

**The New York Public Library
Stephen A. Schwarzman Building
Manuscripts and Archives Division**

Guide to the
Henry J. Raymond papers
1840-1951 (bulk 1846-1869)
MssCol 2532

Compiled by Megan O'Shea, August 2007

Summary

Creator: Raymond, Henry J. (Henry Jarvis), 1820-1869

Title: Henry J. Raymond papers, 1840-1951 (bulk 1846-1869)

Size: .73 linear foot (2 boxes)

Source: Gift of Mrs. Marguerite M. Holbrook, August 1951.

Abstract: Henry J. Raymond was a New York politician and the first editor of the *New York Times*. He founded the *New-York Daily Times* in 1851 with George Jones and Edward B. Wesley. The collection consists of correspondence, legal documents, articles, and speeches. The correspondence consists mainly of letters written to Henry J. Raymond from notable people of the time regarding politics.

Access: Apply in the Special Collections Office for admission to the Manuscripts and Archives Division.

Preferred citation: Henry J. Raymond papers, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Related collections

George Jones papers. Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

New York Times Company records. George Jones and Henry J. Raymond papers. Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Creator history

Henry J. Raymond was a New York politician and the first editor of the *New York Times*. He founded the *New-York Daily Times* in 1851 with George Jones .

Between 1841 and 1851, Raymond worked for various newspapers, including Horace Greeley's *New York Tribune* and James Watson Webb's *Courier and Enquirer*, as a journalist and associate editor. He had known George Jones since their time at the *Tribune* and the two had often discussed the possibility of starting a newspaper themselves. In 1851 Raymond convinced Jones and Wesley to become his partners and publish a new paper that would report the news in an neutral manner. The *Times* was to fall between the sensationalism of James Gordon Bennett's *New York Herald* and the idealism of Greeley's *Tribune*. Raymond was the editor, Jones the publisher, and Wesley the business manager.

During this time Raymond was also a member of New York's Whig and Republican parties and active in state and national politics. Throughout his political career, he served as an assemblyman, speaker of the assembly, lieutenant governor of New York, and a member of the United States House of Representatives. He died in 1869.

Henry Jarvis Raymond (1820-1869), an American journalist and politician, was the first editor of the New York Times. He worked for various New York City papers before founding the New York Daily Times (later the New York Times) in 1851 with George E. Jones and Edward B. Wesley. Raymond's political career started when he was elected to the New York State Assembly in 1849. He was elected speaker of the Assembly in 1851, lieutenant-governor of New York in 1854, and member of Congress in 1864. His books included works about Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War.

Sources

Brown, Francis, *Raymond of the Times*. New York : W. W. Norton & Company, 1951.

Davis, Elmer, *History of the New York Times, 1851-1921*. 1921. Reprint, St. Clair Shores, Mich. : Scholarly Press, 1971.

Dictionary of American Biography, s.v. "Raymond, Henry Jarvis."

Scope and content note

The collection consists of correspondence, legal documents, articles, and speeches. The correspondence consists chiefly of letters written to Henry J. Raymond from notable people of the time regarding politics. The legal documents include copies of the original articles of incorporation of the New-York Daily Times. The articles and speeches include Raymond's letters to the *Times* regarding the situation in Italy in 1859 and an address delivered at the Republican National Convention in 1860.

Arrangement

The Henry J. Raymond papers are organized into the following series:

Series I. Correspondence, 1840-1897, n.d.

Series II. Articles and addresses, 1848, 1859, 1866, n.d.

Series III. Miscellaneous Items, 1852, 1855, 1864, 1867-1869, 1886, 1922, 1951, n.d.

Key terms

Subjects

American newspapers -- New York (State) -- New York

Newspaper publishing -- New York (State) -- New York

Names

Beecher, Henry Ward, 1813-1887

Colfax, Schuyler, 1823-1885

Dana, Richard Henry, 1815-1882

Douglas, Stephen A. (Stephen Arnold), 1813-1861

Occupations

Editors

Politicians

Places

Europe -- Politics and government -- 1848-1871

New York (N.Y.) -- Politics and government -- To 1898

New York (State) -- Politics and government -- 1775-1865

New York (State) -- Politics and government -- 1865-1950

Everett, Edward, 1794-1865
Greeley, Horace, 1811-1872
Jones, George, 1811-1891
Kossuth, Lajos, 1802-1894
Raymond, Henry J. (Henry Jarvis), 1820-1869
Taylor, Zachary, 1784-1850
Webster, Daniel, 1782-1852
Webster, Noah, 1758-1843
Weed, Thurlow, 1797-1882

Special formats

Engraving (prints) aat

1800
United States -- Politics and government -- 19th
century

Titles

New York times

Container list

Series I. Correspondence, 1840-1897, n.d.

The majority of the correspondence consists of letters written to Henry J. Raymond from politicians, authors, military officers, and other prominent members of society. Most of the letters relate to Raymond's political career, but there are some concerning articles written in the *New-York Daily Times*. Many people wrote to Raymond thanking him for positive mentions in the Times and others wrote in with criticism and demands for retractions.

There are a number of letters dating after Raymond's death in 1869. For the most part, they are addressed to Raymond's wife, Juliette Weaver Raymond, and son, Henry Warren Raymond. A note has been made where the addressee is someone other than those listed above.

- b.1 f.1 Adams, Henry, 1862
- b.1 f.1 Bangs, John Kendrick, 1897
- b.1 f.1 Beecher, Henry Ward, 1852
- b.1 f.1 Bergh, Henry, 1863, 1869 (Includes letter from Henry J. Raymond.)
- b.1 f.2 Cameron, Simon, 1861
Includes copy of letter from George Brinton McClellan to Cameron and letter from Henry J. Raymond.
- b.1 f.2 Carr, Clark E. (Clark Ezra), 1892
Letter is addressed to Benjamin F. (Benjamin Franklin) Tracy and includes letter from Princess Marie d'Orleans to Tracy.
- b.1 f.2 Childs, George William, 1883
- b.1 f.2 Choate, Rufus, 1854, n.d.
- b.1 f.2 Clafin, William, 1869
- b.1 f.2 Colfax, Schuyler, 1856, 1863 (1 items)
- b.1 f.2 Clark, Lewis Gaylord, undated (Letter is from Henry J. Raymond.)
- b.1 f.3 Edwards, T., 1850
Includes copy of first telegram from England to France and abstract from log of H.M.S. Asia.
- b.1 f.3 Dana, Richard Henry, 1869-1870 (Includes letter from Henry J. Raymond.)
- b.1 f.3 Decatur, Stephen, 1851
- b.1 f.3 Dix, John A. (John Adams), 1861
- b.1 f.3 Dixon, James, 1863
- b.1 f.3 Douglas, Stephen Arnold, 1859
- b.1 f.4 Everett, Edward, 1853-1856, 1860, 1864
- b.1 f.5 Fish, Hamilton, 1851
- b.1 f.5 Fisk, James, 1869 (Includes letter from Henry J. Raymond.)
- b.1 f.6 Greeley, Horace, 1840, 1850-1851
Greeley, Horace, undated
- b.1 f.11 Raymond, Henry J. (Henry Jarvis), 1841, 1866, 1869, n.d.
This folder contains miscellaneous letters from Raymond to Robert H. Gould, Robert S. Hale, George M. Towle, and unidentified persons. These letters were collected separately by the New York Public Library. The Gould letters and one of the unidentified letters were gifts of J. Pierpont Morgan. The Hale letter is a copy of the original owned by Robert L. Hale. The provenance of the others is unknown.

Series I. Correspondence, 1840-1897, n.d. (cont.)

- b.1 f.12 Smith, Charles G., 1862
- b.1 f.12 Spence, Thomas, undated
- b.1 f.7 Harper, Fletcher, 1851
- b.1 f.7 Hay, John, 1865
- b.1 f.7 Hayward, J. W., 1861
- Jones, George, 1846 (1 items)
Photocopy of original letter is in folder XXX of box 1.
- b.1 f.7 King, Preston, 1864
- b.1 f.8 Kossuth, Lajos, 1852-1855
Includes Kossuth's series of letters to the editor of the *Times* entitled *Democratic letters on European matters and American policy*.
- b.1 f.9 Lawrence, Abbott, 1848
- b.1 f.9 Lossing, Benson John, 1855, n.d.
- b.1 f.9 Lyman, S. P. (Samuel P.), 1851
- b.1 f.10 Marsh, George Perkins, 1869
Letter is addressed to Juliette Weaver Raymond.
- b.1 f.10 Mitchell, Donald Grant, 1848, 1865, n.d.
- b.1 f.12 Richardson, William, 1854
- b.1 f.12 Sargent, Epes, 1850 (6 items)
- b.1 f.12 Seward, William Henry, 1850
Fragment of letter mentioning Henry J. Raymond.
- b.1 f.12 Sickles, Daniel Edgar, 1864
- b.1 f.12 Spalding, J. R., 1848
- b.1 f.12 Sumner, Charles, 1856
- b.1 f.13 Taylor, Zachary, 1849
- b.1 f.13 Wadsworth, James S. (James Samuel), undated
- b.1 f.14 Webster, Daniel, undated
Letter is addressed to S. Draper. Includes Webster's notes on the Thomas Wilson Dorr case and fragment of essay entitled Snug.
- b.1 f.15 Webster, Noah, 1841 (Letter is addressed to Horace Greeley.)
- b.1 f.15 Weed, Thurlow, 1851
- b.1 f.15 Wheeler, William A. (William Almon), 1850, 1853
- b.1 f.15 Wilson, Alex, undated
- b.1 f.15 Wilson, H., 1865

Series II. Articles and addresses, 1848, 1859, 1866, n.d.

This series contains letters written by Raymond for the *New-York Daily Times*, notes for articles, and addresses he presented during his political career. The letters describe the situation in Italy during 1859. The addresses include Raymond's speech from the Republican National Convention in 1866.

Series II. Articles and addresses, 1848, 1859... (cont.)

- b.1 f.16 Corrigenda, undated
- b.1 f.16 Fearful, undated
- b.1 f.17 I propose to speak of American politics, undated
- b.1 f.18 I shall endeavor to fulfil the obligation, undated
- b.1 f.19 Letters from Italy, 1859
- b.1 f.20 Notes on Livy's Liber Twenty-first, undated
- b.1 f.21 Notes on Mexican War speech given by Daniel Webster, 1848
- b.1 f.22 Since the meeting of the last national convention, 1866
- b.1 f.23 Autographs, undated
- b.1 f.24 Clippings, 1855, 1869, 1886, 1922, 1951
- b.1 f.25 Contract, 1864
- b.1 f.26 Copyright and contract for History of the administration of President Lincoln, 1864
- b.1 f.27 Engraving of Henry J. Raymond, undated
Harbor News Association contract, 1849
- b.1 f.28 Original articles of association of New York Times Association, circa 1869
- b.1 f.29 Receipts, 1852, 1867
- b.1 f.29 Visiting card, undated

Series III. Miscellaneous Items, 1852, 1855, 1864, 1867-1869, 1886, 1922, 1951, n.d.

This series contains autographs and an engraving of Raymond, the copies of the original articles of association of the *New-York Daily Times*, and other legal documents.