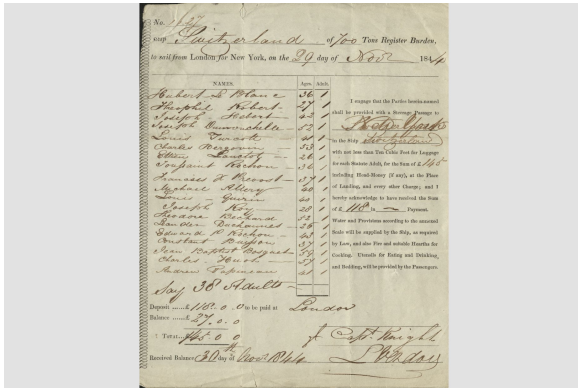


Document

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List of patriots returning from exile. Handwritten documents relating to the Patriotes' return from exile in two leaves. Patriotes of 1837-1838. Handwritten list of the first 38 Patriotes making the return trip to America as passengers on the ship Switzerland.

Accession Number 2017.32.1-2

Date 1844-05-29

Medium and Support ink, paper

Measurements 20 x 16 cm

Historical context

Following the rebellion of 1838, more than 800 patriots found themselves behind bars. Under martial law, ninety-nine were sentenced to death. Twelve were executed by hanging. Fifty-eight others had their sentences commuted to deportation to the British penal colony of Australia. Setting out from Quebec in September 1839, they arrived after a harrowing five-month journey.

In the spring of 1844, half of the patriots deported to Australia were pardoned by Queen Victoria (1819-1901) following public and political pressure. Thirty-eight of them managed to raise the sum required for their ship ticket from Sydney to London. Departing on July 10, they disembarked on November 25. They bought tickets for New York aboard the American ship *Switzerland*.

This list gives the names of the 38 patriots who boarded this ship on November 29, 1844, the price of the crossing and the conditions of their embarkation. They traveled as steerage passengers. They had to pay for their food in addition to their ticket. A public subscription in Lower Canada raised funds to pay for their passage.

The ship arrived in New York on January 12, 1845, and the group continued overland to Montreal, arriving a week later. The patriotes deported to Australia who wished to return home were all back in Lower Canada by 1846.

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