

ALBANY INSTITUTE
OF HISTORY & ART

A Guide to the
Reynolds Family Papers

Collection Summary

Collection Title: Reynolds Family Papers

Call Number: MG 81

Creator: unknown

Inclusive Dates: 1847-1937

Abstract: Papers of several family members, consisting mostly of correspondence. Collection consists mainly of papers of Cuyler Reynolds and Dexter Reynolds.

Quantity: 3 lin. ft., 5 boxes (5 document boxes and 1 flat file)

Administrative Information

Custodial History: The collection was acquired as a gift from Nancy B. Reynolds, the widow of Kenneth G. Reynolds, Jr., in 1997.

Preferred Citation: Reynolds Family Papers (MG 81) Albany Institute of History & Art Library, New York.

Acquisition Information:

Accession #: 1997.371

Accession Date: 12 December 1997

Processing Information:

Processed by Maria Kessler; completed on 01 July 2004.

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access: unknown

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.

Index Term

Persons:

Ames, Ezra
Churchill, Alice
Churchill, Ann
Clarke, Samuel Fessenden
Coe, Elizabeth C.
Desmond, Peter.
French, Howard T.
Gorby, Cordelia
Gould, William
Guild, Walter B.
Howard, Bradford
Madill, Sally
Nagel, Conrad F.
Quakenbush, Louise
Reynolds, Catherine Maley Cuyler
Reynolds, Cuyler
Reynolds, Dexter
Reynolds, Janet Gray
Reynolds, Kenneth Gray
Reynolds, Marcus T.
Reynolds, Marcus Tullius
Rypins, Harold
Stillman, Thomas B.
Townsend, Frederick K. (Gen'l)
Van Heusen, John
Van Rensselaer, Howard
Van Rensselaer, Laura
Wendell, Harvey
Wilson, Richard T. (Rev.)
Wiltse, Ester Elizabeth

Organizations:

Albany Academy
Albany Institute and Historical and Art Society
Columbia University
Miss Gaylord's Boarding School
St. Paul's School
Stevens Institute
Union College
Williams College
Yale University

Subjects:

Architecture

Buildings
Family
Letters

Places:

Massachusetts -- Dorchester
New Hampshire -- Concord
New Jersey -- Hoboken
New York -- Albany
New York -- Big Moose
New York -- Catskill
New York -- Cuylerville
New York -- Lake George
New York -- Loudonville
New York -- Utica

Document Types:

Certificates
Diplomas
Personal letters
Photographs

Titles:

Albany Chronicles (1908)
Hudson-Mohawk Genealogical and Family Memoirs (1911)

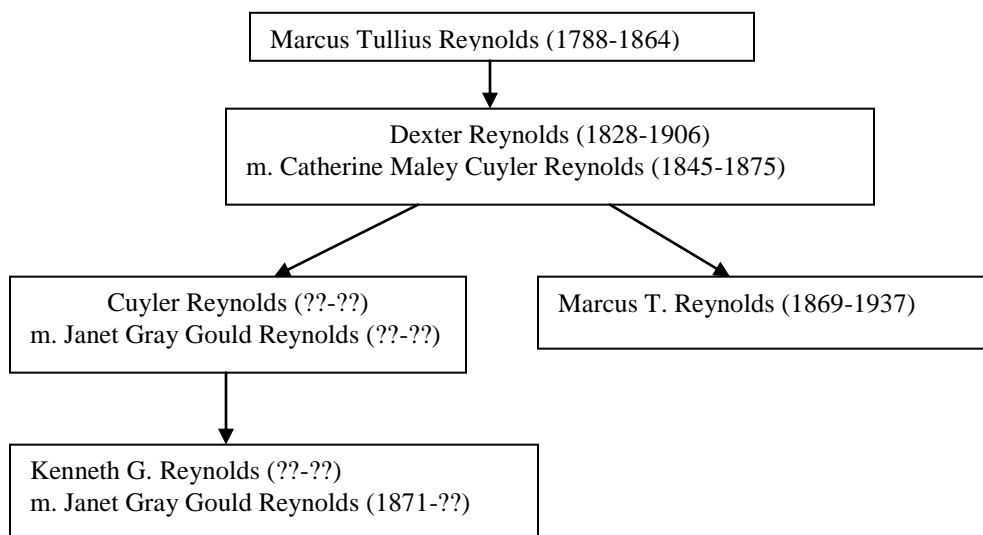
Biography

The Reynolds family included a host of prominent nineteenth and twentieth century Albanians. The individuals represented in this collection are descendents of Marcus Tullius Reynolds (1788-1864), Congressman, attorney, railroad president, and public benefactor. Reynolds's son Dexter Reynolds (1828-1906) was an Albany, NY, attorney and inventor who held over twenty patents. Catherine Maley Cuyler Reynolds (1845-1875), wife of Dexter, was a descendent of the founders of Cuylerville, NY. Cuyler Reynolds (1866-1934), the son of Dexter, received his education at the Albany Academy and Miss Gaylord's Boarding School in Catskill, NY. Though he made notable contributions in his work as a journalist, historian, and genealogist, Reynolds is perhaps best known for his ten-year tenure as Director of the Albany Institute and Historical and Art Society. Reynolds' published works include *Albany Chronicles* (1907) and *Hudson-Mohawk Genealogical and Family Memoirs* (1911). Also represented in these family papers are Cuyler's wife Janet Gray Gould Reynolds (1871-????). Cuyler Reynolds's son, Kenneth G. Reynolds (????-????), an Albany, NY, architect educated at St. Paul's School, Yale University, and Columbia University, also figures in these papers. Marcus T. Reynolds (1869-1937), another son of Dexter Reynolds, was educated at St. Paul's School, Williams College, and Columbia University. One of Albany's foremost architects, he is known chiefly for his Delaware & Hudson and Albany Evening Journal

Buildings along the Hudson River in downtown Albany, as well as a number of prominent bank buildings, public schools, and upper-class homes.

Scope and Contents of the Papers

The Reynolds Family Papers span the period from 1847-1937 and principally contain documents relating to family life. The collection is divided into eight series: I. Catherine Maley Cuyler Reynolds (1873-75); II. Cuyler Reynolds (1866-87); III. Dexter Reynolds (1847-1906); IV. Janet Gray Gould Reynolds (1892-1933); V. Kenneth Gray Reynolds (1902-34); VI. Marcus T. Reynolds (1874-91); VII. Miscellaneous and Unidentified (n.d.); VIII. Photographs (1850-1937).



Organization of the Papers

Series I. Catherine Maley Cuyler Reynolds (1873-1875) contains correspondence exchanged between Mrs. Reynolds and her husband and children while she was a patient in a mental hospital in Utica, NY. Typically, a note of despair is registered at Mrs. Reynolds' separation from her family. Also included in this series is a pastoral sketch, "A Scene in the Alps," written by Mrs. Reynolds for her son Marcus while he was a student at Miss Gaylord's School in Catskill, NY.

Series II. Cuyler Reynolds (1866-87) includes correspondence exchanged between Reynolds and family members while he was a student at Miss Gaylord's School and St. Paul's School in Concord, NH. Correspondents include Reynolds's maternal cousin and aunt, Alice and Ann Churchill, his paternal aunt and cousin, Laura and Howard Van Rensselaer, and Miss Gaylord. Arithmetic papers from St. Paul's School and a report detailing an award are also present.

Series III. Dexter Reynolds (1847-1906) includes letters exchanged between Reynolds and his sons while the latter were students at Miss Gaylord's School. A letter from an unidentified correspondent discusses Catherine Maley Cuyler Reynolds' mental

condition. A selection of Reynolds's certificates and diplomas, including his Union College diploma law license, are present. Additionally, Reynolds discusses his patented process for vaporizing ore in furnaces with Thomas B. Stillman of Stevens Institute in Hoboken, N.J. Lastly, two untranslated items in French, a telegram and a letter, are included.

Series IV. Janet Gould Gray Reynolds (1892-1933) consists of correspondence concerning the estate of William Gould, house matters, letters from an unidentified correspondent in the State Comptroller's Office, and a draft and bound copy of a devotional calendar written by Mrs. Reynolds for her family entitled "The Heart's Desire."

Series V. Kenneth Gray Reynolds (1902-20) contains letters exchanged between Kenneth G. Reynolds and his mother while the latter was a boy, correspondence from an unidentified individual in the State Insurance Department about Reynolds' travels in Europe, and eight years worth of letters detailing all aspects of Reynolds' architectural involvement in the construction of Harold Rypins home in Loudonville, N.Y.

Series VI. Marcus T. Reynolds (1874-91) reveals the architect's life as a student: included are arithmetic papers from St. Paul's School, a report card, and an architectural notebook from Columbia University. Additional correspondence reports daily circumstance to relatives. Two letters from 1920 detail instabilities in State Street buildings (surrounding No. 57) after the collapse of Keeler's restaurant kitchen.

Series VII. Miscellaneous (1884-1926) exists for items whose provenance is undetermined. It includes letters from unidentified Reynolds's family members, a manuscript volume with a child's story, clippings, and a St. Paul's School magazine from 1884.

Series VIII. Photographs (1850-1937) is divided into three subseries, *People*, *Places* and *Miscellaneous*. *People* includes snapshots and portraits of many Reynolds family members at various stages in a variety of settings. Also included in this subseries is a portrait of Samuel Fessenden Clarke a biologist from Williams College, a group portrait of the Gould family from 1850, and individual portraits of Albanians collected by Cuyler Reynolds. A large number of unidentified photographs exist in this subseries. *Places* includes shots of Marcus T. Reynolds designed buildings, Reynolds Family vacation photographs and negatives from Lake George and Big Moose, NY, and exteriors and interiors of unidentified houses. *Miscellaneous* includes pet photographs and photographic reproductions of Ezra Ames portraits of Reynolds Family progenitors. Included with these reproductions are typed biographical notes.

Series IX. Bibles and Religious Works (1868-1929) is multiple bibles and religious books that were owned by the Reynolds family over the 75+ years. There are multiple names within the books and dates as to when the books were given to people.

Related Material

Located within AIHA holdings:

720.92 JOH 1993 Style follows function: architecture of Marcus T. Reynolds
ms-2004 Letter from Mr. Street to Cuyler Reynolds

ms-2095	Letter from Elbert Hubbard to Cuyler Reynolds
ms-CC527	Biography of Joseph Henry by Cuyler Reynolds
ms-FY1055	Reynolds, Marcus T. Papers
ms-FZ1100	Correspondence between Alice Lacy and Cuyler Reynolds about participants in Army Relief Bazaar, c.1908
ms-GK77-38	Marcus T. Reynolds architectural drawings (1916-1917)
ms-HW81-20	World War I poster collection (1914-1918) collected by Cuyler Reynolds
ms-JD82-09	Delaware and Hudson Railroad Papers (1860-1930); Marcus T. Reynolds, correspondent

Separated Materials

Two items were removed during processing: Cuyler Reynolds' christening gown was transferred to the AIHA curatorial department; a monograph, entitled *Specification of Labor and Material for the Delaware & Hudson Building, 1916 March 18*, is housed in the Library's book collection.

Large bible owned by Cuyler Reynold's, given by Dexter Reynolds (father) in 1904. Located in Bible collection in first floor storage (too large for box with Reynolds material) LIB 2011.79.48.

Other Finding Aids

A finding aid for this collection was made in December 1997 and is now located in the control files.

Detailed Description of the Papers

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

Series#: I Title: Catherine Maley Cuyler Reynolds (1873-75)

Box #	Folder #	Item #. Title / Description
1	1	1875. Pillow label
1	2	1873-75. Letters between Catherine Maley Cuyler Reynolds and Cuyler Reynolds
	3	1874-75. Letters from Catherine Maley Cuyler Reynolds to Dexter Reynolds
1	4	1875. Letter from Catherine Maley Cuyler Reynolds to her children
1	5	n.d. "A Scene in the Alps," manuscript n.d. Homemade card with poem inside

Series#: II Title: Cuyler Reynolds (1866-87)

Box #	Folder #	Item #. Title / Description
1	6	19874-82. Letters between Cuyler Reynolds and Anne and Alice Churchill
1	7	1881 Aug 03. Telegram from Elizabeth Coe to Cuyler Reynolds
1	8	1875 Jan 09. Letter from C. Gaylord to Cuyler Reynolds
1	9	1874 Jun 17. Letter from P. Norris to Cuyler Reynolds
1	10	1874-75. Letters from Howard Van Rensselaer
1	11	1874-75. Letters between Cuyler Reynolds and Laura and Margaret Van Rensselaer
1	12	1866 Sep 27. Letter from Rev. Richard T. Wilson to Dexter Reynolds 1907 Dec 23. Note from Laura Van Rensselaer to Cuyler Reynolds
1	13	ca 1880. 13 arithmetic papers by Cuyler Reynolds.
1	14	1887. Report of the Committee to Award Howard T. French Medal

Series#: III Title: Dexter Reynolds (1847-1906)

Box #	Folder #	Item #. Title / Description
1	16	1906 Oct 22. Letter from Walter B. Guild to Dexter Reynolds
1	17	ca 1874. Letter from Mary [??]
1	18	1873-77. Letters from Cuyler Reynolds to Dexter Reynolds
1	19	1906 May 29. Letter from Janet Gray Reynolds to Dexter Reynolds
1	20	1884 Jul 13. Letter from Marcus T. Reynolds to Dexter Reynolds.
1	21	1892, 1899. Letters between Thomas B. Stillman and Dexter Reynolds
1	22	1894 Sept 05. Telegraph from Marie Theriault to Dexter Reynolds
1	23	1847. Union College tuition bill
4	75	1854. State of New York Circuit Court, Southern District, certificate
4	75	1851. State of New York Supreme Court law license certificate
4	75	n.d. Union College certificate
4	75	1848. Union College civil engineering certificate
4	75	1848. Union College diploma

Series#: IV Title: Janet Gray Reynolds (1892-1933)

Box #	Folder #	Item #. Title / Description
1	24	1892-1933. Miscellaneous letters
1	25	n.d. "The Heart's Desire," manuscript; by Janet Gray
1	26	n.d. "The Heart's Desire," bound; by Janet Gray

Series#: V Title: Kenneth Gray Reynolds (1902-34)

Box #	Folder #	Item #. Title / Description
1	27	1920. Two letters from Brausey [??] to Kenneth Gray Reynolds
1	28	1902-08. Letters from Janet Gray Reynolds to Kenneth Gray Reynolds
1	29	n.d. Letter from Kenneth Gray Reynolds to Mo [??]
1	30	1908 Oct 3. Letter from Kenneth Gray Reynolds to Janet Gould Reynolds
1	31	1926-34. Letters between Kenneth Gray Reynolds and Harold Rypins
1	32	1917 Oct 6. Telegram from Sally [??]
1	33	1922. 12 copies of Christmas cards

Series#: VI Title: Marcus T. Reynolds (1874-91)

Box #	Folder #	Item #. Title / Description
2	34	[??] May 15. Letter from Marcus T. Reynolds to Aunt [??]
2	35	1874 Dec 21. From Bradford Howard to Marcus T. Reynolds
2	36	1920 Jun 9. From Marcus T. Reynolds to the President and Trustees of the National Savings Bank
2	37	1920 Jun 9. From Marcus T. Reynolds to General Simon W Rosendale
2	38	n.d. Arithmetic papers by Marcus T. Reynolds
2	39	1891. Class notes
2	40	190 Dec 8. Receipt for overcoat
2	41	1883. Report card
2		Excelsior Diary for 1881

Series#: VII Title: Miscellaneous and Unidentified Correspondence

Box #	Folder #	Item #. Title / Description
2	42	n.d. Letters to Mr. Reynolds and Hugh Gatt
2	43	n.d. Notebook with story in child's hand
2	44	1884, 1920. "The Record" (school magazine) and clippings
4	76	n.d. Unidentified letter

Series#: VIII Title: Photographs

Box #	Folder #	Item #. Title / Description
3	45	ca 1890. Clarke, Samuel Fessenden
3	46	n.d. Gourbay, Cordelia
3	47	1850. Gould Family
3	48	n.d. Madill, Sally
3	49	n.d. Quakenbush, Louise

3	50	n.d. Reynolds, Catherine Maley Cuyler
3	51	1907. Reynolds, Cuyler
3	52	n.d. Reynolds, Cuyler
3	53	n.d. Reynolds, Cuyler (tin type)
3	54	n.d. Reynolds, Cuyler
3	55	1891, n.d. Reynolds, Dexter
3	56	n.d. Reynolds, Janet Gray
3	57	1912, n.d. Reynolds, Kenneth G., Sr.
3	58	n.d. Reynolds, Marcus T.
3	59	1928. Reynolds, Marcus T., 2 nd
3	60	n.d. Dr. Rudder [??]
3	61	n.d. Townsend, Frederick K. (Gen'l)
3	62	n.d. Van Heusen, John
3	63	n.d. Wendell, Harvey
3	64	n.d. Wiltse, Ester Elizabeth
3	65	various dates. Unidentified photographs
3	66	n.d. Marcus T. Reynolds Buildings, 4 prints
3	67	n.d. Houses, exteriors
3	68	n.d. Houses, interiors
3	69	1937. Lake George, NY
3	70	n.d. Lake George, NY (negatives)
3	71	1928. Lutheran Dedication
3	72	n.d. Unidentified exterior scenes
3	73	n.d. Pets
3	74	n.d. Ames Portrait Reproductions

Series: IX Title: Bibles and Religious Works

4	The Holy Bible Containing the New and Old Testaments; Oxford University Press, 1877, LIB 2011.79.1
4	The Holy Bible Containing the New and Old Testament, Oxford University Press, 1878, LIB 2011.79.43
4	Steps to the Altar, A Manual of Devotions, 1874, LIB 2011.79.19
4	The Hymnal Revised and Enlarged, 1892, LIB 2011.79.30
4	The Book of Common Prayer, 1893, LIB 2011.79.20
4	The Hymnal Revised and Enlarged, 1889 LIB 2011.79.36
4	The Common Book of Prayer, 1928, LIB 2011.79.24
4	The Order for Daily Opening Prayer, 1886, LIB 2011.79.21
4	Steps to the Altar, a Manual of Devotions, 1883, LIB 2011.79.22
4	The Book of Common Prayer and The Hymnal Revised (attached by sliding into sleeve) LIB 2011.79.26
5	The Book of Common Prayer, 1929, LIB 2011.79.28
5	Alahambra, LIB 2011.79.27
5	The Book of Common Prayer, 1868, LIB 2011.79.9