

E. I. (Buddy) Thompson
James L. (Jim) Riley
Realtors, Appraisers
Auctioneers

Phone: 252-6677



Office: 724 East Main St.
Lexington, Kentucky 40502

Auction Room: 714 E. Main
Lexington, Kentucky, 40502

October 10, 1977

Kentucky Historical Society
Old State House
P.O. Box "H"
Frankfort, Kentucky, 40601

Attention: Mr. Charles C. Pittenger, Jr.

Gentlemen:

Following our discussion of the oil portrait of Nathaniel Hart, III, it is my opinion that this portrait would sell on the market today for \$3500.00.

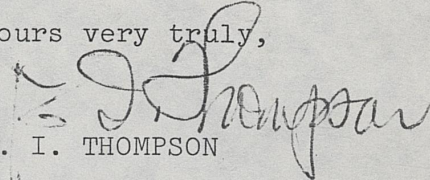
The Hart family in their own right were, of course, prominent in early Kentucky History, and there are a number of descendants that would be most interested in purchasing this portrait.

Of course, through his wife, comes the Shelby line, and the Shelbys are most interested in acquiring family portraits.

It is on these facts, and with my experience in selling early portraits of people with Historic backgrounds that I place my appraised appraisal.

I trust this information will fulfill your needs in the matter.

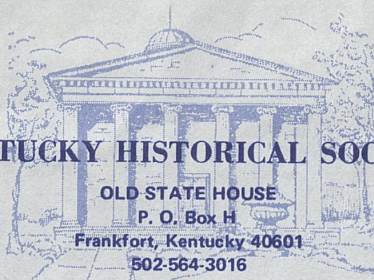
Yours very truly,


E. I. THOMPSON

1, EIT:hs

Governor Julian M. Carroll
Chancellor

KENTUCKY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Dr. Robert R. Martin
President

William R. Buster
Director

August 22, 1977

Mrs. Hart G. Foster
Watauga
Box 76, Route 2
Tryon, NC 28782

Dear Mrs. Foster:

Enclosed is a photograph of the Nathaniel Hart, III portrait as you requested. I have been unable to obtain an appraisal of this portrait as the appraiser with whom we have most often dealt has been on vacation. I hope to obtain that appraisal in the coming weeks and will send the information on to you when it is available. Again, we are most pleased with the addition of Nathaniel Hart to our portrait collection.

Most Sincerely,

Charles C. Pittenger, Jr.

Charles C. Pittenger, Jr.
Registrar

CCP/cz

photograph enclosed

Governor Julian M. Carroll
Chancellor

KENTUCKY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



OLD STATE HOUSE
P. O. Box H
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
502-564-3016

Amos H. Eblen
President

William R. Buster
Director

August 3, 1977

Mrs. Hart G. Foster
Watauga
Box 76, Route 2
Tryon, North Carolina 28782

Dear Mrs. Foster,

The portrait of Nathaniel Hart has arrived safely at the Kentucky Historical Society. I apologize for any inconvenience the confusion as to Ms. Perkins' arrival may have presented. As soon as an appraisal of the portrait can be determined by an independent art appraiser I will be glad to send that information on to you. Again we thank you for this valuable addition to our collection.

Most sincerely,

Charles C. Pittenger, Jr.

Charles C. Pittenger, Jr.
Registrar

CCP/ram

Governor Julian M. Carroll
Chancellor

KENTUCKY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OLD STATE HOUSE
P. O. Box H
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
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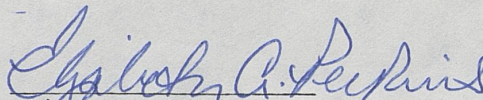
Amos H. Eblen
President

William R. Buster
Director

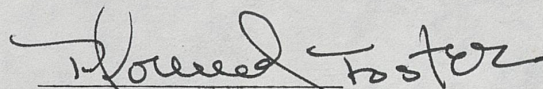
The Kentucky Historical Society has received as an unrestricted donation from the estate of Mr. Hart G. Foster, (Mrs. Hart G. Foster, Executrix of the Estate) Watauga, Box 76 Route 2, Tryon, North Carolina, 28782:

One oil portrait of Nathaniel Hart

Received by:


Elizabeth Perkins
Curator of Exhibits

Donated by:

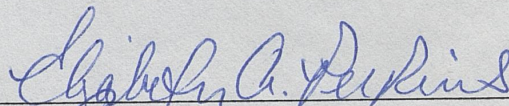

Mrs. Hart G. Foster

Received on: August 1, 1977

EP/ram

I, Ms. Elizabeth Perkins, Curator of Exhibits of Kentucky Historical Society, Old State House, Frankfort, Kentucky, do hereby acknowledge receipt on behalf of the Kentucky Historical Society, of a portrait of Nathaniel Hart, III, which belonged to Colonel Hart G. Foster at the time of his death. Said portrait having been delivered to me by Florence J. Foster, widow of Colonel Hart G. Foster, in accordance with a letter of instruction attached to the Last Will and Testament of said Hart G. Foster. Said portrait will be hand delivered to the Kentucky Historical Society to be placed on display in such manner as the director of said Society deems proper.

THIS, the 1st day of August, 1977.



Ms. Elizabeth Perkins
Curator of Exhibits of Kentucky
Historical Society

Governor Julian M. Carroll
Chancellor

KENTUCKY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OLD STATE HOUSE
P. O. Box H
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
502-564-3016

Amos H. Eblen
President

William R. Buster
Director

June 9, 1977

Mrs. Hart G. Foster
C/O McFarland and Key
Attorneys and Counsellors at Law
P. O. Box 1515
Tryon, North Carolina 28782

Dear Mrs. Foster:

I am sorry about my delay in writing to you regarding our recent phone conversation, however, I do not have your address and am consequently sending this letter to you in care of McFarland and Key.

As we discussed on the telephone, Ms. Elizabeth Perkins, Curator of Exhibits here at the Historical Society may well be able to stop in Tryon on her return trip from her vacation. Her approximate date of arrival in Tryon would be sometime in the first week of August. The Director of the Society has assured me that we will be able to send either Ms. Perkins or another member of our museum staff to pick up the portrait and the document as well as any other items which you may wish to donate to us at that time.

On behalf of the Kentucky Historical Society, I thank you very much for your generosity and patience regarding this transaction. Either Ms. Perkins or I will contact you regarding the exact date of pick-up as soon as this can be determined.

Most sincerely,

Martha Blazer

Martha Blazer, Registrar

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MB/ram

cc. McFarland and Key

Governor Julian M. Carroll
Chancellor

KENTUCKY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OLD STATE HOUSE
P. O. Box H
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
502-564-3016

Amos H. Eblen
President

William R. Buster
Director

July 8, 1977

Mrs. Hart G. Foster
Watauga
Box 76 Route 2
Tryon, North Carolina 28782

Dear Mrs. Foster,

I have just assumed the duties of Registrar as Miss Blazer has returned to school. I am familiar with our efforts to acquire the portrait of Nathaniel Hart your husband so generously bequeathed to the Kentucky Historical Society. I too appreciate your patience with our continued delays picking up the portrait in Tryon; Miss Perkins or Mr. Bill Long, Curator of the Museum, can be expected in Tryon around the first week of August. I will contact you in the coming weeks as to the exact date of pick-up.

While the Kentucky Horse Park would definitely be interested in your Troye, the Kentucky Historical Society has no Troye equine works in its collection and would very much like to complement our Troye portraits with an equine work. The Kentucky Horse Park will be opening July, 1978, Susan Higdan, Exhibit Director, has expressed an interest in items such as yours in previous conversations. I will be in touch with Susan Higdan and will inform you as to her intentions. While we would like you to consider the Historical Society as recipient of the Troye, I am glad to make arrangements with the Kentucky Horse Park. I enclosed a brochure on the Kentucky Horse Park that might be of interest. Again, I will be in touch as to a date of arrival in Tryon.

Most sincerely,

Charles C. Pittenger, Jr.

Charles C. Pittenger, Jr.
Registrar

CCP/ram

Enclosure

Governor Julian M. Carroll
Chancellor



KENTUCKY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OLD STATE HOUSE
P. O. Box H
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
502-564-3016

Dr. Robert R. Martin
President

William R. Buster
Director

December 7, 1976

McFarland and Key
Attorneys and Counsellors at Law
P. O. Box 1515
Tryon, North Carolina 28782

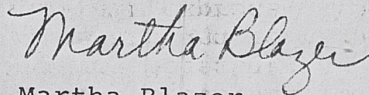
Dear Mr. McFarland:

We have received your letter regarding Hart G. Foster's bequest of an oil portrait of Nathaniel Hart, Jr. The Kentucky Historical Society is indeed pleased to accept this portrait.

We are unable to send a staff member to Tryon to receive the painting due to our very limited number of employees. However, professional moving companies are able to construct the necessary crates used for the transferral of fine art and to transport them by truck, air freight, or air express. You may wish to contact Emery Air Freight. Please notify us of the proposed means of transportation and of all costs incurred including crating, shipping and insurance.

Again, extend our expressions of gratitude to Mrs. Foster for this fine addition to our portrait collection.

Very sincerely,



Martha Blazer
Registrar

MB:hp

McFARLAND & KEY
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELLORS AT LAW

WM. A. McFARLAND
HUGH L. KEY, JR.

J. LEE LAVENDER
OF COUNSEL

POST OFFICE BOX 1515
125 SOUTH TRADE STREET
TRYON, NORTH CAROLINA 28782

TELEPHONE:
704-852-1065
704-852-1075

December 3, 1976

Kentucky Historical Society
Frankfurt,
Kentucky 40601

Re: Bequeath of portrait to Kentucky Historical Society under
the Last Will and Testament of Hart G. Foster.

Gentlemen:

Hart G. Foster died on June 22, 1976 a resident of Polk County,
North Carolina. Under Article Two in the Last Will and Testament
of Mr. Foster, a portrait of Nathaniel Hart was to be disposed of
according to instructions attached. It was Mr. Foster's desire
that this portrait should be given to the Kentucky Historical
Society. I am enclosing pictures of this portrait, together
with notes made by Mr. Foster and information concerning portrait.

Mrs. Florence J. Foster, wife of the decedent, is the Executrix
of the Estate, and as attorney for the Estate she requested that
we write you concerning this portrait.

It is our understanding that this portrait is possibly very
valuable and one which your Society will be pleased to receive.
We assume that you would like to send someone to receive this
portrait in behalf of your organization and tender to the
Executrix of the Estate a receipt for same. Will you please
advise us as to when someone will be in Tryon for this purpose.

Yours very truly,

McFARLAND & KEY

Wm. A. McFarland

WAM:rar

Enclosures

Governor Julian M. Carroll
Chancellor



KENTUCKY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OLD STATE HOUSE
P. O. Box H
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
502-564-3016

Amos H. Eblen
President

William R. Buster
Director

October 12, 1977

Mrs. Hart G. Foster
Watauga
Box 76, Rte. 2
Tryon, N.C. 28782

Dear Mrs. Foster:

At last, I have acquired an appraisal for the Nathaniel Hart portrait you so generously donated to the Kentucky Historical Society in August, 1977. I am enclosing a copy of this appraisal form from Mr. E.I. Thompson, a most reputable Lexington auctioneer and appraiser.

I trust this appraisal will satisfy your needs, I notice Mr. Thompson did confuse Nathaniel Hart's lineage with Shelbys as I believe Nathaniel Hart was Isaac Shelby's brother-in-law. No doubt this has little bearing upon this appraisal but I thought the error deserved comment. Again I thank you on behalf of the Society for this fine portrait and apologize for any inconvenience the delay in this appraisal may have presented.

Sincerely,

Charles C. Pittenger, Jr.

Charles C. Pittenger, Jr.
Registrar

CCP/cz

enclosure

E. I. (Buddy) Thompson
James L. (Jim) Riley
Realtors, Appraisers
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Phone: 252-6677



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Lexington, Kentucky 40502

Auction Room: 714 E. Main
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October 10, 1977

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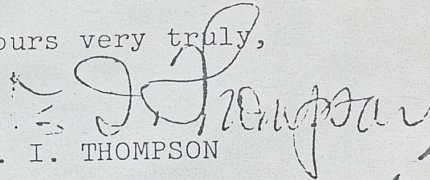
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Yours very truly,


E. I. THOMPSON

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Nathaniel Hart III, begins to by Historical Society by Hart Gibson Foster