

Oaksmith, Appleton  
Papers, 1840-1949

Duke University  
Library

Hollywood, Carteret Co., N. C.

17-E 1400 items & 2 vols.  
375 items added, 7-12-34  
11-5-33 99 items added, 12-17-34  
(See also bound 66 items added, 6-22-50  
vol. cards) 80 items & 21 vols. (3 on film)  
added, 12-29-51

Copy of Papers. 1855-1857. cataloged before

Oaksmith, Appleton  
Papers, 1840-1949

Hollywood, Carteret Co., N.C.

17-E 3 items added, 1-26-52  
1 item & 2 vols. added, 3-11-53  
6 items added, 3-7-57  
8 items added, 12-19-57  
7 items & 1 vol. added, 3-30-67  
6 items added, 6-24-68

Oaksmith, Appleton

Papers, 1840-1949

Hollywood, Carteret Co., N. C.

17-E 2040 items & 25 vols.  
7 items & 1 vol. added,  
3-30-67  
6 items added, 6-24-68  
1 vol. added, 3-7-79

Oaksmith, Appleton, Papers. Hollywood,  
Carteret Co., N.C.

Appleton Oaksmith was one of four sons of  
Seba Smith, editor and writer, and Elizabeth  
Cakes (Princess) Smith, writer and lecturer. The  
first mention of him in these papers bears the  
date 1851. In that year he won over a thousand  
dollars in a suit against the steamer, Gold  
Hunter. He acquired part interest in the brig,  
Mary Adeline, and became its master. On Sept.  
25 he arrived in Nicaragua from San Francisco  
with freight and passengers, and from there he

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 2.

was to sail to outer ports, possibly to Europe  
or back to Cal. During June of the next year  
a letter was written to him by men on board H.  
M. brigantine Dolphin in the River Congo, ex-  
pressing high admiration for the "daring and  
intrepid conduct displayed by you on the late  
occasion of your vessel getting on shore on  
Sharks Point in the River Congo on the 19th of  
June when assisted only by your two mates you  
gallantly defended your vessel from the murder-  
ous attack of at least 3000 natives, who had  
assembled for the purpose of plundering her  
valuable cargo."

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 3

By 1853, Oaksmith had become a merchant in  
New York, owner of the Mary Adeline, and agent  
for several other ships. He later acquired sev-  
eral other vessels, two of which were seized  
on a filibustering expedition, and one of which  
was lost at sea.

On Sept. 24, 1855, Oaksmith married an  
Italian, Isotta Bebecchini, in Portland.

When Walker became president of Nicaragua  
in July, 1856, he "had to choose a new minis-  
ter to the United States to take the place

left vacant by the return of Father Vijil. His  
choice for the place was Appleton Oaksmith, an  
American who had been in the country only a-  
bout three weeks. He had come down on the same  
steamer on which Father Vijil had made his re-  
turn trip, and went back on the steamer that  
followed, having been in Granada itself a lit-  
tle less than a fortnight. There was a reason  
why he should have been honoured so signally  
by Walker on such a short acquaintance. He had  
coöperated with Gofcouria in securing aid late  
in 1855 and early in 1856, and among other  
things had been the moving spirit in promoting

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 5

The big Walker meeting in New York City on  
May 23, which has already been described. He  
was reputed to have wealth and influence, and  
it was thought that he could assist in raising  
a loan for the new government, this being be-  
fore the arrangements made by Walker and Soulé.  
Oaksmith was a native of Portland, Maine, had  
visited Nicaragua in 1850, before the Transit  
was opened, and had travelled extensively in  
Central and South America and in Africa and  
the Orient. On Aug. 15, 1856, Oaksmith notified  
Marcy of his arrival in Washington and present-  
ed his credentials from President Walker. Mar-

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 6

cy notified him, four weeks later, that owing  
to the condition of political affairs in Nic-  
aragua the President could not receive him.  
Oaksmith on Sept. 18 asked for explicit reason  
why he was rejected, and was told that if the  
President deemed it proper to give explana-  
tions they would be made only to the govern-  
ment which had asked to have him received. As  
no explanation could be made to a government  
which the administration had refused to recog-  
nize, the matter was closed...--William O.  
Scroggs, Filibusters and Financiers, 1916.

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 7

Perhaps another factor responsible for  
Oaksmith's being appointed Nicaraguan minister  
to the U. S. was that he had promoted the gi-  
gantic mass meeting in N.Y. which had cele-  
brated the recognition in Washington of Padre  
Vijil as minister to the U.S. Oaksmith was  
empowered to act for his govt. not only in the  
diplomatic capacity of minister to Washington,  
but also as general financial and commercial  
agent for Nicaragua.

Oaksmith not only had difficulty trying to  
get his credentials accepted in Washington,

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 8

but John P. Heiss, who was charge d'affaires  
for Rivas at the Nicaraguan legation in N.Y.,  
refused to resign.

In Nov, 1856, Oaksmith wrote Walker that  
he felt the work he had done in securing sup-  
plies, the promise of a bank to negotiate a  
loan, services of a leading financial journal  
to advocate the loan, and the organization of  
an emigrant recruiting system would have in-  
sured his reception as the diplomatic repre-  
sentative of Walker's govt. rather than the  
man who had been sent to succeed; and asked

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 9

Walker to send him \$10,000, which was not more  
than half of what he had spent on his expedi-  
tion. Years later, Oaksmith stated that he was  
not accepted as a minister of Nicaragua be-  
cause he was not a native of that country.

At a large meeting held in N.Y. on Dec. 20  
for the purpose of raising recruits, money,  
and supplies for Walker, Oaksmith was one of  
the speakers.

On Dec. 1, 1856, a contract was made be-  
tween Oaksmith and Gen. J.A. Paez, who was

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 10  
desirous to take a "Foreign legion" back to Venezuela. By the agreement, Oaksmith was to furnish transportation for not more than a thousand men and arms and ammunition to the amount of a million dollars.

In 1859, Oaksmith and Wm. H. Davis contracted to complete the Springfield, Mount Vernon, and Pittsburg R.R. Co. and during that same year Oaksmith secured a deed to the Virginia and Eagle paper mills in Wheeling, Va. It is not clear whether or not he became the actual owner of those mills. The next year they were

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 11  
advertised for sale.

At this time he referred to himself as a snipping and commission merchant in N.Y., but, always a many-sided man, his activities were not confined to those categories. He projected a railroad in Ohio to be built according to specifications in the agreement between the Ohio Grand Trunk R.R. Co. and the New York Central and Hudson River R.R. Companies, and became treasurer of the Union League of N.Y., an organization working to try to prevent the formation of a Southern confederacy and civil

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 12  
war. He was appointed one of the three commissioners of that city to meet with representatives of several Southern states in an attempt to settle their major differences peaceably. On Feb. 7, 1861, he wrote Robt. N. Gourdin of Charleston that the reason why he and the other two commissioners had not reached Charleston was that it was feared such a venture would hinder the work of the Washington Conference.

Back in 1859, Oaksmith had proposed to Domingo de Golcouria that they end the suit

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 13  
between themselves in order to push a suit against the U.S. for losses suffered when the government seized the Amelia, Magnolia, and Massachusetts in 1855. Oaksmith owned the two former vessels and was agent for the latter. Golcouria had advanced a large part of the money used to purchase the cargoes of the first two ships and had a lien on the latter vessel for a large sum. In 1861, they agreed to compromise their differences.

This collection does not reveal very much about the relationship of Oaksmith and

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 14  
Golcouria, the son of a wealthy Cuban merchant who had learned something of liberalism while in school in Europe. He was living in N.Y. at the beginning of Walker's ascendancy. He offered his services to Walker with the expectation that when Nicaragua was conquered they would try to liberate Cuba. Walker finally accepted his services. In a clipping containing a poem written for the Cuban cause by Oaksmith while he was in London in 1873, Mrs. Oaksmith is quoted as having written that her late husband had great sympathy for the Cuban patriots and lost a fortune in trying to render them

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 15  
assistance in the 1850's.

Before 1861 ended, Oaksmith was indicted as a slave trader (See typed sketch from The Raleigh News that is at the beginning of The Collection). He escaped in Sept., 1862 and fled to Fla. and then to England. The charge against him was that he had fitted out a ship to procure Negroes in Africa and take them to Cuba to be sold as slaves. Later he was to get revenge against Richard H. Dana, Jr., the district attorney in this case, by being one of those people who protested so strongly against

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 16  
his appointment as U.S. minister to England that the Senate refused to confirm his appointment. Ten years later, President Grant pardoned him of slave-trading charges. (See U.S.A. Prison Autograph Book, 1861, Fort Warren, Mass. In the MSS. Dept. of Duke University Library for a poem written by Oaksmith on the day he entered that prison.)

He is said to have engaged in the blockade trade after his escape and was tried for sedition and convicted. He was committed to Fort Lafayette, but was later pardoned by Andrew

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 17  
Johnson.

April, 1864, found Oaksmith in Havana with his brother, Sidney, but by 1866, he was in England. In 1867, his ex-wife wrote Pres. Grant how her former husband had tried to escape being detected, about his deserting her, his forcing her to sign divorce papers, and then illegally marrying his step-cousin, Augusta Mason of Portland, Maine, and of her desire for the custody of their children.

Around the middle of Dec., 1870, Oaksmith

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 18  
joined with three other men to form a company by the name of Wm. H. Frear & Co. It was to carry on a general army and navy furnishing, contracting, and mercantile business, with its chief office being in London.

Perhaps it was in 1871 that Oaksmith settled at Hollywood, Carteret county, N.C. Soon he was working to obtain a charter for the Midland, N.C.R.R.Co., whose chief objective was the completing of a continuous railroad route from Beaufort Harbor to Memphis. Two of his associates in this venture were two of the

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 19  
men, Wm. G. Frear and Geo. F. Hoffman, with whom he had been connected in England. When the charter for this company was granted, Oaksmith was named a member of the first board of directors, and later became general manager of the company.

In 1873, Oaksmith sailed for England as captain of the Troubadour. This was an ill-fated voyage. Before he left, J.L. Morehead of Charlotte wrote to him requesting that he try to get a buyer in England for his plantation. He said he was tired of free Negroes. This

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 20  
may have been the voyage Oaksmith made to Great Britain in the interest of the Midland N.C.R.R.Co. During that year he had some connection with the Lombard Exchange of London.

In 1874, he ran on the Democratic reform ticket in opposition to the Ku Klux Klan for a seat in the N.C. House of Representatives and was elected. He opposed repudiation of the state debt. During that same year he secured the establishment of a postoffice at Hollywood with his sister-in-law, Ellen Mason as post-mistress.

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 21  
Oaksmith wrote articles and poetry and sometimes received requests for copies of poems. One of these was about his mother-in-law, Eleanor P. Mason, who had lived in England while he and his second wife were over there and who died at Hollywood, N.C. on Nov. 13, 1874. One of his articles is entitled "Southern State Debts and the National Currency System; Their Evils and Their Remedy. A Financial Essay," 1873. (See pamphlet Collection, Duke University Library, or The Southern Magazine, Dec. 1873.)

Oaksmith, Appleton, Sketch. 22

When Vance came out in 1876 for re-election to the governorship of N.C., Oaksmith gave him his support and was chosen president of the Tilden and Vance club in Morehead City. In a letter to Tilden he expressed the view that the only hope for the South lay in a change of government.

In April, 1876, Oaksmith tendered his resignation as general manager of the Midland R.R.Co. He was still trying to collect from the govt. for damages suffered when his two ships were seized in 1855. (See Reports of

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 23  
Committees, 1st sess., 44th Cong., 1875-76, report no. 420.)

During that year he also found a document signed by Richard Caswell and 185 other prominent North Carolinians which he thought was the original copy of the first declaration of independence set forth in the Colonies. He decided that it was written either late in 1774, or in 1775, but Lyman C. Draper, to whom he sent a copy, stated that it was impossible for him to establish its date.

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 24

Alvin Oaksmith of Patchogue, N.Y. tried unsuccessfully in 1877 to get his brother Appleton to go to Kansas with him. Although Appleton was suffering from poor health he was still trying different schemes for making money. He said that he had lost fortunes in N.Y., Liverpool, and London. One of the schemes which he had in mind was the establishment of a cotton factory at Newport, N.C. At this time, he was president of the Hollywood Agricultural Association. In Nov., 1877 he went to N.Y. to make preparations for the formation

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 25  
of the Beaufort Marine R.R.Co. He succeeded in getting both this and the N.C. Navigation Co. organized. John W. Pelletier was made president of the latter company.

The next year, Oaksmith failed to get a contract for removing obstructions from the Neuse. He recommended to Gov.-elect Thos. J. Jarvis that a grand trunk railroad be built across N. C.

The year 1879 was one of deepest tragedy for him. On July 4, his four daughters were

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 26  
drowned; his first wife gave unfavorable information about him to a Northern newspaperman and the article which followed was republished in The Raleigh News of July 11; he was accused of being the father of an illegitimate child, his brother, Sidney, who had been associated with an art gallery in Havana, died; he was very much in need of money; his brother Alvin wrote that he did not believe he could collect any of the Nicaraguan claims since Walker was not recognized by any government, and his and his wife's health was very poor for a long time after the drowning of their daughters.

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 27  
The birth of another daughter during the year, however, probably brought some sunshine into their lives.

After Vance went to the Senate in 1879, Oaksmith sought unsuccessfully to obtain an appointment through him. From this collection it appears that his last years may have been spent largely in looking after his land and railroad interests. He died sometime between 1883 and 1897.

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 28

Some of the letters in this collection are as follows: Rufus Dawes to Seba Smith, criticizing his "Powhatan"; Samuel Mason, Jr., a sailor of North Yarmouth, Maine, to his daughter Ellen; Seba Smith to his wife, giving information about their sons, Alvin, Appleton, Edward, and Sidney; quite a number of letters, including some by William Walker, relating to his expeditions in Nicaragua--these deal with the problems faced by Walker, his officers, and his agents in the U.S. in obtaining men and supplies and in waging war; letters to Wm. L. Marcy, arguing for the recognition of

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 29

Walker's govt.; Oaksmith to Walker about the failure of the president to accept his credentials and the refusal of John P. Heiss to turn over the Nicaraguan Legation in N.Y. to him; letter stating amount of land the govt. of Nicaragua had decreed for emigrants; letter Wheeling, Va. in 1861 says that things are blue there and he hopes the state will not secede; letters and telegrams in French concerning Wm. H. Frear & Co.; letters from Eleanor P. Mason and Oaksmith to her half brother, Benj. F. Sawyer of N.Y. and the latter's nephews--Mrs. Mason accused him of having

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 30

cheated her out of an inheritance; letter from Z. B. Vance, denying that torture was used with his approbation during the Civil War to force women to reveal where their husbands were; letters relative to the repeal of the charter of Beaufort, N. C.; Lyman C. Draper to Oaksmith, containing adverse comments about the Greenback Party; letters regarding the collection of claims of U.S. citizens vs. Nicaragua; letters concerning the hurricane that struck Beaufort in 1879.

Two letterbooks of Oaksmith covering the

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 31  
periods: 1874-1876 and 1874-1880, One of these contains a recommendation of Alex. Gatesby Jones for the consul generalship at Vienna.

Some of the other papers in this collection are: Several steerage tickets issued by the Accessory Transit Co. of Nicaragua which operated between N.Y. & Cal. via Nicaragua; copy of Appleton Oaksmith's appointment by Walker as a special agent of the government of Nicaragua with full powers to purchase arms, man and equip vessels, and appoint and commission officers; contracts for arms and other

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 32

supplies; list of emigrants who sailed from N.Y. in Oct.; 1856 on the Texas for Granada; decrees of Pres. Walker regarding the public debt of Nicaragua; schedule of arms and ammunition that Oaksmith promised to furnish Gen. J.A.Paez; contract between Oaksmith and Hitchcock and Co. for arms and ammunition; newspaper clippings regarding the fate of Oaksmith's ships, Amelia, Magnolia, and Victory; deeds of Seba and Elizabeth Oakes Smith and Eleanor P. Mason; petition in the suit against the Springfield, Mount Vernon, & Pittsburg R.R.Co.; other papers relating to that railroad,

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 33

one of them being a contract between the company and Wm. H. Davis and Oaksmith to complete the road; power of attorney of John H. Segur in a suit vs. the Nicaraguan govt.; advertisements of meetings of the Union League of N.Y. City to deliberate on possible means for preventing a civil war; set of resolutions sent from that city to Pres. Buchanan protesting against the seizure of Federal property by the South and the firing upon a U.S. vessel; copies of the announcement to the people of S.C. of the appointment of Jas. T. Brady, Cornelius G. Garrison, and Appleton Oaksmith as commissioners

Oaksmith, Appleton. 35  
to confer with representatives of the people in that state and in Ga., Fla., Ala., Miss., and La., as to the best measures calculated to prevent war; printed resolutions (Mar., 1862) of the executive council of S.C. relative to conscription and the general order for their execution; receipt, dated 1866 in Liverpool and signed by Isotta Rebecchini, for \$450, which her former husband had paid her; map of the Atlantic and Great Western R.R. in 1871; contract between the Western N.C.R.R.Co and Lancaster, Brown, & Co. for a loan of more than a million dollars; pension papers of Eleanor P. Mason;

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 35  
Joint resolution regarding the Piedmont R.R.Co of N.C.; article entitled "North Carolina and Her Future"; The Cosmopolitan, 1878; paper in the suit of Ellen Mason vs. Edwin R. Stanley; charter and minutes of the meetings of the Tilden and Vance Club of Morehead City; will of Eleanor P. Mason; original draft of an act to incorporate the Beaufort and Neuse Canal and Navigation Trust Co.; petition for the repeal of the charter of Beaufort, N.C. in order to repudiate a large ante-bellum debt--an accompanying statement says that the town is hopelessly radical and there is no chance for white men

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 36  
ever to regain control of it; declaration of bankruptcy by B.L.Perry; clippings of poems by Oaksmith and of items about the Midland N.C.R.R.; and a photograph of Oaksmith.

Letters of Sept 13 and Sept. 18, 1856 are from William L. Cazneau to Oaksmith. Letter of Aug. 12 1856 to Oaksmith from Walker and letter of Sept. 9, 1856 from Oaksmith to Walker refer to Cazneau Clippings in the scrapbook refer to Cazneau.

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 37  
Among the correspondents are:  
W.T.R. Bell Domingo de Goleouria (A)  
G. Somers Bellamy Ed Goodfellow  
Matthew C. Butler John P. Heiss  
Wm. L. Cazneau C.C. Hornsby  
Horace F. Clark Wm. H. Howerton  
Rufus Dawes Thos. J. Jarvis  
Jas. C. Derby David Johnson  
J. B. Devoe A. C. Jones  
Lyman C. Draper. Horatio King (B)  
Wm. Dunbar Wm. G. LeDuc  
Jas. A. Englenard John L. Morehead  
Thos. F. Fisher D. F. Murphy

Oaksmith, Appleton. Sketch. 38  
Henry C. Murphy Gustave de M. Soares  
Benj. L. Perry John A. Stevens  
Chas. Phillips Richard W. Thompson  
W. L. Saunders Z. B. Vance  
Sam E. Sawyer Alfred M. Waddell  
J. W. Shackelford Wm. Walker (C)  
A. W. Snaffer Thurlow Weed (D)  
Seba Smith J. T. Wheat

John H. Wheeler  
80 items and 21 vols. added 12-29-51. A clipping describes how the British vessel Dolphin saved Oaksmith's ship Mary Adeline from capture by the natives while it was stran-

Oaksmith, Appleton (39)  
ded in the Congo in June, 1852; letter of Dec. 8, 1852 from Seba Smith to his son Appleton expresses gratitude that he had survived long and perilous wanderings and reports on his wife and sons, one of whom, Sidney, had just been appointed consul at Aux Cayes, Hayti; sonnet by Elizabeth Oakes Smith to her son Appleton; poems by Appleton, including one in memory of his mother; letters of condolence to Mrs. Augusta Oaksmith upon the death of her husband, Appleton, and her mother-in-law; undated article by Appleton regarding the loyalty of Theodosia

Oaksmith, Appleton (40)  
Burr to her father; undated song of the Union League which was written by Appleton.

The vols. include daybooks and ledgers of Mason and Co., a logbook and a record book of marine insurance policies, scrapbooks of clippings; postmaster's record book, books of poetry by Appleton and Corinne Oaksmith, a law case book, a journal kept by Appleton during voyages in 1851-52, and a letter book of Elizabeth Oakes Smith.

One of the scrapbooks contains clippings and broadsides relative to William Walker's first

Oaksmith, Appleton (41)  
expedition to Nicaragua. The others contain copies of newspaper articles and poetry written by Appleton.

The journal was begun on board the Gold Hunter at Acapulco on Apr. 18, 1851. This record is not continuous, and by the fall of 1851, Appleton was captain of the Mary Adeline. He describes ports at which he stops, repeats stories he heard about the activities of the first Cal. legislators, describes the personnel and work of the vigilance committee in San Francisco while he was there and serving as a member of the

Oaksmith, Appleton (42)  
committee in the summer of 1851.

By Aug. 12 he was at sea, bound for Nicaragua. He describes some of his experiences during that trip. There is inserted a clipping from the New York Herald of Sept. 13 concerning the failure of Gen. Lopez's expedition against Cuba. The last of Nov. and the first of Dec. he writes of having a mutinous crew on board. By Jan. 9, 1852 he had reached Peru. In April he was in Rio de Janeiro, where he attended the opera and had an opportunity to observe Pedro II, the emperor of Brazil. In the main he received quite

Oaksmith, Appleton (43)  
an unfavorable impression of Dom Pedro. On Apr. 25 he took to sea again, and on July 21 landed at Bahia. During the entries for part of June he records his experiences while his boat was in the Congo River. The Journal ends on Dec. 6, 1852 when he was in sight of Martha's Vineyard.

The letter book contains copies of letters written in 1876 by Elizabeth Oakes Smith, but signed Elizabeth Oaksmith, and Augusta (Mason) Oaksmith to prominent Northerners, appealing for funds to be spent in erecting buildings where the people in and around Hollywood, N. C. could be instructed in both religious

Oaksmith, Appleton (44)  
and secular matters. Mrs. Smith was superintendent of a Sunday school in Hollywood at that time and head of the temperance lodge. In one letter she states that the Negroes, due to Federal aid, are faring better than most of the whites.

See microfilm copies of logbooks kept on the Mary Adeline, Pamela, and Western Belle.

3 items added 1-28-52. These are two printed poems by Appleton Oaksmith and an announcement to the people of Miss. that a commission of 3, one of whom is Oaksmith, has been appointed to visit certain Southern states in an attempt to learn the best measures for preserving the peace.

Oaksmith, Appleton 45  
1 item and 2 vols. added 3-11-53.

The item is a copy of a song called "The Drum March of the Guards" for which Appleton Oaksmith wrote the words. The vols. are account books. The first one contains an account of shipping by Appleton Oaksmith from 1853-1856 and an account of the mercantile firm of Mason and Co. of Hollywood, N. C., and the second one contains invoices of shipments of goods by Oaksmith between 1853 and 1855 and accounts of Mason and Co. from 1879-1891.

Oaksmith, Appleton 46

8 items, added 3-7-57, include 6 telegrams from Judah P. Benjamin, John P. Weller, Geo. W. Peck, Robt. Toombs, A. Douglas, and Lewis Cass declining to appear at a big New York meeting in May, 1856, which Oaksmith was promoting for the Walker cause in Nicaragua. Cass is friendly. Oaksmith's letter of May 10, 1870, to Frederick Lane of New York gives his intention to live in England, and urges activity in regard to the "Erie" R.R., shareholders in England, evidently in a move against the control

Oaksmith, Appleton 47

of Gould, Fiske, Vanderbilt, and Drew factions. 8 items added 12-19-57: Telegrams of May 7, 1856 by Judah P. Benjamin, Lewis Cass, A. Douglas, George W. Peck, Robert Toombs, and John B. Weller (1812-1875); declining an invitation to attend a meeting in behalf of Walker scheduled for May 23. Only Weller and Cass state that they would be present if circumstances permitted, and Cass goes on to speak enthusiastically in support of Walker's venture in Nicaragua. There is also an 1855 letter of Oaksmith and

Oaksmith, Appleton 48

another of 1880 by the Assistant Editors of St. Nicholas magazine concerning the publication of some of Oaksmith's writing.

See Warren S. Howard, American Slavers and the Federal Law, 1837-1863 (Berkeley, 1963), pp. 189, 234.

See John J. Te Paske, "The Life of Appleton Oaksmith: Its Latin American Aspects," Duke M. A. thesis, 1953.

7 items and 1 vol. added, 3-30-67, are from the John R. Kilby Papers, where they were

Oaksmith, Appleton 49

obviously out of place. Appleton Oaksmith was interested in Democratic politics in North Carolina and kept a number of clippings, most of which he mounted in a volume, 1880-1884. These clippings analyze political organization from the township level at Beaufort to the national activities of the Democratic Party.

The document involved in this addition is a proxy given Oaksmith for voting at any meeting of the Democratic Executive Committee of Carteret County.

Among the unmounted clippings are a eulogy

Oaksmith, Appleton 50

of James Rumley of Bauufort, N.C., made by Oaksmith in 1881, statements concerning his first wife from whom he was divorced, and references to the death of his children by accidental drowning.

A statement concerning the debt of Carteret County incurred when it aided the Atlantic and North Carolina R.R. begins the volume of clippings. The plan of organization of the North Carolina Democratic Party in 1880 is followed by detailed lists of names of local and state Democratic committees, of justices of the

Oaksmith, Appleton 51

peace, and of magistrates. Clippings follow on the voting in various North Carolina counties in 1880, the State Democratic Platform in 1882, and the State Democratic Convention of 1884 with its platform. On the national level, the Democratic Platform and the balloting for the presidential nomination in 1884, Democratic presidential nominations for 1864-1884, and the composition of the First Congressional District Executive Committee are noted in the clippings.

Appleton Oaksmith was elected permanent chairman of a Committee of 100 on April 29,

Oaksmith, Appleton 52

1884, to bring harmony among the Democrats of Carteret County.

The party nominees in 1884, Alfred Moore Scales for Governor and Charles Manly Stedman for Lieutenant Governor, have brief biographical tributes (pp. 52-55).

6 items added, 6-24-68: Financial papers concerning Appleton Oaksmith's shipping interests and a document granting him full ownership of the ship White Squall.

1 vol. added, 3-7-79: The Daybook, 1870-1876, contains two principal sections. First,

Oaksmith, Appleton 53

there is the "House-expense Book," 1870-1872, of Mrs. Eleanor Preston Mason, Oaksmith's mother-in-law, while at "The Marchins," Gravel Lane, Chigwell, Essex, England. These records are followed by a "Store Blotter" (daybook), 1875-1876, from a general store, probably Oaksmith's store at Hollywood. There are also several pages of accounts for agricultural laborers, 1875.

Oaksmith, Appleton M-5789

Oaksmith, Corinne

Copybook, 1877-1878

Hollywood, Carteret Co., N. C.

81 pp. Paper 19 x 12 3-4 cm.

Contains poetry and prose, written by Corinne and Appleton Oaksmith.

7-14-58

Oaksmith, Appleton F-5933

Mason & Company

Daybook, 1853-1878

Hollywood, N. C.

189 pp. Calf 33 1-2 x 22 cm.

8-5-58

GUIDE

Oaksmith, Appleton F-5793

Oaksmith, Appleton, and Mason and Company

Daybook, 1853-1856; 1878-1879

New York, N. Y., and Hollywood, N. C.

233 pp. Boards 33 x 21 1-2 cm.

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Oaksmith, Appleton F-5794

Oaksmith, Appleton

Daybook, 1854-1855

New York, N. Y.

123 pp. Boards 32 1-2 x 20 3-4 cm.

Record of disbursements to several ships.

7-14-58

Oaksmith, Appleton F- 5932  
Oaksmith, Appleton, and Mason & Company  
Invoice Book and Daybook, 1853-1855 and  
1879-1891  
New York, N. Y. and Hollywood, N. C.  
161 pp.      Boards      33 x 21 1-2 cm.  
8-5-58  
**GUIDE**

Oaksmith, Appleton M-5797  
Oaksmith, Appleton  
Journal, 1851-1852  
v. p. in Latin America  
228 pp.      Boards      24 3-4 x 20 1-2  
cm.  
7-14-58  
Journal of a voyage

Oaksmith, Appleton F- 5934  
Mason & Company  
Ledger, 1876-1884  
Hollywood, N. C.  
504 pp.      Calf      43 3-4 x 28 1-2 cm.  
This also contains a copy of portions of a  
ledger kept in the 1850's.  
8-5-58  
**GUIDE**

Oaksmith, Appleton F- 5790  
Oaksmith, Appleton  
Letter Book, 1874-1876  
Hollywood, Carteret Co., N. C.  
357 pp.      Cloth      32 1-2 x 21 cm.  
7-14-58

Oaksmith, Appleton M-5788  
Oaksmith, Elizabeth and Augusta (Mason)  
Letter Book, 1876  
Hollywood, Carteret Co., N. C.  
62 pp.      Paper      19 x 12 1-2 cm.  
Also contains list of letters sent out as  
appeals for contributions to the Hollywood  
School.  
7-14-58

Oaksmith, Appleton L- 5791  
Oaksmith, Appleton  
Letter Book, 1874-1880  
Hollywood, Carteret Co., N. C.  
152 pp.      Cloth      28 1-2 x 22 3-4 cm.  
7-14-58

Oaksmith, Appleton F- 5795  
Oaksmith, Appleton  
Logbook, 1871  
New York, N. Y.  
132 pp.      Boards      34 x 22 1-4 cm.  
7-14-58

Oaksmith, Appleton M- 5792  
Oaksmith, Appleton  
Poems, 1861-1862  
Hollywood, Carteret Co., N. C.  
144 pp.      Calf      22 x 14 cm.  
Autograph poems.  
7-14-58

Oaksmith, Appleton M-5796  
Oaksmith, Appleton  
Receipt Book, 1854-1856  
Hollywood, Carteret Co., N. C.  
141 pp.      Calf      19 3-4 x 25 1-2 cm.  
7-14-58

Oaksmith, Appleton F- 5931  
Oaksmith, Appleton  
Record Book, 1853-1855  
New York, N. Y.  
511 pp.      Calf      43 1-2 x 29 cm.  
This volume also contains a daybook of Mason  
& Company, 1877-1879.  
**GUIDE**

Oaksmith, Appleton F- 5798  
Oaksmith, Appleton  
Record Book, 1854-1856  
New York, N. Y.  
196 pp.      Calf      44 1-2 x 29 1-2 cm.  
Record of marine insurance policies  
7-14-58

Oaksmith, Appleton F- 5799  
Oaksmith, Appleton  
Record Book, 1867-1868  
New York, N. Y.  
95 pp.      Calf      39 1-2 x 25 1-2 cm.  
Records of law suits  
7-14-58

Oaksmith, Appleton L-5800  
Oaksmith, Appleton

Record Book, 1875-1882

Hollywood, Carteret Co., N. C.

270 pp. Boards 31 x 12 cm.

Daily mail records for 1875-1877, and memorandum book for Mason and Company, 1878-1882.

7-14-58

Oaksmith, Appleton M-5801  
Oaksmith, Appleton

Scrapbook, 1828 (1857-1869) 1872

Hollywood, Carteret Co., N. C.

162 pp. Boards 25 1-4 x 16 3-4 cm.

Clippings

7-14-58

Oaksmith, Appleton L-5802  
Oaksmith, Appleton

Scrapbook, 1855

Hollywood, Carteret Co., N. C.

48 pp. Boards 32 x 19 1-2 cm.

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Oaksmith, Appleton F-5803  
Oaksmith, Appleton

Scrapbook, 1855-1857

Hollywood, Carteret Co., N. C.

132 pp. Boards 45 x 30 1-2 cm.

Clippings relating to the first expedition of William Walker to Nicaragua

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Oaksmith, Appleton L-5804  
Oaksmith, Appleton

Scrapbook, 1858-1881

Hollywood, Carteret Co., N. C.

86 pp. Boards 30 1-2 x 23 cm.

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Oaksmith, Appleton L-5805  
Oaksmith, Appleton

Scrapbook, 1870-1874

Hollywood, Carteret Co., N. C.

115 pp. Boards 30 x 23 cm.

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Manuscripts

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Contents:- Log Book, Mary Adeline, Aug. 1851-Nov. 1852. San Francisco to Rio de Janeiro. Log Book, Brigantine Pamela, June-August, 1855. Rio de Janeiro to Liverpool. Log Book, Western Belle, Oct. 1868-Oct. 1872, Glasgow to Rosario.

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