

## Robert Taft photography correspondence

### Section 1, Pages 1 - 30

This correspondence documents the research Robert Taft undertook in writing his works on the history of American photography. It includes letters he wrote and responses. Correspondents include staff in historical and other collecting institutions, family members of early photographers and expedition members, publishers, and other people researching early U. S. photographers. It also documents some preservation work he did on early photographs. See Taft's photography research notes as Kansas Memory unit 228066.

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## Robert Taft photography correspondence

C O P Y

Columbus, Ohio  
Oct. 8, 1926

Howard Jones, M.D.  
Circleville, Ohio

Dear Sir:

Yours of the 7th inst. received regarding the portrait of Thomas Walker Cridland, whom I believe to be the first person to take a daguerreotype west of Pittsburgh.

I am more interested in facts, however, than in my own opinion, and the Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society desires historic truth, certainly.

You ask for dates at which the early daguerreotypes were made or taken: Exact dates are not obtainable, but from my information, I should judge about 1840. According to authorities the discoveries of Daguerre were not practical as he required over an hour exposure of his plates.

About this time Samuel F. B. Morse (the inventor of the telegraph and an artist of note) was in France and brought back to America the processes of Daguerre. Morse was also a professor of chemistry in the University of New York, at the same time John W. Draper was also a professor in chemistry in the same university. Together these men, improving the Daguerre processes, developed the first practical photograph or daguerreotype, as it was then called.

Professor Draper in 1839 made a picture of his sister, the first portrait ever made by any photographic process.

Early in 1840 Robert Cornelius established at Philadelphia the first studio in the world for making daguerreotypes. So much in brief for the art as I have been able to obtain. Now as to Thomas Walker Cridland.

Mr. Cridland was a frame maker in Philadelphia where he made frames for the portraits and pictures painted by Samuel Morse. He left Philadelphia in 1834 and went to Lexington, Kentucky, and engaged in frame and looking-glass making, portrait and landscape painting, gilding, and everything pertaining to the visible arts.

Soon Cridland learned of the daguerreotype through his relatives and friends in Philadelphia. He immediately returned to Philadelphia, learned the art from Morse himself, and bought from him his first supply of plates, silver, and chemicals, and returned home to Lexington. At a later day he purchased his supplies from a Cincinnati firm and continued to do so during life, but his first supplies were, as stated, purchased from Samuel Morse.

Mr. Cridland in his life stated that he was the first man in Kentucky to make a daguerreotype, and, as far as he could learn, the first west of the Allegheny Mts.

On account of his anti-slavery view and activities he was obliged to leave Lexington, Ky., with Cassius M. Clay in 1852. He came first to Cincinnati and then settled in Dayton, Ohio, same year.

Mr. Cridland was a prominent character, ranking among the highest in his art, and nationally known; and never found any one during his life to antedate his making daguerreotypes in Kentucky.

I am interested to know of Hamilton L. Smith of Cleveland, and would thank you for a brief sketch, also the name of the gentleman who first had the art in Cincinnati.

Thomas Walker Cridland was my grandfather, with whom I lived, and I was 32 years old at the time of his death in 1892. My mother, born in Lexington, died last winter, and an uncle and aunt died some time before. I not only got my information from my grandfather, but verified it by

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talks with his children.

Maybe between us we may be able to add something to art of photography not now found in print.

Yours very truly,

Walter D. McKinney



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C O P Y

Nov. 12, 1926

Dr. Howard Jones  
Circleville, O.

My dear Dr. Jones:

Yours of the 10th inst. is noted with much interest. I am the son of the Peter Neff you refer to as being associated with Prof. Hamilton L. Smith; also Prof. Smith was my god-father, and my wife was formerly Helen Buttles, so much as establishing my identity.

The invention of Prof. Smith and my father was a process that superseded the daguerreotype, so that there is probably no confusion as to the award for priority in the use of the daguerreotype. However, the work done by Prof. Smith and my father may be of interest to the Historical Society, and therefore am enclosing copy of a memoir of my father by Mr. Cusing of Cleveland which may be of interest.

The term melainotype given this new process later developed into the common expression of tintype.

Helen and I spend most of the summers in her mother's old home at Gambier and should you be that way at any time we will be glad to see you and should you come to Canton you know our address and the latch strong hangs out.

Sincerely yours,

*Peter Neff*

*1365 Maryland Ave., S.W.  
Canton, Ohio*

## Robert Taft photography correspondence

C O P Y

November 17, 1926

Mr. Peter Neff  
1365 Maryland Ave. S.W.  
Canton, Ohio

My dear Mr. Neff:

Your letter of the 12th is at hand and I am greatly obliged to you for the information it contains.

My Mother had some daguerreotypes of herself which Professor Hamilton L. Smith made of her when she was a little girl and it was she who told me about selling the process to your father. Evidently she confused the early daguerreotype with the later tintype or melainotype process which your father developed and promoted. Your letter makes the whole matter plain.

I have read the Memoir of Peter Neff, gotten out by the St. Louis Society which you enclosed with great interest. He was one of the pioneers who made a little coterie in Cleveland in the early 40's, each one of which made his mark along some special line. I am familiar with your Mother's home in Gambier although I have not been there for some years, not since Mrs. Levi Buttles died. The old cemetery I visited then and read with much interest the inscriptions on the tombs.

I hope you will be able some time to come to see us in Circleville with Mrs. Neff. My latch string also hangs out.

Very sincerely yours,

*Dr. Howard Jones*



## Robert Taft photography correspondence

C O P Y

November 18, 1926

Mr. C. B. Galbreath  
Ohio State Archaeological Society  
Columbus, Ohio

My dear Mr. Galbreath:

Something over a month ago I saw a notice in the State Journal that a portrait of Mr. Thos. W. Cridland had been presented to your Society as the recognized person who first used the daguerreotype west of Pittsburg. I at once wrote to Mr. Walter McKinney, who is said to have furnished the portrait and the facts, questioning the priority.

My Mother had assured me from boyhood that her brother, Professor Hamilton L. Smith, of Cleveland, was the first person in this country to take daguerreotypes, and I saw daguerreotypes of her when she was a child by him which must have been before 1840; however, at this moment I am unable to bring forth proof to substantiate my claim for Professor Smith, but I can clearly prove that he was the inventor of the tintype about 1845 or 46, that he patented the process, and, in connection with Mr. Peter Neff of Cleveland and Cincinnati, commercialized the process. Peter Neff, Jr., now of Canton, O., tells me the early exhibits are in the Smithsonian Institute.

This tintype process logically grew out of the daguerreotype. It occurs to me that your Society might be interested in having such data as will prove this invention an Ohio one. Professor Hamilton L. Smith was a graduate of Yale College and later Professor Astronomy and Physics for a number of years at Kenyon and then at Hobart College. A portrait of him hangs in the Hall at Kenyon, and I have an oil portrait about life size in my office. In 1848 he published an illustrated volume called "The World" having many fine wood cuts in it, illustrating the mathematical and physical aspects of the earth. The drawings were original and engravings made on wood in a very superior manner for the time by one of his younger brothers. I have two copies of "The World" and if you are collecting Ohio books I shall be pleased to give one to your Society.

If you are interested in this matter, I shall take it up with you by conversation some future time when agreeable to you.

In regard to the Moorehead matter: I did not know that your Society held grudges. I thought the paper of Moorehead's

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a valuable contribution to the history of Ohio, and as it was delivered at one of the State Parks it would be eligible for publication.

I shall be glad to hear that no member of your board will object to its publication.

Very sincerely yours,

*Letter of Mr Howard Jones.*



## Robert Taft photography correspondence

October 22, 1932

Mr. S. S. Carvalho  
140 Cedar St.  
New York City

Dear Sir:

I take it from Who's Who that you are a son of the S. N. Carvalho, a distinguished member of General Fremont's fifth western expedition. I am writing to ask you for information on several points in connection with your father's part in this expedition. I have been collecting material for a manuscript on "The Early Use of Photography in the Exploration of the West." As your father was one of the earliest, if not the earliest, explorer of the West to use photography, he will, of course, occupy an important place in the complete manuscript.

I wish to find out, if possible, if there are any of the daguerreotypes which your father made on this trip still extant. If so, where are they? Are they in usable condition? Would it be possible to have photographic copies made of them if any should, by chance, remain in your possession? Can you give me any further information about the equipment used by your father, other than that given in his book "Incidents of Travel and Adventure in the Far West," which I, of course, have read and studied? I judge from the preface to Fremont's Memoirs, given by Mrs. Fremont, that most of the negatives made on this expedition were kept by the Fremonts. Allen Nevins in his biography of Fremont says that a great deal of Fremont's unpublished material has been turned over to the Bancroft Library of the University of California, and I am also writing them to see if any of your father's daguerreotypes were among this material.

Did your father ever publish any additional material concerning this trip other than the book to which I have already referred? If so, would you tell me where it might be found? Any additional material bearing particularly upon my study would be appreciated.

I, of course, realize that I am a total stranger to you, but I believe that you, as most people, are willing to cooperate in matters of historical interest.

Sincerely thanking you for any information that you are able to give me, I am,

Yours respectfully,

Robert Taft  
Associate Professor of Chemistry

RT:AW



## Robert Taft photography correspondence

TEL. 0524 HITCHCOCK

S. S. CARVALHO  
WEST STREET BUILDING  
140 CEDAR STREET  
NEW YORK

November  
Second  
1932.

Robert Taft, Esq.,  
The University of Kansas,  
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

I regret that I can be of no service to you in reference to the daguerreotypes taken by S. N. Carvalho, my father, on his trip with General Fremont in 1854. His family has no more information than you will find in his book "Incidents of Travel and Adventure in the Far West" which you refer to in your letter. In fact, I have never seen any of these daguerreotypes. He did not publish any other data on the subject that I know of.

Yours truly,

*S. S. Carvalho*

SSC-GB



## Robert Taft photography correspondence

November 17, 1932

Mr. F. S. Dellenbaugh  
1 W. 67th St.  
New York City

Dear Sir:

I am collecting material for a study on "The Early Use of Photography in the Explorations of the West," and, in this connection, have read your books, "A Canyon Voyage" and "The Romance of the Colorado River." Can you tell me if the negatives taken by Beaman and Hilliers on the second Powell expedition are still extant? If so, where are they? If, by chance, any should be in your possession, would it be possible to secure positives of several illustrative ones?

I should also like to ask if you have any knowledge of photography being employed in any of the western expeditions in the period 1865-70. I am, of course, familiar with the work of W. H. Jackson, of the Hayden Surveys beginning in 1871, of Hine of the Barlow-Heap Expedition (also in '71), and a number of daguerreotypists in the period 1850-60, but have little information in the period named above, 1865-70. If you recall such photographers in this period I should appreciate receiving any information that you may have on this and any other points that might have a possible bearing upon my study.

Any help that you can give me will be highly appreciated. May I state, too, that I enjoyed reading your books immensely? The next best thing to actually being present at such memorable events, as you were privileged to be, is to have the opportunity to read such a graphic description of the events as your books afford.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Taft  
Associate Professor

RT:AW



## Robert Taft photography correspondence

November 23, 1932

Mr. F. S. Dellenbaugh  
1 W. 67th St.  
New York City

Dear Mr. Dellenbaugh:

Thank you for your very kind and informative letter of November 19. The information given in your letter will be of considerable value to me in collecting data on my study. Thank you, too, for your account of Hiller's start in photography.

Yes, I have read Jackson's book, The Pioneer Photographer, and have had correspondence with him. He, like yourself, was kind enough to give me much information from his own experiences.

I believe that you are right in crediting Carvalho as the first expeditionary photographer. I have read Fremont's reports and Carvalho's book, Incidents of Travel and Adventure in the Far West, published in 1859. I have been trying to locate some of Carvalho's daguerreotypes taken on this expedition, but, so far, without success. Carvalho's son, S. S. Carvalho of New York City, could give me no information regarding them, and at present I am trying to get in touch with members of the Fremont family to see if they can give me any information as to their fate. I am writing the Maryland Historical Society as suggested in your letter. Can you tell me why you looked in the Baltimore Library? Was Carvalho at one time a resident of Maryland?

I am writing Alvin Smith also as suggested in your letter for information relative to Savage. If I am not able to locate any of his work I will take advantage of your thoughtful offer to furnish me copies of photographs in your collection.

May I again express my appreciation of the service you have given me? In addition, it gave me quite a thrill to receive a letter from a member of Powell's memorable expedition.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Taft  
Associate Professor of Chemistry

RT:AW

## Robert Taft photography correspondence

November 23, 1932

Professor Cardinal Goodwin  
Mills College  
Oakland, Calif.

Dear Professor Goodwin:

Our Professor Hodder has suggested that I write you to see if you can furnish me the name (or names) and address of a descendant of Col. J. C. Fremont. I am collecting information on "The Early Use of Photography in the Explorations of the West," and am trying to secure some knowledge as to the fate of the daguerreotypes taken by S. N. Carvalho on Fremont's fifth expedition. I have written S. S. Carvalho, a son of S. N. Carvalho, and the Librarian of the Bancroft Library, but neither could furnish any information on my question. I judge from Mrs. Fremont's preface to Fremont's Memoirs that the daguerreotypes were in possession of the Fremont family; she further states that Brady (in 1856 or thereabouts) of New York, photographed many of Carvalho's daguerreotypes. If the original daguerreotypes are not available, I would be satisfied with Brady's photographs.

Any help that you can give me in tracing them would be very highly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Taft  
Associate Professor  
Dept. of Chemistry

RT:AW



## Robert Taft photography correspondence

November 23, 1932

Mr. Alvin Smith  
Church Librarian  
Salt Lake City, Utah

Dear Mr. Smith:

Mr. F. S. Dellenbaugh of New York City has suggested that I write you in connection with a study which I am making on "The Early Use of Photography in the Exploration of the West." I am desirous of obtaining information concerning the work of a Mr. Savage who photographed in Utah in the Sixties. I would like to obtain a short sketch of his life, and also wish to know if copies of his photographs are still obtainable from his original negatives, and, if so, the conditions and localities under which they were obtained.

I would also appreciate it if you could give me any information concerning other photographers working in Utah prior to 1870.

Do you know of a Mr. James Fennemore of Salt Lake City? Mr. Dellenbaugh states that he was a member of Powell's Colorado River Expedition, and was still living in your city. If I am not asking too much, I should appreciate obtaining his street address in Salt Lake City.

Thanking you for any service that you can give me, I am,

Yours sincerely y

Robert Taft  
Associate Professor of Chemistry

RT:AW

## Robert Taft photography correspondence

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS  
OFFICE OF THE CHURCH HISTORIAN  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

Nov. 26, 1932.

Robert Taft,  
Associate Professor of  
Chemistry,  
University of Kansas,  
Lawrence, Kansas.

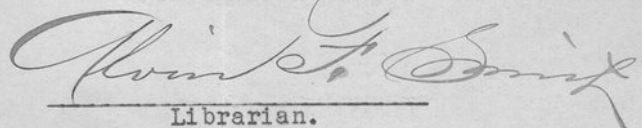
Dear Mr. Taft:

I am in receipt of your favor of Nov. 23, 1932. We take pleasure in enclosing you herewith Biographical Sketch of Mr. C.R. Savage. This will probably give you pretty much all the information you want regarding Mr. Savage. Unfortunately, the negatives belonging to Mr. Savage, covering the very early pictures, were destroyed by fire. We have a great many prints which were made from some of his early negatives. His son Ralph, continued the business after his father's death, but we are unable to tell you what became of the negatives covering this period.

Mr. Charles W. Symons, residing at 625 E. 5th So., Salt Lake City, Utah, was also a pioneer photographer, he has a great many valuable negatives, he is still living and a letter addressed to the above address will get such information as he has.

Mr. James Fennemore, who was a member of the Powell's Colorado River Expedition, lives at 1226 E. 5th So. St., Salt Lake City, Utah. I have just talked to him over the telephone and he will be glad to hear from you.

Yours very truly,  
Historian's Office

  
Librarian.

AFS:E

P.S. Give my best regards to Mr. Dellenbaugh when you write.



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### LATTER-DAY SAINT

own people and occupy the chapels used for that purpose, the same as the Lutheran clergy. When an attempt was made in 1912 to forbid "Mormon" Elders carrying on propaganda in Scandinavia, Elder Samuelson took a bold stand in the Danish Rigsdag, protesting such a move, and declared that during the twenty years he had been a member of the "Mormon" Church he had associated with hundreds of "Mormon" missionaries, all of whom he knew possessed the best and noblest character, being universally known for their honesty and intelligence. The Church minister (Kirkeminister) gave a favorable decision, but felt humiliated to think that not one of the seven Lutheran priests who served in the Danish Rigsdag had opened his mouth in opposition to Samuelson when he called the "Mormon" Elders good and honorable men. In 1913 Elder Samuelson again had occasion to defend the "Mormon" missionaries when they were falsely accused of aiding the so-called "white slavery." He called boldly for even a single proof in connection with the accusations, but none such was forthcoming. It ended with a declaration from the king's cabinet that the accusation against the "Mormons" was entirely unfounded. When in 1914 a certain high official (Herredsfoged) in Jutland forbid two "Mormon" missionaries to hold one of their usual religious services, Elder Samuelson referred the case to the minister of justice, which led to that official receiving a severe reprimand for having interfered with religious liberty. During the time of the World War Brother Samuelson found it necessary on many occasions to use his influence with the king's cabinet in obtaining permission for Norwegian and Swedish missionaries belonging to the "Mormon" Church to visit their relatives in Denmark. When the Elders from Utah were called home, owing to war conditions, Brother Samuelson was called as a local Elder to

preside over the Aarhus conference, which position he held for about eight months, during which time he visited the different branches in the conference repeatedly. He held this position until he emigrated in May, 1919. Prior to this, Elder Samuelson (who had been ordained an Elder in 1893 by Martin Nielsen) had occupied many responsible positions in the Church; thus he presided over the Y. M. M. I. A. of the Aarhus branch twelve years, and labored as a district teacher about twenty-six years. He also took an active part in preaching the gospel in the public meetings and assisted in holding many meetings in country villages, advocating the principles of "Mormonism," besides circulating Church literature. During the many years he was a member of the Church he was known for his benevolence and liberality. Thousands of Elders from Utah and others have partaken of the hospitality of the Samuelson home in Aarhus. After his arrival in Utah, Bro. Samuelson located with his family in Salt Lake City, where he still resides. He was ordained a High Priest April 11, 1920, by Bishop James D. Cummings of the Wilford Ward.

**SAVAGE, Charles Roscoe**, a prominent Elder in the Church and the father of Old Folks' Excursions, was born in Southampton, England, Aug. 16, 1832, the son of John and Ann Savage. The circumstances surrounding him in his earliest childhood were scenes of want and poverty. His father was a gardner and occupied much of his time in trying to produce a blue dahlia, for which a great reward had been offered. He was a man of an easy temperament and unsuccessful in financial affairs. In consequence of this the education of his children was sadly neglected, and not even their natural wants were always satisfied. Bro. Savage had no recollection of ever learning to read or write as a child, but what oppor-



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tunities he had later he turned to good advantage. In his boyhood days he had indeed a hard and difficult road to travel. As soon as his physical strength allowed it, he commenced to work at most anything he could find to do in such an over-populated country as England. He found the world cold and heartless and could not remember any patrons and friends who ever interested themselves in his welfare. Whatever he enjoyed in his boyhood days he earned by his own hard labor. By this he was able to sustain himself and after awhile also to assist in procuring a livelihood for his younger brothers and sisters. His early experience, hard as it was,



taught him an important lesson, namely, always to depend upon himself and never to expect success through kind services or interest of others. Amidst all his hardships he was constantly buoyed up by some sort of inspirational and hopeful feeling which seemed to point forward to a better future. He found, however, in early life that mere labor of the muscles could not procure a decent living, but that it needed the conjoint action of the head and brain. When about fifteen years of age, he first

heard the voice of a "Mormon" Elder (Thomas B. H. Stenhouse), whose teachings and instructions made a deep and lasting impression upon his mind. The doctrines he taught seemed to be the very things his nature needed. He had previously visited several of the sects of the day, but they all seemed deficient in their elements to fit his spiritual wants. The acceptance of the "new hope" and the faith of the Latter-day Saints changed his entire being and feelings. Life now seemed to have something in it to live for, and through his new acquaintances he soon got employment in the stationary store of Elder Wm. Eddington in Portsmouth. He was baptized May 21, 1848, by John Lewis. Afterwards he was ordained to the ministry and in the fall of 1852 sent on a mission to Switzerland, where he stayed until the summer of 1855. In that country he did a vast amount of traveling on foot and acquired a good knowledge of the French language, as well as a smattering of German. He was also imprisoned in the city of Zurich for three days, in company with Elder Wm. Budge. After his return to England in 1855, he traveled as a missionary in the Derbyshire conference, in company with Elder Israel Evans. On the 11th of December, 1855, he was appointed interpreter for a company of Italian and Swiss saints and crossed the Atlantic in the ship "John J. Boyd," which sailed from Liverpool, England, Dec. 12, 1856, and arrived in New York Feb. 15, 1857. A number of passengers died during the voyage. After his arrival in New York Elder Savage was appointed to assist in the transfer of other emigrant companies at Castle Gardens. He worked at Samuel Booth's printing office in New York for nearly two years. In that city he married Annie Adkins (daughter of Robert Adkins of London and Annie Fenn of Leighton, Bedfordshire, England), who was born Feb. 6, 1836, in Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire,



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### LATTER-DAY SAINT

England. Bro. Savage passed through the incidents of the panic of 1857 and took charge of the New York branch choir during the lively times in New York when the saints rented large halls and had crowded meetings. It was during his residence in New York that he concluded to adopt photography as a vocation, having got some incentive by watching the efforts of Thos. B. H. Stenhouse, who had a camera and took some views and who, it is said, brought from England the first stereoscope camera ever seen in America. Elder Savage was sent on special business to Florence, Neb., in 1859, by George Q. Cannon, upon which occasion he left his wife and child in New York. In Florence, Neb., he made his first start in the photograph business, having for a background an old grey blanket, and for a dark room, a tea chest. In 1859 he managed to get a wagon and a yoke of cattle and, through a combination of successful moves, was enabled to leave Council Bluffs in June, 1860, and crossed the plains in Captain Brown's company, and arrived in Salt Lake City Aug. 27, 1860. Soon after his arrival he joined Marsena Cannon and opened a photograph business in the upper part of a house located on Main Street, in Salt Lake City, next to the old Salt Lake House. He was always foremost in the introduction of every new device pertaining to photography. In the interest of his business, which grew rapidly, he traveled extensively over the whole Rocky Mountain country, making views of nearly every object of interest for all the railroads in the West, being in many localities the pioneer in that line of work. He won the first prizes on his exhibits in photography at the World's Expositions in Chicago, St. Louis, San Francisco, Portland and other places. In 1866 he visited the States, going by way of California and returning in Capt. Thos. E. Ricks' company. In early Utah days Bro. Savage distinguished

himself as a military man and served for a number of years as lieutenant and afterwards as captain in a company of the first battalion, third regiment of infantry of the Nauvoo Legion. In 1870 (Nov. 21st), together with seven others, he was arrested and imprisoned at Camp Douglas for having turned out to a harmless muster of the Nauvoo Legion in violation of Governor Schaffer's proclamation forbidding the assembling of troops in Utah. He and his fellow-prisoners were released on bail two days later and subsequently discharged. This affair is known in history as the Wooden Gun Rebellion. In 1870 Bro. Savage accompanied President Brigham Young and others on an exploring expedition through the upper Rio Virgin country, including what is now known as Little Zion Canyon. At a meeting held at President Brigham Young's office in Salt Lake City May 9, 1873, Bro. Savage was ordained a High Priest and set apart to act as a member of the High Council of the Salt Lake Stake; he occupied that position until the summer of 1874. In 1875, together with Elder Geo. Goddard and others, he originated the idea of treating the Old Folks to a summer excursion, an undertaking which has been repeated annually ever since and has become more popular and successful every year. For many years he labored as a home missionary in the Salt Lake Stake and also delivered a number of interesting lectures on Utah and its scenic beauties, illustrated by many photographic views, and contributed a number of valuable letters to the "Deseret News" upon the same subject. He also contributed many articles on various subjects to the local magazines. In 1861 he became a member of the Tabernacle choir and continued his labors in that organization with great fidelity until his death. In 1883 (June 21st) by a disastrous fire, which destroyed his place of business on East Temple Street, Salt



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Lake City, he lost nearly his entire stock of negatives, which portrayed the growth of Salt Lake City and other places—a loss that never can be replaced. Elder Savage was a thoroughly practical man, who always believed in doing, rather than professing, being convinced that the faithful observance of this principle would correct many of the evils now existing in the world. He was a true friend to the aged, the widow and the fatherless, and many a ton of coal and load of wood was delivered at the homes of such, of which no one ever knew except the giver and the receiver. In 1893 (Nov. 30th) his first wife died. She had borne him eleven children, namely, Charles Stenhouse, born July 16, 1857 (died Aug. 23, 1857); Roscoe Eddington, born June 19, 1858; Ralph Graham, born April 13, 1860; Annie Amelia, born March 21, 1862; George Lewis, born Jan. 27, 1865; Fannie Maude, born July 25, 1867; Enos Hoge, born Oct. 25, 1869 (died April 13, 1870); Luacine Annetta, born July 12, 1871; Ida May, born Jan. 5, 1874 (died Nov. 4, 1918); Lennie Louise, born Nov. 14, 1875, and Ray Thomas, born Nov. 27, 1878. In 1876 (Oct. 12th) he married Mary Emma Fowler (daughter of Henry C. Fowler and Martha Holland), who was born Dec. 26, 1852, in Sheffield, Yorkshire, England, and died July 21, 1881. She had no children. In 1878 (Oct. 19th) Bro. Savage married Ellen Fenn (daughter of Joseph Fenn and Jane Andrews), who was born in Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire, England, Nov. 14, 1843; she bore her husband two children, namely, Arley F., born Sept. 1, 1879, and Emma Jane, born Aug. 26, 1882. In 1895 he married Annie Smith Clowes, a widow (daughter of George Smith and Sarah Harris), who was born Oct. 28, 1847. She had no children by Bro. Savage. Elder Savage died Feb. 3, 1909, at his home in Salt Lake City, leaving a family of sons and daughters worthy to carry

on his name among the saints, whom their father loved and by whom he was sincerely beloved. His wife, Annie S. Clowes Savage, died April 14, 1920, in Idaho, and was buried in Salt Lake City.

**SECRIST, Jacob F.**, an Elder of the Church who died while returning from a foreign mission, was born Sept. 19, 1818, in Franklin county, Pa., the son of Solomon and Mary Secrist. He became a convert to "Mormonism" and was baptized in the spring of 1848. Soon afterwards he migrated to the Rocky Mountains and resided in Salt Lake Valley in 1852, when he was called on a mission to Europe. He crossed the plains in company with a number of other Elders going to different parts of the world as missionaries, and labored faithfully in the German Mission until 1855, when he was honorably released to return home. He crossed the Atlantic in the ship "Isaac Jeans," sailing from Liverpool, England, Feb. 3rd, in company with George C. Riser and a small company of saints (sixteen souls). They landed in Philadelphia March 5, 1855, and reached the frontiers in safety. When the companies were organized for traveling across the plains, Elder Secrist was chosen as captain of the second company of the year's emigration, and was proceeding westward with his company when he was stricken with cholera, of which he died July 2, 1855, on the Little Blue River, near Fort Kearney (now in Nebraska). His body was placed in a tin coffin and buried on the Little Blue.

**SEELEY, Joseph Franklin**, an Elder who died in the missionary field, was born Sept. 6, 1894, at Mt. Pleasant, Sanpete county, Utah, the son of Joseph Seeley and Adella Olsen. His father was an active Church worker and was for some time a counselor in the Mt. Pleasant North Ward Bishopric. The boyhood days of Elder Jo-



## Robert Taft photography correspondence

November 28, 1932

Mrs. Henry Hull  
73 Perry St.  
New York City

Dear Madam:

Mr. Allan Nevins, the historian, has given me your name and told me that you are a granddaughter of the late General Fremont. I am collecting material for a manuscript, "The Early Use of Photography in the Explorations of the West," and am trying to determine if any of the Carvalho daguerreotypes taken on General Fremont's Fifth Expedition are still extant. Have you any information on this question?

Mrs. Fremont, in the preface to General Fremont's memoirs published in 1887, says the plates taken by Carvalho "were beautifully clear. . . and were afterwards made into photographs by Brady in New York. During the winter of 1855-56 Mr. Fremont worked constantly at Mr. Brady's studio, helping to fix these daguerre pictures in their more permanent form of photographs. ". . . When we were leaving for Arizona in '78 the boxes containing the steel plates and wood blocks were placed in Morrell's 'Fire-Proof' warehouse, which was destroyed by fire in October of '81. We lost much that was stored in that warehouse, choice books, pictures, etc." The plates and wood blocks referred to by Mrs. Fremont were saved, but were made by artists from the pictures of Carvalho and Brady, and are, therefore, not the original photographs. If you have any knowledge of the fate or existence of any of the Carvalho or Brady pictures, I should highly appreciate receiving it.

Thanking you for the courtesy of your aid, I am,

Yours respectfully,

Robert Taft  
Associate Professor of Chemistry

RT:AW

## Robert Taft photography correspondence

November 29, 1932

Mr. Charles W. Symons  
625 E. Fifth So.  
Salt Lake City, Utah

Dear Mr. Symons:

Mr. Alvin F. Smith of your city has given me your name as an early day photographer in Utah. I am collecting material for a manuscript on "The Early Use of Photography in the Explorations of the West." Any photography done in the West between 1845 and 1870 has some bearing on my study. If you made landscape photographs in this period, would you be kind enough to furnish me the following information? First, a brief sketch of your life; second, the extent and nature of your photographic work up to the dry plate period. Descriptions of photographic apparatus, materials, and procedures are desired. Do you still possess any of your early negatives or prints? If so, would it be possible to secure several illustrative ones that were typical of your work? I should like especially to obtain those upon which fairly complete data are known, i.e., type of print (or negative), place taken, date taken, and exposure data, etc. If you do not have these, do you know where they are?

If you know of any other early day photographers in the West, and especially in Utah, I should appreciate receiving their names and addresses (if living).

Any information that you can give me will be highly appreciated. Thanking you, I am,

Yours sincerely,

Robert Taft  
Associate Professor of Chemistry

RT:AW



## Robert Taft photography correspondence

November 29, 1932

Mr. James Fennemore  
1226 E. Fifth So. St.  
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Dear Mr. Fennemore:

Mr. F. S. Dellenbaugh and Mr. A. F. Smith have given me your name and address and have told me that you served as photographer on the second Powell Colorado River expedition. I am collecting material for a manuscript, "The Early Use of Photography in the Explorations of the West," and I hope that you can furnish me some information with regard to your part in the Powell expedition.

I should like to obtain, first, a brief sketch of your life; and second, an account of your connection with the Powell expedition. I should also like information upon the photographic equipment, methods, and materials which were employed on the expedition, if you remember these. Of course, I understand that wet plates were used, but if any special methods or procedure were used, I should be glad to learn of them. Do you still possess any negatives taken on this expedition, or in early days in Utah (i.e., prior to 1872)? Would it be possible to obtain copies of several illustrative ones, especially those upon which you might have data upon such questions as location of subject, date of exposure, length of exposure, etc. if you still have them in your possession. If you do not have them, can you tell me where they are?

If you know of other early day photographers in Utah, I should appreciate it if you could give their names (and addresses if still living). I have the names of C. R. Savage and C. W. Symons.

Any information or help that you can give me will be very highly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Taft  
Associate Professor of Chemistry

RT:AW



## Robert Taft photography correspondence



73 Perry st.  
New York City  
Dec. 2, 1932 -

My dear Mr. Taft  
For answer to your letter  
about the pictures made  
from the Carralho daguerro-  
types - I have no personal  
knowledge - but I can put  
you in touch with Benoit  
Freemont - whose father -  
Frank Freemont, gathered  
to fill & stored the  
effects after her death -  
my mother also - Mrs.  
John Charles Freemont  
Weyler has some information  
& Mrs. Clara Carralho,  
who has some dealing



## Robert Taft photography correspondence

with my husband Henry Hull  
in theatrical matters - could be  
located - She is Carralio's  
daughter - & probably has  
just what you want -  
I have her address in  
Lynn, Conn. - but the house  
there is closed for the time  
being - But if you are not  
already in communication with  
her - my son could easily  
go up there from school  
& get the address - Follow  
are the other addresses -

Benton Fremont  
Sonoma  
Tuslunne County  
Calif.

Mrs J. C. Fremont  
2119 B St

Washington D.C.

If you will let me know



## Robert Taft photography correspondence

about Clare Canallo - I will  
gladly get her address for  
you -

Sincerely,

Julius Hull -

P.S. It has just occurred  
to me that Frank Fremont's  
widow might know more about  
where his Fremont's effects were  
stored — her address is:

Mrs Belle Fremont  
Care Miguel Suarez Guitierrez  
Aguiar - 126 - Vedado  
Cuba.

J. J. H.



## Robert Taft photography correspondence

December 2, 1932

The War Department  
Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen:

I am collecting information and material for a manuscript, "The Early Use of Photography in the Explorations of the West," and in my study have made considerable use of reports to the Secretary of War. I am desirous of securing information as to the fate or existence of negatives or positives taken on many of the early western expeditions sent out by the War Department.

For example, in a "Report of the Colorado River of the West," by Lieut. J. C. Ives, published by order of the Secretary of War in 1861, there is, opposite page 27, a lithograph of a reproduction of a photograph taken by Lieut. Ives on this expedition.

In a "Report of Explorations of the Great Basin of the Territory of Utah," in 1859, by Capt. J. H. Simpson, published by direction of the Secretary of War in 1876, there is on page 8 the statement that "some of the photographs (taken on this expedition) have been the originals from which a few of the views accompanying my journals have been derived."

Also, in the Senate Ex. Document #66, Forty-second Congress, Second Session, a report by the Secretary of War upon a Reconnaissance of the Yellowstone River, carried out by Capt. J. W. Barlow is included. Capt. Barlow says on page 3 of this report covering photographs taken by his staff photographer, Mr. T. J. Hine, that sixteen prints were made the day before the Chicago fire. The negatives were all lost in the fire.

Can you tell me the proper person with whom I can get in touch concerning the originals of such photographs (positives or negatives) if they, by chance, are still extant and among the records of the War Department?

Thank you for your valued help in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Taft  
Associate Professor of Chemistry

RT-AW



## Robert Taft photography correspondence

December 3, 1932

The Secretary  
Smithsonian Institution  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I am interested in, and have begun, a small collection of photographic positive materials in the period of 1840 up to the gelatine dry plate period. How extensive is the collection of the Smithsonian Institution of this material, i.e., daguerreotypes, tin types, ambrotypes, collotypes, etc.? I am asking with a view of obtaining some aid in classifying the specimens in our collection, and of the possibility of exchange of the information and duplicate material.

In addition, I am collecting information for a manuscript, "The Early Use of Photography in the Explorations of the West." I am attempting to obtain either originals or copies of illustrative photographs taken on as many of the early exploring expeditions as possible. By correspondence with individuals, historical societies, and other government bureaus I have been able to locate a considerable number of such photographs. Can you tell me if there are in the files of the Smithsonian Institution any such photographs that would have a bearing upon my study?

I am particularly desirous of locating, if it is at all possible, daguerreotypes taken by S. N. Carvalho on General Fremont's fifth expedition in 1853-54. I have written quite a number of letters in the hope of obtaining such information, but my search has been so far without success. I also know that Brady of New York photographed these daguerreotypes upon the return of Fremont in 1855-56.

Any help that you can give me will be highly appreciated. If you are unable to furnish all of the information requested, I should be grateful to you for giving me the name of anyone to whom I might write who could possibly furnish it.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Taft  
Associate Professor of Chemistry

RT:AW



## Robert Taft photography correspondence

December 5, 1932

The Librarian  
New York Public Library  
New York City

Dear Sir:

I am collecting material for a manuscript, "The Early Use of Photography in the Explorations of the West," and am desirous of locating, if possible, daguerreotypes taken by S. N. Carvalho of New York City, who went with General J. C. Fremont on his fifth expedition to the West in 1853-54. Carvalho's daguerreotypes were copied photographically by Brady of New York City in the winter of 1855-56. I thought that there might be the possibility of some of Carvalho's daguerreotypes or Brady's copies having found their way into the New York Library. Can you tell me if any are in your possession, and, if so, could copies of them be obtained?

In addition, the Daguerrian Journal for 1851 states that "S. S. McIntyre has sent to New York daguerreotypes taken of San Francisco and gold diggings," and that "R. H. Vance is reported back from California with 300 full plate views, which are on display (in New York) Nov. 1, 1851." Are any of the McIntyre or Vance daguerreotypes in the possession of your library?

I shall appreciate highly any information that you can give me.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Taft  
Associate Professor of Chemistry

RT:AW

## Robert Taft photography correspondence

December 5, 1932

Mrs. Henry Hull  
73 Perry St.  
New York City

Dear Mrs. Hull:

Thank you very much for your kind letter of December 2, 1932, concerning possible sources of information relative to the Carvalho daguerreotypes.

I had already written Mr. S. S. Carvalho, of 140 Cedar St., New York City, who is a son of S. M. Carvalho, for information concerning his father's daguerreotypes. He was unable to tell me anything about them. I therefore doubt that the Carvalho daughter possesses any information about the daguerreotypes. I should appreciate it very much, however, if you would send me her address in case all the other sources of information which you have so thoughtfully given me fail to produce any positive information. Please do not have your son make a special trip on my account, but, if for any reason there is occasion to go to Lynn, I should appreciate your obtaining the address for me. Perhaps it would be best to wait until I hear from the others mentioned in your letter; then, if it is necessary, I can write you again for the address.

Again let me thank you for your kindness in supplying the addresses. I appreciate it highly.

Sincerely yours,

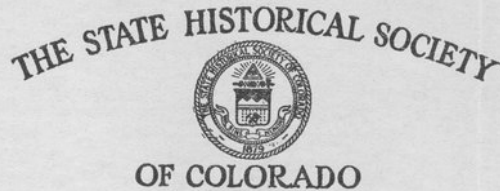
Robert Taft  
Associate Professor of Chemistry

RT:AW



## Robert Taft photography correspondence

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GEORGE WOODBURY, *Curator*  
Library  
EVELYN LLOYD, *Librarian*

Dec. 6, 1932

Mr. Robert Taft  
University of Kansas  
Lawrence, Kansas  
Dear Professor Taft:

In response to your letter of the 1st will say that Alex Martin is the only one of the early photographers you mention whom I know anything about. Mr. Martin died in Denver three or four years ago. We have a few of his photographs. He was a Scotchman. In his later years he got sidetracked in attempts to photograph spirits.

Sincerely yours,

*L. R. Hafen*

## Robert Taft photography correspondence

### EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY

ROCHESTER, N. Y.

December 7, 1932.

Mr. Robert Taft,  
Associate Professor of Chemistry,  
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your letter of December 2, we have a museum but it is concerned for the most part with processes which have been developed since the inception of this Company. We are from time to time offered apparatus and if you would like for us to do so we will be glad to keep your name on file and refer those who have such material for sale to you.

The Franklin Institute of Philadelphia has a very complete collection of photographic equipment and specimens of the various processes and it may be that in certain cases they would have duplicate exhibits; they would consider the sale of such items.

For some reason or other it seems to be easier to pick up material of this character in England than in this country and a short advertisement in the classified columns of the British Journal of Photography might put you in touch with those who have just what you want. The publishers of the British Journal of Photography are Henry Greenwood & Company, Ltd., 24 Wellington St., Strand, London, W. C., England.

Do not hesitate to write us again if we have not given you just the information wanted or if there are other phases of the subject on which you would like to have our suggestions.

Yours very truly,

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY

CBNebllette:MHB

  
Service Department



## Robert Taft photography correspondence

December 9, 1932

Director, The Franklin Institute  
Philadelphia  
Pennsylvania

Dear Sir:

Mr. C. B. Neblette of the Eastman Kodak Company has suggested that I write you concerning your museum of photographic equipment and materials. I am interested in and have begun a photographic museum for this University with the following objects in mind: (a) a collection of types of photographic positive and negative materials, i.e., daguerreotypes, ambrotypes, tintypes, collotypes, etc.; (b) a collection of photographs of historic interest in the era up to the gelatine dry plate period. My object in writing you is to determine if it would be possible to obtain aid as occasion arose in classifying material of doubtful origin; to obtain some knowledge of the extent and nature of your collection; to inquire if there would be the possibility of exchange of duplicate material. If there is a catalog of your collection, would it be possible to obtain a copy? I should like also to ask if you know of other collections of the nature described above in this country. I am, of course, aware of the collection at the Smithsonian Institute.

In addition, I am collecting material for a manuscript on "The Early Use of Photography in the Explorations of the West," and in this study have endeavored to obtain some trace of the daguerreotypes taken by S. N. Carvalho on General Fremont's fifth expedition to the West in 1853-54. Do you, by chance, happen to have any of these daguerreotypes in your collection? Brady of New York copied Carvalho's daguerreotypes in the winter of 1855-56 photographically (presumably by the wet plate process). Any information concerning either Carvalho's daguerreotypes or Brady's photographs would be highly valued.

I shall feel deeply indebted to you for your help in answering any of the questions raised in my letter.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Taft  
Associate Professor of Chemistry