



Collection Information:

Item: Carpenter, Ebenezer, [Colchester, Connecticut?]. Copybook and stylus circa 1843-1854. Holograph. 7 pages of text.

Series: Original Documents.

Collection: Ford, Allyn K., collector. Allyn Kellogg Ford collection of historical manuscripts.

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This copy-book is evidently one of the earliest, for in the advertising printed in the front and back, it would seem that it was a new invention. It is interesting to see that the statement made that the pen or style "is so durable that it will last for Centuries without repair" has been proved true at least for most of its first century.

The carbon paper used, is called "Carbonated Paper".

On the first page is the signature in ink of "Ebenesa Carpenter", although on another place on the same page, his first name is spelled "Ebenezer".

There is also in the upper right hand corner, the following: "I am fifteen years old the 30th day of June, H.F.C." These initials refer to Ebenezer Carpenter's daughter, Hannah H. Carpenter, so this writing must have been done in , the year that she was fifteen years old.

Besides this, there is a sketch of a man standing in a room.

On the back of this sheet, is the following: "Providence, Oct. 30, 1843" also the date "Dec. 21, 1843" and a line reading "Thursday morning, Dec. 30, 1843, was a beautiful".

The name "Ebenesa Carpenter" is written twice with that spelling and once with the spelling "Ebenezer" which was evidently done at a later time. From this I should judge that the spelling was changed.

Further down the page, are several flourishes and the words "Mess Carpenter & Green" followed by the words "Many men of many minds" and "Mess Charles Phillips". After this is written "And God said let there be Light, and immediately the spirit of divination breathed forth from the expanded and beautifully blended itself forth and amidst the".

This is followed by a signature "Emerson Tone" and then follows this "An impress of God. He came forth with the benignity of God graciously beaming on his countenance. Cha^s in truth and love".

The name "Charles Phillip" is again written at the bottom and some other undescribable writing.

A later writing is in the lower right hand corner, reading "Louisa Carpenter, June 1854". She was the wife of Ebenezer Carpenter.

After this follows the letter dated August 1847 given on the next page, and then two pages facing each other showing a sketch, evidently Moses receiving the ten commandments. It looks as though this was drawn to try out the plan of making two copies at once.

LETTERS COPIED WITH CARBON PAPER IN COPY-BOOK

* * * * *

Colchester,
August 1847.

Dear Bro. Humphrey:

If I enjoyed writing as much as I do reading letters from others, it would be quite a feast to leave my hoe standing in my garden and sit down and give to a friend three or four pages of odds and ends (I have nothing else to give). Living so far away from the salt water, you cannot expect much that will interest one that is enjoying the advantages of city life, and if one should be in who should want to be served, you had better lay this aside and wait on your customers and resume the consideration of my epistle at your leisure.

I read with interest what you wrote respecting the death of Harriet W. and Mother Fletcher. I received the same day with your letter, a paper from Bro. Salisbury in which was an obituary notice of both of them.

I have recently written to Bro. Salisbury, and have given a few thoughts respecting Harriet, which perhaps you have seen. You asked me in your letter to give you some particulars respecting my religious privileges and advantages, and also respecting my farming - in regard to my farming, I will again refer you to my letter to Bro. S. I licensed him to circulate it only among particular friends. You are, of course, one of that circle.

In regard to my religious privileges, they are greater than are enjoyed in most country places - we have a conference and prayer meeting on Wednesday evening, and Saturday evening a prayer meeting, but they are very thinly attended, averaging from 25 to 40. We have three ex-congregational ministers who attend our meetings pretty generally in conference ever say any thing themselves, and by their presence (or something else) the brethren overawed, and sit like so many statues - I have not heard a word from a single layman since I have been here, I had been here two months and sit like the rest until I could stand it no longer, when one evening as we had got pretty well metamorphosed in a Quaker Meeting, I raised those 56" which Deacon Cady used to speak of, and broke the silence with a few remarks and settled back into my seat and almost wished there had been another 56 which would have effectually kept me down. On taking my seat, the meeting was closed immediately and home I went wondering how the Connecticut Teachers in Isreal would receive an exhortation from a poor Rhode Island layman, for some of my remarks were directed over towards where they sat. I had been told by one of the brethren, that if a layman showed his head above the seat that the Minister would floor them if it was possible in some indirect way. The next evening came for conference and the Ministers were all on the ground. After the meeting was opened, our Minister (Mr. Arnold) read a part of a chap^r from which I quoted a verse or two a

the week before, and went on to remark upon what I had said, calling me by name, and the whole evening was occupied by the Ministers in discussing the subject of laymans exhorting, for my own part I wished myself at home. They all agreed, however, that they would sit still if the brethren would talk, but whether the brethren will ever embrace the privilege, I don't know. At any (rate) I think, as Mr. Leavitt once said, "Ministers make poor parishoners". Upon the whole I enjoy our social meetings as well as I expected. There are some warm-hearted christians that seem to take hold when they pray. I have received all the attention from the brethren that I had any reason to expect and a great deal more than I deserve. Our preaching is not to be compared with what you enjoy, and I should like to exchange with you a Sabbath or two, that you might have an opportunity of fasting on milk, which I think would give you a strong appetite for meat again.

* * * * *

Messer Bafsett (Bassett):

A few Sabbaths ago, some of the Brethren thought we would get together at nine o'clock (our S. School is held at noontime) for the purpose of considering the practicability of forming a clafs for the discussing and interchanging of thoughts upon the fundamental doctrines of the Bible. Three of the brethren only were present, together with a Mr. Shepard who had been hitherto considered an impenitent man (one of the teachers in the Academy). The Brethren had all spoken of the importance of considering more perfectly what God required of us in the Bible, when Mr. Shepard arose and said he had a few words which he wished to say. He went on to relate the exercises of his mind during a few preceding days upon the subject of his Souls Salvation.

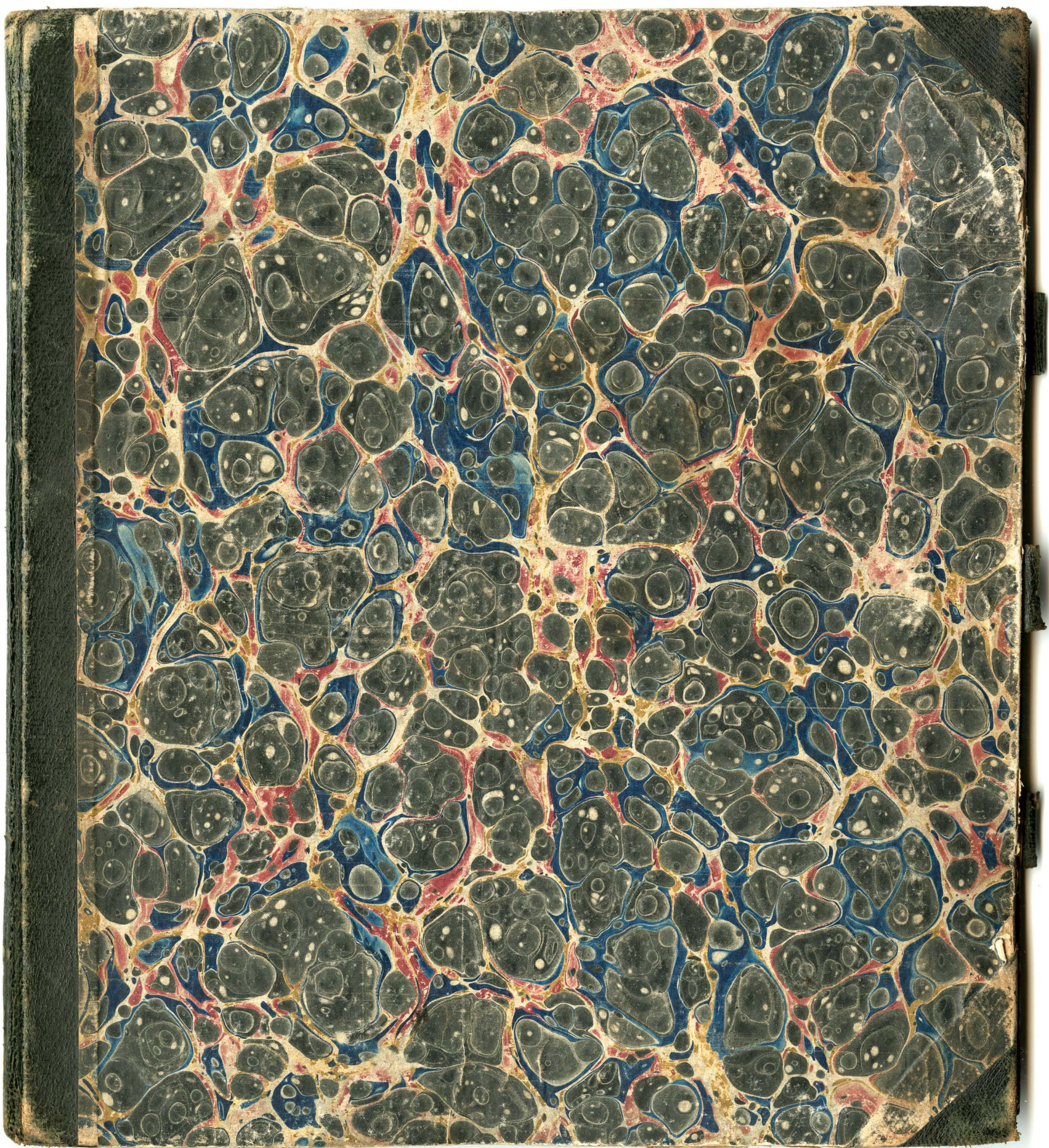
For my own part I was not prepared to hear such a statement, I had not learned before that there was any one who hardly thought they had a soul to save, but here was one who the very first opportunity that offered was anxious to tell what the Lord had done for his soul. I could not sit and hear such a statement without giving vent to tears to think that "verily the Lord was in this place and I knew it not". It seemed to me that Mr. S. had come into the Kingdom in the right way, first being wounded and slain by the Law and then healed and made to live by the precious Blood of Christ, and another thing, he has been born with his mouth open ready to speak the things which he feels and knows. He commenced Family worship forthwith, and I hear of him now and then praying with his Schollars, which in my view is no trifling thing, for one that prays will be more likely to live religion than one that never prays. He is a man of more than ordinary talents and is decided in his character, which is very important for a christian. I expect to enjoy much with him as he is a near neighbor of mine. I have given you this account because I thought you and your wife could sympathize with me in the conversion of one of my acquaintance. Even if you never had seen his face or never should until we all stand together at the judgment Bar of God.

If I have any faith at all, it needs to be strengthened that I may believe and feel that God can and will break the hardest heart such as is possessed by a Brastow, a Patten, Baker, Carr and others which we had feared were repining from the world of despair. Oh do forget me not at the throne of Grace when you can take hold and plead the Blood and promises of Jesus to cleanse and preserve his own children from bringing a reproach on his cause.

I called on Dea Cady a few weeks since he was just recovering from the lung fever with which he had been suffering several weeks. He looked quite feeble, but his greatest affliction was in regard to what had befallen his little Son. It may be that you have not been made acquainted with the circumstances. I will state briefly as I can the cause. He had concluded to send Cleavland to Colchester to prepare him for College, but upon the recommendation of some friends, he concluded to put him to a private select Boarding School in Norwich kept by Rev^d Mr. Abbot who had all his Schollers board with him. His number was limited to twelve. They were all older than C. and full of the "White Horse". Each of them lodged separately in separate rooms, each room having a window opening into the hall. The large boys contrived to present hideous objects by the means of the "Magic Lantern" before his window in the night, which frightened C. to that degree that he went into Fits which were of the most distressing character. From the description given, I should think resembled "delirium tremens". It was several days before his case was known to his Father. As soon as he heard what had befallen his boy, he sent immediately for him (not being able to go himself) and brought him to his former boarding place in Goshen. Cleavland continued to have fits for a number of days, and during the intervals between would seem lost and insensible in a great measure to what was passing. He had recovered a little when I was at Goshen. It was thought best to travel with him to change the scene and keep his mind as much as possible from his School. Mrs. Thomas had gone to Staten Island and N. Jersey with him to get the advantages of sea-bathing, and expected to be absent two weeks or more. The Dea said as soon as he got back he should make me a visit of some days if Cleavland was better. He has not been to see us yet, and I fear that the boy is not recovered. Dea Cady feels it to be the greatest trouble and affliction that could or ever has befallen him to have Cleavland deprived of his reason and under such circumstances; but I hope as he is young that he will outgrow the shock.

As my paper is about used up, I must draw to a close. You may wonder why I have written so crooked when my paper was ruled. That I will explain when I see you if it is necessary. Our children often speak of your wife, and Eben especially seems to enjoy a little chat about Mrs. Humphrey very much, and when I read the few words which she wrote bringing his name in, his countenance lighted up and he almost thought he was enjoying a visit over to Dea Humphrey's in Providence. Accept for yourself and wife, my warmest regards and fraternal love.

Eben Carpenter



ABRAHAM'S
HIGHLY IMPROVED
PATENT MANIFOLD
WRITERS,

FOR
COPYING LETTERS, INVOICES,
DRAWINGS, PLANS, &c.

This invention will produce a LETTER WITH ITS COPY at ONE OPERATION: or, if required, a LETTER with TWO FAC SIMILES to send abroad, with a single Pen (Style) which is so durable that it will last for Centuries without repair.

This extraordinary Apparatus, from its simplicity and despatch in operation, as well as portability in construction, is admirably adapted for Solicitors, Merchants, and persons traveling or going abroad; they are also strongly recommended (with the recently improved Copying and Carbonic Paper,) to the Clergy, Members of Congress, Legislators, Bankers, Commission Merchants, Brokers, and to all who have occasion to write much, and desire to keep Copies, or send Duplicates abroad, to whom it will prove a great saving of time, trouble and expense.

ABRAHAM'S IMPROVED NOCTO GRAPHS.

By this Invention persons who have had the misfortune to lose their sight, or others in the dark, are enabled to write either *Single* or in *Duplicate*, without the aid of any person whatever. The Apparatus is so extremely *simple* in its construction and mode of operation, that it is impossible it can fail of answering its purpose with the least possible trouble to the writer.

It is also particularly adapted to the circumstances of nervous and aged persons, who find a difficulty in managing common Pens and Ink, the Pen requiring no repairs or feeding, and the Ink is perfectly portable and cannot blot.

Manufactory, 89 Coates Street, Philadelphia.

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~~name~~
~~James~~
~~1871~~

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Allen K Ford
1219 1/2 St
Cuth
St. Louis
Mo
E. G. Miller

E

Eben Carpenter
- Colchester

Ford - Allen K. Strickland - Emerson
Res - 1219 1st ave South - Minneapolis

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1847

Providence Oct 30th 1843

Dear Sir I have the honor

to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st inst.

concerning Ebenezer Carpenter

Ebenezer Carpenter Dec 21 1843

Thursday morning Dec 20th 1843 I was a bed-ridden

11/11/11 Ebenezer Carpenter
McMan

Mrs. Carpenter Dear

I & many Men of many minds

And God said let there be light and immediately
a spirit of divination breathed forth from the heavens
re-appeared and beautifully blended itself forth and
amidst the

Emerson Tower

CT

An impress of God. We came forth
with the benignity of a God graciously framing
upon his countenance

Chad in Truth and Love

Louisa Carpenter Chad Phillips

June 1854 Mantinon Gloucester Ebenezer
Louisa Carpenter Louisa Carpenter

Colchester August 1847

1847

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here, I had been here two months and sit like the rest im-
-till I could stand it no longer when one evening as we
had got pretty well metamorphosed into a Quaker meeting
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silence with a few remarks and settled back into my seat
and almost wished there had been another 56 which would
effectually kept me down, on my taking my seat the meeting
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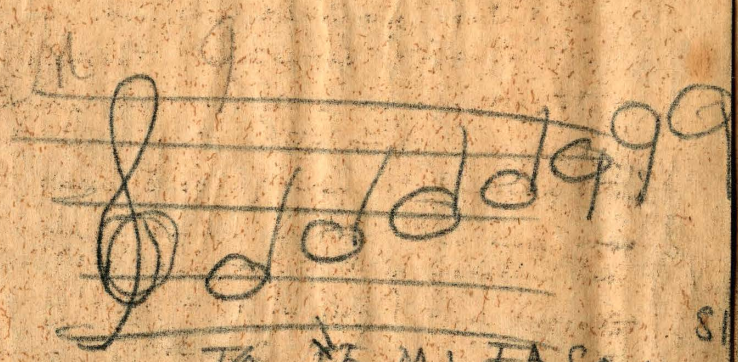
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If I have any faith at all it needs to be strengthened that I may believe and feel that God can and will break the hardest heart, such as is possessed by a Keston, a Patten, Baker, Cunn, & others which we have supposed were repining that the world of despair you can take hold on do forget me not of the more of our brethren

and plead the blood and promises of Jesus to cleanse and preserve
his own children from bringing a reproach upon his cause -
I called on Sea Cadz a few weeks since he was just recovering from the lung fever
with which he had been suffering several weeks, he looked quite feeble, but
his greatest affliction was in regard to what had befallen his little son -
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him his number was limited to twelve they were all older than
C- and full of the "White Horse" each of them lodged separately
in separate rooms, each room having a window opening into the
Hall - The large boys continued to present hideous objects by
the means of the "Magic Lantern" before his window in the night
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his name in his Countermann lettered up and he almost thought he was
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Wife my warmest regards and fraternal love Eben Carpenter

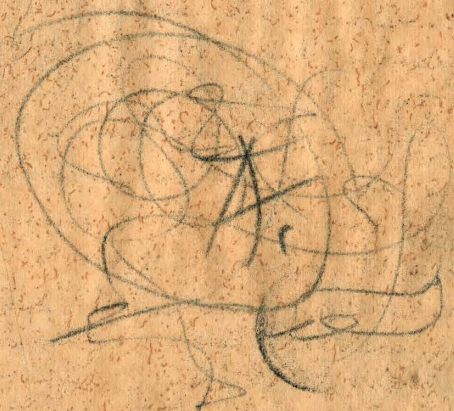
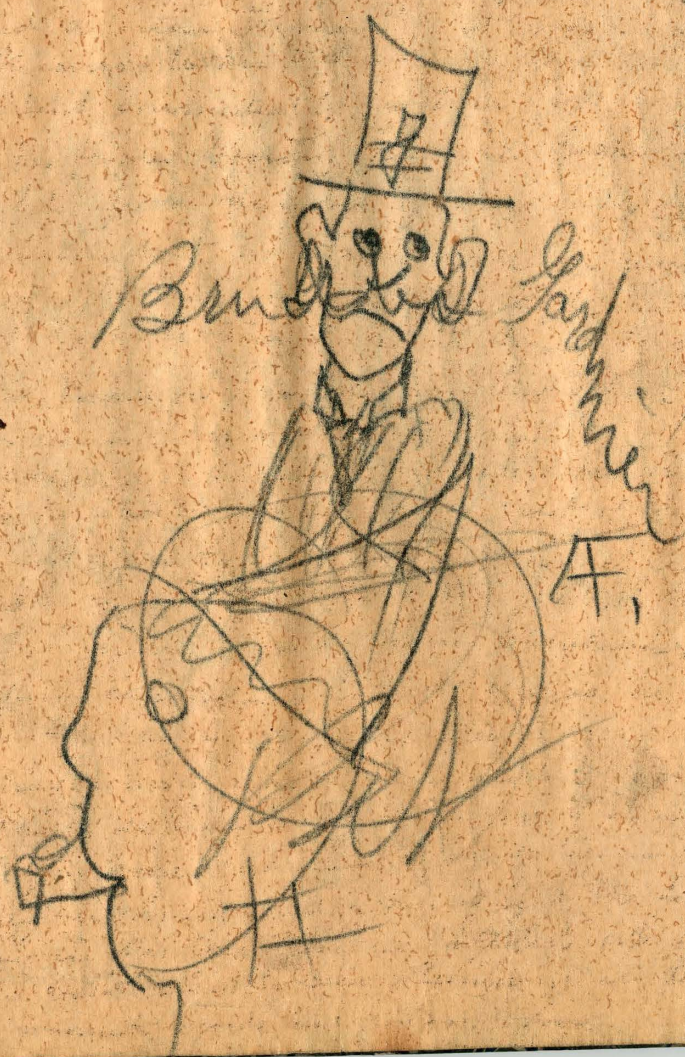


© 1917



TO THE MIFASQ LA

A



Colony

Colony

I was born in the year
1860 May 8th

Colony

Colony

Owner
Allyn K
Ford

1219 1st
Avenue South
Minneapolis

Minnesota
Return if lost
to above address
SIGNED A.R.F. [SEAL]

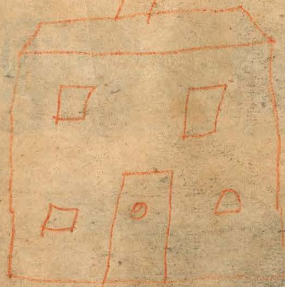
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I was born 1860
M. A. Oster

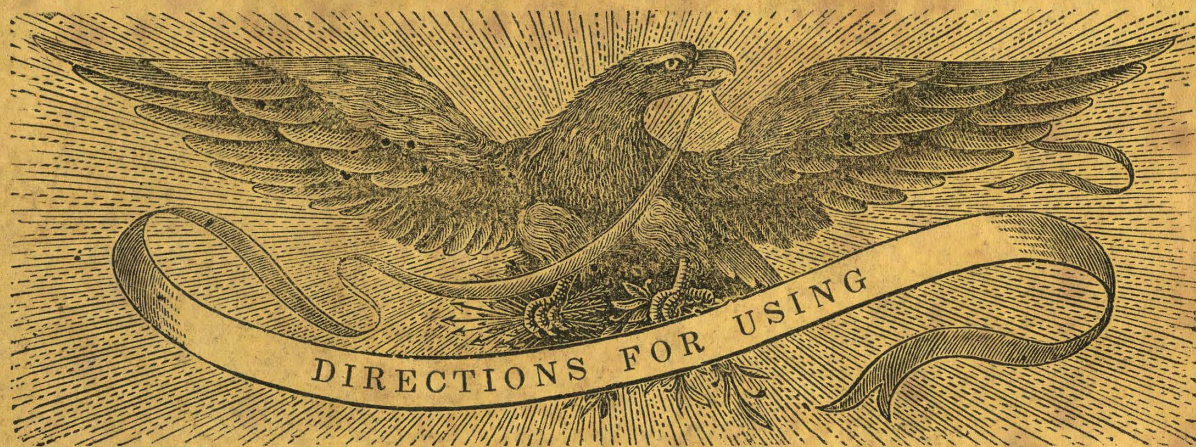


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ABRAHAM'S MANIFOLD WRITER.

MANUFACTURED AT No. 89 COATES STREET,
PHILADELPHIA.

Place the Tablet between the leaves of a letter sheet, on which lay a leaf of the Carbonated Paper. Place the paper thus arranged under one leaf of the Copying Book, to prevent the hands or nails from soiling or marking the paper. The rest, or guard, should always be used in writing. It will be necessary to press freely with the point or pen on the copying paper, which will give two impressions. If duplicate or triplicate copies be required, the arrangement will be thus: Between the leaf of the Copying Book and the upper letter sheet, the Carbonic Ink Paper must be placed as above, interposing, however, between the leaves of each successive sheet. By this process the writing will be completely indelible.

