

## Guide to the Ezra Sanborn Diaries and Accounts, 1839-1898

### Administrative Information

**Title and Dates:**

Ezra Sanborn Diaries and Accounts, 1839-1898

**Repository:**

New Hampshire Historical Society  
30 Park Street  
Concord, NH 03301  
603-228-6688  
<http://www.nhhistory.org/>

**Collection Number:**

1957.001

**Author of Finding Aid:**

Unidentified; reformatted by Korrena Cowing

**Creator:**

Sanborn, Ezra, 1820-1892

**Language:**

The materials in this collection are in English.

**Extent:**

13 volumes in 1 box ; 0.21 linear feet

**Abstract:**

The Ezra Sanborn Diaries and Accounts include diaries, account books, and an 1839 copybook.

## Access and Use

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

The Ezra Sanborn Diaries and Accounts were a gift of Mr. Trevor M. Rea in 1957.

### **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 and reformatted by Korrena Cowing in March 2020. 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:**

The materials in this collection are paper based and have no special technical requirements for use.

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

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

### **Preferred Citation:**

Item title, Ezra Sanborn Diaries and Accounts, 1957.001. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH. Date accessed.

## Collection Overview

### **Biographical Information:**

Ezra Sanborn was born at Danville on May 27, 1820, son of Peter and Lucinda (Collins) Sanborn. His father Peter Sanborn came to Boscawen from Danville. Apparently, Ezra was sent to school in Danville for there is a copybook of sentences and verses that he kept there in 1839.

Ezra married Sarah F. Elliott on November 27, 1851 at Boscawen. She was born at West Boscawen on June 5, 1827, daughter of Thomas and Betsy (Jones) Elliott. Ezra was a farmer and cobbler at Boscawen and Webster. Sarah died at Webster on October 11, 1903. He died at Webster on January 6, 1892.

Simeon Flavian Sanborn (son of Ezra and Sarah) was born February 14, 1857 at Webster. He married Hattie Blanche Witcher at Webster on January 25, 1887. She was born at Haverhill, N.H., on May 28, 1860, the daughter of David and Sally A. (Noyes) Witcher. Simeon worked as a carpenter at Haverhill and Warner. He followed his father's example by keeping a diary,

1870-1880, and allowed his younger brother, Elihu Q. (b. 1861) to use a few pages in 1872. Simeon and Hattie divorced on May 16, 1901. Hattie died at Haverhill on February 7, 1918. Simeon died at Warner on July 16, 1917.

Elihu E. Sanborn (son of Ezra and Sarah) was born at Webster on April 25, 1861. At Hebron on November 26, 1891 he married Lizzie W. Hardy. The daughter of David P. and Sarah D. (Fox) Hardy, Lizzie was born (along with her twin Lucy) at Hebron on August 11, 1872. Elihu was a carpenter at Hopkinton until at least 1920. Nothing more was determined about this couple.

### **Collection Scope and Content Note:**

This collection consists of diaries and accounts of Ezra Sanborn and his son, Simeon. Ezra Sanborn's diaries span seventeen years with some gaps. His diaries, 1861, 1862, 1865, and 1870-1878, are well expressed and written with excellent penmanship. There is a summary for each month and year. He makes some interesting comments on the Civil War.

Apparently, Ezra was sent to school in Danville for there is a copybook of sentences and verses that he kept there in 1839. One account book shows Ezra's entries as a farmer and cobbler. Another account book shows the sale and delivery of lumber. His son Simeon kept a diary for ten years.

### **Arrangement:**

The materials in this collection are organized into folders by person.

### **Contents List**

#### **Box 1**

- Folder 1 Ezra Sanborn diaries, 1861-1862, 1865, 1870, 1871, 1872-1873 [5 volumes]
- Folder 2 Ezra Sanborn diaries, 1874-1878 [2 volumes]
- Folder 3 Simeon F. Sanborn diaries, 1870-1880 [2 volumes]
- Folder 4 Accounts, 1847-1898 [3 volumes]
  - Ezra Sanborn account book, 1869-1875
  - Livestock raised and sold, 1847-1881
  - J.E. Sanborn, Sanborn Bros. accounts of lumber hauled, 1897-1898
- Folder 5 Ezra Sanborn copybook, Danville, 1839 [1 volume]

### **Subject Terms**

#### **People:**

- Sanborn, Ezra, 1820-1892
- Sanborn, Simeon Flavian, 1857-1917

#### **Organizations:**

- Sanborn Brothers

#### **Subjects:**

- Account books
- Accounts
- Copybooks

Diaries  
Lumbering  
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865

**Locations:**

Contoocook, NH  
Danville, NH

**Occupations:**

Shoemakers  
Teamster