

J.W. Stevens (1815-1870)
Papers, 1830-1933 (bulk 1833-1855)
MSA 137

Introduction

The J. W. Stevens papers are comprised of the correspondence and account books of Craftsbury, Vermont, cabinetmaker James Wellington Stevens (1815-1870). The collection was a gift to the Vermont Historical Society in 1992 from family members (ms. acc. no. 92.17). It is housed in one flip-top, archival box and occupies .5 linear feet of shelf space.

Biographical Sketch

J. W. Stevens was born in Middlebury, Vermont, in 1815. He apprenticed in Burlington with a Mr. Sweet, moving to Craftsbury in 1836. He married Caroline Brickett Dustan (the name is sometimes spelled "Dustin") in October 1838, and they had five children. He continued working as a cabinetmaker through the 1850s. He was also a photographer working with daguerreotypes and ambrotypes. J. W. Stevens died in 1870.

Scope and Content

This collection is made up of correspondence to J. W. Stevens, and his account books. The correspondence is from his father, Roswell Stevens, 1853-1855; other family members, 1849-1855; and miscellaneous correspondents, ca. 1833-1835. The account books are from 1836-1841, and 1842-1850, and list pieces completed and price of each work. The collection includes a genealogy of the Stevens family compiled by George Willis Stevens in 1933.

There is also an "orderly book" for the First Company of Green Mountain Rangers of Morristown, Vermont, October 5, 1830. The book was later used as a farm account book. The Stevens name does not appear in this book and the connection to the family is unclear.

Related Collections

Related collections can be found in the Vermont Historical Society museum collection:

- Painting of J. W. Stevens and his wife, Caroline Stevens (VHS A-621)
- Stencils used by J. W. Stevens (1997.5)
- Secretary made by J. W. Stevens (VHS 667.1)

Organization

The collection is divided into the following series:

- I. Correspondence
- II. Account Books
- III. Genealogy

Inventory

I. Correspondence

- MSA 137:1 Correspondence to J. W. Stevens, from his father Roswell Stevens,
1853-1855
- 2 _____, from family members, 1849-1855
 - 3 _____, from miscellaneous people, 1833-1835, n.d.
 - 4 Other correspondence

II. Account Books

- 5 J. W. Stevens account book, 1836-1841
- 6 _____, 1842-1850
- 7 Orderly book of the First Company of Green Mountain Rangers, 1830

III. Genealogy

- 8 Stevens family genealogy, by George Willis Stevens, 1933

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