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Guide to the

Simon Sterne papers

1861-1901

MssCol 2874

Compiled by Kit Messick, September 2012

Summary

Creator: Sterne, Simon, 1839-1901

Title: Simon Sterne papers, 1861-1901

Size: 1.68 linear feet (4 boxes, 2 volumes)

Source: Gift of Mrs. Sterne, 1913. Additional materials received in 1936 and 1929.

Abstract: Simon Sterne was a United States lawyer and economist. His papers contain correspondence and articles on economic and political subjects; records of a hearing before the Interstate Commerce Commission relative to freight classification; a petition to the New York Legislature for a Board of Railroad Commissioners; a discussion of the economic impact of the secession of the southern states, 1861; photographs and personal miscellany; and memorial materials created after Sterne's death.

Access: Apply to Manuscripts and Archives Division for access at <http://www.nypl.org/mssref>.

Preferred citation: Simon Sterne papers, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Creator history

Simon Sterne was a United States lawyer and economist. He was particularly known for his work in the areas of real estate and constitutional law. A vocal advocate for the reform of municipal government, he was elected secretary of the Committee of Seventy in 1870. In 1876 he was appointed by Governor Samuel J. Tilden to a commission to devise a plan for the government of cities, and in 1879, as counsel for the New York Board of Trade and Transportation, he spearheaded an investigation into abuses in railroad management. This resulted in the creation of a board of railroad commissioners for the state of New York. Later in his career, Sterne was involved in the establishment of the Interstate Commerce Commission. In 1885, President Cleveland appointed him to examine and report on the relations between the railroads and the governments of western Europe.

Scope and content note

The papers of economist Simon Sterne contain correspondence and articles on economic and political subjects; records of a hearing before the Interstate Commerce Commission relative to freight classification; a petition to the New York Legislature for a Board of Railroad Commissioners; a discussion on the economic impact of the secession of the southern states at the meeting of the Society of Political Economists held at Paris on June 5, 1861; photographs and personal miscellany; and

memorial materials created after Sterne's death.

Arrangement

The Simon Sterne papers are organized into the following series:

- I. Correspondence
- II. Economic and political papers
- III. Personal miscellany

Key terms

Subjects

Economics
Economists -- Correspondence
Economists -- Societies and clubs
Freight and freighting -- Law and legislation --
United States -- 19th century
Political science

Places

Confederate States of America -- Economic
conditions

Names

New York (State) -- Board of Railroad
Commissioners
Sterne, Simon, 1839-1901
United States -- Interstate Commerce Commission

Container list

I. Correspondence

- b.1 f.2 Adams, C. F. Jr., 1871-1890
- b.1 f.3 Baker, Charles S., undated
- b.1 f.4 Baldwin, Simeon E., 1886
- b.1 f.5 Balfour Browne, J. H., 1879
- b.1 f.6 Bell, Clark, 1887
- b.1 f.7 Barlow, Samuel L. M., 1888
- b.1 f.8 Barlow, Francis C., 1890
- b.1 f.9 Bright, John, 1868
- b.1 f.10 Choate, Joseph H., 1872-1873
- b.1 f.11 Carlingford, ?, 1886
- b.1 f.12 Cisco, John J., 1882
- b.1 f.13 Cobden Club, 1878
- b.1 f.14 Collum, S. M., 1885-1886
- b.1 f.15 Cooley, J. M., 1879
- b.1 f.16 Courtney, Leonard, 1878-1895
- b.1 f.17 Crosby, Howard, 1882
- b.1 f.18 Daly, Charles P., 1870
- b.1 f.19 Drexel, Joseph W., 1882
- b.1 f.20 Droop, H. R., 1870
- b.1 f.21 Ely, Richard T., 1887-1890
- b.1 f.22 Farrer, T. H., 1878-1883
- b.1 f.23 Favre, Jules, 1871
- b.1 f.24 Fawcett, Henry, 1869-1880
- b.1 f.25 Fawcett, Millicent Garrett, 1885
- b.1 f.26 Field, David Dudley, 1873-1885
- b.1 f.27 Frothingham, P. B., 1873
- b.1 f.28 Frosh, R. Graham, 1879
- b.1 f.29 Garnier, Joseph, 1879
- b.1 f.30 Garrett, R., 1895
- b.1 f.31 Gorman, A. P., 1887
- b.1 f.32 Grace, William R., 1885
- b.1 f.33 Hadley, Arthur T., 1890
- b.1 f.34 Hare, Thomas, 1871-1885
- b.1 f.35 Harper, J. Henry, 1882
- b.1 f.36 Havermeyer, William F., 1872-1874
- b.1 f.37 Hewitt, Abram S., 1873-1874
- b.1 f.38 Hurd, Charles E., 1885
- b.1 f.39 Jacobi, A., 1882

I. Correspondence (cont.)

- b.1 f.40 Jennings, L. J., 1878
- b.1 f.41 Labor, J. J., 1881-1882
- b.1 f.42 Low, Seth, 1893
- b.1 f.43 Lubbock, Sir John, 1894
- b.1 f.44 Merrill, Charles E., 1891
- b.1 f.45 MacDonald, G. S., 1897
- b.1 f.46 McPherson, J. R., 1880
- b.1 f.47 Marlowe, Julia, undated
- b.1 f.48 Matthews, Brander, 1890
- b.1 f.49 Michie, Archibald, 1879
- b.1 f.50 Mills, D. O., 1882
- b.1 f.51 Minturn, A. B., 1887
- b.1 f.52 Morley, Lord, 1868-1878
- b.1 f.53 Morrison, Walker, 1872-1895
- b.1 f.54 Morton, L.P., 1882
- b.1 f.55 Nash, S. P., 1882
- b.1 f.56 Nasmith, D., 1871
- b.1 f.57 Olney, Richard, 1894-1895
- b.1 f.58 Ottendorfer, Oswald, 1882
- b.1 f.59 Page, Walter H., 1891-1894
- b.1 f.60 Pernold, ?, 1878-1881
- b.1 f.61 Platt, O. H., 1885
- b.1 f.62 Porter, O. B., 1888
- b.1 f.63 Roesing, Johannes, 1869
- b.1 f.64 Sargant, W. L., 1871
- b.1 f.65 Schoonmaker, Augustus, 1888
- b.1 f.66 Schurz, Carl, 1882
- b.1 f.67 Seligman, Isaac N., 1871
- b.1 f.68 Sharwood, George, 1869-1871
- b.1 f.69 Shipley, Jacob H., 1882
- b.1 f.70 Shipman, William D., 1880
- b.1 f.71 Spencer, Herbert, 1868
- b.1 f.72 Sterne, Simon and Louis, 1861
Letters to Simon and Lewis Sterne, written from U. S. Army camps in Pennsylvania and Maryland between May and December, 1861, most of them from Jacob Hirsh and others in the 14th Infantry
- b.1 f.73 Stokes, A. P., undated
- b.1 f.74 Sturgis, J., 1872

I. Correspondence (cont.)

- b.1 f.75 Thatcher, John Boyd, 1894
- b.1 f.76 Tylor, Hy, 1878
- b.1 f.77 Van Brunt, C. H., 1883
- b.1 f.78 Watters, R., 1860
- b.1 f.79 Webster, ?, 1881
- b.1 f.80 Wells, David A., 1879-1881
- b.2 Messages of condolence on the death of Simon Sterne, 1901
- b.2 Letters in acknowledgement of John Ford's The Life and Public Service of Simon Sterne, 1903-1905

II. Economic and political papers

- b.3 f.1 Material Relating to the Meeting of the Society of Political Economists, Paris, 1861
Discussion regarding the economic impact of the secession of the southern states
- b.3 f.2 Heads of the Plan for the Election of the Governing Body of the City of London, 1866
- b.3 f.3 Material Relating to Rates of Freight, 1872-1884
- b.3 f.4 Petition to the New York State Legislature for a Board of Railroad Commissioners, 1875
- b.3 f.5 Material Relating to Economic and Political Issues, ca. 1885-1899
- b.3 f.6 Material Relating to a Hearing Before the Interstate Commerce Commission, 1899

III. Personal miscellany

- b.4 Awards and certificates, 1879-1890
- b.4 Photographs
- v.1 Memorials
- v.2 Memorials