



Guide to the Chester Jordan Papers, 1839-1914

Administrative Information

Title and Dates:

Chester Jordan Papers, 1839-1914

Repository:

New Hampshire Historical Society

30 Park Street

Concord, NH 03301

603-228-6688

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

Collection Number:

2014.083

Author of Finding Aid:

Suzanne Huggard

Creator:

Jordan, Chester B. (Chester Bradley), 1839-1914

Language:

The materials in this collection are in English.

Extent:

2 boxes and one oversized folder

Abstract:

Chester Jordan was an attorney and resident of Lancaster, NH, who served as Governor of New Hampshire one term, 1901-1902. This collection contains letters and documents related to his term as governor as well as material related to other areas of his life such as Dartmouth alumni, Speaker of New Hampshire House, clerk of the court and appointment to Naval Office in Boston, MA.

Access and Use

Acquisition Information and Provenance:

The Chester Jordan Collection was a gift of The Written Word Autographs on October 7, 2014.

Processing Information:

This collection was processed by Suzanne Huggard in November and December 2014, The finding aid was written by Suzanne Huggard in January 2015. 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:

This collection is in good condition and there are no special handling requirements.

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:

Chester B. Jordan Papers, 2014.83. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH.
Date Accessed.

Collection Overview

Biographical Information:

Chester B. Jordan was born in Colebrook, NH, on October 15, 1839. He attended Colebrook Academy and later Kimball Union Academy, graduating in 1866. He became owner of the *Coos Republican* in 1870. Jordan taught school for several years, and served as principal and superintendent of schools for Colebrook. Jordan was admitted to the bar in 1875 and went on to establish his legal career. In 1879, he married Ida Rose Nutter and they had four children. In 1868, he became Coos County Court Clerk. He served on Governor Straw's staff from 1872 to 1873; was a member and Speaker of the New Hampshire House of Representatives from 1880 to 1882; and served as a member and President of the New Hampshire State Senate from 1896 to 1898. He was elected Governor of New Hampshire and served in that office from 1901 to 1902. After leaving the office of governor, he remained active in his legal practice and also became involved in the banking industry. Governor Chester B. Jordan died August 24, 1914 in Lancaster, NH.

Collection Scope and Content Note:

The Chester B. Jordan Papers is a collection of letters, speeches and documents produced over a period from approximately 1867 to 1909. This time range includes the period of Jordan's one term as Governor of New Hampshire from 1901 to 1902. The earliest document is an 1867 petition supporting Jordan for County School Commissioner. There are several diaries covering the years 1873 to 1877 and 1879. Other papers refer to his law partnership in Lancaster, NH. He was apparently a much sought after speaker as there are copies of many speeches given at various functions and events in New Hampshire, primarily in the Lancaster area. Of particular note is a letter from the New York Bench and Bar Association regarding the "Kelly Murder Case," as well as some correspondence from Mike Mullaly to Governor Jordan in 1901 regarding the infiltration of New England by the "Irish Mafia".

Arrangement:

The collection is arranged in roughly chronological order (where possible, if dates are known) beginning with the earliest document (1867) and the diaries in box one. Box two begins with his election as governor and contains various speeches, documents and declarations made during this time 1901-1902. This is followed by copies of many speeches and letters to and from Jordan up to 1909.

Contents List**Box 1**

Folder A	Indicator of separated materials – oversized folder
Folder 1	Finding aid; biographical data and acquisition information
Folder 2	1867 petition supporting Jordan for County School Commissioner
Folder 3	Diaries 1873-1877, 1879
Folder 4	1881 appointment admitting Jordan to practice before US Circuit Court
Folder 5	1885 law partnership agreement Jordan and Irving W. Drew
Folder 6	1885 speech Lancaster Town Hall Memorial Services
Folder 7	2 speeches to Lancaster HS graduating class – undated
Folder 8	1891 letter to editor re: Pastor Burnaby of Congregational Church
Folder 9	1894 speeches and notes on 100 th anniversary of Congregational Church
Folder 10	1898 speech on Town History (Lancaster?)
Folder 11	1908 resolution to accept gift of Town Library Building from J.W. Weeks
Folder 12	Newspaper 'remembrance' of Judge W. H. Shurtleiff
Folder 13	Speech- dedication of Lancaster Pioneers Monument
Folder 14	1888 Appointment to Boston Naval Office, letters of support
Folder 15	1889 Appointment to Boston Naval Office, letters of support
Folder 16	1898 Letter from NYC Bench and Bar Assoc. re: Kelley murder trial
Folder 17	1874 appointment as Clerk of the Court, letters of support
Folder 18	1880 letters of support for Jordan as Speaker of NH House
Folder 19	Historical Essay leaflet on Colonel Joseph Whipple
Folder 20	Print Documents- Louisiana Purchase Expo, Webster Historical Society
Folder 21	Editorial in "Echo" on White Mountaineer

Box 2	
Folder 1	1901 letters of congratulation on becoming governor
Folder 2	1901 Inauguration memorabilia- song, dinner, ball
Folder 3	Thanksgiving Declaration
Folder 4	1901 death of Pres. McKinley; Condolences queen Victoria
Folder 5	1901 letters re: court appointments
Folder 6	1901 'Burnham Homestead' letters about loss of pension, loss of property
Folder 7	1901 letter re: 'Irish Mafia infiltrating New England
Folder 8	1901 speech on 100 th anniversary of Daniel Webster's graduation from Dartmouth College
Folder 9	Letters about Presidential train visit
Folder 10	Arbor Day Declaration
Folder 11	1902 speech accepting statue of Commodore Perkins
Folder 12	Letters received by Jordan re: National Guard
Folder 13	Republican National Convention, Chicago 1908
Folder 14	Speech nominating McKinley V. Pres. Candidate
Folder 15	Various speeches 1884-1909
Folder 16	Speech, Veterans Post, undated
Folder 17	Speech on Education, handwritten, attendance chart
Folder 18	Speech: Christian Endeavor organization
Folder 19	Handwritten notes for speeches
Folder 20	Speech- 100 th anniversary of appointment of John Marshall to Supreme Court
Folder 21	Miscellaneous letters received by Jordan 1903, 1907, 1909
Folder 22	Condolence letters and testimonials written by Jordan 1898-1909
Folder 23	Misc. letters 1874-1893
Folder 24	Misc. letters 1903-1909
Folder 25	Notes re: NH regiment service in various battles
Folder 26	Letter containing a legal question from Mrs. Wm. B. Jones
Folder 27	Lincoln Farm Association, Certificate of Honorary Membership

Separated Materials:

One oversized folder containing several 'proclamations' made while governor and appointment document.

Subject Terms

People:

Jordan, Chester B. 1839 – 1914

Organizations:

New Hampshire State Senate
 New Hampshire House of Representatives
 Office of Governor, New Hampshire

Subjects:

Law practice in New Hampshire
 Local civic events, Lancaster, New Hampshire area

New Hampshire governance

Locations:

Boston, MA

Colebrook, NH

Concord, NH

Lancaster, NH

Occupations:

Governors

Lawyers

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