

ALBANY INSTITUTE
OF HISTORY & ART

A Guide to the
Dibblee and Brown Papers

Collection Summary

Collection Title: Dibblee and Brown Papers

Call Number: GJ777-37

Creator:

Inclusive Dates: 1822-1850

Bulk Dates:

Abstract:

Quantity

Administrative Information

Custodial History:

Preferred Citation:

Acquisition Information:

Accession #:

Accession Date:

Processing Information:

Processed by NAME; completed on DATE.

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access: *[Note any special restrictions on access here.]*

Restrictions on Use: Permission to publish material must be obtained in writing prior to publication from the Chief Librarian & Archivist, Albany Institute of History & Art, 125 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12210. *[Note any other special restrictions on use here.]*

Index Term

Persons

[Use Library of Congress Subject Headings.]

Organizations

[Use Library of Congress Subject Headings.]

Subjects

[Use Library of Congress Subject Headings.]

Places

[Use Library of Congress Subject Headings.]

Document Types

[Use Library of Congress Subject Headings.]

Titles

[Use Library of Congress Subject Headings.]

Biography/History of

Allen Brown Born 1768 probably in NYC.

Died April 22, 1752 at Roxbury, New York.

Came to Albany in 1788

Married Nancy Lockwood, daughter of Capt. Jared Lockwood, Albany merchant , died August 2, 1823

Children:

Edward 4 boys who died young

Augusta

Elias

Nathaniel

Harriet

Nancy Lockwood born 1785, married 1812, died March 11, 1867 Ithaca N.Y.

Allen Brown was a founder and director of the New York State Bank of Albany; Trustee of the Second Presbyterian Church; Director, Albany Insurance Company; President Citizens Committee for Celebration of Opening of the Erie Canal; President and Chief Engineer of the Albany Volunteer Fire Department ; founder of the New York Steamboat association which operated such boats as Constitution, Constellation, Dean Richmond, and Independence.

Henry Dibblee

Born 1778, died February 20, 1840. Was in the 1824 Albany directory.

Became a partner of Allen Brown in 1824 or 1825

Elias Brown

Son of Allen and Nancy Brown was a Hudson River pilot and second captain of the steamboat North America

Silas and Stanton Brown

Brothers of Allen Brown who managed the New York City end of the business

Scope and Contents of the Records/Papers/Collection

This collection of 24 ledgers, day books, inventory and receipt books and one box of loose correspondence concerns the business affairs of the Albany firm of Dibblee and Brown, merchants, commission and forwarding agents with stores and warehouses on the corner of State and Dock Streets from about 1824 to 1838 when Brown transferred his headquarters to New York City. This firm dealt in all kinds of merchandise up and down the Hudson River and by way of the Erie Canal after 1825. They owned sloops, canal boats, and towboats and chartered sloops and schooners as well as steamboats to carry on their wide and varied freight handling business. A list of the boats used by them is included in this summary.

Account books for several of the sloops are among the collection. Also included are two ledgers of the firm of Cady and Schuyler of Minaville New York who did business with Dibblee and Brown for many years. This collection presents a rare, valuable and most interesting picture of the business of forwarding agents in the period before the coming of the railroad with details of cargoes, expenses of operation, explanations of delays, and salaries paid to captains and crews.

Another large section of the correspondence contains all the records of Allen Brown's nineteen year guardianship of Mary and Elizabeth Benham, daughters of Albany merchant Vincent J. Benham, who, with his wife, died in New Orleans in 1822, presumably of yellow fever. The twin girls were born in 1821. All legal papers, all bills and other papers including account books dealing with the guardianship are included. Also in the correspondence are letters from the two girls to their guardian.

Organization of the Records/Papers/Collection

Related Material

Separated Materials

Ledger I Jay Cady and J.J. Schuyler of Minaville,N.Y. 1828

Deaccessioned 6/28/2000

Ledger II contains an inventory of the stock of Jay Cady 1830-1842

Deaccessioned 6/28/2000

Other Finding Aids

Detailed Description of the Records/Papers/Collection
--

The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the collection.

Box #	Folder #	Item #. Title / Description
1		Correspondence
2		Correspondence
3		1823 Account Book 1827-1835 Account Book
4		1830-1837 Account Book 1837-1838 Account Book
4A		1837-1838 Account Book Account Index
5		1822 Cash Book 1826-1829 Cash Book 1828 Cash Book 1830 Cash Book 1830-1834 Cash Book
6		1834-1838 Cash Book 1823 Day Book 1823-1825 Day Book
7		1824 Day Book 1833-1837 Day Book 1837 Day Book 1832 Ledger
7A		Cady Schuyler Account Ledger 1837-1850
Not boxed		Oversized on shelf 4 Volumes 1826- 1838

Book	Item #. Title / Description
	Bound Volumes

Cash book 1	Allen Brown (before partnership with Dibbles) 1822
-------------	--

Cash book 11	Dibblee and Brown 1826-1829
Cash Book III	Dibblee and Brown 1830-1834
Cash book IV	Dibblee and Brown 1834-1838
Book	Item #. Title / Description
	Bound Volumes
Account Book I	Dibblee and Brown 1823
Account Book II	Dibblee and Brown 1827-1835
Account Book III	Dibblee and Brown 1837-1838
Accounts Receivable I	Dibblee and Brown 1830-1837
Accounts Receivable II	Dibblee and Brown 1837-1838
Receipt Book I	Dibblee and Brown 1825-1833 (with signatures of canal boat and sloop Captains for goods received on board by them for delivery)
Receipt Book II	Dibblee and Brown 1834-1837 (with signatures of canal boat and sloop Captains fir goods received on board by them for delivery)
Ledger I	Dibblee and Brown 1830-1837(Accounts of merchants doing business with Dibblee and Brown)
Ledger II	Dibblee and Brown 1832-1838(Accounts of merchants doing business with Dibblee and Brown)
Day Book	Sloop "Canal" 1823-1825 (A trip account of goods carried and to and from whom)
Day Book	Sloop "Dewitt Clinton" 1837 (A trip account of goods carried and to and from whom)