

Guide to the William H. Potter Papers

MS 1047



compiled by Betsy H. Morris and Susan Grigg

June 1983

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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	3
Requesting Instructions	3
Administrative Information	3
Immediate Source of Acquisition	3
Conditions Governing Access	4
Conditions Governing Use	4
Preferred Citation	4
Biographical / Historical	4
Scope and Contents	4
Collection Contents	5
Selected Search Terms	6

Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
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CALL NUMBER: MS 1047

CREATOR: Potter, William Henry, 1816-1887

TITLE: William Henry Potter Papers

DATES: 1832-1933

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 3 linear feet

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: Private journals, ledgers and scrapbooks kept by William H. Potter of Groton, Conn. and Brandon, Mississippi (1851-1955). The journals contain descriptions of his activities and discourses on religion and politics. A commonplace book (1837-1848) gives some information on his brief attendance at Yale and his stay at Bacon School. The papers contain an unidentified 1933 judicial diary and a Norwich, Conn. account book. The papers also contain a diary (1859-1861) and other materials of Kittie Potter.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1047>

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.1047>.

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

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from D.E. Burnett, 1963.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Preferred Citation

William Henry Potter Papers (MS 1047). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Biographical / Historical

Born in 1816, William H. Potter was a schoolteacher and insurance agent. He taught school for many years in Mystic River (part of Groton), Connecticut, circa 1840s-1860s and in Brandon, Mississippi, between 1851 and 1855. He then became an insurance agent around 1868. Potter represented Groton, Connecticut in the state legislature, beginning in 1869. He was an active Methodist. He died in 1887.

Scope and Contents

Private journals, ledgers and scrapbooks kept by William H. Potter of Groton, Conn. and Brandon, Mississippi (1851-1955). The journals contain descriptions of his activities and discourses on religion and politics. A commonplace book (1837-1848) gives some information on his brief attendance at Yale and his stay at Bacon School. The papers contain an unidentified 1933 judicial diary and a Norwich, Conn. account book. The papers also contain a diary (1859-1861) and other materials of Kittie Potter.

Collection Contents

Private journals		
b. 1	1832-1834, 1841-1848	
b. 2	1851 Jan-1861 Apr [includes diary, 1859-1861, and other materials of Kittie Potter]	
b. 3	1860 Jan-1873 Jul	
b. 4	1873 Jul-1877 Apr	
b. 5	1877 Apr-1881 Jun	
b. 6	1881 Jun-1885 Jan	
b. 7	1885 Jan-1887 Mar	
b. 8	Commonplace book	1837-1848
b. 8	Ledger	1862 December-1864 Mar, 1863-1866
b. 8	Appointment book of court cases	1933
b. 8	Investment book	1907
b. 8	Scrapbook of clippings	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

Education
Educators

Geographic Names

Brandon (Miss.) -- History
Connecticut -- Social life and customs
Groton (Conn.) -- History
Mississippi -- Social life and customs
Southern States
United States -- Politics and government

Genres / Formats

Account books
Albums (Books)
Diaries

Names

Porter, Kittie
Potter, William Henry, 1816-1887

Corporate Body

Yale University -- Students