

# Swift, Hallett, Account Book

Hallett Swift Account Book

1837-1847



## Title Statement

Swift, Hallett, Account BookHallett Swift Account Book, 1837-1847 Ms.1988.106

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## Publication Statement

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## Profile Description

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**Descriptive Rules:** Describing Archives: A Content Standard

## Descriptive Summary

### Unit ID

Ms.1988.106

### Unit Date

1837-1847

### Language

The materials in the collection are English.

### Abstract

This collection consists of a single account book, apparently maintained by Hallett Swift, of Wareham, Massachusetts, detailing sales of produce (chiefly corn and potatoes) and other goods, with credits to customers for cash, goods, labor and services. Also used as recipe book, featuring both handwritten and clipped recipes.

### Creator

Swift, Hallett, 1802-1886

### Extent

0.2 Cubic Feet 1 box

### Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

# Administrative Information

## Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

## Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

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## Source of Acquisition

The Hallett Swift Account Book was purchased by Special Collections in 1988.

## Processing Information

The processing and description of the Hallett Swift Account Book commenced and was completed in May 2011. The item had originally been accessioned and cataloged as "Massachusetts Day Book." It was also known as "New Bedford, Massachusetts Day Book."

## Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Hallett Swift Account Book, Ms1988-106, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

# Biographical Note

Hallett Swift, son of Ezra and Lucy Swift, was born in Wareham (Plymouth County), Massachusetts on September 14, 1802. Swift married Mary Elizabeth Peckham (born 1810) on February 6, 1832. The couple remained in the Wareham area and had seven children (Francis, Henry, Sarah, Lucy, Hallet, Harriet, and David). Various sources indicate that Swift was a ship captain. The 1850 census lists Hallett Swift as a 48-year-old sailor, living in Wareham with 40-year-old wife Mary and four Swift children, all born in Massachusetts. The 1860 census lists a 50-year-old Sarah A. B. Rothburn operating a boarding house in Wareham. Also within the household are Sarah Hattie, and Hallett Swift, presumably her children.

Swift died on June 19, 1886, and is buried in Centre Cemetery, Wareham.

Source: "Capt Hallett Swift," Findagrave.com, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/102790606/hallett-swift>, accessed Dec. 14, 2022.

# Scope and Content

This collection consists of a single account book, apparently maintained by Hallett Swift, of Wareham, Massachusetts. The ledger details sales of produce (consisting largely of corn and potatoes) and other goods. Included are the names of buyers, dates of purchases, goods purchased and prices paid. The entries also detail credits in the form of cash, goods, labor, and services. The ledger also contains an account of expenses incurred in traveling to Ohio, apparently to settle affairs of the estate of Swift's brother-in-law, Robinson E. Peckham (1807-1839). The latter part of the volume has been used as a recipe book, in which are glued more than 200 recipes, mostly for desserts, clipped from newspapers. Also included are several handwritten recipes.

# Keywords

Account books

History of Food and Drink

# Rights Statement for Archival Description

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# Description of Subordinate Components

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**Account book**

**Unit Date** 1837-1847

**box** 1