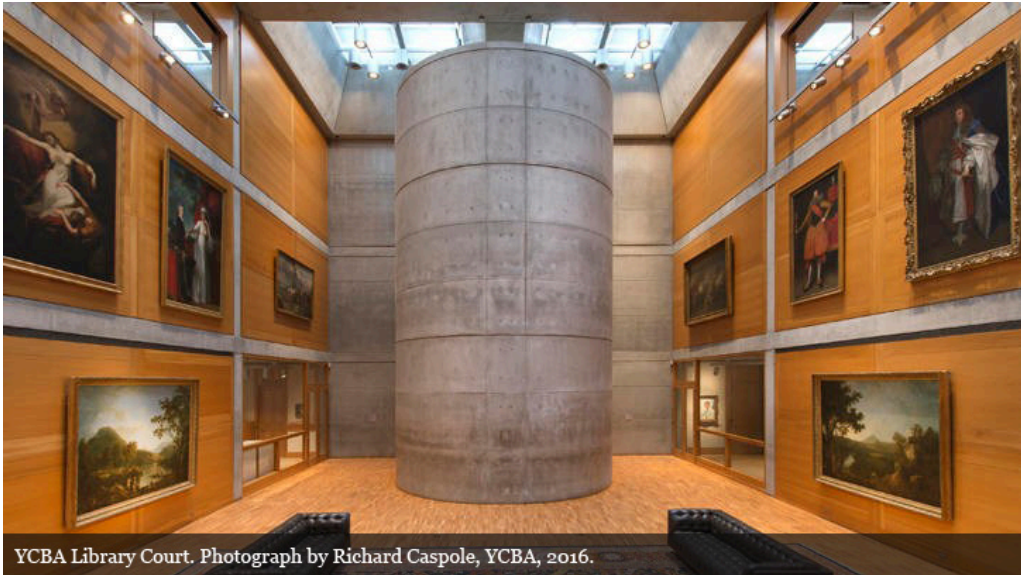


Edwin Augustus Porcher Collection

MSS 38



YCBA Library Court. Photograph by Richard Caspole, YCBA, 2016.

compiled by Julia Lum

July, 2014

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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	3
Requesting Instructions	3
Administrative Information	3
Custodial History	3
Conditions Governing Access	4
Conditions Governing Use	4
Related Materials	4
Biographical / Historical	6
Scope and Contents	9
Primary Sources	9
Secondary / Historical Background	10
Arrangement	11
Collection Contents	12
Series I. Drawings	12
Drawings from the HMS Cleopatra	12
Drawings from the HMS Hibernia	27
Drawings in North Africa (associated with the Nathan Davis expedition)	40
Series II. Diary and logbooks	48
Series III. Miscellaneous	52
Selected Search Terms	56

Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Yale Center for British Art, Rare Books and Manuscripts
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New Haven, CT 06520-8280
ycba.rarebooks@yale.edu
<https://britishart.yale.edu/about-us/departments/rare-books-and-manuscripts>

CALL NUMBER: MSS 38

CREATOR: Porcher, Edwin A., 1824-1878

TITLE: Edwin Augustus Porcher Collection

DATES: 1849-1861

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 6 linear feet

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The collection comprises the drawings, diary, and log books of Edwin Augustus Porcher, from tours of duty to South and East Asia (1849-1853) aboard the HMS Cleopatra and the Mediterranean and North Africa (1857-60) aboard the HMS Hibernia, HMS Kertch and HMS Boxer.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/ycba.mss.0038>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use on site, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/ycba.mss.0038>.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box

Administrative Information

Custodial History

E.A. Porcher donated 16 drawings related to his Cyrene expedition to the British Museum in 1865. He left his remaining papers and watercolor works to Lieut. Col. Cecil Du Pre Penton Powney (b. 1862), his sister's surviving son, who donated views, plans and elevations from the Cyrene expedition to the British Museum in 1894. The remaining manuscripts and drawings were inherited by Powney's daughter, Beryl Wyndham Powney (c. 1896 -1976). Several components of the Porcher collection were sold by private dealers beginning in the 1970s (see 'Related Archival Materials Note' for Porcher holdings in other institutional collections).

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The collection is the physical property of the Yale Center for British Art. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the Curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts.

Related Materials

The preparatory watercolor for a frontispiece, "Sketches taken during my voyages & travels. E.A. Porcher" (see: Series III Miscellaneous) suggests that Porcher intended to publish a set of watercolors representative of his entire body of work. In the 1970s, the Porcher collection was sold in separate lots to various repositories. As the YCBA's collection is mounted and labeled in an identical manner to other collections of Porcher material, these collections will be briefly outlined below.

National Library of Australia, Canberra

Call numbers: NLA MS 4602

Comprises: 30 watercolors; official logs of HMS Prince George (247 pages) and HMS Fly (219 pages); 4to private journal (66 pages); 8vo extract from an exercise book giving the dimensions of the HMS Fly and daily positions of the voyage from England to Van Diemen's Land, Sydney and back to Plymouth; certificate of official appointment of Porcher as Mate dated June 8, 1844 (folded foolscap). Accessioned in 1972.

The HMS Fly completed the first hydrographic survey of the Northeastern Australian coast and offshore islands (1842-5). Porcher's journal describes making scientific and surveying observations in and around Van Diemen's Land (present-day Tasmania), up the coast of (present-day) Queensland, the Great Barrier Reef and the Torres Strait. There are also images of locations Porcher encountered en-route such as the Brazil coast, Java, New Guinea, Porto Praya and Madeira. He describes the establishment of astronomical and magnetic observations in Van Diemen's Land and at Cape Upstart. His watercolors include a depiction of Ross Observatory, Hobart, Van Diemen's Land and the stone lighthouse tower at Raine Island (Great Barrier Reef) erected by members of the Fly, Bramble and 20 convicts lent from New South Wales. Possibly with the instruction of the naturalist Joseph Beete Jukes, Porcher's journal pays particular attention to flora and fauna, especially species of trees and birds. Porcher's journal is valuable for its description of natural history and engagements with local Aboriginal tribes, particularly on the North-east coast of Australia.

Dahesh Museum of Art, Greenwich

Includes: 12 watercolors dating from 1847-1849; logbook from HMS Sidon steam frigate under Captain William Honyman Henderson during his tour of the Middle East; three letters written to his sister, Madelina, during the voyage. Porcher's watercolors represent monuments in Egypt (Pyramids at Giza, Cleopatra's needles, Pompey's Pillar) and coastal views of Morocco. It also depicts the harbor of Santa Lucia in Naples. The log book was removed from a larger volume (contiguous with the HMS Fly log at the National Library of Australia, which includes the first page of the Sidon log). His letters to Madelina indicate that the ship's party visited monuments such as St. Paul's, the Arch of Constantine, Trajan's Pillar, and the Pyramid of Caius Cestus "where we remained some little time looking at the different relics that are supposed to have been brought from the Holy Land."

British Museum, Department of Greece and Rome

Call numbers: 1865,0208.618 - 1865,0208.633; 2012,5033.1-73

Comprises watercolor drawings from E.A. Porcher and R. Murdoch Smith's archaeological expedition to Cyrene (Libya) in 1860-1, some of which became the basis for engravings and lithographs in the publication *History of the Recent Discoveries at Cyrene made during an Expedition to the Cyrenaica in 1860-1* (London, 1864). Extant are 89 drawings on Whatman paper in three sizes (58 views and 31 plans). 16 of these were donated by Porcher to the British Museum in 1865 (5 watercolor views, 9 plans, 1 elevation, and 1 drawing of an inscription). The remaining 73 drawings (52 watercolor views, 20 plans, and 1 elevation) have been assigned new registration numbers by museum staff (2012,5033.1-73) (Celeste Farge, British Museum, Email Correspondence, May 20, 2013). A portion of these were donated to the Museum in 1894 by Cecil Du Pre Penton Powney (Porcher's nephew) and include Porcher's duplicates of drawings (with signature). A list on blue foolscap accompanying the watercolors identifies a total of 112 drawings, including a small sketchbook of 29 drawings from the Cyrene expedition. By all indications, the sketchbook was broken up and the drawings were individually mounted after it was obtained by the British Museum. Based on current holdings, some of the 112 watercolors are presumed lost (see Thorn 224). Unpublished illustrations fall under a numbering system (Porcher's system) as 87-137. The YCBA watercolors include a set numbered 70-86, possibly contiguous with the British Museum's watercolors.

The British Museum Central Archives has holdings including Smith and Porcher's letters from Cyrene to Charles Newton (Keeper, British Museum).

National Archives, Kew

Call number: MFQ 1/616

Comprises two portfolios of material related to Nathan Davis' excavations at Carthage. Includes Porcher's drawings, maps and plans: 'Plan of the peninsula of Carthage exhibiting the present excavations...': also showing Roman ruins above ground; large mosaic excavated at Carthage (now in British Museum); map of the peninsula of Carthage, showing the sites of excavations, ruins, the Lake of Tunis, roads, and terrain. All items were originally enclosed in despatches from Nathan Davis, 1857-1859.

British Columbia Archives, Victoria

Call numbers: PDP02857- PDP02884; C-05526; D-09121

Two views of Metlakatla (one a copy of a view in private collection) and an album containing 27 watercolors inscribed in ink and dated 1862-9. Duplication of subjects and compositions in the sketchbook indicates that some of these were preparatory versions for later works (now housed at the Beinecke Library). In 1863-4, Porcher produced images of the English south coast and Brazil (including Rio de Janeiro). He travelled through the Straits of Magellan and northwards up the coast of South America. After reaching Honolulu, Porcher sailed on to Esquimalt, Vancouver Island. Some of the 1866 views from these travels were engraved for the tenth and eleventh *Annual Report of the Columbia Mission* (1868 and 1869), which also gives an account of Porcher's visit north to the Tsimshian village and mission at Metlakatla. The collection was acquired in 1973.

Beinecke Library, New Haven

Call number: WA MSS S-1972

Comprises 53 watercolors dated April 1865 – September 1868, depicting subjects from Porcher's tour of duty to Esquimalt, the Royal Naval base on Vancouver Island, British Columbia aboard the HMS Sparrowhawk. Also includes: a journal, 240 pages, 8vo.; logbook 47 pages, 8vo.; and four documents commending Porcher's conduct, one of which promotes him to the standing of Captain, RN. The collection was acquired in 1972.

The Royal Navy was deployed in the Pacific to protect Britain's commercial and political interests in the Pacific, while also serving as diplomatic agents when necessary. A Crown colony of Vancouver Island was established to prevent American advancement into disputed territory and Esquimalt became the strategic base for British in the North Pacific. Porcher was made a magistrate so that he could arbitrate in disputes between tribal groups and the European populace (see E.A. Porcher journal, Beinecke

Library). His interest in Northwest Coast cultural expressions is evident in his watercolors, where he documents Haida, Tsimshian and Coast Salish totem poles and house posts.

Danforth Art Museum, Framingham

Consists of 57 watercolors gifted in 1976 and 1977 by Robert Pirie. Exhibited as "The Grand Tour, Watercolors by E.A. Porcher" at the Danforth Art Museum in 1977. These drawings date to Porcher's later years, after his retirement from the Royal Navy (1872). The images represent sites encountered during travels to European spa and resort towns, cultural monuments, fortifications, and beauty spots such as Lake Como, Drachenfels mountain (on the Rhine), and Isola Bella. The recorded sights in Germany, Belgium, Bohemia, Austria and Italy reveal Porcher's abiding interest in local history. He takes great interest, for instance, in the Wurtemberg fortifications at Ulm, Castle of Godesberg Bacharach, San Vitale at Ravenna, Church of Santa Maria Assunta, Ehrenbreitstein Fortress, Aix-La-Chapelle.

Photographic Collections

Photographs taken during Porcher and Smith's 10 month excavation in Cyrene are housed in London and Edinburgh, and comprise the earliest photographic views of the Necropolis at Cyrene. The London Album (British Museum) consists of 42 photographs. The Edinburgh Album (National Library of Scotland) consists of 38 photographs, and contains duplicates of the London album. See *History of the Recent Discoveries at Cyrene made during an Expedition to the Cyrenaica in 1860-1* (London 1864), for published versions of these photographs.

Biographical / Historical

Edwin Augustus Porcher (also sometimes cited as EDMUND Augustus Porcher) was born second son to Reverend George Porcher of Maiden Erlegh, Berks. and Francis Amelia Chamier, daughter of John Chamier, Esq. Porcher's paternal lineage can be traced to French Huguenot ancestry, in a line descending from the Counts of Richebourg. In the 17th century Isaac Porcher de Richebourg and his wife Claude Cherigny fled to South Carolina, then under British rule. The Porcher family remained in the American colonies as merchants for four generations. In 1768, James Du Pré Porcher settled in England, where he sired a son, Josias Du Pré Porcher, Esq. of Winslad House, Devonshire, who became MP for Old Sarum. The latter's eldest surviving son was Rev. George Porcher, who married Francis Amelia in 1818, and their two sons were George Du Pré Porcher, Esq., barrister, and Edwin Augustus Porcher (Baird 105). Porcher had many family connections to the Royal Navy: his maternal uncle was Commander Frederick Chamier RN, his paternal grandfather Admiral Sir William Burnaby, and his paternal uncle Henry Porcher, Esq., of Arborfield, Berks. (later MP for Clitheroe) (Naval Biographical Dictionary 915).

Some accounts report that Porcher entered the navy in 1837, the same year that the Royal Naval College at Portsmouth closed its doors. Though he may have had some training prior to 1837, it is likely that Porcher received much of his education directly at sea from a naval instructor through the "pitchfork system," which replaced formal naval training during this period (Dickinson 57). Like his forerunners, he would have studied arithmetic, Euclidean geometry, algebra, plane and spherical trigonometry, and the uses of instruments and projectiles. The new education system also introduced young sailors to the study of Classics in Latin and Greek. Had Porcher studied at the Royal Naval College, he likely would have been instructed in drawing by John Christian Schetky, a specialist in watercolors and a former marine painter to King George IV and King William IV (Dickinson 50). There is some evidence that Porcher drew from artist handbooks such as Samuel Prout's *Prout's Microcosm: The Artist's Sketch-book of Groups of Figures, Shipping, and other Picturesque Objects* (1841) (see the seated figure in "49. Raines Islet on the Great Barrier Reef [...] in the National Library of Australia collection).

After short training cruises as Volunteer First Class aboard vessels such as the Donegal, Porcher commenced his first tour of duty as Mate aboard the HMS Fly in 1842. The Fly and HMS Bramble embarked on a four year voyage to Australia, New Guinea, Malaysia, and Indonesia. Porcher accompanied the Fly on its scientific survey of the Northern Australian coastline, particularly the Great Barrier Reef and the Torres Strait. Naturalist Joseph Beete Jukes produced a Narrative of the Surveying Voyage of HMS Fly During the years 1842-1846. Porcher is sometimes recognized as the expedition's "unofficial" artist, involved in the

documentation of geological, zoological and anthropological information (Wright 276). The title of official draughtsman went to the artist Harden S. Melville, who published *Sketches in Australia and the Adjacent Islands, selected from a number taken during the surveying voyage of H.M.S. "Fly" and "Bramble" [...]*. The resemblance between their work suggests Porcher and Melville may have been close collaborators. A copy of Melville's book (now in a private collection) contains an inserted errata slip inscribed in Porcher's hand (Christie's Melbourne Auction Catalogue, excerpt in E.A. Porcher file, National Library of Australia). The notation identifies the names of the Islanders depicted in Plate 18 (which are not identified by the letterpress), which also suggests that Porcher was attuned to the identities of indigenous individuals he encountered on the voyage. Plates 18 and 20 of Melville's *Sketches in Australia and the Adjacent Islands* appear to correspond to figures pictured in a watercolor attributed to Porcher: "Pacific Ocean, a village in Treacherous Bay, Darnley Island" (National Library of Australia, Canberra).

Returning for a brief period to England in 1846, Porcher was advanced to Mate status in August of 1846, having passed his exams on the 8th of June 1844 (Nautical Standard and Steam Navigation Gazette 532). He departed for duty again on the steam frigate Sidon bound for the Mediterranean Sea and the Middle East on November 9, 1846. The Sidon performed basic patrol along the North African coast from Morocco to Egypt, also making trips to Cairo. By now an accomplished amateur scholar and draughtsman, Porcher took great interest in archaeological sites and cultural monuments, describing in letters to his sister such monuments as the Arch of Constantine, Trajan's Pillar, and the Pyramid of Caius Cestus. Twelve watercolors from this expedition, along with letters and a small log book, are in the private collection of Dr. Bob Brier. These images depict the pyramids of Cairo, Aboukir Castle, Cleopatra's Needles, and Pompey's Pillar, as well as coastal scenes of Morocco and the Bay of Naples (Bob Brier, email correspondence).

Porcher set sail on the HMS Cleopatra in May 1849, bound for South and East Asia (as 2nd Lieutenant under Captain Thomas L. Massie). During this tour, Porcher records excursions to Macau, Borneo, and the new treaty ports of Shanghai and Amoy. In his letters to his sister, Madelina, Porcher also indicates that he made two trips to Canton in the company of other officers, meeting with diplomatic officials on these occasions. The Cleopatra was stationed at Hong Kong during the transitional period between the first and second Opium Wars, when Britain's gunboats protected its trading interests and combatted piracy in the region. By the 1840s, large fleets of pirates were forming in the South China Seas, and the Royal Navy was dispatched to police the waters around Hong Kong and the Pearl River Delta. The region was at the crossroads of several shipping routes and became the refuge for smuggling and plundering. European involvement in these practices certainly did not help diplomatic relations with the Chinese (Christopher Munn, 72). The Royal Navy did not protect small Chinese merchant vessels, however it was willing to exterminate larger fleets if they were a threat to the British presence. Head money paid for every pirate captured was divided among officers and crew. Piracy increased in the 1850s due to an influx of populations from conflict-ridden Guangdong. The Royal Navy, along with Portuguese, American and Chinese forces, organized campaigns and bombardments of pirate fleets, sometimes destroying villages associated with pirate activity (Munn 245-246). The Cleopatra also patrolled the South China Sea, and was dispatched to Borneo to contend with the Iranun (Illanoon or Lanun) pirates, who had attacked the crew of the HMS Dolphin (see logbook, pages 29-44, and the watercolor "Skirmish with the Illanoon Pirates at Tooncoo on February 16th 1852").

In February of 1854, Porcher had a brief appointment aboard the steam ship Majestic out of Sheerness, under Captain James Hope, serving in the Baltic Sea. In the same year he was appointed to the screw steam Esk out of Portsmouth, under command of Thomas Birch (also in the Baltic). In 1855, at the height of the Crimean War, the Esk joined the Baltic fleet (of 105 vessels) to conduct naval operations, including the bombardment of Sweaborg, for which Porcher received the Baltic medal (Lambert 281-88; Obituary, "The Week's News," August 24, 1878, page 1071).

In February of 1857, Porcher was appointed First Lieutenant of the HMS Hibernia, a 104-gun flag ship stationed at Malta. He departed Southampton via the screw steam ship Colombo, arriving at Malta on March 1st. This was not Porcher's first visit at Malta, having previously docked there with the HMS Sidon in 1848. The history of the British occupation of Malta began in 1798, when Lord Nelson, commander of the British fleet, assisted in the overthrow of the French (who, under Napoleon, had overtaken the Order of St. John). Malta became a Crown Colony in 1813 and served as the central Mediterranean base of the British Empire and Navy. A campaign to "Anglicize" Malta emerged in the 1860s, when British naval supremacy

began to experience pressure from Prussia and particularly France, which began expanding its imperial ambitions in North Africa (Cassar 141-181). While stationed on the *Hibernia*, Porcher made a series of outbound trips aboard the *HMS Harpy*, the *HMS Kertch*, and the *HMS Boxer*. On May 1st, 1858, he was appointed to the command of the *Harpy*, a paddle wheel vessel, in lieu of the ailing Lieutenant Bruce. The *Harpy* and its crew were instrumental in assisting Nathan Davis in his archaeological excavations of Carthage and nearby remains, especially Utica, and transported the antique sculptures and mosaic pavements that Davis and his team unearthed. The 467 objects that were unearthed, including twenty-eight Roman mosaics dating from the late first to the mid sixth century AD and a number of Punic votive stelae, were transported to the British Museum on naval vessels. Five of Porcher's watercolors were published in Nathan Davis's *Carthage and Her Remains* (see watercolor descriptions). Aboard the *Kertch*, Porcher made four major outbound journeys: to "Leghorn" (Livorno) and Naples (October 29, 1859 - November 22, 1859); to Tunis (February, 1860); to Tunis, Bizerta, Tabakah (June 7, 1860 - July 4, 1860); and to Lata and Messina (July 21, 1860 - July 30, 1860). It appears that three of Porcher's watercolors from these journeys to North Africa illustrate Nathan Davis's travels through these regions, suggesting that Davis might have commissioned Porcher to complete these views retroactively: "70. Tunis. The Ruins of Baal Hammon Molech [...]," "71. The Mosque of Dowar-Eshutt [...]," and "75. Village of Camart [...]."

Porcher likely met Lieutenant Rupert Murdoch Smith of the Royal Engineers through Nathan Davis, Smith having just arrived in Malta from his excavations with the British Museum's Keeper of Antiquities, Charles Newton, at Halicarnassus and Cnidus (Thorn 17). Inspired by their recent archaeological activities, Porcher and Smith devised a plan to explore the ancient archaeological sites of Cyrene: "I have formed a project of going to examine Cyrene and the Pentapolis and hope to be able to carry it out. The only information about it is Captain Beechey's book... I should like to go and make plans of the principal sites between Cyrene and Bengazi but chiefly Cyrene itself" (R.M. Smith to Charles Newton, 18th May 1860, British Mus. G.R. Dept. Orig. Lett. II (1861-1868) fol. 705). The *Hibernia* log-book includes entries for the *HMS Boxer*, which took Porcher and Smith as far as Benghazi. Their self-funded ten month expedition yielded the earliest photographic views of the Necropolis at Cyrene and at least 89 drawings (views and plans), a number of which Porcher donated to the British Museum in 1865. Smith and Porcher arrived in Cyrene on Dec 23, 1860 and began clearing debris from rock-cut tombs, using a tomb near the Fountain of Apollo as their "tomb of residence", and a range of rock-cut chambers as kitchen, stables, and store rooms.

When the British Museum learned of Porcher and Smith's discoveries, the Trustees awarded them 100 pounds towards expenses and 500 pounds to hire a team of workmen to carry out more extensive excavations (see Thorn). 148 sculptures and sculptural fragments were retrieved at their dig sites, which forms an important component of the British Museum's antiquities collection. An illustrated publication of their expedition, *History of the Recent Discoveries at Cyrene Made During an Expedition to the Cyrenaica in 1860-61* was published by Day & Son in 1864. The lithographic plates are adapted from Porcher's watercolors, plans, and maps. In October 1861, Porcher sailed back to Malta via the *HMS Melpomene*, which also transported 63 cases of antiquities (22 cases were shipped with the *Assurance* in June 1861) (see log book, YCBA). There is indication that he was assigned to the *Hibernia* once more, and reported for duty on the *Bustler* and *Redpole*, steam tugs tendered to the *Hibernia* (Smith 5). As of 1861, Porcher was classified with the Transport Service Agents Afloat and on Dec 27 1861, he was appointed to rank of Commander.

Between 1862-3, Porcher produced images of Ireland and the English south coast. On January 12, 1863, he was elected Fellow of Royal Geographic Society (Athenaeum, January 17 1863, 89). He received his own command on March 4, 1865, becoming Captain of the *HMS Sparrowhawk*, based in the Northern Pacific station of Esquimalt, Vancouver Island, British North America. A ship's log indicates he traveled the customary trans-Atlantic route via Rio de Janeiro, with stops at Madeira, the Canaries and the Cape Verde Islands. The ship called at Valparaiso on the Chilean coast, which was the southern Pacific headquarters of the British Navy, and Callao, Peru. After reaching Hawaii, Porcher sailed on to the Pacific Northwest. A personal diary housed at the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library provides an account of Porcher's activities between March 9, 1865, and October 14, 1868.

Reproduced in its entirety (with edits and annotations) by Dwight L. Smith in *A Tour of Duty in the Pacific Northwest*, and in typed transcript form at the Beinecke (Box 5, folder 1), the diary chronicles Porcher's travels and relations with the local indigenous populations. In July of 1867, Porcher delivered a lecture at the Mechanics' Institute on the formation of coral reefs in Australia, demonstrating his interest in the

promotion of scientific knowledge: "Capt Porcher very minutely described the process, illustrating his lecture by chalk drawings on the blackboard... The lecturer was listened to with the greatest attention, and whenever a pause occurred the gratified audience loudly applauded" (*British Colonist*, July 31, 1867).

During this tour of duty, Porcher was given additional diplomatic responsibilities. He was invited by the Governor of Vancouver Island to investigate a property dispute between the Canadian Company and the Flume Company referred to by the local press as the "Grouse Creek War" (*British Colonist*, August 2, 1867). He was also made a magistrate before a northward journey to territories where relations with indigenous groups were seen as contentious. This allowed him to arbitrate in disputes with indigenous groups and in inter-tribal conflicts impeding on British activities. Several views of the Christian mission at Metlakatla (Maaxłakxaala, which means "saltwater pass") and Fort Simpson were produced. A few of Porcher's drawings were published as engravings in *The Columbia Mission Annual Report* (10th and 11th volumes, 1868, 1869). He departed Esquimalt in April, 1868, and arrived back in England on October 14.

During his travels (in 1865 and 1866), Porcher's residence was listed at 50 Montague Square, London, so it is possible that he returned to reside there upon his return to civilian life (Yule). He was promoted to Captain on October 16, 1868, and married in the spring of 1869 in Alton, Hampshire (England & Wales, FreeBMD Marriage Index, 1837-1915). By 1871, he and Elizabeth Porcher were living in Marylebone, London, with his sister Agnes Rick and their five servants (1871 England Census). He officially retired from service in 1872. It appears that Porcher had a child by the name of Frances Mary Kotar, who is listed in 1873 as "an infant by Edwin Augustus Porcher esq (a Captain in the Royal Navy) her guardian George Du Pre Porcher" in the legal case "Stratton v. Ravenscroft" (C 16/897/S297, Cause # 1873 S297, National Archives, Kew). Although it does not appear that Porcher conducted any further official Royal Navy business, he had not withdrawn from public life. He attended meetings of the Royal Geographic Society, and the Council of the Hakluyt Society, for which he was listed as member in 1876 and 1877 (listed in Council, Yule and Veer). Never tiring from travel, it appears that Porcher's last sketching tour in continental Europe was conducted for pleasure, as many of his drawings depict resort and spa towns. This body of work, dating from 1869 to 1877, consists of views of cultural sites and picturesque landscapes in Germany, Austria, Bohemia, Belgium, and Italy. Porcher died on August 13, 1878, at Homburg, Germany, aged 53 (England & Wales, National Probate Calendar, 1878).

Scope and Contents

The collection comprises: one watercolor frontispiece and 84 watercolors depicting scenes from Porcher's voyages (36 watercolors from 1850-53, 48 watercolors from 1857-60). Also present is a Porcher's diary with descriptions of the ports visited between September 1851 and April 1853, including Hong Kong, Borneo, Shanghai, and Rangoon. The journal includes eight meticulously drawn maps, charts, and diagrams. There are also three letters written by Porcher to his sister Madelina: two from Hong Kong in 1849 and 1852 and the other from Moulmein in April 1853. The collection also includes two logbooks and three certificates, which document Porcher's service to the Royal Navy.

Note on attribution: the frontispiece drawing includes an erased signature at bottom right: "H.S. Melville." It matches the known signature of Harden S. Melville and indicates that Porcher and Melville may have collaborated on this, or possibly many, of Porcher's watercolors. Harden S. Melville was trained by his father, the London engraver, lithographer and watercolor painter Henry Melville (1826-41). Unlike Porcher, Melville was a trained artist, having earned a medal from the Society of Artists and exhibiting three paintings at the Royal Academy exhibitions between 1837 and 1841. In 1841, he accepted the position as draughtsman on board HMS Fly, where he would have likely met Edwin Augustus Porcher, who was Mate on the voyage. Melville supplied nineteen drawings and two maps for Joseph Beete Jukes's *Narrative of the Surveying Voyage of H.M.S. Fly* [...] (2 vols, London, 1847) and published twenty-five lithographs entitled *Sketches in Australia and the Adjacent Islands* (London, 1849) (YCBA Rare Books holds a copy).

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Secondary / Historical Background

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Arrangement

The collection is arranged into three series: I. Drawings; II. Diary and logbooks; III. Miscellaneous.

Titles for the drawings are transcribed from Porcher's contemporary inscriptions and include his original numbering scheme. The drawings are ordered numerically, within each subseries.

Collection Contents

Series I. Drawings

Drawings from the HMS Cleopatra

- | | | |
|---------------|--|----------------|
| b. Oversize 1 | <p>1. India. The Caves of Elephanta near Bombay. March 1850.
 <i>1 drawing : watercolor, body color, heightened with white, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25.5 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm</i>
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist</p> <p>Depicts naval officers drinking and dining in the Elephanta Caves, near present-day Mumbai. Porcher may have looked to models such as 'The Temple of Elephanta': line engraving by James Phillips after painting by James Wales, based on an original drawing by James Forbes (Published London, 1790). Porcher's signature appears on the bottom left corner.</p> <p>B1977.14.22203</p> <p>Geographic Names:
 Elephanta Island (India)</p> <p>Subjects:
 Cave temples -- India</p> <p>Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)</p> <p>Corporate Body:
 Great Britain. Royal Navy</p> | 1850 March |
| b. Oversize 1 | <p>2. Ceylon. Bungalow at Sober Island Trincomalie. Sept. 1850.
 <i>1 drawing : watercolor, body color, heightened with white, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 20 x 29 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm</i>
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist</p> <p>B1977.14.22204</p> <p>Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)</p> <p>Geographic Names:
 Trincomalee (Sri Lanka)</p> | 1850 September |
| b. Oversize 1 | <p>3. Ceylon. Bathing place at Sober Island. Trincomalie. September 1850.
 <i>1 drawing : watercolor, body color, heightened with white, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 20 x 29 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm</i>
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist</p> <p>B1977.14.22205</p> <p>Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)</p> <p>Geographic Names:
 Trincomalee (Sri Lanka)</p> | 1850 September |

Drawings from the HMS Cleopatra (continued)

b. Oversize 1

4. Burmah. Pagodas Rangoon. April 7th 1853.

1853 April 7

1 drawing : watercolor, body color, heightened with white, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 19.5 x 28.5 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist

Porcher describes the pagodas of Rangoon in his journal: "The town of Rangoon is situated on the north shore of a considerable branch of the river that extends to the westward about a league, and is about 24 miles from the entrance. The Dagon Pagoda supposed to be the finest in this part of the country, and held in high veneration by the natives by its containing light true hairs of Gautama, is about 2 miles from the town in a NNW direction, on an elevation of 487 feet above high water level, part of which is supposed to be artificial. It commands a fine view of the surrounding country, and both branches of the river" (65). Porcher has pictured himself sitting, sketching the scene depicted. George Hunt's illustrations for *Rangoon Views* (1825-26) may have been an artistic model for Porcher's view.

B1977.14.22206

Subjects:

Pagodas -- Burma

Genres / Formats:

Watercolors (paintings)

Geographic Names:

Rangoon (Burma)

Names:

Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878

b. Oversize 1

5. Burmah. Pagodas at Mopoon near Moulmein. April 18th 1853.

1853 April 18

1 drawing : watercolor, body color, heightened with white, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 26 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist

B1977.14.22207

Subjects:

Pagodas -- Burma

Geographic Names:

Moulmein (Burma)

Genres / Formats:

Watercolors (paintings)

Drawings from the HMS Cleopatra (continued)

- | | | |
|---------------|---|------------------------|
| b. Oversize 1 | <p>6. Burmah. Principal pagodas at Moulmein, Martaban and the Salween river in the distance. April 28th 1853.</p> <p><i>1 drawing : watercolor, body color, heightened with white, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm</i>
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist</p> <p>Porcher describes the significance of the significance of the Martaban river as "the boundary between the Burmese dominions, and the territory ceded to the British Government" (66). The date of the watercolor roughly corresponds to a letter sent to his sister, Madelina, in which he briefly describes conditions following the Second Anglo-Burmese war (see Miscellaneous series, 1853 letter).</p> <p>B1977.14.22208</p> <p>Subjects:
Pagodas -- Burma</p> <p>Geographic Names:
Martaban, Gulf of (Burma)
Moulmein (Burma)
Salween River</p> <p>Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)</p> | 1853 April 28 |
| <hr/> | | |
| b. Oversize 1 | <p>7. China. Hong Kong from the Capsingmoon Passage. July 30, 1852.</p> <p><i>1 drawing : watercolor, body color, heightened with white, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 26 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm</i>
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist</p> <p>"HONG KONG" is inscribed in the lower left corner.</p> <p>B1977.14.22209</p> <p>Geographic Names:
Hong Kong (China)</p> <p>Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)</p> | 1852 July 30 |
| <hr/> | | |
| b. Oversize 1 | <p>8. Hong Kong from Lyemoon Passage. September 8, 1852.</p> <p><i>1 drawing : watercolor, body color, heightened with white, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25.5. x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm</i>
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist</p> <p>Visible in the distance is Victoria Peak, which dominated early views of the city. Settlement soon began to encroach higher as the city expanded, with the most prestigious Western-style settlements on the peak.</p> <p>B1977.14.22210</p> <p>Geographic Names:
Hong Kong (China)</p> <p>Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)</p> | 1852 September
1852 |

Drawings from the HMS Cleopatra (continued)

- b. Oversize 1 **9. Hong Kong from the opposite main land. October 6, 1852.** 1852 October 6
1 drawing : watercolor, body color, heightened with white, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25.5 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
 B1977.14.22211
- Geographic Names:
 Hong Kong (China)
- Subjects:
 Junks
- Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)
-
- b. Oversize 1 **10. Hong Kong from the beach road, leading to the Happy Valley. December 9, 1852.** 1852 December 9
1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 26 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
- This representation illustrates the fashion of British colonial modes of transport by the early 1850s. Chinese figures carry a palanquin, while a horse-drawn carriage also charges by. Happy Valley was the site of a British racecourse and a Protestant Cemetery (see watercolor "11").
- B1977.14.22212
- Geographic Names:
 Happy Valley (Hong Kong, China)
 Hong Kong (China)
- Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)
-
- b. Oversize 1 **11. Hong Kong. Protestant cemetery in the Happy Valley. October 26, 1852.** 1852 October 26
1 drawing : watercolor, body color, heightened with white, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 24.5 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
- The Hong Kong Cemetery (also known as the Protestant Cemetery and the Colonial Cemetery) was opposite the oldest racecourse in Hong Kong in Happy Valley, and in the middle of a line of cemeteries that included the Roman Catholic cemetery (founded 1848) and later Islamic cemetery (1870). In 1853 (a year after this view), the captain and crew of the HMS Cleopatra erected a monument to Scottish trader and explorer Robert Burns, grandson of the poet, who was killed by pirates of the Tunku River (for which the Cleopatra was dispatched to avenge, see watercolors '25' and '27').
- B1977.14.22213
- Geographic Names:
 Happy Valley (Hong Kong, China)
 Hong Kong (China)
- Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)

Drawings from the HMS Cleopatra (continued)

b. Oversize 1 **12. Hong Kong. Chinese man of war junk mounting 27 Guns. Mandarin's Flag (Blue button at the Fore). July 26, 1851.** 1851 July 26

1 drawing : watercolor, body color, heightened with white, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25.2 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist

Since the Song Dynasty, ocean-going junks of this size made trips to Southeast Asia and the Indian Ocean.

B1977.14.22214

Subjects:
Junks

Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)

Geographic Names:
Hong Kong (China)

b. Oversize 1 **13. Hong Kong. Canton trading junks at anchor in the harbour. July 1851.** 1851 July

1 drawing : watercolor, body color, heightened with white, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 24 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist

B1977.14.22215

Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)

Geographic Names:
Hong Kong (China)

Subjects:
Junks

Drawings from the HMS Cleopatra (continued)

- b. Oversize 1 **14. Hong Kong. HMS Cleopatra lying off Jardine's establishment. November 22, 1852.** 1852 November 22
- 1 drawing : watercolor, body color, heightened with white, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 26 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm*
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
- Jardine & Matheson Co. were the most powerful opium merchants in Hong Kong. They founded their company in 1832, grew rapidly by exporting tea and silk to England, and by smuggling opium. They purchased land in the Causeway area when Britain acquired Hong Kong after the Treaty of Nanking, at the conclusion of the first opium war. Porcher's journal describes the "patent slip" at Jardine's Establishment, where "ships of about 500 tons... can be hauled up" and repaired (6). A drawing of the purchase for hauling the vessels is included on page 7 (diary).
- B1977.14.22216
- Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)
- Geographic Names:
Hong Kong (China)
- Corporate Bodies:
Cleopatra (Ship : 1843)
Jardine, Matheson & Co.
-
- b. Oversize 1 **15. HMS Cleopatra at anchor off the dockyard. Dec. 24, 1852.** 1852 December 24
- 1 drawing : watercolor, body color, heightened with white, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25.5 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm*
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
- B1977.14.22217
- Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)
- Corporate Body:
Cleopatra (Ship : 1843)
-
- b. Oversize 1 **16. Stone-cutters Island. Man of war junk in the foreground and the main land of China in the distance. October 1851.** 1851 October
- 1 drawing : watercolor, body color, heightened with white, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 226 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm*
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
- B1977.14.22218
- Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)
- Subjects:
Junks
- Geographic Names:
Stonecutters Island (Hong Kong)
-
- b. Oversize 1 **17. Joss house built in Tai-Pin-Shan in 1851. August 7, 1852.** 1852 August 7

Drawings from the HMS Cleopatra (continued)

1 drawing : watercolor, body color, heightened with white, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 26 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist

"Joss House" was the derogatory term used by the British to refer to Chinese temples. The word "Joss" was derived from the Portuguese deos or God, adapted in the pidgin trading language at Chinese ports (Whitworth 463-464). Tai Ping Shan means "peace hill" and was named after the area's peaceful settlement after the conclusion of an 1810 sea battle between pirates and Qing Dynasty warships. This peace was interrupted when British warships arrived, and the street became a traditional Chinese enclave in the Victoria Peak region otherwise dominated by the British garrison. Taoist, Confucian and Buddhist worshippers happily co-mingled along the street, and Porcher's view likely depicts the temple devoted to "Jai Kung", or "poor man's Buddha", constructed in 1851 as a temporary repository for the stone tablets of Hong Kong's deceased, whose remains were far from their ancestral burial grounds. A statue of the god Tai Chong Wong presided over the souls of the deceased (Ingham 107-109).

The image of the Chinese barber may have been inspired by the work of George Chinnery (1774-1852), who completed several sketches and at least one oil of the subject.

B1977.14.22219

Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)

Geographic Names:
Hong Kong (China)

Subjects:
Temples -- China

b. Oversize 1

18. Joss house on the Island of Hap-Lee-Chow (Duck's tongue) opposite Shek-Pai- Wan (Aberdeen). December 31, 1852.

1852 December
31

1 drawing : watercolor, body color, heightened with white, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 26 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist

Shek-Pai-Wan is a bay between Hong Kong and Aberdeen Island. The British were initially attracted to waterfall at Aberdeen because it was a source of fresh water supply. A short journey from Aberdeen, Hap-Lee-Chow (Ap Lei Chau Island) was an important maritime center. Temples (called "Joss Houses" by the British) were important places of prayer for local fishermen, who would give offerings to ensure plentiful catches (Ingham 142).

B1977.14.22220

Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)

Subjects:
Temples -- China

Geographic Names:
Ap Lei Chau (Hong Kong, China)
Shek Pai Wan (Hong Kong, China)

Drawings from the HMS Cleopatra (continued)

b. Oversize 1

19. Hong Kong. Village and barracks at Check-Chow (Stanley) on the S.W. side of the island. December 31, 1852.1852 December
31*1 drawing : watercolor, body color, heightened with white, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 24 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm*

Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist

In his diary, Porcher describes the British barracks built on the 'Checkchu' (or 'Check-chow') peninsula (called Stanley) and at Siwan: "[A]fter a certain time, all the English troops were obliged to be called in in consequence of both places turning out so unhealthy, on account of the malaria rising from the valleys, over which both stations had been built, at present 12 and 15 men of the Ceylon Rifles under the command of Native Officers, having been left there" (Diary 3).

B1977.14.22221

Geographic Names:

Chek Chue (China)

Hong Kong (China)

Genres / Formats:

Watercolors (paintings)

b. Oversize 1

20. Attack on a piratical fleet in Byas's Bay on June 25th 1851.

1851 June 25

1 drawing : watercolor, body color, heightened with white, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 26 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm

Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist

Porcher's image (or another version of it) was adapted for publication in the *Illustrated London News*, October 4, 1851, which reported an "Attack on Chinese Pirates by the Boats of Her majesty's Ship 'Cleopatra,'" (402). On June 24th, the Superintendent of the police received news that fishermen at Mir's Bay had been attacked by a fleet of junks led by "Shap-'ng-tchi" (Shap-ng-t sai, the infamous pirate). Captain Massie of the Cleopatra ordered the barge, cutter, and pinnace (manned by Porcher and Hon. C. Crofton) armed and deployed. When the pirate junks were sighted near Bias Bay, a five hour chase ensued.

Three junks were run up to the head of the bay and driven on shore, while their escaping crews ran into the hills. "Weichow and Tamshuy" were taken as prisoners to the Victoria Gaol. *The Friend of India* (quoted in the *Illustrated London News*) praises Lieutenants Price and Porcher: "Starting with only one day's provisions and water, they pulled and sailed, with a midsummer sun over them, for a good part of twenty-four hours before they came up with the enemy; and then, almost sick from exhaustion... they commenced a cannonade and fusillade upon three vessels, mounting eighteen guns apiece, and otherwise armed to the teeth, sufficient to have blown them out of the water with a single broadside - they continued that attack until nearly all the powder was expended... Throughout this encounter there was only one casualty; Lieutenant Price being slightly wounded with a spent shot. The sails of the boats have suffered the most, and bear sufficiently honourable testimony to the severity of the encounter" (*Illustrated London News* 402). The scale of the Cleopatra's ships are enhanced in the published version, and positioned on either side of the junk for dramatic effect. The Royal Navy's destruction of pirate fleets was controversial, as the monetary rewards ("head money") distributed to officers was seen as a questionable private motivation. Concern was raised over the deaths of innocent people on board (captives of pirates).

B1977.14.22222

Drawings from the HMS Cleopatra (continued)

Subjects:

Junks
Naval battles
Pirates

Genres / Formats:

Watercolors (paintings)

Geographic Names:

Daya Bay (China)

b. Oversize 1

21. Amoy with part of the island of Ku-Lang-Su taken from the outer anchorage of Cornwallis' Rock. June 3rd, 1852.

1852 June 3

1 drawing : watercolor, body color, heightened with white, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 23 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist

As Porcher notes in his diary, Amoy (today called Xiamen) was the most important harbor in the province of Fujian and was dominated by foreign trade at the turn of the 18th century. The island of Kulang Su (Gulangyu), on the western side of Xiamen's harbor, was once occupied by British troops after the capture of the city in 1841 until it was restored to Chinese in 1845 (Nield 99). Its five British batteries are still visible in Porcher's view. In his diary, he expounds the strategic advantages of this location: "In case of another misunderstanding with the Chinese the island of Kulang-su would be well adapted for a settlement, the channel between it and Amoy being only 672 yards wide - the ridge of hills on the island being higher than those opposite. There are two distinct ridges which might be separately defended, the highest point being 280 feet above the sea. The island is principally granite, and the soil being formed of it in a decomposed state.... Fresh water from wells are plentiful, and artificial channels conduct it to boats" (53).

B1977.14.22223

Geographic Names:

Gulangyu Qu (Xiamen Shi, China)
Xiamen Shi (China)

Genres / Formats:

Watercolors (paintings)

Drawings from the HMS Cleopatra (continued)

- | | | |
|---------------|---|--------------------------------|
| b. Oversize 1 | <p>22. A suspicious looking lorcha detained by HMS Hermes in Blenheim Reach, Whampoa on June 26th 1852.</p> <p><i>1 drawing : watercolor, body color, heightened with white, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 19 x 29 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm</i>
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist</p> <p>Whampoa was the way-station between Macau and Canton before the institution of the treaty port system. It was a popular subject among European and Chinese export artists, as foreign ships would anchor there before sending goods on smaller boats to Canton. A typical merchant ship's journey up the Pearl River Delta would first dock at Macau, then to Lintin Island, then travelling onwards through the estuary of the Bocca Tigris (Human), finally anchoring at Whampoa. In 1844, Chinese authorities proposed rules to prevent smuggling via Portuguese lorchas, requiring they bear registration numbers and report for examination. Lorchas had been involved in the importation of cannon for native insurgents and sometimes passed themselves off as British (Perdue, n.p.).</p> <p>B1977.14.22224</p> <p>Subjects:
Lorchas</p> <p>Geographic Names:
Huangpu Qu (Guangzhou Shi, China)</p> <p>Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)</p> <p>Corporate Body:
Hermes (Ship : 1835)</p> | 1852 June 26 |
| <hr/> | | |
| b. Oversize 1 | <p>23. My cabin in H.M.S. Cleopatra, from April 1849, to Sept. 1853.</p> <p><i>1 drawing : watercolor, body color, heightened with white, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 20 x 29 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm</i>
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist</p> <p>B1977.14.22225</p> <p>Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)</p> <p>Corporate Body:
Cleopatra (Ship : 1843)</p> <p>Names:
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878</p> | 1849 April - 1853
September |

Drawings from the HMS Cleopatra (continued)

- b. Oversize 1 **24. Philippine Islands. Principal bridge at Manila. March 8th 1851.** 1851 March 8
1 drawing : watercolor, body color, heightened with white, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25.25 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
 This view of Manila shows daily life in the bustling port city. The bridge is in the district of Binondo, an enclave of ethnic Chinese and the main commercial center amongst Chinese mestizos and Spanish Filipinos (Abinales 79).
 B1977.14.22226
 Geographic Names:
 Binondo (Manila, Philippines)
 Manila (Philippines)
 Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)
-
- b. Oversize 1 **25. Official visit of the boats of the Cleopatra to the Pangeran Madoud's house, at Mengatal on January 31st 1851. The mountain of Kini Balu in the distance.** 1851 January 31
1 drawing : watercolor, body color, heightened with white, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25.25 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
 On September 12, 1851, the HMS Dolphin was attacked in Maladu Bay by Illanun pirates. Captain Robertson and Supercargo Robert Burns (grandson of the poet) and the crew were murdered by pirates from Tunku. In response, the Cleopatra, Semiramis and Pluto were dispatched from Singapore on January 10th and arrived at Labuan by the 20th, sailing on to Mengatal to hold a meeting with local ruler Pangeran Madand about bartering with the Iranun (Illanun) Pirates and providing them a boat. A "Mr. Melrum" accompanied the diplomatic party to negotiate the repayment of a debt (see Porcher's diary, page 30). Porcher depicts the British crews firing a salute upon arrival at the Pangeran Madand's village.
 B1977.14.22227
 Subjects:
 Pirates
 Geographic Names:
 Menggatal (Malaysia)
 Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)
-

Drawings from the HMS Cleopatra (continued)

- b. Oversize 1 **26. Borneo. The government offices at Labuan. March 1st 1852.** 1852 March 1
1 drawing : watercolor, body color, heightened with white, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25.25 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
- The island of Labuan was taken possession by the British in 1846, and proposed as a British base against piracy in the South China Sea. It became a crown colony in 1848. Porcher indicates that the island's most important product was coal, and describes at length the island's position, crops, cultivation and harbor (diary 20-28). He also includes a detailed map of Labuan.
- B1977.14.22228
- Genres / Formats:
 Maps
 Watercolors (paintings)
- Geographic Names:
 Labuan
-
- b. Oversize 1 **27. Borneo. Skirmish with the Illanoon Pirates at Tooncoo on February 16th 1852.** 1852 February 16
1 drawing : watercolor, body color, heightened with white, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 26 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
- The incident Porcher depicts was reported in the *Nautical Magazine and Naval Chronicle* for 1852 (222-223). Porcher and the crew of the *Cleopatra*, *Pluto* and *Semiramis* were traveling up the Tunku river in pursuit of the Illanun [Iranun] pirates responsible for the murder of the *HMS Dolphin's* crew (see "25. Official visit of the Boats of the *Cleopatra* to the Pangeran Madoud's house"). When they arrived at the residence of Rajah Muda, marines and armed men landed to find white flags hoisted on the roof of the houses. Porcher reports: "In retaliation for their having fired at us the day before, when white flags were flying, both at the Chief's house, and also in our boats, about 40 houses were burned, and the little property that was found in them destroyed, as well as their paddy, fruit trees, etc." (34). The pirates returned fire again, killing one man and wounding two others. Porcher continues with a detailed description of the Iranun pirates from Mindanao, who were known for murdering crews of vessels "except those they are able to sell as slaves". The entire landscape is frenetic with action; figures are hiding behind foliage with guns, while gunfire issues from the British vessels in the river.
- B1977.14.22229
- Subjects:
 Naval battles
 Pirates
- Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)

Drawings from the HMS Cleopatra (continued)

- | | | |
|---------------|--|---------------------|
| b. Oversize 1 | <p>28. Pinang from the anchorage. December 1851.
 <i>1 drawing : watercolor, body color, heightened with white, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 23 x 26 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm &gt;</i>
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist</p> <p>Penang, an island off the coast of the Malaysian Peninsula, was first occupied by the British East India Company in 1786, and became a British "Straits Settlement" along with Province Wellesley, Malacca and Singapore when the Anglo-Dutch Treaty (1824) brought these under the administration of the British East Company. It became an important trading center under the British, its commercial architecture dotting the shoreline of Porcher's watercolor.</p> <p>B1977.14.22230</p> <p>Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)</p> <p>Geographic Names:
 Pulau Pinang (Malaysia : State)</p> | 1851 December |
| <hr/> | | |
| b. Oversize 1 | <p>29. A Malay village at Pinang. December 22nd 1851.
 <i>1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 26 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm</i>
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist</p> <p>B1977.14.22231</p> <p>Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)</p> <p>Geographic Names:
 Pulau Pinang (Malaysia : State)</p> | 1851 December
22 |
| <hr/> | | |
| b. Oversize 1 | <p>30. Singapore. General view of the town. November 1851.
 <i>1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 24.5 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm</i>
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist</p> <p>Singapore is at the crossroads of Indian and Pacific Oceans, the Malacca, Sunda and Lombok Straits, and the South China Seas, which made it a key trading center in the India-China route. This view overlooking the Singapore River was taken from an observation point on Mount Wallich, named after Nathaniel Wallich who founded the settlement's Botanical and Experimental Garden. Today the view is no longer replicable, as Mount Wallich was levelled in 1885. Significantly, Porcher's view pre-dates one of the most well-known panoramic paintings of this viewpoint by Percy Carpenter, Singapore from Mount Wallich, 1856. Many of the same structures are visible in both the Porcher and Carpenter: Government Hill and Governor's House, the colonial residence built in 1822 by G.D. Coleman, which itself provided the colonial administration with an uninterrupted view (most view of Singapore were commissioned from this vantage point). The elevated vantage point also eliminated the unattractive mangrove swamps that dominated low-lying areas. The spires of the Armenian Church of St. Gregory the Illuminator and the Cathedral of the Good Shepherd; the broad esplanade of Telok Ayer street; the Telok Ayer market, also built after designs by Coleman, on the spit of land jutting into the basin (Pieris 43-45; Wong and Waterson 96).</p> <p>B1977.14.22232</p> | 1851 November |

Drawings from the HMS Cleopatra (continued)

Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)

Geographic Names:
Singapore
Telok Ayer (District : Singapore)

b. Oversize 1

31. The river at Singapore. November 1851. Lithographed.

1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 26 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm

Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist

Government Hill features prominently in views of Singapore, often as the apex of the composition, as Porcher has done in this view from the South Boat Quay near the junction with Market Street. Raffles had established his presence and political control by appropriating the traditional elevated domain of the Malay Rulers, who occupied it (then called Bukit Larangan 'Forbidden Hill') in the fourteenth century (Wong 37). In Porcher's view, the river is bustling with traffic: small sampans ferry passengers to the arched landing and a Malay perahu-mayang fishing boat brings in its catch at lower right. A number of warehouses lining the banks of the river are accessible by the Thomson's Bridge – the only access to the commercial town. Porcher labeled the Master Attendant's building (at right), which was the headquarters of the Master Attendant of the British entrepot and a post office. In a lithographed version of Porcher's view by Vincent Brooks, a nakhoda (boat captain) was added in the foreground, and a Javanese trading vessel at left. Several boats filled with cargo, and a display of tropical fruits perched dockside entices viewers to the 'exotic' goods flowing in and out of the port (see Hong Suen Wong page 72 for Vincent Brooks lithograph).

B1977.14.22233

Geographic Names:
Singapore
Singapore River (Singapore)

Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)

b. Oversize 1

32. Pepper grown at Sinapore [sic]. November 4th 1851.

1 drawing : watercolor on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount. ; sheet 11.5 x 16 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm

Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist

Mounted together with "33. Coffee from Pinang. May 28th 1850." "34. Cloves from Pinang. Dec. 22nd 1851." "35. Nutmegs from Pinang. June 1st 1850."

B1977.14.22234

Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)

Subjects:
Peppers

Geographic Names:
Singapore

1851 November

4

Drawings from the HMS Cleopatra (continued)

- | | | |
|---------------|---|---------------------|
| b. Oversize 1 | <p>33. Coffee from Pinang. May 28th 1850.
 <i>1 drawing : watercolor on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 9.5 x 16 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm &gt;</i>
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist</p> <p>Mounted together with "32. Pepper Grown at Sinapore. November 4th 1851," "34. Cloves from Pinang. Dec. 22nd 1851," "35. Nutmegs from Pinang. June 1st 1850."</p> <p>B1977.14.22235</p> <p>Subjects:
Coffee</p> <p>Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)</p> <p>Geographic Names:
Pulau Pinang (Malaysia : State)</p> | 1850 May 28 |
| <hr/> | | |
| b. Oversize 1 | <p>34. Cloves from Pinang. Dec. 22nd 1851.
 <i>1 drawing : watercolor on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 12.4 x 16.5 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm</i>
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist</p> <p>Mounted together with "32. Pepper Grown at Sinapore. [sic] November 4th 1851," "33. Coffee from Pinang. May 28th 1850," "35. Nutmegs from Pinang. June 1st 1850."</p> <p>B1977.14.22236</p> <p>Geographic Names:
Pulau Pinang (Malaysia : State)</p> <p>Subjects:
Clove (Spice)</p> <p>Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)</p> | 1851 December
22 |
| <hr/> | | |
| b. Oversize 1 | <p>35. Nutmegs from Pinang. June 1st 1850.
 <i>1 drawing : watercolor on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 12 x 17.5 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm</i>
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist</p> <p>Mounted together with "32. Pepper Grown at Sinapore. [sic] November 4th 1851," "33. Coffee from Pinang. May 28th 1850," "34. Cloves from Pinang. Dec. 22nd 1851."</p> <p>B1977.14.22237</p> <p>Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)</p> <p>Subjects:
Nutmeg (Spice)</p> <p>Geographic Names:
Pulau Pinang (Malaysia : State)</p> | 1850 June 1 |

Drawings from the HMS Cleopatra (continued)

- b. Oversize 1 **63. Coryphoena Hippurus. A small dolphin weighing 4 lbs, caught in Latitude 5° S, Longitude 16° W. August 8, 1853.** 1853 August 8
- 1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 22 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm*
- Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
- B1977.14.22238
- Subjects:
Dolphinfishes
- Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)
-

Drawings from the HMS Hibernia

- b. Oversize 2 **56. H.M. gun boat schooner Kertch, off Malta. Sept. 22. 1859.** 1859 September 22
- 1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25.25 x 35.5 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm*
- Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
- The gun boat Kertch is pictured flying the white ensign. Porcher requested to use this vessel for his Cyrene expedition but was not permitted for use by the Admiralty.
- B1977.14.22182
- Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)
- Geographic Names:
Malta
- Corporate Body:
Kertch (Ship)
-
- b. Oversize 2 **57. A market boat leaving Gozo for Malta. September 28, 1860.** 1860 September 28
- 1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25.25 x 35.5 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm*
- Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
- B1977.14.22199
- Subjects:
Merchant ships
- Geographic Names:
Gozo Island (Malta)
- Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)
-

Drawings from the HMS Hibernia (continued)

- b. Oversize 2 **58. Malta. Entrance of the Grand Harbour. March 6. 1858.** 1858 March 6
1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 26 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
- The Grand Harbour was the cultural, administrative and business center of the island. The Order of St. John urbanized the space around the Harbour in the 16th century, and Valletta was constructed as the capital of the islands following the Ottoman Siege of 1564. As the administrative core of the Matese islands, Valletta's city planners stressed efficiency and centralization (Cassar 125-6).
- B1977.14.221571
- Geographic Names:
 Grand Harbour (Malta)
 Malta
 Valletta (Malta)
- Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)
-
- b. Oversize 2 **59. Fort St. Angelo from the rocks round Fort Ricasoli. Dec. 17, 1857.** 1857 December
1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 26 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
- "In fine, it may be said that Malta is as defensible as nature and art combined can render it" (Martin 159). Fort St. Angelo, also known as Castrum Marus, was first constructed in 878 AD as an Arab fortification and was built up by successive waves of invaders, and became the headquarters of the Grand Master. The structure withstood attack during the Ottoman siege of 1565, acting as the center of resistance and was later occupied by the British Army (Jackson 72-6).
- B1977.14.22156
- Geographic Names:
 Grand Harbour (Malta)
 Malta
- Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)
- Subjects:
 Fortification
- Corporate Body:
 Knights of Malta. Fort St. Angelo (Birgu, Malta)
-

Drawings from the HMS Hibernia (continued)

- b. Oversize 2 **61. Malta. The cemetery at the Naval Hospital. June 19, 1857.** 1857 June 19
1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25.25 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
 The largest in the British empire, the Royal Naval hospital was situated near the walled city of Valetta, on the north side of the island (Gatewood). Legible on one of the tombstones are the names Dr. W. Martin and his wife, Eliza Martin.
 B1977.14.222154
 Subjects:
 Cemeteries
 Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)
 Corporate Body:
 Royal Naval Hospital (Malta)
-
- b. Oversize 2 **62. Malta. H.M.S. Hibernia in the Dockyard Creek. March 13, 1857.** 1857 March 13
1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 26 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
 The *Hibernia*, launched at Portsmouth in 1804, was a specially fitted 120 gun 'receiving and guard ship'. In this view, the ship is docked next to Fort St. Angelo (Castrum Maris), at the tip of the Vittoriosa Promontory, Grand Harbor of Malta. The British admiralty established its first dry dock in 1848, and the Grand Harbor grew as a key base for the Royal Navy. Dockyard Creek was also an important source of employment for the island's growing number of inhabitants (Atauz 181-2).
 B1977.14.22152
 Geographic Names:
 Grand Harbour (Malta)
 Malta
 Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)
 Corporate Body:
 Hibernia (Ship : 1804-1902)
-

Drawings from the HMS Hibernia (continued)

- b. Oversize 2 **63. Malta. Part of Valetta, and Floriana, with H.M.S. Harpy in the Dockyard Creek. March 22, 1858** 1858 March 22
- 1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 26 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm*
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
- Porcher was appointed the command of the small paddle wheel HMS Harpy on May 1, 1858 replacing the ailing Lieutenant Bruce, to transport the archaeologist Nathan Davis to Tunisia. Porcher and crew were essential to Nathan Davis's archaeological mission, not only assisting with excavation work but transporting removed sculptures and pavement from the dig sites.
- B1977.14.22158
- Geographic Names:
Furjana (Malta)
Malta
Valletta (Malta)
- Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)
- Corporate Body:
Harpy (Ship : 1845-1909)
-
- b. Oversize 2 **64. Malta. Looking up the Dockyard Creek. May 15, 1857.** 1857 May 15
- 1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 26 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm*
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
- B1977.14.22153
- Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)
- Geographic Names:
Malta
Valletta (Malta)
-
- b. Oversize 2 **65. Malta. The Admiral Superintendent's [sic] house, and the Victualling Yard. July 20. 1859.** 1859 July 20
- 1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25.25 x 14.5 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm*
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
- B1977.14.22181
- Geographic Names:
Malta
- Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)
-

Drawings from the HMS Hibernia (continued)

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|---------------|---|----------------------|
| b. Oversize 2 | <p>70. Malta. Phoenician ruins of Crendi, or Hagiär Chem, and the Island of Fifla. Sept. 28, 1858.
 <i>1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25.25 x 35.5 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm</i>
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist</p> <p>Charles Newton, Keeper of Antiquities at the British Museum, described Crendi as a complex of ruins of two temples, supposedly Phoenician, one on the summit of a hill and the other near the sea. The large blocks of stone, "like Stonehenge" were believed to form a link between prehistoric cultures and early Greek art. (<i>Gentleman's Magazine</i>, July, 1852, 80).</p> <p>B1977.14.22175</p> <p>Subjects:
 Antiquities
 Excavations (Archaeology)</p> <p>Geographic Names:
 Malta
 Malta -- Antiquities
 Qrendi (Malta)</p> <p>Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)</p> | 1858 September
28 |
| <hr/> | | |
| b. Oversize 2 | <p>71. Malta. The ruins of Crendi. Sept. 16. 1858.
 <i>1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25.25 x 35.5 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm</i>
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist</p> <p>Sketches of the ruins of Crendi exhibited by "Mr. Colnaghi" may have popularized the site as an artistic subject. (see Charles Newton, <i>Gentleman's Magazine</i>, July, 1852, 80).</p> <p>B1977.14.22174</p> <p>Subjects:
 Antiquities
 Excavations (Archaeology)</p> <p>Geographic Names:
 Malta
 Malta -- Antiquities
 Qrendi (Malta)</p> <p>Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)</p> | 1858 September
16 |
-

Drawings from the HMS Hibernia (continued)

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|---------------|--|---------------|
| b. Oversize 2 | <p>73. Malta. Fomm El Rih on the south side of the island. April 20, 1860.
 <i>1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25.25 x 35.5 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm</i>
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
 B1977.14.22189</p> <p>Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)</p> <p>Geographic Names:
 Fomm ir-Rih (Malta)
 Malta</p> | 1860 April 20 |
| <hr/> | | |
| b. Oversize 2 | <p>76. Malta. Statue of St. Paul on the Island of Salmone. June 4, 1859.
 <i>1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 17.75 x 25.25 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm</i>
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist</p> <p>Malta's historical association with St. Paul is linked to the biblical account of his shipwreck, said to have occurred off the island's coast at a site today known as St. Paul's Bay. Pictured here by Porcher, a colossal statue of St. Paul was erected in the nineteenth century on Salmone (referred to as "Selmoon Island").</p> <p>B1977.14.22180</p> <p>Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)</p> <p>Geographic Names:
 Saint Paul's Island (Malta)</p> <p>Subjects:
 Statues</p> <p>Names:
 Paul, the Apostle, Saint</p> | 1859 June 4 |
| <hr/> | | |
| b. Oversize 2 | <p>77. Malta. The Protestant college, near St. Julian's Bay. April 25, 1860.
 <i>1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 17.75 x 25.25 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm</i>
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
 B1977.14.22190</p> <p>Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)</p> <p>Corporate Body:
 Malta Protestant College</p> | 1860 April 25 |

Drawings from the HMS Hibernia (continued)

- b. Oversize 2 **78. Malta. Part of Wignacourt's aqueduct leading across the St. Gieuseppe Road. March 20, 1860.** 1860 March 20
1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 18 x 25.25 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
 Grand Master Alof de Wignacourt commissioned the aqueduct bearing his name, which appears in Porcher's drawing. Constructed in 1615 by the architect Bontadino de Bontadini, it supplied fresh water to the city of Valletta from the plateau at the island's interior (Phillips n.p.).
 B1977.14.22186
 Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)
 Geographic Names:
 Wignacourt Aqueduct (Malta)
 Subjects:
 Aqueducts
-
- b. Oversize 2 **79. Malta. The new church at Musta. March 15, 1860.** 1860 March 15
1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 17.75 x 25.25 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
 B1977.14.22185
 Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)
 Subjects:
 Church Buildings
 Names:
 Mosta Rotunda (Church : Mosta, Malta)
-
- b. Oversize 2 **80. Malta. A triumphal arch, built by the last Grand Master Hompesch, March 23, 1858.** 1858 March 23
1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 18 x 23.5 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
 B1997.14.22159
 Subjects:
 Hompesch Gate (Zabbar, Malta)
 Triumphal arches
 Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)
 Names:
 Hompesch, Ferdinand, Freiherr von, 1744-1805

Drawings from the HMS Hibernia (continued)

b. Oversize 2 **81. Malta. Tower in a garden belonging to the Marquis de Piro, at Casal Lia.** 1860 April 26
April 26, 1860.

1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 23.5 x 18 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm

Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist

The Marquis de Piro was member of an aristocratic Maltese family whose history is bound up with the Knights of St. John. Casal Lia is a small village roughly in the center of the island of Malta.

B1977.14.22191

Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)

Subjects:
Towers

Geographic Names:
Casal Lia (Malta)

Names:
Piro, Adriano, Marquis de, 1817-1866

b. Oversize 2 **82. Malta. The tomb of Hannibal, on Ras Benhisa. May 17, 1860.** 1860 May 17

1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 17 x 25 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm

Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist

B1977.14.22192

Subjects:
Tombs

Geographic Names:
Benghiza (Malta)

Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)

Names:
Hannibal, 247 B.C.-182 B.C.

Drawings from the HMS Hibernia (continued)

- b. Oversize 2 **83. Malta. The church and village of Milleha. May 19, 1860.** 1860 May 19
1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 18 x 25.5 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
 A traveler in 1838 described the town of Millieha as about "an hour's ride from St. Paul's Bay". The Church of Millieha, much visited by devout Maltese, was partly cut out of solid rock. Several objects dedicated to the Virgin, to whom the church is dedicated, were housed inside (Badger 286).
 B1977.14.22193
 Subjects:
 Church Buildings
 Geographic Names:
 Mellieha (Malta)
 Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)
-
- b. Oversize 2 **84. Malta. Calypso's Grotto, near Casal Milleha. May 19, 1860.** 1860 May 19
1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 18 x 25.5 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
 A set of caves described as "Calypso's Grotto" were so called because they were thought to be described by Homer: "large was the grot in which the nymph be found" (fifth book) (Badger 288). In 1838, a British traveler writes: "Any admirer of natural scenery will be delighted with the prospect which stretches before the sight from the summit of this hill. The green spot beneath, washed at its base by the Bay of Mellieha, the islands of Gozo and Comino in the distance, and the rugged heights around, form a coup d'oeil not everywhere to be enjoyed in the island of Malta" (Badger 289).
 B1977.14.22194
 Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)
 Geographic Names:
 Malta
 Subjects:
 Caves
-

Drawings from the HMS Hibernia (continued)

- | | | |
|---------------|--|---------------|
| b. Oversize 2 | <p>85. Malta. Dungeons on the east side of the Dockyard Creek, formerly occupied by the galley slaves. April 13, 1858.</p> <p><i>1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 18 x 25.5 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm</i></p> <p>Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist</p> <p>B1977.14.22160</p> <p>Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)</p> <p>Geographic Names:
Malta</p> <p>Subjects:
Prisons</p> | 1858 April 13 |
| <hr/> | | |
| b. Oversize 2 | <p>86. Gozo. Fort Chambray, and the principal landing place. June 3, 1859.</p> <p><i>1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 17.75 x 25.25 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm</i></p> <p>Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist</p> <p>Constructed in the mid-18th century, Fort Chambray on the island of Gozo (part of the Maltese Archipelago) rises up from the sea and contains a sizeable barracks. It was briefly occupied by British troops during the Crimean War (1853-56).</p> <p>B1977.14.22177</p> <p>Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)</p> <p>Geographic Names:
Gozo Island (Malta)</p> <p>Corporate Body:
Fort Chambray (Mgarr, Gozo, Malta)</p> | 1859 June 3 |
-

Drawings from the HMS Hibernia (continued)

- b. Oversize 2 **87. Gozo. Phoenician ruins of the Giant's Tower. June 3, 1859.** 1859 June 3
1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 18 x 25.5 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
 The "Giant's Tower" refers to the Ġgantija temple complex, thought to be constructed in Malta around 3500 BCE. These megalithic temples are the oldest stone structures of this magnitude, and thought to be dedicated to a fertility cult, by the presence of several thousand statuettes of the "Venus" type (Sorlini 140).
 B1977.14.22178
 Subjects:
 Antiquities
 Megalithic monuments
 Temples -- Malta
 Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)
 Geographic Names:
 Gozo Island (Malta)
-
- b. Oversize 2 **88. Gozo. Citadel at Rabbato. June 3, 1859.** 1859 June 3
1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 17 x 24.75 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
 The capital city on the island of Gozo is Rabbato, which was re-named "Victoria" by the British in the late 19th century. The city is dominated by a citadel, Il Castello, the site of fortifications since ancient Phoenicians ruled the island.
 B1977.14.22179
 Subjects:
 Fortification
 Geographic Names:
 Gozo Island (Malta)
 Rabat (Gozo Island, Malta)
 Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)
-

Drawings from the HMS Hibernia (continued)

- b. Oversize 2 **94. H.M. despatch vessel Vigilant, and gun boat Boxer. October 12, 1857.** 1857 October 12
1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 23.5 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
 This view perhaps records British vessels anchored at Dockyard Creek, Valetta. Porcher would later depart for Benghazi in the HMS Boxer in November 1860.
 B.1977.14.22155
 Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)
 Geographic Names:
 Valletta (Malta)
 Corporate Bodies:
 Boxer (Ship : 1855-1865)
 Vigilant (Ship : 1857)
-
- b. Oversize 2 **96. Sicily. The Castle of Aci, and the Cyclops, at the foot of Mount Aetna. July 25. 1860."** 1860 July 25
1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25 x 35.5 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
 Visible within Porcher's view is the Aci Castello, a Norman castle built in the eleventh century, and the surrounding town after the castle's namesake. These are at the base of the volcanic Mount Etna, said to be the home of the Cyclops.
 B1977.14.22198
 Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)
 Geographic Names:
 Aci Castello (Italy)
 Etna, Mount (Italy)
-
- b. Oversize 2 **H.M. Despatch boat 'Lapwing' May 14th, 1859.** 1859 May 14
1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 20 x 28 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
 B.1977.14.22176
 Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)
 Corporate Body:
 Lapwing (Ship : 1856-1864)
-
- b. Oversize 2 **In the palace at Malta. The trumpet on which was sounded the retreat, on the final departure of the Knights of St. John from Rhodes. December A.D. 1522. Presented as a relic with great care by the Grand Masters. Sketched 29th March 1860.** 1860 March 29

1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 17 x 24 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist

Porcher's image represents an artifact from the Siege of Rhodes (1522), when the Ottomans under Sultan Suleyman I expelled the Order of St. John from the Island of Rhodes (now Greece). Sir Ernest Barker describes the events: "Early in the morning of New Year's Day, 1523, the trumpet of the Knights sounded for the last time in Rhodes; their fleet of thirty-one ships, with the refugees on board, put out to sea." (Baker 51). Fifty vessels and approximately 5000 Rhodians departed the island, which was of strategic importance to the Turks, lying between Constantinople and Alexandria. In 1530, Charles V of Spain gave the Knights of St John control of the Maltese islands, but they became vassals of the King and pledged oath to the King of Sicily (Atauz 82).

B. 1977.14.22197

Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)

Subjects:
Relics

Geographic Names:
Rhodes (Greece : Island) -- History -- Siege, 1522

Corporate Body:
Knights of Malta. Fort St. Angelo (Birgu, Malta)

Drawings from the HMS Hibernia (continued)

- b. Oversize 2 **Sword, and dress of Dragut, Rais Pashaw of Tripoli, and Commander in Chief of the Turkish Army, in which he was killed at Fort Tigne in the great siege of Malta. Mortally wounded 18th June. Died 23rd June 1565. The same day on which St. Elmo fell into the hands of the enemy.** 1860?
- 1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 17 x 24 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm*
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
- Turgut Reis (also known as Dragut Rais) was a privateer and head of the Barbary Corsairs who led the victorious campaign against Tripoli in 1551 for Suleyman the Magnificent. He also led the Siege of Malta, the culmination of struggles in the Mediterranean beginning with Ottoman control of Tunisia (Keyvanian 49). In 1565, Suleyman ordered the Siege of Malta. After leading the capture of Fort St. Elmo, Turgut Reis was struck by shot from cannon fire from Fort St. Angelo that fell near the Turkish battery. He was mortally wounded, creating a tremendous set-back for Turkish forces.
- B.1977.14.22188
- Geographic Names:
Malta -- History -- Siege, 1565
- Subjects:
Relics
- Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)
- Names:
Turgut Reis, 1485-1565
-
- Drawings in North Africa (associated with the Nathan Davis expedition)
- b. Oversize 2 **69. Tunis. A detached fort and mosque near the town. May 14th 1858.** 1858 May 14
- 1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 26 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm*
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
- B1977.14.22161
- Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)
- Geographic Names:
Tunis (Tunisia)
- Subjects:
Fortification
-
- b. Oversize 2 **70. Tunis. The ruins of Baal Hammon Molech, or Saturn, at Carthage, with the mountain of Hamman El-enf in the distance. February 10th, 1860. Published in Davis's 'Carthage and Her Remains.'** 1860 February 10
- 1 drawing : Watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25.25 x 35.5 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm*
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
- This view was published in Nathan Davis's publication, *Carthage and Her Remains*. Davis writes that the remains of the Molech structure was being used as materials for modern buildings (he includes a ground plan on page 148 of his publication). Described as vaulted structure, most likely

Drawings in North Africa (associated with the Nathan Davis exped [...] (continued)

surmounted by a triple dome, Davis concludes it must have contained a series of galleries and circular pilasters: "twelve to represent the twelve months, and four times twelve the forty-eight weeks of the ancient year." Its circular form symbolic of the earth's orbit, Davis is certain that it is a temple of Saturn, "the Baal Hammon of the Carthaginians, or Cronus... the God of Time" (Davis 231). Davis imagines that the temple once contained a terrifying image of Baal. A plan of the Dais, interpreted as the Temple of Saturn in the Carthage, is included facing page 177. The date of the watercolor (post-dating the Davis expedition, 1856-59) suggests Porcher was commissioned to return to the site to produce the watercolor for the publication.

B1977.14.221183

Subjects:

Antiquities
Excavations (Archaeology)

Geographic Names:

Carthage (Extinct city)

Genres / Formats:

Watercolors (paintings)

b. Oversize 2

71. The mosque of Dowar-Eshutt, on the site of Carthage, with the Church of St. Louis in the background. February 10th, 1860. Published.1860 February
10

1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25.25 x 35.5 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm

Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist

After arriving at Carthage, Nathan Davis complains of the conditions of the two existing villages, Moalkah and Dowar-Eshutt: "irregular mass of hovels chiefly built of ancient materials". He begins digging at Carthage, and takes up residence at Dowar-Eshutt. The drawing was published in Davis's account as "Village of Dowar-Eshutt (Scene of the First Excavation)" (page 59).

B1977.14.22175

Geographic Names:

Carthage (Extinct city)

Subjects:

Mosques

Genres / Formats:

Watercolors (paintings)

Drawings in North Africa (associated with the Nathan Davis exped [...] (continued)

- b. Oversize 2 **72. General view of Goletta, the sea port of Tunis. May 18th, 1858.** 1858 May 18
1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25.5 x 18 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
 Mounted on same card with "73. The Taenia or neck of land looking towards Utica, taken from the sand hills of Camart. February 9th, 1860."
 B1977.14.22162
 Geographic Names:
 La Goulette (Tunisia)
 Tunis (Tunisia)
 Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)
-
- b. Oversize 2 **73. The Taenia or neck of land looking towards Utica, taken from the sand hills of Camart. February 9th, 1860.** 1860 February 9
1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25.5 x 18 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
 Mounted on same card with "72. General View of Goletta, the Sea Port of Tunis. May 18th, 1858."
 B1977.14.22163
 Geographic Names:
 Camart (Tunisia)
 Tunis (Tunisia)
 Utica (Extinct city)
 Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)
-
- b. Oversize 2 **74. Carthage. Dr Davis's house at Camart. May 19th 1858.** 1858 May 19
1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25.5 x 18 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
 Porcher's depiction of Nathan Davis's residence while at Camart, as seen through an archway, opposite. The Harpy arrived at La Goulette on May 14, and sailed the same day for Utica (see logbook).
 Mounted on same card with "75. Village of Camart. The Western extreme of Carthage, with the round Palace of Ben-Ayed. Feb. 9th, 1860. Published."
 B1977.14.22164
 Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)
 Geographic Names:
 Camart (Tunisia)
 Tunis (Tunisia)
 Names:
 Davis, N. (Nathan), 1812-1882

Drawings in North Africa (associated with the Nathan Davis exped [...] (continued)

- b. Oversize 2 **75. Village of Camart. The western extreme of Carthage, with the round palace of Ben-Ayed. Feb. 9th, 1860. Published.** 1860 February 9
- 1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25.25 x 18 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm*
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
- This image was engraved for Nathan Davis's *Carthage and Her Remains* (page 387). Whereas Porcher's watercolor is in a very loose style, and includes three figures, the engraving adds two additional figures conversing. It also renders the palace on the hill more visible. Davis describes the "Jebel Khawi," the Catacomb Hills at Camart as a vast network of catacombs. "To the right in our sketch" the excavations unearthed the ruins of a Roman mausoleum, and remove some pavement and a broken statue. The date of Porcher's watercolors suggests that he returned to the site to produce additional watercolors for Davis's publication (post-dates Davis expedition).
- Mounted on same card with "74. Carthage. Dr Davis's house at Camart. May 19th 1858."
- B1977.14.22165
- Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)
- Geographic Names:
Camart (Tunisia)
Carthage (Extinct city)
- Subjects:
Antiquities
-
- b. Oversize 2 **76. Light house on the Cani Rocks, at the entrance of the Gulf of Tunis. June 29, 1860** 1860 June 29
- 1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25.25 x 16 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm*
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
- Mounted on the same card with "77. The Tombs of Dr. Fallon and J. Triggs (Seaman) who were drowned near the town of Farina, in the Gulf of Tunis."
- B1977.14.22169
- Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)
- Geographic Names:
Cani Rocks (Tunisia)
Tunis, Gulf of (Tunisia)
- Subjects:
Lighthouses
-

Drawings in North Africa (associated with the Nathan Davis exped [...] (continued)

- b. Oversize 2 **77. The tombs of Dr. Fallon and J. Trigg (Seaman) who were drowned near the town of Farina, in the Gulf of Tunis. May 29, 1858.** 1858 May 29
1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25.25 x 16 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
 Mounted on the same card with "76. Light house on the Cani Rocks, at the entrance of the Gulf of Tunis. June 29, 1860."
 B1977.14.22170
 Geographic Names:
 Ghar al Milh (Tunisia)
 Tunis, Gulf of (Tunisia)
 Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)
 Subjects:
 Tombs
-
- b. Oversize 2 **78. Tunis. Porto Farina, taken from the bottom of the bay on the road to Oaga and Utica. June 14th, 1858.** 1858 June 14
1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 26 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
 Nathan Davis describes Porto Farina as "an unwalled town...situated at the foot of a row of hills, and near a large lake, at the extremity of which there is a very handsome large basin for holding the men-of-war and cruisers belonging to Tunis, it being the safest and best port belonging to the kingdom" (Davis 403).
 B1977.14.22173
 Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)
 Geographic Names:
 Ghar al Milh (Tunisia)
 Tunis, Gulf of (Tunisia)
-
- b. Oversize 2 **79. General view of the site of Utica. June 10th, 1858. Published.** 1858 June 10
1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 26 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
 This watercolor was engraved and published as "A View of the Site of Utica" in Nathan Davis' *Carthage and Her Remains* (page 414). The engraving omits the seated figures and inverts the two main figures and the horse, adding a running figure with a musket. Davis writes: "At the exact time specified by Lord Lyons, HM steamer "Harpy" arrived. She was commanded by Lieut. Porcher, who was instructed by the admiral not only to convey me to the sites of the various ancient cities above named, but to render me every assistance in his power - instructions which this officer was ready to carry out, and did carry out to the best of his abilities." Porcher and his crew (praised by Davis as "sturdy marines") assisted with the removal and transportation of a number of mosaics and sculpture from the excavation site at Utica, which according to Davis was once on the water but now "seven or eight miles' distance from the sea". Utica aided Rome in the

Drawings in North Africa (associated with the Nathan Davis exped [...] (continued)

destruction of Carthage. Davis describes the area as already "ransacked of building materials," and yet "marble and granite shaft, capitals, and cornices of every order, size and dimension, which lie about here in all directions, are certainly a great attraction for antiquarian research" (409).

B1977.14.22171

Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)

Geographic Names:
Utica (Extinct city)

b. Oversize 2

80. Ruins of the arsenal at Utica. May 24th, 1858.

1858 May 24

1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25.25 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm

Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist

B1977.14.22168

Subjects:
Excavations (Archaeology)

Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)

Geographic Names:
Utica (Extinct city)

b. Oversize 2

81. A hot mineral spring under the nearest date tree, amongst the ruins of Utica. June 10th, 1858.

1858 June 10

1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 26 x 36 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm

Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist

B1977.14.22172

Geographic Names:
Utica (Extinct city)

Subjects:
Hot springs

Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)

b. Oversize 2

A mosaic pavement (measuring 11.3 feet by 5) taken up at Utica on June 12th, 1858, and sent home to the British museum. Published.

1858 June 12

1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25.5 x 18 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm

Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist

A wash drawing diagram of the 'hunters mosaic' found in Utica. This may have been used to prepare the engraving "Plan of a Chamber Discovered at Utica" for Nathan Davis' *Carthage and Her Remains* (page 417). "On close inspection of this ruin, I decided on sinking a shaft at a spot which I believed was beyond the wall. A few hours of careful digging brought to light another mosaic, placed upon a raised semicircular alcove, appertaining to the same chamber. It represents a water-scene, and contains eleven different sorts of

Drawings in North Africa (associated with the Nathan Davis exped [...] (continued)

animals, among which I may mention the board, the leopard, the ostrich, the stag, etc." A net with floats, hauled by two men in 'curiously shaped canoes', led Davis to call this the 'Hunters Mosaic.' Positing that the scene represents an 'inundation,' the mosaic lends further proof to Davis's theory that Utica was originally a maritime city (419).

Mounted on the same card with "83. Ruins of a Theatre at Utica. May 21st, 1858. Published."

B.1977.14.22166

Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)

Subjects:
Antiquities
Mosaics, Ancient

Geographic Names:
Utica (Extinct city)

b. Oversize 2

83. Ruins of a theatre at Utica. May 21st, 1858. Published.

1858 May 21

1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25.5 x 18 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm

Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist

Mounted with Porcher's diagram of the "hunters mosaic", this watercolor was the basis for an engraving of the same name in Nathan Davis' *Carthage and Her Remains* (page 405). Davis describes the site: "In the direction of the cape we have the remains of a theatre, which must have been gorgeously decorated, judging from the numerous fragments of rich marbles which are here found" (408). The archaeologist forms the theory that the theater was practical for the representation of naval battles, as water could be dispensed from the nearby aqueduct into the amphitheater, then emptied into the harbor below. He concludes: "A double object was thus attained: the people were gratified by an attractive exhibition, and the public reservoirs were regularly cleansed" (407).

Mounted on the same card with "A Mosaic pavement (measuring 11.3 feet by 5) taken up at Utica on June 12th, 1858, and sent home to the British museum. Published."

B1977.14.22167

Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)

Geographic Names:
Utica (Extinct city)

Subjects:
Excavations (Archaeology)

Drawings in North Africa (associated with the Nathan Davis exped [...] (continued)

- b. Oversize 2 **84. The fortified town of Bizerta, in the Regency of Tunis taken from H.M. Schooner Kertch. June 16th 1860.** 1860 June 16
- 1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25 x 35.5 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm*
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
- The northernmost city in Africa, Bizerta is 40 miles north of Tunis, and 18 miles north of Utica. The date of this watercolor indicates that it was sketched after the completion of Nathan Davis's expedition, during one of Porcher's three return trips to Tunis in 1860.
- B1977.14.22195
- Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)
- Geographic Names:
Bizerte (Tunisia)
- Subjects:
Fortification
- Corporate Body:
Kertch (Ship)
-
- b. Oversize 2 **85. The island of Tabarkah in the Regency of Tunis. June 19th 1860.** 1860 June 19
- 1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 25.25 x 35.5 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm*
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
- B1977.14.22196
- Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)
- Geographic Names:
Tabarqah (Tunisia)
-
- b. Oversize 2 **86. The village of Tabarkah. [Tunis] June 26th 1860.** 1860 June 26
- 1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; sheet 23.5 x 35.5 cm, mount 36.5 x 52 cm*
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
- Tabarka is a coastal town situated in the northwest of Tunisia.
- B1977.14.22197
- Genres / Formats:
Watercolors (paintings)
- Geographic Names:
Tabarqah (Tunisia)

Series II. Diary and logbooks

b. Vol. 1

Diary1851 September
– 1853 January

1 volume (68 pages) : 8 pen and ink drawings ; 18 x 12 cm
Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , author

Holograph diary, labelled: "E.A. Porcher. Notes on Ports Visited in H.M.S. CLEOPATRA, September 1851 – circa 1853". Includes the following small pen and ink drawings: "purchase for hauling vessels up at Jardine's slip" (page 7), chart (18), map of Labuan (20), diagram (25), 2 sketches (26), sketch of a lighthouse (45) and a map of Amoy (55).

Porcher provides general descriptions of the ports visited by the Cleopatra, including hydrographical information, natural resources, natural history, and inhabitants. The diary is roughly divided into sections describing the following topics: the island and harbor of Hong Kong; monsoons, currents, and other weather patterns affecting navigation of the China Sea; Labuan; A Conflict with Pirates in Borneo, 1852; the Straits of Singapore; Shanghai; Amoy; Macau; Hong Kong's population; Burma.

Porcher begins with Hong Kong, describing its general topographical character, soil, climate, measurements, demographics, and geology. The main feature of the island is "the secure and convenient harbor," which he notes has "induced the English plenipotentiary to select this island, and owing to the few inhabitants becomes a much safer retreat for the English in case of another misunderstanding with the Chinese" (1-2). Hong Kong is preferable to nearby Chusan, in Porcher's view, which had a number of islands where pirates could easily hide or escape. Upriver at Whampoa, an island where foreign traders would unload their cargo onto smaller vessels to take up the narrow Straits to Canton, Porcher lists some foreign vessels at the dry dock such as the "Villa de Bilbao" (a Spanish frigate), a patent slip in Jardine's establishment, and the "Royalist," the steamer "Canton" (6). As a result of the European populace who resided there for several months of each year, Whampoa became a cosmopolitan way-station between the Chinese city of Canton and the Portuguese colony of Macau.

The diary provides valuable insight into how naval ships negotiated changing weather conditions in Hong Kong and in travel between South China sea ports. Pages 7-15 are devoted to explanations of meteorological information: the South-West monsoon, which occurs from April to October; the North-East Monsoon, which prevails from September or October in the north; typhoons on the southern coast in June and July; Gales that blow steadily in September on the China coast; and variable currents which depend on local wind, shoreline, and monsoon conditions. Porcher's log might have been intended for use by future officers in determining the best seasonal routes and naval maneuvers in the region.

He provides a general description of the Island of Labuan, off the coast of Borneo, which was originally proposed as a British base against piracy in 1840 and became a Crown Colony in 1848. His descriptions strike a note of interest in the natural products and cultivation – information useful for determining Labuan's suitability for settlement and resource extraction. Particularly interested in raw materials such as camphor wood - valuable for its gum, oil, and use as insect repellent – and rattan for rigging and furniture, Porcher stresses that "the most important product is certainly the coal," he writes, "both in a political as well as commercial view" (23). This point was of strategic importance to the British navy, as a steady supply of coal was essential for steamship operations, and "should the steam route through the Eastern Archipelago come into practice, this coal district would be of vast importance" (24). Porcher also speculates that the island could be conducive to the lucrative cultivation of cotton, sugar, rice, coffee (27). Another of its exports is leeches, evidently still used to treat disease.

Pages 29-44 of Porcher's diary are devoted to incidents in early 1852, in which members of the Cleopatra's crew was dispatched on the steamers Semiramis and Pluto to seek out pirates who had murdered the crew of a small trading schooner, the HMS Dolphin. With the Political Agent for Borneo and Captain Brooke from Sarawak accompanying the expedition, the Cleopatra first stopped at Gaya Bay in late January to meet with the Chief Pangeran Madand, "about his rendering the Illanun [Iranun] pirates assistance, particularly in selling them a boat in which they went pirating in" (30). Some marines disembark, but then all at once "the men in the boats were suddenly fired upon from the jungle, that grew close down to the water on each side, and one man killed and two wounded." (33). The next day (February 18), the boats return to the chief's house and burn forty houses and property in revenge for the previous day's ambush. The men in boats were again shot upon from the jungle - one killed, two wounded. Porcher illustrates select episodes from this incident (see "25. Official visit of the boats of the Cleopatra to the Pangeran Madoud's house [...]" and "27. Borneo. Skirmish with the Illanun pirates at Tooncoo [...]"). Devoting pages 37-44 to a lengthy description of the Iranun pirates, he explains the details of the pirate escape routes, hideouts, vessels, and fighting weapons (42).

With its rapidly increasing trade as a result of treaty port status, the formerly isolated trading center of Shanghai "is likely ere long to become the principal emporia in China" (48), speculates Porcher. Its advantageous position at the junction of two rivers allow communication with Suchow-fu, the capital, as well as Yunnan and Su'chuen [Sichuan?]. Merchandise such as silk, cotton, bamboo, bronze and earthenware attract interest, but food products most of all - "dining rooms, tea houses, and bakers shops are met with in at every step" (49). A temperature table "from Dr. Lockhart's hospital report" is included for comparison with Hong Kong's climate.

Porcher describes the southwest corner of the island of Amoy [Xiamen] as "the most important harbor in the province of Fuhkien [Fujian]," delighting in the "picturesque" scenery caused by the number of pagoda-topped islands dotting the bay (52). At the western side of the harbour is Kulang-su [Gulanyu], littered with batteries and once occupied by English troops after the city's capture in 1841. Porcher is quick to recommend Kulang-su for English settlement, "in case of another misunderstanding with the Chinese," for its strategic position between high ridges and as a source of fresh water (53). Moreover, the location's lack of significant waves makes it an ideal spot for repair docks (54).

Porcher describes Macau, the Portuguese colony, as "a far more healthy and agreeable residence than Hong Kong, on account of its being open to all breezes" (56). The lack of harbor in the vicinity is one drawback, however, that forces ships to anchor four miles away from the main town. He describes the means by which ships might pass the Typa anchor in the low water, and in monsoons. This description is followed by a population chart of Hong Kong for 1851, broken down into the demographics: Europeans and Americans (647); Goa and Macao Portuguese (489); Indians, Malays and Natives of Manita (221); aliens or temporary residents (13) and Chinese (31,983). The Chinese are then broken down by locations and occupations. A "map of Canton, Macao, Hong Kong, and the adjacent islands" on page 62 is in Porcher's characteristic, meticulous hand.

In his last pages, Porcher conveys the dangers of running aground along the Rangoon (Burma/Myanmar) coast in the Southwest Monsoon, due to its "many creeks and rivers with reef and shoal water" (64). And yet braving this is well worth the trouble for the traveler, as the town is situated on the shore of a great river, and the magnificent Dagon Pagoda is "supposed to be the finest in this part of the country" (65). During the "last war," East India Company surveys penetrated up the river, and the town has "every prospect of being a very flourishing place, after it has been our possession a few years, it will make a good building establishment" (65). The area known as the Martaban or Salween

river was ceded to the British government and the village of Amherst built on a peninsula on the mouth of the river. Moulmein [Mawlamyine], about 25 miles from Amherst, was founded as the principle British settlement on the northern boundary. A description and table of rainfall at Moulmein during the Southwest monsoons from 1845-52 completes Porcher's description of Rangoon's physical geography and meteorology.

Geographic Names:

China Sea
Hong Kong (China)
Labuan
Macau (China)

Genres / Formats:

Diaries
Maps
Pen and ink drawings

Subjects:

Harbors -- China
Pirates
Weather

Names:

Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878

Corporate Body:

Cleopatra (Ship : 1843)

b. Vol. 2, no. 1

Navigational Logbook

1 volume ; 19.5 x 13 cm

Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist

1849 May – 1853
September

Logbook recording daily positions during the HMS Cleopatra's tour of duty. It commences with an account of the weight of various articles on board and the dimensions of the HMS Cleopatra, 26 Guns. The vessel departed Plymouth on May 13, 1849. It anchored at Rio de Janeiro, Singapore, and Labuan before arriving at Hong Kong October 15, 1849. The vessel sailed to Bombay, Malacca, Penang and Madras in 1850 and made repeat trips to Singapore and the South China Seas. The Cleopatra made its return voyage to England (via Cape of Good Hope), and docked in September 1853.

Subjects:

Navigation

Geographic Names:

China Sea

Genres / Formats:

Pen and ink drawings
Ships' logs

Corporate Body:

Cleopatra (Ship : 1843)

b. Vol. 2, no. 2

Navigational Logbook*12 pages; 19.5 x 13*

Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878, artist

1857 February –
1861 October

Navigational logbook recording daily positions during his tour of duty in Malta and the Middle East on the HMS Hibernia, H.M. Paddle wheel Harpy, HMS Schooner Kertch, and HMS Boxer. Porcher departed England for Malta on the Screw Steam Ship Colombo (February 20, 1857). Joining the Harpy in May 1858, he sailed with the Rev. Nathan Davis to Goletta, Tunisia, to assist with the archaeological expedition. On October 29, 1859, he departed for Livorno ("Leghorn") and Naples, returning November 22 the same year. He sailed twice to Tunis on the Schooner Kertch, once in February 1860, and in June, 1860. He departed for Benghazi in the HMS Boxer in November 1860. The dates of Porcher and Smith's expedition to Cyrene are omitted, likely because it was not under the auspices of Her Majesty's Service, but the logbook picks up again on their return to Malta via the HMS Melpomene (under command of Captain Ewart) in October 1861.

Geographic Names:

Mediterranean Sea -- Navigation

Genres / Formats:

Ships' logs

Corporate Bodies:

Boxer (Ship : 1855-1865)

Harpy (Ship : 1845-1909)

Hibernia (Ship : 1804-1902)

Kertch (Ship)

Series III. Miscellaneous

- b. Oversize 1 **"Sketches taken during my Voyages & Travels. E.A. Porcher."** circa 1860?
- 1 drawing : watercolor, body color, on medium-thick beige paper, affixed to card mount ; 36.5 x 52 cm*
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
 Melville, Harden Sidney, active 1837-1882 , artist
- This drawing, a frontispiece study for an unpublished publication or collection, combines visual elements from select locations of Porcher's travel, repeating motifs from his own work. Depicted are scenes from Australia (Aboriginal Australians or Torres Strait Islanders, upper left corner), Burma (stupa, center), India (elephant and howdah, lower right corner), Hong Kong (Chinese junk, center), the Middle East (scene from Tunisia or Libya, lower left). The albatross, while possibly a reference to Coleridge's Rime of the Ancient Mariner, could also be a quotation of Porcher's watercolor "The Wandering Albatross of the Indian Ocean, July 1842," (National Library of Australia). An erased signature "H.S. Melville" at bottom right matches existing signatures by Harden S. Melville.
- B1977.14.22202
- Subjects:
 Voyages and travel
- Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)
- Names:
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878
-
- b. Oversize 1 **List of "Original Sketches"**
- 1 sheet (1 page) : pen and ink on medium thick beige paper. ; 33 x 19 cm*
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
- Inventory of drawings associated with the HMS Cleopatra tour of duty, numbered. Handwriting matches that in Porcher's diary.
-
- b. Vol. 2, no. 3 **Sketch** 1859 July
- 1 drawing : pen and ink, watercolor ; sheet 12 x 9 cm*
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
- Watercolor sketch of a young woman in blue dress, from behind. Inscribed at bottom: "Taken from the club steps Valetta, July 1859." Inscribed at top: "B.G. as seen from the club steps, Valetta, en route to [illegible]."
- Geographic Names:
 Valletta (Malta)
- Subjects:
 Clothing and dress
- Genres / Formats:
 Watercolors (paintings)

- b. Vol. 2, no. 4 **Sketch** ca. 1860?
1 drawing : graphite on paper ; sheet 11 x 6.5 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , artist
 Graphite sketch, with inscription: "Table laid, for our visitors at Cyrene"
- Geographic Names:
 Cyrene (Extinct city)
- Genres / Formats:
 Graphite drawings
- Subjects:
 Dinners and dining
-
- b. Vol. 2, no. 5 **Envelope** circa 1860
1 envelope ; 9 x 13 cm
 Pale blue envelope, addressed to "Lieutenant Porcher, HMS Hibernia." On the front of the envelope is printed "On Her Majesty's Service." The envelope previously contained the two small drawings listed above (items 3 and 4).
- Genres / Formats:
 Envelopes (Stationery)
- Names:
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878
-
- b. Vol. 2, no. 6 **Letter to Madelina Porcher** 1849 December
1 sheet (4 pages) : autograph letter signed, written in pen and black ink ; 25 x 20 cm 29
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , author
 Headed: "HMS Cleopatra, Hong Kong."
- A letter from Porcher to his sister, Madelina, in London. He expresses concern about the cholera epidemic in Europe. He also describes a trip to Canton with some fellow officers, which he obtained leave to conduct. He relates an outsider's view of the city around the 'factories' area, where foreigners were permitted to stay. He also describes Whampoa, the location where foreign boats docked: "This is a very stupid place... As the town is built on piles on a mud flat, but all the merchant shipping remains here, as they cannot get nearer Canton on account of the river being shallow about this." Hong Kong leisure activities is a topic of interest for Porcher, who lists a dinner with the Governor and the Club as the "chief amusement." However, he is careful to note the danger which the island presents to Englishmen: "it is not safe at present to go far into the country as there have been many murders lately."
- Geographic Names:
 Guangzhou (China)
 Hong Kong (China)
 Huangpu Qu (Guangzhou Shi, China)
- Genres / Formats:
 Correspondence
- Subjects:
 Cholera
- Names:
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 -- Correspondence

Porcher, Madelina -- Correspondence

-
- b. Vol. 2, no. 7 **Letter to Madelina Porcher** 1852 May 24
1 sheet (4 pages) : autograph letter signed, written in pen and black ink ; 18 x 11.5 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , author
 Headed: "HMS Cleopatra, Hong Kong"
- A letter from Porcher to his sister, Madelina, in England. He relates his disappointment that it will be next Spring before he can return home, complaining of the hot weather. Relating news about the Second Anglo-Burmese War, he regrets not being able to join the naval forces dispatched to the region. Reporting another trip to Canton, Porcher writes of a public execution: "53 losing their heads, in about 2 minutes." Sketches of the event were sent to the *Illustrated London News*: "I will not repeat it as you will probably see it, a short time after you receive this."
- Geographic Names:
 Guangzhou (China)
- Subjects:
 Anglo-Burmese War, 2nd, 1852
- Genres / Formats:
 Correspondence
- Names:
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 -- Correspondence
 Porcher, Madelina -- Correspondence
-

- b. Vol. 2, no. 8 **Letter to Madelina Porcher** 1853 April 19
1 sheet (4 pages) : autograph letter signed, written in pen and black ink ; 18 x 11 cm
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 , author
 Headed: "HMS Cleopatra, Moulmein"
- A letter from Porcher to his sister, Madelina. Addressed from Moulmein (Mawlamyine) in Burma (Myanmar), which became the capital of the British colonial holdings following the First Anglo-Burmese war. Porcher laments that he will not be able to return yet from his tour of duty, as he is posted to assist with annexation of territories following the Second Anglo-Burmese War: "A steamer left Rangoon for Calcutta for more Troops, as we have not sufficient garrisoned all the places properly."
- Genres / Formats:
 Correspondence
- Subjects:
 Anglo-Burmese War, 2nd, 1852
- Geographic Names:
 Moulmein (Burma)
- Names:
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878 -- Correspondence
 Porcher, Madelina -- Correspondence
-

- b. Vol. 2, no. 9 **Certificate** 1853
1 sheet (1 page) : written in pen and black ink ; 20.5 x 16.5 cm
 Massie, Thomas Leeke, 1802-1898 , author
 Certificate signed by Captain T.L. Massie testifying to Porcher's service on board the HMS Cleopatra, from April 24, 1849, to September 20, 1853, "during which time he complied with the General Printed Instructions, and has kept a log, and journal."
- Genres / Formats:
 Certificates
- Names:
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878
- Corporate Body:
 Cleopatra (Ship : 1843)
-
- b. Vol. 2, no. 10 **Certificate** 1858 December
1 sheet (1 page) : letterpress, completed in pen and black ink ; 20 x 16 cm 7
 A certificate signed by Commander Roberts [?] testifying to Edwin Augustus Porcher's service aboard the HMS Hibernia, from February 10, 1857, to December 7, 1858.
- Genres / Formats:
 Certificates
- Corporate Body:
 Hibernia (Ship : 1804-1902)
- Names:
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878
-
- b. Vol. 2, no. 11 **Certificate** 1861 November 1
1 sheet (1 page) : written in pen and black ink ; 20.5 x 16.5 cm
 Blane, George, born 1813 , author
 Certificate signed by Commander George Blane testifying to Edwin Augustus Porcher's service as Lieutenant under command on the HMS Hibernia, from August 6, 1861, to November 1, 1861.
- Genres / Formats:
 Certificates
- Corporate Body:
 Hibernia (Ship : 1804-1902)
- Names:
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878
-
- b. Vol. 2, no. 12 **Envelope** 20th century
1 envelope ; 16.5 x 9.5 cm
 A small manila envelope that once housed letters and fragments from the YCBA Porcher collection. Bears notes in red ink.
- Names:
 Porcher, Edwin Augustus, 1824-1878

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Anglo-Burmese War, 2nd, 1852
Antiquities
Chron -- 1849-1861
Excavations (Archaeology)
Fortification
Harbors -- China -- Pictorial works
Junks -- Pictorial works
Navigation
Pagodas -- Burma -- Pictorial works
Piracy -- China
Pirates -- China
Punic antiquities
Ships -- Pictorial works
Temples -- China -- Pictorial works
Voyages and travels -- 1850-1900

Geographic Names

Carthage (Extinct city) -- Pictorial works
China Sea -- Description and travel
Cyrene (Extinct city) -- Pictorial works
East Asia -- Description and travel
Gozo Island (Malta) -- Pictorial works
Grand Harbour (Malta) -- Pictorial works
Great Britain -- Colonies -- Asia
Guangzhou (China) -- Description and travel
Hong Kong (China) -- Description and travel
Hong Kong (China) -- Pictorial works
Malta -- Antiquities
Malta -- Description and travel
Malta -- History, Naval
Malta -- Pictorial works
Mellieħa (Malta) -- Pictorial works
Pulau Pinang (Malaysia : State) -- Pictorial works
Qrendi (Malta) -- Pictorial works
Singapore -- Pictorial works
Trincomalee (Sri Lanka) -- Pictorial works
Tunis (Tunisia) -- Pictorial works
Tunisia -- Antiquities, Roman -- Pictorial works
Utica (Extinct city) -- Pictorial works
Valletta (Malta) -- Pictorial works

Genres / Formats

Diaries

Letters
Ships' logs
Watercolors (paintings)

Names

Davis, N. (Nathan), 1812-1882
Melville, Harden Sidney, active 1837-1882
Porcher, Edwin A., 1824-1878
Porcher, Madelina -- Correspondence

Corporate Bodies

Boxer (Ship : 1855-1865)
Cleopatra (Ship : 1843)
Great Britain. Royal Navy
Great Britain. Royal Navy -- Officers
Harpy (Ship : 1845-1909)
Hibernia (Ship : 1804-1902)
Kertch (Ship)

Contributors

Porcher, Edwin A., 1824-1878
Melville, Harden Sidney, active 1837-1882