

American Antiquarian Society

Manuscript Collections

---

Name of collection:

Castanis, Christophorus Plato, Letters, 1840-1851

Location:

Octavo volumes "C"

---

Size of collection:

2 octavo volumes

N.U.C.M.C. number:

RLIN id:

---

Sources of information on collection:

---

Source of collection:

Gift of Nathaniel Paine, 1864

---

Collection description:

Christophorus Plato Castanis (1814- ) was a Greek lecturer in the United States during the 1840s and at the beginning of the 1850s. He spoke on subjects relating to ancient and modern Greece. He was a native of the island of Scio in the Aegean Sea and was a survivor of the massacre of that island's populace by the Turks in 1822. He was brought to this country when a youth by Doctor Howe of Boston and appears to have studied at Amherst College. In 1844, he married Rutha Heard Clark (1817- ) of Worcester, Mass. He lectured at a great number of churches, schools, colleges, and lyceums throughout the country. In 1851, Castanis left the United States to return to Greece.

This collection consists of letters of recommendation and introduction for Castanis. These letters, written by many men, testify to Castanis' character, intellect, and ability to deliver lectures. The collection also contains letters written to Castanis. For the most part, these letters express appreciation for his lectures.

28 January 1975  
revised 10 February 1999