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Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives
Yale University Library
P.O. Box 208240
New Haven, CT 06520-8240
mssa.assist@yale.edu
http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 891

**CREATOR:** Chapman, John Graves, b. 1838.

**TITLE:** John Graves Chapman papers

**DATES:** 1866–1914

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 1 linear foot

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The papers consist of nine volumes, six of which contain records of claims for pensions made by Civil War veterans from Connecticut. The remaining volumes contain accounts related to John Graves Chapman’s insurance business, a letterbook (ca. 1866-1879), and a collection of mounted postmarks.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0891

Requesting Instructions
To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0891.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html. The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:
b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

**Immediate Source of Acquisition**
Purchased, 1945 and 1946.
Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Preferred Citation

John Chapman Graves Papers. Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of nine bound volumes belonging to John Graves Chapman (b. 1838), a feed and grain dealer and insurance agent of New Haven, Connecticut. There is also an undated photograph of Chapman in his office.

Six of the volumes record claims for pensions made by Connecticut Civil War Veterans between 1888 and 1914. Included are depositions by the claimants and notes as to which pensions were granted and for what amounts. It is unclear whether Chapman kept these records as a government employee or as part of a private agency. The first volume also contains a seventy-page cash account kept by Chapman, 1876-1877.

Two further volumes contain records of Chapman’s insurance business for the years 1898-1913, including a “List of Members, Universal Identification and Recovery Company,” and “Revised List of Members, United States Register Company.” In the first of these volumes is mounted a collection of postmarks arranged by state.

The final volume is a letterbook, ca. 1866-1879, devoted to Chapman’s feed and grain business and financial matters.

All nine of these volumes are in poor condition and must be handled with care.
### Collection Contents

#### Inventory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 1 - 3</td>
<td>Records of claims for pensions made by Connecticut Civil War veterans</td>
<td>1888-1890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 4 - 6</td>
<td>1890-1897, 1907-1914</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 3, f. 7 - 8</td>
<td>Cash account, New Haven [70 pages]</td>
<td>1876–1877</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 3, f. 7 - 8</td>
<td>Records of Chapman’s insurance business</td>
<td>1898–1913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 3, f. 9</td>
<td>Collection of postmarks</td>
<td>1880–1889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 3, f. 10</td>
<td>Letterbook</td>
<td>[ca. 1866–1879]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 3, f. 10</td>
<td>Photograph</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See: Inventory Folder 1 - 3 ref11

See: Inventory Folder 7 - 8 ref15
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.

Subjects
Business
Feed industry
Insurance companies -- Connecticut -- New Haven.
Military pensions -- United States -- Civil War, 1861-1865
Postmarks -- United States.

Geographic Names
Connecticut
New Haven (Conn.) -- Commerce.
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865

Genres / Formats
Account books.

Occupations
Businessmen.

Names
Chapman, John Graves, b. 1838.