

**Goss Family
Papers, 1791-1871
MSA 587:17-18**

Introduction

This collection contains two family letters, 34 deeds, and related papers from the Goss family of Brandon, Vermont, during the period 1791-1871. The collection was given to the Vermont Historical Society by Mrs. Martin Rice in 1966. It is stored in 2 folders.

Biographical Note

Joshua Goss and his wife Abigail (Carver) Goss (1748-1829) were living in Brandon, Vermont by 1789. Joshua Goss was born in Montague, Massachusetts in 1752 and died in Brandon in 1826. Joshua and Abigail Goss's son Rufus was born in Brandon in 1787 and died there in 1867. Rufus married Anna Green (1786-1876) in 1807. Rufus and Anna Goss's son Alba Warren Goss was born in Brandon 20 October 1825 and died there 23 May 1886. He married Jerusha E. Lincoln (1827-1908) in 1847. Alba Warren and Jerusha Goss had three sons, John (1847-1910), Frank (1850-1900) and Charles L. (1855-1924). The last three generations of the Goss family are buried in Pine Hill Cemetery in Brandon.

Scope and Content Note

This collection consists of 34 original deeds of the Goss family, an 1871 fire insurance policy, two Goss family letters, an 1870's Goss family business paper and an undated letter. One of the Goss family letters was written by Jerusha (Lincoln) Goss to her son Charles from Omro, Wisconsin, when she and her husband Alba Warren Goss were visiting friends and family there. The 34 deeds were executed between 1791 and 1871, many of them for Brandon, Vermont, locations.

Letters (transcriptions):

#1 – Envelope: For my dear “Ophelia” – Charles L. Goss, Brandon, Vt.

My dear “Orphelin” –

I feel what the tie which has bound so true, for many a year is about to be severed. I want to see it done, though it would be almost a death-blow to me, but Granny is so fecky mean, she won't go or let me. She grows worse. I think the Old Woman is mad because she can't get married. She is afraid to ride in the Cars, so I suggested borrowing that horse of yours, and driving down, but she won't do that. She fails every day. She is not nearly as bright as she used to be. Lest you should think it strange at our sending you, Owl, I will explain by saying, they were the first thing Granny's eyes lit, and I am obliged to let her have her own way in everything. Hence the Owl. Now my dear Orphelin, I hope you will be awfully happy, but of course you cannot be perfectly happy until I am an Orphelin no longer, and I expect in the far West you will still stick to your promise and receive me a Man before age plays greater havoc with my youthful beauty.

Monday, Sept. 20th

Yours mournfully, The Orphelin who got left

#2 – Omro Oct.

My dear Charlie

Your letter of Sept. 29th came yesterday. It was a great while coming for some reason or other, and I was very glad to hear from you at last. I am thinking of you today as being at home with Frank with your friends and I hope you are all having a pleasant time. I have a very lonesome feeling about Frank there at home all alone, and I should like so much to know just how he got along without me. I wish you tell me if you think he might like to have no hurry home. We are still to Uncle Frank's. We visit all around together and they do everything in their power to make it pleasant for me. I like them all very well. Chancey and Jane have each of them some smart nice girls. Nellie Hotchkiss makes me think of Mrs. Doct? Page, in looks and build. Little story. Chancy's girl reminds me very much of Amy Knowlton, in looks and appearance. We are now thinking of going up north river tomorrow to see Julius, who is starting a new home in the woods. I shall go as far as New London, where Carver Linalby lives and stop there, and he will come there to see me. Your father has an idea he will perhaps kill a deer, or something, and he is very anxious to go. He was quite sick all the first 10 days after we left home, and a week ago today I was quite discouraged about him and thought perhaps we should have to go home. But he is getting entirely well now. Has a ravenous appetite and is growing so fat that he goes around with his pants unbuttoned all the while and keeps threatening to get him some new ones. It would do you good to see him. I think we shall go to Fon du Lac in about a week for a few days, and then on to St. Paul. Perhaps you had better send your next letter there to the care of Uncle John F. Lincoln. I have not received your letter concerning Bruce. Hope you will not have the heart trouble or annoyance with Dan, and that you will be able to exert a good influence over him and with all charity for Bruce. Finally you will escape contracting any bad habits by being with him if you can't you had certainly much better have him alone. Write soon to your loving absent mother, J. E. Goss

Nellie sends respects and hopes you will send your picture.

Deeds:

From (Grantor)	To (Grantee)	Town	Date
Joshua Goss	Rufus Goss	Brandon?	1791-06-21
John Capren	Rufus Goss	Goshen	1863-02-24
Phinehas Taft	Rufus Goss	Brandon	1863-03-28
Phinehas & Minerva Taft	Royal B. Thomas	Brandon	1863-03-28
Royal B. Thomas	Rufus Goss	Brandon	1853-03-29
Samuel Hall	Rufus Goss	Sudbury	1863-04-13
Franklin B. & Laura Goss	Rufus Goss	?	1863-10-17
O.R. Blodgett	Rufus Goss	Goshen	1863-10-28
John F. Lincoln	A.W. Goss	Chittenden	1863-11-30
Jarvis A. Phelps	Rufus Goss	Goshen	1863-12-14
A. & Hellin Pettibone	Alba Warren Goss	Chittenden	1863-12-15
George O. & Joanna T. Rice	A.W. Goss	Chittenden	1863-12-25
Rufus Goss	Frank Beriah Goss	Brandon	1863-12-28
Rufus & Anna Goss	Alba Warren Goss	Brandon	1863-12-28
Pittsford Cemetery Assn.	John H. Lincoln	Pittsford	1864-02-24
Horace A. Barnes	A.W. Goss	Lincoln	1864-03-03
Charles Washburne	A.W. Goss	Goshen	1864-05-19

Joseph Wetmore	A.W. Goss	Goshen	1865-04-01
Mial T. & Sarah Brown	Rufus Goss	Rochester	1865-04-17
Charles A. Truman	A.W. Goss	Leicester	1865-10-17
Joseph Noyes	Asa Warren Goss	Brandon	1865-11-02
Brandon Cemetery Assn.	Willard G. Davenport & A.W. Goss	Brandon	1865-12-14
George Monkton	Ranson Laird	Brandon	1865-12-19
Edward D. Selden	Sarah F. Belknap	Leicester	1866-11-20
Frank & Aurelia Mayhew	Frank Mayhew, Jr.	Brandon	1867-03-18
Edward O. Selden	A. Warren Goss	Brandon	1868-03-03
Peter B. Johnson	A. Warren Goss	Brandon	1868-03-28
Francis & Aurelia Mayhew	A. Warren Goss	Brandon	1868-09-17
Stephen L. Goodell	Alba W. Goss	Brandon	1870-01-07
Lorenzo Sheldon	A.W. Goss	Pomfret	1870-04-01
Lorenzo Sheldon	A.W. Goss	South Barnard	1870-04-01
Lorenzo Sheldon	A.W. Goss	Pomfret	1870-04-01
Timothy B. Chedle?	Phineas W. Taft	Brandon	1871-04-28
Frank Mayew	A. Warren Goss	Brandon	1871-04-29