

Albany Institute of History & Art  
Library

**MG 63**

**VAN ANTWERP/EASTON/BOYD FAMILY PAPERS**

1845-1968

.25 lin. ft., 1 box

October 1996

## Biographical Notes

**Van Antwerp:** The first Van Antwerp in the New World was Daniel Janse Van Antwerpen, who was in Beverwyck by 1656. The family thrived in Albany and Schenectady until the early 20th c. The patriarch of the family from which these papers came was John Henry Van Antwerp (1823-1903). He was a founder and the second President of the National Savings Bank, serving as President from May 1872 to Jan 1901. He was one of the originators of the idea of Washington Park in Albany and served as the President of the Board for its first 13 years.

**Easton:** The Eastons were "Scottish Covenantors," and emigrated from Scotland to Ireland to Montreal, Canada, and finally to Albany in 1824. Charles Patterson Easton (1824-1885) was the first of the line to be born in Albany. He established the family lumber business and was an active Republican from the formation of that party. He was the driving force behind the creation of the Albany High School and was elected a member of the city's Board of Public Instruction for sixteen years seven of which he was its President.

## Scope and Content Notes

Arranged into 10 file folders by family. Van Antwerp family: 3 folders - business and social papers, personal correspondence, and materials related to a daughter (Kate) and her family group (Stanton). Easton family: 3 folders - family papers from 1816 to 1900, legal documents from Edward Easton, Jr., and letters from Lt. Col John VA Easton about his military service in Germany 1944-5. Boyd family folder. One folder of photos of Van Antwerp relatives. One folder of photos of Easton relatives. Folder 10 contains an inventory of the Van Der Bogert manuscript box in the New York State Museum Archives Collection: contents are mostly Easton and Van Antwerp papers.

Box   Folder

- |     |   |   |
|-----|---|---|
| 1   | 1 | <p>Van Antwerp family business and social papers</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Letters from trustees of National Savings Bank to John Henry Van Antwerp (1843-1903)<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. April 1881 - thanks for outstanding leadership and asking him to get a photo made by Notman and Co. He may have had a portrait painted by Wm Merritt Chase instead -- see photo in Folder 9</li><li>b. Oct 1893 - thank for leadership as President through a "financial depression"</li></ol></li><li>2. An invitation from Thurlow Weed</li><li>3. "Social Assemblies" 1848 invitations and dance card</li><li>4. Letters to Mrs. J. H. Van Antwerp (Martha Nancy Wiswall, 1817-1880?) inviting her to serve as a member of examining committees for the 2nd and 4th Departments at the Albany Female Academy, 1858 and 1860</li><li>5. Transcription of J.H. Van Antwerp's obituary in <i>Albany Times Union</i>, Dec 15, 1903</li></ol>  |
|     | 2 | <p>Van Antwerp family personal correspondence</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. June 1845 letters from Mary Wiswall (1815-1845) to her sister Martha Nancy</li><li>2. Feb 1855 letter from J.H. Van Antwerp to his daughter, Amelia (1844-1867). [Mrs. Van Antwerp and the children are in quarantine, upstairs]</li><li>3. Envelope to Mrs. Van Antwerp June 1855</li><li>4. June 1855 letters from Amelia K. Van Antwerp to her mother who is in New York. [letters from a 9 year old who misses her mother]</li><li>5. John Henry Van Antwerp, April 17, 1857, New York City</li><li>6. Martha Wiswall to her husband, J.H. Van Antwerp and a note from "Kittie." (Kate) On mourning stationery (possibly written after their son, Rufus, died in 1859)</li><li>7. Two letters (Aug 1860) from J.H. Van Antwerp to his wife, Martha Wiswall [she's on Fire Island; he's in Albany; discusses how she is to get home via an inn in the city and the day boat]</li><li>8. Feb 21, 1864. Amelia King Van Antwerp to her parents [asking for news about the fair (the Army Relief Bazaar?)]</li><li>9. J.H. Van Antwerp (Nov. 16, 1896) to his granddaughter (Martha Van Antwerp Stanton) in Washington</li></ol> |
| [1] | 3 | <p>Stanton Family material (J.H. Van Antwerp's daughter Kate, married JR</p>  |

Box   Folder

Stanton)

1. A page about Josiah Rumball Stanton's heritage. Stanton's father did die on the trail to California - probably of disease, not indians. A Mr Rumball helped the pregnant widow, Winona Brocklebank Stanton, bury her husband and make it to California. Her baby, born in California, was named Josiah Rumball Stanton. "Josiah Rumball" after her helper. She later married Edward Weller, s state Senator who became the second Governor of CA.
2. In OV area: see Winona Brocklebank's 1846 certificate of attendance at the Bardstown Academy in Bardstown, KY
3. Dec 1883 baptismal certificate of Martha Van Antwerp Stanton from St Paul's Church, Albany
4. Permission from the Australian consulate for Mrs. J.R. Stanton to "pass out" of Honolulu to San Francisco. Dec 1887. J.R. Stanton was a Paymaster in the US Navy, stationed in Hawaii
5. Copy of invitation to and newspaper clipping of the wedding of Martha Van Antwerp Stanton to Edward Easton, Jr., June 8, 1904
6. Two letters to Martha VA Stanton (Easton) from her cousin Ethel MacMurray (about the family tradition that the Van Antwerps are descended from the Flemish Counts of Egmond)

## 4     Easton family papers from arrival in Canada in 1816 to 1900

1. Pictures and bios of Ephriam Craig Easton (1803-1816) and Eliza Patterson Easton (1796-1886). See Reynolds, *Hudson and Mohawk Valleys*, vol. 4, p. 440.
2. Certification of Ephriam Easton as a resident alien in the State of NY, June 14, 1833
3. Deed to Ephriam Easton for lot H between Fox and Hare Sts in Albany. June 14, 1833
4. Albany Cemetery Assoc deed to Charles P. Easton. July 7, 1858.
5. Albany Cemetery Assoc receipt to Charles P. Easton for lots; Ephriam Easton's (1801-1879) will probated, March 30, 1885; names administrators Chas P. Easton, then Wm Easton
6. Albany Cemetery Assn deed July 27, 1886. Mary J. Easton and others
7. Copy of photo of relief of Charles Patterson Easton (1824-1885) on Great Western Staircase in New York State Capitol building
8. Easton genealogical charts compiled by Alice Easton Pray

[1]     5     Legal documents involving Edward Easton, Jr. (1880-1943)

Box   Folder

1. Edward Easton, Jr. admitted to legal practice in NY, June 30, 1905
2. E. Easton, Jr. petitions filed as candidate for Mayor of Albany, Aug.19, 1925
3. E. Easton, Jr., appointment to Albany's Water Commission by Mayor Thacher, May 3, 1926

## 6   Boyd family material

1. Letter to Alice Easton Pray (1857-?) from her grandfather Jesse Conde Boyd (1802 or 05-1891) about the history of the Boyd family. Quotes comments by his father (James) on voting in the NYS Assembly for the Erie Canal
2. Letter to Alice Easton Pray from her grandfather, J.C. Boyd. Dec 1, 1885
3. Receipt from the Albany Institute and Historical and Art Society for the loan of the Vanderheyden family bible. July 1, 1908
4. Note of thanks from AIHA for loan, June 18, 1908
5. History of Vanderheyden Bible; its descent to Mary J. Boyd
6. A bit of Boyd genealogy on Alice E. Pray's letterhead

## 7   Letters from Lt. Col. John Van Antwerp Easton about service in Germany in World War II

1. From Germany, April 10, 1945 to his sister, Kate VA Easton (Mrs. Ten Eyck B. Powell) (1905-1984)
2. Oct 9, 1968 to his mother, Martha Van Antwerp Stanton Easton (1833-1976) about German treatment of Jews and what he saw in Germany in 1944-45

## 8   Photographs of Van Antwerp relatives

1. John Henry Van Antwerp portrait by Wm Merritt Chase
2. Kate Van Antwerp Stanton
3. Winona Brocklebank (mother-in-law of Kate Van Antwerp)
4. Josiah Rumball Stanton; photo of his ship, the "SS Petrel."
5. Martha Van Antwerp Stanton Easton, Jr.
6. Kate Van Antwerp Stanton with her daughter, Martha (Patty)

## [1]   9   Photographs of Easton relatives

Box   Folder

1. Eliza Walker Patterson (Mrs. Ephriam C. Easton) and Ephriam Craig Easton
  2. Charles Patterson Easton and Mary Boyd Easton, son of Eliza and Ephriam C. Easton
  3. Alice Easton Pray, daughter of CP Easton and Mary Boyd
  4. Two photos: one too dark, other of Edward Easton, Edward Easton, Jr., Kate VA Easton and Edward Easton III.
  5. Martha Van Antwerp Stanton with her third child, John VA Easton
  6. Martha Van Antwerp Stanton with her first and third children, Kate and John Easton
  7. Two photos: Kate Van Antwerp Easton; Kate Easton and her brother, Edward Easton III
- 10     Inventory of the Van Der Bogert manuscript box in the New York State Museum Archives Collection. Contents are mostly from the Easton family with some Van Antwerp items