

George William Hubbell, Bridgeport, Connecticut.

Picture #1: A large silk on silk needlework picture of Ezekiel Hubbell (1768-1850) of Bridgeport, Connecticut, shown together with his wife and children. Attributed to Julia Anne Hubbell (1798-1852), probably worked in New York City, dated on the original eglomese glass matte 1810.

Picture #2: The above needlework is accompanied by a miniature portrait on ivory of Ezekiel Hubbell's son, George William Hubbell (1796-1831), who is shown in the needlework standing over his father's shoulder. The portrait is attributed to the Philippine School, where George served as the first U.S. Consul to the Philippines, 1830 - 1831. Sight Size: 3" x 2"

Background:

"The firm Smith & Hubbell operated from 1810 to 1819. The partners Joseph Smith and Anson Hubbell (ME# 377, 1787-1819) were based in New York on South Street. Anson was the son of Captain Amos Hubbell (ME# 117) and his second wife Eleanor Hubbell (ME# 494) daughter of Nathan Hubbell (ME# 159) and Anna Wakeman, "his second cousin, once removed".

"25 May 1810. The subscribers being entered into co-partnership, their business will be conducted with the firm SMITH & HUBBELL at 45 South St. Joseph R. Smith & Anson Hubbell."

The firm handled cargoes from all over the world i.e. Havana, Cuba; Bordeaux, France; Port au Prince and Aux Cays, Haiti; Algeciras and Cadiz, Spain; Liverpool, England; Lisbon, Portugal; Fayal, Azores; Calcutta and Madras, India; et al. The cargoes were as varied as the ports, some samples; quick silver, Hyson tea, Bohea tea, goat skins, livestock (Merino sheep), Bourbon coffee, indigo, sugar, gin, cedar, Naples brandy, flats for hats, fruit, Malaga wine, Madeira wine, specie, pig iron, rum, silk, turtle shells, claret, oranges, limes, salt, ginger and a 300 ton anchor.

They also chartered and sold vessels. George William Hubbell (ME# 1343, 1796-1831), the eldest son of Captain Ezekiel Hubbell (ME#515) and Catharine joined the firm at the age of sixteen. When he was nineteen, he was employed by the firm as supercargo on the brig CANNON on a voyage to Portugal and Gibraltar. In 1816 he was supercargo for a load of munitions to Buenos Aires, then fighting for independence from Spain. There was an oversupply and after some time sold the ship and cargo at a loss. The partnership ended with the death of Anson Hubbell 7 September 1819. George William Hubbell went on to be the Consul General in the Philippines where he died of cholera in 1831".

He was the first U S consul to the Spanish Philippine Islands and there is a memorial in Manila. From our 1995 family history:

" When Mr. Hubbell died in Manila, his family sent the monument to place over his grave. Since Hubbell was both a Protestant and a Mason, however, his interment was not permitted in a Spanish Catholic cemetery and the monument was kept at the firm's warehouse until 1904 when the city authorities placed it at Plaza Cervantes. In 1954, the monument was moved to the US Embassy grounds."

The inscription reads "This monument is erected to perpetuate the memory of George W Hubbell Esq United States Consul to this Island who died 3 May 1831 age 35 years. He was a native of Bridgeport State of Connecticut and son of Capt Ezekiel Hubbell"



