

**Other#**  
**Refer code** NJFLHI5380  
**Accession#** 2015.531  
**Received as** Bequest  
**Source** Norris, Judge John P.  
**Creditline**  
**Home loc** Archives:A:2

**Object name 2**  
**Object name 3**

**Accession date** 09/16/2015

018\3001255.JPG



Folder 7; Lt. John L. Purcell and Officers standing on deck, 1898

**Identity Statement:**

Title: John L. Purcell Naval Collection  
 Extent of the unit of description: 1 Box; .25 linear feet

**Scope & Content / Abstract:**

This collection includes correspondence, military certificates, news clippings, photographs, and other family records relating to Lt. John L. Purcell's service in the Spanish-American War. The collection also includes letters of condolence to Elizabeth Purcell Norris and her son John P. Norris.

**Context:**

Name of Creator: Purcell, John L.  
 Administrative / Biographical history: Lt. John L. Purcell was born in Flemington on May 31, 1856, son of Joseph and Johanna (Duggan) Purcell. He died April 15, 1912 at the Philadelphia Naval Hospital and was buried in the cemetery of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Flemington, NJ.

Appointed to Cadet Midshipman of the Navy in 1873, John L. Purcell later served as Lt. of the USS Osceola in the West Indies Campaign of the Spanish American War, where he was advanced one grade in rank for "Eminent and conspicuous conduct." He was later awarded two bronze medals for his service in 1898. John L. Purcell later retired from the Navy in 1911.

Lt. Purcell's dress uniform, hat, sword, notebooks, warrants, certificates, and logbooks have been received as part of a donation from the late Judge John P. Norris bequest.

Elizabeth Purcell Norris was John L. Purcell's younger sister and lived in Lambertville NJ for a portion of her life.

**Structure:**

System of Arrangement: Subject

**Disposition:**

**Disposition date:**

**Conditions of Access & Use:**

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Language of material: English

Finding Aids: In vertical file

**Allied Materials:**

Related units of description in this repository:

-MS Collection No. 57; Hunterdon County Historical Society Collection Part V. John L. Purcell Papers, Box 14:532-533

-2.01.00167 Cadet John L. Purcell, U.S. Naval Academy, 1873

-3.002.0421 Scrapbook, History of the USS Osceola

-2014.281 Certificate of Study from US Naval Academy for John Lewis Purcell, 1879

-2019.265.001 Bronze Military Pin. Sampson Medal engraved with the name of Capt. John L. Purcell

**Collection** HCHS Manuscript Collection

**Event**

**Medium**

**Catdate** 09/16/2015

**Status date** 06/05/2023

**Catby** Cornelius, Donald

**Status by** Robinson, David

**Display value**

**Status** Processed

**Condition**

**Cond date**

**Condition by**

**Cond notes**

**Appraiser**

**Acq value**

**Current value min**

**App notes**

**Value date**

**Current value max**

**Ins policy#**

**Ins phone#**

**Ins company**

**Ins premium**

**Ins rep**

**Ins value**

**Policy exp date**

**Temp loc**

**Date**

**By/Until**

**Invn date**

**Invn by**

**Subjects** Naval personnel  
Military personnel  
Military officers  
Wars  
Memorabilia  
Correspondence

**Classification**

**Search terms** Spanish-American War  
U.S. Navy  
USS Osceola

**People** Purcell, John L.  
Norris, Elizabeth

**Notes**

**Updated/by** 10/04/2023 08:12 PM dcornelius

**Dataset**