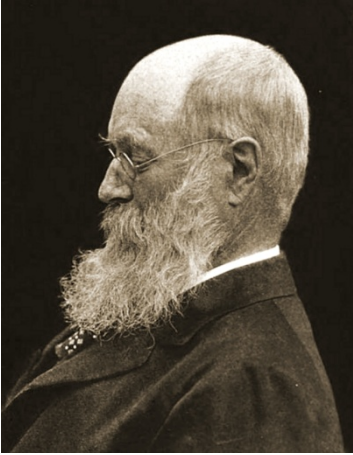


Charles Anderson Dana**1819–1897****Journalist, Politician, and Collector of Chinese Ceramics**

Charles A. Dana was born in Hinsdale, New Hampshire, the son of a farmer and store owner. Largely self-educated, Dana worked as a clerk in his uncle's general store in Buffalo, New York, before he entered Harvard University in 1839. Ill health and lack of money forced Dana to leave Harvard two years later. He participated in the utopian community of Brook Farm in Massachusetts (1841–46) before he joined the staff of the *Boston Weekly Chronotype* and switched to the *New York Tribune* the next year. During the many years Dana worked at the *Tribune* and served as its managing editor, he succeeded in increasing the newspaper's circulation and promoting an antislavery stance. He left the *Tribune* in 1862 over differences

with Horace Greeley, the newspaper's proprietor, and was appointed a special investigating agent in the War Office, where he was tasked with rooting out fraud. Dana served as Assistant Secretary of War from 1863 to 1865. He became editor and part-owner of the *New York Sun* in 1868, an association that lasted until his death in 1897.

Dana devoted much of his spare time to collecting Chinese porcelain, particularly Kangxi blue and whites from the Qing dynasty. He also acquired early Song and Ming pieces, which was unusual at that time. Toward the end of Dana's life, his collection, which included Japanese and Korean objects, totaled more than six hundred pieces. When Dana's collection was sold in 1898 after his death, the sale realized a total of \$115,124.

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