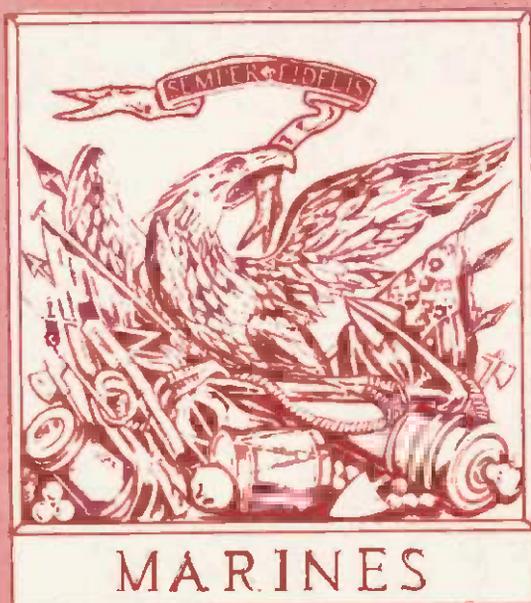


**MARINE CORPS MUSEUM  
QUANTICO VA.**

**McLANE  
TILTON**

**1861-1914**



## MUSEUM MANUSCRIPT REGISTER SERIES

The Register Series is prepared under the joint direction of the Curator of Manuscripts and the Senior Historian and will include similar registers of the papers of notable Marines held by the Marine Corps Museum. Use of the collection is restricted to the premises of the Marine Corps Museum, which, due to the limited staff, cannot undertake research within the collections for individual requestors. Serious scholars wishing to use the holdings will be welcomed by the Museum staff; however, since at present, space for researchers is somewhat limited, two weeks advance notice is requested. A letter specifying the intention of the researcher and the proposed date of his visit addressed to the Curator of Manuscripts, Marine Corps Museum, Quantico, Virginia 22134 will be of great assistance.

The Marine Corps Museum is located a few miles south of Washington, D. C., just off Interstate 95 and is open daily to the public free of charge. The research facilities are open to users who have obtained prior authorization from the Curator from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, federal holidays excepted.

### COVER SEAL

The seal used on the cover of this and other Marine Corps Museum publications is an interpretation of an 1812 U. S. Marine Corps hat device by JoAnn Wood.

REGISTER  
OF THE  
McLANE TILTON PAPERS  
1861 - 1914  
IN THE  
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS MUSEUM  
QUANTICO, VIRGINIA  
COMPILED BY  
CHARLES A. WOOD  
AND  
JACK B. HILLIARD

## FOREWORD

In 1967 the Marine Corps Museum implemented a program designed to acquire and preserve the personal papers of former Marines for future students of history. A substantial number of collections were subsequently located and acquired, and the program continues to expand apace. Many of the Manuscripts have an appeal beyond the confines of Marine Corps history, and it is toward these that the Museum addressed its initial efforts. In order to introduce the collections to the academic community so that they may be exploited to add to the body of knowledge of the development of our country, the Register Series was begun. It is hoped that this series will stimulate scholars to investigate this virgin field of military manuscripts in the pursuit of authenticity, accuracy, and involvement.

John H. Magruder, III  
Colonel, USMC  
Director,  
Marine Corps Museums

## Accessions Information:

The McLane Tilton papers were donated to the United States Marine Corps in 1955 by Colonel Tilton's granddaughter, Mrs. Charles H. Hix, Jr. of Norfolk, Virginia.

## Physical Description:

There are seventy-nine holographic letters, the greater portion of which include continuing dates within each separate writing. All items are signed by the author, with signatures ranging from initials to full signature. Also included in the collection are nine (9) official letters or documents relating to Tilton's career, and thirty (30) miscellaneous documents, composed of various invoices, pamphlets and receipts.

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## INTRODUCTION

The McLane Tilton papers were received by the Marine Corps Museum in 1967 and are particularly useful in documenting the life of a Marine officer at sea during the latter half of the nineteenth century.

Tilton was a typical Marine officer of the post Civil War era whose career was marked by lengthy tours of "sea duty" interspersed with assorted shore assignments and slow but steady promotion from Second Lieutenant in 1861 to Lieutenant Colonel upon his retirement from the Corps some thirty-six years later.

The present collection resulted primarily from Tilton's two cruises as a fleet Marine officer when he composed long letters to his wife, Nan, the former Anne Mayne Wells, describing his activities in considerable detail. For example, as Senior Marine Officer with the Asiatic Squadron 1870 to 1872 he led the U. S. Marine contingent in the Korean Expedition of 1871. Extracts of his Asiatic Squadron letters have been published by the Naval Historical Foundation under the title MARINE AMPHIBIOUS LANDING IN KOREA, 1871, v. 5 no. 2 of the AMERICAN NEPTUNE titled "Mission to Peking, 1870."

The second major group of letters resulted from Tilton's 1877-1879 cruise as Senior Marine Officer of the Mediterranean Squadron, and gives an excellent insight into the nature of the U. S. Navy's role as an instrument of international relations during the period.

The Tilton collection is especially useful in that it records not only military events as experienced by the author, but describes at length his impression of indigenous society on both the Asiatic and the Mediterranean stations.



CAPTAIN McLANE W. TILTON

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

McLane Tilton, scion of an old Maryland family, was born at Annapolis on 25 September 1836. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps on 2 March 1861, and over the ensuing years, slowly but steadily rose to become one of the two lieutenant colonel's in the Corps at the time of his retirement in 1897.

During the Civil War, Tilton served with the West Gulf Blockading Squadron, The Marine Barracks, Pensacola, Florida and at the Marine Barracks, Washington, D. C.

Shortly after the war Tilton was transferred to command the Marine Barracks at the United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland. It was during this tour of duty that he met and married Anne Mayne Wells to whom he was to address as "Nannie" the majority of the lengthy correspondence which is the subject of this register. After three years of apparently happy married life, Tilton reported to the USS COLORADO in 1869 for a tour of sea duty as Senior Marine Officer of the Pacific Squadron.

In this capacity, he led the U. S. Marine contingent in the Korean Expedition of 1871. He also escorted the American Minister, Frederick Low, to Peking, in a trip noteworthy for the detail with which it is described in Tilton's letters home. In 1872 Tilton returned to Annapolis, once more in command of the Marine Barracks and remained there until 1877 when he was again assigned to duty at sea -- this time, aboard the USS TRENTON on the Mediterranean Station. As on his previous cruise, Tilton wrote home the delightful description of his life aboard ship and of contemporaneous Mediterranean society.

Upon his return in 1880, Tilton took command of the Marine guard at the Washington Navy Yard, a post he held

until 9 March 1888, when he simultaneously was promoted to major and reassigned to command of the Marine Barracks at Norfolk, Virginia. Tilton stayed at Norfolk for the remainder of his career, being promoted to Lieutenant Colonel 28 February 1891, and on 1 February 1897, he retired and returned to Annapolis where he lived until his death 2 January 1914 in the family home which is today preserved by Historic Annapolis as the Lockerman-Tilton House.

## TABLE OF ARRANGEMENT OF COLLECTION

### FOLDERS

<u>Nos.</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	Correspondence: 1861; 1870 on the Asiatic Station.
2	Correspondence: 1871 on the Asiatic Station, participation in Korean Expedition.
3	Correspondence: 1872 on the Asiatic Station.
4	Correspondence: 1877 on the Mediterranean Station.
5	Correspondence: 1878 on the Mediterranean Station.
6	Correspondence: 1879 on the Mediterranean Station.
7	Letters, official: 1885 - 1888 Orders and directives pertaining to career.
8	Miscellaneous: 1875 - 1914 Invoices, pamphlets, and receipts pertaining to career.

In addition to the annotations listed in the register, most of the letters contain lengthy personal news and commentary. Only in instances where no other pertinent subject is discussed is personal or family news listed.

McLANE TILTON PAPERS

(P. C. 122)

1861; 1870 - 1872

ON THE ASIATIC STATION

PRIVATE LETTERS

Folder 1

- 1861 Oct. 28. McLane Tilton, USS COLORADO, to Mark Tilton, Madison, Indiana. Expresses unhappiness at news of death of father; relates details of his entrance into Marine Corps; describes an abortive "cutting out expedition" off Fort Pickens, Florida.
- 1870 May 4. Tilton, USS COLORADO, Atlantic Ocean, to "Nannie". (Entire letter tipped-in) Mail being placed aboard an English Brig; description of reaction to USMC Band playing "God Save The Queen".
- May 24. (continued) Description of "Crossing The Equator" ceremonies; food supplies low - "Sardines - fried plain in butter" for three meals a day; heading for Rio de Janerio.
- June 5. (continued) Entering Rio de Janerio, after 58 days at sea.
- 1870 July 3. Tilton, USS COLORADO, off Simons Town, Cape of Good Hope, to "Nannie". Bound for Japan, along with USS ALASKA.
- July 18. Tilton, USS COLORADO, in Indian Ocean, to "Mother". Left Cape of Good Hope on July 6; details of shipboard life; description, with sketches, of eclipse of moon.
- 1870 Nov. 17. Tilton, Steamship CHIK-LI, at sea, Gulf of Pchu-li, to "Nannie". Party returning from Peking; description of Yellow Sea; Seward's party which traveled to Peking; trip to Peking; Tilton's impression of U. S. Minister to China, Mr. Frederick F. Low; view of city of Peking.
- 1870 Nov. 20. Tilton, USS COLORADO, Woosung, China, to "Nannie". Account of Tilton's trip with the Seward party to Peking; views of city and of return trip to Woosung.

Folder 1 (Cont'd)

- Nov. 30. (continued) Return of Admiral Rodgers and party to the ship; Seward party returns to Shanghai; Admiral visited celebrated Temple of Heaven; hears news of France and Napoleonic War; description of European telegraph system, Chinese servants, and the children of China; comments on clothes worn by the Chinese.
- 1870 Dec. 1. Tilton, Wampoo River, Province of Kiangsu, China, to "my dear brother" Mark Tilton. Details of trip from America to China; details of massacre at Tientsin, in June.
- 1870 Dec. 7. Tilton, off Woosung, China, to "Nannie". Enclosing two large envelopes containing account of trip to Peking; expects to sail to Japan.
- 1870 Dec. 23. Tilton, mouth of the Yang-tse-Kiang, to "Nannie". (Entire letter tipped) On way to Japan; views on voyage.
- Dec. 26. (continued) Reached Nagasaki on Dec. 25, description of Nagasaki; detailed account of Christmas dinner attended by Tilton; plans of forthcoming trip.
- 1871 Jan 1. (continued) (incorrectly dated 1 Jan. 1870) Attends New Year's celebration with the Admiral; description and impressions of mixed public bathing by the Japanese and of Japanese clothing; Tilton's impression of Japanese homes.
- Jan. 7. (continued) (incorrectly dated 7 Jan. 1870) At anchor in the Inland Sea; will head for Hiogo (Kobe); describes agriculture methods of Japan; comments on political makeup of Japan; refers to troubles with new pay bill for the Corps; hears of smallpox epidemic in Yokohoma; attends burial of Mr. Bryan, in U. S. Cemetery at Kobe.

Folder 2

- 1871 Jan. 8. Tilton, Kobe, Japan, to "Nannie". Enclosure of Japanese coins and description of same (with drawings and tracings); comment on gold as currency in Asia; page three of letter has overlay sketch of Japan and Korea, which includes course followed by USS COLORADO.
- Jan. 9. (continued) (no date - cited as "Monday") Wishes epaulettes belonging to his father to be given to his mother by his wife; plans to visit Oaska, Japan, tomorrow.
- Jan. 12. (continued) Visit to Osaka 10 - 11 Jan.
- 1871 Feb. 4. Tilton, at sea, to "Nannie". (Entire letter tipped in) Headed for Hong Kong from Nagaski, Japan; going to Hong Kong rather than to Yokohama due to epidemic of smallpox there; ship has had three cases of smallpox already; believes ship will be quarantined in Hong Kong; comments on the troubles which Admirals Porter and Essex are having back home.
- Feb. 7. (continued) in Formosa Channel; about 250 miles from Hong Kong; no new cases of smallpox aboard the USS COLORADO; comments on the deplorable condition of uniforms; describes practices of the Japanese launderers.
- Feb. 8. (continued) USS COLORADO in Hong Kong harbor.
- 1871 Mar. 7. Tilton, Hong Kong, China, to "Nannie". Sailing shortly for Manila; complains of duty as Judge Advocate of the Asiatic Fleet.
- Mar. 8. (continued) Mentions various people whom he meets on shore, mainly friends of the family; describes odd eating hours aboard ship.
- Mar. 9. (continued) Mentions forthcoming trip to Korea; feels scope of the voyage will be "to endeavor to open the country up like we did Japan."

Folder 2 (Cont'd)

1871 Apr. 8. Tilton, Woosung, China, to "Nannie". Made trip to Shanghai yesterday; USS COLORADO had run aground on 6 April, was freed by two tugs; mentions Mrs. Low, wife of Minister to Peking; expects Minister and Mrs. Low to accompany ship in official capacity on voyage to Korea; rumor that the USS HARTFORD will relieve USS COLORADO at Cape of Good Hope in the spring of 1872.

Apr. 9. (continued) Finds China a mystery; describes method of Chinese burial; comments on position of male Chinese children; discusses the disparity in value of Chinese males and females in the social structure; describes the peculiar practice of binding feet of Chinese females; notes Chinese respect for the dead; comments on absence of fences in China; describes construction of telegraph lines and their impact on Chinese.

1871 Apr. 24. Tilton, Woosung, China, to "Nannie". Telegraph lines have been established between Shanghai and Hong Kong by a group of "Danes"; communication between Woosung and Shanghai already established, but ten word message to United States would cost twenty dollars; dined with Admiral Rodgers, Minister and Mrs. Low and son; Minister Low to accompany USS COLORADO to Korea; USS COLORADO leaving Woosung 1 May, headed for Nagasaki, Japan; USS ASHUELOT expected any day; details on rescue by an American Schooner of five natives of Korea, who were shipwrecked; Consul at Tientsin turned them over to Admiral Rodgers; natives were afraid Americans would kill them; Tilton feels handling of survivors in a hospitable manner will impress Koreans as to how United States wishes to have their seamen handled in similar plights.

Folder 2 (Cont'd)

Apr. 27. (continued) USS ASHUELOT, which wintered at Tientsin on the Pei-ho River, develops engine trouble; ship left some days ago, but has not appeared.

May 5. (continued) USS ASHUELOT arrives in Woosung; USS COLORADO may leave for Nagasaki on 8 or 9 May.

1871 May 12. Tilton, Nagasaki, Japan, to "Nannie". Arrived Nagasaki this morning; description of city of Nagasaki; most of United States Fleet in harbor, as well as many of the foreign navies; "Our expedition to Korea starts from here, and after communicating with them on the river called in the French map Seoul, we go over to Chefoo on the other side of the Yellow Sea, and wait long enough for the Koreans to make up their minds as to whether they will agree to treat kindly any Christians wrecked upon their strange & unknown coasts"; Government of China has advised Korean Government to consider the proposition favorably.

1871 May 16. Tilton, at sea, off coast of Japan, to "Nannie". Underway for Korea; fleet includes USS COLORADO (Flagship), USS ALASKA, USS MONOCACY, USS BENECIA, and USS PALOS: Tilton feels expedition will be peaceful, without incident; is of the opinion that the Koreans will not respond, and that trip will be useless; believes that best account of expedition will be found in the New York Herald, as correspondent for that organization was not allowed to accompany the expedition, and he will vent his wrath within the columns of his newspaper.

May 20. (continued) Fleet laying off destination about 50 miles, undergoing drill and small arms firing; recounts tale of plight of shipwrecked

Folder 2 (Cont'd)

sailors of some months ago, where, after being captured by the natives, the sailors were cut up, pickled, and put on display as curiosities; states: ". . . it is with not a great pleasure I anticipate landing with the small force we have, against a populous country containing 10,000,000 savages!"

May 21. (continued) (undated - cited as "Sunday Noon") Fleet approaching shore through heavy weather, no land can be seen.

May 26. (continued) At anchor off the west coast of Korea; feels expedition will be in contact with Korean authorities by middle of next week. (Letter incomplete)

1871 June 4. Tilton, at anchor, near Boisēē, I'd, Saleè River, Korea, to "Nan". June 1, Gunboats PALOS and MONOCACY were sent up Saleè River to make soundings; gunboats were fired upon by Koreans from a mud fort; three Americans were slightly wounded; USS MONOCACY hit, but quickly repaired; believes retaliation from United States will be intense; feels the Koreans cannot see why United States wants treaty and that the incident will be blown out of proportion by the newspapers.

1871 June 21. Tilton USShip COLORADO, off Isle Boisēē, Korea, Asia, to "Nannie". Action over, expedition unable to acquire a signed treaty; feels expedition does not contain enough force to drive Korea capitul, if directed to do so by official directive; description of country side; description of landing of United States forces; detailed account of entire action, beginning on June 10, reports Lieutenant McKee killed in the action; comments on the capture of Korean flag by himself and two Marines; states copy of report on action sent to General Zeilin.

Folder 2 (Cont'd)

June 23. (continued) personal news to family.

1871 June 27. Tilton, off Isle Boisēē, Korea, Asia, to "Nan". Headed for Chefoo, China, to pick up Mrs. Low, wife of United States Minister to Peking and son, thence to Yokohama, Japan; account of the horrors encountered in attack on forts; photographs of carnage to be found in London Illustrated News and other major papers; enclosing swath of flag that was captured by Marines; mentions photograph taken of himself, Private Purvis and Corporal Brown; notes that he has for a souvenir: ". . . plume and tassel of peacock feathers and red and yellow horse hair. . . . cap of the General at Fort du Conde (or Elbow fort)", which he will forward to his wife in the future; hopes to sail by July 1.

July 3. (continued) Heading for Chefoo; false report being circulated at Chefoo, that the Koreans had wiped out the American fleet and killed all the men; lists casualties for the action as one officer, one sailor and one Marine; conducting investigation of small arms ammunition, which in the recent action failed to fire; considers the expedition a complete failure.

July 5. (continued) At Chefoo, China; expects to go to Yokohama in 7 to 10 days, where they will stay until September or October; wearing full dress uniform, participating in receiving English and French admirals aboard the USS COLORADO; USS ALASKA at Chefoo, USS PALOS and USS MONOCACY underway to Shanghai.

1871 July 18. Tilton, Chefoo, China, to "Nannie". (Letter partially tipped in) Asiatic fleet except USS MONOCACY, USS ASHUELOT, and USS PALOS anchored at Chefoo; dines at breakfast with

Folder 2 (Cont'd)

United States Minister Frederick F. Low and wife; describes the condition of nudity as practiced by the natives of China; relates that Captain George H. Cooper, USS COLORADO, invalided.

- 1871 August 4. Tilton, Chefoo, China, to "Nannie". Visits Miss Georgia Mechlin, Miss Virgie Brooks, and Mr. Brooks, from Washington, D. C., who are on their way to Peking; observes boat race between USS COLORADO's barge and the USS ALASKA's cutter: United States Minister Low returns to Peking; accompanies Mr. Pillsbury in a swim; description of Chinese coolies, their work and gambling habits.

August 5. (continued) Visits Miss Georgia Mechlin; describes the hardships encountered when traveling between Chefoo and Peking, China; visits with Mrs. Low, the Russian Minister, Russian Admiral; refers to Marine summer uniform.

- 1871 Aug. 9. Tilton, Yellow Sea, to "Nannie". Sailing to Kobe, Japan; description of Chefoo, the Yellow Sea, and of Chinese junks; comments on the population problem of China; description of rural China farm life.

- 1871 Aug. 24. Tilton, Yokohama, to "Nannie". (Letter partially tipped in) Description of daily routine at Yokohama; an account of a typhoon and of the destruction it creates.

Aug. 26. (continued) Description of new "English uniform blouse"; visits U. S. Consul Sheppard and U. S. Minister Low.

Sep. 1. (Continued) Dines at Royal Marines Camp; visits with American Minister and Mrs. De Long.

Sep 3. (continued) Pertains to his concern over wife's fears relative to the Korean engagement.

Folder 2 (Cont'd)

1871 Sep. 8. (continued) Sending pictures of the Korean expedition; visits with Colonel of Royal Marine Battalion.

1871 Sep. 16. Tilton, Yokohama, to "Nan". (Letter partially tipped in) Attended reception at Mrs. DeLong's residence on Sep. 15; mentions Captain George H. Cooper, Captain Edward T. Nichols, Dr. Elliott, and Medical Officer Zeveley.

Sep. 17. (continued) USS COLORADO moving to dock repair; will leave ship for shore living quarters.

Sep. 19 (continued) USS COLORADO underway for docking facilities.

1871 Sep. 28. Tilton, Yokoska, Japan, to "Aunt Anne". Description of travels through countryside, in company of USS COLORADO's Chaplain; description of Buddha temple; comments on mixed sex bathing; comments on unusual learning method practiced by school children in Japan. (letter incomplete)

1871 (Letter incomplete; begins at page 3; undated first part) Refers to Lieutenant-Commander J. Crittenden Watson, commanding the USS IDAHO, Commander Rush R. Wallace, commanding the USS ASHUELOT; notes that Lieutenant-Commander Winfield S. Schley, USS BENICIA, at Yang-tse-Kiang; USS ALASKA at Nagasaki.

Nov. 1. (Only date appearing in letter)

Nov. 11. Tilton, off Yedo, to "Nannie". Left Yokohama early morning, arrived Yedo about 11 a.m.; comments on General Capron, United States Army, and Mr. Longfellow, son of the famous poet; describes political functions of the Mikado; description of Yedo and countryside.

Folder 2 (Cont'd)

Nov. 13. (continued) Discusses political scene in Yedo; believes there is a possibility of returning to America via Suez Canal and Mediterranean.

Nov. 18. (continued) Visited Tombs of the Tycoons, in Yedo; member, as aide to the American Minister and the Fleet Admiral, of party which visits the Mikado; will attend ball given by Mrs. DeLong on Nov. 21.

1871 Nov. 21. Tilton, off Yedo, Japan, to "Nannie". Weather so bad he has to wear top boots and rubber coat in his cabin; buys new overcoat uniform from British tailor in Hong Kong to replace the flannel one bought in Baltimore; shoes made by Cassady still in use; shirts bought from Mr. Franklin in 1868 still being worn; attends party at Mrs. DeLong's.

1871 Nov. 22. Tilton, Yokohama, Japan, to "Nannie". Reference to Mrs. DeLong's party; description of the party; sketch of Mt. Fussyarma (sic) in letter.

Dec. 1. (continued) Takes trip into countryside with Mrs. DeLong.

Dec. 6. (continued) Sailing tomorrow for Nagasaki, thence to Shanghai.

Folder 3

1872 Jan. 10. Tilton, USS COLORADO, at sea, to "Nannie". Left Woosung this morning; visited Mrs. Seward, Consul General's wife, before leaving Woosung.

Jan. 14. (continued) At Hong Kong; description of monsoon weather; reads of death of Colonel Jim Fisk, of Erie Railroad fame.

Folder 3 (Cont'd)

- Jan. 22. (continued) Paid visit to Mrs. Bailey, Consul's wife; Mrs. Overbecks, Austrian Consul General's wife (former Miss Romain Goddard, step-daughter of Admiral Dalgren), also paid a visit; description of Mrs. Overbecks' residence; paid visit to Mrs. Hitchcock, wife of the head of the firm, Oliphants; attended amateur musical concert by ladies and gentlemen of Hong Kong for "benefit of Chicago" (Chicago fire?)
- Jan. 27. (continued) Describes illness and accident occurring aboard USS COLORADO.
- 1872 Jan. 29. Tilton, Hong Kong, to "Nannie". Breakfasted with Chaplain on English line of battleship MELLVILLE; describes sampan life.
- Feb. 5. (continued) Dining tomorrow night at Mrs. Hitchcock's; Steamer DUO NADA wrecked, all hands saved by USS ASHUELOT; account of the uprising at Manila, Philippines.
- Feb. 7. (continued) Account of Mrs. Hitchcock's dinner party; dining tonight with the Admiral and Fleet Captain at Mrs. Guild.
- 1872 Feb. 9. (continued) Notes that today is China's New Year; description of New Year celebration.
- Feb. 14. (continued) Refers to the "Wharton case"; dining tomorrow with Mrs. Overbeck; discussion on prices in Hong Kong, emphasis on prices of furs.
- 1872 Feb. 27. Tilton, Hong Kong, to "Nannie". Description of regatta held on Feb. 22, celebrating the anniversary of Washington's birthday; USS BENICIA in port.
- Mar. 2. (continued) Attended amateur concert held in aid of Catholic church; Mrs. Overbeck performed in concert; visited with Mrs. Guild, wife of Paymaster, to pay respects on death of Paymaster Guild's father.

Folder 3 (Cont'd)

Mar. 4. (continued) Recounts nightmare he had the night before; farewell party planned for tomorrow night on board ship.

Mar. 7. (continued) Party of night before felt to be a failure; meets Mrs. Batione, wife of Paymaster Dominick B. Batione, USS BENICIA.

Mar. 11. (continued) Personal news to family.

Mar. 12. (continued) Paid visit to foreign ships.

Mar. 14. (continued) Personal news to family.

1872 Apr. 19. Tilton, Kobe-Heido, Inland Sea, Japan, to "Nannie". Description of shore and city; description of Japanese wrestling match; notes return of Admiral Rodgers from trip to Keito.

1872 Apr. 23. (continued) Arriving off Yokohama.

1872 June 5. Tilton, Yokohama, to "Nannie". Expects to leave for Yedo, thence to Hakadati; description of populace of Hakadati; Mrs. Overbeck at Yokohama; expects USS HARTFORD to be USS COLORADO's relief; believes ship will head for home in September.

June 8. (continued) Personal news to family.

1872 June 14. Tilton, Yokohama, to "Nannie". Will accompany Admiral Rodgers, Mrs. Overbeck, Mrs. Coxan, and Bill Emory on visit to Yedo; Mrs. Overbeck takes ill and party returns to ship; Admiral Rodgers presented to the Mikado.

June 19. (continued) Refers to commotion over return of USS BENICIA to the United States; sailing tomorrow for Hakadati, carrying General Capron, USA, who will set up agriculture program for the Japanese.

Folder 3 (Cont'd)

- 1872     July 14.   Tilton, off Kobe, Japan, to "Nannie".  
          Personal news to family.
- July 15. (continued)   Personnel news to family.
- July 17. (continued)   Personal news to family.
- 1872     July 29.   Tilton, Hiogo Hotel, Kobe, Japan, to  
          "Nannie".   Personal news to family.
- 1872     Aug. 9.    Tilton, Kobe-Hiogo, Japan, to "Nannie".  
          Description of arrival of the Mikado with his  
          fleet of ten steamers; American barque WITCH  
          delivering 400 tons of coal to the USS COLORADO;  
          comments on position of labor and capital, and on  
          their international impact; believes USS  
          COLORADO will return to America via the Suez  
          Canal.
- Aug. 10. (continued) (no date - cited as "Sunday  
          night") Personal news to family.
- Aug. 15. (continued) Comments on Horace Greeley  
          and his campaign. (letter incomplete)
- 1872     Aug. 22.   Tilton, Inland Sea, Japan, to "Nan".  
          Detained in Kobe-Hiogo, for coaling of ship and  
          because of a suit in United States Consular  
          Court, brought against Americans for assaulting  
          English citizens on shore; makes reference to  
          group of forty Chinese, thirty of whom are enroute  
          to Hartford, Connecticut to be educated at Yale  
          University, under grant made by Chinese govern-  
          ment; discussion on the nobility of Chinese women;  
          details of events occurring on shore leave with  
          Bill Emory.

Folder 3 (Cont'd)

1872     Aug. 25. (continued)   Personal news to family.

Sep. 9.   Tilton, Yellow Sea, to "Nannie". Refers to the Steamer AMERICA, and to the fire that occurred aboard her; USS COLORADO headed for Chefoo; discussion on Dr. Mayo. (letter incomplete)

McLANE TILTON PAPERS

(P. C. 122)

1877 - 1879

ON THE MEDITERRANEAN STATION

Folder 4

- 1877 Mar. 31. Tilton, Lisbon, Portugal, to "Nannie". Notes the death of Major John C. Cash, USMC; expects Captain James Forney will succeed him; description of Lisbon.
- Apr. 1. (continued) Comments on unusual Good Friday religious observance aboard United States ships; duty station is the USS TRENTON.
- 1877 Apr. 8. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Lisbon, to "Nannie." (Letter incomplete - portion of first page cut out) Personal matters pertaining to illness of child, who has scarlet fever, and of the family.
- Apr. 9. (continued) Sailing for Nice, France, stopping on way at Gibraltar; receiving from tailor in Lisbon, four pairs uniform trousers, made of sky blue flannel.
- 1877 Apr. 12. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Gibraltar, to "Nannie". Refers to death of Pay Inspector Edward Foster, 11 April 1877, at sea on board USS TRENTON; disappointed with Gibraltar; USS ALLIANCE accompanying USS TRENTON.
- 1877 Apr. 19. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Villefranche, Nice, France, to "Nannie". Description of the Mediterranean and of the city of Nice. (letter incomplete)
- 1877 May 11. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Straits of Messina, to "Nannie". Description of Straits of Messina; comments on the volcano Stromboli; breakfasts with Rear Admiral John L. Worden, Fleet Admiral of the European Station.
- 1877 Jun. 4. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Smyrna, Asia Minor, to "Nan". Takes trip into interior to view religious practice of the "howling

Folder 4 (Cont'd)

Dervishes"; humorous account of donkey ride; experience with Turkish coffee; rumor that USS BROOKLYN will replace USS TRENTON as flagship.

Jun. 6. (continued) Sailing for Salonica.

- 1877 Jun. 29. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Smyrna, to "Nannie". (date incorrect: see continuation) Describes evening walks along the quay.

Jun. 29. (continued) (correct date) Notes that he has wrongly dated preceding portion of letter; undergoing much battalion drill.

- 1877 Aug. 16. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Smyrna, to "Nannie". Account of a crime performed by the mail orderly; expects to leave for Marseilles; account of Turkish-Russian battle; anniversary of birth of Emperor of Austria to be celebrated, with United States participating; mentions change of orders for several fellow officers; describes an Austrian "flea circus".

Aug. 17. (continued) Personal news to family.

- 1877 Sep. 27. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Marseilles. to "Nannie". Personal news to family.

- 1877 Nov. 9. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Villefranche, to "Nannie". Describes reception for French Admiral and fleet.

Nov. 10. (continued) Personal news to family.

- 1877 Nov. 30. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Villefranche, to "Nannie". Description of everyday life in port; reports that he is learning to speak French; hears of the loss of the USS HURON; USS VANDALIA in port, preparing to take ex-President U. S. Grant on cruise.

Folder 4 (Cont'd)

- 1877 Dec. 26. Tilton, USS TRENTON, at sea off Corsica, to "Nannie". Description of Nice, France; dines on Christmas with Mrs. Day; attended dance at Chauvain Hotel.

Folder 5

- 1878 Jan. 16. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Smyrna, to "Nannie". Rumor that USS TRENTON will pass the Dardanelles to represent United States in Turkey; rumor that the British are about to engage the Russians.

Jan. 17. (continued) Personal news to family.

- 1878 Feb. 1. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Smyrna, to "Nannie". Member of court martial, trying fifteen cases; hears of peace between Turkey and Russia; relates plight of the refugees; complains of eating conditions aboard USS TRENTON; expects to return to Nice, France.

- 1878 Mar. 13. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Smyrna, to "Nannie". Expects to sail immediately upon arrival of USS MARION; believes USS TRENTON will travel to Athens to pick up Admiral John L. Worden and party, and possibly, General Grant.

Mar. 14. (continued) Personal news to family.

- 1878 Mar. 24. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Priaeus, Athens, to "Nannie". Finds Priaeus interesting; observes diggings made by Professor Schleman in Greek temples; King and Queen of Greece to visit USS TRENTON on March 26; outlines history of the Greek culture. (letter incomplete)

- 1878 Apr. 22. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Villefranche, to "Nannie". (Letter partially tipped in) USS TRENTON held a reception, at which 250 people

Folder 5 (Cont'd)

attended; Countess of Boëxeuhedden formerly Miss McKnight of New Jersey in attendance; receives invitation from the Countess to visit her at her villa.

1878 May 3. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Villefranche, to "Nannie". Exposition of Paris opens; war news very sparse; French Fleet leaves harbor; expects Captain Richard S. Collum, USMC, any day.

May 4. Mentions Captain Louis E. Fagan, USMC.

1878 May 28. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Spezzia, Italy, to "Nannie". Left Villefranche on May 27; will remain at Spezzia for 14 days; may go to Pisa for visit; notes that Congress of Berlin is to meet on June 11.

1878 June 27. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Livirino, Italy, to "Nannie". Description of the City of Livirino; description of female bathing suits; tours for the populace being conducted aboard the USS TRENTON; pleased with learning how to read and speak French.

1878 July 8. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Leghorn, Italy, to "Nannie". Believes Washington, D. C. to be his next duty station; mentions clothing worn; meets Captain Alexander A. Semmes, USN; (letter incomplete)

1878 Sep. 7. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Southhampton, England, to "Nan". Notes death of Lieutenant John A. Rodgers' brother; description of countryside; intends to visit London.

1878 Dec. 22. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Naples, Italy, to "Nannie". Description of city of Naples; description of Pompei and its destruction; impressed by the Museum associated with the restoration of Pompei.

Folder 6

- 1879 Jan. 7. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Villefranche, to "Nannie". Attends inspection of USS ENTERPRISE with Admiral William E. LeRoy; notes threat of smallpox in port; received card from Mrs. (Dr.) Mayo of China.
- 1879 Feb. 26. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Villefranche, to "Nan". Description of carnival held in Nice, Feb. 23-25; expects to go to Egypt.
- 1879 Mar. 16. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Naples, Italy, to "Nan". Description of Mt. Vesuvius; describes "Blue Grotto" on Isle of Capri, Campo Santo (burying ground) and its unique function, and the city of Naples.
- 1879 Apr. 12. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Villefranche, to "Nannie". Notes sale of ship GETTYSBURG at Geneoa, Italy; met Dr. and Mrs. Mayo in Geneoa.
- 1879 May 26. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Marseilles, France, to "Nannie". Description of Marseilles. (letter incomplete)
- 1879 July 24. Tilton, USS TRENTON, at sea, off coast of Schleswig-Holstein, to "Nannie". Description of gale encountered by USS TRENTON; account of plight of English ship during gale; USS TRENTON headed for Copenhagen. (letter incomplete)
- 1879 Aug. 1. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Copenhagen, Denmark, to "Nan". Sightseeing in city; mentions "notebook" he is keeping; sailing for Gravesend on the morrow; rumor is that the USS CONSTELLATION will transport them home; visits "Tivoli" - the public garden; description and drawing of "Russian Railway", an amusement ride in the "Tivoli"; comments on the three hour nights in the Northern Hemisphere.

Folder 6 (Cont'd)

- Aug. 4. (continued) USS TRENTON at entrance to Thames River, England; expects to visit London.
- 1879 Sep. 25. Tilton, USS TRENTON, at sea, to "Nannie". Headed for Nice, France; celebrating his 43rd birthday this date; rumor still persists that USS CONSTELLATION will transport them back to the United States.
- 1879 Oct. 4. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Villefranche, to "Nannie". Notes that family has returned to Annapolis, Md.; attended Admiral Wm. E. LeRoy on inspection of USS QUINNEBAUG and USS ENTERPRISE.
- 1879 Oct. 28. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Villefranche, to "Nannie". Returning to United States by way of Bermuda; will transfer to USS CONSTELLATION; account of Jewish wedding at Villefranche.
- 1879 Nov. 5. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Villefranche, to "Nannie". USS CONSTELLATION may reach Gibraltar by Nov. 25 - 27; USS TRENTON leaving for Gibraltar on Nov. 15; attends various dinners at Nice; attended fete of Prince of Monaco.
- 1879 Nov. 19. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Gibraltar, to "Nannie". Arrived Gibraltar at 1100 am; awaiting arrival of USS CONSTELLATION; description of Gibraltar.
- 1879 Dec. 7. Tilton, USS TRENTON, Gibraltar, to "Nannie". USS CONSTELLATION arrived Dec. 3; transfer for going home now underway.
- 1879 Dec. 12. Tilton, USS CONSTELLATION, Gibraltar, to "Nannie". USS CONSTELLATION prepared to get underway; USS WYOMING may tow them out of Strait of Gibraltar; USS TRENTON underway for Nice; expects to go to New York.

McLANE TILTON PAPERS

(P. C. 122)

1885 - 1888

OFFICIAL LETTERS

## OFFICIAL LETTERS

### Folder 7

- 1885 Nov. 13. Charles G. McCawley, Colonel Commandant, HQMC, Washington, D. C., to Captain McLane Tilton, Commanding Marines, Annapolis, Md.  
re: detached from MB, Annapolis, Md., when relieved by Captain Robert W. Huntington, USMC; to proceed to Warrington, Fla., to command Marines at station.
- 1885 Nov. 23. Charles G. McCawley, Colonel Commandant, HQMC, Washington, D. C., to Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, Annapolis, Md.  
re: USS BROOKLYN returning from Newport, to pick up detachment headed for Navy Yard Pensacola about 27 November; passage should take about nine days; Captain Tilton to leave Annapolis in time to insure arrival Pensacola in advance of detachment.
- 1885 Nov. 26. (Telegram) (?) Lowry (?), Washington, D. C., to Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, Annapolis, Md.  
re: directed by Department not to send you to Pensacola.
- 1885 Nov. 28. Charles G. McCawley, Colonel Commandant, HQMC, Washington, D. C., to Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, Annapolis, Md.  
re: order of 13th instant, directing removal to Pensacola, revoked by direction of Secretary of the Navy.
- 1885 Nov. 28. (Telegram) Charles G. McCawley, Colonel Commandant, to Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, Annapolis, Md. Time: 1313  
re: orders to Pensacola revoked, acknowledge.

Folder 7 (Cont'd)

- 1886     Jan. 4. Charles G. McCawley, Colonel Commandant, USMC, HQMC, Washington, D. C., to Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, Annapolis, Md. re: proceed to Brooklyn, N. Y., report to Commandant of the Navy Yard, for duty as command of the guard of the USRS VERMONT, relieving 1st Lieutenant George R. Benson.
- 1886     Mar. 10. Charles G. McCawley, Colonel Commandant, USMC, HQMC, Washington, D. C., to Captain McLane Tilton, Commanding Marines, USRS VERMONT, Navy Yard, New York, N. Y. re: extending term of shore-service to 1 April 1887.
- 1886     June 16. Ralph Chandler, Commodore, Commandant, Navy Yard, New York, N. Y., to Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, USRS VERMONT, Navy Yard, N. Y.  
re: report to Lieutenant Commander John C. Rich, USN, to assist in transfer of men from USRS VERMONT to Annapolis, Md.
- 1888     Mar. 29. Charles G. McCawley, Colonel Commandant, USMC, HQMC, Washington, D. C., to Captain (Major) McLane Tilton, USMC, Commanding Marine Guard, USRS VERMONT, Navy Yard, New York.  
re: Captain (Major) Tilton detached from USRS VERMONT when relieved by Captain Edward P. Meeker, USMC, and will proceed to Annapolis, Md., to await orders to Norfolk, Va.

McLANE TILTON PAPERS

(P. C. 122)

1875 - 1914

MISCELLANEOUS

## MISCELLANEOUS

### Folder 8

- 1875 PAMPHLETS: Two (2) - "Internal Regulations of the U. S. Marine Barracks at Annapolis, Md. . . . Capt. M'L. Tilton, Comd'd. . . .1875"
- 1878 July 1. General Orders - issued by Francis M. Ramsay, Superintendent. Refers to regulations of the U. S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.
- 1885 Nov. 20. Receipt for "Target Practice" ordnance issued to Captain Robert W. Huntington, USMC, on the 20th day of November, 1885, by Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, for use of the Marine Guard at Annapolis, Md.
- 1885 Nov. 20. Two (2) - Receipt for Issues to Captain Robert W. Huntington, USMC, on the 20th day of November, 1885, from Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, at Annapolis, Md., of ordnance and ordnance stores. Duplicate.
- 1885 Nov. 20. Receipt for Arms & Accouterments issued to Captain Robert W. Huntington, USMC, on the 20th day of November, 1885, by Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, for use of the Marine Guard at Annapolis, Md.
- 1885 Nov. 20. Receipt for Public Property issued to Captain Robert W. Huntington, USMC, on the 20th day of November, 1885, by Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, for use of the Marine Guard of Annapolis, Md.
- 1885 Nov. 20. Receipt for Clothing issued to Captain Robert W. Huntington, USMC, on the 20th day of November, 1885, by Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, for use of the Marine Guard at Annapolis, Md.

Folder 8 (Cont'd)

- 1886 Apr. 20. Invoice of Clothing transferred by Captain Richard S. Collum, Assistant Quartermaster, USMC, to Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, USS VERMONT, on the 20th day of April, 1886.
- 1886 Aug. 7. Invoice of Clothing transferred by Captain Richard S. Collum, Assistant Quartermaster, USMC, to Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, USS VERMONT, on the 7th day of August, 1886.
- 1886 Sep. 28. Invoice of Clothing transferred by Captain Richard S. Collum, Assistant Quartermaster, USMC, to Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, USS VERMONT, on the 28th day of September, 1886.
- 1886 Oct. 7. Receipt for Clothing transferred by Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, to 1st Lieutenant William F. Spicer, USMC, for the use of the Marine Guard, USS ATLANTA (2nd Rate).
- 1886 Oct. 7. Receipt for Issues to 1st Lieutenant William F. Spicer, USMarCorps, USS ATLANTA (2nd Rate), on the 7th day of October, 1886, from Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, USRS VERMONT, of ordnance and ordnance stores.
- 1886 Nov. 2. Invoice of ordnance and ordnance stores turned over by Captain Robert L. Meade, USMC, Marine Barracks, Navy Yard, New York, to Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, at USRS VERMONT, on the 2nd day of November, 1886, in obedience to verbal orders from Major & Brevet Lieutenant Colonel Charles Heywood, USMC.
- 1886 Nov. 2. Invoice of Arms & Accoutrements transferred this 2nd of November, 1886, by Captain Robert L. Meade, USMC, at Marine Barracks, Navy Yard, New York, to Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, Commanding Marine Guard, USRS VERMONT.

Folder 8 (Cont'd)

- 1886 Nov. 19. Invoice of ordnance and ordnance stores turned over by Captain Robert L. Meade, USMC, Marine Barracks, Navy Yard, New York, to Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, at USRS VERMONT, on the 19th day of November, 1886, in obedience to verbal orders from Major & Brevet Lieutenant Colonel Charles Heywood, USMC.
- 1886 Dec. 7. Invoice of Clothing transferred by Captain Richard S. Collum, Assistant Quartermaster, USMC, to Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, USS VERMONT, on the 7th day of December, 1886.
- 1887 Jan. 11. Invoice of Clothing transferred by Captain Richard S. Collum, Assistant Quartermaster, USMC, to Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, USS VERMONT, on the 11th day of January, 1887.
- 1887 Apr. 4. Invoice of Clothing transferred by Captain Richard S. Collum, Assistant Quartermaster, USMC, to Captain McLane Tilton, USS VERMONT, on the 4th day of April, 1887.
- 1887 Aug. 16. Invoice of Clothing transferred by Captain Richard S. Collum, Assistant Quartermaster, USMC, to Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, USS VERMONT, on the 16th day of August 1887.
- 1887 Aug. 25. Invoice of Clothing transferred by Captain Richard S. Collum, Assistant Quartermaster, USMC, to Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, USS VERMONT, on the 25th day of August, 1887.
- 1887 Oct. 11. Invoice of Clothing transferred by Captain Richard S. Collum, Assistant Quartermaster, USMC, to Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, USS VERMONT, on the 11th day of October, 1887.

Folder 8 (Cont'd)

- 1887 Oct. 25. Invoice of Clothing transferred by Captain Richard S. Collum, Assistant Quartermaster, USMC, to Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, USS VERMONT, Brooklyn, on the 25th day of October, 1887.
- 1887 Dec. 13. Invoice of Arms and Accouterments transferred this 13 December, 1887, by Captain Louis E. Fagan, USMC, at League Island, Pa., to Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, Commanding Marine Guard, USRS VERMONT.
- 1887 Dec. 13. Invoice of Accouterments & etc. transferred this 13 December, 1887, by Captain Louis E. Fagan, USMC, at League Island, Pa., to Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, Commanding Marine Guard, USRS VERMONT.
- 1887 Dec. 20. Invoice of Clothing transferred by Captain Richard S. Collum, Assistant Quartermaster, USMC, to Captain McLane Tilton, USMC, USS VERMONT, on the 20th day of December, 1887.
- 1888 Apr. 3. PLACARD: Farewell to Major McLane Tilton, April 3, 1888, USRS VERMONT. Menu for farewell dinner given Tilton.
- 1891 Apr. 15. APPLICATION: to membership as a Companion of the First-Class in the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States.
- 1914 Feb. 4. IN MEMORIAM NOTICE: Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States. Circular No. 7, Series of 1914, Whole No. 1128.

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- Lewis Randolph Hamersly, Records of Living Officers of the U. S. Navy & Marine Corps, 4th ed., Philadelphia: Hamersly & Company, 1890.
- Robert Debs Heinl, Soldiers of the Sea: The United States Marine Corps, 1775-1962, Annapolis: United States Naval Institute, 1962.
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- Carolyn A. Tyson. Marine Amphibious Landings in Korea, 1871, Washington, D. C., Naval Historical Foundation, 1965.
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