

Fox Family Papers 1834-1912

Special Collections
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Collection Overview

Title: Fox Family Papers

Bulk Dates: 1834-1912

Accession Numbers: 2004-028

Physical Description: 12 boxes

Provenance and Acknowledgements: Gift of Margaret Carmichael Emerson, 2004.

Processor: David Smolen

Access Restrictions: No restrictions

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Repository: Special Collections, Tuck Library

For Additional Information:

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Summary:

The Fox family papers are comprised of correspondence, account books, diaries, photographs, museum objects, and paper ephemera. The correspondence is mostly between Helen Fox, while she was a student at Wellesley College, and her family. Some of the correspondence is between Elbridge Fox and his wife Sarah while he was a New Hampshire State Senator. In addition to this the other major portion of the collection are the account books and diaries of Elbridge W. Fox. These items document the activities of

the general store the family operated for many years and the personal finances of Elbridge W. Fox in Milton Mills, New Hampshire. The ephemera collection (approx. 120 items) documents numerous types of social, educational, religious, economic, and political history for the late 19th and early 20th century.

Biographical Note:

Asa Fox (1809-1887) was born in Shapleigh-Acton, Maine. He moved to Milton Mills, New Hampshire and opened a general store in 1834.

Elbridge Fox (1834-1912) continued the family business of operating a general store. When he passed the store on to his son, Everett Fox (1856-1927), he performed a variety of civic duties including State Senator, Deacon of his Church, and President of the Board for Nute High School.

Helen Gertrude Fox was a native of Milton Mills, New Hampshire and a 1904 graduate of Wellesley College. In 1912 she married George Carmichael, the founder and Headmaster of Brunswick School in Greenwich, Connecticut and was married for 53 years. Helen died at the age of 90 in 1971.

Sources:

Look for a letter tomorrow: a college girl's life 100 years ago, 1900-1904. Edited by her Daughter Margaret Carmichael Emerson. Call number: 920 F792

Contents:

Box 1

Folder 1: Correspondence, Helen to Family, October 1900 – December 1900, (includes printed circulars from Wellesley and letters regarding her admittance to the college, 7 items) 36 items

Folder 2: Correspondence, Helen to Family, January – March, 1901, 39 items

Folder 3: Correspondence, Helen to Family, April – June, 1901, (includes four report cards from Wellesley, 1901-1904) 36 items

Folder 4: Correspondence, Helen to Family, September – October, 1901, 17 items

Folder 5: Correspondence, Helen to Family, November – December, 1901, 16 items

Folder 6: Correspondence, Helen to Family, January – February, 1902, 21 items

Folder 7: Correspondence, Helen to Family, March – April, 1902, 23 items

Box 2

Folder 1: Correspondence, Helen to Family, May – June, 1902, 21 items

Folder 2: Correspondence, Helen to Family, September – December, 1902, 38 items

Folder 3: Correspondence, Helen to Family, January – March, 1903, 34 items

Folder 4: Correspondence, Helen to Family, April – June, 1903, 24 items

Folder 5: Correspondence, Helen to Family, September – December, 1903, 34 items

Box 3

- Folder 1: Correspondence, Helen to Family, January – March, 1904, 29 items
- Folder 2: Correspondence, Helen to Family, April – June, 1904, 25 items
- Folder 3: Correspondence, Family to Helen, September – December, 1900, 14 items
- Folder 4: Correspondence, Family to Helen, January – June, 1901, 31 items
- Folder 5: Correspondence, Family to Helen, September – December, 1901, 18 items

Box 4

- Folder 1: Correspondence, Family to Helen, January – April, 1902, 39 items
- Folder 2: Correspondence, Family to Helen, May – June, 1902, 14 items
- Folder 3: Correspondence, Family to Helen, September – December, 1902, 34 items
- Folder 4: Correspondence, Family to Helen, January – June, 1903, 24 items
- Folder 5: Correspondence, Family to Helen, September – December, 1903, 26 items

Box 5

- Folder 1: Correspondence, Family to Helen, January – March, 1904, 19 items
- Folder 2: Miscellaneous Elbridge Fox material (includes an interesting catalog of magazines and newspapers available for purchase through his store, ca. late 19th century), 8 items
- Folder 3: Miscellaneous papers of Elbridge Fox (include interesting catalog from Glidden & Co., of Boston, makers of hammocks and attachments, 1898).
- Folder 4: Elbridge Fox business and church correspondence, 15 items.
- Folder 5: Elbridge Fox letters from family while in Boston, 1855-1856, 25 items.

Three envelopes and one folder of ephemera from Elbridge W. Fox.

Box 6

- Folder 1: Materials relating to a trip to Europe by Elbridge Fox, 1889, 7 items
- Folder 2: Materials relating to a trip to Europe by Elbridge Fox, 1889, 11 items
- Folder 3: Materials relating to a trip to Europe by Elbridge Fox, 1889, 9 items
- Folder 4: Materials relating to a trip to Europe by Elbridge Fox, 1889, 9 items
- Folder 5: Collection of empty envelopes

Box 7 (slim box)

- Folder 1: Empty envelopes
- Folder 2: Letters from Elbridge Fox as a State Senator in Concord to his wife in Milton Mills, January – March, 1899, 18 items
- Folder 3: 19th century currency. Includes one \$10 note from the CSA, 6 items

Box 8

Account Book, Asa Fox, 1834 – 1836, 2 volumes

Account Book, “Wool Book B”, John Mullen, Horns Mills, Kept by Asa Fox Jr. 1857 – 1865, 1 volume

Ledger Book (includes numerous loose papers related to his business dealings), Elbridge Fox, 1885 – 1922, 1 volume

Box 9

Check book #34, 1925 – 1927, 1 volume.

Account Book, Asa Fox & Son, General Merchants, 1910 – 1917, 1 volume

Box 10

Rochester National Bank in Account with Elbridge W. Fox, 1886 – 1907, 1 volume

Ledger #2 Investment Accounts, 1908 – 1927, 1 volume

“Pay Book X”, Asa Fox, 1837 – 1838, 1 volume

Account Book, Asa Fox, 1835 – 1837, 1 volume

Box 11

Diaries, Elbridge Fox, 1852, 1863 – 1871, 1873 – 1892, 30 volumes

Diaries include numerous pieces of ephemera and some letters. Some of the ephemera has been removed from the diaries and placed in a separate folder.

Abstract of vital records for Milton Mills, N.H. and Acton, Me. taken from Elbridge Fox diaries by Margaret Carmichael Emerson, 1988. One envelope

Box 12

Diaries, Elbridge Fox, 1893 – 1912, 20 volumes

Diaries include numerous pieces of ephemera and some letters. Some of the ephemera has been removed from the diaries and placed in a separate folder.

Box 13

Account Book, “Subscribers to the Boston Daily Herald”, 1875 – 1884, 1 volume

Ledger Book for the tracking of investments, 1894 – 1926, 1 volume

Box 14

Collection of 54 albumen prints documenting Elbridge Fox’s trip to Europe in 1889.

Other items associated with the collection:

- 1 ambrotype of the general store located with the cased photo collection under "F".
- 1 ambrotype of Everett Fox as a boy.
- 2 photos, located in "Fox" people file, Elbridge and Helen at Wellesley.
- 1 photo of Waumbec mill, ca. 1898, located in Milton town file.
- 1 broadside entitled "Five Dollar Reward!" located in the "Rewards" folder of the broadside collection.

Museum Objects (contact museum staff for more information)

Early cash register in museum collection.

Post marker for Milton Mills