Jefferson Clothing on Long-Term Loan

Monticello has received on long-term loan a collection of Thomas Jefferson's clothes and personal articles that belonged to Jefferson and members of his family.

The items of Jefferson clothing are a white linen cambric stock (neck cloth) marked “TJ/19,” doeskin sherryvallies (riding breeches), cream-colored nankin sherryvallies, brown-striped seersucker breeches, a cream-colored satin waistcoat, a white linen shirt marked “TJ/25,” a white hand-knitted shoe liner marked “TJ/6,” and a white linen bed sack (liner) with a blue silk case.

“We are thrilled to be able to preserve and exhibit these wonderful items,” said Monticello Curator Susan R. Stein. “The clothing is of particular interest, as these articles augment other surviving pieces. We are also fascinated by the bed sack or liner, which Jefferson evidently used when traveling.”

The personal articles are from both Monticello and Edgehill, the nearby plantation of Thomas Jefferson Randolph, Jefferson’s eldest grandson. The inventory includes five books, three handkerchiefs, three baby caps, two pairs of spectacles, two shaving mirrors, a shaving brush, a dinner bell, a set of scales, a pair of brass tweezers, and a chain dog collar.

The loaned items will be studied and preserved by Monticello curators and placed on exhibit from time to time. Some of the articles will be displayed for Monticello’s 2004 Winter Tour,

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*Feast of Reason: The Enlightenment at Jefferson's Monticello*, which will be offered from Jan. 1 to Feb. 29.

The loan was made by Stevens M. Moyer of Rochester, N.Y., and Elizabeth D. Moyer of Mill Valley, Calif., the children of the late Mary Kirk Moyer. The Moyers are descendants of Jefferson through his daughter Martha Jefferson Randolph.

Comments? newsletter@monticello.org