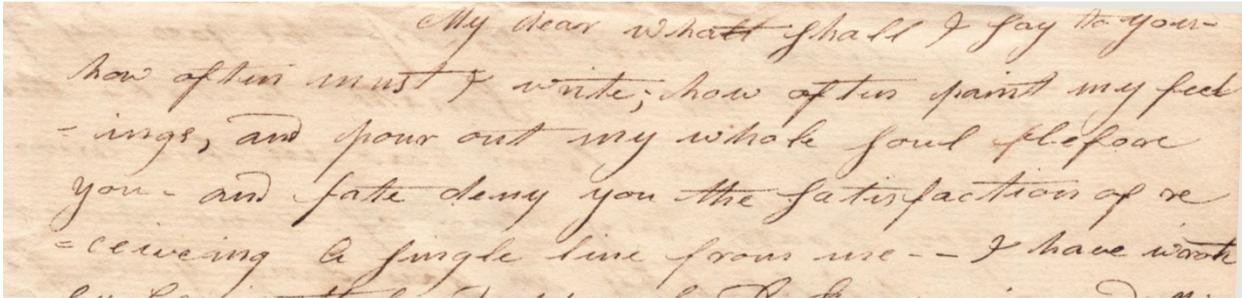


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Boardman / Starbuck Archive Catalogue

An important collection of letters and documents relating to John Boardman, a prominent merchant who was instrumental in founding Troy, New York, and his wife, Clarinda Starbuck, descended from a leading Nantucket family. The correspondence, rich with colorful detail, offers a fascinating window into the entrepreneurial and personal lives of New York merchants during the early years of the republic. In addition to a substantial correspondence between Boardman and his wife (36 letters), the archive includes substantial bodies of correspondence between the principals and other family members and friends, such as Sabrina Crocker Boardman (1763 – 1840), John's sister-in-law, who struggled to make ends meet after the death of her husband in 1800 (8 letters), and Susanna Spencer (1777 – 1808), Clarinda's friend, who sent a series of chatty letters in the 1790s (7 letters). The materials are arranged in six series:

- I. John Boardman to Clarinda Starbuck Boardman, 1800-1811 (32 letters)
- II. Clarinda Starbuck Boardman to John Boardman, 1801-1805 (4 letters)
- III. John Boardman to other family members and colleagues, 1800-1810 (11 letters)
- IV. Letters to Clarinda Starbuck Boardman and John Boardman, 1795-1834 (20 letters)
- V. Legal and financial documents (6 items)
- VI. Estate Inventories (10 items)

Series I: John Boardman to Clarinda Starbuck Boardman

Note: all letters but the last are written from John in New York City to his wife in Troy, sent via one or another Captain sailing up the Hudson.

1. **John Boardman to Clarinda Starbuck, May 26, 1800, 1 page.**

“I arriv’d here after a pleasant passage of three days, at least pleasant weather, but feeling a little indisposed myself made the passage otherwise to me - I have now recovered by shaking off the spleen and am urinating smartly. I find everything in the metropolis wearing much the same appearance as when I last left it - the same great variety of Bonnets except that there is many more of the Friendly ones seen in the streets moving to and from meeting - and Indeed is nothing here that strikes my attention very pleasingly. I feel willing to let them enjoy their City, if they will allow me enjoy my Friends and Village....”

2. **John Boardman to Clarinda Starbuck, June 9, 1800, 3 pages.**

“Absorbed in Reflecting on the all Important and Unalterable Decrees of Deity and my spirits borne down under a stroke of his all Righteous power... Brother Elijah is no more ... I rec’d the first account of it from young Mr. Wilson of Troy who arrived here on Thursday last, the particulars of which have since rec’d by a letter from my poor distraught sister-in law the widow ... It would add much to my feelings still to be at this time, unable to quit this unpleasant place and be on my way to my Friends at Troy, who I know are lonely and I also know I should be much happier with them than here, when this will be I know not and therefore will not even conjecture...”

3. **John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, May 16, 1801, 1 page.**

“We arrived here this morning after a pleasant passage of about 36 hours from Albany – find Capt. Bunker of Nantucket here who sails on Tuesday next by whom Caroline will take passage... markets continue to be very much loaded [?] with Produce, Wheat in particular -- which is at 2 dollars Bushl...”

4. **John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, May 19, 1801, 3 pages**

“... I yesterday sold what wheat we had on board Captain Tupper at 17/. Bus. which is the best sale which has been made in this place for twelve days past. (The quality of the wheat was very excellent or I could not have gotten more than 16/. for it) Captain Benjamin and a member of others lye in the Harbor yet and have not had any offer -- Thus far. I consider myself fortunate....”

5. **John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, May 24, 1801, 3 pages.**

“Its now 10 days since we separated and with anxious concern must tell you I am yet the least information respecting your health, misfortunes, or Blessing -- can it be possible

that you would miss or omit the earliest conveyance to me of a letter even a letter with a single sentence... I have written to you three Letters since my arrival here...to the care of our friend Hillhouse, one or two of which you must have rec'd ere this; the last of which sent by Capt Tupper... I had much to do, wand was on the wharf till after dark, have live'd on board the sloop till then, and as I had neglected to look out quarters concluded to take a Bed (if to be had) with our Friends William [Coit] & Hannah. Before leaving the wharf a Thunder Squall was rising and to avoid the Rain walk'd very fast... found new quarters at the House of Mrs. Saltonstall, No. 35 Pearl Street.... I sent up by Tupper some blue Nankun and some other dark [?] and pretty low priced goods..."

6. **John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, May 27, 1801, 3 pages.**

"...Captain Harry Green sails tomorrow morning for Troy ... have ship'd by him a few prices of coarse muslin for sale in the store, and 3 prices, 10 yds each, of pretty fine Book muslin which bo't at auction at 4/9 yd. ... have not yet heard anything from your frineds at Nantucket....at present calculate to go up with one of our sloops the next trip ...

7. **John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, May 31, 1801, 4 pages.**

"Can it be possible that I have now been in thiss place more than fifteen days without receiving the least scratch of a pen or even a cold compliment in any other way, from my most cordial and best Friend – my Wife. ... You will remember my dear that this is the first time of our separation since we were married... I have endeavored to fill up the space in the way prescribed by the Wise – That of communicating my thoughts – that of my health – and the warmest effusions and desires of my soul, by writing you. ... It however is my full intention to go up with one of our sloops on their next return, -- for I am weary, weary and extremely fatigued with being here. ... I forward you by Capt Benjamin six fine apples one of which I tell Capt B he must take to his wife to pay for Freight of the others..."

8. **John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, April 18, 1802, 1 page.**

"Found friend Wm & Cousin Hanna in their usual plight...Am to dine with them this day, and pray they may offer me no soup. Find markets dull and cash very scarce – a bad time to pay debts and a dangerous one to [fall?] into Debt. ... Kiss our dear boy for his Papa..."

9. **John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, April 19, 1802, 2 pages.**

"I wrote you on Saturday morning and forwarded by Capt Boggs ... I still remain on board Ripley and have not yet concluded where to take quarters. ... The wind is now strong at south and Capt Tupper if he can get out will sail in half an hour."

10. John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, April 22, 1802, 2 pages.

“The weather will soon be so warm as to make long stockings uncomfortable. I find markets here dull. Produce low, cash scarce, but not articles of Dry Goods, as high as they were last season ... If David becomes unruly and ungovernable you’ll request Mr. Hillhouse to book out a passage for him to Hudson. The wheat boats belonging to Troy ... go down light, they could conveniently take David along...”

11. John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, April 25, 1802, 4 pages.

“I have a secret to communicate which you will not divulge for the present. It was my intention when I left home to buy the House you are now in. I applied for it and the business was delayed till the morning Mr. W[oodsworth] saw the owner (Mr. Ten Eyck the Manager of the Lottery). ... In Discussing the Business before Ten Eyck, every Circumstance which taken place at Troy on the subject was brought up to view; But it was decided against me and of course we are without a House. ... We shall finish putting the Tickets into the Wheel this afternoon and commene drawing a week from this day....”

12. John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, April 29, 1802, 2 pages.

“The Great Disposer of Events seems to have ordered to Man should never be happy in this Life.”

13. John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, May 6, 1802, 3 pages.

“Respecting our Dear Boy – if you believe he is very much exposed to the small Pox and you are willing to have him Innoculated, I shall not object to it provided you can persuade Mrs. Coffin to remain with you to attend to him... No. 4582 drew a prize of ten thousand dolars this day. This is a ticket which I sign’d, and delivered to the Lansingborough Commissioners last summer.”

14. John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, May 7, 1802, 2 pages.

“I much fear the drawing of the Lottery will be spun out beyond what was expected...”

15. John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, May 9, 1802, 4 pages.

“On Friday last I say Mrs. Turner for the first time, in her new abode. I happened in at the Coffee House and Turner urg’d me strenuously to go up stairs and see her... I have just got my trunk all into my new quarters but am so displeased with it that I declined giving the name or No. ... I sit with pleasure in an old Prison looking chamber alone and communicate my thoughts with a Degree of pleasure. ... A Mrs. Blair who is a pretty decent woman has lately opened a Boarding House in Greenwich Street and has only one Gentlemn and Lady and offers to admit us. ... The prize of twenty thousand dollars came

out yesterday ... the ticket was signed by Mr. Ten Eyck and was lately sold but it was not known to whom yet..."

16. John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, May 14, 1802, 4 pages.

"If you come ... you will of course break up housekeeping and will let some person have Peg & cow that will feed and keep them both well. ... I have just finished drawing the Lottery for this day ... Its ascertained that the 20,000 Dollars is drawn by Albert Albertson a Blacksmith Living in the Bowry in this Town, a poor man. ... I wish you to see Doctr London and let him know that we shall rely on having his House, and that we shall want possession at the time proposed unless you make some other arrangement with Mr. Hubbard..."

17. John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, May 20, 1802, 4 pages.

"[Ruggles Hubbard] wishes very much that we would leave the house by the first of June as he wants possession by that time – he asks it rather as a favour than as matter of right, and offers to assist you in removing &c. ... I felt quite at a loss what to say on the subject, but this much I say to your that unless you feel willing to remove in my absence you will remain where you are, for I certainly do not chuse nor wish to have your go through with such a Fatiguing Job without my assistance..."

18. John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, May 21, 1802, 2 pages.

"I shall write him [Mr Hubbard] this day and am quite at a loss what to say, for I do not like to offend him and I cannot consent to your moving in my absence..."

19. John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, May 22, 1802, 2 pages.

"By the agreement with the Doctr [London], we are to take possession othe first of July and hold till 1st May following, for which are to give One Hundred Dollars. I wish to know whether he is willing we should take possession a month earlier without any additional compensation.... Parker leaves this about 12 O'Clock this day by whom send you a Ban Box containing a Bonnet (which you may not like), a jockey for Wm, which if it does not suit you'll send back."

20. John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, May 23, 1802, 1 page.

"Your letter of the 20th by Parker came to hand this evening - am pleased to hear you are attempting to wean the child in nights for I fully believe it will prove advantageous to you ... have just fell in with J. Raymond who talks of taking the stage in the morning for Troy, and am scratching these few lines to forward by him just to let you know that I am well - wrote you yesterday by Parker but he has a headwind and will likely have a long passage."

21. John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, May 26, 1802, 3 pages.

“I remain in the same Quarters and am now in the same old Chamber, although there is plenty of company below stairs and they are very chatty, amongst them are three pretty genteel men from Kentucky, Natches & New Orleans.”

22. John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, May 27, 1802, 1 page.

“While closing or going on board ... a letter was handed to me from your good Father which beards date the 20th Inst. ... the wife of your brother Elisha has a fine son born the 10th Inst. They urge much to have you go there & spend the summer.”

23. John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, May 28, 1802, 2 pages.

“Your complaints are such my Dear that it will no[t] do for you to remain Cloistered up in that House alone and I know not how to leave the business I am daily pursuing.”

24. John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, May 30, 1802, 3 pages.

“I wrote you by Capt. John Warren ... by whom sent you six oranges and if I could have thought of any thing which would probably have added to your comfort in your low and Gloomy state of health and situation, should have sent it with heart-felt satisfaction.... Your letter my Dear awakens in me the most poignant anxiety. You suggest to me a new and an alarming complaint. As you value your own Life and my happiness entreat of you to pay every attention to your health and do not a single day neglect to take the advice of a Physician....I yesterday rec'd another from Ruggles Hubbard on the subject of our leaving the House ... All this my Dear opens a scene of troubles which I know not how to dispense with...”

25. John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, June 2, 1802, 3 pages.

“Capt Tupper is just pushing off unexpectedly ... and am sorry very sorry to say that I have not even an orange to send. ... I cannot describe my anxiety to you respecting your low state of health. ... Capt Ripley has this day sailed for the Clay Bank in Jersey after Clay for green of Troy...”

26. John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, June 8, 1802, 3 pages.

“I had the happiness of receiving your Letter of the 3rd Inst...I was quite astonished on opening the letter in finding not even a half sheet cover'd, but Rejoice and endeavor to be thankful to Our Great Redeemer that you are yet able to be about House... I send up by Riply 1 Doz white cambrick shawls with a white fringe around them – they were 10/2 a piece...”

27. John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, April 27, 1803, 2 pages.

“Find markets extremely dull, and goods high and scarce, especially Rum which is the principle article I want to buy... I have been quite busy though the day and have done very Little. -- We have not sold nor even had an offer for a single article we have on board as yet, By an arrival from Liverpool in 34 days accounts are rec'd that a strong probability exists that a war will very shortly take place again between France and England Should this be the case, it will probably raise the prices of Provisions & Flour from the United States a little. It is however an event I cannot wish for, and feel that it would be a crime in any well wisher to the Human Race to wish such an event altho they might be highly beneficial...”

28. John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, May 20, [1803?], 3 pages.

“Respecting Elijah if he continues to be disobedient and unruly and his Mother should call on you on her way Eastward you will Request Her from me to take him with Her; for it will certainly be more usefull to put him in a school in the country than to remain with us, while his propensity for play continues...”

29. John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, May 22, [1803? misdated 1802], 1 page.

“This is the 3rd letter I have written you since my arrival and have not the pleasure to acknowledge one from you, or my friend &c.”

30. John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, June 20, 1803, 2 pages.

“I attended Meeting twice yesterday and after meeting went up to old Mr. W. Neilsons & Missus from Town and too Tea with this family. ... There is no Hudson vessel going up soon instead forwarding this by mail....”

31. John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, June 30, 1803, 3 pages.

“For several days past I have been very unhappy and extremely anxious in consequence of your silence... I have called on board every Hudson vessel which has arrived since my arrival also but cannot even hear a sentence of or respecting you. ...having yet many things of considerable importance to attend to add to this have to observe that by this afternoon of the ship John Morgan of this port in 39 days from England accts are rec'd that a Declaration of War by England against France took place on the 16th May -- The Honorable Mr. King late Minister of the United States at the Court of Great Britain came Passenger in the above ship and is the bearer of this above account, it comes officially. This will probably make some alteration in the market here and of course renders it expedient that I should be here.”

32. John Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, July 14, 1811, 2 pages.

“I arrived here [Manchester] on Tuesday morning early. In the course of the day all my will...I am well prepared for Trail as I expect to be this Court, and should have a trial this day provided Mr. Ransom (my antagonist) would consent to it - he has only one or two witness to support and seems indifferent whether the cause is tried or not, this term and think it likely that he (Ransom) has already made up his mind to put it off to the next term which will be a year... I directed Charles to continue drawing wood till my return...”

Series II: Clarinda Starbuck Boardman to John Boardman

1. Clarinda Starbuck Boardman to John Boardman, June 3, 1801, 2 pages.

“I wrote you by Capt P. Benjamin who was to leave Albany this morn as he has had the wind much in his favour.... I went on Monday to the store took one piece of that book muslin and think it will do very well ... I finished my last letter in a very gloomy frame of mind....”

2. Clarinda Starbuck Boardman to John Boardman, August 29, [1802?], 3 pages.

“If you live to git to N. York if any fruits in market that you think will bear transporting - -- wish you to purchase a bushel - peaches, pears, [...], or most anything, we can get very little here of any kind and I am so sick at stomach and have very little appetite... I have not been to meeting today, intended going this forenoon to see the sacrament administered in the Methodist Church – when I am told there are above one hundred members but it rained and the children were so unwell that I gave it up....”

3. Clarinda Starbuck Boardman to John Boardman, June ?, 1802?, 3 pages.

“My dear what shall I say to you – how often must I write; how often paint my feelings, and pour out my whole soul before you – and fate deny you the satisfaction of receiving a single line from me. I have wrote by Carricutt [?], by Tupper, byt P. Benjamin, and this morn to go by Mr. Gorten... You boast my dear of your prudence and philosophy of guarding your slender constitution... Think my dear, once think, how miserable and forlorn I must be, were I deprived of you. Need I urge you to leave New York...”

4. Clarinda Starbuck Boardman to John Boardman, July 31, 1805, 4 pages.

Written from Nantucket. “Knowing your anxiety will be great, untill you hear of our safe arrival at our destined port, I will indeavor to givn a sketch of our three days sail. The wind continued as when we left N. York untill evening ... when a heavy squall appeared approaching from the N.E. Captain Bunker advised to make Huntington harbour with all speed, which we did, his judgment I relyed on ... A heavy swell and the vessel rolled considerable. Every woman but myself confined to their berth ... Knowing your anxiety will be great, until you hear of my our favorable arrival at our destination, I will endeavor

to gain a sketch of our three days sail. The wind continued as when we left New York until evening ... when a heavy squall appeared approaching from the N.E. Captain Bunker advised to make Huntington harbour with all speed, which we did ... A heavy swell and the vessel rolled considerably. Every woman but myself confined to their berth ... A monstrous sea, and it was impossible for them to lead in the night to any advantage ... At day light we made Huntington lighthouse once more.... Monday morning we mayd the vinyard sound....”

Series III: John Boardman to other family members and colleagues

Note: Sabrina Crocker Boardman, Boardman’s sister in law, lived in White’s Town, New York.

1. **John Boardman to Sabrina Crocker Boardman (sister in law), June 9, 1800, 3 pages.**

In response to news of death of her husband, his brother. Death when disarmed of its most alarming weapons is terrible to those best prepared to must it but when accompanied with its fiercest horrors is almost insupportable to the friends...Oh Elijah thou was my Brother, my most affectionate Brother...It seems unfortunate both for you my sister and myself that I happened to be from home at this time otherwise should have been with you immediately, but here I am and my Business so much disarranged and so urgent here, that I know not how to leave it short of ten or fourteen day from this and not know anything particular how or in what situation my brother has left his business, am unable to advise you what to do...But the estate must be in debt it may be difficult to find a man of Property and Integrity to undertake it..”

2. **John Boardman to Sabrina Crocker Boardman, October 25, 1800, 3 pages**

“...In the meantime [I] beg you to have every thing arang’d for making a Return of the Inventory that we may not be subject to any Damages on that Score. I have not yet been able to get any statement from Stephen Camp Esq. ... I some time since wrote him and authorized him to settle the business with David Robinson by arbitration.”

3. **John Boardman to Sabrina Crocker Boardman, December 23, 1800, 4 pages.**

“I will endeavor to procure stones to be erected in Memory of my Brother. ... I am sorry you have not yet had such an offer for the few cattle (cow excepted) and also for the colt as to induce you to sell them for have but little doubt but the expensef wintering them will amt to mostly their value in the spring. ... Wish you to inform me in your next letter whether the Liquor remains on hand ... I should recommend for the Liquor sold off by the Barrel or not less than ten gallons. ... I should recommend to have the wheat sent to this place or Albany by sleighing if it can be done by people who are owing and unable to pay cash...”

4. **John Boardman to Sabrina Crocker Boardman, April 13, 1802, 3 pages.**

“Am sorry to hear you have been without a School this winter for it must have added much to your trouble to have your two oldest Boys constantly at home. Respecting the boys, if I take either of them should prefer Elijah on account of his age. – You are probably sensible that this is a very Improper place to Educate Boys until they become of an age to be capable of knowing something of the Importance of the manner in which they spend their time....”

5. **John Boardman to Sabrina Crocker Boardman, November 1, 1803, 2 pages.**

“I left home this morning at 8 o'clock and never separated from my dear wife with more reluctance and heart felt sorrow and anguish. The separation with yourself wounded her very much, ... This arrangement seems to cut her off from all those near and dear ... It is my real wish that yourself or Sister Coffin would go immediately to my house and remain there the winter...”

6. **John Boardman to Sabrina Crocker Boardman, May 11, 1808, 3 pages**

“...I am advis'd that it will be necessary for you to relinquish your Right of Dower to the old Tan Yards, if that bargain is carried into effect...”

7. **John Boardman to Sabrina Crocker Boardman, Sept 20, 1808, 3 pages.**

“Mr. Thomas C. Parsons of Bennington called on me for the Title Deed of the Old Stand in Bennington. It was of course out of my power to accommodate him, at which he appeared much disturbed and very uneasy... The Election in Vermont took place two weeks ago this day. Both political parties claim the Election, but by the best information which has been obtained here it almost beyond a doubt that Governor Tichener is Elected...”

8. **John Boardman to Elijah Boardman, June 16, 1810, 1 page**

“I take the liberty to introducing you to the bearer Captain Obed Mayo of Ogdenburgh. Capt. Mayo married a niece (Ms. Starbuck) of my wife at my house about 15 months ago since and soon after that moved to his present residence with a view to Navigate Lake Ontario, under the patronage of the Great Mr. Parish.... Mr. Parish owns about 100,000 acres of land in the neighborhood of Ogdenburgh and I find by Capt. Mayo that he has given patronage to many young men of merit...”

9. **John Boardman to Elijah Boardman, September 27, 1810, 1 page.**

“This will be handed to you by your cousin Eliezer J. Boardman who is on the way to the western part of the state on the look out for a Lot of Land to settle on.... say on to the Holland purchase....”

10. **John Boardman to T. Hillhouse, Boardman & Hillhouse, April 16, 1802, 1 page**

“Have not had time to make much inquiry about markets, but find very little wheat afloat ...”

11. **[John Boardman] to Captain W. Ripley, nd, 1 page.**

Offers instructions of payments to several farmers and merchants engaged in the wheat trade in Troy and Manhattan.

Series IV: Letters to Clarinda and John Boardman

1. **Jonas Boardman, Norwich, to Clarinda Boardman, Troy, 7 June 1813, 2 pages**

“We receivd the 18th instant Mr. Smith's letter which gave the melancholy account of the death of my beloved brother and your husband. I desire to sympathize with you with the mighty hand of God in this more affection God has been pleased to take from you the desire of your eyes... Our family at present are in usual health my eldest daughter who was married is now a widow with four small children, her husband died about the tenth of March with the prevailing fever. she is a poor inconsolable widow....”

2. **Mary Boardman to Clarinda Boardman, June 24, 4 pages.**

“Augustus left us on Saturday for New York, have gone by urgent request to preach another Sabbath at the Pearl Street Church...”

3. **[Sabrina Crocker Boardman] to Elijah Boardman, January 26, 1812, 3 pages**

“Am happy in finding you are so pleasantly situated at this season, but earnestly intreat you not to let the things of this life engross your whole attention...”

Note: Susanna Spencer, who would marry James Clark, lived in Albany. She addressed Clarinda, who was living in Hudson, as “Clara.”
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4. **Susanna Spencer [Clark] to Clarinda Starbuck May 23, 1795, 2 pages**

“...James Clark is much obliged to the young ladies for their solicitude of him., Mr. Nixon and Mr. Kellogg.

5. **Susanna Spencer [Clark] to Clarinda Starbuck, September 5, 1796, 2 pages**

“I am very happy, my dear girl, that I have an opportunity of writing to you, by Thomas Comstock, which I certainly should have done before if I had had an opportunity as I could not hear of any person that was going to Catskill! ... When I was in Hudson I did

not think that it would be two years before I say you again. ... Methink I could write all night but my eyes are almost closed – Morpheus has got such hold of me...”

6. Susanna Spencer [Clark] to Clarinda Starbuck, 4 November 1796

“I have heard of peoples going to Hudson but it was after they had gone. ... I have often though of the time I spent in Hudson. ... Clara come and see me this Fall it will confer a favor on us. I must bid you Adieu, although it is with reluctance for my domestic cares calls for me to attend it and my fingers are so cold it is with some difficulty I can hold the pen....”

7. Susanna Spencer [Clark] to Clarinda Starbuck, December 17, 1796, 2 pages.

“My dear girl, I have just received your letter by Mr. Field and am happy that I have an opportunity of writing you by him. Here I am seated and wish to devote an hour to you... Scandal is said to be the favourite theme of a female pen, but I have more charity for our sex than to suppose they would be guilty of scandilizing their friends or acquaintances....it is now almost two years since we have seen each other.”

8. Susanna Spencer [Clark] to Clarinda Starbuck March 6, 1797, 2 pages

“...You must not forget your promise to spend a month with me this summer at the Farm, at which place we move bag and baggage in May. We are going to our retreat, far from the extremes of Fortune and we expect to enjoy ourselves in rural felicity. We shall rise in the morning by the time that day begins to dawn. By the time I [am] done milking the cows one of sisters will have breakfast ready my father will come in with his stick in his hand, for he has been out to see that the men are at work and George will have come back from driving the cows to paster. And then we shall seat ourselves down to breckfast. After breckfast one of us will make the cheese, an other will churn the butter and the rest will spin their scain a day...”

9. Susanna [Spencer] Clark to Clarinda Starbuck, July 4, 1797, 1 page

“You doubtless was disappointed my dear girl at not receiving a letter from me by Mrs. Champlain. I did not know where she put ip, and neither did I known when she went out of town; consequently did not write by her.... But pray what can you expect from a woman who has so lately changed her situation and name. ... Inclosed is Shakespere’s seven ages...”

10. Susanna [Spencer] Clark to Clarinda Starbuck, March 14, 1798, 1 page

“I expected to be in Hudson in a few days but could not prevail upon a certain gentleman of my acquaintance to go with us. Sometimes he excused himself by saying he could not leave his business & at others that the sleighing was too poor...”

11. Christopher Coffin, Notebook from Nantucket School, 1794.

Transcriptions of verse, torn and incomplete. “Whenever you would an erring friend
reprove / let gentle cautions show the motives love, / do not begin with rashness to
exclaim, / but rather hint the fault before you blame; / tis not enough your admonitions
just, / prudence must guide it or the labours lost ...”

12. Judith Coffin to John & Clarinda Boardman, June 7, 1812, 1 page.

“I have the melancholy task of reciting to you the death of our dear aged Father...”

13. Phebe Folger, Nantucket, to Clarinda Starbuck Boardman, Hudson, NY, December 3rd, 1793, 1 page

“I received thy agreeable letter and was very sorry to find that thou are still troubled with
the teeth ache, does not Hudson afford a remedy for it? ... I am going this evening to see
thy sister Coffin how lamentable is her situation how great must be her grief in so short a
time to see herself and infant offspring deprived of their protector, but I think she bears
her misfortune with Christian patience.”

14. Phebe Folger to Clarinda Starbuck Boardman, Hudson, NY, 18 April 1794, 1 page.

“... Why I had heard some rumors as if a certain young man paid his respects to thee
don't keep any such thing private from me. I won't forgive thee if thee does...”

15. Clarissa Macy, Hudson, to Clara Boardman, July 29, 1806

“...We have not heard of W but have inquired of every person that has come from N
York since I did – please excuse every fault in this & believe me to be truly unhappy.”

16. Betsey Pomeroy to Clarinda Boardman, 25 February 1800, 2 pages

“Frances entrusted me with a small bundle which she wanted to have sent to her sister
Eliza. I have been waiting for an opportunity to send it directly to Troy but find none,
shall therefore send it to Albany to the care of Mrs Trowbridge...”

17. Lydia Starbuck to Mrs. George Macy (sister), December 3, 1803, 2 pages

“...I thank Mr. Macy for the trouble of enquiring about my ticket as much as tho' it had
drawn a prize he writes me there is another Lotter & I have a great mind to try my fortune
again...”

18. Lydia Starbuck to Clarinda Starbuck Boardman (sister), December 2, 1805, 3 pages.

“...John Emmett Richard Mitchell's grandson has been convicted of petty larceny and burglary the first breach was stopped by his friends and the following night the second offense was committed. He occupies the jail and might before last our repose was interrupted by his incessant labor in tearing the jail down, he has apportionment and in Irons he appears to be wholly given over to hardness of heart and insensible to any remorse he declares that nothing but death shall humble him and that if he can make his escape from prison he will set Bigelow on fire he is the man he has so recently injured by accounts he has for a long time been a great thief no more at present.”

19. William Starbuck, Nantucket, to Clarinda Starbuck, April 23, 1795, 1 page

“We have had a Great Snow Storm the 27 of last mo and cost of a great many sheep and put the sail of land aback for the present...”

20. William Starbuck to John Boardman, Aug 20, 1805, 2 pages

“We arrived at Nantucket on Tuesday after our departure from this city where we found all friends all well. but something disappoint as they had given over my aunts coming... the old gentleman and lady are very well for people so farr advance in life as they are... I have not concluded what I shall do my self as I have three vessels offered me one for Europe, one unarmed & one armed for St. Dominge...”

Series V: Legal and financial documents

1. Joseph Rotch, end of year account statement for Abigail Folger, Nantucket, co-signed by Christopher Starbuck, 1748, 1 page

Purchases include tobacco, chocolate, white gloves, muslin, indigo, salt, flour, coffee, silk, etc. Balance due: thirty nine shillings & twopence.

2. Deed from Jonas Boardman transferring land in Boxbury, Vermont to John Boardman, 28 January, 1782.

“Know all men by those presents that I Jonas Boardman of Norwich in the State of Vermont, do for the consideration of eight pounds ten shillings lawful money received of John Boardman of Preston in the state of Connecticut have given granted conveyed and confinement, and do by right and title and interest in the lands in the town of Roxbury in said state of Vermont....” Signed Benjamin Coit, Henry Coit, Jonas Boardman

3. **Fred Rhelander to Ephraim Morgan of Troy, November 5, 1796, 1 page**

“Sir, I have repeatedly wrote you respecting the earthware up in your and for sale... disappointed that we are not favored with an answer... We wish to know the number of crates you have sold.”

4. **Contract signed by George Tibbits and others authorizing John Boardman to improve the waterway between Albany and Waterford, 14 March 1801, 1 page folio, with duty stamps.**

Formal agreement signed by John Boardman and George Tibbits, acting as superintendent of the New York Lottery, appointing Boardman in pursuance of an act for improving the navigation of the Hudson River between the City of Hudson and the Village of Waterford. Witnesses to the signatures include: B. Rapalye, Geo. B. Rapelye, and Charles Selden.

5. **Poll list for Trustee Assessor Constable for the Second Ward, Village of Troy, May 12, 1807.**

Names on the list include: Albert Pawling, George Tibbits, Benjamin Collier, Asa Gardner, Jed Tracy, Sterling Goodenow, Moses Doty, Henry Stockwell, John Boardman, Barent Schuyler, and several dozen others – 46 in all.

6. **Clarinda Boardman, Receipt for payment of \$4 duty on a two-wheel carriage, December 23, 1813, 1 page.**

“Given in conformity with an Act of Congress of the United States, passed on the 24th day July 1813” Signed by Jas. Mallory, Collector of the Revenue.

Series VI: Estate inventories

1. **Inventory of My Estate, April 1808, 8 pages**

A highly detailed accounting of assets and debts, both personal and business, including what may be several pages of drafts. Includes “a Negro wench, Judi,” valued at \$200.

2. **“Inventory of my Estate April 1, 1809,” 5 pages.**

Detailed accounting of real estate, personal property, receipts, and debts.

3. **“An inventory of the Personal property owned by the late Mr. John Boardman of Troy, Rensselare County & State of Newyork dated Troy, June 4th 1813,” 11 pages, tied with string.**

A highly detailed accounting of household and personal items (2 foot stools, 4 small table cloths, 2 demijohns, etc.) , notes, shares and debts. Land and slaves are on separate list.

4. **“Lists of lands lots of ground with there improvements, dwelling houses and Slaves owned by the heirs of John Bordman Esq deceased,” [1813?], 5 pages.**

The document lists 12 estates and farms in Troy, Greenbush, Elizabethtown, and elsewhere, with descriptions of the buildings.

5. **“An inventory of the Personal property owned by the heirs of the late Mr. John Boardman of Troy, Renselare County dated Troy, June 4th 1814,” 2 pages.**

Includes an accounting of rents from tenants in Troy.

6. **“Inventory of personal property owned by the Heirs of John Boardman Deceased taken June 4 1816,” 2 pages.**

Stocks, shares, and amounts due, the most expensive of which is “Note Executed by Jedidiah Tracy for the Troy Wool and Cotton Factory,” which with interest amounted to \$2572.76.

7. **“Inventory June 4 1819,” 1 page.**

Notes, certificates, and debts.

8. **“Memo of Real Estate,” undated, 3 pages.**

Lists 21 properties in Troy and elsewhere, including Greenbush, Berlin, Londonderry, and Shaftsbury.

9. **“Memo of Real Estate,” undated, 2 pages.**

Notes that one property (lot No. 24 on River Street) is leased until 1825.

10. **“Inventory – Real Estate,” undated, 1 page.**

Lists sixteen properties, including nine in Troy, farms in Poestenkill, Semproius, and Johnstown, and lands in Brunswick, Landgate, and Vermont, with a total value of \$29,300.