INVENTORY OF THE

SMELLIE FAMILY PAPERS

IN THE OLD DARTMOUTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

WHALING MUSEUM LIBRARY

Content: Chiefly business records of a Rochester, Mass., family, 1826-1952.

Volume: 5 linear feet.

Provenance: Source and accession date unknown for the bulk of the collection.

Restrictions: None.

Processed By: Barbara E. Austen, with assistance from Barbara Groves.

Funds for processing this collection were provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

INTRODUCTION

Existing records reveal neither the source nor the accession date of the bulk of this collection. One ledger was given to the Old Dartmouth Historical Society by William C. Scott, 20 October 1964.

HISTORICAL NOTE

James Smellie was born about 1802 in Scotland. Between 1837-1840 he came to the United States and settled in Rochester, Mass., where he owned a farm. His oldest son, Walter G. Smellie, born in Rochester in 1842, owned and operated a sawmill. William Henry Smellie, James' second son, born in 1843, learned the blacksmithing trade at the age of sixteen and continued that work up until his death in 1918. William's son, William Nye Smellie, born in 1875, helped his father in his blacksmithing business, later establishing his own business in bicycle and motor bike sales and service. He had at least one son, William Covell Smellie, born in 1910, who changed his name to William Covell Scott in 1960.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The bulk of this collection consists of the papers of William Henry Smellie, whose financial records, consisting of day books and ledgers for his blacksmithing business, are nearly complete from 1865-1916. Only six years are missing in the day books, 1882, 1883, 1890, 1891, 1892, and 1903, while the ledgers appear more complete. These volumes are supplemented by day books and ledgers kept by William Nye Smellie, who apparently became his father's partner about 1909. Other papers of William Henry Smellie encompass insurance records from 1888-1917, both business and personal; bills and receipts, 1873-1917, including bills he received, particularly from Jonathan Handy Company of New Bedford, Mass., as well as bills he sent for services rendered and for his son-in-law, Walton H Jenkins; estate records for his aunt, Elizabeth Parlow, 1881, 1902-1903; incoming business correspondence, 1904-1914; and a membership certificate and receipt book for the Knights of Honor, 1881, 1895-1899.

In addition to the day books and ledgers, dating from 1909-1924, William Nye Smellie is represented by bills and receipts, legal documents, and a business letter, 1903-1952; papers for C. Augustus Covell, 1859, and Amy Covell Smellie, 1900-1946, relatives by marriage; and related material, 1942-1945.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE (cont.)

Other family members represented in this collection include James Smellie, whose papers consist of a cash book, 1832-1837, and correspondence, 1826, 1828; Walter G. Smellie, whose account books, 1870-1872, principally consist of labor records; and William Covell Scott, whose papers consist of bookkeeping exercises, 1921-1926.

Sub-group 1. James Smellie Papers, 1826-1837. Cash book and incoming personal correspondence. 3 items.

Sub-group 2. Walter G. Smellie Papers, 1870-1872. Account books. 4 items.

Sub-group 3. William Henry Smellie Papers, 1865-1917. Financial records; insurance records; bills and receipts; estate records of Elizabeth Parlow; incoming business correspondence; and a membership certificate and receipt book. 4 feet.

Sub-group 4. William Nye Smellie Papers, 1859-1952. Financial records; bills and receipts; lease and deed; letter concerning bills for lumber; papers for C. Augustus Covell and Amy Covell Smellie; and ration books, salary records, checks, and a poem. 10 inches.

Sub-group 5. William Covell Scott Papers, 1921-1926. Bookkeeping exercises. 1 item.

DESCRIPTION

Box 1

Sub-group 1. James Smellie Papers, 1826-1837

Series A. Cash Book, 1832-1837

Volume 1. 1832-1837

Series B. Correspondence, 1826, 1828

Folder 1. 1826, 1828

Sub-group 2. Walter G. Smellie Papers, 1870-1872

Series A. Account Books, 1870-1872

Volume 1. Account of work, 1870-1871
" 2. Account of board feet sawn, ca. 1870
" 3. Account of lumber sold and "milk account," ca. 1870
" 4. Account of work, 1871-1872

Box 2

Sub-group 3. William Henry Smellie Papers, 1865-1917

Series A. Financial Records, 1865-1916

Sub-series 1. Day books, 1868-1916
Volume 1. 1868
Folder 1. Items removed from Volume 1
Volume 2. 1869
" 3. 1869-1871
Folder 2. Items removed from Volume 3
Volume 4. 1871-1872. Includes ledger entries, 1870, 1879
" 5. 1872-1873
" 6. 1874-1876
Folder 3. Items removed from Volume 6. Includes ledger sheet, 1873-1877

Box 3

Volume 7. 1875-1876. Includes account book for dry goods, food stuffs, etc., 1877-1878
" 8. 1877-1878
" 9. 1879
" 10. 1879-1880
" 11. 1880-1881. Includes ledger entries
" 12. 1881. Includes ledger entries, 1878-1880
" 13. 1884-1886. Includes ledger entries
" 14. 1886-1889
" 15. 1893-1896
Folder 4. Items removed from Volume 15

Box 4

Sub-group 3, Series A, Sub-series 1 (cont.)

Volume 16. 1896-1897
" 17. 1897-1898
" 18. 1898-1899, 1913-1915. Includes ledger entries
" 19. 1899-1900
Folder 5. Items removed from Volume 19
Volume 20. 1900. Includes account of wages for R. B. Gifford
" 21. 1900-1901
" 22. 1901
" 23. 1901-1902
" 24. 1901, 1909-1910. Includes ledger entries
" 25. 1902, 1910-1911

Box 5

Volume 26. 1904-1906. Includes ledger entries
Folder 6. Items removed from Volume 26
Volume 27. 1905-1907
" 28. 1907-1909
Folder 7. Items removed from Volume 28
Volume 29. 1909
" 30. 1911-1912. Includes ledger entries
Folder 8. Post card removed from Volume 30
Volume 31. 1912-1916. Includes labor records and ledger entries

Box 6

Sub-series 2. Ledgers, 1865-1910
Volume 1. 1865-1871
" 2. 1867-1873, 1883-1903
" 3. 1867-1874. Includes day book entries
Folder 1. Items removed from Volume 3
Volume 4. 1871-1872
Folder 2. Items removed from Volume 4
Volume 5. 1872-1911
Folder 3. Account removed from Volume 5
Volume 6. 1873-1876
" 7. 1874-1893

Box 7

Volume 8. 1878-1879. Includes day book entries
Folder 4. Items removed from Volume 8
Volume 9. 1879-1881
Folder 5. Items removed from Volume 9
Volume 10. 1881-1883. Includes day book entries
" 11. 1884-1911. Account with George B. Ashley
Folder 6. Items removed from Volume 11
Volume 12. 1887-1901
Folder 7. Items removed from Volume 12.
Volume 13. 1888-1903. Includes day book entries
" 14. 1896-1912

Box 8

Sub-group 3, Series A, Sub-series 2 (cont.)

Volume	15.	1898-1902
Folder	8.	Items removed from Volume 14
Volume	16.	1898-1906
"	17.	1900-1911
"	18-19.	1906. Includes record of wages for C. Packard, 1906-1910
"	20.	1909-1912
"	21.	1910. Includes day book entries

Series B. Insurance Records, 1888-1917

Folder	1.	1888-1892
"	2.	1893-1895
"	3.	1896-1897
"	4.	1898
"	5.	1899
"	6.	1900
"	7-8.	1901
"	9.	1902
"	10.	1903
"	11.	1904
"	12.	1905

Box 9

Folder	13.	1906
"	14-15.	1907
"	16.	1908
"	17.	1909
"	18-19.	1910
"	20-21.	1911
"	22.	1912-1913
"	23.	1914
"	24.	1915-1917

Box 10

Sub-group 3 (cont.)

Series C. Bills and Receipts, 1873-1917

Folder	1.	1873-1892
"	2.	1894-1895
"	3.	1896-ca. 1900
"	4.	1901-1902
"	5.	1902
"	6-7.	1903
"	8-9.	1904
"	10.	1905
"	11.	1906
"	12.	1907
"	13-16.	1908

Box 11

Folder	17-18.	1909
"	19-25.	1910
"	26-30.	1911
"	31-40.	1912
"	41-44.	1913
"	45-49.	1914
"	50.	1915
"	51.	1916-1917

Series D. Estate Records, 1881, 1901-1902

Folder 1. Will, account, and correspondence relating to estate of Elizabeth Parlow, 1881, 1901, 1902

Series E. Correspondence, 1904-1914

Folder	1.	1904-1910
"	2.	ca. 1910
"	3.	1912-1914

Series F. Membership Certificate and Receipt Book, 1881, 1895-1899

Folder 1. Certificate of membership in Knights of Honor, 1881
Volume 1. "Member's Receipt Book," 1895-1899

Box 12

Sub-group 4. William Nye Smellie Papers, 1859-1952

Series A. Financial Records, 1909-1924

Sub-series 1. Day books, 1909-1924
Volume 1. 1909
" 2. 1909-1910
Folder 1. Items removed from Volume 2
Volume 3. 1911
" 4. 1911
Folder 2. Bill removed from Volume 4
Volume 5. 1911
Folder 3. Items removed from Volume 5
Volume 6. 1912
" 7. 1912-1915. Includes ledger entries
Folder 4. Items removed from Volume 7
Volume 8. 1924
Folder 5. Items removed from Volume 8

Box 13

Sub-series 2. Ledgers, 1913-1923
Volume 1. 1913
" 2. 1916
" 3. 1923
Folder 1. Items removed from Volume 3

Series B. Bills and Receipts, 1903-1952

Folder 1. 1903, 1912-1913
" 2. 1915-1916, 1925, 1931-1934, 1952

Series C. Legal Documents, 1911, 1919

Folder 1. Lease, 1911; deed, 1919

Series D. Correspondence, 1903

Folder 1. 1903

Series E. Covell Family Papers, 1859, 1900-1946

Volume 1. Passport for C. Augustus Covell, 1859
" 2. Savings pass book for Amy Covell Smellie, 1900-1946
Folder 1. War ration books for Amy Covell Smellie, 1942, 1943

Series F. Ration Books, Salary Records, Checks, and Poem, 1942-1945

Folder 1. Ration books, 1942, 1943; withholding receipt, 1944; salary receipt, 1944; checks, 1945; poem, 1944

Box 13 (cont.)

Sub-group 5. William Covell Scott Papers, 1921-1926

Series A. Bookkeeping Exercises, 1921-1926

Folder 1. 1921-1926

ADDED ENTRIES

Account books--Rochester, Mass.--1865-1924
Account books--Scotland--1832-1837
Bicycles and tricycles--Maintenance and repair
Bicycles and tricycles--Repairing SEE Bicycles and tricycles--Maintenance and repair
Blacksmithing--Mass.--Rochester
Blacksmiths--Mass.--Rochester
Business records--Mass.--Rochester
Carriage and wagon making--Mass.--Rochester
Covell, C Augustus, b. 1843
Farriery SEE Horseshoeing
Horseshoeing--Mass.--Rochester
Horseshoers--Mass.--Rochester
Insurance policies--Mass.--Rochester
Jonathan Handy Company, New Bedford, Mass.
Lumber trade--Mass.--Rochester
Rochester, Mass.--Commerce
Sawmill workers--Mass.--Rochester
Sawmills--Mass.--Rochester
Scott, William Covell, 1910-
Smellie, Amy Covell, b. 1879
Smellie, James, b. ca. 1802
Smellie, Walter G b. 1842
Smellie, William Covell, 1910- SEE Scott, William Covell, 1910-
Smellie, William Henry, 1843-1918
Smellie, William Nye, 1874-1957
Wages--Sawmill workers--Mass.--Rochester

SEPARATIONS LIST

Removed to objects collection:

Advertising card, ca. 1900.
Leather folder, ca. 1940.
Leather wallet, signed Jeremiah Randall.
Postcard of Crawford Notch, N.H., ca. 1900.

Removed to photographs collection:

Photograph of man in uniform, , ca. 1900.

Removed to printed collection:

TSP Annual Report of the Directors of American Telephone and Telegraph Company . . ., New York, 1916.
TSP "Currants, gooseberries, raspberries and champion grape," Rochester, N.Y., ca. 1875. Pamphlet.
TSP General Laws and Constitution of Subordinate Lodge Knights of Honor, Boston, 1880.