



## Guide to the Augustus D. Ayling Papers, 1867-1910

### Administrative Information

**Title and Dates:**

Augustus D. Ayling Papers, 1867-1910

**Repository:**

New Hampshire Historical Society

30 Park Street

Concord, NH 03301

603-228-6688

<http://www.nhhistory.org/>

**Collection Number:**

1971.028

**Author of Finding Aid:**

Unknown. Finding aid re-written and formatted by Sandra L. Wheeler

**Creator:**

Augustus D. Ayling, 1867-1910

**Language:**

The materials in this collection are in English.

**Extent:**

One box; approximately 500 items

**Abstract:**

Augustus Ayling (1840-1918) traveled through New England as a salesman between 1867 and 1868; his pocket diaries record the places he stayed and people with whom he interacted. He was appointed Adjutant General of New Hampshire in 1879 and served until 1907, during which time he saved invitations he received for his work.

## Access and Use

### **Acquisition Information and Provenance:**

This material was a gift of the Cape Cod Museum of History and Art in 1971.

### **Processing Information:**

This collection was processed by an unknown person at an unknown date. The finding aid was written by an unknown person at an unknown date but was rewritten and formatted by Sandra L. Wheeler in April, 2014. This finding aid follows the standards set-forth by *Describing Archives: A Content Standard*.

### **Access Restrictions:**

Available for research.

### **Location:**

The collection is housed at the New Hampshire Historical Society in Concord, New Hampshire.

### **Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements:**

This collection is on paper; there are no technical requirements necessary for use.

### **Copyright/Conditions Governing Use:**

For permission to reproduce or publish materials from this collection, please contact the New Hampshire Historical Society. Researchers are responsible for following all copyright and intellectual property laws.

### **Preferred Citation:**

Augustus D. Ayling Papers, 1971.028. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH.  
Date accessed.

## Collection Overview

### **Biographical Information**

Augustus D. Ayling was born in Boston, MA, on July 28, 1840. He served in the Civil War from Massachusetts. Following the war, he was employed as a traveling salesman for H.P. Hall & Co. of Nashua, NH, manufacturers of hair renewal. His pocket diaries, kept between 1867 and 1868, describe this experience. He traveled with his own horses and wagon through Connecticut, New York State, Massachusetts, Vermont, Maine, New Hampshire and Rhode Island, picking up supplies at railroad depots and calling on newspapers and drug stores. In 1869, he married Elizabeth F. Cornish of Centerville, MA and for the next ten years was a clerk to Charles A. Gillis, owner of R.P. Hall & Co. He was very active in Nashua affairs, holding town offices and rising in the National Guard. In 1879, he was appointed Adjutant General of New Hampshire and held this office until 1907, when he retired to Centerville, MA. He compiled the *Revised*

*Register of Soldiers and Sailors of NH in the War of the Rebellion*, published in 1905. He died in Centerville on January 9, 1918.

**Collection Scope and Content Note:**

Ayling's papers consist of his diaries, kept while a traveling salesman through New England in 1867 and 1868, and invitations he received while Adjutant General of New Hampshire between 1879 and 1907. The diaries (two volumes, pocket size, 1867-1868) describe his business travels through New England and parts of New York State, giving the names of and comments upon the hotels in which he stayed the people he met and his evening pastimes. Ayling saved approximately 500 invitations received in the course of his duties as Adjutant General of New Hampshire between 1879 and 1907. These request his presence at events sponsored by military organizations; inaugurations of governors; dedications of statues, buildings and memorials; commencements from schools and colleges and all sorts of public functions in and out of NH. The collection also includes correspondence regarding the testimonial dinner given upon Ayling's retirement.

Contents List

**Box 1**

- Envelope 1     Diary, 1867
- Envelope 2     Diary, 1868
- Folder 3       Correspondence
- Folder 4       Correspondence
- Folder 5       Correspondence
- Folder 6       Correspondence
- Folder 7       Daniel C. Roberts Poem and Watercolor

**Separated Materials:**

Fifteen folders of invitations have been removed from the collection and filed in ephemera under Ayling.

Subject Terms

**People:**

- Bachelder, Nahum J.
- Eddy, Mary Baker
- Floyd, Charles M.
- Harrison, Benjamin
- Jones, Frank
- Jordan, Chester B.
- McLane, John
- Nesmith, George W.
- Page, Calvin
- Perkins, George Hamilton [statue]
- Roby, Luther A.

Rollins, Frank West  
Roosevelt, Theodore  
Rossman, George M.  
Stark, John [statue]  
Washington, George [Centennial]

**Organizations:**

Granite State Fire Insurance Company  
Holderness School  
Military Organizations  
New Hampshire College  
New Hampshire State Library  
Battleship New Hampshire

**Subjects:**

Battleship New Hampshire  
Diaries  
Invitations

**Locations:**

Concord, NH  
Nashua, NH  
Newport, NH  
Portsmouth, NH

**Occupations:**

Traveling salesman

**Related Materials**

Ayling, Augustus D. *Revised Register of Soldiers and Sailors of NH in the War of the Rebellion*. 1905