

Pomeroy Family Papers
MS B139

Summary Information

Repository

Fairfield Museum and History Center

Title

Pomeroy Family Papers

ID

Ms B139

Date [inclusive]

1840-1917

Extent

1 box

Accession Numbers

L2006.1

Language

English

Abstract

Correspondence and other materials relating to the family of Benjamin Pomeroy of Southport.

Preferred Citation note

Item, Pomeroy Family Papers, (Box #, Series, Folder #). Fairfield Museum and History Center, Fairfield, Connecticut.

Biographical/Historical Note:

Benjamin Pomeroy (1818-1866) was the son of Benjamin Pomeroy (1787-1855) and Jerusha Williams (b. 1795), of Stonington, Connecticut. Benjamin's grandfather was Elihu Pomeroy (b. 1755) and his great-grandfather was the Rev. Benjamin Pomeroy (1704-1784) who served as the minister of Hebron, Connecticut from 1734-1784; was a chaplain in the army during the French

and Indian War and chaplain of the Third Regiment, Connecticut Line from 1777-1778; an early trustee of Dartmouth College and a close friend of Eleazar Wheelock.

Benjamin Jr. was born in Stonington, Connecticut and, despite his father's intention to prepare him for college and the law, became a merchant. He obtained a clerkship at the age of 16 with Amos Sheffield of Saybrook, and then in the wholesale dry goods house of Browning & Co New York. In 1843 he went into that business with Benjamin F Browning under the firm of Browning & Pomeroy. This partnership was dissolved in 1848, the same year that he married Mary Josephine Bulkley, daughter of Andrew and Sally Dimon Bulkley of Fairfield and came to live in Southport. Their children included Benjamin (born and died 1849); Sarah (1850-1852); Benjamin Jr. (1852-1875); Josephine Bulkley (1855-1868); and Mary Frances (1859-1922). In 1852 Benjamin became the junior partner in the firm of Thaddeus Davids & Co manufacturers of ink sealing wax wafers and mucilage. During the Civil War, he served as a Republican Connecticut state representative (1863) and senator (1865). In bad health, he gave up business and died in the West Indies in 1866, at the age of 48. Mary Josephine Pomeroy had an elaborate house built at 658 Pequot Avenue in 1868, following her husband's death; it is included in the Historic American Building Survey (HABS).

In 1862, Benjamin's sister Rebecca Pomeroy married Henry T. Bulkley (1818-1881) and came to live in Fairfield as well.

Benjamin and Mary Josephine's daughter Mary Frances Pomeroy married Brooks Hughes Wells (1859-1917), a prominent doctor of gynecology in New York City and the son of Rev. Edward Livingston Wells, rector of Southport's Trinity Episcopal Church. They had an address at 523 Madison Avenue in New York and also a home in Southport. Their children included Mary/Dorothy Wells (1886-1949); Pauline Pomeroy Wells (1888-1976); and Josephine Bulkley Wells (b. 1895).

Related Material:

John Edward Hetzel, *Hughes-Wells Ancestry* (1961): 929.2 H893

The New England Historical and Genealogical Register (1877, Vol. XXXI), pp. 233-234

Donald Jacobus, *Bulkley Genealogy*

Bulkley Family Papers

Scope and Contents note

This collection consists of letters, deeds, and other written material created by the family of Benjamin Pomeroy. The collection is organized into 4 series, by individual name, in chronological order. Within each series, folders are arranged chronologically.

The collection includes letters to and from his father, sister, and wife as well as some business correspondence, land deeds, and correspondence relating to Pomeroy genealogy. It also includes a few deeds and stock certificates belonging to members of his wife's family (Bulkley). The collection also includes correspondence of his daughter, Mary Frances Wells, and clippings related to her daughter's marriage and husband's death in 1917.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Fairfield Museum and History Center
370 Beach Rd.
Fairfield, CT
203-259-1598

Conditions Governing Access note

There are no restrictions on access to this collection.

Conditions Governing Use note

Use of the material requires compliance with the Fairfield Museum and History Center regulations.

Processing Information note

This collection was processed by Amanda Goodman and Elizabeth Rose, 2015.

Source note: L2006.1, donated by Caroline Pierce, 2006.

Processing Information note

Material relating to earlier generations of Benjamin Pomeroy's family, including the Rev. Benjamin Pomeroy of Hebron, was transferred to the Connecticut Historical Society in 2015.

Controlled Access Headings

Family Names

Bulkley Family
Pomeroy Family
Wells Family

Geographic Names

Fairfield (Conn.)
New York City (NY)

St. Croix (West Indies)
Stonington (Conn.)

Personal Names

Bulkley, Henry T., 1818-1881
Bulkley, Joel Burr, 1798-1887
Bulkley, Lewis D.
Bulkley, Rebecca W. Pomeroy
Leonard, William Andrew (Rev.), b. 1848
Pomeroy, Benjamin, 1787-1855
Pomeroy, Benjamin, 1818-1866
Pomeroy, Josephine, d. 1868
Pomeroy, Mary Josephine Bulkley, d. 1899
Wells, Brooks Hughes, 1859-1917
Wells, Mary Frances Pomeroy 1859-1922

Subjects

Correspondence
Deeds
Merchants
Genealogy

Collection Inventory

Series A: Benjamin Pomeroy

Folder 1: Correspondence, 1840-1849
Folder 2: Correspondence, 1850-1859
Folder 3: Correspondence, 1861-68; 1875 (Includes a lease for the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in NYC, letters surrounding Pomeroy's travels and death in 1866, an inventory of his estate, and a memorial resolution to him dated 1875)

Series B: Rebecca Pomeroy Bulkley (Mrs. Henry T. Bulkley)

Folder 1: Letters to Rebecca Pomeroy from Benjamin Pomeroy, 1847-69
Folder 2: will of Rebecca Pomeroy Bulkley, 1907; Correspondence from John K. Land of Dartmouth College about donation of Pomeroy letters, 1907

Folder 3: Letter and program for consecration of Rev. William Andrew Leonard as Bishop of Ohio, 1889

Series C: Bulkley Family

Folder 1: Deed to Joel B. Bulkley; deed and stock certificates to Lewis D. Bulkley (brother of Josephine Pomeroy), 1865-69

Folder 2: Letter to Andrew Bulkley, 1836

Series D: Mary Frances (Pomeroy) Wells (Mrs. Brooks Hughes Wells)

Folder 1: Letters, list of wedding gifts, notes from an interview with Mrs. Roosevelt relating to a conference on women's work, 1880-1908

Folder 2: Letters, 1900-1916

Folder 3: Materials related to schooling and health care for daughter Josephine Wells, 1896-1902

Folder 4: Correspondence and news clippings relating to death of Brooks Hughes Wells and to marriage of daughter Josephine, 1917