

E. Dole & Co.
Records 1887-1947
22 Boxes, 10.25 linear feet

Company Profile

E. Dole & Co. operated a variety of family-owned businesses in Campton, NH from the 1820s to the 1960s. Over the years they included a grist mill, flouring mill, saw mill, shingle mill, a tavern, and a store, as well as the best-known Mad River Mills and Campton Electric Light Company.

Moses Cook started a carding mill in the 1820s on the Mad River in Campton, NH. His nephew, John Dole joined him, and the business became known as Cook & Dole. In the 1840s, Erastus and Moses Dole joined their brother, John, and the business was known as Dole Brothers. The name was changed to E. Dole & Company in 1847. (A genealogical chart is appended at the end of this inventory.)

In 1885 the principals were E. Dole, M.C. Dole, and E.H. Hodgman. Various sources identify a grist and flouring mill and a saw and shingle mill during that period as well as Mad River Mills. According to John Page, "the 1880 NH Industrial Census lists the ... woolen mill as having 14 employees, with 'products' valued at \$16,000. The company also operated a grist mill, with two employees and products valued at \$10,625." The American Textile History Museum reports that "at various times the [Dole] family operated a grist mill, a saw mill, a tavern and a store," and that, "The firm operated on a modest scale. In the 1880s it had 2 sets of cards, 240 spindles and 8 looms producing cassimeres, tweeds, flannels, felt, and satinets."

According to John Page, "Around the turn of the century the company began to manufacture finished knit goods, socks, sweaters and pants. By 1920 knit goods and yarns were their only products." John Page also noted that "in the 1920s and 30s the Mill manufactured sporting goods for the Draper-Maynard Company of Plymouth [N.H.] Later products included woolen socks and carpet yarns." The mill apparently also manufactured school and camp uniforms, and woolen socks for the U.S. Army during World War II. Two products of Mad River Mills seemed to be especially well known, "Mad River Stripes" and "Campton Pants."

The company founded the Campton Electric Light Company in 1898 to generate power for their mills and for the community.

Sources:

Campton bicentennial, 1767-1967: commemorative booklet. Publisher [S.1.]: [s.n.], [1967].

[Campton Bicentennial, author and publ.], *Campton Bicentennial, 1767-1967, Commemorative Booklet*. [Campton, NH, 1967].

Child, Hamilton, comp. and publ., *Child's Grafton County Gazetteer, 1709-1886*. Syracuse, NY: Syracuse Journal Company, Printers, 1886.

Dole (E.) and Company, Campton, NH, 1843-1947, Records, 141 volumes, 61 boxes, 27 linear feet, *Collection Register*, MS 34, 68, at American Textile History Museum

Page, John, "E. Dole & Company Business Records," unpublished note in file, 1998.

Scope and Content Note

This collection consists of business records, mostly invoices, for E. Dole and Co. of Campton, New Hampshire, and for two businesses the company operated in Campton, Mad River Mills and Campton Electric Light Company, as follows:

- E. Dole & Company business records, principally invoices, during the years 1887-1899, 1901-1904, 1906-1908, 1911, 1913-1915, 1917, 1924, 1929, 1932-1948. There are no records from the following years: 1900, 1905, 1909-1910, 1912, 1916, 1918-1923, 1925-1928, 1930-1931.
- Mad River Mills business records, principally orders, during the years 1925, 1940-1947. There are no records from other years.
- Campton Electric Light Company business records from 1911-1917 (invoices) and from 1913-1927 (reports).
- There is also a very small amount of correspondence from the 1880s (Dole family personal correspondence and some business correspondence regarding the design and construction of the new electricity generating facility) records. The correspondence, which is in Box 4, includes:
 - Joseph Kidder, Grand Sec'y, to Brother Dole, about Independent Order of Odd Fellows
 - H. M. Dickerson of Danbury, NH to Uncle Moody, about Dandy Wagon to carry milk into station
 - From Herbert in Roxbury, MA, to Dear Brother, about personal, family, general
 - From Elizabeth H. Elliot to Dear Cousin, about financial standing of company (2 letters)
 - Mrs. J.E. Nickerson [?] in E. Somerville to ?, about "piano stored at your home when we left Campton"
 - Derby & Morse, Electrical Contractors, Lowell, MA – several interesting letters about new electricity generating plant
 - Geo. H. Stahl, Quincy, MA, about incubator and brooder

The bulk of the records came to us arranged chronologically in cardboard and wire binders, and within each binder, in alphabetical order. The Mad River Mills and Campton

Electric Light Company records were in separate binders, arranged in the same way as the other E. Dole & Co. records. We removed all of the records from their (acidic) binders and placed them in their original order in archival boxes and folders. Most of the records were tabbed with acidic alphabetical markers which we also discarded. In addition, we removed metal items such as staples and pins. A very small amount of the records were moldy. We removed the moldy pages and replaced them in the files with copies made on archival paper. (An example of this is the Pemigewasset National Bank checkbook register in Box 22, Folder 7.)

The E. Dole and Co., Mad River Mills, and Campton Electric Light Co. records were intermixed in the E. Dole binders as well as kept separately during certain years, and we have left them as they were originally filed. In addition, there is a very small amount of Dole family personal correspondence mixed in with the E. Dole and Co. records, and we have left it as it was filed.

The Campton Electric Light Company Reports to the Public Service Commission of New Hampshire were piled together in a cardboard box and we have put them individually in folders.

We have created an artificial arrangement of "Miscellaneous Accounts," in Box 22, in which we put records that were not part of any other group when they came to us.

We have created an index of New Hampshire businesses – names, towns, and type of business – represented in the records in each box in our collection. Although the box order is accurate in general, we have re-boxed the collection since the index was made and box references may no longer be exact. This index was prepared in 1998 by New Hampshire Historical Society Manuscripts Department volunteer Harry Sleeper.

There are other E. Dole and Co. records in a collection held by the American Textile History Museum in Lowell, Mass.

Collection arranged and described, 1998, by Josie Manternach, Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science intern.

Inventory

Box 1 - E. Dole & Co.	1887-1888 ,	Invoices
Folders 1-12	1887 (alphabetical)	
Folders 13-24	1888 (alphabetical)	
Box 2 - E. Dole & Co.	1889-1891,	Invoices
Folders 1-11	1889 (alphabetical)	
Folders 12-22	1890 (alphabetical)	

Folders 23-31 1891 (alphabetical)
[There is also one item of correspondence in Folder 22, from Ed to Friend Moody, apparently about local political events.]

Box 3 - E. Dole & Co. 1892-1894 Invoices

Folders 1-9 1892 (alphabetical)
 Folders 10-18 1893 (alphabetical)
 Folders 19-28 1894 (alphabetical)

Box 4 - E. Dole & Co. 1895-1901 Invoices & Correspondence

Folder 1 1895 (no apparent order)
 Folders 2&3 1896 (alphabetical)
 Folders 4&5 1897 (alphabetical)
 Folders 6&7 1898 (alphabetical)
 Folder 8 1899 (no apparent order)
 Folders 9-13 1901 (alphabetical)

[There are no records from the year 1900.]

Box 5 - E. Dole & Co. 1902 - 1904 Invoices

Folders 1-8 1902 (alphabetical)
 Folders 9-16 1903 (alphabetical)
 Folders 17-25 1904 (alphabetical)

[There are no records for 1905.]

Box 6 - E. Dole & Co. 1906 - 1907 Invoices

Folders 1-13 1906 (alphabetical)
 Folders 14-25 1907 (alphabetical)

Box 7 - E. Dole & Co. 1908 and 1911 Invoices

Folders 1-8 1908 (alphabetical)
 Folders 9-21 1911 (alphabetical)

[There are no records for 1909, 1910 or 1912.]

Box 8 - E. Dole & Co. 1913 - 1914 Invoices

Folders 1-13 1913 (alphabetical)
 Folders 14 -26 1914 (alphabetical)

Box 9 - E. Dole & Co. 1915 Invoices

Folders 1-17 1915 (alphabetical)

[There are no records for 1916.]

Box 10 - E. Dole & Co. 1917 Invoices

Folders 1-14 1917 (alphabetical)

[There are no records for 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922 or 1923.]

Box 11 - E. Dole & Co. 1924 and 1929 Invoices & Receipt

Folders 1-14 1924 (alphabetical)

Folder 15 1929 (1 item only, a sales receipt)
[There are no records for 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1930 or 1931.]

Box 12 – E. Dole & Co. 1932-1938 Invoices
Folders 1-18 1932-1938 (alphabetical, P-Z only)
[The records for these years are intermixed and sorted alphabetically.]

Box 13 – E. Dole & Co. 1939-1941 Invoices
Folders 1-22 1939-1941 (alphabetical)
[The records for these years are intermixed and sorted alphabetically.]

Box 14 – E. Dole & Co. 1942 - 1943 Invoices
Folders 1-8 1942 (alphabetical)
Folders 9-23 1943 (alphabetical)

Box 15 – E. Dole & Co. 1944 - 1945 Invoices
Folders 1-11 1944 (alphabetical)
Folders 12-20 1945 (alphabetical)

Box 16 – E. Dole & Co. 1946-1947 Invoices
Folders 1-24 1946-1947 (alphabetical)
[This box contains 3/31/46 to 3/31/47 whereas all other records are delineated by calendar year]

Box 17 - E. Dole & Co. 1947-1948 Invoices
Folders 1-13 1947 (alphabetical)
Folders 14-17 1948 (alphabetical)

Box 18 - Mad River Mills 1925 Orders

Folders 1-14 1925 (alphabetical)

Box 19 - Mad River Mills 1940-1946 Orders

Folders 1 1940 (alphabetical) (November only)
Folders 2-3 1940 (alphabetical) (December only)
Folders 4-15 1941 (chronological)
Folders 16-27 1942 (chronological)
Folder 28 1943 (chronological)
Folder 29 1944 (chronological)
Folder 30 1945 (chronological)
Folder 31 1946 (chronological)

Box 20 - Mad River Mills 1945-1947 Orders

Folders 1-6 1945-1947 (alphabetical)
[The records for these years are intermixed and sorted alphabetically]

Folder 7 1946-1947 (no apparent order)

Folders 8-19 1946-1947 (alphabetical)

[The orders in Folders 8-19 are all made through Iselin-Jefferson Co. as intermediary. The records for these years are intermixed and sorted alphabetically.]

Box 21 - Campton Electric Light Co. 1911-1927 Invoices & Reports

Folders 1-7 1911-1917 Invoices

Folder 1	1911 (alphabetical)
Folder 2	1912 (alphabetical)
Folder 3	1913 (alphabetical)
Folder 4	1914 (alphabetical)
Folder 5	1915 (alphabetical)
Folder 6	1916 (alphabetical)
Folder 7	1917 (alphabetical)

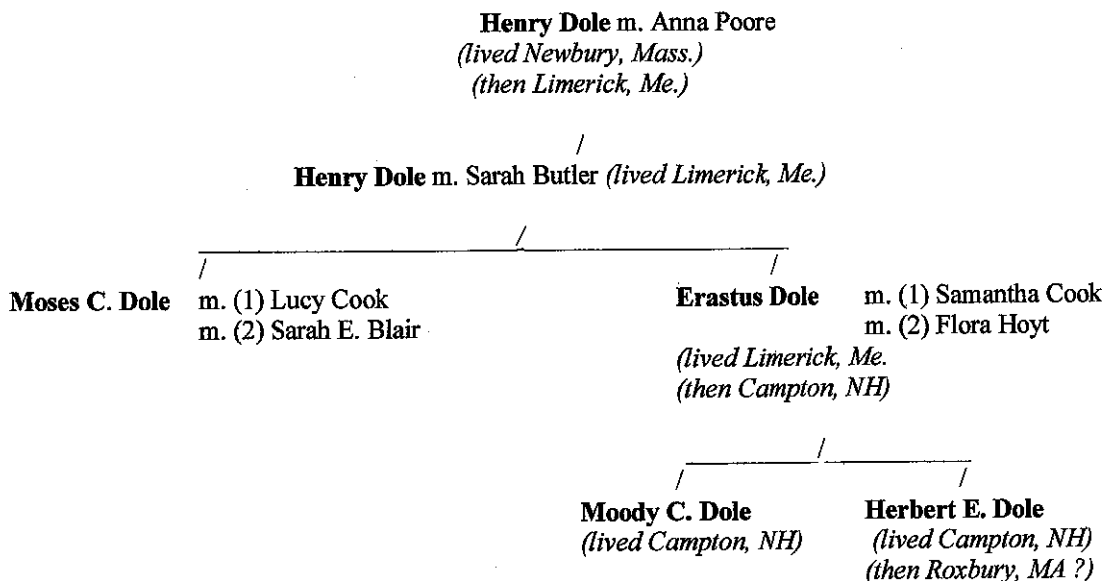
Folders 8-23 1913-1927 [Annual] Reports to the Public Service
Commission of New Hampshire

Folder 8	1913
Folder 9	1914
Folder 10	1915
Folder 11	1916
Folder 12	1917 (year ending June 30, 1917)
Folder 13	1917 (year ending December 31, 1917)
Folder 14	1918
Folder 15	1919
Folder 16	1920
Folder 17	1921
Folder 18	1922
Folder 19	1923
Folder 20	1924
Folder 21	1925
Folder 22	1926
Folder 23	1927

The reports for 1913-1917 are for years ending on June 30. In 1917, the reporting system changed to a calendar year, so there is a second report for that year in order to convert to the new December 31 year-end system. For 1918-1927, the reports are for years ending on December 31.

U.S. Army socks, ca. 1940s
Woolen mills

Dole Family Genealogy



Henry Dole married
Sarah Butler, daughter of John and Sarah Butler of Newbury, Mass.

Erastus Dole married
Samantha Cook, daughter of Moody and Lucy (Eaton) Cook
Flora E. Hoyt, daughter of Dr. Peter L. and Elizabeth A. (Davis) Hoyt

Moses Dole married
Lucy Cook, daughter of Moody and Lucy (Eaton) Cook
Sarah E. Blair, daughter of Judge Walter and Eliza (Farnum) Blair
(Sarah taught high school at Concord, NH)