

**John Smith Family**  
**Vermont & Canada Railroad papers, 1838-1923, Bulk: 1852-1858**  
**MSA 705-707**

**Introduction**

This collection contains records from the Vermont & Canada Railroad and the Central Vermont Railway for the period 1838-1923. The records appear to have been created and accumulated by John Smith (1789-1858) and J. Gregory Smith (1818-1891), owners of the railroads from St. Albans. They were collected by Michael Magiff (1852-1935), chief telegrapher for the railroad, and donated to the Vermont Historical Society by his great granddaughter, Maureen Stevens, in 2014. They are housed in three archival flip top boxes and consume 1.25 linear feet of shelf space.

**Biographical Sketches**

John Smith was born in Barre, Massachusetts, the son of Deacon Samuel Smith and Patience Gregory Smith, in 1789. He practiced law in St. Albans, Vermont, after he was admitted to the bar in 1810. He served as State's Attorney for Franklin County, 1826-1832; as representative to the Vermont House, 1827-1837; and as a member of the United States House of Representatives, 1838-1841. Smith later became involved in railroads, obtaining a charter from Vermont to build a line from Burlington to his home town of St. Albans in 1845 and eventually establishing the Vermont and Canada Railroad and also gaining control Central Vermont Railway line. John Smith was the father of J. Gregory Smith and Worthington Curtis Smith. He died on November 26, 1858 in St. Albans, Vermont.

J. (John) Gregory Smith was born in Saint Albans, Vermont, July 22, 1818, the son of John and Maria (Curtis) Smith. He attended the University of Vermont and Yale Law School, was admitted to the Vermont bar in 1842. In 1858, J. Gregory Smith became president of the Vermont Central Railroad. With the reorganization of the railroads in Vermont, Smith became president of the Central Vermont, and the Consolidated Railroad. From 1866 to about 1872, he was president of the Northern Pacific Railroad. He was active in politics and was elected state senator in 1858 and 1859; representative in 1860, 1861, and 1862, and governor in 1863. He died on November 6, 1891.

**Company Histories**

Excerpted from: *Railroads of Vermont*, Vol., 1, by Robert C. Jones. Shelburne, Vt.: The New England Press, 1993: 168-195.

Central Vermont Railway

Charles Paine (later Governor) was elected as the first president of the company in 1844, after \$2,000,000 was raised from stock subscriptions. Many of these subscriptions were later canceled due to Mr. Paine's decisions. Mr. Paine was

instrumental in diverting this line to his hometown of Northfield, away from the easier and more economical route through Williamstown, Barre and Montpelier, continuing to Burlington and points north and west from that port city. Paine owned several businesses and much property in and around Northfield and intended that his personal ventures would benefit from the railroad. This would not be the last of his costly business decisions.

Sewell F. Belknap was the contactor for the building of the road bed; he had been engaged in this business before and had a good reputation. By the June 1, 1846, there were more than two thousand workers employed, many from Ireland, who walked from their arrival ports of New York and Boston. Within two years, June 1848, the rails had arrived in Bethel, 25 miles of new track. By September 1848, a train had arrived at the summit in Roxbury (46 miles) and in October, a train arrived in Northfield. The crews then completed the 14 miles of rail between White River Junction and Windsor in 1849. Montpelier was linked on July 4, 1849, Middlesex by August and Waterbury in September. Belknap was unable to pay any further wages and the work stopped at Bolton. Using other contractors for shorter distances, the work continued and the railroad reached Burlington on December 31, 1849.

By this time, the business was in serious trouble; the original stock subscription of \$2,000,000 had not been realized because many defaulted when Barre and Montpelier had been bypassed by the main line and the actual costs of the 116 mile railroad exceeded \$4,100,000. The investors, including Paine had pledged their personal property and holdings as collateral, borrowed huge sums of money at high interest and were financially ruined. When news of financial "irregularities" by Charles Paine leaked out in 1851, the credit rating of the line was destroyed. July 1852 saw the trustees of the first mortgage take control and Paine was forced out. Paine died in Texas July 6, 1853.

### Vermont and Canada Railroad

John Smith obtained a charter from the Vermont Legislature to build a line from Burlington to his home town of St. Albans in 1845, obtaining authorization to raise \$1,000,000 through sale of stock, with permission to raise another \$2,000,000 if needed.

In 1847, the Directors were elected: John Smith, William Farrar, Lawrence Brainerd of St. Albans, Charles Paine and Heman Carpenter of Northfield, and S.S. Lewis and S.M. Felton of Boston. The route was decided to be from Essex Junction, almost due north to Colchester, Milton, Georgia and St. Albans. The grading and masonry contract was awarded to Balch, Kearney and Hinch. The work started in September 1848, arriving at the St. Albans nexus by October 1850.

### Both Railroads Combined

John Smith gained control of both railroads before he died in 1858. His sons succeeded him in the business; J. Gregory Smith served as president of the Vermont

Central and Worthington C. Smith served as president of the Vermont & Canada for the next ten years.

The Vermont & Canada line was extended to Montreal; beginning construction in May 1861 and being completed in November 1864.

J. Gregory Smith was a very shrewd businessman, many charges and allegations have been leveled at him, then and now. By the end of 1873, the Vermont Central controlled 793 miles of track in four states, making it the largest in New England and the seventh largest in the nation. John Gregory Smith died November 6, 1891.

### **Scope and Content**

The collection consists of records created or accumulated by John Smith (1789-1858) and J. Gregory Smith (1818-1891), in the course of operation of their railroad lines. The bulk of the collection, which dates from the 1850s, particularly 1852-1858, documents the business of the Vermont & Canada Railroad and the Central Vermont Railway. In particular, most of the records were produced during the time when financial irregularities by Charles Paine in handling of the Central Vermont Railway became public knowledge and John Smith, of the Vermont and Canada Railway, managed to gain control of both lines. Court documents as well as business correspondence and financial records in the collection primarily relate to maneuvering and legal action involving the Smith family and associates from 1855-1858. William Raymond Lee (1807-1891), John S. Eldridge, and R. Sherburne were fairly frequent business correspondents also mentioned in legal and other documents. Records also include bills and accounts, financial correspondence and other records relating to finance, including stocks, liabilities, insurance, and payment for lumber.

Earlier records, beginning around 1841, are primarily limited to court documents and bills and accounts of J. Gregory Smith. A reproduction of Railroad Running Rules from 1838 is included with cover letter from 1923. Also under later cover in 1912 are documents of Michael Magiff's relating to a train wreck in 1887. Otherwise, the bulk of these records were created in the 19<sup>th</sup> century with only railroad circulars, rail schedules, and information about train wrecks dating past the 1860s.

A detailed item-level inventory is included below.

### **Related Materials**

The collections of the Vermont Historical Society also include Vermont Central Railroad Records, 1849-1880 (MSA 182) and J. Gregory Smith papers, 1810-1899 (MS 84-93, 95, 96 and XMSC 48, 1-7).

### **Inventory**

MSA705:01 Financial, Misc., No Date

1. Ltr, undated and unsigned.
2. Balance sheets, undated.
3. Ltr to John Smith, dtd Dec 11 \_\_\_\_\_, signed Paul Montclair (?)
4. Ltr, "negotiable paper may be attached".
5. Act, Vt. Legislature, consolidate the Vt. & Canada with the Vt. Central.  
Undated but probably 1858 or later.
6. List of shareholders, number of shares held. (1,168 @\$100 ea.)
7. Statement of account
8. Bill for timber.
9. Balance sheet; share-holders

MSA705:02 Financial, Miscellaneous, 1840-1849

1. Clerks' bills, 3 pages, Sep 1842-Sep 1843
2. Clerks bills, Nov 1842-Feb 1845
3. J. Gregory Smith Account, with Brainerd clerk, Apr 1845.
4. Balance sheet; A. Naughton, Nov-Dec 1846
5. Directors letter to the Legislature of the State of Vermont.
6. Bill to J. G. Smith for consultation, Feb 1847.
7. Bill to J. G. Smith, Mar 1842-Feb 1847
8. Balance sheet, 1841-1842
9. Bill to J. G. Smith, from Brainerd clerk. Sep 30, 1847-Feb 1848
10. Bill to J. G. Smith, from R. S. Locke, 1849- Oct. 26, 1852 Paid Mar 5, 1856

MSA705:03 Financial, Miscellaneous, 1850-1854

1. Fees, Clerk; Tabor case Feb 25 1850 & Mar 9 1850
2. J & J Gregory Smith account to Brainerd. April Term 1850, Sep Term 1851
3. Ltr to J Smith Jr., from R. Sherburne. Dated May 25, 185\_ (perhaps 1854).
4. Clerks' bills, dated Apr 5 1850 for Apr Term 1847 to Apr 4, 1850
5. Clerks' fees Apr 5 1850 to Nov 12, 1854
6. Offset to debts, Jul 9, 1850 to Feb 19 1853
7. Clerks' fees, Roberts v Green Sep 5 1850 to Dec 1856
8. Waybill, Sep 14, 1851
9. Affidavit of Account Payable, John B. Wheeler, 1852
10. Account of John G. Smith Dec 1, 1852 to Apr 21, 1856 \$59.43
11. Johnson Price v. Vt. Central R. R., Sep 1852 \$44.82
12. Promissory note to Richard Locke (or bearer) \$22.50 May 10, 1852. **Signed by J. Gregory Smith**
13. Clerks' fees, Jun Term 1852 to Jun Term 1853
14. Promissory note to R. Locke for \$12.50, May 11, 1852 Signed by **J. Gregory Smith**
15. Trial Balance (scratch sheet) for rent 1849 to 1850, with interest calculations to 1856. There are other calculations on this paper, not identified.
16. Clerks' fees, Jun Term 1853 to Nov 12, 1855
17. One card with four (4) tickets attached, WRJ, Vt to Schenectady, NY dated 1854, via WRJ, Vt/Burlington/Whitehall/Saratoga Springs/Schenectady.  
One baggage claim included

18. Western and Canada Freight Tariff, dated Jan 2, 1854
19. "Smith, Brainard & Co", an account with L Brainard, 2 pages. Oct 29, 1853 to Nov 30, 1855
20. Settlement of lawsuit v. Winston Truman, Jul 17, 1854
21. Ltr from N. B. Proctor, dtd Dec 26, 1854
22. Accounts sheet, Jun 1, 1854 adding interest to Apr 15, 1857
23. Receipt from Hayward, French and Fuller to Mr. John Smith. Dec 20, 1854
24. Ltr, dtd Bolton Dec 21, 1854 to John Smith, signed by **Thomas H Fuller**.

MSA705:04 Financial, Miscellaneous, 1855

1. Ltr, dtd Boston, Feb 6, 1855. To John Smith, signed by **W. Raymond Lee**, reference Car Shop Company.
2. Ltr, dtd Boston, Mar 1, 1855. Vt & Canada RR, alterations to stockholders balances Feb 1 to 1 Mar 1855, signed by **Emilius S. Brown**, employed by W. Raymond Lee, Esq.
3. Alterations to stockholders balances, Vt. & Canada RR, Mar 1 to Mar 26, 1855
4. Account sheet, Dec 12, 1854 to Oct 16, 1855. Wm. Fair\_ \_ s.
5. Ltr, Bank of Royalton, Apr 16, 1855, sale of lot for \$300. Signed by **L. L. Tilden**.
6. Ltr, dtd Boston, May 1, 1855 Alteration of stockholder balances Apr 1 to May 1, 1855
7. Ltr, dtd Burlington, May 21, 1855 concerns discounting a note.
8. Ltr, dtd Boston, Jun 1, 1855. Alteration of Vt & Canada RR stockholders balances 1 May 1855 to 1 Jun 1855
9. Notice, NON-SUFFICIENT FUNDS, New York, 4 Jun, 1855. \$4,900. \_ . B. Ludlow
10. Ltr, Rensselaer Iron Works, Troy, NY, dtd July 21, 1855. Concerns need for personal security on (denied) credit request, will accept old rails for new rolling. Signed by **John A. Griswold**.
11. Ltr, Pittsfield, dtd July 24, 1855. Request for money.
12. Ltr, dtd Boston, July 2, 1855, Vt & Canada RR, alterations to shareholders balances 1 June to 1 July 1855.
13. Ltr, Jan 10, 1855. ABORTED ltr to John Wheeler, page used a scratch.
14. account due to R. S. Lock, Jun 1855
15. Ltr, dtd Boston, Feb 2, 1855, Vt. & Canada RR, alterations to shareholders balances 1 Jan to 1 Feb 1855
16. Payment to attorney; in. re: Dr. L. Giles Harrington. \$25.00 13-17 Aug, 1855
17. Receipt for lodging, Union Hall, Sarasota Springs, NY, Aug 31, 1855
18. Ltr, dtd Boston, Aug 1, 1855 Vt. & Canada RR, changes in stock balances. 1 Jul to 1 Aug 1855.
19. Settlement of litigation between Vt & Canada RR and trustees of the First Mortgage Bond holders, Sep 4, 1855.
20. Ltr, Sep 11, 1855. Request for \$100
21. Ltr, dtd New York, Sep 29, 1855. L. Brainard to **J. G.**

22. Ltr, dtd Boston, Sep 1, 1855, Vt & Can. RR, changes in stock balance. Aug 1 to Sep 1, 1855
23. Ltr dtd Oct 1, 1855, Vt & Can RR, changes in stock balances, during Sep 1855
24. Receipt, Geo. W. Simmons, Oak Hall, Boston, Oct 5, 1855
25. Ltr dtd Boston, Nov 1, 1855. Vt & Can. RR, changes in stock balances during Oct 1855
26. Receipt, C. F. Hovey & Co. Boston, Nov 9, 1855 **Mrs. J. Smith**, a dress for \$22.50
27. Request for \$600 for bridge, Milton, Nov 12, 1855, signed **Joseph Clark**
28. Note- Nov 17, 1855, mentions \$197.
29. Bill to John Greg Smith, Nov 21, 1855
30. Ltr dtd Boston Dec 8, 1855. Vt & Can RR, changes in stock balances during Nov. 1855
31. Account sheet, Nov 19 to Dec 31 1855
32. Account sheet, Dec 15, 1855
33. Receipt, 11 Dec 1855, Wm. Muir, "Merchant Tailors" of Montreal.
34. Ltr, 22 Dec 1855, Elias Brunell
35. Alterations to stock balances, Dec 1 to Dec 7, 1855
36. Ltr dtd Jan 1, 1856, Vt & Can RR, alterations to stock balances, during Dec 1855
37. Balance Ledger, stockholders of Vt & Canada RR, Dec 1, 1855. There are 13,486 shares/490 holders listed by name.

MSA705:05 Financial, Miscellaneous, 1856

1. Alterations to stock balances during Jan 1856.
2. Notice of intent to audit the account of \_ B Proctor. Signed by T. E. Chittenden 12 Jan 1856.
3. Sale of 3000 shares, 26 Jan 1856.
4. Alterations to stock balances during Feb 1856.
5. Ltr, 22 Feb 1856, mentions Plattsburg & Montreal R. R.
6. Order agreement for lumber, Mar. 1856.
7. Request for payment of "creature"; a calf killed by passing train. \$5 due.
8. Alterations to stock balances, effective 1 Apr. 1856
9. Abstract of alterations to stock balances, Apr 1856
10. Writ of Attachment, Burton & Jones vs. Vt. & Canada R.R., ltr signed C. W. Reynolds
11. Ltr, reference receipt of goods. 23 Apr 1856
12. Ltr from Beers Thompson & Co. for lumber; \$1802.10, dtd 25 Apr. 1856
13. Itemized inventory, undated or identified.
14. Changes in Vt & Canada RR stock; May 1856
15. Ltr, account of Burton & Jones, 1 May 1856
16. Bill for lumber, \$13 of original \$19. 12 May 1856
17. Ltr. Offering \_\_\_\_\_ for \$4000, 15 May 1856
18. Agreement, 28 May 1856. Troy Portable Grain Mill and W. C. Smith
19. Abstract of changes in stock, Jun 1856

20. Bill for Dec 1855 term, Jun 1856 term.
21. Prospectus/Profit & Loss Statement; Racine and Mississippi Railroad.
22. Ltr; Sherman Bros. Refund of over-payment 31 Jul 1856
23. Request for payment 5 Aug 1856
24. Request for payment of note due, Northern Railroad. 5 Aug 1856.
25. Receipt for room, Union Hall, Saratoga Springs, NY 9 Aug 1856
26. Changes in stock, Jul 1856 (21 Aug 1856)
27. Changes in stock, 1 Sep 1856
28. Trustee ltr, Sep 1856, sale of unused property.
29. Request for list of stock holders, legal opinion regards lease termination, 24 Sep 1856
30. Clark & Jesup, sale of cars, 1 Oct 1856
31. Clark & Jesup, sales/exchange of rails. 23 Oct 1856
32. Statement of Liabilities, effective 1 Oct 1856 through 17 Dec 1856
33. Statement of Liabilities, Sep 30 1856 through Feb 17 1857
34. Clark & Jesup, request to buy two rail cars. 24 Nov 1856
35. Notice of positive balance of account. 14 Nov 1856
36. Request for payment of bond interest, 8 Dec 1856
37. Response to ltr of Claim upon vendor, 8 Dec 1856.
38. Ltr itemizing account balance, 15 Jul 1855 through 31 Dec 1856
39. Contracted items abstract, 19 Dec 1856 through 22 Feb 1857

MSA705:06 Financial, Miscellaneous, 1857-1859

1. Ltr that accompanied a draft on the Globe Bank, 7 Feb 1857.
2. Ltr, re: Writ of Attachment, Plattsburg, NY, 3 Mar 1857
3. Ltr. Of consolidation of companies; new agent. Business card incl. 11 Mar 1857
4. Ltr, Dupee, Perkins & Sayles. Stock bid. 12 Mar 1857
5. Notice, Boston Stock Exchange 12 Mar 1857
6. Notice of insurance policy (#65) premium due, Star Ins. 20 Jun 1857
7. Notice of insurance policy (#7445) premium due, Connecticut Ins. 20 Jun 1857
8. Notice of insurance policy (#19) premium due, Home Ins. 20 Jun 1857
9. Law suit; Carolyn Page vs. Vt. Central in Winsor County Court May 1857
10. Chattel Mortgage, 19 Nov 1857, Cobourg and Peterborough Railway Company.
11. Receipt, 1 Dec 1857, Curtis N. Arms
12. Report, N. Y. Stock Exchange Sales, 15 Mar 1858

MSA705:07 Railroad Circulars

1. Free Passes, Vt. Central instructions to Conductors, 2 Jan 1854
2. Free Passes, Vt. Central instructions to Conductors, 2 Jan 1854, 2<sup>nd</sup> copy
3. Passes, Sullivan Road instructions to Conductors, 20 Oct 1854
4. Passes, Manchester and Lawrence Railroad instructions to Conductors, 1 Jul 1855
5. Bark Notice. Vt. Central RR, 2 Feb 1860.

6. Passes, Vt. Central & Vt. & Canada Railroads instruct. To Conductors, 17 Feb 1862
7. List of Station Agents, 1 Aug 1870
8. Accident reporting instructions, Vt. Central, 12 Sep 1870
9. Ltr, re: "Eastern" dtd 1872.
10. Railroad Running Rules (a reproduction) of 1838 w/ltr. Dtd 28 Nov 1923
11. Free Passengers Regulation, undated.

MSA705:08 Telegraph copies

1. Vt. & Boston, 6 Jun 1853 to John Smith, G. M. Dexter
2. Vt. & Boston, 9 Jun 1853 to J. Smith, W. R. Lee
3. Vt. & Boston, 29 Jul 1853 to John Smith, J. S. Eldridge
4. Vt. & Boston, 12 Jun 1853 to John Smith, W. R. Lee
5. Vt. & Boston, 1 Oct 1853 to J. Brei\_\_\_\_, Geo. Parkes
6. Vt. & Boston, 7 Nov 1854 to John Smith, G. M. \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
7. Vt. & Boston, 10 May 1855 to John Smith, W. R. Lee
8. Morse's American Telegraph, 30 Sep 1855 to J. G. Smith, Brainard, Jr.
9. Vt. & Boston, 1 Oct 1855 to \_ \_ \_ \_ , E. Smith
10. Vt. & Boston, 20 Jan 1857 to J. Smith,
11. Vt. & Boston, 20 Jan 1857 to J. Smith, G. M. Dexter
12. Vt. & Boston, 20 Jan 1857 to J. Smith, J. C. Gault
13. Ctrl Vt. form 19, 11 Dec 1903 to conductor of engine 336. From M. M. Four copies
14. Ctrl Vt. form 31, 11 Dec 1903 to conductor of engine 854. From M. M. Four copies.

MSA705:09 Insurance 1854, 1855

1. Receipt, Vt. Mutual Fire Ins. Co., policy #56253, 1 Aug 1854 to 1 Aug 1855. \$2.93
2. Receipt, Vt. Mutual Fire Ins. Co., policy #67152, 1 Aug 1854 to 1 Aug 1855. \$4.20

MSA705:10 Train Wreck 1859, 1878 & 1887

1. Newspaper clipping, undated. Refers to wreck of 1878, includes reproduction of train order of 1859.
2. Associated Press Bulletin, 17 Feb 1887. Train wreck of 5 Feb 1887 with list of dead and injured.
3. Ltr. 15 Oct 1912. To M. (Mike) Magiff, Supt. Telegraph, from J. H. Cummings.
  - A. Ltr. to A. A. Marvin from M. Magiff. Revision to list of dead; train wreck of 5 Feb 1887
  - B. Business card of A. A. Marvin
  - C. Ltr. to M. Magiff from A. A. Marvin, dtd 14 Oct 1912, detailing why the letters above were generated.

MSA706:01 Correspondence 1852-1858

*Note- some names are unreadable, spelling approximated*

1. 13 May 18\_\_ , L. Brainerd from James L. Steut\_ (sic), Jr.
2. date unknown, from E. V. M\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ .
3. 11 Jul 18\_\_ . John Smith from L. Underwood.
4. 17 Sep 18\_\_ . John Smith
5. 13 Sep 1852, partial letter, signed by R. Sherburne
6. 4 Nov 1854. John Smith from \_\_ Caufield (sic)
7. 11 Dec 1854. J. Smith from N. B. Proctor. Request for payment.
8. 26 Mar 1855. John Smith from D. Church.
9. 16 Apr 1855. John Smith from R. Sherburne.
10. 21 Apr 1855. John Smith from R. Sherburne. Mentions Ogdensburg RR debt.
11. 23 Apr 1855. J. Smith from P\_ \_ \_ body (sic).
12. 27 Apr 1855. J. Smith from W. Raymond Lee.
13. 30 Apr 1855. John Smith from Benjamin Lincond (sic)
14. 4 May 1855. J. Smith from Giles Harrington. Concerns Writ of Attachment.
15. 12 May 1855. John Smith from R. Sherburne. Mentions night train from Rouses Point.
16. 18 May 1855. J. Smith from W. R. Lee.
17. 25 May 1855. J. Smith from "Pick".
18. 2 Jun 1855. John Smith from R. Sherburne.
19. 5 Jun 1855. John Smith from David S. Sigman
20. 6 Jun 1855. John Smith from \_\_\_\_\_.
21. 12 Jun 1855. J. Smith from
22. 3 Jul 1855. J. Smith from N. L. Whitt\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (sic)
23. 14 Jul 1855. John Smith from R. Sherburne. Concerns re-rolling rails.
24. 14 Jul 1855. John Smith from John A. Griswold. Re-rolling rails.
25. 16 Jul 1855. J. Smith from R. Sherburne. Repair of broken draw-bars.
26. 20 Jul 1855. John Smith from G. P. George. Bond holder request.
27. 23 Jul 1855. Unk. from J. W. \_\_\_\_\_
28. 24 Jul 1855. John Smith from Washburn Marsh. Trustee action in court.
29. 24 Jul 1855. John Smith from R. Sherburne. Explosion and deaths of employees.
30. 24 Jul 1855. J. Smith from John A. Griswold. "... load the boats with rails...".
31. 26 Jul 1855. J. Smith from R. Sherburne. Mentions Mssrs. Church and Appleton.
32. 21 Aug 1855. J. Smith from J. A. Griswold. Mentions rails.
33. 21 Aug 1855. John Smith from John A. Griswold, Rensselaer Iron Works.
34. 4 Sep 1855. Copy of notes taken by Raymond Lee, trustees of First Mortgage Bonds.
35. 10 Sep 1855. John Smith from R. Sherburne. Refers to meeting to be held by Raymond Lee.
36. 13 Sep 1855. \_\_\_\_\_ from Raymond Lee. Notes from Trustee meeting (First Mortgage Bonds).

37. 3 Oct 1855. John Smith from A. D. Searles. Concerns cattle belonging to Smith.
38. 19 Oct 1855. John Smith from O. \_ Smith. Re: Writ of Attachment.
39. 7 Nov 1855. J. Smith from B. T. Reed. Request for payment.
40. 24 Dec 1855. John Smith from C. Lindley.
41. 31 Jan 1856. John Smith from Charles Huntington. BABCOCK is ill, looking to become wood agent. With envelope.

John Gregory Smith correspondence begins

42. 8 Feb 1856. **J Gregory Smith** from Geo. A. Lettell
43. 1 Mar 1856. J. Gregory Smith from R. R. Hurlburt.
44. 5 Mar 1856. J. G. Smith from N. D. Wait
45. 16 Mar 1856. \_ Smith from Seth Morse. Response to telegraph message.
46. 21 Mar 1856. J. G. Smith from Z. G. Spears (sic?). Residence and bond.
47. 26 Mar 1856. J. G. Smith from J. S. Eldridge. Scheme to control Board of Trustees.
48. 28 Mar 1856. J. G. Smith from Vail \_leo.
49. 7 Apr 1856. J. G. Smith from George Wilkins.
50. 13 Apr 1856. J. G. Smith from U. V. M. Committee (Fraternity) AI
51. 1 May 1856. J. Smith from R. Sherburne. Canada business and Mrs. Sherburne very ill.
52. 7 May 1856. \_ Smith, Brainard from \_\_\_\_\_ lumber message.
53. 12 May 1856. J. G. Smith from J. S. Eldridge. Temporary Injunction.
54. 24 Jun 1856. J. G. Smith from J. S. Eldridge. Office on 39 State St, Boston, Ma.
55. 15 Jul 1856. J. Smith from John B. Wheeler.
56. 18 Jul 1856. J. Smith from John P. Fullston (sic?).
57. 8 Aug 1856. J. G. Smith from E. P. Walton. Change date of meeting.
58. 18 Aug 1856. J. G. Smith from Atty for Sarah Mills. Lawsuit
59. 28 Aug 1856. J. Smith from A. Tracy.
60. 10 Sep 1856. J. G. Smith from W. & H. Gallop.
61. 16 Sep 1856. J. Smith from R. Sherburne. Free passes for shareholders meeting.
62. 16 Sep 1856. J. Smith from T. E. Chittenden. Sale of assets and account of Mr. Clark.
63. 23 Sep 1856. J. G. Smith from E. P. Walton. By-law Change meeting called.
64. 26 Sep 1856. J. Smith from J. S. Eldridge. Strategy plans to avoid the Board.
65. 29 Sep 1856. J. Smith from J. S. Eldridge. Allies on consolidation.
66. 1 Oct 1856. J. Smith from H.R. & J. D. Campbell (sic?). Sale of engine.
67. 6 Oct 1856. Smith & Brainard from Clark & Jesup. Sale of cars.
68. 13 Oct 1856. J. G. Smith from L. Underwood. Letter of introduction; E. F. H. Gibson.
69. 16 Nov 1856. J. G. Smith from J. Smith. Going to see Judge Poland in Montpelier. Strategy plans.
70. 17 Nov 1856. L. Brainard from R. Sherburne. Ordering oak lumber.

71. 28 Nov 1856. J. Smith from H. Carpenter.
72. 2 Dec 1856. J. Smith from \_\_\_DeForest Newland.
73. 7 Dec 1856. J. Smith from J. Wheeler.
74. 14 Dec 1856. SIR from Osgood Bradbury.
75. 22 Dec 1856. GENTS from J.J. & H. M. \_\_\_\_\_
76. 8 Jan 1857. Smith & Brainard from C. Blodgette & Son. Spruce logs.
77. 28 Jan 1857. J. & J. G. Smith from Van Schoonhoven Proudfit & Co. With business card.
78. 7 Feb 1857. J. G. Smith from Dupee, Perkins & Sayles. Stock order.
79. 7 Feb 1857. DIR from Smith Brainard. Appears to be a draft letter.
80. 20 Mar 1857. Smith & Brainard from D. B. Thatcher.
81. 11 Jun 1857. J. G. Smith from C. A. Arms. Bill collection from employee.
82. 23 Aug 1857. J. G. Smith from L. Underwood.
83. 25 Sep 1857. J. Smith from L. Underwood.
84. 25 Nov 1857. Huntington from R. E. Bur\_ \_ \_ \_ (PAGE TORN)
85. 18 Dec 1858. Notice of stockholders meeting.
86. 21 Dec 1858. J. G. Smith from W. R. Lee.

MSA706:02 Court documents 1842-1854

1. Description of Metcalf Island, Vol. 13, pg 17 & 18.
2. Court costs, recap, Mar 1842 to Sep 1848. Theodore W. Smith
3. Transfer of ownership document, Colchester, Vt. 15 Oct 1847.
4. Joel Barlow vs. John B\_\_\_ son, 12 Mar 1852
5. Transfer of land by heirs of Stephen S. Keyes of Highgate. 5 May 1851.
6. Amos S. Perry vs. A. M. Sunderlin. Jun 1852 term (fees).
7. Affidavit of Byron S(tevens?)
8. Amos S. Perry quitclaim to Jacob C. Carman, 17 Aug 1853.
9. Keep & Bond vs. George B. Wells & Noah Wells, Judgment Roll.
10. W. W. Holbrook vs. Vt. Central R. R.

MSA706:03 Court documents 1855

1. Vt. Canada vs. Vt. Central R. R. 15 May 1855.
2. Writ of Attachment; Smith vs. Smith, Lee & Eldridge. (First Mortgage) 21 Aug 1855, \$1000
3. Writ of Attachment; Elianor Hund\_ \_ \_ (sic) vs. Smith, Lee & Eldridge, 21 Aug 1855, \$5000.
4. Writ of Attachment; W & JH Whitman vs. Smith, Lee & Eldridge, 21 Aug 1855, \$600
5. Writ of Attachment; J.L. Sturdevant vs. Smith, Lee & Eldridge, 21 Aug, 1855, \$1000
6. Writ of Attachment; E. B. Pratt vs. Vt. Central (Smith, Lee & Eldridge), 21 Aug 1855, \$8000.
7. Writ of Attachment; George W. Wheelwright vs. Vt. Central (Smith, Lee & Eldridge), 21 Aug 1855, \$1000.
8. Writ of Attachment; Horton & Eldridge vs. Vt. Central (Smith, Lee & Eldridge), 21 Aug 1855, \$3000.

9. Writ of Attachment; Ellis & Newell vs. Vt. Central (Smith, Lee & Eldridge), 21 Aug 1855, \$1500.
10. Writ of Attachment; Charles \_\_\_\_\_ vs. Vt. Central (Smith, Lee & Eldridge), 21 Aug 1855, \$3000.
11. Legislature, after Aug 1855
12. Debt collection, John Smith from W. R. Lee 14 Sep 1855
13. Defense of Action letter, John Smith from R. Sherburne. 27 Sep 1855.
14. Writ of Attachment; Samuel O. Mead vs. Henry R. Campbell (summon Vt Canada). 19 Oct 1855. \$35, 000
15. Writ of Attachment; Sanderson vs. Vt. & Canada. 5 Nov 1855. \$2000.
16. Writ of Attachment; Horace Livingstone vs. \_\_ Niles (summon Vt. & Canada to disclose of chattel belonging to \_\_ Niles. 20 Dec 1855. \$1000.
17. Writ of Attachment; John Myers vs. B. R. Thomas (summon Vt. & Canada to disclose of chattel belonging to B. R. Thomas. 8 Nov 1855. \$50.
18. Copy of Writ letter; Myers vs. Thomas.
19. Letter from Deputy Sheriff Reynolds in re: Myers vs. Thomas
20. Summons; Smith, Lee & Eldridge, 29 Aug 1855.
21. Letter from George G. Hunt, in re: Green vs. Kerney 20 Nov 1855.
22. Writ of Attachment; G. Neil vs. James Goff, 22 Nov 1855 \$80.

MSA706:04 Court documents 1856-1858

1. Drew vs. Trustees, Vt & Canada. Feb 1856
2. Evarts vs. Newman 20 Feb 1856
3. Nonsufficient Funds against Smith and Brainard, \$5000. 27 Feb 1856
4. Asa Rhodes vs. Vt. Central R. R. Burlington, Chittenden, VT, Mar 1856
5. Notice of Suit. Caleb Richardson vs. VT Central R.R. 2 Mar 1856.
6. Writ, George W. Ball vs. Peter Blanchard, \$20. 17 Mar. 1856.
7. Statement of Cause, Gallop vs. VT Central R. R. 31 Mar 1856.
8. Writ, William Woodruff vs. Joseph Bashon. \$30. Apr 1856.
9. Writ, Platt vs. Odell and Procter. Copy. \$700. Nov 1856 term.
10. Writ, Lawrence vs. Blanchard. 17 Mar 1856
11. Notification, Richardson vs. Burlington, VT and Vt. Central RR, \$3000, 20 Mar 1856
12. Suit, Stone and Stone vs. Vt. Central RR, Mar 1856
13. Suit, Stone vs. Vt. Central RR, Mar 1856
14. Arbitration appointment, Smith, Brainard vs. Lewis and Beal. 22 Apr 1856 (3 copies)
15. Petition, Vt. & Canada vs. Vt. Central, 18 Sep 1856
16. Writ, Holmes vs. Larripy, \$20, 29 Mar 1856
17. Tax receipt, John Smith \$87.13, 11 Jun 1856
18. Suit plan, J Smith from John B. Wheeler 19 Jul 1856
19. Writ, Perkins vs. Curtis, \$40, 4 Aug 1856
20. Attachment for \$1500, Passenger car, 28 Aug 1856.
21. Writ, Underhill vs. Eddy, \$3000, 29 Oct 1856
22. Suit. State vs. Vt. & Canada RR, 12 Nov 1856

23. Payment, 29 Nov 1856
24. Writ, Myers vs. Thomas, \$50, 26 Dec 1856
25. Writ, Slade vs. Eastman, Smith & Houghton, \$10,000, Dec 1856
26. Writ, Slade vs. Smith and Houghton, \$5000, Dec 1856
27. Order of execution (Writ), Vt. & Canada vs. Vt. Central, \$50,000 5 Dec 1856
28. Copy of an act, Commonwealth of Massachusetts; House number 106
29. Affidavit of John Smith, May term 1857. Page vs. Vt. Central RR
30. Writ, Watson vs. Smith Eldridge and Brainard, \$2000, 1 May 1857 (2 copies)
31. Writ, Samuel Barker vs. Smith and Brainard, \$100, 23 Jun 1857
32. Letter; Rhodes vs. Vt. Central RR, 20 Jun 1857
33. Affidavit, Vt. & Canada vs. Vt. Central RR. 1 Oct 1857
34. Bill of Sale from J. Gregory Smith to Sunderland, Highgate property. 10 Mar 1858.

MSA707:01 Rail Schedules; Vt. Central and Central Vt., Sullivan, Vt. Valley

\*\*\*Not in Chronological Order\*\*\*

1. Vt. Central, 2 Jan 1854
2. Vt. Central, Niagara Falls, Ogdensburgh, Montreal, Saratoga, 2 Oct 1854
3. Vt. Central, Extra Time Card, 12 Oct 1854
4. Vt. Central, Vt. & Canada, Sullivan, Montreal and Vt. Junction. #2, 17 May 1869
5. Vt. Central, Vt. & Canada, Sullivan, Montreal and Vt. Junction. #3, 28 Jun 1869
6. Vt. Central, Vt. & Canada, Sullivan, Montreal and Vt. Junction. #4, 1 Jul 1869
7. Vt. Central, Vt. & Canada, Sullivan, Montreal and Vt. Junction. #6, 20 Sep 1869
8. Vt. Central, Vt. & Canada, Sullivan, Montreal and Vt. Junction. #7, 29 Nov 1869
9. Vt. Central, Vt. & Canada, Sullivan, Montreal and Vt. Junction. #8. 6 Dec 1869
10. Vt. Central, Vt. & Canada, Sullivan, Montreal and Vt. Junction. #9, 20 Dec 1869
11. Central Vt. Northern and Eastern Divisions, #4, 6 Jul 1874
12. Central Vt., Southern Division #3, 13 Jul 1874
13. Central Vt., Central Division, #8, 27 Nov 1876
14. Central Vt., Central Division, #1 Telegraphic Train Register, 30 Aug 1889
15. Central Vt., St. Lawrence & Adirondack Division #2, 1 May 1892
16. Central Vt., Rutland Division #3, 13 Jul 1874
17. Central Vt., Rutland Division #2, 22 May 1876
18. Central Vt., Rutland Division, #1 Telegraphic Train Register, 30 Aug 1889
19. Central Vt. St. Albans, 24 Jul 1876
20. Central Vt, St. Albans, 26 May 1889
21. Central Vt., St. Albans 9 Oct 1892

22. Central Vt., Ogdensburgh Division #31, 17 Nov 1895
23. Central Vt., Ogdensburgh Division #32, 31 May 1896
24. Mail car. Boston to Montreal and return. 9 Jan 1855
25. Sullivan Rail, #20, 1 Jan 1855
26. Vt. Valley #15, 7 May 1855

MSA707:01 Rail Map

1. Map, undated

Tim Leno  
September 2014  
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