



Guide to the Henry F. French Papers, 1850-1870

Administrative Information

Title and Dates:

Henry F. French Papers, 1850-1870

Repository:

New Hampshire Historical Society

30 Park Street

Concord, NH 03301

603-228-6688

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

Collection Number:

1991.031

Author of Finding Aid:

Unidentified; reformatted by Korrena Cowing

Creator:

French, Henry Flagg, 1813-1885

Language:

The materials in this collection are in English.

Extent:

1 box ; 0.21 linear feet

Abstract:

The Henry F. French Papers contain typescripts of his business correspondence, which includes letters while on an 1857 trip to England and Europe.

Access and Use

Acquisition Information and Provenance:

The Henry F. French Papers were the gift of Lea Stark on March 15, 1991.

Processing Information:

This collection was processed by an unidentified person at an unknown date. The finding aid was written by an unidentified person at an unknown date and reformatted by Korrena Cowing in June 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 materials 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, Henry F. French Papers, 1991.031. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH.
Date accessed.

Collection Overview

Biographical Information:

Henry Flagg French, the son of Daniel and Sarah W. (Flagg) Bell French, was born August 14, 1813 at Chester, NH. He attended Harvard and prepared for the law in his father's office in Chester. He was admitted to the bar in 1835 and practiced in Chester until 1840, when he moved briefly to Portsmouth and then to Exeter, NH. He held a number of offices including the following: county solicitor, 1838-1848; bank commissioner, 1848-1852; Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, 1855-1859; assistant district attorney for the county of Suffolk, MA, 1862-1865; and second assistant secretary of the United States Treasury, 1876-1885.

French had a lifelong interest in agriculture and traveled to Europe on an agricultural mission. He later gave addresses and published his observations in letters to the *New England Farmer* book series, and a volume he published on farm drainage.

French married first Anne, daughter of Chief Justice William M. and Betsey (Smith) Richardson, on October 9, 1838 at Chester. Anne and Henry had four children. Anne died August 29, 1856 at Exeter. On September 29, 1859 he married his second wife Pamela M., daughter of John and Diantha (Aldrich) Prentiss of Keene, NH. Pamela was born October 27, 1821 at Keene. Henry died November 29, 1885 at Concord, MA. Pamela died there March 9, 1895.

Collection Scope and Content Note:

These papers are typescripts of the originals which are still privately held. Most of them are from Henry F. French to his sisters, with a couple to his wife and children from Europe. Family matters are the usual topic, health, problems with children in school, and comments about his writing. From April to September 1857, there are letters describing his voyage to Europe and sightseeing in England, Belgium, Prussia, and other stops during the agricultural mission.

Arrangement:

The materials in this collection are arranged chronologically.

Contents List

Box 1

Folder 1	Correspondence, 1850-1853
Folder 2	Correspondence, 1854-1855
Folder 3	Correspondence, 1856
Folder 4	Correspondence, 1857 January-May
Folder 5	Correspondence, 1857 June
Folder 6	Correspondence, 1857 July
Folder 7	Correspondence, 1857 August-1859 March
Folder 8	Correspondence, 1860 May-1870 March

Subject Terms

People:

French family
French, Henry Flagg, 1813-1885

Subjects:

Agriculture
Correspondence
Travel

Locations:

Europe
Exeter, NH

Occupations:

Authors
Farmer
Judges
Lawyers

Related Materials

Archives

Benjamin B. and Henry F. French Papers, 1966.011

Library

French, Henry F. *Farm drainage : the principles, processes, and effects of draining land with stones, wood, plows, and open ditches, and especially with tiles*. New York: C.M. Saxton, 1860. Call number: 631 F874

French, Henry Flagg. *Chester fifty years ago*. [1876]. Call number: Vault 977.8b C525f