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THE BISHOP WILLIAM WHITE COLLECTION
INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

A SUMMARY DESCRIPTION



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MAY 1993

PREPARED BY
SARAH ALBRIGHT, INTERN
OFFICE OF HISTORY
INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
PHILADELPHIA

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PREFACE

In the Spring of 1993 Sarah Albright, a De Paul University sophomore, accepted a three-month internship in this office. She applied through the Philadelphia Center's Great Lakes Colleges Association Program which has worked closely with the park for several years. In less than three months Sarah researched, analyzed, set up, wrote and typed this report. Her summary of the park's Bishop William White collection, her genealogical chart of the family, and her introduction explaining family relationships as well as the complications and background of the documents make an important contribution to Independence National Historical Park.

Sarah came as the first Great Lakes Colleges intern to the History Office. She shared my office and computer for the duration, so I can speak for her diligence and enthusiasm in this project. Like all the GLCA interns to the park, she has made a real difference and I am not only grateful for her effort, but feel personally rewarded by our brief but bright exchange. I can only hope that the future will bring our paths together again.

Anna Coxé Toogood
Supervisory Historian
Office of History

INTRODUCTION

The following guide contains indexed summaries of documents in the Bishop White collection at Independence National Historical Park. In order to index these documents, I read them and tried to locate as much background information as possible on them. The majority of these documents pertains directly to the Bishop and his family, and therefore, shed light on many facets of his personal life, as well as the general atmosphere of colonial and federal Philadelphia.

Like many colonial families, the Whites' ancestry is muddled with duplicated names and other confusing aspects. For instance, Col. Thomas White, the Bishop's father, is not to be confused with Thomas White, the Bishop's son. To reduce the confusion of duplicate family names, cross-referencing has been used as much as possible, especially in the index, so that each individual is identified. In this case, the Bishop's father is referred to as *Col. Thomas*. The reader should be aware of this type of name duplication and refer to the family tree on pages six and seven when necessary.

The content of the documents which comprise the Bishop White collection varies greatly. It includes letters to the Bishop, letters from the Bishop, documents written by him and even some letters to or from people whose connection with the Bishop is less apparent. The index and the list of documents should be helpful to the reader in locating specific subjects or time periods of particular interest. The catalog number listed next to each document is necessary if you wish to obtain the original from the Park's Museum Division.

The Account of the Meeting of the Descendants of Colonel Thomas White of Maryland (INHP CAT# 13455) printed in 1879, and referred to by family members as "The White Family Record," provides extensive information about members of the Bishop's family. As such, it was the source of most of the genealogical and personal background used in this project. A large portion of the documents in this collection were held by the Bishop's family, and given in 1964 and 1974 to the Park by William White and James Alan Montgomery respectively. Because many of the letters were in the possession of the family when "The White Family Record" was published, it contains some very interesting references to them. "The White Family Record" may also be found in the Museum Division's collection at Independence National Historical Park.

The Bishop's life as portrayed by letters:

The Bishop's family played a large role in his life. His house was always filled with family members, even after his children were grown. For this reason, there are many letters to family members about whose lives the Bishop was very interested and well informed. These more personal letters are fascinating, not only because they provide information about the Bishop, but also because they give the modern reader a first-hand glimpse of eighteenth-century life.

The Bishop's siblings:

Bishop William White spent the majority of his life in Philadelphia. He was the only son of Colonel Thomas and Esther Hewlings (Newman) White. Born in 1748, the Bishop was the eldest of two children, preceding his sister Mary's birth by one year. William and Mary had three older step-sisters Sophia, Sarah Charlotte (one woman) and Elizabeth, who were the issue of their

father's first marriage to Sophia (Hall) White. Sophia (the daughter) was the only one of the three daughters who married and, according to "The White Family Record," did so quite controversially by choosing her first cousin, Aquila Hall. From letters in this collection, it is obvious that Sophia and Aquila's children, especially Thomas, had frequent contact with their Uncle William (the Bishop was only a few years older than his nephew "Tommy").

The Bishop's sister, Mary White, married Robert Morris, who later gained fame as the principal financier of the American Revolution, in 1769. The Morrises also resided in Philadelphia, which may account for the lack of written contact between Mary and her brother (although the Bishop and her husband did correspond) in this collection. It is probable that Mary was a frequent visitor to the Bishop's household because their mother, Esther, lived with the Bishop until the time of her death in 1790. The Morrises son, Henry, also lived with the Bishop for some amount of time in the early 1800s, while his parents were visiting Gouverneur Morris in New York.

Relatives in England:

William visited England twice for church business before he married. On both occasions he stayed with his father's three sisters, Charlotte (White) Weeks, Elizabeth White (who never married) and Sarah (White) Midwinter. These three women had been separated from Col. Thomas since his immigration to America as a young man in 1720, but had maintained contact through mail. Although Elizabeth wrote most of the letters that are in the collection, there is frequent reference to letters sent separately by Sarah and Charlotte.

The women were eager to stay in contact with their brother, and for many years, hoped he would bring his family to visit them in England. However, William was the only descendent of Col. Thomas who got to meet his aunts, and

naturally became their favorite (he was also the family's only male heir which may have been a significant factor).

After William visited them in England, the women began writing letters to him in addition to the ones they had always sent to his father. William maintained contact with his aunts and was the principal benefactor of their estates when they passed away (Sarah in 1770, Elizabeth in 1776 and Charlotte in 1780). Most of the letters between CAT# 10446 and 10498 track the correspondence between Elizabeth (in England) and either Col. Thomas or William. This section contains a great deal of family information with reference to many significant historical events.

The Bishop, the Church and the Community:

Naturally, the Church was very important to the Bishop. Many of the letters in this collection deal with business issues of the Protestant Episcopal Church which require a more developed and specific background on church policy. As this collection of letters testifies, the Bishop's contemporaries greatly respected him and looked to him for advice. Indeed, in the later part of his life, the Bishop became the authority on church issues. He had a reputation for generosity, and these letters suggest that he advised virtually anyone in need of his assistance, regardless of how petty the request. Much of the following correspondence between the Bishop and other clergymen, like Rev. James Montgomery (his assistant for almost four years), are replies to questions that the men asked the Bishop.

One particular portion of the documents, CAT# 10438-10445, provides interesting insight into what was probably a typical church "circuit" trip for the Bishop. These letters were sent from the Bishop to his son, Thomas, from various stops along the way. From the content of these letters, it becomes

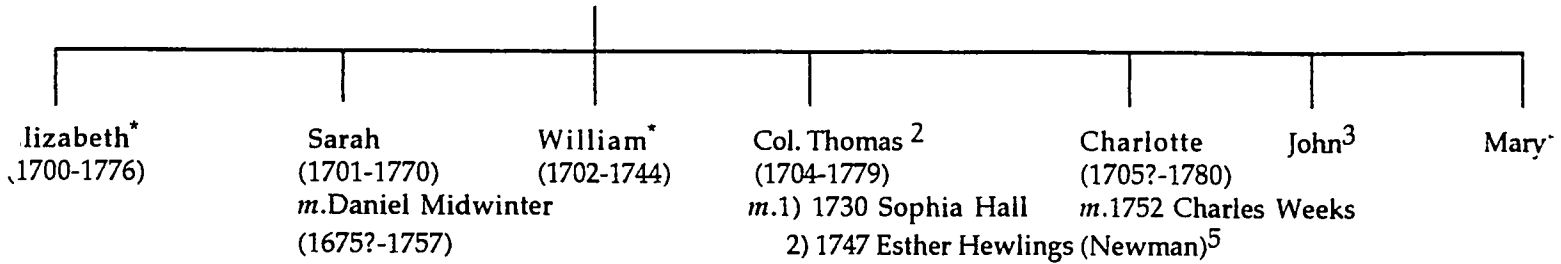
apparent that the Bishop enjoyed traveling. This is amazing, not only because of the treacherous traveling conditions during this period (1824), but also because the Bishop was 76 years old at the time.

In general, the Bishop seemed fully concerned with the lives of those around him, especially those who were eager for his company. It was not uncommon for other members of the community (i.e. non-clergy) to request the Bishop's support or advice. Certainly, with such a long and significant career, the Bishop was revered for his wisdom. In The Historic Mansions and Buildings of Philadelphia, Thomas Westcott states that "the benefit of [the Bishop's] name and aid was sought whenever any new philanthropy was proposed in order to give it strength." (Porter & Coates, 1877, p86) This indicates the level of respect members of the community held for the Bishop and explains the numerous brief letters written to, or from, the Bishop on what may seem to be trivial matters.

Although it was impossible for anyone in Philadelphia to be completely oblivious to the political realm, the Bishop apparently separated himself from it as much as possible. This is suggested by the absence of political writing within the collection. The Bishop, however, was quick to recognize the importance of independence from England, both for the colonies and the Protestant Episcopal Church. As a prominent member of Philadelphia society Bishop White was closely allied to the great political figures of the time on a personal and professional level. He could not refrain from involvement in the struggle for independence, especially with his role as chaplain of both the Continental Congress (1776-1783) and the U.S. Senate (1790-1800). Such important political connections may explain the appearance of some letters from the late 1700s which do not have an obvious connection to the Bishop.

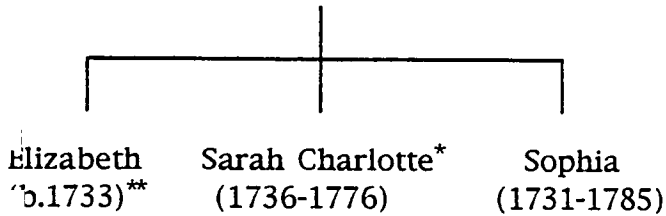
WHITE FAMILY MEMBERS BORN IN ENGLAND: Early 1700s

William White¹ (d. 1708) *m.* 1696 Elizabeth Leigh (1676?-1742)



COL. THOMAS WHITE'S FIRST MARRIAGE

m. 1730 Sophia Hall (1709-1742)



m. 1750 Aquila Hall⁶ (b. 1728)⁷

- 1) Thomas (1750-1804) *m.* Isabella Presbury (1772?-1827)
- 2) Aquila (b. 1753)⁸
- 3) James White (1754-1808) *m.* 1785 Sarah Stokes Brooke (d. 1827)
- 4) William (1756-1818) *m.* 1788 Sophia Presbury (d. 1818)
- 5) Charlotte (1758-1838) *m.* Col. Nathan Ramsay (d. 1817)
- 6) Mary (b. 1760) *m.* 1807 Gen. Richard Key Heath
- 7) John (1762)**
- 8) Edward (1763-1826)*
- 9) Sophia (1765-1833) *m.* 1796? Philip Key (1750-1820)
- 10) Martha (1768-1846) *m.* 1810 John McHenry (d. 1856)
- 11) Elizabeth (1770-1771)
- 12) Benedict (b. & d. 1771)

Never married

**Died Young

The Bishop's Grandfather

- The Bishop's Father.

³ About whom little is known. He was born after 1704 and died before 1744. Never married.

About whom little is known. She was born between 1705 and 1709, and died before 1731. Never married.

⁴ Who had no children by her first husband, John Newman.

⁶ Sophia married her first cousin, Aquila Hall, the son of her mother's brother.

Died before 1779.

^o Died early, but after 1770.

COL. THOMAS WHITE'S SECOND MARRIAGE

m. 1747 Esther Hewlings (Newman)⁵ (d.1790)

Villiam⁹
1748-1836)

m. 1773 Mary Harrison (1750-1797)

- 1) Daughter (b. & d. 1773)
- 2) Elizabeth/Betsy (1776-1831)
 - m. 1803 General William MacPherson (d. 1813)
 - a) Esther (1804-1858)
 - m. 1839 Thomas Harris (d.1861)
 - b) Elizabeth (b.1806)
 - m. 1838 Rev. Edwin Wilson Wiltbank
- 3) Mary (1777-1826)
 - m. 1804 Enos Bronson (1774-1823)
 - a) Mary Harrison (1808-1830)*
 - b) Ann Emily (1809-1854)*
 - c) Elizabeth White (1812-1899)
 - m. 1834 Henry Hope Reed (1808-1854)
 - d) Hetta Atwater (1814-1844)
 - m. 1838 Rev. Alfred A. Miller (d.1862)
 - e) Sophia Hall (1815-1822)
 - f) William White (1816-1900)
 - m. 1841 Mary Chapman Ash
 - g) Bird Wilson (1820-1821)
 - 4) Thomas (1779-1859)
 - m. 1804 Maria Key Heath (1787-1814)
 - a) Mary Harrison (1805-1875)
 - m. 1827 Rev. James Montgomery (1787-1834)
 - b) Rebecca Heath (1808-1889)*
 - c) William (1810-1858)
 - m. 1831 Sara Frederica Brinton (d. 1869)
 - d) George Harrison (1812-1867)
 - m. 1830 Margaret Wharton Smith
 - e) Richard Heath (1813-1814)
 - 5) Ann (1781-1787)
 - 6) Henry Harrison (1782-1783)
 - 7) William (1784-1797)
 - 8) Henry Harrison (1785-1788)

Mary
(1749-1827)

m. 1769 Robert Morris¹⁰ (1734-1806)

- 1) Robert (1769-1804)
 - m. 1796 Anna Shoemaker (1783?-1865)
- 2) Thomas (1771-1849)
 - m. 1799 Sally Kane (1778-1853)
- 3) William White (1772-1798)*
- 4) Hetty (1774-1817)
 - m. 1795 Judge James Marshall (d.1843)
- 5) Charles (b.1777)¹¹*
- 6) Maria (1779-1852)
 - m. 1802 Henry Nixon (1776-1840)
- 7) Henry (1784-1842)
 - m. 1819 Eliza Jane Smith (d.1844)

Never Married

Died Young

⁹ The Bishop.

¹⁰ "Financier of the American Revolution."

¹¹ He died after 1795 and never married.

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SUMMARY OF MANUSCRIPT CONTENTS

CAT# 1758

Letter, MARY HARRISON - WM. WHITE

Dated: October 12, 1771. Philadelphia.

Addressed: The Reverend Mr. White.

A personal letter written to White, who is probably in England, with reference to the social goings-on in Philadelphia since his departure. Mary speaks of a Mr. Wilson's return to the city and his intentions toward a Rachel (possibly White's friend/neighbor James Wilson, signer of the Constitution, who married Rachel Bird on November 5, 1771). She also talks of a Miss Fox (who had given White "the greatest expectations of...waiting for [him] to marry" her), and that Lady's courtship by George Roberts. Harrison mentions that her brother, Joseph, is the only family member who knows of this letter to White, and that George (her other brother) has inquired about White. Mary closes by saying that a Mrs. Styles (Mrs. Edward Styles?) is sending a coach to bring her to the Styles' "country seat."

CAT# 2096

Brief of Title, SECOND ST. BETWEEN CHESNUT AND WALNUT

Dated: October 18, 1792. Philadelphia.

Signed: R. Whitehead.

History of the title of this lot from May 1691 to the date of signing. Also includes an extra page of notes from a later date by an unknown author. This traces the property to Bishop White in 1790, at the bequest of his mother's (Esther White's) will. The land came to her from her first husband's (John Newman's) will (see CAT# 2097). The lot is "20 feet in breadth on the East side of Second Street between Chesnut and Walnut Streets, depth 35 feet." The earlier portion of the title was apparently from the estate of Archibald McElroy.

CAT# 2097

Document, PROBATE COPY OF THE WILL OF JOHN NEWMAN

Dated: June 4, 1742.

Signed: Peter Evans, Register General of Philadelphia.

The will of the Bishop's mother's (Esther Hewlings Newman White's) first husband. Newman left his estate in the charge of Esther. The estate included a lot on Second Street (see the title, CAT# 2096). The will was witnessed by Samuel Johnson, Thomas Howard and John Reily. It is accompanied by a brief legal statement from Peter Evans.

CAT# 2312

Letter, BIDDLE - WM. WHITE

Dated: January 18, 1813. Harrisburg (?).

Mostly illegible. Apparently from a C. Biddle (Charles?). It discusses some interaction between Biddle and a Mr. Wilson (Bird?). There might have been an enclosed list of some sort, but it is not included. There is some mention of a census, a memorial and an office that was vacated.

CAT# 2313

Legal Document, COPYRIGHT FOR "WHITE'S CONTROVERSY"

Dated: May 15, 1817.

Signed: D. Caldwell, Clerk of the District of Pennsylvania.

A partially-printed copyright claiming rights on a book (volume I), written by Bishop White, concerning "comparative views of the controversy between the Calvinists and the Arminians" (published under that title in 2 volumes in 1817). The rights to the book were claimed by Rev. Jackson Kemper, Rev. James Montgomery, John Perot and Charles A. Bancker. A note enclosed with the document states that the proceeds would go toward "establishing or maintaining a theological school." See also CAT# 8424.

CAT# 2473

Letter, WM. WHITE - FELLOW CLERGY

Dated: Unknown (1793?).

The Bishop is writing concerning the establishment of a day "to be devoted to prayer" because of the onset of the "asiatic cholera." Thursday the 19th of that present month (unspecified in the letter) is to be that day. White says that the day may be changed by either the President of the United States or the Governor of Pennsylvania.

CAT# 2505

Letter, WM. WHITE - WM. SMITH SHAW

Dated: February 23, 1803. Philadelphia.

Addressed: Wm. Smith Shaw Esq. Boston.

A letter praising an "elegant and ingenious Oration" of Thomas Adams. It was sent by way of William Smith Shaw (Thomas' cousin, whose mother Elizabeth Smith Shaw, was Abigail Adams' sister) because Shaw had originally sent Thomas' work to the Bishop. The Bishop asks Shaw to congratulate Thomas for "supporting the reputation" of the former President's (his father, John Adams') name.

CAT# 2506 Letter, WM. WHITE - JOHN NICHOLSON

Dated: August 7, 1794.
Addressed: John Nicholson Esq.

A short business letter to Nicholson (Comptroller General of Pennsylvania) concerning a piece of land (location unknown).

CAT# 2613 Check, BANK OF THE UNITED STATES - WM. WHITE

Dated: December 24, 1832. Philadelphia.
Written to: The Right Reverend Bishop White.
Signed: E. L. Burd Executor of Elizabeth Powel.
Amount: \$ 97.50

CAT# 2697 Letter, WM. WHITE - MR. LONGACRE

Dated: July 4, 1833.
Addressed: Mr. Longacre, Pine near 8th St.
Signed: Wm. White, D.D. Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Apparently Longacre has requested the Bishop's autograph and White is complying through the letter. White is "one who, on this Day numbers three months beyond the Age of eighty-five" and writes that his steady hand at this age is not a typical "favour of the divine Bestower [sic]."

CAT# 2752 Manuscript, WM. WHITE - DRAFT OF PLAIN TRUTH

Dated: April 1827.
Labeled: Plain Truth.

Begins: "Examinations of another candid address to the Episcopalians of Pennsylvania in relation to the present condition of affairs..." Approx. 20 pages.

CAT# 2754 Letter, WM. WHITE - WM. MEREDITH(?)

Dated: April 12, 1821.

A letter to an acquaintance of both Rev. George Lochman (Lutheran) and White (Wm. Meredith is the acquaintance according to the Park's catalog, the letter itself did not seem to have any indication of who the person was). This person had received a letter from Lochman (CAT# 2755), which he then passed on to White. White is returning the letter and replying to it. White wishes to meet Lochman and writes that he (White) does not affirm "the essential necessity" of the Episcopal Church because he will not "pronounce...the validity of the ministry of any other body of christians." There seems to be

a great deal of respect paid to Lochman in this letter and an eagerness to continue the peaceful trend between the two Churches.

CAT# 2755 Letter, GEORGE LOCHMAN - WM. MEREDITH(?)

Dated: March 6, 1821. Harrisburg.

This is the letter sent to the acquaintance (see CAT# 2754) from George Lochman. Lochman thanks this person for "loan of Bishop White[']s [sic] memoirs" and expresses much desire to meet with the Bishop. Lochman states that he has "never read an Author, who so clearly expresses [his (Lochman's)] views of Religion." Lochman mentions that their two Churches, Lutheran and Episcopalian, might be able to contribute much to the cause of putting "down the terrible, the horrible principles of Calvinism."

CAT# 2757 Manuscript, WM. WHITE: RELIGIOUS COMMENTARY

Dated: Unknown (after April 18, 1812).

An address to the "members of the Episcopal Church in the State of Pennsylvania." Deals with the Church's Constitution and the objects of a newly founded association called "The Protestant Episcopal Society for the advancement of Christianity in Pennsylvania." Refers to a meeting which took place April 18, 1812, implying that this commentary was written after that date.

CAT# 2758 Manuscript, WM. WHITE: RELIGIOUS COMENTARY

Dated: Unknown (after April 18, 1812).

Editorial comments of CAT# 2757 which appear to be in another person's handwriting, or that of Bishop White at a later time.

CAT# 2760 Broadside, POEM IN MEMORY OF WM. WHITE

Dated: Unknown (c.1836).

Author: Unknown.

A printed poem in memory of Bishop White, "Whose faith follow."

CAT# 2891 Letter, WM. WHITE - S. COATES

Dated: March (or May) 8, 1807.

Addressed: Mr. S. Coates.

A brief note (mostly illegible) placing a Dr. Blackwell in charge of some church business, possibly a fund for widows and children of deceased clergy.

CAT# 2892 Letter, THOMAS WHITE - S. COATES

Dated: Undated (but with CAT# 2891, c.1807).
Addressed: Mr. S. Coates.

A brief, partially legible letter included with CAT# 2891. Thomas states that his father is "too unwell to attend to this or any other business."

CAT# 3975 Letter, ROBERT MORRIS - WM. WHITE

Dated: August 8, 1802. Morrisania (N.Y.).
Addressed: The Right Reverend Bishop White, Philadelphia.
Signed: Rob.t Morris.

Morris is writing to express his concern, and that of his wife Mary (White's sister), for the Bishop during this time of "melloncholly [sic] events"(?). Morris mentions Henry, his eighteen year-old son, who is staying with the Bishop. Morris worries that the house may be too crowded and requests notice from the Bishop if Henry has caused too much stress on the full household. Morris was probably staying at Gouverneur Morris' estate (Morrisania in N.Y.).

CAT# 3976 Letter, WM. WHITE - BENJ. SILLIMAN

Dated: June 14, 1821. Philadelphia.
Addressed: Mr. Benj. Silliman. Professor of Chemistry in Yale College [sic].
New Haven.

A letter of recommendation written on behalf of Mr. John Paca's son for admission to Yale. White goes into the family's history and the boy's credentials. Paca's father (the boy's grandfather) was a former Governor of Maryland. The families of the Bishop and John Paca had been friends/neighbors since Col. Thomas White's original residence was near the Paca's in Maryland.

CAT# 4087 Broadside, LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Dated: April 23, 1794. Philadelphia.

Highlights a French letter in favor of the strengthening American-French relations. Includes a brief foreword from Edmund Randolph (Speaker of the House of Representatives).

CAT# 4367 Circular, TO THE DESCENDANTS OF COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: May 29, 1877.
Signed: W.W. R. Hall, Thos. H. Montgomery and J. Brinton White.

A printed circular concerning plans for a family reunion (on the date of the relocation of Col. White's remains to St. George's church-yard - see CAT# 4369) in Perrymansville (also known as Spesuti(a)e, Maryland) on June 7, 1877. The three men in charge apparently represent the committee planning the event.

CAT# 4368 Circular, TO THE DESCENDANTS OF COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: November 28, 1877. Philadelphia.

Signed: Thomas White Hall, William White Bronson, Wharton White, Robert Morris, Thomas H. Montgomery and J. Brinton White, treasurer.

A printed letter following the family reunion on June 7 of that year (see CAT# 4367). It requests further information from family members so that a detailed family history, which has been traced to 1497, may be finalized. Family members are asked to subscribe to publications about the family in order to fund further research and publication (see CAT# 4369).

CAT# 4369 Order Form, "THE WHITE FAMILY RECORD"

Dated: April 21, 1879.

Signed: Thomas White Hall, William White Bronson, Wharton White, Robert Morris, Thomas H. Montgomery and J. Brinton White, treasurer.

A printed letter and order form concerning the publishing of a White family history book, "The White Family Record" (see CAT# 4367-73).

CAT# 4370 Circular, ORDER FORM FOR "THE WHITE FAMILY RECORD"

Dated: Unknown (c.1879).

A smaller order form for "The White Family Record" (see CAT# 4367-73).

CAT# 4371 Pamphlet, ADDITION TO "THE WHITE FAMILY RECORD"

Dated: June 10, 1932. Philadelphia.

Signed: William White.

A printed addition to "The White Family Record" tracing Bishop White's family line (male descendants). This pamphlet brings "The White Family Record" to date. Included are additional handwritten dates that were obviously added later. For another copy of this (not exactly the same) CAT# 4372.

CAT# 4372 Pamphlet, ADDITION TO "THE WHITE FAMILY RECORD"

Dated: June 10, 1932. Philadelphia.

Signed: William White.

Same entry as CAT# 4371, but includes different handwritten additions.

CAT# 4373 Printed Document, PEDIGREE OF COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: Unknown (c.1879?)

Printed by: Joseph L. Chester, London. Fellow, Royal Historical Society.

A family tree starting in 1501. Continues until Col. Thomas White's generation, 1770's. See also CAT# 4367-4372. Probably prepared after the family reunion of 1877.

CAT# 6064 Letter, WM. WHITE - REV. GEORGE KLIVKE

Dated: January 30, 1830.

Addressed: Rev. George Klivke. New Jenneville near New London Crossroads, Chester County Pennsa.

White is responding to a letter Klivke wrote to him asking if it was proper to stop services in one church in order to build another in a better location. White writes that he knows of no regulation "attaching sanctity to...timber or extending beyond the relative holdings dependent on religious services preformed." Along with giving this go-ahead, White recommends letting the congregation establish the sale price of the old building.

CAT# 6065 Letter, WM. WHITE - REV. BENJ. HALE

Dated: April 13, 1835. Philadelphia.

Addressed: Rev. Benjamin Hale. Hanover, New Hampshire.

A printed form letter hand-signed by Bishop White sent to "Agents of the Church." An advisory note for those entering the missionary agency adopted by the Executive Committee of which White was President. The introduction to the letter was written and signed by Peter Alan Pelt(?), Secretary.

CAT# 6069 Pamphlet, AN ACCOUNT OF SENATE CHAMBER RESTORATION

Dated: March 4, 1896.

A program booklet from the reception following the restoration of the Senate Chamber of Congress Hall. The booklet and reception were sponsored by the Society of the Colonial Dames of America. The booklet includes pictures and diagrams of the restoration process. Also included is "some contemporary data of the inauguration of Washington in the Senate Chamber," 1793.

CAT# 8097

Pamphlet, REPORT BY THE SECRETARY OF TREASURY

Dated: April 18, 1792.

Signed: Alexander Hamilton, Secretary, Dept. of Treasury.

A printed, bound document listing 25 cases in which stocks had been lost or destroyed. Hamilton recommends that Congress reinstate the stock.

CAT# 8422

Manuscript, ESSAYS AND SERMONS OF WM. WHITE

Dated: Unknown (1809?).

A handwritten, bound "Addition to Commentary" by Bishop White. Included are pages 579-674: "Introduction, Matt.w 10.16, Luke 9.62 (?), Matt.w 13.27, Luke 9.51, (missing but on table of contents), John 18.36 and Gal. 6.20." Fairly legible and extensive. There is no obvious date, but it is cataloged as 1809.

CAT# 8424

Manuscript, "WHITE'S CONTROVERSY"

Dated: Unknown (before 1817).

A handwritten, bound collection of notes written in Latin and Greek (for the Comparison and Controversy between Calvinists and Arminians, which White published in two volumes in 1817. Fairly extensive, cut and pasted but legible (see also CAT# 2313).

CAT# 10171

Pamphlet, WM. WHITE AND THE CONSTITUTION

Dated: 1937.

A printed pamphlet with picture of Christ Church. Written and distributed by agents of the Church, it talks about the Constitution's strong connection to the Bible and religion, speaking of White in a secondary sense. The main theme of the pamphlet stresses the successful religious-government connection which is largely attributed to White's personal and profession ties to the framers of the Constitution.

CAT# 10320

Letter, J.C. - N. BIDDLE

Dated: December 7, 1838 - 11:00 Friday night.

Addressed: N. Biddle, Esq. Philadelphia.

Most likely to Nicholas Biddle (President of the Bank of the United States from 1822-36 and then President of the succeeding Bank of the United States of Pennsylvania until 1839). This letter is a warning from J.C. who is "a friend and stockholder of your bank." He apparently heard some people talking about attacking "that damned bank" the very next day when "the military will be out

of town." J.C. is leaving town in the morning and can not call on Biddle in person, but advises him to be "on the lookout."

CAT# 10321 Letter, SAMUEL HUNTINGTON - J. REED

Dated: December 14, 1780. Philadelphia.

Addressed: His Excellency President Reed.

Signed: His Excellency Sam. Huntington Esq. President of Congress.

A short letter relaying to Reed that Congress has adopted measures "relieving and supplying the garrison at Wyoming and for removing and subject of jealousy or discontent" (?). Huntington asks Reed to have Pennsylvania order the supplies that were "stop[p]ed by Lieut. Hunter" on their way to Wyoming.

CAT# 10412 Printed Document, COMMUNICATION FROM THE SELECT AND
COMMON COUNCILS OF PHILADELPHIA

Dated: February 10, 1852.

Ordered by: The Senate.

Signed: Thos. Birch and Edmund Wilcox, Council Clerks.

A pamphlet declaring Independence Hall "hallowed" ground and suggesting that it be protected for historical reasons. The Select and Common Councils of Philadelphia first sent the proposal to the Senate and all 13 of the original states to gauge their interest in the matter. Apparently, after receiving the correspondence, the Senate had this copy of the proposal printed.

CAT# 10416 Document, COPY OF ESTHER WHITE'S WILL

Signed: January 20, 1791 (originally): June 9, 1806 (this issue).

Written: July 27, 1790.

Will of Bishop White's mother who passed away in late December 1790. The Bishop and Robert Morris (Mary White's husband) were appointed executors of the will. Mrs. White left her house and land to Bishop White.

CAT# 10418 Letter, WM. WHITE - JUDGE RICHARD PETERS

Dated: September 19, 1825.

Titled: Draft of letter to Judge Peters.

A letter tracing the religious life of Peters' uncle (?) who had passed away. White was apparently getting the information after inspecting a church "Minutes book." A very detailed letter with numerous dates. Because of its draft nature, it is difficult to read.

CAT# 10419

Letter, WM. WHITE - REV. WM. MUHLENBERG

Dated: July 28, 1821. Philadelphia.

Addressed: Rev. Wm. A. Muhlenberg. Lancaster.

A letter of friendship and advice. Bishop White talks mainly of the founding of the Sunday School program in Philadelphia and tries to help Muhlenberg (who was previously the Bishop's assistant) with some problematic issues that have arisen in Lancaster. The Bishop goes into detailed descriptions of his own beliefs and experiences with Sunday School programs.

CAT# 10421

Letter, WM. WHITE - REV. WM. MUHLENBERG

Dated: September 3, 1818. Philadelphia.

Addressed: Rev. Wm. Aug. Muhlenberg. To the care of the Rev. Jos. Clarkson. Lancaster.

A brief discussion of what will be done with Muhlenberg when "the term of [his] settlement," (probably meaning his assistantship with the Bishop) expires. There are brief references to other Church officials and their positions at the time. It is probable that Muhlenberg was on a business trip to Lancaster on behalf of the Bishop because Muhlenberg's actual duty in Lancaster did not begin until 1820.

CAT# 10422

Letter, WM. WHITE - SAMUEL MORRIS

Dated: July 3, 1827. Philadelphia.

Addressed: Samuel W. Morris Esq. Wellsborough, Tioga County, Penns.

The Bishop is writing upon his return from New York, and is departing for Carlisle in the morning. This letter is in reference to the Bishop hiring Morris' services for land management and Power of Attorney. It deals with 4000 acres of land, of which the Bishop sold half to James Eccogd(?), and gave the remainder to his son, of which a Mr. Fishbourne Wharton bought half. The quarter then owned by the Bishop's son was mortgaged to Mr. John Wallace. Included is a detailed diagram of the land and its ownership. There is no mention of the exact location of the land which might be near Wellsborough since the Bishop is asking Morris to "take charge" of it. The Bishop closes by adding that he will "not fail...to mention [Morris] as a proper person to be employed in Land Agencies."

CAT# 10423

Letter, WM. WHITE - REV. BIRD WILSON

Dated: September 6, 1798. Near Philadelphia.

Addressed: Bird Wilson Esq. At the home of Col. Nicholls, Pottsgrove.

A letter concerning the death of Mr. James Wilson, Bird's father. James was a family friend of the Bishop for many years. The Bishop says that he has sent

a letter to Bird's sister and brother William about the particulars of their father's death which took place at Judge James Iredell's home.

CAT# 10424

Letter, WM. WHITE - REV. BIRD WILSON

Dated: February 9, 1834. Philadelphia.

Addressed: Rev. Bird Wilson, D.D. Theological Seminary New York.

The Bishop writes Bird to inform him that the Bishop's granddaughter, Ann Bronson, has called off her marriage plans with a Mr. Haight "on ye ground of ye Discovery of a Coldness and Neglect, not consistent with ye Affection he had proposed to her." The Bishop wrote to Bird because "of ye interest taken by [him] in the character of this young Man."

CAT# 10425

Letter, WM. WHITE - REV. JOHN HOBART

Dated: September 1, 1823. Philadelphia.

Addressed: Rt. Rev. John H. Hobart. Bp. of ye Pros.t Ep.l. Church. New York.

A business letter concerning various members of the Church's clergy. Bishop White also recommends a new drug, called Sulphet of Quinine(?) to Hobart. The drug is made of tree bark and cured a disease which the Bishop himself had between his "fifteenth and eighteenth years." White was so convinced by its results that he promises to send Hobart a sample if the drug is not available in New York. The letter mentions a Bp. Chase, Mr. DeLancey, Mr. Wheaton, Bp. Brownell, and Mr. Ives. The main issues seems to be the ordination of Mr. Ives and some problems which Bp. Chase was having with his Brethren.

CAT# 10426

Letter, WM. WHITE - REV. JOHN HOBART

Dated: December 14, 1826. Philadelphia.

Addressed: Rt. Rev. John H. Hobart. Bishop of ye Pros.t Ep.l Church. New York.

White is writing to Hobart about the transfer of Church funds which he has considered long due. White also writes about a Mr. Meads in Reading and the controversy surrounding "ye ruin of their Congregation" upon Meads' departure.

CAT# 10427

Letter, WM. WHITE - REV. JOHN HOBART

Dated: January 9, 1819. Philadelphia.

Addressed: Rt. Rev. John H. Hobart D.D. Bp. of ye Pros.t Church. New York.

On church politics, concerning a meeting of the Theological Seminary and the recommendation of Mr. Chase to a certain placement.

CAT# 10428

Letter, WM. WHITE - REV. JOHN HOBART

Dated: August 13, 1819. Philadelphia.

Addressed: Rt. Rev. John H. Hobart D.D. Bp. of ye Pros.t Church. New York.

On church business. White tells Hobart about the consecration of Mr. Brownell (later Bishop) and other news of the "Connecticut Brethren." White also mentions that he dined with Hobart's brother "on Monday."

CAT# 10429

Letter, WM. WHITE - REV. J.F. SHROEDER

Dated: November 2, 1823. Philadelphia.

Addressed: Rev. J. F. Shroeder. New York. Rec'd Dr. DeLancey.

White is briefly writing to clarify some biographical information about himself that Shroeder was trying to gather. It speaks of the differences that were caused by the change to the Gregorian calendar in 1752, such as the Bishop's birthday (from 1747 to April 4, 1748) and his age at graduation (from seventeen to eighteen).

CAT# 10430

Letter, WM. WHITE - REV. JAMES MONTGOMERY

Dated: July 31, 1821. Philadelphia.

Addressed: Rev. James Montgomery. To be left at the Post Office. Frankford Pennsl.

White is leaving town for a week and a half and asks Montgomery if he will fill in for him at Church on two Sundays (the seventh and fourteenth of August). Other minor church issues are mentioned.

CAT# 10431

Letter, WM. WHITE - REV. JAMES MONTGOMERY

Dated: December 26, 1833.

Addressed: Rev. James Montgomery D.D.

White answers two questions that Montgomery has asked. First "whether ye Tevin 'imputed righteousness' as applied to that of ye adorable Redeemer, have any Warrant in Scripture" [sic]. And second, "whether it be sanctioned by ye use of ye Episcopal Church." A fairly lengthy answer to both of these.

CAT# 10432

Letter, WM. WHITE - EDWARD HALL

Dated: June 9, 1806. Philadelphia.

Addressed: Mr. Edward Hall. Hartford County, Maryland. To be left at the office in Bucks Town.

Apparently concerning the death of Mr. Hall's brother (Thomas?) and the payment of any debts that he owed to the Church. Thomas and Edward were the Bishop's nephews (his step-sister, Sophia's, children).

CAT# 10433 Letter, WM. WHITE - THOMAS HALL

Dated: September 12, 1780. Philadelphia.
Addressed: Mr. Thos. Hall Hartford County, Maryland.

A personal letter, addressed to "Dear Tommy," the Bishop's nephew (his step-sister Sophia Hall's son). Talks of the arrival of something (probably a ship) to Philadelphia and the division of the goods. Also reference to Tommy's Aunt (Esther White?) and his sister Martha(?) (Hall, later McHenry) who is coming to visit the Aunt.

CAT# 10434 Letter, WM. WHITE - THOMAS HALL

Dated: September 14, 1786. Philadelphia.

A letter from Bishop White before his departure to England. It includes an "Acc't of Executorship" which has a listing of the Bishop's financial transactions from 1781 - 1786. The Bishop seems to be updating his accounts in case something would happen to him on the trip. Hall probably dealt with White's property before, since he is the Bishop's nephew. The letter mentions the Bishop's "late dear sister" (Thomas' mother Sophia?) who died in early 1785).

CAT# 10435 Letter, WM. WHITE - THOMAS HALL

Dated: August 14, 1798. Philadelphia.
Addressed: Mr. Thomas Hall. Near Bush Tower, Hartford County Maryland.

A brief letter concerning the settlement of a Mr. Lamotte's and a Mr. Thayer's Executorships. Deals with the payment or transfer of some properties.

CAT# 10436 Letter, WM. WHITE - MARY HARRISON WHITE

Dated: March 27, 1823. Philadelphia.
Addressed: Miss Mary H. White. To the Care of Upton Heath Esq. Baltimore.

A letter from the Bishop to his granddaughter Mary who lived in the Bishop's house, but is visiting her Uncle (Thomas' wife, Maria Key Heath White's, brother). Apparently Mary had written her father (Thomas White) a letter expressing her desire to "Partake of ye Holy Communion" which Thomas showed to the Bishop (his father). In this letter, the Bishop tells Mary that he approves, if she is certain that she is ready for the commitment. Mary had been concerned that she was not "of competent Age for that Act of Devotion."

CAT# 10516 Letter, MATTHEW CAREY - WM. WHITE

Dated: April 29, 1829.

Addressed: Right Rev. Wm. White, D.D.

Carey, a publisher, is appealing to White to abandon some type of official church hearings that must be held to approve the publication of some circulars. The actual disagreement is unclear, but the circulars might be about a Mr. Darwin(?) who is in need of some references.

CAT# 10517 Letter, MATTHEW CAREY - WM. WHITE

Dated: April 29, (Probably 1829).

Addressed: Right Rev. W. White D.D.

Another copy of the issue discussed in CAT# 10516. This letter is much smaller and very brief. It is as if this one is a rough draft (or possibly a copy that Carey held for his own records), and the other an actual copy sent to White.

CAT# 11233 Letter, JOSEPH LEACOCK - GOV. OF PENNSYLVANIA

Dated: September 20, 1798.

Addressed: His Excellency the Governor of Pennsylvania.

A letter from Leacock "requesting to be appointed to take charge of the public Clock at the State House." The old keeper had passed away and Leacock, who seems to have helped build the clock nearly 50 years before, requests the position and would like to do some improvements on the clock.

CAT# 11598 Inventory, ESTATE OF JACOB GRAFF

Dated: October 27, 1780.

An inventory of the belongings of the "late" Jacob Graff. He was probably the father of Jacob Graff Jr. the owner/builder of the house where Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence. A fairly long list which includes the monetary value of each item.

CAT# 12.023 Note, BILL OF EXCHANGE: ROBERT MORRIS

Dated: October 19, 1785. Philadelphia.

A Bill of Exchange for "Four Hundred Pounds Sterling" to be paid to the order of Mr. John Christmas Smith in London from Robert Morris.

CAT# 10437

Letter, WM. WHITE - MARY HARRISON WHITE

Dated: February 14, 1823. Philadelphia.

Addressed: Miss Mary H. White. To the Care of Upton Heath Esq. Baltimore.

A lengthy account of the happenings in Philadelphia while Mary (the Bishop's granddaughter) has been away visiting her Uncle (Maria Key Heath White's brother) in Baltimore. This is one of many letters which the Bishop sent to Mary while she was away, for he seemed to miss her a great deal. Mary had been raised by her father, Thomas White, in the Bishop's household.

CAT# 10438

Letter, WM. WHITE - THOMAS WHITE

Dated: July 23, 1822. New York.

Addressed: Mr. Thomas H. White. Walnut St. No. 89. Philadelphia.

A letter written upon the Bishop's arrival in New York informing his son Thomas that his trip was fine and that he expects to be returning in a few days if all church business is completed.

CAT# 10439

Letter, WM. WHITE - THOMAS WHITE

Dated: July 27, 1824.

Addressed: Mr. Thomas White. No. 89 Walnut St. Philadelphia.

Although the date and signature have been cut from this letter, its form and handwriting are identical to CAT# 10438, so it is probably from the Bishop. The date, 1824, was handwritten on the outside later, and may be correct. In this brief letter the Bishop informs Thomas of his arrival in a city and the delay of the stage in Brunswick.

CAT# 10440

Letter, WM. WHITE - THOMAS WHITE

Dated: October 27, 1824. Mifflins.

Addressed: Mr. Thomas H. White. No. 89 Walnut St. Philadelphia.

The Bishop is on an over-night stop in "Mifflins" (now Mifflin?), having visited Lancaster on Tuesday and Harrisburg "yesterday." He is leaving for "Lewis-Town" in the morning after which he will travel to Huntingdon on Monday and will write again. He says that he is feeling no fatigue "as yet" but has been on the road since three in the morning.

CAT# 10441

Letter, WM. WHITE - THOMAS WHITE

Dated: June 13, 1825. Pittsburgh.

Addressed: Mr. Thomas H. White. Walnut St. No. 89. Philadelphia.

While traveling for Church business, the Bishop is responding to a letter from Thomas. The Bishop talks of the weather and says that he thinks the Pittsburgh Church is the "handsomest Church in Pennsylvania" - with the exception of Christ Church. The Bishop arrived in Pittsburgh from Harrisburg and is continuing on to Beaver, Wheeling, Brownsville and Greensburg.

CAT# 10442

Letter, WM. WHITE - THOMAS WHITE

Dated: July 3, 1825. Carlisle.

Addressed: Mr. Thomas H. White. No. 89 Walnut St. Philadelphia.

The Bishop seems to be continuing on the trip described in CAT# 10441. He has reached Carlisle and will visit Springs, Yorktown, Marietta, Lancaster, Leacock, Pequa, and "Morgans Town" before his return to Philadelphia in approximately one week. The Bishop also inquires about a letter (written by Thomas on the June 24) which he never received.

CAT# 10443

Letter, WM. WHITE - THOMAS WHITE

Dated: July 7, 1825. Lancaster.

Addressed: Mr. Thomas H. White. No. 89 Walnut St. Philadelphia.

A continuation of CAT# 10442. The Bishop tells Thomas that he hopes to be home in a few days and mentions that he did not get to take part in a confirmation in Leacock "on account of ye Harvest." His trip next includes crossing "ye Welsh Mountain which will be a Mole Hill in our Eyes, after having crossed Laurel Hill, ye Allegheny and other sublime Places." The Bishop is anxious to return to his "Dear House and Dearer Family" but is pleased with the punctuality and success of the trip thus far.

CAT# 10444

Letter, WM. WHITE - THOMAS WHITE

Dated: July 8, 1827. Carlisle.

Addressed: Mr. Thomas White. No. 89 Walnut St. Philadelphia.

A short letter from the Bishop as a church business trip comes to a close. He says that he might reach Philadelphia before the letter because it might not make the morning mail run. The Bishop is staying with a Mr. Stiles and has just arrived in Carlisle from Lancaster.

CAT# 10445

Manuscript, COPY OF THE WILL OF WM. WHITE OF LONDON

Dated: January 17, 1744.

Written: 1743 (originally).

The will of William White, brother of Col. Thomas White (the Bishop's father). He divides his belongings between Col. Thomas and their three sisters Elizabeth, Sarah and Charlotte. It was written in 1743 and reordered by the sisters in 1744. This William White apparently lived in Ludgate Hill - London, England.

CAT# 10446

Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - HER BROTHER (COL. THOMAS)

Dated: February 14, 1744.

Elizabeth writes to her brother (most likely Thomas) to inform him of the death of their brother William on January 9, 1744 after two years of illness. Elizabeth says that the three sisters would enjoy seeing "the only Brother [they] have left," but she realizes that a trans-Atlantic trip by Thomas probably is not possible. She states that she will send him a copy of the will (CAT# 10445?).

CAT# 10447

Letter (Copy), ELIZABETH WHITE - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: April 17, 1747. (Copy made November 12, 1870).

Addressed: Major Thomas White at Philadelphia. By Cap. Tiffin.

A letter of family business, Elizabeth tells Thomas that both of their sisters (Sarah/Sally and Charlotte) have been ill all winter but are recovering. She also thanks him for the letters that he has been sending to her.

CAT# 10448

Letter (Copy), ELIZABETH WHITE - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: February 18, 1748. (Copy made after 1860).

Addressed: For Coll. Thomas White, at Maryland.

This copy is written on the back of Bank notes dated 186_, and was obviously made after that time. From this lengthy letter, it seems that Elizabeth is holding her sisters together which is more than she feels she can handle. She reports that sister Sarah/Sally has married (Daniel Midwinter) and sister Charlotte is finally beginning to feel better. Elizabeth once again appeals to her brother to come visit them, saying she would enjoy the company and appreciate the "business" assistance. (See also catalog #10451).

CAT# 10449

Letter (Copy), ELIZABETH WHITE - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: July 5, 1748. (Copy made later).

Addressed: For Major Thomas White.

This copy was probably made in 1870, as was CAT# 10447, since it is of the same hand and on the same paper. The letter is the first to Thomas since his marriage. Elizabeth congratulates him and invites him to bring his new "Lady" (Esther) to come visit his dear sisters in England. Elizabeth informs her brother that their sister Sarah/Sally is doing much better, while Charlotte is in the country because she does not like to walk in the city (it is assumed that Charlotte had some type of injury). Elizabeth talks of a Mr. Harrison and a Mr. Perkins who have been kind enough to call on her to tell her how Thomas is doing. These men probably delivered the letters to her brother.

CAT# 10450 Letter (Copy), ELIZABETH WHITE - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: August 18, 1748. (Copy made November 12, 1870).
Addressed: For Coll. Thomas White.

Another copy in the same hand as CAT# 10447 & 10449. The letter is very brief and is primarily to make sure that Thomas received the letter which Elizabeth sent on July 5. She also congratulates Thomas on the birth of his son (the Bishop), which she heard of from Mr. Harrison.

CAT# 10451 Letter (Copy), ELIZABETH WHITE - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: April 7, 1749. (Copy made after 1860).
Addressed: For Coll. Thomas White.

This copy is in the same hand as CAT# 10448, and may even be a continuation of that file however that is not certain. The single page in this file is a letter, typical of those between Elizabeth and Thomas, and is cut off. It speaks of Mr. Harrison and the connection he has between them.

CAT# 10452 Letter (Copy), ELIZABETH WHITE - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: May 20, 1750. (Copy made November 17, 1870).
Addressed: Coll. Thomas White in Maryland.

This letter is another from Elizabeth telling of the conditions of her sisters. Sarah is well and lives with her husband (Daniel Midwinter) about six miles from London. Charlotte is in the country at a place called Isleworth about ten miles up the River Thames. Elizabeth seems distressed that her brother has not written lately and asks about his leg which he apparently injured a few months earlier.

CAT# 10453 Letter (Copy), CHARLOTTE WEEKS - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: Unknown. (Copy made November 12, 1870).
Addressed: Mr. Thomas White, Merchant in Philadelphia.

A letter from Charlotte from her husband's home (Isleworth on the "Island of Jersey"). She is visiting Charles' relatives and attending the wedding of his daughter (by a previous marriage). Charlotte also met a Captain LeGrove, who knows Thomas and asked her to send his regards.

CAT# 10454 Letter (Copy), ELIZABETH WHITE - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: April 12, 1757. (Copy made November 12, 1870).
Addressed: For Col. Thomas White at Philadelphia.

Elizabeth seems disgusted with her brother since he has not sent her a letter in a year and a half. She tells him that Sarah's husband (Daniel Midwinter) has died, but that Sarah was left with an amount being "enough to live very comfortably." Sarah has gone to live with Charlotte at Isleworth. Elizabeth asks Thomas to give his wife (Esther) her thanks for sending a letter.

CAT# 10455 Letter (Copy), SARAH MIDWINTER - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: April 12, 1757. (Copy made November 13, 1870).

This letter is much like the one above from Elizabeth, and was probably sent with it. Sarah is inquiring about Thomas' lack of correspondence. She tells of her husband's (Daniel Midwinter's) death, which she feels was timely since he was eighty-three and had been ill for some time.

CAT# 10456 Letter (Copy), ELIZABETH WHITE - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: September 27, 1757. (Copy made November 12, 1870).
Addressed: Col. Thomas White. Merchant at Philadelphia.

Elizabeth once again expresses frustration with her brother's lack of correspondence. "My sister Midwinter as well as myself have wrote you a great many letters which we have reason to think have not come to your Hands, as you take no notice of my Sister's great loss" (her husband, Daniel's, death).

CAT# 10457 Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: February 3, 1752.
Addressed: For Colln. Thomas White.

Elizabeth sends her prayers to her brother's family in their time of need, apparently the family was stricken with small pox. Elizabeth also advises Thomas on some disciplinary actions that should be taken against his eldest daughter, Sophia (the Bishop's step-sister), for some unmentioned wrong (possibly her wish to marry her first cousin, Aquila Hall, of which Col. Thomas did not approve). The letter is concluded with news of the sisters.

CAT# 10459

Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: February 12, 1753.

Addressed: To Coll. Thomas White at Philadelphia.

Elizabeth responds to a letter she received just before New Year's. She has decided that Thomas did not receive many of the letters which she sent to him in the previous year. She informs him that all is well, except that she is still unhappy with her sister's marriage (probably Charlotte's marriage to Charles Weeks in 1752). She thanks Thomas for his advice on the matter and promises him that she will try to control her anger as he has suggested.

CAT# 10460

Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: February 28, 1754.

Elizabeth tells her brother that she is not sure her letters are reaching him, since she is having difficulty finding a ways to get the letters overseas. Elizabeth says that she will stay in London for the winter since it is warmer.

CAT# 10461

Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: February 12, 1755.

Elizabeth has heard that many ships have not reached the colonies successfully and wonders if the letters she has sent Thomas have been lost with those ships. She tells him that Sarah's husband (Daniel Midwinter) is not well, "which is not to be wonder'd at considering his Age, being eighty next Birth Day." Elizabeth seems to miss their other sister Charlotte who is now living away from London with her husband (Charles Weeks). Elizabeth is not pleased about that marriage because Mr. Weeks had some trouble with debt. Elizabeth also expresses fear of England's anticipated war (with France?).

CAT# 10462

Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: November 28, 1755.

Addressed: For Coll. Thomas White in Philadelphia.

Elizabeth has just returned to London and begs her brother to write with political news. She has heard of "Generall Braddock's defeat" and wonders about the state of confusion in the colonies (probably the French and Indian War). She admits that she is in low spirits because sister Charlotte's husband (Charles Weeks) does not seem to be a great character. Elizabeth does not feel at liberty to discuss this with anyone but Thomas and asks for his advice on the matter.

CAT# 10464

Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: March 29, 1756.

Addressed: For Coll. Thomas White at Philadelphia.

Elizabeth thanks Thomas for his last letter which assured her that political conditions in his "country" are not as bad as the English papers write. She tells him that sister Sarah is busy caring for her ill husband (Daniel Midwinter), and that Charlotte writes frequently but is in Jersey with her husband (Charles Weeks).

CAT# 10465

Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: April 18, 1758. Isleworth.

Addressed: Coll. Thomas White in Philadelphia.

This letter took almost a year to reach Thomas (it is marked "rec'd January 12, 1759"). Elizabeth had received a letter from Thomas via three of his friends and is rapidly writing this response because one of the gentlemen sails to Philadelphia in ten days. Elizabeth tells Thomas that Charlotte's spirits are very low.

CAT# 10466

Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: June 23, 1759.

Addressed: For Coll. Thomas White Mercht. in Philadelphia.

Elizabeth tells Thomas that she will write more frequently because she does not think many of her letters reach him. She mentions that their taxes are very high as a result of the war. Sarah has left Charlotte's house (Isleworth) and is now living in a place called Twickenham with Elizabeth. Charlotte is doing well, but hasn't visited the sisters in quite a while.

CAT# 10467

Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: August 12, 1759.

Addressed: For Coll. Thomas White in Philadelphia.

A brief letter explaining her delay in mailing the June 23 letter (CAT# 10466). She mentions their fear of a French invasion and says that Sarah's leg inflammation is not getting much better. Elizabeth hopes that Thomas' leg has healed (apparently he had broken it earlier, see CAT# 10492).

CAT# 10468

Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: May 22, 1760. Twickenham.

Addressed: For Col. Thomas White at Philadelphia.

Elizabeth is glad to hear that Thomas' leg is better. She tells him that Sarah's health is not good, since her leg inflammation confined her to the house for a year. Charlotte had just returned from her husband's (Charles Weeks') daughter's (by his previous marriage) wedding.

CAT# 10469

Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: February 26, 1765.

Addressed: For Major Thomas White in Philadelphia.

It seems that there was a letter from Charlotte and a friend of hers, who was traveling to Philadelphia, included with this letter. The family news is typical; Elizabeth has been ill with a stomach ailment, Sarah has regained her strength after being very close to death and Charlotte has come to live with them after the sudden death of her husband (Charles Weeks).

CAT# 10470

Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: October 30, 1763. Twickenham.

Addressed: For Colln. Thomas White in Philadelphia.

Elizabeth is responding to Thomas' letter which she received through Captain Budden. She tells Thomas that he should not feel old since she does not and she is even older than he. She also tells him that she has had difficulties caring for Sarah, and that they are going on a hundred mile trip to "the Bath Watters" to help heal her. Charlotte is still living with them, but is not happy being so far from her friends at Isleworth. The King (George III) has been coronated and married, but Elizabeth "know[s] not of them...[her]self, not having stir'd from home to see any thing of them."

CAT# 10471

Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: April 8, 1762.

Addressed: For Colln. Thomas White at Philadelphia.

Elizabeth has just received Thomas's letter which he sent through Captain Johnson and Rev. William Smith. After talking with these Gentlemen, Elizabeth tells her brother that he can not be as "old & decreped" as he has lead her to believe. Her trip to Bath with Sarah was successful (see CAT# 10470), but Elizabeth herself is not well now. She asks Thomas to direct her letters through "Mr. Fleetwood[']s China Man at the Seven Starrs on Ludgate Hill, London."

CAT# 10472

Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: December 20, 1762(?). Twickenham.

Elizabeth has been sending letters to Thomas through a Mr. Buchanan. She also mentions a visit with a Captain Johnson, who knows Thomas, but thinks that he is on voyage and has not been back to Philadelphia yet. All three sisters are in fairly good health, although they are in the "Decline of Life." Elizabeth was saddened to hear of Sophia's (Hall, Thomas's daughter by his first wife) illness and hopes that she will recover.

CAT# 10473

Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: January 24, 1764.

Addressed: For Mr. Thomas White.

A very informative letter of family matters. Elizabeth is glad that Thomas' daughter Sophia has overcome the small pox ("inoculation has been so unsucksessfull in England as to discourage it extreemly [sic]"). She is equally happy that William (the Bishop) has become "so promising a youth." She greatly wishes to see William, but says that England has become a corrupt place, and is no longer a "Gentle World" through which children may travel safely. Elizabeth is also concerned with news that Thomas' "Neighbors the Indians" have been causing trouble. The letter was accompanied by rings for Esther (Thomas' wife) from Sarah, and the nieces Mary/Molly (the Bishop's sister) and Sarah Charlotte (the Bishop's step-sister) from Elizabeth and Charlotte. She speaks of sending portraits of their father and mother, "four foot eight inches in length," but needs to know if they will fit in Thomas' house. Elizabeth might be preparing for her death and that of her sisters since she is giving the family treasures to Thomas.

CAT# 10474

Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: April 22, 1765. Twickenham.

Addressed: For Colonel Thomas White at Philadelphia.

Elizabeth is writing to tell Thomas that she has had the portraits of their parents (see CAT# 10473) cleaned, packed and shipped to him. She says that she has been told the image of the father is very realistic, although she was too young when he died to remember him well. She tells Thomas that she will look forward to receiving the portrait of him (Thomas) that Esther is sending them. Charlotte has been ill with a fever.

CAT# 10475

Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: April 23, 1766. Twickenham.

Addressed: For Colln. Thomas White at Philadelphia.

Elizabeth is sorry to hear that the portraits of their parents (see CAT# 10473 & 10474) were damaged on the way to Philadelphia. She tells Thomas to convey her thanks to Esther for sending the portrait of him to them, and that although the portrait gives them great pleasure, they would much rather see

him in person. She also congratulates Thomas on the repeal of the Stamp Act, and his daughter's (Sophia Hall's) triumph over her sickness.

CAT# 10476 Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: February 26, 1767. Twickenham.

Addressed: For Coln. Thomas White Mercht. in Philadelphia.

The past winter was a difficult one in England, especially for the poor, according to Elizabeth. She thanks Thomas for writing his opinions of the Stamp Act (see CAT# 10475) and tells him again that she is happy it has been repealed. She is looking forward to a visit from William, but understands that Thomas will not send him until he is old enough to "withstand the Temptations to Vice."

CAT# 10477 Letter, SARAH MIDWINTER - MRS. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: April 24, 1765. Twickenham.

Esther obviously received the ring that Sarah sent (see CAT# 10473) and mailed a thank-you letter in return, to which this letter is responding. Sarah is happy that Esther and Thomas have such dutiful children. She says that she is thankful to be alive after her last illness which was very serious.

CAT# 10478 Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - MRS. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: December 5, 1770. Twickenham.

Addressed: To Mrs. White.

Elizabeth is reassuring Esther that William has arrived safely in England and that he is doing well. She says that William "seems to know so much of the World and is so clever in the Management of his Affairs as to want no assistance from [her]."

CAT# 10479 Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - MRS. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: July 20, 1772. Twickenham.

Addressed: Mrs. White.

Elizabeth informs Esther that William, who is staying with them, is well and is most highly esteemed by all who meet him. She begs Esther not to worry, stating that William will return with "the same Honest Heart and Lively disposition" because his moral character is so strong.

CAT# 10480 Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - MRS. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: January 27, 1773. Twickenham.

Addressed: Mrs. White.

Elizabeth was happy to hear from Esther that William returned home safely. She is also pleased that William's "Choice" (possibly his desire to marry Mary Harrison), has warranted the approval of both Esther and Thomas. This letter obviously accompanied CAT# 10482 to William because it refers to events that are listed in that letter, with Elizabeth saying that she will not repeat them since she recounted them in such great detail to William.

CAT# 10481 Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - MRS. WM. WHITE (MARY)

Dated: March 20, 1775. Twickenham.

Addressed: Mrs. White.

Elizabeth is responding to a letter which Mary (Harrison) White probably sent soon after her marriage to William (c.1773). She welcomes Mary to the family and says that it is wonderful that William found such a worthy Lady.

CAT# 10482 Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - WM. WHITE

Dated: December 30, 1772. Twickenham.

Addressed: The Revd. Mr. White.

A lengthy letter that probably accompanied one to William's mother (CAT# 10480). It summarizes the events at Twickenham since William has returned to Philadelphia. It mentions the deaths of Mrs. James (who had lived with the sisters for many years) and a Mrs. Adamson. Elizabeth also sends her best wishes to Mary Harrison, to whom she supposes William might already be married. Also mentioned are Mr. Benezet (John?) and Mr. Rush (Jacob?) who apparently accompanied William on his journey home.

CAT# 10483 Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - WM. WHITE

Dated: 1773. Twickenham.

Addressed: The Revd. Mr. William White.

Elizabeth is glad that William is settled in with a new church and hopes he is happily married to Mary Harrison. She mentions a fever epidemic that has plagued the area and continues with other news about people he met in England.

CAT# 10484 Letter, CHARLOTTE WEEKS- WM. WHITE

Dated: January 10, 1773.

Addressed: The Revd. Mr. William White.

A brief letter probably to accompany the one from Elizabeth (CAT# 10483). The handwriting is almost illegible and the letter brief because her "sister has been so particular in her letter." It adds good wishes to those of Elizabeth.

CAT# 10485 Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - WM. WHITE

Dated: August 5, 1773. Twickenham.

A quickly written letter, which Elizabeth was trying to get to London before the ship left. She briefs William on the happenings at Twickenham and spends lists people who have asked about him.

CAT# 10486 Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - WM. WHITE

Dated: May 29, 1774. Twickenham.

Addressed: The Revd. Mr. William White at Philadelphia.

Elizabeth writes after being very ill all winter. She expresses her joy that William's wife (Mary) has recovered and that only the infant's life was taken (probably refers to the birth and immediate death of the Bishop's first daughter in November 1773). The letter also contains the typical news of the neighbors at Twickenham. Although Elizabeth admits that she does not understand politics, she hopes that the disagreement between the colonies and England will end soon.

CAT# 10487 Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - WM. WHITE

Dated: September 5, 1774. Twickenham.

Addressed: The Revd Mr. William White. Philadelphia.

Elizabeth writes after not having the opportunity to do so because English ships were not entering American ports. She updates William on the news from Twickenham and tells him that she has recovered from her illness.

CAT# 10488 Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - WM. WHITE

Dated: October 20, 1774. Twickenham.

Addressed: The Revd. Mr. William White at Philadelphia in America. To be left at the Philadelphia Coffee House in London.

Elizabeth assures William that "the unhappy difference between your Country & ours can make no Alteration in our Esteem for you." A brief letter, with some simple greetings to the relatives in Philadelphia.

CAT# 10489 Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - WM. WHITE

Dated: March 24, 1775. Twickenham.

Addressed: The Revd. Mr. William White in Philadelphia.

Elizabeth writes after another long winter of illness for both herself and Charlotte. She hopes that William is receiving these letters, despite the conflict between their countries. Elizabeth sends best wishes to her brother

(Col. Thomas) and is saddened to hear that he "is so affected with the disorder of [the] Family (vis) weakness of nerves." She also includes a brief update of the news from Twickenham.

CAT# 10490 Letter, ELIZABETH WHITE - WM. WHITE

Dated: March 25, 1776. Twickenham.

Addressed: The Revd. Mr. William White in Philadelphia.

A brief note in which Elizabeth assures William that she and Charlotte are still alive, although not very well. She has heard that Mary "was near increasing your Happiness" (pregnant) and hopes that the baby will be healthy.

CAT# 10491 Letter, SARAH MIDWINTER - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: 1754(?).

Addressed: For Mr. Thomas White.

Sarah speaks frequently, and highly, of her husband (Daniel Midwinter) in this letter, including one particular sentence, "he must be many years older than myself but he is a very kind & good Husband." She sends her best wishes to Mrs. White (Esther) and hopes that all is well in Philadelphia. There is no penned date on this letter, but 1754 is penciled in at the top.

CAT# 10492 Letter, CHARLOTTE WEEKS - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: February 26, 1754. Isleworth.

Addressed: To Mr. Thomas White. At his house in Philadelphia.

A letter from Charlotte, with a page from her new husband Charles Weeks. Charlotte writes of her happiness, while Mr. Weeks writes a very flattering note saying that Charlotte is "the most obliging, good natured indul'gent a Woman that Ever man was Bles'd with [sic]." They invite Thomas to come visit them, but understand that a trip is unlikely because of his newly broken leg.

CAT# 10493 Letter, CHARLES WEEKS - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: May 8, 1756. Jersey.

Addressed: To Mr. Thomas White Merchant in Philadelphia.

A letter detailing the cost of sending a letter to Philadelphia by the monthly ships that depart from London to New York and Barbados.

CAT# 10494 Letter, CHARLOTTE WEEKS - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: February 24, 1763(?). Twickenham.
Addressed: To Mr. Thomas White.

This letter, probably written soon after Mr. Weeks' death (August 2, 1762), does not have a legible year-date on it. It is difficult to read, but speaks of Charlotte's move from Isleworth to Twickenham.

CAT# 10495 Letter, CHARLOTTE WEEKS - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: May 14, 1758. Jersey.
Addressed: Mr. Thomas White in Philadelphia.

A brief letter from Charlotte saying how happy she is with her husband (Charles Weeks) who frequently "drinks to [Thomas'] health." She says that it is difficult to be away from her sisters, but that Charles is good to her.

CAT# 10496 Letter, CHARLOTTE WEEKS - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: April 1765(?). Twickenham.

There is no date on this letter, but it was written after the death of Charles Weeks (c.1762) and Charlotte's move to Twickenham (c.1763), but before the death of Sarah (c.1770). She writes that she has been in a poor state of health since the death of Charles, but is in the company of her sisters.

CAT# 10497 Letter, SARAH MIDWINTER - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: 1763(?).
Addressed: For Mr. White.

There is no date on this letter, but it was written after the deaths of Mr. Midwinter (c.1757) and Mr. Weeks (c.1762), but before Sarah moved to Twickenham (c.1763). Sarah finds herself in low spirits and is temporarily living with Charlotte at Isleworth.

CAT# 10498 Letter, SARAH MIDWINTER - COL. THOMAS WHITE

Dated: 1765(?).

This letter was probably written around 1764, because it was after the death of Mr. Midwinter (c.1757), the death of Mr. Weeks (c.1762), and the trip to Bath (c.1763/64), but before William's visit and Sarah's death (both c.1770). It mentions the harsh winter, and the visit of Captain Johnson from which they were assured that Thomas had a very "fine son" and wonderful family.

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