

Guide to the Bowers Family Papers

MS 1194



compiled by Bruce P. Stark

March 1984

Yale University Library
P.O. Box 208240
New Haven, CT 06520-8240
(203) 432-1735
(203) 432-7441

beinecke.library@yale.edu

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
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CALL NUMBER: MS 1194

CREATOR: Bowers family

TITLE: Bowers family papers

DATES: 1859-1910

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 0.5 linear feet (1 box)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The papers contain correspondence, notes, and reports on politics in Connecticut and New Hampshire during the Reconstruction Era, forestry and timber lands, and Yale alumni activities in Washington, D.C., plus a small collection of autograph letters and clipped signatures.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1194>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1194>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html. The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

In part transferred from the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, 1984.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Unpublished materials authored or otherwise produced by the creator(s) of this collection are in the public domain. There are no restrictions on use. Copyright status for other collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

Preferred Citation

Bowers Family Papers. Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Biographical / Historical

Caleb Bailey Bowers (1820-1898): a Connecticut native; was a businessman who was active in Democratic Party politics.

Edward Augustus Bowers (1857-1924): son of Caleb B. Bowers; was an early advocate of forest conservation.

Scope and Contents

The Bowers Family Papers are contained in one box and include alphabetically arranged correspondence plus reports, notes, and bills on forestry and the preservation of forest lands. The collection spans the dates 1859 – 1910 and consists of two groups of material. The first is the papers of Edward Augustus Bowers and the second is the Bowers Papers transferred from Beinecke Rare Books Library in February 1984.

Correspondence, folders 1-13, consists of letters primarily written to Caleb Bailey Bowers (1820 – 1898) and two of his sons, Edward Augustus Bowers (1857 – 1924) and Dwight Eliot Bowers (1866 – 1907). For biographical information see Edward E. Atwater's *History of the City of New Haven* (1887), pp. 343-45; on Edward A. Bowers see *Obituary Record of Yale Graduates, 1924 – 1925*, pp. 1343-45; and on Dwight E. Bowers the *Obituary Record of Graduates, 1906 – 07*, pp. 769-70.

The Bowers Papers contain some sixty letters to Caleb B. Bowers on politics in New Hampshire and Connecticut during the Civil War and reconstruction eras. Bowers lived in New Hampshire in 1866-7, was an active supporter of the reconstruction policies of President Andrew Johnson, and was elected a delegate to the National Union Convention of Internal Revenue for the third district of New Hampshire as a reward for his loyalty. Bowers' New Hampshire correspondents in 1866-7 include Charles Jacob Amidon, Edmund Burke, Micajah Currier Burleigh, Joshua D. Colony, William Huse Cummings, Edward Stearns Cutler, Daniel Marcy, and Don Houston Woodward. Except for his brief stay in New Hampshire, Bowers spent most of his life in Connecticut and information on politics in the state for the period 1862-68 can be found in the correspondence of Roger Averill, James Dixon, and Thomas A. Hendricks. In 1868, for example, Bowers stated that Hendricks was likely to receive the support of a majority of the state's delegation to the Democratic Convention.

For several years in the early 1890's Edward A. Bowers was an officer in the Yale Alumni Association of Washington, D.C. Approximately twenty letters, mostly written between 1892 and 1894, concern this subject. The collection also includes autograph correspondence. It contains letters written by Admiral George Dewey, Stephen J. Field, John Marshall Harlan, Joseph R. Hawley, Rutherford B. Hayes, Theodore

Roosevelt, and Alfred H. Terry, plus a folder containing clipped autograph signatures. The Bowers Family Papers also contain material on forestry and timber lands dating from the years 1885-94, when Edward A. Bowers was inspector of the Public Land Service, assistant commissioner of the General Land Office, and an attorney in Washington, D.C.

Collection Contents

b. 1, f. 1	Correspondence A	1863-1903
b. 1, f. 2	Correspondence B	1866-1900, undated
b. 1, f. 3	Correspondence C	1866-1903, undated
b. 1, f. 4	Correspondence D	1862-1909
b. 1, f. 5	Correspondence E -F	1888-1899, undated
b. 1, f. 6	Correspondence G -J	1866-1904
b. 1, f. 7	Correspondence L -M	1866-1910
b. 1, f. 8	Correspondence N -P	1859-1904, undated
b. 1, f. 9	Correspondence R	1866-1893
b. 1, f. 10	Correspondence S	1892-1903
b. 1, f. 11	Correspondence T	1867-1893
b. 1, f. 12	Correspondence V -Y	1866-1907
b. 1, f. 13	Autograph signatures	undated
b. 1, f. 14	Quill pen from estate of Senator Samuel Clarke Pomeroy	undated
b. 1, f. 15	Draft reports on forestry	1886-1894, n.s.
b. 1, f. 16	Status of proposed forestry reservations	1893
b. 1, f. 17	Timber Report of 1887	1887
b. 1, f. 18	Notes on forestry	1889-1891, undated
b. 1, f. 19	House and Senate bills on forestry	1885-1894
b. 1, f. 20	Notes on the protection and administration of forests in the public domain	1885-1894, undated
b. 1, f. 21	Lewis and Clarke Preserve	1903
b. 1, f. 22	U.S. government publications	1892, undated
b. 1, f. 23	Clippings	undated
b. 1, f. 24	Brochures from western resorts	undated

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Conservation of natural resources
Environmental protection
Forest policy
Forestry law and legislation

Corporate Bodies

Yale University -- Alumni and alumnae
Yale University -- Faculty

Geographic Names

Connecticut -- Politics and government --
1865-1950
New Hampshire -- Politics and government --
1865-1950
United States -- Politics and government --
1865-1877

Genres / Formats

Autographs

Occupations

Politicians

Names

Amidon, Charles Jacob, 1827-1900
Bowers, Caleb Bailey, 1820-1898
Bowers, Dwight Eliot, 1866-1907
Bowers, Edward A. (Edward Augustus),
1857-1924
Burke, Edmund, 1809-1882
Burleigh, Micajah Currier, 1818-1881
Cutter, Edward Stearns, 1822-1903
Dixon, James, 1814-1873
Hendricks, Thomas A. (Thomas Andrews),
1819-1885
Marcy, Daniel, 1809-1893
Roosevelt, Theodore, 1858-1919
Woodward, Don Houston, 1835-1908

Families

Bowers family