

Subseries VII: Photographs, 1850-1864

Subseries VII: Photographs, 1850-1864, is arranged alphabetically by subject's last name? And contains various photographs such as carte de visites, photo cards, and cabinet cards of significant American figures such as J.S. Arthur, Josiah Quincy II, J.H. Stockton, and Charles Sherwood "General Tom Thumb" Jackson.

Processed by Garrett Berlin, Fall 2023 to Spring 2024, and Kaelin Hughes, Archives work-study, Spring 2024, with transcription and processing assistance from Jessica Van Orden, Archives Assistant, edited and supervised by Suzanna Calev, Archivist.

12.35. Item 35: Photograph of [J\[ohn\]. S\[mith\]. Arthur](#), no date.

Type of Material: Photograph (carte de visite)

Title: N/A

Description: This is a photograph of J. S. Arthur, with no specified date of when pictured. The photograph is likely a [carte de visite](#) (trans. 'visiting card'), a negative, albumen print glued onto a slightly larger and thicker card. John Smith Arthur (1795-1854) resided in Smithtown, Long Island, New York, based on additionally archived photographs of his [home](#). There is [another](#) J.S. Arthur within the family line, who also owned the Smithtown property, but was not of age at the estimated time which the photo was taken.

Dates: N/A

Creator: N/A

Subjects: Historical Photograph; Long Island (NY.) – History

Locations: N/A

People: [Arthur, John Smith](#), 1795-1854

General Condition: Good: Circular tearing on back of photo card in all four corners, likely from a seal or adhesive.

Measurements: 4 in. x 2 ½ in.

Transcript Attempt:

FRONT:

J.S. Arthur

12.36. Item 36: Photograph of [Josiah Quincy III](#), 1864 March 14.

Type of Material: Photograph (photo card)

Title: N/A

Description: The following photograph (photo card) is of Josiah Quincy III (1772-1774) at 92 years old in 1864. Quincy was an educator and politician, working in the House of Representatives, a mayor of Boston, and a former president of Harvard University.

Dates: 1864 March 14

Creator: N/A

Subjects: Historical photograph; House of Representatives (U.S.); Massachusetts

Locations: N/A

People: [Quincy, Josiah](#), 1772-1864

General Condition: Good: Slight discoloration of card image is pasted on; Where Quincy's name is pasted onto the back of the card, there is smearing of a binding medium.

Measurements: 4 in. x 2 ¾ in.

Transcript Attempt:

FRONT:

[archivist writing] 132

BACK:

Josiah Quincy

14. March

1864

(92 years old

In Early 1864)

12.37. Item 37: Photograph of [J.H. Stockton](#), no date.

Type of Material: Photograph (photo card)

Title: N/A

Description: This is a photograph (photo card) of J. H. Stockton (1813-1877), with an indicator on the back saying “56th year” (making this image dated between 1856 and 1869). John H. Stockton originated from New Hope, Pennsylvania and is known for his work as a minister, specifically in the New Jersey Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was also a musician and composer of music and hymns.

Dates: N/A

Creator: N/A

Subjects: Historical photograph; Pennsylvania; New Jersey

Locations: N/A

People: [Stockton, John Hart, 1813-1877](#)

General Condition: Good: Slight folding of the negative of Stockton on the front of the card, noticeable in the top left corner of the negative; the backside of the card is severely torn, likely from an adhesive of some kind, which obstructs the view of a seal and handwriting.

Measurements: 4 in. x 2 ½ in.

Transcript Attempt:

FRONT:

[archivist handwriting: 25121]

J.H. Stockton

BACK:

[Pennsylva]nia

(56th year.)

12.38. Item 38: Photograph of “[General Tom Thumb](#) & bride,” 1850 February.

Type of Material: Photograph (Cabinet card)

Title: General Tom Thumb & bride

Description: The following photograph is a [cabinet card](#) of circus performer, Charles Sherwood Stratton’s [known as “General Tom Thumb”] wedding to his wife, Mercy Lavina Warren (a circus performer).

Stratton’s life as a circus performer donned him the nickname “Tom Thumb” due to his size, as the original [folktale](#) notes Thumb being “no bigger than his father’s thumb.” Stratton and Warren are joined

by other performers in the industry, George Washington "[Commodore Nutt](#)" Morrison Nutt and Huldah Pierce "[Minnie](#)" Warren Bump. Handwriting on the back of the photo card indicates that the recipient of the card inherited it from an unknown C. J. Welles from Athens, Pennsylvania. The original photograph was so popular, it is now titled as the "[Fairy Wedding Group](#)." The original photo was taken by [Matthew B. Brady](#), one of the earliest photographers known in the United States.

Dates: 1850 February

Creator: N/A

Subjects: Photographs; Circus performers; Wedding photography; Cabinet card photographs

Locations: N/A

People: [Stratton](#), [Charles Sherwood](#) 1838-1883; [([Warren](#)) [Stratton](#), [Mercy Lavinia](#), 1841-1919]; [Nutt](#), [George Washington Morrison](#), 1848-1881; [Bump](#), [Huldah Pierce Warren](#), 1849-1878; Welles, C. J.

General Condition: Good: Slight discoloration of the back of the photo card, with slight peeling visible in the bottom right corner.

Measurements: 6 ½ in. x 3 ⅞ in. {Envelope}, 4 in. x 2 ½ in. {Photograph}

Transcript Attempt:

Envelope Front:

Photograph —

General Tom Thumb & bride

(Charles S. Stratton & Mercy Lavina Warren)

BACK [of Photo]:

Photo of

General Tom Thumb

And his Bride

Inherited from

C.J. Welles

Athens, Pa.

Clue.

Feb '50[1850]