

# CANAL ACCOUNT BOOK 1849

## OVERVIEW OF THE RECORDS

- Repository:** Crandall Public Library.  
Center for Folklife, History, and Cultural Programs,  
Glens Falls, NY.
- Creator:** George Sands (?)
- Title:** Canal Account Book 1849
- Dates:** 1849-1850
- Abstract:** Accounts appear to record purchases made (or charged) by or to a given boat (one per page) primarily in 1849. Purchases include oats and hay; potatoes; milk; horse medicine and other things.
- Quantity:** 1 vol.
- Identification:** Archives & Manuscripts: Account Books

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE:

It appears that this account book belonged to George Sands (1812-ca 1866), who is listed as a Grocer (1850) and Merchant (1860) in the census for Glens Falls. His name is written several times on one of the outer leaves of the book – but so are many other names. More significantly the handwriting of the page headings in this book appears to match that of the headings in an 1860 account book of a similar nature, which has George Sands' name (with that of James Brown) on the fly leaf. From 1862 to 1865 George Sands of Queensbury was taxed for owning a "Hotel 8<sup>th</sup> class" and being a retail liquor dealer. In 1850, although listed as a grocer, Sands was clearly running a hotel or boarding house as, in addition to his family, the household included 10 other people (9 men) including two boatmen, a teamster and a cooper. Holden's History of Queensbury lists him as a corporation assessor in 1862 and a fire warden in 1863 (pp. 106, 110). He appears to have died before 1868, because in 1870 his wife, Ann, and her Sands children are living with her new husband, Brayton Harris. The Harris' have a 6 month old son.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT OF THE RECORDS

Each handwritten page is headed by the name of a boat and/or its captain, followed by a list of dates, items and prices. The headings are all in the same hand, suggesting

that the book belonged to a store or merchant. The lists are not in the same hand, nor necessarily in one hand for the whole page. The earliest dates seem to be in late April of 1849 and carry through to November, thus covering one season on the canal. There is a single entry for April 1850.

## INDEX TERMS

**Topics:** Canals—New York (State)  
Canal—Glens Falls Feeder

**Places:** Queensbury (N.Y.)  
Glens Falls (N.Y.)

**Important People:** Sands, George (1812-ca.1868)

**Form/Genre:** Account Book

## ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

**Preferred Citation:** Canal Account Book 1849  
Center for Folklife, History, and Cultural Programs,  
Crandall Public Library, Glens Falls, NY.

**Accession Information:** Gift of William L. Richards, 2009

**Processing Information:** Described by Erica Wolfe Burke, February 2011

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE RECORDS

A sampling of the items includes: horses to hay 2 days; 20 quts oats; 2 bottles Soda; 1 gill rum; 1 quart milk; 1 Broom; 1 Loaf Bread; 2 lb butter; 1 pint gin; ½ bushel potatoes. Feed for the horses predominates.

<b>Boat</b>	<b>Captain</b>
Whale	Fitch
Hank	Orton
F.G. Barnard	L. Orton
M.B. Sprague	
Dolphin	Tice
H. Holbrook	Harmon Orton
Exchange	Hazard

Stranger	?B-----/Coneville
W.H. Harrison	Reuben Barthe
Helen Marsh	A. Baker
N.B. Northrup	Ferriss
Fashion	D.V. Brown
Express	Coffin
Ajax	J. Wright
Dolphin	Tice
Challenger	H. Putman
G.F.? Rockwell	S Bullis
N. Fox	
Hank	H. Orton
Challenger	Henry Putman
	William Bannan
	Vielie
A.N. Cheney	Norton
H. Holbrook	Orton
Dolphin	Tice
F.G. Barnard	L. Orton
J.B. Chipman	Tinney
Superior	Allen Steveson
Hank	Orton
H. Holbrooks	L. Orton
J.B. Chipman	Teaney
Empire	A. Muller
A. Baker	Underwood
F.G. Barnard	A. Allen
Canton	G. Reynolds
George Rogers	S. Stevens
Hank	Henry Orton
Troy	A. Tice
Kalmozoo	W. Bannan
Montpelier	Vielie
Yazoo	E. Roberts
H. Holbrook	L. Orton
	Patrick Hart
	Robert Barr

John Gage – may be a boat or a Captain