

# Preliminary Guide to the Pierpont's Store Records

MS 399



compiled by John Espy

May 1980

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
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<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 399

**CREATOR:** Pierpont's Store

**TITLE:** Pierpont's Store records

**DATES:** 1820-1884

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 4.5 linear feet

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Sixty-four volumes of accounts, 1850-1884, of Pierpont's Store in North Haven, Connecticut. Also included are 161 loose papers: 13 of these were removed from the account books; the remaining 148, Sept. 1854-Sept. 1857, are mainly authorizations by various doctors for sale by Pierpont's Store of liquor for medicinal uses.

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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.0399>.

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

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## Administrative Information

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

## Conditions Governing Use

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## Preferred Citation

Pierpont's Store Records (MS 399). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

This grocery and general store was founded in 1848 by Rufus Pierpont (b. 1818), who managed it until his death in 1855. He was Husband of Harriet R. Peirpont; father of Daniel Hobart Pierpont (a graduate of the Yale Sheffield Scientific School, 1871). Only brother of Elias Pierpont of New Haven. Proprietor of Pierpont's Store in New Haven. Member of St. Johns's Protestant Episcopal Church, North Haven, Conn. Died July 31, 1855.

It was taken over by Harriet R. Pierpont, his wife, who appears to have been the proprietor for the remainder of the period of these accounts. The store remained in the family until it was forced to close in 1942, at which time it was the second oldest business institution in North Haven.

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## Scope and Contents

This collection consists of the account books of Rufus Pierpont, 1818-1855, and his wife Harriet Pierpont. They ran a general store in North Haven, Connecticut, dealing in dry goods as well as foodstuffs and liquors.

See also the Pierpont Family Papers, MS 1125. That collection includes some 1847 bills of Rufus Pierpont and a church resolution on his death.

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## Collection Contents

### Day books

b. 1	1862 Jul-Sep
b. 1	1863 Jun-1865 Mar
b. 1	1865 Jun-1866 Jun
b. 2	1866 Jun-1868 Jun
b. 3	1868 Jun-1870 Nov
b. 4	1870 Nov-1873 Jul
b. 5	1873 Sep-1875 Jul
b. 6	1875 Jul-1877 Jan, with some entries to 1884

### Ledgers

b. 7	1853-1856
b. 7	1854-1858
b. 8	1855-1862, including an account with the estate of Rufus Pierpont
b. 8	1857-1864, with some day book entries
b. 8	1861-1869, with some day book entries
b. 8	1861-1868
b. 8	1865-1877
b. 9	1867-1877
b. 9	1871-1877

### Account books

b. 9	1837-1858
b. 9	1850-1859
b. 9	1860-1876
b. 9	Accounts of liquor purchases and sales, 1854-1857
b. 10	1865-1876
b. 10	1869-1880

### Loose papers

b. 10	1854 Sep-1857 Sep
b. 10	Undated, and printed matter

## **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**

Business  
General stores

### **Geographic Names**

Connecticut  
North Haven (Conn.)

### **Genres / Formats**

Account books

### **Corporate Body**

Pierpont's Store