



The New York Public Library
Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

**Henry Alexander Scammell Dearborn letters and importation
certificates**

1816-1848

MssCol 9326

Compiled by Susan P. Waide, 2015

Summary

Creator: Dearborn, H. A. S. (Henry Alexander Scammell), 1783-1851

Title: Henry Alexander Scammell Dearborn letters and importation certificates

Date: 1816-1848

Size: .1 linear feet (1 folder)

Source: Donated by J. Pierpont Morgan, 1899, as part of the Ford collection.

Abstract: Henry Alexander Scammell Dearborn (1783-1851) of Roxbury, Massachusetts was a politician, militia officer, author and horticulturist. Born in Exeter, New Hampshire, he was the son of Henry Dearborn (1751-1829), an American army officer and statesman, and Dorcas Osgood Marble. The collection contains a letter to his friend Joseph Gales, editor of the National Intelligencer at Washington, D.C., dated 1848 April 26; a short letter to Benjamin Mudge at Lynn, Massachusetts confirming a lecture, dated 1843 November 10; and four importation certificates for wine arriving in Boston and its vicinity, dated 1816 and 1823, signed by Dearborn during his tenure as Collector of Customs at Boston.

Preferred citation: Henry Alexander Scammell Dearborn letters and importation certificates, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Processing note: Compiled by Susan P. Waide, 2015

Creator History

Henry Alexander Scammell Dearborn (1783-1851) of Roxbury, Massachusetts was a politician, militia officer, author and horticulturist. Born in Exeter, New Hampshire, he was the son of Henry Dearborn (1751-1829), an American army officer and statesman, and Dorcas Osgood Marble.

H.A.S. Dearborn began his career as a lawyer and held various public offices and military commands during his life. He was Collector of Customs at Boston, 1812-1829, and in 1812 was appointed brigadier general in the Massachusetts militia, commanding volunteers at Boston Harbor defenses. Dearborn was a delegate to the Massachusetts Constitutional Convention of 1820-1821, and a member of the Massachusetts legislature, 1829-1830, and the U.S. House of Representatives, 1831-1833. In

1835 he was appointed Adjutant General of Massachusetts, but was dismissed in 1843 for loaning state arms to the government of Rhode Island to suppress the Dorr Rebellion in 1842. Dearborn was the author of several non-fiction works and wrote extensively on political, horticultural and other topics for newspapers and periodicals. He collaborated with his father to transcribe and edit his Revolutionary War journals, wrote sketches of his father's life and military career, and prepared materials for publication in the press on his behalf. A noted horticulturist and leader in the rural cemetery movement, Dearborn served as the first president of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, founded in 1829. He also helped found the New England Society for the Promotion of Manufactures and the Mechanical Arts, which existed from 1826 to 1868. In 1847 the Native American Party, later known as the American Party and popularly as the Know Nothing Party, nominated him to run for U.S. Vice President. H.A.S. Dearborn was Mayor of Roxbury from 1847 until his death in 1851.

Scope and Content Note

The collection contains a letter to his friend Joseph Gales, editor of the National Intelligencer at Washington, D.C., dated 1848 April 26; a short letter to Benjamin Mudge at Lynn, Massachusetts confirming a lecture, dated 1843 November 10; and four importation certificates for wine arriving in Boston and its vicinity, dated 1816 and 1823, signed by Dearborn during his tenure as Collector of Customs at Boston.

Key Terms

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Certificates of origin

Subjects

Customs administration -- Massachusetts

Occupations

Newspaper editors

Politicians

Names

Gales, Joseph, 1786-1860 -- Jr.

Mudge, B. F. (Benjamin Franklin), 1817-1879

United States. Collector of Customs (Boston, Mass.)