

Henry Grinnell Papers
Box 1, Folder 3

Letter 1

Aug[?] 9th
Sanderson House
Washington DC
July 6th/70 VIIIh PM

Dear Mr. Grinnell –

I have but a few moments to write.

Enclosed you will find a paper that has been gotten up by some strong friends of the North Pole Expedition to be presented to the President just as soon as the Senate + House have concurred in the agreement of the Conference Committee. Which will most likely be done to-morrow.

Senators, Representatives + others here will sign like kind of paper. (over)

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I may have state that it is my purpose + determination to select experienced + reliable officers and men for every department.

Your son Walton would be my 1st choice for 1st officer. I should let him have command of the Company upon the sea. Of course sailing + ice masters would be his 1st officers.

I would like that yourself + a select few would sign the accompanying paper + then send the same to me I will write to Mr. Brevoort to call on you + sign it. I write in the greatest haste

Yours CF HALL

END OF LETTER

Letter 2

Aug[?] 11th
Sanderson House
Washington, D.C.
July 10: 1870
VII-PM

Dear Sir –

Your letter of 9th I read this morning. The same enclosed the Telegram of Mr. Kilmen[?]. Last eve I sent you a Telegram as follows: - “North Pole Expedition Bill passed Senate + House this afternoon”!

Of course, you was[?] glad to get that news for it told you that I had triumphed after six months of hard, unceasing work.

I was quite happy, as you must know, when the Senate + House confirmed the agreement of the Conference Committee. But I must here tell you
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something that will surprise you + make you bite your lips in justifiable anger for the inhumanity of the man.

The House passed the Legislative Judicial + Executive Appropriation Bill (to which is attached the North Pole Ap. Bill) at about Vh-30m P.M. of yesterday + in 15 minutes after that the House adjourned. Soon after, the early great + steadfast friend of the North Pole Bill – Mr. Dawes – saw me + came and spoke to me tell me the astounding news that some friend of Dr. H. already had been circulating a petition among the members for the President to commission him (Dr. H) as commander of the North Pole Expedition! He added friendly words precaution vigilance etc . etc.

For the 1st time I learn to night that a game has been going on here for near a week by some friend on hill[?] workers of Dr. H. –

END OF PAGE

Let what I have write be considered secretly confidential. I think I am not wrong when I say that there are certain or uncertain individuals of a well known society of your city that has a perfect determination that I shall not have anything to do with the proposed North Pole Expedition but that Dr. H. shall have it entire. They know that if I succeed you + I will get the honor + that the society will not get any.

I shall do my best to the end. I am to see the President to-morrow + by next day he will have a list of Senators + Representatives names. The Secretary Cox of the Interior is a strong friend of all my plans (+ so of very many here in Washington + he (Secy. Cox) is to see the President Tuesday

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at the Cabinet meeting + then will talk with the President + deliver him the proper papers
Rev. Dr. Newman Chaplin of the Senate + pastor of the Church that President Grant attends is a very strong Arctic friend + has done all he could to promote my plea.

I suppose you will send me that paper to day. I do hope to get through here in 2 or 3 days + then I will come + see you.

Yours CF Hall

To H. Grinnell

N.Y.

I know Mrs. Grinnell will sympathise with me in the terrible inhuman work of Dr. H. Tell her that Sylvia's letter has aided me in getting my triumph – Senators have seen + read it + now know it and all like its sentiments very much.

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Letter 3

Washington D.C.

July 18: 1870

Dear Sir,

It was my purpose to start for New York on last Saturday Evening, but some special Arctic friends advised that I should hold on here to this day (Monday) that I might have the intended Commision made out + delivered to ??? the President.

It is now my purpose to leave for your City to0morrow night, therefore I expect to see you Wednes. Morning.

I am sure you + Mrs. Grinnell rejoice with me that we have such a noble hearted President that feels[?] to do all he can to promote Arctic discoveries - some up to the North Pole. He has had no faltering in his opinion from the first about the writer of this being the best man for making the proposed Expedition to the North Pole.

I shall hope to see that great + good woman of the age – Lady Franklin – on my arrival at your place.

Yours CF Hall

To Henry Grinnell –

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Letter 4

Monday VIIIh-30m AM

Steel's Hotel

312-313-314

Greenwich St

Aug 8/70 N.Y.

Mr. Grinnell-

I returned from Hudson N.Y. this morning having paid a short visit to Capt. E.A. Chapel. If any letters come for me please retain them till to-morrow when I expect to call on you.

If a Mr. Kilmer brother of Capt. Kilmer should call, tell him to meet me here at Steel's Hotel this Eve. I go out this morning on the Steamer "Nuhpa" to witness the Yacht race.

CF Hall

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Letter 5

New Haven Sept. 18th/70

Henry Grinnell, Esq.

You will, doubtless, have forgotten by this time the young man who entered your office last winter, enquiring about a proposed expedition to the North Pole. If you have not forgotten him, he is the one who now writes to you.

It may not now be possible for me to go but, even if I cannot, I take a lively interest in the subject of Arctic Ex-ploration.

I have seen, through the papers, that Congress has made an

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appropriation for Captain Hall's projected expedition.

If any definite plans have been made I wish you would inform me; also to whom I had better apply, if my present engagements will allow me to join the expedition.

Thanking you for your for-mer courtesy and kindness, I remain

Very respectfully,

James McNaughton, jr.

Yale College,

New Haven, Ct.

END OF LETTER

Letter 6

New London, Conn.

Oct:13th 1870

Henry Grinnell-

Dear Sir

At this particular time there is an opportunity for Joe + Hannah to purchase in Groton, Conn. close to Capt. Buddington's residence, a lot of 2 acres of excellent land on which are a house + a barn, all for six hundred Dollars (\$600.) – Now if I can pay Joe + Hannah the bal-ance I owe them on account of their time + assistance rendered me on my last voyage, they then can now improve the opportunity offered. Joe + Hannah will feel greatly encouraged to go on the purposed North Pole Expedition + be faithful to it, + then return to America to settle down on their Homestead if they now can have them just dues paid them. I therefore conclude to pay them a part now _ the balance shortly after I commence my Lecture tour which begin 1st of Nov. next.

Whatever amounts you have in your care belonging

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belonging both to Joe + Hannah, + myself, you will please send in whatever form will best comode you to me in a letter addressed as usual to the care of Williams + Haven, New London, Conn.

Enclosed I send you the accounts of Joe + Hannah - + of mine. They may aid you in looking over yours.

By said accounts: - due Joe + Hannah \$99.10

due Hall 110.93

Total due = 210.03

By the by your account with Joe + Hannah I recollect does not agree with the above by \$10., your account making it that "Joe" had \$10.00 more of you than the enclosed a/c gives you Cr. for, therefore the matter will start thus: - due Joe + Hannah \$99.10 less \$10 = \$89.10

due Hall - - - - 110.93

Total due Say two hundred Dollars = 200.03

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END OF PAGE

I suppose you received the New London paper that I sent you several days since giving account of the arrival of 2 whalers at this port from Cumberland Inlet. Since then Capt. White in a New Bedford ship + Capt Buddington in the "Concordia" (one of Williams + Havens vessels) have come in from same Inlet. You will recollect that Capt. Buddington went out this year (he sailed from New London July 7th/70) for the object of taking out the "Concordia" + exchanging it with Capt. Spicer for the "Helen F". Capt. Spicer in schooner "Helen F" has been out 2 winters. He sent home last fall all his bone + oil of 1st year + now has his little schooner (Helen F) in the Inlet full; + about 400[?] barrels of oil on shore. Spicer was to put all his oil + bone aboard the Concordia _ come home this fall leaving Capt Buddington to remain in the Inlet with the "Ellen F." to promote whaling + come home next fall.

But Capt. Buddington on getting up into Davis strait, found the west side so packed with heavy polar ice + innumerable Icebergs that he could not make his way to the point of destination – Cumberland Inlet notwithstanding he remained there endeavoring to penetrate through the

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the icy belt 100 miles in width for a full month. At length Capt. Buddington was obliged to give up the attempt, + then turned prow homewards arriving here on Monday last, though not unexpectedly by those who had heard the news of the superabundance of ice in the Arctic region reported by the 2 whalers that had a few days before returned.

Capt Tyson of the "Era" made the passage in 19 ½ day from the Cumberland to New London. He had to coast along down from the Inlet for 200 miles before he could find an opening in the ice by which to get out. Capt. White started 28th of July made the attempt to find a ??? – gave it up + returned + remained a month + then started coasting down as Tyson did. One vessel, the

Quickstep, Capt. Allen, that started before Tyson did was bespoken by the Franklin on the 18 of Sept. near New Foundland has not yet arrived. But little hope now with any one here that she ever will arrive, for the time has passed when she should have been home. The Quickstep" had 52 barrels of oil besides her tryworks on deck at the time she was fallen in with, which was during great + almost universal gale of 17th to[?] 20th of Sept.

Yours Ever

CF Hall

P.S. Expect to be in N.Y. in a little less than 2 weeks on my way west to commence my lecture tour.

6 vessels (American) wintered in the Inlet = "Franklin" 119 tons NL; "Helen F." 108 tons NL; Isabella 192 tons N.L.; Quickstep 105 tons NL; Era 188 tons NL; Milwood of N.B.
END OF LETTER

Letter 7

New London, Conn.

Oct: 17: 1870

Dear Sir –

Your letter of Saturday 15th last I received this morning. Enclosed was your check for \$160 03/100 + a letter from Dr. Walker of San Francisco. both favors for me.

I regret to put you to so much trouble but it certainly is well for me to try + correct, at once, what I believe is a mishapprehension on your part about that etc[?]. – So little money gets into my hands _ consequently so little is there that can get out again, that I certainly could not make the error of \$40 as I must have made in the statement of your last letter be correct. – If you have that slip of paper that I gave you several weeks ago, on which you had entered the credits of Joe's e/c, you will find in your own hand writing the credit of \$440.00. On the 29th of Nov. I handed you \$200. in bills + also a check of \$39.74/100 total =\$239.74/100 but the check of \$39.74/100 was called the round sum of \$40. – Now days after (Oct.31st 1869) \$200 more were handed you which with the previous sums made, as called by you, =\$440.00

I hope you can readily place your hands on that slip of paper I have responded to wherever you made Memoranda of Credits + some for Debits. XX

XX Notwithstanding so little money do I get a chance to handle, yet I keep, all the time, what is called a cash-Book in which I place every expenditure, + every source from where cash comes, so that an error of more than a few cents cannot occur with me. Yours Ever CF Hall

Henry Grinnell 45 William.St. N.Y.

Expect to be in N.Y. on my way west next week Thursday Oct. 27th CFH

END OF LETTER

Letter 8

Sanderson House

Washington DC

July 7/70

Dear Grinnell –

I would like

Mr Cyrus W. Field

David Dudley Field

Blunt (formerly of the Brothers)

Harper + Brothers

Among the number to help circulate – only a few names wanted. Let it be sent on here by

Monday next

Your letter came this morning + enclosed are from Frank Lailer – (over)

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You will see notice of the action of the Conference Committee in the N.Y. Daily Tribune of to-day [7th July] 3rd page in Washington letter.

Joe + Hannah are well – I hear from them often the last 2 days I have paid over eight dollars for telegraphing to New London about others that I have to ship to leave there to-day for Repulse Bay – for natives there to have seen[?] lots of dry[?] deer skin, ??? seal lions[?] etc. etc. ready for me next spring – I sent them altogether one hundred and twenty five dollars worth of trade CF Hall

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Aug. 9th

END OF LETTER

Letter 9

Charlestown Mass

July 4th 1870

Mr. Grinnell

Sir:

As it is quite impossible for me to get-your check cashed I am obliged to return it. Hoping you mite have the kindness to send me a Post Office Order for \$25.

Yours with respect

Frank Lailer
469 Main Street
Charlestown
Mass
END OF LETTER

Letter 10

Washington, D.C.
Nov 9th 1870

My Dear Mr. Grinnell

Enclosed you will find letter that I wish you would send to your daughter Sylvia.

I arrived here early Monday morning – During the day I called at the Executive Mansion + had interview with Gen. Dent[?] + arranged it with him that he should order copy of the North Pole Expedition Statute that was approved last July (the 12th), + should arrange it with the President to designate

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Designate the evening when he would give me audience.

By the by, I dined at the residence of Mr. David Dudley Field in N.Y. on the PM of Sunday last. Gen J.H. Martindale was there. Gen. Martindale was Military Governor of Washington, D.C. one time during the War. Both Mr. Field + Gnl. M. on reading over the statute referred to on the preceding page were decidely of the opinion that the President has the power to order the stores required for the North Pole Expedition to be supplied from the Navy Department without taking their cost out of the \$50,000. I think the President will so view the matter.

A letter from you giving briefly the liberal views on + the course persued by Mr. Kennedy when Secy. of the Navy resolution to your 2 d Arctic Expedition under Dr. Kane will have great good effect on those high in authority here.

Yours Ever CF Hall

Please send for a few days such letters as may come there for me directed to me, "Care A.N. Mullett, Supervising Architect Washington, D.C."

END OF LETTER