Tharp
Julia
Chicago
Item #12: WRITER: W.M. Lupton, Elkhorn
RECIPIENT: Lancaster P. Lupton, no address, see following letter
DATE: August 7th 1849
PAGES: one 8 x 10 page, script on both sides (part of following correspondence see next letter)
SUMMARY:
Your private letter has been and will be kept from the knowledge of all except your mother.
First paragraph describes how great a pleasure it is to receive letter from one another. Received letter written last fall "in which you mention your produce transactions, with Col. Fremont & your probable removal to California. Hopes he will not be disappointed. Describes Asiatic Cholera that has been fatal in most of the major cities back east. He lists those cities. Cousin Roosevelt’s oldest son Peter sailed in the Barque St. Mary for San Francisco and ran ashore in the Harbor of Rio Janiero. Lancaster may find him when he arrives in California. There will also be many New Yorkers among the crowds. If he goes to the "diggings" he hopes he will scrape up enough loot to make him comfortable for life, and able to return to his nearest relatives.
NAMES:
Col. Fremont
California
Cousin Roosevelt, son Peter
San Francisco
Asiatic Cholera
Rio Janiero
New Yorkers

Item #13: WRITERS: Julia and Elizabeth
RECIPIENT: Lancaster P. Lupton, San Francisco, upper California, via N.Y.
DATE: August 6 the 1849, July 29th 1849
SUMMARY: Letter from Elizabeth
Says she has written but the letter must have never reached him. Describe she visit to her folks and how busy her husband is. He is engaged in the manufacture of the "Harvest Reaper" which he hopes will prove profitable business. Mr. Ogden is concerned in it with a Mr. Mc Cormick to whom the patent belongs. Mr. Ogden proposed it to Thes. as a good chance for making money. She talks of her seventeen month old child ‘Luther’ and of Issacs’ new baby. She says so much for matrimony but she supposes he doesn’t believe in it or he would have tried it by now. Aunt Fanny died and Uncle Beardsely is low. Mary Elderkin went over with her family and has not yet returned. And so he is on his way to California, she wishes him luck. “I must not forget to tell you that Thes younger sister, one of them you saw at Gainsville, has since married an officer, Capt Hayden, of 2nd Infantry, & is probably by this time in California”.
She asks him to send letters from California to let them know if the accounts are exaggerated.
NAMES:
Harvest Reaper
Mr. Ogden
Mr Mc Cormick
Luther, Elizabeths son
Capt. Hayden
Letter from Julia:
She talks of letter being lost in the mail. Lizzie has left. A son of cousin Roosevelt and a son of Isabelle Squire of Brooklyn have left for California. She talks of Elizabeth's son and of her own children, Willie will write a few lines the next time she writes.
Uncle Smith left four weeks ago and they had a letter from him in Racine saying he was on his way to Cleveland. He will return in the Spring. She talks of Aunt Fannie's death and Uncle Beardsley and Mrs. Eldekins. She closes.
NAMES:
Cousin Roosevelt, a son
Isabelle Squire of Brooklyn, a son
California
Elizabeth
Willie, Julia's son
Uncle Smith
Racine
Cleveland
Aunt Fannie
Uncle Beardsley
Mrs. Eldekins

Item #14: WRITER: Mother Julia and W. M. Lupton, Elkhorn, Wis.
RECIPIENT: Lancaster Lupton, in Stockton, Upper California
DATE: February 8th, 1850
PAGES: one large folded into four of script
SUMMARY:
Received Lancasters' first letter from California dated Oct. 25. Received the other two letters, one from Arkansas and one from Mormon City. Hopes they will at least meet in Heaven. Father and Julia and her children all make one family there and Issac is still farming. Thinks his little boy 'William' is remarkable. Elizabeth still resides in Chicago, Mr. Pardee is in the reaper business, last year he made about 5,000 dollars. Talks of their little boy, and Elizabeth's visit last summer & their visit and Julia will soon go to help Elizabeth through her next confinement, as Thes must go to Buffalo.
"The letter you enclosed to your father, was thought best not to communicate to the rest of the family- I wish you would tell us more particularly about the country"..........
Her Brother Smith is staying with them Uncle Billy is dead and Aunt Fannie and Uncle Beardsley. W. Eldekin and Adelaide are guardians and executors, Uncle Beardsley has proven himself dishonest and the children will not get much. Be sure and write.
NAMES:
Arkansas
Mormon City
Julia
Issac, William, his son
Elizabeth
Chicago
Mr. Pardee
Buffalo
Mr. Smith
Uncle Billy
Aunt Fanny
W. Eldekins & Adelaide
Uncle Beardsley
W. M. Luptons' Letter:
SUMMARY:
Hopes he has received the letter he and Lancasters' sisters have sent to San Francisco. This letter contains a few words in French "on the subject of yours' marked "private". He is glad that Lancaster accepts the "duties of paternity" and is able to "elevate them above their native origin". He then wonders about the mother and the arrangement between Lancaster and her and urges him to explain it in his next letter. He also requests a few words in regards to Lancasters' business concerns and cautions him against "the snare of the gambler". He recommends a course of duty and hard work which will be repaid in a few years. He hopes Lancasters' knowledge of mineralogy will be of use to him. The mails are more frequent now and he hopes to hear from Lancaster in a few days.
NAMES:
Dr. Knap

Item #15:  WRITER: W. M. Lupton and Julia (sister)
RECIPIENT: L.P. Lupton
DATE: July 13th 1850
PAGES: One large folded into four pages of script, no address
SUMMARY:
Received letter of 8th of May, one date the 27th of May. Father wrote to Saml E. Johnson, a cousin on instructions from Lancaster to secure for an amount. He has had no reply and assumes Johnson is busy with his duties as County Judge......... He thinks "the machine" will expedite the removal of great treasures,........ "the divers life may be exposed to great danger".

Father then goes on to describe where in a stream gold might be found. Julia wrote from Chicago informing the Family of Issac's intentions of leaving for California. On the 25th of March they started from Gainsville. They left little William with Grandma Lupton. Mothers health is good and the whole family is well.

He describes his hope for Issac in the west. He wrote from their "Winter Quarters" 100 miles from Council Bluffs. He encourages Lupton to write narrative descriptions of his new life. They are expecting a visit from Elizabeth.

Julia's Letter: July 20 1850
She writes of letters she has sent and her visit to Chicago. Elizabeth has a new son William Lupton, born April 16th.
She supposes brother Issac has reached the Gold Country and talks of his little boy.
She wonders about her bachelor brother and wonders if he visits next summer if he would take a housekeeper back with him (herself).
They had a letter from Issac dated Fort Laramie June 1st. and he expected to be in Sacramento City July 20th. She hopes they will have a reunion. Her sons Willie and B. miss him and wish for his return.
NAMES:
Saml. E. Johnson, a county Judge and cousin of Luptons'
Julia
Chicago
Issac
California
Gainsville
Baby William
Council Bluffs
Fort Laramie
Elizabeth
Her new baby William Lupton, born Apr. 16th.
Sacramento City
Julia's sons William and B.

Item #16: WRITER: W M. Lupton, ELkhorn, Wis. and Julia
RECIPIENT: Issac Lupton, brother of Lancaster
DATE: July 29th, 1850
PAGES: one large page folded into four pages of script
SUMMARY: Lupton has received their letter dated Fort Laramie. He remembers that as Lancasters' first station of trade with the Indians, before he built the Fort on the South Fork of the Platte. They have been lonely since their departure and laments that their four children have not chosen to stay close. He offers words of advice about life in general and signs off.

Julia's Letter
She was in Chicago when Issac left and was much surprised at the news. She was anxious during their crossing of the plains as they have read all the stories about murdering and robbing Indians. She then lists neighbors that have relatives in California, Mrs Mead from Ainadilla?, (Del Co.), her Husband is in Cal. (she is sister to Mrs. Gray) They have had letters here from Mr. Chittenden, he has done well and speaks of returning. Mr. Allen had been robbed by the Indians. Elizabeth and her family visited and are well. She then describes the Accomplishment of Issacs' son William since he left...
Talks a bit about the Eldekins and then closes.

NAMES:
Fort Laramie
South Platte
Chicago
California
Mrs. Mead
Mrs. Gray
Ainadilla?, Del. Co.
Mr. Chittenden
Elizabeth
Issacs' son William
Eldekins

Item #17: WRITER: Ricard Le Druio ?sp.
DATE: July 3rd, 1861
PAGES: one small note
SUMMARY: Says that all appointments to new representatives have been made. Luptons' letter would have to go to Washington. The department is flooded with applications.
NAMES:
Washington

Item #18: WRITER: Josiah Gorman, Justice of the peace, Woodbridge
RECIPIENT: Lupton
DATE: Dec. 3rd, 1864
PAGES: one small note
SUMMARY: Gorham's order to over money in Lupton's hands to Lubbert
NAMES:
Josiah Gorman
Woodbridge
Lubbert or Libbert
Item #19: WRITER: Lancaster Lupton, Arcata
RECIPIENT: THE Commissioner of the General Land Office
DATE: July 3rd, 1871
PAGES: one large, script on three pages, this looks like a draft
SUMMARY:
Letter regarding case between Leggert and Lupton over homesteading of
a piece of land. On the 18th of Nov. 1870 Lupton went to the Land Office in
Eureka to file a homestead. The register said that Leggert owned the land,
however there were no improvements on the place and no one living on
the place so Leggert had forfeited his claim. He filed a suit against
Leggert for the land and on Dec. 5 the Land Office decided in Luptons'
favor. While awaiting a decision from Washington Leggert moved onto
the land and filed a claim. He goes on to argue in his favor for the land
and asks for a conclusion in the matter.
NAMES:
Leggert
Land Office in Eureka, Cal.
Washington

Item #20: WRITER: Julia, New York
RECIPIENT: Lupton
DATE: MARCH 11 1873
PAGES: one 8 x 10 folded into four pages of script
SUMMARY:
She has rec'd his last letter she cannot account for her letter sent to him.
she goes on to answer his questions. Elizabeth has five children, Luther
25, Frank 22, Erminie?sp 22, Julia 15, and Harry 13...Of grandpa's family
only ones living are Aunt Louise, Issac and Harriet. Cousin Cornelia, Mr
Coleman, Cousin Elize, W. Mills & Edward of of Uncle Billys' Cousin John
died two years ago as we; as Mr. Coleman and Cousin Wm. Johnson, of his
12 children, only three survive. Cousin Sam is gone too. Twenty years ago
their father died, sixteen years ago mother died, and goes on and on—
with names of cousins and friends remaining and dead and their
children.
NAMES:
see letter

Item #21: WRITER: unknown, New Hope
RECIPIENT: Unknown, addressed to sister
DATE: February 15, 1902
PAGES: one small script on both sides, probably another page was
included
SUMMARY: Glad to hear from sister and all is well. Several names of
various people and their doings.
NAMES: see letter

Item #22: WRITER: UNKNOWN
RECIPIENT: Unknown, Sister?
DATE: Unknown
PAGES: one 8x10, script on one side
SUMMARY: Talks of poor health, getting 50 years now and visits to
various friends.
NAMES: see letter
SERIES: Records of Financial Transactions 1843 - 1882
Folder #3: Records of Financial Transactions, 9 items, arranged chronologically

Item #1: DATE: unknown, however Metcalf was trading for Lupton during 1843 and 1844
SUMMARY:
"I hereby acknowledge the receipt of five two year old heifers at twelve dollars each, and one durham bull at 25$, in all amounting to Eighty five dollars in part payment of an order from A.C. Metcalf for one hundred and eighty dollars."
Lucien Maxwell

Item #2: DATE: Jany 13th 1844, Fort Lancaster
SUMMARY:
"Mesrs Rich J Wilson Bott of L. Maxwell
28 Galls. 3 pints Whiskey @4$ pr. Gall - $113.50
Received Fort Lancaster Jany 13th of L.P. Lupton the sum of one hundred and eight dollars, (in cattle) in part payment of the above. The balance being paid out of the Store."
Lucien Maxwell

Item #3: DATE: Jany 13th 1844
SUMMARY:
"Received Fort Lancaster Jany 13th 1844 of L.P. Lupton the sum of one hundred and Eighty dollars on ap. of A. C. Metcal for Rich J Wilson."
Lucien Maxwell

Item #4: DATE: Jany 28th 1844, Fort Lancaster
SUMMARY:
"Rich J Wilson
Bot of S. Turley pr C. Ortube's
147 lbs flour @12$ a fanaga $14.70
One Sack orn pr Stiles 14.00
16 Galls. whiskey @ 4.00 pr Gall. 64.00
$92.70

Received of L.P. Lupton 5 cows @ 12.00 $60.00
2 Steers @10$ ea. 20.00
3 calves @ 4.00 12.00
in all amounting to ninety two dollars in part payment of the above."
Charles Ortubes (his mark)
J W Grieves wittness
Item #5: DATE: SEPT 2ND 1844, West Port
SUMMARY:
"Mr. R. Wilson
Please deliver to A.B. Mc. Gee 3 yoke
oxen- 4 log chins- 1 wagon- 1 box tools- 1 drawing
knife- 1 handsaw- 6 sets mule harness with double
trus & single trus & c for a six mule team- Also
a 2 year old steer taken by Brown-"
Yours &c
L.P. Lupton

Item #6: DATE: JULY 28TH /50, WINTER'S BAR
SUMMARY:
"One day after date I promise to pay
L.P. Lupton on order the sum of
thirty nine dollars for value received
of him-"
$39.00
"The whole amt. to be paid by the
1st Oct. 1/2 to be paid before that-
time- " George. S. Avantihers?sp
Attest Wm Askin

Item #7: DATE: Jany. 18, 1851
SUMMARY:
Bill of sale for mule bought from William Hicks by Lupton for $70.00.

Item #8: DATE: APRIL 13TH, 1851
SUMMARY:
" One day after date I promise to pay L. P. Lupton on order the sum of
Eighty four dollars 58/100 for value received."
J.J. Holmes

Item #9: DATE: Dec. 5 1882
SUMMARY:
Tax receipt for land and livestock. In the County of Humboldt, State of
California. $3 50
SERIES: Accession Records, 1929 - 1937
Folder # 4: Accession Records, 7 items, arranged chronologically

Item #1: WRITER: L. R. Hafen
RECIPIENT: Postmaster, Arcata, California
DATE: July 9, 1929
PAGES: One typewritten
SUMMARY: Hafen asks for information about Luptons' descendants or where he was buried. The postmaster types his reply at the bottom of where Lupton died and is buried and name of remaining living descendant.
NAMES:
Green Point Ranch
Blue Lake
Humboldt County
Mrs. Julia Skinner
Fieldbrook

Item #2: WRITER: Margaret Richert
RECIPIENT: L. R. Hafen
DATE: Sept. 30th, 1929
PAGES: One small folded to create three sides of script
SUMMARY: They have been looking for Luptons' picture and she has found it and will mail it this P.M. She has information about marriage and family and lists names of Luptons' wife and eight children in chronological order. Mrs. Richert is Julia Skinners' daughter, Luptons' granddaughter.
NAMES:
see document

Item #3: WRITER: Margaret Richert
RECIPIENT: L. R. Hafen
DATE: JAN. 10th, 1930
PAGES: One small note, script on one side
SUMMARY: Gives the papers to Hafen, has received copies of the Magazine.
NAMES:
Hafen
Richert

Item #4: WRITER: T. Hughes, Lt. Colonel, A.G.D., Adjutant, West Point
RECIPIENT: Reverend William Worthington
DATE: February 20, 1936
SUMMARY: Worthington has requested biographical information about Lupton and Hughes provides some references.
NAMES:
Hughes
Lupton
Worthington
Item #5: WRITER: Julia Skinner, Arcata, Cal.
DATE: February 24, 1936
PAGES: one script on one side and 1/3 of the other side
SUMMARY: Julia summarizes the genealogy of her family.
NAMES: see Document

Item #6: WRITER: Julia Skinner, Arcata
RECIPIENT: REV. Worthington
DATE: May 3, 1936
PAGES: two pages, three pages of script
SUMMARY: A continuation of the family genealogy. She mentions that Lancaster was never able to locate his brother Issac in California.
NAMES: see document

Item #7: WRITER: Valtes M. Kinney, Arcata
RECIPIENT: Rev. William Worthington, Providence, R.I.
DATE: August 13, 1937
PAGES: one, script on one side
SUMMARY: Notice of Julia Skinner passing away. Written by housekeeper.
NAMES: Skinner Worthington Kinney

SERIES: Newspaper Clippings
Folder #5: Newspaper clippings, arranged by provenance, 1 item

Item #1: A small envelope containing newclippings of advertisements of medicinal cures. One of the clippings is an announcement of the search for Lupton heirs.

SERIES: Microfilm
Folder #6: Microfilm, 1 item
The collection arranged in chronological order and filmed June 22, 1972.
BIBLIOGRAPHY


