

Alaska State Library  
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

Lavender, A. W.

A. W. Lavender Papers and Photographs, 1890-1892

MS 235

2 boxes  
2 cubic feet

Processed By: Ken Nail, Jr.,  
& James Simard  
November 2007

**ACQUISITION:** The collection was purchased from Antiques and Art, Piedmont N. D. in June, 2007. Accession No. 2007-029.

**ACCESS:** Unrestricted.

**COPYRIGHT:** Request for permission to publish material from the collection must be discussed with the Librarian. Photocopying does not constitute permission to publish.

**PROCESSING:** A complete listing was created for the contents of folder 47 and folder 48, i.e., miscellaneous documents and letters. These items reflect Lavender's term of service on St. George Island (Pribilofs) as Assistant Special Treasury Agent, beginning in May 1890 and continuing into 1893. He participated in the regulation of the seal skin trade and assured that Native workers were paid for their work in the trade. Many of the documents in these folders concern the wages paid during seal hunting season and the supplies which were requisitioned and provided for the trade. These documents were primarily handwritten and were re-housed in numbered Mylar sleeves for their

preservation; then the sleeved documents were re-folded into five legal-sized folders.

### BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Captain Lavender was a native South Dakotan who was in command of the sealing station for the U.S. Treasury, Dept. of the Interior, at St. George Island, Alaska in early 1890's.

### SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

COLLECTION OF CAPT. A.W. LAVENDER, DEPT. OF INTERIOR 1890-1892, ST. GEORGE ISLAND SEALING STATION.

A beautiful 10 x 14 water color of the sealing station at St. George Island, Alaska, by Henry Wood Elliott, 1846-1930, also two 6 1/2 by 9 1/2 pencil drawings by Elliott, were included in the purchase of this collection. They were removed and transferred to the Alaska State Museum.

The collection includes 32 boudoir size photographs of Alaskan scenes, plus three larger size Alaskan photographs and numerous letters, documents, relating to the Alaskan adventure of Capt. A. W. Lavender. All items relate to Captain Lavender's command of the sealing station.

Items 1, 2, 3 transferred to the Alaska State Museum. Photocopies housed with MS collection.

1. Beautiful 10 X 14 water color of the Sealing station at St. George Island, Alaska by Henry Wood Elliott, 1846-1930.
2. 6 1/4 X 9 1/2 pencil on paper, of Capt. Lavender, seated by window in rocking chair holding a fishing rod with kind regards of the artist, H. Elliott, July 29, 1890.
3. 6 1/4 X 9 1/2 pencil on paper, The Government House, St. George, Island, for Capt. A.W. Lavender from his friend, the sketch artist H. Elliott, July 25, 1890.

### INVENTORY

#### Box 1

1. Photocopy of Beautiful 10 X 14 water color of the Sealing station at St. George Island, Alaska by Henry Wood Elliott, 1846-1930.

2. Photocopy of 6 1/4 X 9 1/2 pencil on paper, of Capt. Lavender, seated by window in rocking chair holding a fishing rod with kind regards of the artist, H. Elliott, •July 29, 1890.
3. Photocopy of 6 1/4 X 9 1/2 pencil on paper, of Capt. Lavender, seated by window in rocking chair holding a fishing rod with kind regards of the artist, H. Elliott, •July 29, 1890.
4. 4 1/4 X 6 3/4 photograph on card, BEACH SCENE AT YAKUTAK. Two dogs next to dug-out canoe. Other equipment in background.
5. 4 1/4 x 6 3/4 photograph on card, GORGE, EXCAVATED BY TREADWELL MINE. Mountain scene with excavation by hydrologic mining.
6. 4 1/4 X 6 3/4 photograph on card, VILLAGE AT KASAN, S.E. ALASKA. View of Indian village with wood houses and totem poles.
7. 4 1/4 X 6 photograph on card, INDIAN GRAVES, HOONIAH. Graves with carved wooden head boards. Graves above ground with bones, skull and burial items strewn about.
8. 4 1/2 X 6 3/4 photograph on card, BARANOFF CASTLE, SITKA. View from water of the historic Russian castle.
9. 4 1/2 X 6 3/4 photograph on .card, SEALING SCHOONER, NEAL [NEAH] BAY. Double mast boat as used to take seals in water.
10. 4 1/2 X 6 3/4 photograph on card, INDIAN SUMMER CAMP, CAPE NICHOLS. View of numerous dug-out canoes on beach with log cabins. Fish drying on racks, numerous Indians standing about.
11. 4 1/2 X 6 1/2 photograph on card, INDIAN HOUSE AT HOONAH, THE MASKS, SIGNIFYING THAT SLAVES WERE KILLED AND PLACED UNDER THE FOUNDATION POSTS. Indians with group of white men in foreground.
12. 4 1/2 X 6 1/2 photograph on card, JUNEAU ALASKA. View from the water, with mountain in background.
13. 4 1/2 X 6 3/4 photograph on card, TOTEMS OVER INDIAN GRAVES, KASAU, S.E. ALASKA. Numerous totem poles at Indian graveyard.
14. 4 1/2 X 6 3/4 photograph on card, HUNTERS IN ACT OF SPEARING SEAL. Two men in dug-out canoe, one standing with spear ready for throwing.
15. 4 1/2 X 6 3/4 photograph on card, GROUP NEAH BAY INDIAN HUNTERS, U.S.S CORWIN,092 [1892]. Four Indian hunters, holding guns, harpoon, and paddle, pose

- with a dug-out canoe on the deck of the sealing schooner, *Corwin*; [men are in formal dress, wearing suits, ties, and hats].
16. 4 1/2 X 6 3/4 photograph on card, JUNEAU, ALASKA, photo taken from the water showing docks in foreground, the town on a narrow stretch of land between the water and a high mountain behind.
  17. 4 1/2 X 6 3/4 photograph on card, DESTITUTE INDIANS, PICKED UP BY U.S.S. CORWIN AT ADAMS ANCHORAGE, 092[1892]. Group of Indians on deck of ship with two sailors in background.
  18. 4 1/2 X 6 1/2 photograph on card, SCENE AT HOOMIAH. Indians in canoe in the bay with village along the shore, mountains in background.
  19. 4 1/2 X 6 1/2 photograph on card, SITKA FROM BARANOFF CASTLE. View of city buildings along waterfront.
  20. 4 1/2 X 6 3/4 photograph on card, VILLAGE OF HOONIAH [HOONAH]. As seen from the water with mountains in background.
  21. 4 1/2 X 6 3/4 photograph on card, BERG IN DISINCHANTMENT BAY. Iceberg in bay.
  22. 4 1/2 X 6 3/4 photo copy of pencil drawing, on card, STORM OFF DIXONOS INLET, LOST 3 BOATS. Drawing of ship in rough sea. Quite faded but may reproduce ok.
  23. 4 1/2 X 6 3/4 photograph on card, SCENE IN TREADWELL MINE, DOUGLAS ID, ALASKA. Large timbers holding rock ledge in mine, evidently following a vein.
  24. 4 1/2 X 6 3/4 photograph on card, GLACIER AT DISINCHANTMENT BAY. As seen from the sea. Faint but should reproduce ok.
  25. 4 1/2 X 6 3/4 photograph on card, MT. EDGE CUMBRE, AT SITKA, ALASKA. Photo is very faint.
  26. 4 1/2 X 6 3/4 photograph on card, WATER WHEEL, SITKA, ALASKA. Water Wheel at steep mountain stream at what appears to be some mining venture. Faint.
  27. 4 1/2 X 6 3/4 photograph on card, SITKA 490ERS(49'ERS). Two burros on mountain trail above Sitka, Alaska.
  28. 4 1/2 X 6 3/4 photograph on card, SITKA HARBOR FROM CASTLE. Shallow water harbor with numerous small islands as seen from Baranof Castle.

29. 4 1/2 X 6 1/2 photograph on card, TOTEMS AT FT. WRANGELL, ALASKA. Large totem poles with buildings in background.
30. 4 1/2 X 6 3/4 photograph on card, MALAISPENA GLACIER, SIX MILES DISTANT. View from the sea of the glacier entering the water.
31. 4 1/2 X 6 1/2 photograph on card, BLOCKHOUSE, SITKA, BUILT BY RUSSIANS. Old log block house built by Russians to defend the Port of Sitka which was Russian Territory.
32. 4 1/2 X 6 3/4 photograph on card, MT EDGE CUMBRE, SITKA. In the distance as seen from the water, snow capped.
33. 4 1/2 X 6 3/4 photograph on card, MINERS HUT, YAKUTAT BAY. Log cabin with miners standing in front. Faint but will copy ok.
34. 4 1/2 X 6 3/4 photograph on card, OLD BLOCKHOUSE, FT. WRANGELL. Log block house on low hill.
35. 4 1/2 X 6 3/4 photograph on card, WRECK OF THE SAN PEDRO, VICTORIA B.C. Sunken vessel, half out of the water at what appears to be low tide.
36. Book: CONDITION OF SEAL LIFE ON THE ROOKERIES OF THE PRIBILOF ISLANDS AND TO PELAGIC SEALING IN BERING SEA AND THE NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN, 1893-1895. Full of good information and testimony of hunters, traders, environmentalists, and other interested people on the danger of exterminating the seal. 379 pages including maps and charts. Capt. Lavender gives his report. A most interesting study that resulted in laws that restricted hunting on historic birthing grounds. A bit frayed but contents good.
37. Housed in **Box 2**  
MANIFOLD LETTER BOOK. Copies of letters and Official Correspondence by Capt. A. W. Lavender as commander of the U.S. Sealing Station, St. George Island, Alaska, 1890-1891. Much good information, partially filled book.
38. 6 3/4 X 8 1/2 photograph on card, CAPT. A.W. LAVENDER, U.S. TREASURY, DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR, ST. GEORGE ISLAND. Nice bust view in fur coat and cap as he was dressed while working as govt. agent in Alaska, 1890-1892.
39. Housed in **Box 2**  
LEDGER BOOK. Contains 227 pages offhand written affidavits of hunters, traders, govt. agents, boat captains, etc. regarding the status of the Alaskan seal. Much good and useful information here.

40. PIERCEOS MEMORANDUM AND ACCOUNT BOOK. A small pocket edition with hand written notes by Capt. A.W. Lavender regarding seals killed on St. George Island.
41. Housed in **Box 2**  
POCKET DIARY, 1890. Partially filled diary detailing Capt. A.W. Lavender's activity for April and May of 1890.
42. LARGE LEDGER SHEET, STATEMENT OF SEALS KILLED ON ST. GEORGE ISLAND, 1892. Lists number of seals, when and where killed and by who. Hides obtained, plus animals and hides taken by Native hunters for their personal use.
43. ANNUAL STATEMENT OF FUR SEAL TAKEN ON ST. GEORGE ISLAND FROM JULY 20TH TO AUGUST 6TH, 1891. Lists number of seals, when and where killed and by who. Hides obtained, plus animals and hides taken by Native hunters for their personal use.
44. WRITTEN STATEMENT BY CAPT. A.W. LAVENDER, regarding the treatment of Native people on St. George Island prior to his tenure. Evidently, Indian welfare was handled by the [Russian Orthodox] Church under an arrangement with the U.S. Government.
45. LETTER Copy FROM NORTH AMERICAN COMMERCIAL (FUR) COMPANY PROTESTING THE REPORT OF CAPT. A.W. LAVENDER TO THE SECY OF THE TREASURY, regarding the treatment of Indians by the Company and their need for additional coal and supplies to survive the winter on St. George Island.
46. TWO LETTERS FROM HENRY W. ELLIOTT TO CAPT. A.W. LAVENDER ON SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION STATIONERY, dated Feb. 1892 regarding saving the Alaskan seal from extinction.

**47a-e.** MISC. LETTERS, TELEGRAMS, AND DOCUMENTS, regarding the accounts of Capt. A.W. Lavender as U. S. Treasury Agent on St. George Island, Alaska. It would appear that Lavender was removed from office because of problems with the North American Commercial Co. regarding the over taking of fur seals and their method of payment and treatment of Native peoples on St. George Island. Most interesting reading. Evidently Lavender had some problem collecting accounts due him with the U.S. Treasury Dept. for travel and subsistence. It would appear that Lavender played an important part in changing the way that seals were taken from the Alaskan Islands. Approximately 24 items. *Original order maintained.*

## 47a. Misc. Letters &amp; Documents, 1-5a (original order maintained).

- 1.0 “Proposed Division to the natives of \$1350.00 earned by them for taking 2700 seal skins on the island of St. George during season of 1890 and 1891. [1891 is mentioned only on the reverse of the document. Handwritten; no envelope.]

Descriptive Note: Listing of Natives by name and one of four classes together with individual earnings for a total of \$1350.00. First class comprises 7 persons headed by a cleric who earned four cents more than the others, at \$66.70; the others earned \$66.66. Second class comprises 11 persons who each earned \$56.66. Third class comprised 4 persons who each earned \$40.02. Fourth class comprised 4 persons who earned \$25.00 each.

- 2.0 Letter to Capt. A. W. Lavender, Treasury Agent at St. George Island, Alaska, from Treasury Department Special Agent Milton Barnes of St. Paul Island, Alaska, dated August 18, 1891. [4 pages, handwritten, signed, with post script.]

Transcription: Capt. A. W. Lavender, My dear sir. Your kind favor of this date just received. In reply, I will say, yes, Mr. Tingle has gone, sure enough, and we feel here on St. Paul, that the millennium has come! And the calm that follows the storm is so perceptible one can almost feel it. The reason I had not written you was that on arriving here, I found Major Williams and Col. Murray up to their elbows in the work, preparing their reports, and must needs take off my coat and lend a hand, helping copy and formulate their work – especially that of the Major – all of which I was only too glad to do for I had been idle so long – I wanted exercise and at the same time it afforded me an opportunity to get my hand in, so I was kept busy every day until the Major got off. Col. M. has formally turned over the books to me in anticipation of his departure and I am getting “broken in” as they say. I am well pleased with the prospects here. My surroundings, I think, will be pleasant, at least as far as I can see through it now. I rather envy you and him, the superb enjoyment you will both experience during the coming winter around your own loved firesides but I won’t dare indulge the thought for fear I may catch the contagion and want to break jail myself. No, I will patiently bide my time trusting it will be my turn next & I am pleased to know that you and he will both do me and mine the kindness to call on my little family on your way to and from Washington. I presume the Major on his way down showed, or told you the import of his report in regard to your case. I copied it for him and of course know what it was and in my personal letter to Sec. Foster, I took occasion to endorse what he said and enlarge upon it by saying that during an association with you of some six weeks I had an opportunity to, and did become personally cognizant of all the facts in the case and hence could

## 47a (Continued)

vouch for the correctness of it etc. So, now when you visit Washington, you can march into the Treasury Department with your eyes to the front and head erect – redeemed, regenerated and disenthralled from the temporary obloquy thrown upon your official execution.

I believe you volunteered to present me with an old pair of gum boots that you thought you would leave behind you. I entirely forgot about them when I came away and finding I might need something of the kind here this winter. I tried to purchase a pair at the store here but could find none small enough for me. You and I have very small feet it is true, but somehow or other large boots fit us best. If you can find a way to send them to me I will remember you in my prayers – perhaps if the Col. Goes down before he leaves for home he might bring others back with him.

Remember me kindly to Mr. Nettleton and family – also to Capt. Webster and the Dr. and all the rest of your ones – Tell Mr. N. that the boys have been slow in collecting seals teeth, but they have brought in some and I will keep pushing them up occasionally.

Trusting you may have a pleasant journey home and be back again “when the spring time comes, gentle Annie,” I am very truly yours, Milton Barnes.

P. S. If there are any more hollisehacks [?] on St. George who want wives – send them over here – we have twenty five or thirty more widows that can be disposed of in that way. M. B.

2.0a Envelope

3.0 Letter to Major W. H. Williams, Special Treasury Agent in Charge, Fur Seal Islands from Treasury Department Asst. Agt in Charge A. W. Lavender, St. George Island, Alaska, dated July 16<sup>th</sup>, 1891. [4 pages handwritten, signed.]

Transcription: Sir: I have the telegram of O. L. Spaulding, asst. Secretary of the Treasury, dated May 22<sup>nd</sup>, inst [?], stating charges against me of having neglected my duty, of having insulted Mr. Fowler, and Dr. Herford in Company's employ, because the latter refused to give me money to buy skins, that I had been engaged in buying skins of which I had a large collection etc.

In answer thereto, I have the honor to say: First - The charges are false in every particular. That I have neglected my duty, no fair person on this Island will say so. As to my having insulted Mr. Fowler or Dr. Herford,

## 47a (Continued)

whatever language there might have been used, had no reference to money at all – but was provoked by Mr. Fowler’s intermeddling [?] with my authority, as the officer in charge, in regard to other matters. As to Dr. Herford, I never had an angry word with him on this Island, or elsewhere.

Nor did I ever, at any time, ask him for money with which to purchase skins.

I did purchase a few fox, and mink [?] skins from the natives, in a limited number, for my own use, and presents to my friends – and not for sale; for which, at the time of purchase, I paid the natives in cash, therefore, more than the ordinary market price. I did ask Mr. Fowler for twenty five dollars, in the month of March, but not for the purpose of purchasing fox skins, or paying for those I had purchased, for they had all been paid for before. This he refused to let me have, stating that that was his instructions. My answer to him was, that is right, obey your instructions, and nothing more was said.

What few skins were purchased by me from the natives, as above stated, I did under what I conceived to be a correct interpretation of the general instructions of the Secretary of the U. S. Treasury – Mr. Windom – to Charles J. Goff – agent in charge dated, Treasury Department, March 26, 1890. In which the following language occurs: to wit: “Until otherwise instructed, you will grant the natives the privilege of selling the --- skins allowed them by law including such articles “as they may manufacture from such skins, and also such skins as they may trap and kill during the winter provided that no contraband merchandise or spirituous liquors are received in exchange for them.” etc. Very respectfully, Your obedient servant, A. W. Lavender, asst. agt. in charge.

- 4.0 Invoice dated May 26, 1892 from Evans Bros. & Co., Port Townsend, Washington.
- 4.1 Receipt for sale of typewriter to A. W. Lavender for \$15.00, dated May 26, 1892.
- 4.2 St. George Island record under headings of 1<sup>st</sup> Appearance – 3 columns; May 4- June 10, 1891.
- 4.3 Accounting record of payments to Natives for August 1891.
- 4.0a Envelope
- 5.0 Wells, Fargo & Co’s Express receipt dated Oct. 3, 1891. Text is illegible.

## 47a (Continued)

- 5.1 Receipt (in the amount of \$100.00) to Capt. A. W. Lavender dated Oct. 2, 1891, by George R. Tingle.
- 5.2 Letter to Capt. A. W. Lavender from Special Agent Treasury Department (ST. George Island) S. P. Nettleton dated Sept. 10, 1891. [handwritten, single page, largely unintelligible; brief reference to Unalaska.]
- 5.3 Cover letter to Hon. Albert W. Lavender, Scotland, South Dakota, from George S. Bartlett, Disbursing Clerk for Treasury Department, Washington, D.C., dated September 4, 1891, for a check settling an account of Lavender's for the period of August 1, 1890 to June 30, 1891.
- 5.4 Invoice to Capt. A. W. Lavender from the Palace Hotel (San Francisco) dated Oct. 5, 18\_\_, for 3 ½ days board at \$17.10.
- 5.5 Letter to Hon. William Windom, Secretary of the Treasury, Washington, D. C., from Albert W. Lavender, Asst. Agent, Seal Islands, dated April 16, 1890, Customs-house, San Francisco, Cal. [handwritten, single page]

Transcription: Sir: I have the honor to report to you that I arrived in this City on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Also that I have received [sic] my instruction of April 4<sup>th</sup> sent to the Collector of Customs at this place for me and I shall act in accordance with them. I have the honor to remain yours very truly Albert W. Lavender, Asst. Agent, Seal Islands.

- 5.6 Letter to Hon. William Windom, Secretary of the Treasury, Washington, D. C., from Albert W. Lavender (Lavender & Spannagel, General Merchandise, of Scotland, South Dakota, dated April 5, 1890. [handwritten, single page]

Transcription: Sir: I have the honor to enclose to you herewith my oath of office as assistant agent at the Seal Islands.

Also my bond for twelve hundred dollars as disbursing agent of the Treasury Department.

And beg to inform you that in accordance with my telegram of April 3 inst I shall report in San Francisco for instructions in time to sail from there on the 20<sup>th</sup> of this month. Very respectfully yours, Albert W. Lavender.

- 5.0a Envelope

## 47b. Miscellaneous Letters and Documents, 6-10a (original order maintained)

- 6.0 Letter to A. W. Lavender (Scotland, South Dakota) from A. K. Tingle, Supervising Special Agent, Treasury Department, Office of the Secretary, Washington, D. C., September 6, 1893.

Transcription: Sir: Your final account as Special Agent on the Seal Islands, covering a period from September 1, 1892 to June 30, 1893, has been adjusted by the accounting officers, and the charge therein of \$270.00 for board on St. George Island has been disallowed, that place having been your official Station. Respectfully yours, A. K. Tingle, Supervising Agent.

- 6.0a Envelope

- 7.0 Letter to A. W. Lavender, Scotland, South Dakota, from C. S. Hamlin (for A. K. Tingle), Acting Secretary, Treasury Department, Office of the Secretary, Washington, D. C., September 8, 1893.

Transcription: Sir: Upon the settlement of your final accounts as Special Agent for the Seal Islands, and the disallowance of the sum of \$270.00 charged therein for board on the Islands mentioned in Department's letter to you of the 8<sup>th</sup> instant, there remains due the sum of \$1091.11. A check for this amount payable to your order has been sent to the care of the Secretary of the North American Commercial Company at San Francisco, who has been advised that it would be necessary for them to obtain your endorsement of said check. This Department cannot recognize the assignment of your account or an order from you to pay the amount of your indebtedness to said Company, namely, \$1164.47. Respectfully yours, C. S. Hamlin, Acting Secretary.

- 7.0a Envelope

- 8.0 Record "showing the amount of money to the credit of the Natives [by name] of Saint George Island, August 12<sup>th</sup> 1891. [handwritten, 2 pages.]

- 8.0a Envelope

- 9.0 Expense Record of A. W. Lavender, St. George Island. May 31-August 4, no year given. [handwritten, 2 pages, featuring 13 boxes of cigars, 6 corn cob pipes, 16 packages of Enterprise tobacco, several packages of cigarette papers and matches]

- 10.0 Statement of actual and necessary expenses of A. W. Lavender, dated May 1-July 31, 1890; \$724.90. [Agent's copy; printed form, signed.]

## 47b (Continued)

- 10.1 Notice to Albert W. Lavender, St. George's Island, Alaska from James V. Holliday, Commissioner of Customs, Treasury Department, Office of Commissioner of Customs, Washington, D. C., Sept. 18, 1890.

Transcription: Sir: An account has been adjusted in your favor in the amount of \$724.40 for services and expenses as Assistant Agent of Seal Fisheries, from April to July 1890. Draft will be remitted. Respectfully yours, James V. Holliday, Commissioner of Customs. [typewritten, 1 page, signed.]

- 10.2 Notice to A. W. Lavender, c/o North Am. Com. Co., San Francisco, Cal., from James V. Holliday, Commissioner of Customs, Treasury Department, Office of Commissioner of Customs, Washington, D. C., May 22, 1890.

Transcription: Sir: An account has been adjusted in your favor in the amount of \$162.45 being due you for services rendered as Assistant Agent at Seal Fisheries from April 4<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>, 1890. Draft will be remitted. Respectfully yours, James V. Holliday, Commissioner of Customs.

- 10.0a Envelope

## 47c. Miscellaneous Letters and Documents, 11-15a (original order maintained)

- 11.0 Printed shipping tag of Joseph Ullmann, Exporter of Furs, Dealer in Hides, Wool, Sheep Pelts, Deerskins, Seneca Root, Etc., 353 Jackson St., St. Paul, Minn.
- 11.1 Receipt from Puget Sound & Alaska Steamship Co., dated May 21, 1892.
- 11.2 Telegram (handwritten draft) to Mrs. A. W. Lavender, Port Townsend, Wash., from A. W. Lavender, May 27, 1892.
- 12.0 Letter to Capt. A. W. Lavender from Joseph B. Crowley (St. Paul Island, Alaska), Office of Special Agent Treasury Department, dated July 20, 1893. [handwritten, 2 pages]

Transcription: My dear Sir: I arrived on St. George Island on the 18<sup>th</sup> Inst. Among other matters to business to procure stubs or orders issued by you for the subsistence of the natives on St. George that I might be enabled to respond to the Department expenditures on the Islands, for fiscal year ending June 30, 1893.

## 47c (Continued)

Capt. E. T. Hall, Agent in charge on St. George informed me you had carried from the Island stubs of all orders issued by you during 1892-3. As you have been relieved as agent from the charge of further duties on said Island, you are hereby directed to return to me the stubs of all orders, issues of 1892-3, taken by you from said Island.

You can send them by the Captain of first Revenue Cutter coming to do patrol duty about the island of St. Paul. Respectfully yours, Jos. B. Crowley, Treasury Agent in charge of the Seal Islands, Alaska.

July 26, 1893

Capt. Hooper just informed me that you had sailed for home. As you will be unable to forward the stubs to me at this place, please address them to me at Robinson, Illinois, as I expect to be there in September. J. B. C.

- 12.1 Letter to Joseph B. Crowley, Esq., Robinson, Ills, from A. W. Lavender, Scotland, S. D., Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>, 1893. [handwritten, 1 page]

Transcription: Dear Sir: Enclosed herein you will please find Government orders issued by me during my term as Special Agent in Charge of St. George Island. They are numbered from 1 to 245 inclusive and amount to [\$]1222.41. These stubs I intended to ask you about when at St. Paul but it slipped my memory. A copy and number of each order issued by me is entered both in the Journal and Ledger on the Island. Yours resp, A. W. Lavender.

- 12.0a Envelope

- 13.0 Letter to ---- [illegible], the North American Com. Co, San Francisco, from – (no signature). Appears to be a draft and is largely illegible (?).

- 14.0 Partial handwritten letter; pages 1 and 4 missing.

- 15.0 Letter to Capt. A. W. Lavender in Scotland, South Dakota from John A. Tuck at Unalaska, Alaska, Nov. 30, 1891. [handwritten, single page]

Transcription: Dear Sir: According to promise nearly or quite all of our family have written letters to you. You will find Composition, spelling and grammar quite unique. It is all original as we have not had time to help them nor even to take time to read their letters over for correction. They are improving rapidly every day and could now write much better letters.

## 47c (Continued)

If you would be here you would see a considerable change for the better. Miss Richardson left us on the *Al Ri whas* [?] change for the better. Our health is in full better condition and prospects are good.

We let the children write as you suggested but don't expect that you will go to the expense and trouble of gratifying all their whims.

Having been writing all night; I feel that I must close (5:45 A.M.).  
Sincerely yours, John A. Tuck.

## 15.0a Envelope

## 47d. Miscellaneous Letters and Documents, 16-20a (original order maintained)

- 16.0 Letter to Capt. A. W. Lavender from Jos. Murray, Washington, D. C., March 4, 1892.

Transcription: Capt. A. W. Lavender, My Dear Friend: You will be surprised to find me in Washington, but here I am.

I expect to return home soon – and when I do I will give you details.

My visit east was for several different reasons – political, &c, of which I shall tell you when we meet.

Major Williams had a letter from you, and would have answered it, but he was kept very busy, and he has not been well at all, until this week – and yesterday, he had a telegram from home, calling him there at once, as one of his sons had been taken very sick.

I have had another letter from McManus and he wishes to be remembered to you. We wanted to know how you felt after living all winter in Dakota on frozen wheat. He tells me that every Victoria Sealing vessel is out hunting the seals. I have not learned anything since I came here, and yet I think there will be something definite done in regard to the Seals, and the Islands when Mr. Foster returns from England.

How is your health? How is Mrs. Lavender and all the family? I feel ashamed that I have not written to Ed, but when I do write I will send him a big letter.

I feel about as well as I ever did – the saw dust pills are infallible if one only takes pains to make about a bushel of them every day for two or three weeks.

## 47d (Continued)

Your friend has not filed that letter of retraction in your case – but I really think it makes but very little difference to you or to him, but I will wait a day or two before I say more.

Annie returned from New York on the 13<sup>th</sup> of February, looking well, and feeling well and extremely well pleased with her visit. Let me hear from you at once. Yours ever, Jos. Murray.

- 17.0 Letter to [A. W.] Lavender from Capt. M. A. Healy, San Francisco, Cal., March 23, 1892.

Transcription: My dear Lavender, Your favor of the 17<sup>th</sup> received. The date of our sailing is not positively fixed, but I judge that it will be about the first of May. However Capt. Shepard will be able to inform you more certainly about the matter than I can. Yours truly, M. A. Healy, Captain U. S. R. M. for White.

- 17.0a Envelope

- 18.0 Telegram to Mrs. A. W. Lavender from A. W. Lavender, Port Townsend, Washington, May 23, 1892.

By what route and when did you ship trunk? Answer. A. W. Lavender.

- 19.0 Registry Receipt No. 168; Rec'd December 22, 1891.

- 19.1 Letter to A. W. Lavender, Special Agent, Scotland, South Dakota, from Acting Secretary G. Spaulding [for A. L. T.] Treasury Department, Office of the Secretary, Washington, D. C., October 19, 1891.

Sir: You are directed to report in person at the Department not later than the 5<sup>th</sup> proximo.....

- 19.0a Envelope

- 20.0 Letter to Captain Lavender from W. C. Coulson [Washington C. Coulson, captain of the revenue cutter *Rush*], Hotel Pleasanton, San Francisco, Cal., March 22, 1892.

Transcription: Dear Captain Lavender, Your letter received today. We are all ready with –thru --- forwarding just completed ---- past week. Requisitions for supplies have been sent – but – I have no intimation as to time of sailing from here, probably will go some time during April. – The

## 47d (Continued)

“Dora” will sail from here next Sunday so Sherman [?] told me today. The St. Paul will go over Kodiak first week in April. –

The “Bear”’s getting ready to go about 15<sup>th</sup> April – the “Annie” sailed from here ten days ago, and the “Albatross” on Sunday last – it is thought that they will fetch up in Alaska early in the season. We expect to remain South until December. It looks now as though we will have plenty of company at the Islands – officers send regards – in which I join – very truly yours W. C. Carlson.

## 20.0a Envelope

## 47e. Miscellaneous Letters and Documents, 21-24a (original order maintained)

- 21.0 Letter to J. L. Prouty, Esq. in New York, from I. B. Spannagel, Office of Special Agent Treasury Department, Scotland, S. D., Sept. 11, 1893.

Transcription: Dear Sir: I have ordered Messrs Carson Perrin and Scott of Chicago to ship you two packages of skins containing t Polar Bear skins 7 Black Bear skins 2 Blue fox and a few seal skins. You will please let me hear from you on receipt of the skins [?] and put --- best --- on them for the tot. Respectfully, I. B. Spannagel.

- 22.0 Ledger “showing the amount of money advanced to the Natives of Saint George Island by the N, A. C. C. August 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> 1891 without the knowledge of the Officer in Charge.

## 22.0a Envelope

- 23.0 Letter to Captain Lavender from Henry W. Elliott, Cleveland, Ohio – Detroit Street, Oct. 26, 1891.

Transcription: Dear Captain: I am glad to hear that you have reached home safe and sound and hasten to say that I anticipate meeting you next winter in Washington with much pleasure. I shall not go down to the Smithsonian until the – December, and anything sent to me at above address will come in due season to my hands.

I am very busy with several private enterprises here and do not hesitate to say that if you only give me a chance to shelter you under my roof if you stop off, en route to Washington, before I go, I will be delighted. I am pretty well posted as to what has been done on the island last summer, and know that the time is rapidly drawing near when the preservation of the

## 47e (Continued)

Alaskan rookeries [?] is to be settled, one way or the other. With warm regards I am Sincerely your friend, Henry W. Elliott.

- 24.0 Receipt for payments, March through May 1892; May 19, 1892.
- 24.1 Receipt for payment, May 27 – June 7, 1892; July 27, 1892.
- 24.2 Receipt for payment – Wardroom mess – June 9, 1892.
- 24.3 Listing of payments to Albert W. Lavender; May 21<sup>st</sup>, 1892.
- 24.4 Receipt dated May 26, 1892.
- 24.5 Listing of payments for securing affidavits at .75 apiece; April 11, 1892.
- 24.6 Receipt dated May 27, 1892.
- 24.7 Receipt for subscription to The Provincetown Advocate, Jan 1, 1891 to Jan. 1, 1892.
- 24.8 Business card – A. W. Lavender.
- 24.9 Letter to A. W. Lavender at the Custom House, Omaha, Neb., from Sheldon Jackson, Department of the Interior, Bureau of Education, Alaska Division, Feb. 15, 1892. [handwritten, signed]

Transcription: Dear Sir: Yours of the 11<sup>th</sup> is received, and I am very glad to get a line from you, to know of your whereabouts.

Captain Healy has just been here, at our request, in the interests of the reindeer project, and has left on his return to San Francisco.

It is arranged that the “Bear” shall sail about the middle of April and the Captain will have instructions to assist me in procuring the reindeer. We shall probably go by Southeast Alaska, as I wish to call at one or two points, and we may not reach the Seal Islands before June 1.

I know nothing more about the seal matters than what I see in the papers. The British Seal Commission is here, but so far as the public knows they do not seem to be doing much work.

It will give me pleasure to meet you again, and I wish we could be fellow travelers. If there is anything else I can do for you in Washington, please write me. Very truly yours, Sheldon Jackson.

47e (Continued)

24.0a Envelope

48. Due to a numbering error there is no No.48.
49. 4 1/2 x 7 1/2 photograph on card, MEETING OF U.S. TREASURY AGENTS including Capt. A.W. Lavender, appears to be on ship board.
50. Housed in **Box 2**  
7 1/2 X 9 1/2 photograph on card, GROUP OF NATIVE ALASKAN INDIANS WITH DOGS. Men, women and children in Native dress. Image spotted.
51. Housed in **Box 2**  
10 X 14 photograph on card, ALASKAN PARK SCENE, POSSIBLY SITKA?