

BETWEEN THE COVERS RARE BOOKS

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(Louis Bevier, and Others)

Photographs of the Louis Bevier Family and Farm of New Paltz, New York, including several photographs of African-Americans, together with Manuscript Record and Ledger Books of the Bevier and Other Founding Patentee Families of New Paltz (circa 1860s - 1915)

(New York): (circa 1860s - 1915)

\$8,000



A family archive consisting of over 300 photographs, 7 manuscript ledger books, 1 scrapbook, along with genealogical charts and related letters and documents. The photographs present a wide range of many beautifully composed images of three generations of the Bevier family and farm, including several late 19th century descendants of African slaves, located in New York's Hudson River Valley just south of the Catskill Mountains. The family patriarch Louis Bevier was among the original group of French Huguenots (known as the New Paltz Patentees) to settle in the area after they purchased nearly 40,000 acres of land from the Esopus tribe. The Bevier Stone House (first built around 1680 and now a house museum on the National Register of Historic Places), was expanded and operated by Bevier's son as part of a large farm. Located six miles south of Kingston, it served as the first "safe house" following the burning of Kingston by the British in 1777, and the estate remained in family hands through eight generations until the mid-1930s.



Among the photographs are studio portraits of three generations of Bevier family members and relatives from other Huguenot and Dutch families, along with many indoor and outdoor snapshots of the everyday working and social life at the estate. Among these are 12 images of African-American men and women, several of whom appear to be fully integrated into the working and social activities of the estate, and including two prints of a prominent young African-American man standing in front of his house. Also included are topographical views of the Bevier estate and surrounding hamlets in and around the town of New Paltz and elsewhere in Ulster County. The earlier photographs include cartes de visite, tintypes, cabinet cards and other albumen prints; the later photographs include collodion, platinum, and gelatin silver prints. Many are mounted on studio mounts or custom made mounts, and are identified with captions on the backs. Several of the later platinum and gelatin silver prints (circa 1890-1915) are loose, and over 100 prints are laid-down in three photograph albums. The photographs are very good overall, with scattered light dry-white spotting to the black paper leaves in two albums.



In 1712 Louis Bevier's property was assessed at 300 pounds, making him the wealthiest man in New Paltz. The manuscript family record and ledger books and related material document the genealogy and history of the Bevier and several other prominent French and Dutch families whose descendants married one another. Among these are the DuBois and Hardenberg families, the two largest slave-owning families in the New Paltz community according to a 1755 census. The Hasbrouck and Elting families also figure prominently in the ledger books. Several ledgers are made up with multiple overlain sheets with tipped-in and laid-in manuscript notes and letters, and several articles clipped from the *New-Paltz Independent*. Most of the ledgers span the years from the beginning of the settlement in the 1670s through the 1860s, and all show signs of heavy use.



A compelling and historically important archive documenting the lives of this tightly-knit French Huguenot and Dutch farming community whose unique history has been much celebrated and studied in recent times.

A detailed list follows:

I. Photographs

Maria Elting Bevier

(1785-1859): wife of Louis Bevier (1779-1826)

-1 mounted portrait (R.M. Boggs, Photographer, New-Brunswick, N.J.)

Louis Bevier and Catherine Van Dyck Bevier (10 prints)

Louis Bevier (1822-1911):

-2 mounted portraits, circa 1870.

Catherine Van Dyck (1824-1885):

-3 cartes de visite; 5 mounted portraits (circa 1870-76).

Louis Bevier and May Deling Bevier (7 prints)

Louis Bevier (b. 1857, twin sister Katherine):

-3 mounted prints; 1 cabinet card.

May Deling Bevier

-2 cabinet cards; 3 mounted platinum prints (incl. two gold-toned).

Katherine Bevier and Louise C. Pettingell (22 prints)

Katherine Bevier "Aunt Katherine" (twin brother Louis Bevier):

-4 cabinet cards; 1 carte de visite; 4 mounted collodian prints; 2 mounted gelatin silver prints; 1 gold-toned platinum print; 2 early albumen prints (incl. a group outside) marked "K.B." (Miss Bevier).

Louise C. Pettingell

-3 cabinet cards, 1 carte de visite, 2 mounted prints; and 2 loose platinum prints of Louise and Katherine together.

Margaret Bevier "Aunt Maggie" (8 prints)

-1 tintype, 3 cartes de visite; 2 cabinet cards; 2 mounted gelatin silver prints.

Marie L. Bevier "Aunt Marie" (17 prints)

-5 tintypes, 7 cartes de visite, 2 cabinet cards; 1 mounted collodian and 1 mounted gelatin silver print; 1 loose platinum print.

Louis Bevier, May Margaret Bevier, and Elizabeth R. Bevier (18 prints).

Other Bevier Family members and Relatives (18 prints)

-11 cartes de visite and 7 cabinet cards: various members of the Bevier, Hasbrouck, Van Dyck, DuBois families (and other New Paltz families).

The Bevier House and vicinity (15 prints)

-About 10 mounted and 5 loose prints (including a few



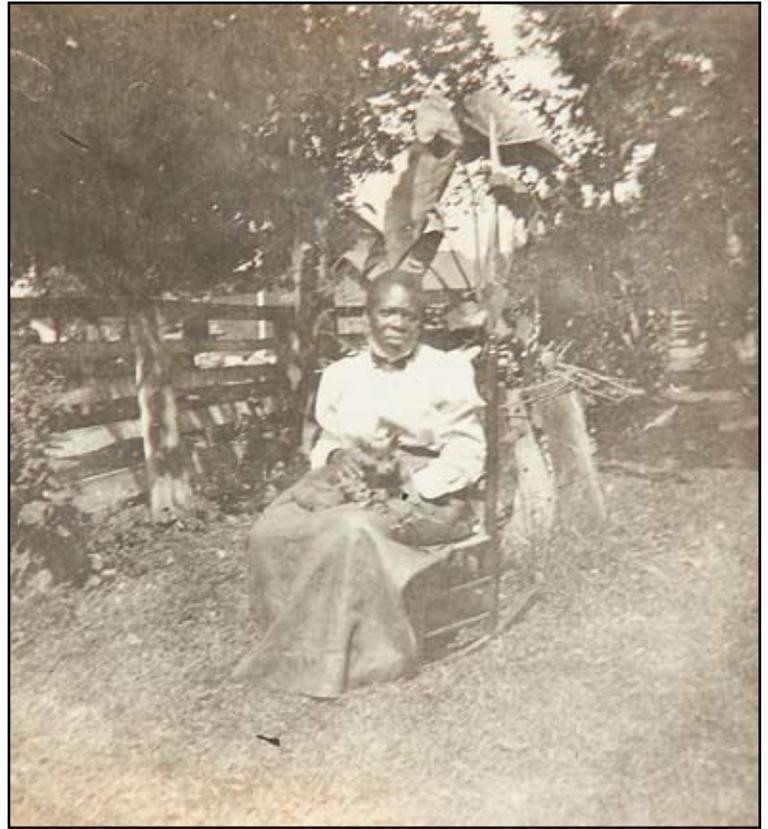
duplicate and variant images). Several images of the Bevier house and of groups of people in front of the house, including African-Americans.

[Two photo albums]: The Bevier House and vicinity, c. 1910-15 (116 prints)

Oblong octavos (8" x 5½"). Black cloth over stiff boards with thick black paper leaves. Scattered dry white spotting, else very good. The albums contain 56 and 55 prints respectively (laid-down) and 5 loose prints laid-in: outdoor and indoor snapshots of various Bevier family members, African-Americans, and neighbors at and about the house and estate, along with some views of the surrounding countryside, hamlets, and the Esopus creek.

[Photo album]: New Paltz and vicinity, c. 1910-15 (12 prints)

Oblong octavo (9" x 6½"). Modern stiff textured paper with brown paper leaves, string-tied. Contains 10 gelatin silver prints and 2 real photo post cards: views of Huguenot buildings and surrounding countryside.



II. Family Documents

Bevier Family Record and Ledger Book

Thick quarto (8¼" x 10¼"). Half leather and marbled paper over boards. Manuscript genealogical lists, notes, and related entries throughout and on several slips of paper tipped-in and laid-in. Also includes one ALS from Ralph Lefevre, editor and proprietor of the *New-Paltz Independent*. Most entries span the years from the beginning of the settlement through the 1860s.

Family Record and Ledger Book: Bevier Family and other French and Dutch families of New Paltz
-Tall octavo (6" x 10"). Manuscript genealogical lists, notes, and related entries spanning the years from the beginning of the settlement through about 1840.



DuBois Family Record and Ledger Book:
-Tall folio (5" x 11½"). Manuscript genealogical lists and notes throughout, including additional materials laid-in, spanning the years from the founding of the settlement through the 1860s.

Hasbrouck, DuBois, Freer, Broadhead (et. al.) Family Record and Ledger Book:
-Quarto (8½" x 11"). Ledger made-up with several overlain sheets and paper slips. Manuscript genealogical lists, notes, and related entries throughout and on several slips of paper tipped-in and laid-in. Also includes several newspaper clippings from the *New-Paltz Independent*: (obituaries and other articles, most dating from the 1890s, relating to several of the families in the ledger). Most entries span the years from the beginning of the settlement to about 1800. An early paper sheet pasted on the back of the volume records an: "Indian Attack Wil-wyck June 7, 1663 / Soldiers returned to W: Sep.

7, 1663 with all the captives at fort New Amsterdam Surrendered to Col. [Polls?] Aug. 2, 1664 / Peace July 26, 1667 ..."

Hardenbergh, DuBois, and Broadhead Family Record and Ledger Book

-Octavo (5½" x 8"). Ledger made-up from ruled sheets and sheets of printed stationary dating from the 1890s. Manuscript genealogical lists, notes, and related entries throughout, and on several slips of paper tipped-in, spanning the years from about 1700 through the 1860s. According to a 1755 census the largest slave owners in the New Paltz community were Solomon DuBois and Abraham Hardenbergh.

DuBois, Elting, and several other French and Dutch Families: Record and Ledger Book

-Tall Folio (8" x 14"). Ledger made-up of numerous sheets over-lain upon the leaves of a printed book dating from the 1860s. Manuscript genealogical lists, notes, and related entries throughout, along with several slips of paper and newspaper clippings from the *New-Paltz Independent* tipped-in, spanning the years from the beginning of the settlement through the 1860s.

Deed Book (removed sheets)

Small quarto (6" x 8"). Eight ruled sheets with manuscript entries on both sides, fastened together with a pin. Manuscript record of Deeds.

Scrapbook

-Quarto (9" x 11½"). Numerous articles from the *New-Paltz Independent* dating from the 1890s, laid-down on the sheets of a printed book (Monteith's Physical and Political Geography).



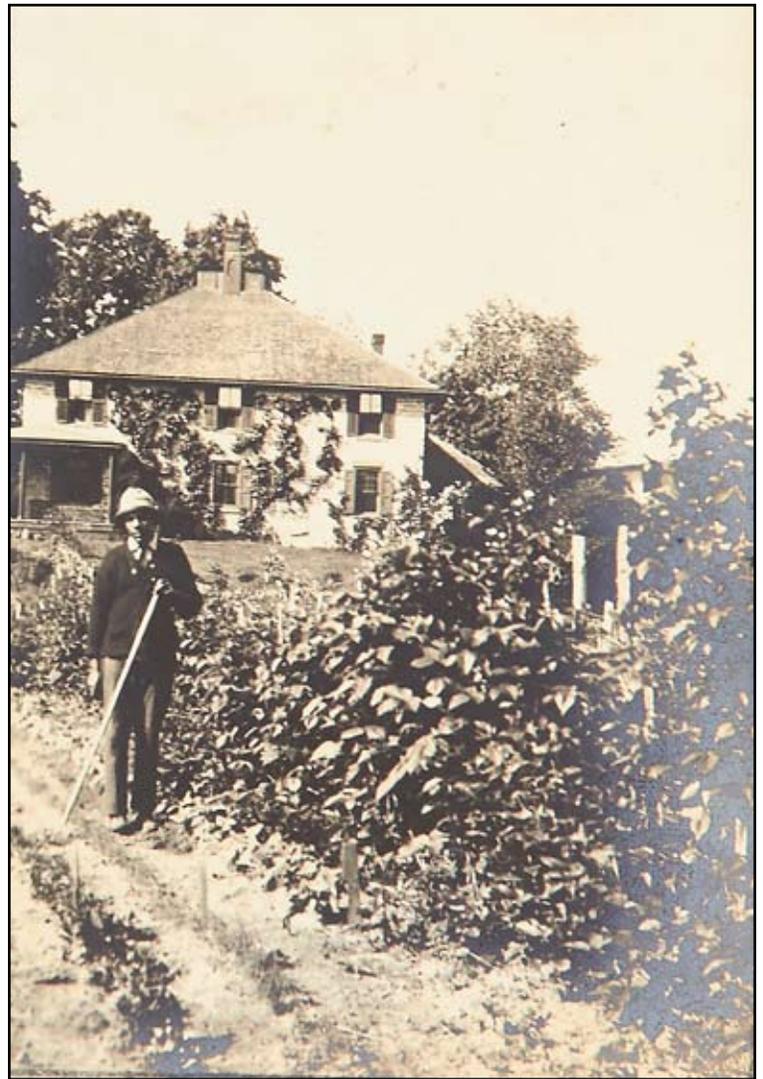
Autographs: Louis Bevier (circa 1750-1769)
-Four clipped signatures of "Louis Bevier" (circa 1750-1769), including one without a date.

Selected Correspondence

-B.H. Bevier to Louis Bevier (1877)
[4 ALS]. Octavos (each 3 or 4 pages). Two letters from B.H. Bevier (of Highland, N.Y.) to Louis Bevier (February 27 and March 15, 1877). Each with an accompanying ALS from Edward B. Humphries from Brooklyn, N.Y. (February 26 and March 13, 1877). B.H. Bevier asks Louis Bevier if he would send family documents to Humphries to aid his researches into "unclaimed estates of Louis Bevier," the Bevier family genealogy (extending back to France and Normandy), and also "to the possibility of connecting Louis Bevier and the property in question with the Massacre of St. Bartholomew."



-Ralph Lefevre to Louis Bevier (1896)
[ALS]. Octavo, 1p. New Paltz Independent, New Paltz, NY: January 17, 1896. Lefevre asks if Bevier would



write a sketch of the Bevier family history for a series of articles on the history of the founding Patentees' families of New Paltz.

-Matt Julien to Miss Bevier (1903)
[ALS]. Octavo, 2pp. Mitchell House, Ellenville, N.Y.: July 28, 1903. Julien asks for help regarding his research into the Fantinekill Massacre of May 4, 1779. On that day members of the Bevier family and Sax family were "massacred by Tories and Indians."

Bevier Family Genealogical Chart: 1st through 8th generations.

Written in manuscript on four large graph paper sheets neatly pasted together.

Bevier Family Records: about 30 photographic facsimiles of Bevier Family documents and artifacts dating back to the 17th century.

Genealogical Chart of the Martens Cornelise von Ysselstein Family. Several typescript sheets neatly pasted together. [BTC#396301]

