



Guide to the Levi Woodbury Papers, 1813-1851

Administrative Information

Title and Dates:

Levi Woodbury Papers, 1813-1851

Repository:

New Hampshire Historical Society

30 Park Street

Concord, NH 03301

603-228-6688

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

Collection Number:

1963.008, 1963.045, 1965.017, 1965.037, 1972.083, 1973.032, 2014.086

Author of Finding Aid:

Carolyn Baldwin, 1973

Katelynn Vance, 2014

Creator:

Woodbury, Levi, 1789-1851

Language:

The materials in this collection are in English

Extent:

1 box

Abstract:

The Levi Woodbury Papers, 1813-1851, contain mostly correspondence related to the life of Levi Woodbury, a United States Congressman. The collection covers the entire span of Woodbury's public career. The majority of the letters date from his years as Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Treasury.

Access and Use

Acquisition Information and Provenance:

The accessions that make up the Levi Woodbury Papers (1963.008, 1963.045, 1965.017, 1965.037, 1972.083, 1973.032, and 2014.086) were New Hampshire Historical Society Purchases.

Processing Information:

The original finding aid was prepared by Carolyn Baldwin in October, 1973 with the assistance of M. B. Lacy. This finding aid was updated by Katelynn Vance in October, 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.

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:

Item title, Levi Woodbury Papers, 1963.008. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH. Date Accessed.

Collection Overview

Biographical Information/ Administrative Information:

Levi Woodbury was born in Francestown, NH, on December 22, 1789. Woodbury graduated from Dartmouth College in 1809 and then attended law school in Litchfield, CT. He practiced law in Francestown, NH, until 1816 when he was appointed as a Superior Court Judge for the State of New Hampshire. He then served as Governor of New Hampshire from 1823 to 1824. He was then elected as a United States Senator from New Hampshire for the years 1825 to 1831. In May 1831, President Andrew Jackson named Levi Woodbury as Secretary of the Navy. Woodbury was then named Secretary of the Treasury in 1834. Woodbury again served as a United States Senator from 1841 to 1845. He later worked as an Associate Judge of the Supreme Court from 1845 to 1851. Levi Woodbury died in Portsmouth, NH, on September 4, 1851.

Collection Scope and Content Note:

The Levi Woodbury Papers, 1813-185, contain mostly correspondence that spans Woodbury's entire public career. The majority of letters date from his years as Secretary of the Navy and Secretary of the Treasury. There is a mix of business and personal matters. The last two folders in the collection contain photocopies of letters to or from Levi Woodbury located in other collections at the New Hampshire Historical Society. All the items in folder 5 can be found in the John Farmer Papers. The documents in folder 6 are from other assorted collections. Each folder contains an itemized list of what is contained therein.

Arrangement:

The first four folders of the Levi Woodbury Papers, is arranged in chronological order. The last two folders contain photocopies of correspondence from Levi Woodbury, found in other collections at the New Hampshire Historical Society. This is not an inclusive list and researchers are strongly encouraged to conduct further research within the Society's collections. When an item has a number in parenthesis at the end, this number indicates the original accession number of that item.

Contents List

Folder 1 Correspondence, 1813-1831

1. August 11, 1813, Francestown. Letter to Isaac Brooks, Register of Deeds at Amherst, NH, requesting information regarding a conveyance of land, 4p., ALS.
2. June 28, 1824, Department of War. Letter from John C. Calhoun forwarding a map of South Carolina. 1p., LS.
3. October 22, 1825, Jaffrey. Letter to Dudley S. Palmer concerning presidential expenditures for billiard table etc. 3 p., AL.
4. November 1825, Superior Court, Grafton. Levi Woodbury, attorney for the defendants in the case of Ross Coon vs. Jacob Cass et al., 1 p., ALS.
5. July 9, 1828, Portsmouth. Letter to Samuel Fletcher regarding the law case of a Mr. Elliott, 2 p., ALS.
6. December 1, 1828, Senate Chamber. Letter to Reverend William B. Sprague regarding autographs, 2 p., ALS.
7. March 26, 1830, Washington. Letter to un-named correspondent regarding access to duplicates of public documents, 2 p., ALS.
8. May 24, 1831, Washington (duplicate). Letter to Samuel Dinsmoor, Governor of New Hampshire, declining the office of Senator for District No. 1.

Folder 2 Correspondence, 1831-1834

1. May 25, 1831, Navy Department. Letter to Henry M. Morfit regarding trial of Master Commandant James Ramage, 1 p. (1965.037)
2. July 9, 1831, Navy Department. Letter to Comdr. Isaac Chauncey appointing him president of a General Navy Court Martial, 1 p. (1965.037)
3. July 12, 1831, Letter to H. M. Morfit, 1 p. (1965.037)
4. July 21, 1831, Letter to H. M. Morfit, 1 p. (1965.037)

5. March 28, 1832, Washington City. Letter to David Loud asking him to send cider and apples to Washington, 1 p., ALS. (1963.045)
6. June 11, 1832, Navy Department. Letter to Mid'm Samuel Larkin regarding Navy appointment, 1 p.
7. June 18, 1832, Navy Department. Letter to Seth Cushman regarding Amasa Paine, 1 p.
8. December 21, 1833, Navy Department. Letter to Samuel L. Southard, Chairman of the Naval Committee, U. S. Senate, regarding nominations for promotion, 3 p.
9. January 1, 1834, Invitation from Mrs. Woodbury to Mr. Stark, 1 p., partly printed.
10. February 10, 1834, U.S. Ship Natchez (copy). Letter to Woodbury from M. T. Woolsey soliciting a Naval position for T. D. Mendenhall, 1 p.
11. June 10, 1834, Navy Department. Letter to U.S. Bank, Boston, MA, granting pension to William H. Allen, 1 p.

Folder 3 Correspondence, 1834-1840

1. August 7, 1834, Treasury Department. Letter to W. Boyle verifying the position of W. B. Parker of Portsmouth, 1 p. (1965.037)
2. December 4, 1834, Treasury Department. Letter to William Coventry H. Waddell, U.S. Marshall in New York, regarding extra charges in accounts, 2 p.
3. June 1, 1835, Treasury Department. Letter to C. A. Harris, Acting Secretary of War, conveying a copy of another letter, 1 p. (1965.037)
4. April 22, 1837, Washington. Letter to Henry M. Morfit enclosing a check for the Historical Society and requesting copies of his address, 1 p., ALS.
5. May 17, 1837, Treasury Department. Letter to William A. Ellis, Collector of Customs, New Haven, CT, regarding relief of sick and disabled seamen, 1 p. (1963.045)
6. July 14, 1837, Treasury Department. Letter to Jesse Chickering of Boston, conveying a copy of the Report on State Banks, 1 p. (1965.037)
7. October 27, 1838, Treasury Department. Letter to A. G. McNutt, Jackson, MS, regarding a shipment of standard weights for Mississippi, 1 p.
8. February 23, 1839, Washington. Letter to Nathaniel Niles, U.S. Representative from Vermont, suggestions submitted to the President, 1 p., ALS. (1972.083)
9. June 13, 1839, Treasury Department. Letter to W. A. Ellis regarding repairs to the Custom House in New Haven, CT, includes notes for reply, 1 p.
10. July 22, 1839, Treasury Department. Circular to Deposit Banks, Collectors and Receivers, with signature sample from William Selden, Treasure of the United States, 1 p.
11. July 22, 1839, Washington. "Confidential" letter to Nathaniel Niles, 2 p., ALS. (1972.083)
12. August 12, 1839, Treasury Department. Letters to G. W. Zacharie regarding recommendation for consulship, 1 p.
13. September 4, 1839, Washington. "Private and confidential" letter to Nathaniel Niles, on political matters, 2 p., ALS. (1972.083)
14. June 12, 1840, Washington. Letter to R. Rantoul and committee declining invitation to attend Independence Day celebrations in Massachusetts, probably Beverly, with some observation on "exclusive privileges and monopolies of banking institutions," 2 p., ALS.

15. September 20, 1840, Washington. "Private" letter to Doctor William Prescott of Lynn, MA, regarding politics, 1 p., ALS.
16. November 7, 1840, Treasury Department. Letter to William Cook, Bordentown, NJ, regarding land scrip, 1 p. (1965.017)
17. May 29, 1840, Washington. Letter to Collector of Customs, New York regarding flour exports. (1973.056)

Folder 4 Correspondence, 1841-1851

1. February 20, 1840, Washington. Letter to Henry Toland, Philadelphia, PA.
2. August 15, 1841, Washington. Letter to un-named nephew in New Hampshire regarding family matters, 1 p., ALS. (1973.032)
3. September 22, 1841, Senate Chamber. Letter to Oscar L. Keeler of New York City, answering inquiry on political figures, 1 p., ALS.
4. March 17, 1842, Washington. Letter providing autograph to Oliver L. Sanford, Brunswick, ME, 1 p., ALS.
5. December 13, 1842, Washington. Letter to N. C. Towle accepting invitation to speak at the Capitol Hill Institution, 1 p., ALS. (1965.017)
6. July 6, 1843, Portsmouth. Letter to George Newbold on banking and financial matters, 1 p., ALS.
7. August 30, 1843, Exeter. Letter to Samuel Morrill of Concord requesting payment for legal services, 1 p., ALS.
8. September 7, 1843, Portsmouth. Letter to George Newbold regarding banking, 1 p., ALS.
9. September 11, 1843, Portsmouth. Letter to George Newbold regarding banking, 1 p., ALS.
10. December 23, 1843, Washington. Letter to J. Bosworth of Carroll City, LA, accepting membership in the "democratic association of Carroll," 1 p., ALS.
11. July 12, 1845, Portsmouth. Letter to Gardner Towle enclosing letter from Bell and Tuck, 1 p., ALS.
12. January 11, 1851, Washington. Letter to William Claggett regarding an advance to him of \$30, 1 p., ALS.
13. July 3, 1851, Boston. Letter to John P. Bigelow and Committee regretting that he cannot attend July 4th Celebration in Boston, MA, and giving a "sentiment" for the "dinner table," 1 p., ALS.
14. October 26, 1844, Letter to C. E. Potier, will be able to speak in Manchester.
15. April 1, 1850, Letter from Levi Woodbury in Washington, DC to Charles Levi Woodbury in Boston, MA. (2014.086)

Folder 5 Correspondence to John Farmer, 1819-1832

1. April 30, 1818. Francestown statistics
2. March 5, 1826.
3. December 8, 1828.
4. December 22, 1828.
5. January 9, 1829.
6. January 12, 1829.
7. December 28, 1829.

8. March 24, 1830.
9. May 24, 1830.
10. February 14, 1831.
11. January 18, 1832.
12. August 31, 1832.

Folder 6 Correspondence from Levi Woodbury, 1826-1848.

Scope and Content: Photocopies of letters to/from Levi Woodbury to various people. The original letters can be found in the following collections at the New Hampshire Historical Society; Plumer Family Papers, Caleb Stark Papers, Isaac Hill Papers, Reverend Nathaniel Bouton Papers, and John McNeil Papers.

1. May 17, 1826, to Samuel Plumer [Plumer Papers]
2. September 20, 1831, "Confidential" to Caleb Stark [Caleb Stark Papers]
3. March 20, 1833, to Caleb Stark [Caleb Stark Papers]
4. April 19, 1833, to Caleb Stark [Caleb Stark Papers]
5. June 9, 1838, to Ralph Metcalk, Secretary of State [Isaac Hill Papers]
6. October 9, 1846, to Nathaniel Bouton [Reverend Nathaniel Bouton Papers]
7. November 21, 1846, to Nathaniel Bouton [Reverend Nathaniel Bouton Papers]
8. January 24, 1848, to General John McNeil. [John McNeil Papers]
9. April 4, 1848, to Nathaniel Bouton [Reverend Nathaniel Bouton Papers]

Subject Terms

People:

Brooks, Isaac
 Calhoun, John C.
 Chauncy, Isaac
 Claggett, William
 Cook, William
 Dinsmoor, Samuel
 Fletcher, Samuel
 Harris, Carey A.
 Morfit, Henry M.
 Morrill, Samuel
 Newbold, George
 Niles, Nathaniel
 Palmer, Dudley S.
 Prescott, William
 Southard, Samuel L.
 Sprague, William B.
 Towle, Gardner
 Towle, N. C.
 Waddell, William Coventry H.

Organizations:

Department of War
 Navy Department

Treasury Department

Subjects:

Politics

Locations:

Boston, MA

Francestown, NH

New Hampshire

Portsmouth, NH

Washington, DC

Occupations:

Lawyers

Politicians

Secretary of the Navy

Secretary of the Treasury

Related Materials

Reverend Nathaniel Bouton Papers, 1821-1878: 1972.022

John Farmer Papers, 1806-1838: 1961.002, 1962.001

Isaac Hill Papers, 1811-1852: 1963.014

John McNeil Papers, 1810-1854: 1982.072

Caleb Stark Papers, 1810-1818: 1977.048