BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:

Jonathan Freeman (1745-1808) was for forty years Treasurer of Dartmouth College. He was a representative to the U.S. Congress 1797-1801 as well as a state representative and member of the council of NH. He married Sarah Huntington of Norwich, CT.

Asa Freeman (1788-1867) was born in Hanover, NH. He received his training in the law at the office of his brother Payton R. Freeman in Portsmouth and with Isaac Lyman of York Maine. He practiced in York Maine until 1818 when he moved to Dover, NH. He was appointed a commissioner of the United States and elected delegate to the constitutional convention in 1850 and to the state senate in 1851 and 1852. In 1857 he was appointed register of Probate for Strafford County. He married Frances, daughter of Hon. William K. Atkinson in 1820 and they had four children.

Francis Atkinson Freeman (1822-1884) was born in Dover, NH. He studied law in his father's office and with Charles W. Woodman and at Harvard Law School. In 1847 he began his practice in Boston, but shortly thereafter moved to California. He served as Judge of the County Court until his return to NH in 1872.

William King Atkinson (1765-1820) was born in Portsmouth, NH with the name of William King. He studied law with John Pickering in Portsmouth. He practiced in Berwick Maine for one year and then moved to Dover in 1787. At the death of his uncle George Atkinson, he received a large inheritance on condition that he change his name to Atkinson, which he did. About the same time he was appointed Register of Probate for Strafford County. He was also appointed first solicitor in his area to conduct business in the absence of the Attorney-General. From 1803-1805 he was appointed and served as a Justice of the Superior Court of Judicature. In 1807 he was appointed Attorney General and served for five years. Atkinson was married to Abigail, daughter of Judge John Pickering of Portsmouth, in 1788. His daughter Frances married Asa Freeman.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE:

The papers of Jonathan Freeman consist of correspondence to him from prominent business and political figures such as
Ezra Woodward, J.T. Gilman, Benjamin Gilbert and Nathaniel Rogers (see correspondence list at end of Register). Matters addressed are state, national and foreign politics including references to the French Revolution and the U.S. Navy. Land taxes, the building of a turnpike to Hanover and military matters are also mentioned.

The papers of Asa Freeman contain correspondence to his son Francis then away at college concerning money, clothing, studies, etc. In a later letter he refers to his son’s business in California. Asa Freeman’s business correspondence concerns court business and personal matters and comes from prominent NH figures (see correspondent list) and a letter with views on slavery from Nathaniel P. Rogers

Frances A. Freeman’s correspondence is largely concerned with college activities, studies and his health and the problems of settling in a career and keeping in touch after college.

JONATHAN FREEMAN
Fld 1  Correspondence, 1787-1796 (6 items)
2  Correspondence, 1797 (6 items)
3  Correspondence, 1798 (12 items)
4  Correspondence, 1799 (6 items)
5  Correspondence, 1800-1806 (10 items)

WILLIAM KING ATKINSON
Fld 6-7  Will, legal papers, name changes, 1775-99 (10 items)
8  Correspondence, 1800-1837 (14 items)

ASA FREEMAN
Fld 9  Correspondence by Asa Freeman, 1838-1867 (7 items)
10  Correspondence to Asa Freeman, 1819-1868 (8 items)

FRANCIS ATKINSON FREEMAN
Fld 11  Correspondence from F.A.F. to Asa Freeman, 1838-1841 (16 items)
12-15  Correspondence to F.A.F. from others, 1838-1872 (35 items)

CORRESPONDENTS LIST of Jonathan Freeman:
Bellows, Thomas 1798
Bonine, Sylvanus? 1800
Buck, Daniel 1798
Cass, Jonathan 1798
Cleveland, Josiah 1799
Conner, Benjamin 1796
Dunham, Capt. J. 1799
Gilbert, Benjamin 1797 (2), 1798, 1799 (2), 1800
Gilman, J.T. 1796, 1798
Hough, David 1800
Hutchinson, A. 1792
Kent, William A. 1798, 1800
Kimball, Hazen 1800
Lathrop, D? 1791
Niles, Nathaniel 1797, 1800
Payne, Elipha 1789
Ripley, John P., 1792
Rogers, Nathaniel 1798 (2)
Spaulding, ? 1799
Sullivan, Jonathan, 1790
Tilton, Henry 1800
Webb, Azariah 1794
Wells, William Hill 1801
Whipple, Oliver 1798
Woodward, Ezra 1787, 1797, 1798 (2), 1800 (2)
Woodward, William 1798, 1799

Correspondents list for William K. Atkinson:

Dane, N. 1800, 1808
Hale, William 1816
Humphrey, D. 1806
Lord, Jonathan 1811
Plumer, William 1806
Sigourney, Elisha 1808
Smith, Jeremiah 1803, 1814
Sparhawk, Nathaniel 1807
Steele, Jonathan 1801
Thatcher, George 1801
Willard, Joseph 1837
Wingate, Paine 1804

Correspondents list for Asa Freeman:

Bartlett, Icabod 1837
Moore, Jacob B. 1849
Morse, Samuel F.B. 1839
Plumer, William 1850
Rogers, Nathaniel D. 1842
Root, Rev. David 1841 (2)
Webster, Daniel 1819
Woods, Leonard 1839
Correspondents of Frances A. Freeman

Bartlett, Icabod 1839, 1840
Cary?, H. 1840, 41
Clary, Timothy F. 1841 (2)
Dickenson, Fred. William 1840, 41, 43
Duxbury, Charles, 1841 (2)
Guppy, Joshua G. 1844 (2)
Haddock, Charles B. 1841
Hoskins?, I.C.C. 1841
Hubbard, G.G. 1841
Jones, J.W. 1841
Kent, Alex H. 1841 (4), 42 (2), 43
Kitteridge, J. 1841
Plumer, William 1848 (5)
Putman, E.W. 1841 (2)

CARDS MADE FOR CATALOG:

U.S.- Navy
Politics - U.S. Wills
Politics - NH Inventories
French Revolution Occ-lawyer
Roads-Hanover Occ-Judge
Portsmouth, NH Colleges & Universities
Freeman, Asa (1788-1867) Dover, NH
Webster, Daniel Plumer, William
Gilbert, Benjamin Gilman J.T.
Freeman, Frances A. (1822-1884) Rogers, Nathaniel
Atkinson, William K. (1765-1820)
Woodward, Ezra Morse, Samuel F.B.
Moore, Jacob B. Bartlett, Icabod