

# Guide to the Harry H. Ensign Autograph Collection

MS 1228



compiled by Ruth Gay

December 1980

Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
(203) 432-1735  
(203) 432-7441  
[beinecke.library@yale.edu](mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu)  
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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
(203) 432-1735  
(203) 432-7441  
[beinecke.library@yale.edu](mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu)  
<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1228

**CREATOR:** Ensign, Harry H., collector

**TITLE:** Harry H. Ensign autograph collection

**DATES:** 1818-1880

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.25 linear feet (1 box)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Miscellaneous autographs and letters of American political and cultural figures, among them John and John Quincy Adams, Daniel Webster, Jefferson Davis, Horace Greeley, and Lydia Sigourney. Also included are eleven letters to James F. Babcock, editor of the *New Haven Weekly Palladium*, on politics (1840-1866) and seven letters (1866-1872) to R. P. Cowles in New Haven from prospective lecturers.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1228>

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## 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.1228>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](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

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## Administrative Information

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### Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

## Conditions Governing Use

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## Preferred Citation

Harry H. Ensign Autograph Collection (MS 1228). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Scope and Contents

Miscellaneous autographs and letters of American political and cultural figures, among them John and John Quincy Adams, Daniel Webster, Jefferson Davis, Horace Greeley, and Lydia Sigourney. Also included are eleven letters to James F. Babcock, editor of the *New Haven Weekly Palladium*, on politics (1840-1866) and seven letters (1866-1872) to R. P. Cowles in New Haven from prospective lecturers.

## Collection Contents

Autographs and autograph letters		
b. 1, f. 1	Adams, John (1735-1826). Thanking Major General Dearborn "for introducing to me, Mr. Binon whom I find to be a gentleman of Sense and Letters..."	1818 March 25
b. 1, f. 2	Adams, John Quincy (1767-1848). Declining an invitation of the Whigs of New Haven to attend a 4th of July celebration.	1840 June 25
b. 1, f. 3	Brown, John (1800-1859). Autograph	undated
b. 1, f. 3	Brown, John, Jr. From John Brown, Jr. to Harry H. Ensign, a hardware dealer in New Haven, complying with his request for an autograph of John Brown. The reply is written on the verso of Ensign's letter. The autograph (enclosed) was cut from a letter by John Brown to his son.	1879 June 16
b. 1, f. 3	Ensign, Harry H. ALS	1879 June 14
b. 1, f. 4	Lyon, Nathaniel (1818-1861). To his nephew, John A. Hosler in Webster, Mass. From Fort Riley, Kansas Territory with reminiscences on his army career, comments on the prohibition of slavery in Kansas, and on family news. [4] p.	1859 November 17
b. 1, f. 5	Mitchell, Donald Grant (1822-1908). To "My dear Madam" from Edgewood [New Haven] offering publishing advice. "Occasional letters upon rural topics, having practical interest, and of a piquant style are always in place." 1 p.	1870 June 1
b. 1, f. 6	Sigourney, Lydia Howard Huntley (1791-1865). To "My dear Sir" asking for his emendations on my 'Boy's Book' 1 p.	[1850] September 25
b. 1, f. 7	Tyler, John, Pres. U.S. (1790-1862). To President Harrison recommending Richard Adams for appointment as Consul to Havana. Written less than one month before Tyler became President. 1 p.	1841 March 8
b. 1, f. 7	Correspondence arranged by recipient	
b. 1, f. 8	Babcock, James Fairchild (1809-1874)	
b. 1, f. 8	Buckingham, William Alfred (1804-1875)	1858 May 3
b. 1, f. 8	Davis Jefferson (1808-1889)	1840 January 22
b. 1, f. 8	Ferry, Orris Sanford (1823-1875)	undated
b. 1, f. 8	Greeley, Horace (1811-1872)	1856 April 23
b. 1, f. 8	Holley, Alexander Hamilton (1804-1887)	1857 March 31
b. 1, f. 9	Minor, William Thomas (1815-1889)	1857 July 28
b. 1, f. 9	Porter, Lafayette G.	1857 July 28
b. 1, f. 9	Raymond, Henry Jarvis (1820-1869)	1866 February 7
b. 1, f. 9	Webster, Daniel (1782-1852)	1840 June 22
b. 1, f. 9	Weed, Thurlow (1797-1852)	1844 July 19

b. 1, f. 9	Welles, Gideon (1802-1878)	1856 January 24
b. 1, f. 10	Cowles, R.P.	
b. 1, f. 10	Beecher, Henry Ward (1813-1887)	1866 November 25
b. 1, f. 10	Unidentified	1869 November 10
b. 1, f. 10	Curtis, George William (1824-1892)	1869 November 10
b. 1, f. 10	Hawkins, Benjamin Waterhouse (1807-1889)	1870 October 13
b. 1, f. 10	Hibbard, R.G.	1870 November 16
b. 1, f. 10	To Dickinson, Anna Elizabeth (1842-1932)	1871 December 16, 1872 August 27
b. 1, f. 11	To Wheeler, E.S., New Haven	
b. 1, f. 11	To Bacon, Leonard (1802-1881)	1880 April 19
b. 1, f. 11	To Platt, Orville Hitchcock (1827-1905)	1880 April 21
b. 1, f. 11	To Porter, Noah (1811-1892). Re: Chamber of Commerce	1880 April 20
	Photographs	
b. 1, f. 12	Eaton, William Wallace (1816-1898)	undated
b. 1, f. 12	Stephens, Alexander Hamilton (1812-1883)	undated

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## 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.

Wheeler, E. S.

### Geographic Names

New Haven (Conn.) -- Politics and government  
New Haven (Conn.) -- Social life and customs  
United States -- Politics and government -- 19th century

### Genres / Formats

Autographs

### Names

Adams, John, 1735-1826  
Adams, John Quincy, 1767-1848  
Babcock, James F. (James Fairchild), 1809-1874  
Bacon, Leonard, 1802-1881  
Beecher, Henry Ward, 1813-1887  
Brown, John  
Brown, John, 1800-1859  
Buckingham, William A. (William Alfred), 1804-1875  
Cowles, R. P.  
Curtis, George William, 1824-1892  
Davis, Jefferson, 1808-1889  
Dickinson, Anna E. (Anna Elizabeth), 1842-1932  
Eaton, William W. (William Wallace), 1816-1898  
Ferry, Orris S. (Orris Sanford), 1823-1875  
Greeley, Horace, 1811-1872  
Hawkins, B. Waterhouse (Benjamin Waterhouse), 1807-1894  
Hibbard, R. G.  
Holley, Alexander H. (Alexander Hamilton), 1804-1887  
Lyon, Nathaniel, -1861  
Minor, William T. (William Thomas), 1815-1889  
Mitchell, Donald Grant, 1822-1908  
Platt, Orville Hitchcock, 1827-1905  
Porter, Lafayette G.  
Porter, Noah, 1811-1892  
Raymond, Henry J. (Henry Jarvis), 1820-1869  
Sigourney, L. H. (Lydia Howard), 1791-1865  
Stephens, Alexander H. (Alexander Hamilton), 1812-1883  
Tyler, John, 1790-1862  
Webster, Daniel, 1782-1852  
Weed, Thurlow, 1797-1882  
Welles, Gideon, 1802-1878