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[Gold Mining] [North Carolina] [South Carolina] [Gold Hill Mines, Limited, London, England] [William Treloar]. **1865-1883 Archive of Southern Gold Mining in North Carolina, part of South Carolina, and misc. Gold mining ephemera.** [North and South Carolina]: np, 1865-84. Archive of 1880s business correspondence between William Treloar, gold-mining engineer and manager of the Gold Hill Mines, Rowan County, North Carolina, and the Gold Hill Mine Company in London. Primarily letters from the London headquarters to Treloar in Salisbury, with several re*f*tained copies of his outgoing correspondence. Also includes an 1865 Civil War-era letter concerning the Stewart Gold Mine, an 1894 brochure on the Appalachian Gold Belt, and an 1895 gold-mining catalog from Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. Fair condition overall, with creasing, folds, staining, tears, and chipping; most correspondence remains legible.

Detailed listing of contents as follows:

1866 letter in French written to the future manager, Capt. Treloar of Gold Hill Mines;

(12) page pamphlet titled "Gold Hill Mining Property, Rowan County, N. C. Abstract and Opinion" dated December 2, 1878. This pamphlet chronicles the legal history of the land deeds and their successors from 1802 to the 1870's;

Legal sized "Copy" Memorandum of Agreement" dated May 27th, 1881. Memorandum is 3 pages long and is "Between The Gold Hill Mines Limited of No. 36. Palmerston Building's Old Broad Street in the City of London hereinafter called the said Company of the one part and William Treloar of Plymouth in the County of Devon Mining Engineer but now residing at Gold Hill Town in the County of Rowan North Carolina in the United States of America." Memorandum signed by the directors of the Company on page 3.

Circa 1870's topographical map, measuring approximately 32.75" x 22.25", of Union Mining Company's Estate comprising the Macklin Townsand and Standard Tracts in Cabarrus and Rowan Counties, North Carolina and also showing Gold Hill. Map surveyed by Ernest Hauessor?, Geologist and Mining Engineer. The map is drawn on thin paper and shows details of the mining tract. A few small tears and holes to the map mainly located on the folds;

(4) page "Rough Estimate of the Working Cost of Gold Hill Mine." This estimate is written on paper measuring approximately 12" x 8". The estimate is written in lined columns that numerates quantity, occupation, cost per day, per man, per month, and per annum. The estimate total at bottom is 96,770 dollars?.

(1) page letter dated July 6, 1881 written to the manager of Gold Hill Mining Company. Letter refers to "blackmailing" and involving an agent employing a New York lawyer to take up a claim. Letter written on "The Mines Investment Association Limited, London" letterhead;

(15) pages of 1882 business correspondence written to "Capt. William Treloar" Manager of Gold Hill Mines Company. Letters written on "Haile's Gold Mine, Lancaster County, S.C." New York office letterhead. These letters have suffered water damage in the past and are faded, torn, chipped, creased, etc. Some loss of contents to this letter group. Letters arranged chronologically for the most part with possibility of a couple incomplete letters. Some of the letters are undated

but circa 1882. Contents of this letter group contain much technical information surrounding the operation of the mines;

(3) loose 1882 Western Union Telegraph Cable Messages addressed to Manager Treloar of Gold Hill Mining;

Undated envelope (empty) from the "Gold Hill Mines, Limited, London" formerly containing letters from the board;

Approximately 62 pages of letters plus 11 Western Union cable messages glued to the backs of the letters. One finely written two page letter labeled "Private" is included. Letters are dated from 1881-1883 with most hand addressed from "The Gold Hill Mining Company" office in London. Some of the pages are on company letterhead. Letters addressed to "Capt. William Treloar, Manager of the Gold Hill Mines, Salisbury, North Carolina". Several of these letters are stuck together on the left edges. Remnants of yellow paper also stuck to the left margins. Some of these letters are now separated. Most letters are in chronological order with a few out of place and the possibility of an incomplete letter. This group may have been stored in the undated company envelope listed above. Contents of these letters covers the operations, costs, expenses, technical information, and much more. These letters provide much of the information pertinent to the mines around Gold Hill including the Randolph Mine, Barnhardt mine, etc.;

undated "Amalgamation Department Summary" work sheet circa early 1880's;

(4) large "Pay Roll of Men by the Gold Hill Mines, Rowan County, North Carolina." sheets dated August, 31st, 1882. Sheets have vertically lined columns containing categories listing 112 names (a few duplicated), station, daily works, number of days, total amount, and some pencil numbers written on the right sides. Sheets are creased, edge stained, chipped, torn, etc. Minor loss of contents;

(10) pages of 1881-1883 correspondence between Gold Hill Mining Company and "Capt. Treloar, Salisbury, North Carolina";

(4) page "copy" letter, dated September 1882, addressed to Manager Capt. Treloar, discussing costs, losses, at the Barnhardt & Reservoir Mines, referencing the Randolph Mine, and requesting more detailed information on expenses. Letter signed by "Wm. Baxter, Chairman."

(3) page letter written on London company letterhead dated March 1883 detailing business;

(2) page letter on company letterhead to Manager Treloar signed by the Secretary of the Gold Hill Mine Company and dated May, 1883. This letter was probably removed from a larger gathering. A section of yellow paper is stuck on the blank rear page;

Undated "The Gold Hill Mines Company" work sheet circa early 1880's;

Approximately 16" x 13" lined sheet titled "Gold Hill Mines Limited in Acct with Wm. Treloar" dated 1883. Work sheet has stains;

(5) pages of correspondence, January 1884, from William Treloar to G. H. Harvey "Whitchurch Villa Mannamead Plymouth" referencing payroll, the Randolph Mine and stock shares. Includes an undated 1880's note on Curteis & Pearse, Solicitors, Plymouth letterhead.

Brochure dated January, 1894 "A Few More Solid Facts Relating to the Treatment of Ores of the Appalachian Gold Belt." Published by the Inter-State Land Bureau, 918 F Street N. W. Washington, D.C. January, 1894. Circular No. 5. 10 pages. Staples missing with light stains where they were located. Paper folded. contents clean. This circular mentions the Haile Mine in South Carolina;

1895 Catalogue P. The Mecklenburg Iron Works John Wilkes, Manager, Charlotte, N.C. U.S.A. Machinery for Mining and Milling Gold Ores. 24 pages. Illustrated. Catalogue is folded with page edge tears, and light stains and holes towards the back;

Last item is a Civil War era letter written in April 1865 letter from an Union soldier who had 'escaped' a Charlotte, North Carolina Confederate Prison. He stayed briefly with H. Downing at the "Stuart" [Stewart] "Goald" [Gold] Mine in North Carolina. Letter addressed to the H. Downing's son and transcribed here:
Winchester West Va. (Virginia) April ? 11th 1865
Mr. Downing Dear Sir -
Having made my escape from the C.S. Military Prison at Charlotte N.C. on the 17 -Feby last and in making my way north through the state, fortune directed me to the Stewart goald (gold) mines when I mett Mr H Downing (your father)

with whom, myself, and my companions took supper on the 19th of Feby (I would say it was the best supper I had for many months before. On my departure from them he (your father) requested me to write to you (giving me your address) should I be fortunate enough to make my within our lines, "Thank" God I am again within those lines. He (your father) requested me to remember him to all his family and say that it is his intention to remain at the Stewart goald mines until the close of the war. I am glad to say that the old Gentleman was well and in good spirits at the time I saw him. I would be glad to hear from you at any time. I am Respy Lewis Maish. York Penn'a. (#72790) $5,000.00

Gold was first discovered at Little Meadow Creek in Cabarrus County, North Carolina, in 1799 by Conrad Reed, marking the first documented discovery of gold in the United States. Gold was discovered in the Gold Hill district of southeastern Rowan County in 1824, approximately 20 miles north of the Reed Mine. By the 1840s, Gold Hill had become a major mining center with 23 mines and a populationf of approximately 3,000. The Barnhardt and Randolph mines were among the most productive, with the Randolph shaft reaching 850 feet, making it the deepest gold mine in the United States at the time. Mining declined after the California Gold Rush and the Civil War, but resumed on a larger scale in the 1880s following the purchase of the mines and establishment of the New Gold Hill Mining Company, based in London. Gold was shipped to England and substantial production continued until about 1915.

The accompanying correspondence provides a contemporary record of the operation of the Gold Hill mines during the 1880s. Letters between mine manager William Treloar in Salisbury, North Carolina, and the London-based company discuss mining operations, expenses, production, and financial matters. Despite significant gold production, Treloar's correspondence indicates that operating costs remained high and profits were limited during the early 1880s.