

BLAKE, AMOS JEWETT (b. 1836)
PAPERS, 1865-1918
2 Boxes, ca. 850

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE:

Amos Jewett Blake was the son of Ebenezer and Hephisibeth (Jewett) Blake of Rindge. He studies law with F.F. Lane of Keene and was admitted to the N.H. Bar in 1862. He was appointed to the U.S. District Court in 1867.

Blake was active in his community both in Rindge and later in Fitzwilliam. He served as superintendent of the Rindge school committee for two years, and in Fitzwilliam for eleven. He was a Fitzwilliam selectman and then town moderator for ten years. He was associated with the Fitzwilliam Savings Bank and supervisor for the town library.

On the state level he was a member of the New Hampshire House of Representatives in 1872-73 and again in 1901. He was N.H. bank commissioner from 1876-79, assistant assessor for the Internal Revenue Service from 1862-1870; and member of the state Constitutional conventions 1889, 1902 and 1912.

Blake wrote the "Life and Character of Gen. James Reid" published in volume 1 of the Proceedings of the New Hampshire Historical Society. He was a Freemason, member of NHHS and of the Sons of the American Revolution.

On December 26, 1865 he married Ann E. Howe. After her death in 1867 he married Flora E. Stone in 1883. They had one son Leroy S. Blake born in 1883.

For further information see Marquis, Who's Who in New England, 1909, p. 113 and Metcalf, H.H. One Thousand New Hampshire Notables, Concord, 1919, pp. 79, 81.

Hiram Blake was born in 1838, two years after Amos. He attended school in New Ipswich and graduated from Albany Law School in 1862. He practiced briefly in New York before moving out to Nebraska for six years. In 1873 he returned and settled in Keene, NH where he practiced law.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE:

Hiram Blake writes to his older brother Amos regarding legal matters such as cases, bounties, and insurance. He discusses family matters. E. H. Allen of Bradford writes concerning a fire in his store.

Civic Activities

Box 1, fld 12 Fitzwilliam Library, 1868-1876 (19 items)
13 Fitzwilliam Library, receipts, 1873 (22)
14 School committee, 1883-1879 (17 items)
15 Pensions and Bounties, 1861-1879, 1887 (26)
16 Assessor, 1863-1867 (20 items)
17 Assessor, 1868-1870 (20 items)
18 Politics, 1868-1879 (18 items)
19 Politics, 1880-1913 (14 items)
20 Fitzwilliam Savings Bank, 1880-1887, 1912
(11 items)

Professional correspondence

Box 1, fld 21 1865-1867 (13 items)
22 1868 (18 items)
23-24 1869 (25 items)
25-26 1870 (29)
27 1871 (19)
28-29 1872 (27)
30-32 1873 (48)
Box 2, fld 1- 2 1874 (39)
3- 5 1875 (56)
6- 8 1876 (37)
9 1877 (17)
10 1878-1879 (20)
11-12 1880 (27)
13-15 1881-1883 (39)
16 1884 (13 items) (no papers for 1885)
17 1886 (21 items)
18 1887-1889 (14 items)
19-20 1890-1891 (29 items)
21 1892-1899 (18 items)
22 1904-1909 (5 items)
23-26 1911-1914 (60 items)
27-28 1915 (32 items)
29 1916 (6 items)
30-31 no year date (12 items)

MISCELLANEOUS

Box 2, fld 32 Papers, 1890-1918 (17 items)

CARDS MADE FOR THE CATALOG:

Civil War-pensions & bounties	Taxation
Occupation-Lawyer	Libraries
Fitzwilliam, NH	Rindge, NH
Banking-Fitzwilliam Savings	Gypsy Moths
Education-school committee	Blake, Hiram (b. 1838)
Advertising-letterheads	
Allen, E.H. (of Bradford)	
NH Politics, 1868-1913	

Amos Blake mentions many topics in his personal correspondence, including a wooden tray making machine, the escape of his "ward" from an alms house, the apple business, writing an article for a journal on men he has known who worked for women's suffrage, etc. There are a number of examples of local business letterhead such as (folder 8) letterhead from Eaton & Ayer Bobbins, Spools etc. and from Knowlton & Stone Hardware in Keene, NH (folder 9) Johns-Manville Asbestos, (Box 2, folder 20) D.C. Whitcomb & Co. wooden packing boxes, trays and toys. In folder 11 there is a notice regarding Gypsy moths, ca 1910?

The Fitzwilliam library requests books, has an auction to raise money etc. Folder 15 reflects his business with people attempting to get bounties from the Civil War. As assessor he issued refunds licensed peddlers etc. Blake was active in politics as shown by his appointment as a delegate to the Republican Convention in 1868, requests for his support, lectures to the Republican Club etc.

Blake's legal practice included work as an executor and guardian, settling financial disputes, bill collection, insurance claims, an occasional divorce, work as a court referee, foreclosures, deeds and mortgages, etc.

In the Miscellaneous folder there are two items relating to Corporal Ernest D. Hillary of the American Expeditionary Forces in WWI.

FAMILY CORRESPONDENCE

Box 1, fld	1	Hiram Blake to Amos, 1873-1875 (18 items)
	fld 2	Hiram Blake to Amos, 1876-1890 (17 items)
	fld 3	Henry Blake to Hiram & Amos, 1872-1880 (13)
	fld 4	E. H. Allen to Amos, 1880-1891 (16 items)
	fld 5	Various family members, 1870-1915 (17)

AMOS J. BLAKE

Personal Papers

Box 1, fld	6	1866, 1873-75 (21 items)
	7	1877-1882 (17 items)
	8	1883-1892 (19 items)
	9	1908-1913 (22 items)
	10	1914-1918 (14 items)
	11	undated (26 items)