

Wheeler H. Peckham Family

A Register of Its Papers in the Library of Congress

Prepared by Connie L. Cartledge



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress

Washington, D.C.

2007

Contact information: <http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/mss/address.html>

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Latest revision: 2008 May

Collection Summary

Title: Wheeler H. Peckham Family Papers

Span Dates: 1815-1910

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1842-1868)

ID No.: MSS35744

Creator: Peckham, Wheeler H. (Wheeler Hazard), 1833-1905

Extent: 800 items; 2 containers; .8 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Abstract: Lawyer. Chiefly correspondence to Wheeler H. Peckham from his father, Rufus W. Peckham, Sr., and brother, Rufus W. Peckham, Jr., relating to family, personal, and business matters, political affairs, and the travels of Rufus W. Peckham, Sr.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Personal Names

Peckham family.

Peckham, Wheeler H. (Wheeler Hazard), 1833-1905.

Organizations

New York (State). Supreme Court.

United States. Supreme Court.

Subjects

Courts--New York (State)

Locations

New York (State)--Politics and government.

Related Names

Peckham, Rufus W., 1809-1873. Papers of Rufus W. Peckham.

Peckham, Rufus Wheeler, 1838-1909. Papers of Rufus Wheeler Peckham.

Occupations

Jurists.

Lawyers.

Administrative Information

Provenance:

The papers of the Wheeler H. Peckham family were given to the Library of Congress by Rufus Wheeler Peckham III in 1955. A small addition was given in 1967 by Mrs. Henry A. Peckham.

Processing History:

The papers of the Wheeler H. Peckham family were cataloged ca. 1967. The collection was reprocessed and a finding aid created in 2007.

Copyright Status:

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of the Wheeler H. Peckham family is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Preferred Citation:

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Wheeler H. Peckham Family Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1833, Jan. 1	Born, Albany, N.Y.
ca. 1841-1849	Attended Albany Boys' Academy, Utica, N.Y.
1851	Attended Union College, Schenectady, N.Y.
1852-1853	Traveled in Europe
1853	Studied law, Albany Law School, Albany, N.Y.
1854	Admitted to bar Made a partner in his father's firm, Peckham and Tremain, Albany, N.Y.
1855	Married Anne A. Keasbey
1856-1857	Traveled in Europe
1857-1859	Resided in Dubuque, Iowa
1859-1864	Resided in St. Paul, Minn.
1864	Returned to Albany, N.Y. Law partner with George M. Miller and John A. Stoutenburg, New York, N.Y.
1873	Assisted in prosecution of William M. Tweed and associates
1884	Appointed district attorney in New York by Governor Grover Cleveland
1892-1894	President, Association of the Bar of the City of New York
1894	Nominated to United States Supreme Court by President Grover Cleveland
1905, Sept. 27	Died, New York, N.Y.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of the Wheeler Hazard Peckham family span the years 1815-1910, with the bulk of the material dating from 1842 to 1868. The papers are arranged alphabetically by type of material and topic.

The majority of the collection consists of correspondence to Wheeler H. Peckham written by his father, Rufus W. Peckham (1809-1873), lawyer in Albany, New York, United States congressman from New York, and judge of the New York Court of Appeals; his brother, Rufus Wheeler Peckham (1838-1909), lawyer in Albany, associate justice of the New York Supreme Court, and justice of the United States Supreme Court; and his business associates. Most of the letters relate to social, financial, legal, and political matters, including secession by the South from the United States and the state of the country during the

Civil War. Included are letters of Rufus W. Peckham, Sr., to his wife, Isabella, 1838-1847, pertaining to domestic concerns and his travel experiences. The early correspondence also includes a few letters from Isabella's parents, Mr. and Mrs. William B. Lacey, and her sister, Kate, who lived in Jackson, Louisiana. The business correspondence to Wheeler Peckham ranges mostly from 1857 to 1861; his associates were located mainly in Dubuque, Iowa; St. Paul, Minnesota; St. Louis, Missouri; and Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Wheeler H. Peckham moved to Dubuque from Albany in 1857 for health reasons.

Other papers in the collection relate to Wheeler H. Peckham's finances, mostly 1858-1869, and his unsuccessful nomination to the United States Supreme Court in 1894. His brother Rufus Wheeler Peckham was nominated to the same bench in 1895 and assumed his duties as associate justice in 1896.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material or topic.

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1	Correspondence
BOX 1	1838-1865 (34 folders)
BOX 2	1868-1873, 1888-1890, 1904, n.d. (12 folders)
BOX 2	Financial papers, 1858-1869, 1889, n.d. (11 folders)
BOX 2	Miscellany, 1904-1909, n.d.
BOX 2	Supreme Court, nomination of Wheeler H. Peckham, 1894 (5 folders)
BOX 2	Tributes and funeral notices, 1906-1910
BOX 2	Will, Samuel Worthington, 1815