



Fairfield Museum and History Center Library  
370 Beach Road  
Fairfield, CT 06824

### **Manuscript Finding Aid**

Title: The William Bradley Papers. ca. 1789-1855

Collection #: Ms B73

Dates: 1843-1855, 1872

Size of Collection: 30 items

Accession Number: L96.30 (L96 Sep 65)

Donor: W. Bradley Morehouse

Restrictions: None

Processed by: Barbara Austen

Date: September 1996

#### Biographical/ historical note:

William Bradley of Greenfield Hill in Fairfield, Connecticut, the son of Walter, married Ellen Burr. Their children were William (1816-1900), Sarah, Charles, Ellen, Joseph and Burr. Joseph and Burr moved to Illinois and New York State, respectively, and operated farms. William Bradley (senior) was the great grandfather of the donor.

#### Scope and content note:

The collection consists primarily of correspondence to and from William Bradley and his sons Burr and Joseph. Burr, who moved to Parma, New York, describes his livestock, wheat crops, financial problems, and his diet, in letters to his father dated 1848-1849, 1855, arranged in Folder 1. Joseph wrote about his livestock and crops, and describes the best route for his father to take to visit him, in letters dated 1848-1851 in Folder 2.

William (or his son) is also represented by legal documents, namely mortgages, deeds

and an insurance policy, 1842-1848, Folder 3; bills for varnishing furniture, repairing shoes, tuition, and general supplies, and drafts on the Connecticut Branch Bank, 1846-1852 in Folder 4; and a letter from William to his son, Joseph, 1849, Folder 5.

The estate of William Bradley of Albany, settled by Sarah Bradley, is represented by a deed, 1843, and Sarah's account with the estate, 1844, in Folder 6. Letters from unidentified correspondents, 1845, n.d., and a broadside for U.S. Grant's election as president, 1872, are in Folder 7.

See the Bradley Family Papers (Ms 12) for more material related to this family.

BRADLEY, WILLIAM  
Papers, 1843-1872

- Folder 1. Letters from Burr Bradley, 1848-1855
- Folder 2. Letters from Joseph Bradley, 1848-1851
- Folder 3. Legal documents, 1842-1848
- Folder 4. Financial records, 1846-1852
- Folder 5. Letter to Joseph, 1849
- Folder 6. Estate papers, William Bradley of Albany, 1843-1844
- Folder 7. Unidentified correspondence, 1845, n.d.; broadside, 1872

Subject headings:

Agriculture--Illinois--Henry  
Agriculture--New York--Parma  
Deeds--Conn.--Fairfield  
Bradley, Burr  
Bradley, Joseph