



Guide to the Shepard Family Papers, 1854-1906

Administrative Information

Title and Dates:

Shepard Family Papers, 1854-1906

Repository:

New Hampshire Historical Society

30 Park Street

Concord, NH 03301

603-228-6688

<http://www.nhhistory.org/>

Collection Number:

2011.060

Author of Finding Aid:

Steve Leavenworth; updated by Korrena Cowing

Creator:

Shepard family

Webster family

Language:

The materials in this collection are in English.

Extent:

1 box ; 0.33 linear feet

Abstract:

The Shepard Family Papers consist primarily of correspondence of Jonathan C., Peter, and Charles P. Shepard, and John P. Webster, as well as other family members from 1854 to 1906. Other materials include essays, genealogy, a diary, and an account book.

Access and Use

Acquisition Information and Provenance:

The Shepard Family Papers were purchased by the New Hampshire Historical Society in 2011.

Processing Information:

This collection was processed by Steve Leavenworth in 2011 and finalized by Korrena Cowing in October 2019. The finding aid was written by Steve Leavenworth in August 2011 and updated by Korrena Cowing in October 2019. This finding aid follows the standards set-forth by *Describing Archives: A Content Standard*.

Access Restrictions:

Available for research.

Location:

The collection is housed at the New Hampshire Historical Society in Concord, New Hampshire.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements:

The materials in this collection are paper based and have no special technical requirements for use.

Copyright/Conditions Governing Use:

For permission to reproduce or publish materials from this collection, please contact the New Hampshire Historical Society. Users are responsible for following all copyright and intellectual property laws.

Preferred Citation:

Item title, Shepard Family Papers, 2011.060. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH. Date accessed.

Collection Overview

Biographical Information:

Jonathan C. Shepard was born in Boscawen, NH, on March 22, 1818 to Israel and Sally (Crowell) Shepard. He married Almeda Pearson on June 24, 1841 at Grafton, NH. Almeda was born in Grafton in 1816 to Phineas and Lydia (Sayles) Pearson. Together they had two children: Charles and Frances A. Shepard (1847-1899). Jonathan died on July 11, 1880 in Boscawen and Almeda died in 1893.

Charles Pearson Shepard, son of Jonathan C. and Almeda (Pearson) Shepard, was born in Grafton, NH, on February 26, 1842. Moving to Penacook when he was five, Charles attended local school and the Boscawen Academy. He enlisted on August 30, 1861 in Company E., Berdan's U.S. Sharpshooters, and was shot in the abdomen at the Battle of Malvern Hill, VA, on July 1, 1862. Charles was honorably discharged on October 6, 1862 and returned to Penacook, NH. After spending several years recovering, he moved to Manchester, NH, and entered into the restaurant business. Six years later he moved to Boston, MA, where he remained for three years,

then to Concord, NH, for twelve, before purchasing a farm near Penacook. He married Martha Webster of Center Harbor, NH, on May 31, 1874 at Goffstown. She was born about 1850, the daughter of Moses and Mary Webster. Charles and Martha had two children. Martha died of pneumonia at Boston on March 20, 1877. At Boscawen on July 30, 1882, Charles married Carrie J. Evans of Manchester, her second marriage. She was born about 1852, perhaps in Maine, and died on December 26, 1897 at Boscawen. Shepard was a member of the Sturtevant Post, No. 2, G.A.R.; the Sharpshooters' Veteran Association; the Odd Fellows; and the Grange. Charles Shepard died on May 1, 1922 in Penacook.

Jedidiah Shepard was born in Boscawen, NH, on May 1, 1829 to Isaac and Sally Shepard. He married Ruth Briggs on July 1, 1851 in New Hampshire. She was born about 1832 in Massachusetts. They lived in Dixon, IL, in 1860; Delaware, IA, in 1870; and Winthrop, IA in 1880. Jedidiah died in 1905.

Peter Renton Shepard was born on Sept 19, 1838 in Boscawen, NH, to John and Nancy B. (Thompson) Shepherd. He enlisted in the US Marine Corps on May 2, 1861 and served on the USS Susquehanna. He was discharged on July 3, 1862 before enlisting on November 4, 1862 in the 16th New Hampshire Infantry Regiment. He mustered out on August 20, 1863, and died of a fever at Boscawen on September 25, 1863.

John P. Webster born in about 1844 in Northfield, VT, to Benjamin Webster. He was the husband of Frances A. Shepard and served in the 9th New Hampshire Infantry Regiment from July 28, 1862 to June 30, 1865. He died in Boscawen, NH, on December 9, 1888. Frances died there on May 4, 1899.

Collection Scope and Content Note:

The Shepard Family Papers consist primarily of correspondence of the Shepard and Webster families from 1854 to 1906. Some of the correspondents are related, but others have an unknown family connection. Correspondents/addressees include Jonathan C. Shepard, Charles P. Shepard, Jedidiah "Jed" Shepard, Peter Shepard, R. B. Shepard, Almeda Shepard, the Lear family, and John P. Webster. A miscellaneous folder of correspondence is included, which contains letters to which the recipient is unknown or are single letters.

The correspondence contains family and local updates, political discussions, and Civil War letters primarily from Peter Shepard to Charles P. Shepard during Charles' injury. Also included is a letter discussing slavery, see folder 6. Care was taken to keep the letters in the order in which they were found as in many instances, there is little identifying to whom the letters were sent. Other materials include essays, genealogical notes, a diary from F. Webster [possibly Frances Webster, daughter of Almeda and Jonathan Shepard], and a highway surveyor's account book. The material predominately comes from Boscawen, Fisherville/Penacook, Grafton, Manchester, Sunapee, and Unity, NH; and Dixon, IL.

Arrangement:

The materials in this collection are arranged by type/person, then chronologically.

Contents List

Box 1

- Folder 1 Genealogy, 1906
- Folder 2 Lear family correspondence, 1863-1865, undated
- Folder 3 Almeda Shepard correspondence, 1854-1869, undated
- Folder 4 Charles P. Shepard correspondence from Peter Shepard, 1858-1863, undated
- Folder 5 Charles P. Shepard essays, 1858, undated
- Folder 6 Jed (J. S.) and R. B. Shepard correspondence, 1857-1867
- Folder 7 Jonathan C. Shepard correspondence, 1860-1866
- Folder 8 Jonathan C. Shepard highway surveyor account book, 1866
- Folder 9 F. Webster diary, 1896
- Folder 10 John P. Webster correspondence, 1863-1865
- Folder 11 John P. Webster correspondence, 1866-1868, 1879
- Folder 12 John P. Webster I.O.O.F. receipts and membership, 1886-1888
- Folder 13 Miscellaneous correspondence, 1860-1866, 1888, undated

Subject Terms**People:**

- Lear family
- Shepard family
- Shepard, Almeda, 1841-1893
- Shepard, Charles P., 1842-1922
- Shepard, Jedidiah, 1829-1905
- Shepard, Jonathan C., 1818-1880
- Shepard, Peter, 1838-1863
- Shepard, R. B.
- Webster family
- Webster, John P., circa 1844-1888

Organizations:

- Independent Order of Odd Fellows

Subjects:

- Account books
- Correspondence
- Diaries
- Families
- Genealogy
- United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865
- Women

Locations:

- Boscawen, NH
- Dixon, IL
- Fisherville [Penacook], NH
- Grafton, NH
- Manchester, NH
- Sunapee, NH

Unity, NH
Occupations:
Soldiers