

MORRIS CLARK (d. 1878 )  
 PAPERS, 1823-1912  
 Bulk 1830-1870  
 8 Boxes

**BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE:**

Morris Clark , son of Esther and George Clark, was a prominent member of Whitefield, NH. He was in the lumber business and had contacts throughout New England. He owned sawmills as well as timber land. He was active in the Democratic Party and served as Sate Representative 1849-50. He was active in town business and held position such as Selectman, County Treasurer and Assistant Marshall to help with the 1860 Census. He was a director of the White Mountain Railroad. His brother John in lived in Vermont. Calvin and Ambrose and Maria Pierce were in Wisconsin. He was married to Lucy Fisher (Cossit) Clark. They had two daughters Maria and Emily.

Dr. George S. Gove (1828-1912) was born in Whitefield, NH. He studied medicine with Dr. Albert Winch and J.L. Fulsom, and graduated at Dartmouth medical school in 1859. He served for many years as house physician to the Crawford House. Doctor Gove married Maria Pierce, daughter of Morris and Lucy Clark (1834-1912). Their daughter Anna Maria (1867-1946) became as physician and lecturer at the State Normal College for young ladies at Greensboro, now the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Dr. Anna Maria Gove's papers and photograph collection are at the Walter Clinton Jackson Library at the University.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE:**

The Morris Clark papers present a broad picture of a well to do family who kept in touch regularly. A surprisingly large part of the correspondence is from the nephews and nieces of Morris Clark. There are interesting pioneer letters from brother-in-law Ambrose Pierce and brother Calvin in the Mid-West. There are a couple of letter regarding a "fallen daughter" in May of 1843. The daughters write about school in Claremont and Newbury. When Clark was away in Concord during the legislative session he wrote and there are also return letters from Lucy. J.S. Emmons, a prisoner in Concord at the State Prison writes a long letter in 1852 about the philosophy of prison punishment and the conditions in Concord. There is a letter describing life in California May 27, 1852.

Lucy Clark's correspondence is mostly from her sisters Charlotte L. Cossit in Claremont and Harriet. Charlotte's husband Ambrose writes about politics and Harper's Ferry Nov. 16, 1859. The content is largely household matters. There are two letters to Mrs. Clark, 1958 & 1859, from the Mt. Vernon Ladies Association of New Hampshire. They hoped she would help raise money to preserve the house and grave of George Washington. The family correspondence contains letters to and from the daughters concerning school. There is a letter from Theron Dickey praising life in Canada in 1858.

The bills and receipts reflect shopping from Montreal to Boston. There are decorative bill-heads from Concord, Claremont and other nearby towns. There is a bill from a dentist, Sept. 3, 1853 for "plugging eleven teeth". The legal papers include Esther Clark's will, 1825 and a will for Morris Clark of Janesville Wisconsin Dec 15, 1873. A mill lease agreement and land sale agreements reflect some of Clark's business arrangements. Both the business and personal papers overlap as he did business with relatives and friends. Print materials include items regarding White Mountain hotels, the Orford Academy and ball invitations. The miscellaneous section contains a school paper on the debate issue of whether a woman's mind is inferior to mans and a parody poem about women's rights.

The business correspondence regards land purchase, sale of lumber and shingles, order of a circular saw, land surveys, etc. As mentioned above personal matters and politics as well as other subjects are also touched on in this correspondence. See Correspondents list at the back of this register. Letters here also relate to the White Mountain Railroad. There is a request for wood from Botanist William Oakes Sept 9, 1847. The legal documents vary from the purchase of a horse to the rental of a mill. They include a power of attorney for the Browns in Wisconsin, papers for Clark as assessor of state prison buildings and legal wrangling with Ebenezer Carleton of Bath and the White Mountain Lumber Company.

Estate papers include an inventory of the property of John T. Gove, 1852 and papers pertaining to William Oases, Samuel G. Clark, Daniel F. Cotes?, and Asa Theng? all from the late 1840's or 1850's. There are a few decorative billheads including the White Mountain Bank and Railroad in with receipts and bills.

The series on Civic Activities contains correspondence regarding state and local politics. Even the first 15 folders which are general have a good deal of political content including letters from James M. Rix, George Bellows, John S. Wells, Francis Peabody NB Baker and others. There are printed democratic circulars in folder 16. Other types of civic activities concern surveying, postal delivery, schools, and pauper support. His work with the Marshall on the census and as county treasurer are reflected here. There are letters in 1864 regarding the beginnings of the State Agricultural College.

The White Mountain Railroad series includes letters from O.C. Hale, G.B. Chandler, Isaac Watts, G.B. Redington, Charles Lane and others. their are announcement of directors meetings, discussion of location of a passenger station, subscription of stock and financial problems, lumber agreements, legal wrangling etc.

Clark was an agent for various insurance companies during the 1850's including Atlantic Insurance, People's Mutual, Beiknap Mutual Fire and Union Mutual Fire. There are blank forms, annual reports, policy documents and appointments as agent.

Dr. Gove was also active in Democratic state politics. He corresponds with John M Gove and J.S.M. Gove. Much of his correspondence has to do with purchasing and shipping liquor from Boston. There are three interesting letters in 1863/64 to William R. Allyn in Worcester regarding building an aqueduct in Whitefield. His cousin Jona Gove Daniels writes about his new home in Fairfax County Virginia. There is an agreement followed by lengthy disagreement regarding a medical practice agreement with Dr. Jas. M. Hartwell. Gove also appears to have been involved marginally in the lumber business, corresponding with many of the same people as Morris Clark.

The miscellaneous folder contains an inventory that may be part of the appraisal of the state prison property. there is also and recipe for paint, and some plans of land lots. There is a tailors ad for Woolson & Brothers in Littleton and some affidavits, one regarding counterfeit money.

## SERIES A: MORRIS CLARK

### Subseries 1: Personal Papers

- Box 1, fld 1-6 Correspondence, to & from, 1827-1864 (123 items)
- fld 7-9 Lucy F. Clark, correspondence to Lucy, 1838-1864 (41 items)
- fld 10 Family members, correspondence, 1846-1864 (23 items)
- fld 11-12 Bills & receipts, 1843-1864 (57 items)
- fld 13 Legal papers, 1825-1879 (20 items)
- fld 14 Printed materials, 1846-1863 (8 items)
- fld 15 Miscellaneous, 1895 (11 items)

### Subseries 2: Business

- Box 2, fld 1-25 Business correspondence, 1833-Sept, 1857 (442 items)
- Box 3, fld 1-25 Business correspondence, Oct, 1857-1869 (435 items)
- Box 4, fld 1-2 Land deeds & timber rights, 1830-1853 (40 items)
- fld 3-8 Legal documents, 1824-1865 (ca 110 items)
- fld 9 Estate work, 1843-1864 (24 items)
- fld 10-20 Business accounts, 1834-1872 (ca 184 items)
- Box 4A Business account books, 1832-1859, some undated (15 items)
- Box 5, fld 1-17 Bills & receipts, 1823-1872 (ca 550 items)
- fld 18-25 Promissory notes, 1825-1870 (238 items)

### Subseries 3: Civic Activities

- Box 6, fld 1-15 Correspondence, 1842-1865 (ca 264 items)
- fld 16 State politics, 1849-1864 (41 items)
- fld 17 Justice of the Peace, 1840-1864 (12 items)
- fld 18 Congressional speeches, 1848-1852 (5 items)
- fld 19-20 Coos County business, 1844-1864 (44 items)
- fld 21 Whitefield School District, 1825-1864 (27 items)
- fld 22-24 Whitefield Town Affairs, 1840-1866 (88 items)
- fld 25 Lists of personal names, purpose unknown, mostly undated (17 items)

**Subseries 4: White Mountain Railroad**

- Box 7, fld 1- 3 Correspondence, 1849-1865 (100 items)  
 fld 4 Legal papers, 1849-1862 (25 items)  
 fld 5 Railroad passes, 1853-1858 (5 items)  
 fld 6 Bills, receipts & promissory notes, 1851-1858 (27 items)  
 fld 7 Accounts, 1848-1858 (10 items)  
 fld 8 Printed matter, 1851-1861 (9 items)  
 fld 9 Miscellaneous, 1849-1856 (7 items)

**Subseries 5: Insurance**

- Box 7, fld 10 Correspondence, 1843-1864 (14 items)  
 fld 11 Co agent certificates, 1849-1855 (3 items)  
 fld 12 Application forms (11 items)  
 fld 13 Policies, 1844-1860 (12 items)  
 fld 14 Company reports and financial statements, 1849-1862 (11 items)  
 fld 15 Printed material , 1849-1863 (21 items)  
 fld 16 Policy renewal notifications & receipts, 1836-1862 (22 items)

**SERIES B: DR. GEORGE S. GOVE**

- Box 8, fld 1 General correspondence, 1856-1873 (37 items)  
 fld 2 Corres. re: dispute between Dr. Gove & Dr. Hartwell, 1859-1860  
 (13 items)  
 fld 3 Civic activities, 1851-1862 (17 items)  
 fld 4 Legal papers, 1858-1912 (9 items)  
 fld 5 Settlement of property of E.B. Gove, no date (1 item)  
 fld 6 Accounts, (19 items)  
 fld 7-12 Bills, receipts & promissory notes, 1850-1874 & undated  
 (ca 175 items)
- Box 8, fld 13 Miscellaneous (17 items)  
 fld 14 Printed matter (8 items)

## OVERSIZE REMOVED TO OVERSIZE FILE for " CLARK"

- Box 3, fld 13 land deed, Sept 17, 1853; timber rights doc April 15, 1854;  
and land deed March 17, 1854
- Box 6, fld 16 "The Black Republican Party" printed by the Democratic party, n.d.  
fld 17 JP certificates, county coroner certificate, appraiser of state prison  
property certif, certif as paymaster of 15th Reg.  
fld 19 Stafford county tax inventory sheet, 1851-1852; Coos County tax record,  
1859, "endorsement list" 1847  
fld 20 county tax amounts by town, no date; list of names re: telephone posts  
March 1863  
fld 22 list of promissory notes, Nov 9, 1855  
fld 24 land plan, no date
- Box 7, fld 4 White Mtn RR vs. Willard Carelton, 1854  
Ezekiel Hall vs. White Mtn. RR, 1861  
fld 7 White Mtn. RR accounts  
fld 15 Insurance broadside, 1855

## CARDS MADE FOR THE CATALOG:

Occ-Lumber business	Whitefield, NH
Lumber business	Bath, NH
Gove, George S.	Carleton, Ebenezer
Occ-physician	Rix, James M.
Politics NH 1840-1860	Prisons
Recipes-paint	Gove, E.B. -estate
Hartwell, Jas. M.	Railroads - White Mountain
Insurance	Schools
Women	Wisconsin
Washington, George-Mt. Vernon Fund	Occ-Dentists-Bill
Orford Academy	Oakes, William
Billheads	White Mountain Lumber Co.
Gove, John T. estate	Clark, Samuel A. -estate
Baker, N.B.	Bellows, George
Peabody, Francis	Census
Universities & Colleges	Hale, O.C.

## PARTIAL CORRESPONDENCE LIST FROM THE MORRIS CLARK PAPERS

(Note: this is not a complete list, only names of those who appear repeatedly or who were recognized as being significant.)

American Telegraph Co. 1863  
 Bailey, Alonzo Rockville?  
 Bingham, G.A. Bath  
 Brown, David Oshkosh, Wisc.  
 Bunton, D.A. Manchester  
 Burgess & Sons, Henry Wells River  
 Burke, Edmund  
 Butterfield, William Concord  
 Carleton, Ebenezer, Bath  
 Carpenter, A.P. Bath  
 Chamberlain, J.E. Concord  
 Clark, Amos Plymouth  
 Clark, Charles R. Plymouth  
 Clark, Clementine, neice, Lowell Mass.  
 Clark, Lyman Littleton  
 Clark, Morris, nephew  
 Clark, Thomas Plymouth  
 Clough, O.A. Concord  
 Cobleigh, M.D. Littleton  
 Cole, George W., Manchester  
 Cossit, Ambrose, Claremont  
 Cossit, J.S. Claremont  
 Crombie, J.  
 Cummings, G.P. Bath  
 Davey, John Vermont  
 Deming, Abiel Wells River  
 Dickey, J.N. Acworth  
 Dodge, Charles B. Bath  
 Dunbar, John Vermont  
 Dunn, R.B., Kent's Hill, Maine  
 Eames, J.H.  
 Farr, John Littleton  
 Fletcher, Hiram A. Lancaster  
 Foss, John N.H. State Prison  
 Gammell, A. N. Vermont  
 Gile, Asa Readfield  
 Gilmore, A.H. Fairlee, VT  
 Goodall, Daniel G., Lisbon  
 Goodall, Ira, Bath  
 Griswold & Lamb Mass.  
 Holt, D. Wells River

Hall, Isaac N. Vermont  
Holyoke, C&N Portland  
Ingalls, Cyrus Denmark  
Jackman, D.K. Bath  
Jackson, L. Claremont  
Johnston, William Ryegate  
Kenney, E.O. Littleton  
Keyes, F & H Middleton  
King, Charles F.  
Lane, Charles Laconia/Concord  
Leslie, George Newbury  
Liscomb, Charles Moretown  
Littlefield, Joshua E. Mass.  
Lyon, John E. Mass.  
Merrill, George A. Vermont  
Nesmith, George W.  
Ormsbee, A. Maine  
Osgood, Joshua B. Maine  
Parker, MH & L Lisbon  
Pinkham, D.O. Lancaster  
Plaisted, B.H. Jefferson  
Rand, C.W. Littleton  
Redington, H.C. & Co. Littleton  
Rix, James M., Lancaster  
Roberts, Daniel Groton  
Robinson, H.A. Vermont  
Roby, J.S. Lancaster  
Searles, E. Lisbon  
Sinclair, John G? Littleton/Concord  
Smith & Wallace, Manchester  
Stephenson, T Lancaster  
Stevens, G. R.I.  
Stevenson, Rueben Vermont  
Taisey, Robert Mass.  
Tappan, John W. Claremont  
Underwood, A. Wells River  
Walker, H.C.  
Wallace, A.C. Manchester  
Watts, Isaac, Vermont  
Welch, Darling & Clark, Vermont  
Woods, Andrew S. Bath  
Wyse, John & Co. Middleton