

# Guide to the Frank Trumbull Lee papers

WA MSS S-4349



Sarah Lerner

December 2020

P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
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<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** WA MSS S-4349

**CREATOR:** Lee, Frank Trumbull, 1856-1902

**TITLE:** Frank Trumbull Lee papers

**DATES:** 1887-1901

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 3.33 linear feet (4 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English (Latin script)

**SUMMARY:** 746 letters, bank deposit books, checkbooks, cash account books, a stock ledger book, receipts, circulars, brochures, prospectuses, documents, and ephemera by or relating to Colonel Frank Trumbull Lee, 1887-1901. Materials document Lee's business ventures in New Haven, Connecticut; his family life; and his time serving in the Connecticut National Guard. Included is correspondence relating to Lee's mining and real estate ventures in Tallapoosa, Georgia; Kansas City, Missouri; and Kearney, Nebraska.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.ftlee>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.ftlee>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to [beinecke.images@yale.edu](mailto:beinecke.images@yale.edu).

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box  
f. folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from Michael Brown Rare Books, LLC on the Frederick W. and Carrie S. Beinecke Fund for Western Americana, 2019.

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## Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

Frank Trumbull Lee Papers is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

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## Preferred Citation

Frank Trumbull Lee Papers. Yale Collection of Western Americana, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

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## Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit. These materials have been arranged and described according to national and local standards.

For more information, please refer to the Beinecke Manuscript Unit Processing Manual.

Descriptive information for this collection is drawn largely from the dealer list.

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## Biographical / Historical

Colonel Frank Trumbull Lee (1856-1902) of Madison, Connecticut, worked in New Haven as a tobacconist in 1880; was secretary of the New Haven Carriage Company and a member of the firm of Leo & Osborn, machinists; was a real estate dealer; and was an officer of the Imperial Hygienic Fluid Company from 1895 to 1896.

From 1889 to 1893, Lee served with the Connecticut National Guard, New Haven Grays, Company F, Second Regiment.

He was briefly married to Virginia "Bessie" Scranton Lee, with whom he had a daughter, Marion Frances Lee. Following his divorce, Lee lived with his mother, Frances Maria Lewis Lee (1818-1902), and sister, Elizabeth B. Lee (1847-1924), in New Haven.

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## Scope and Contents

746 letters, bank deposit books, checkbooks, cash account books, a stock ledger book, receipts, circulars, brochures, prospectuses, documents, and ephemera by or relating to Colonel Frank Trumbull Lee, 1887-1901. Materials document Lee's business ventures in New Haven, Connecticut; his family life; and his time serving in the Connecticut National Guard. Included is correspondence relating to Lee's mining and real estate ventures in Tallapoosa, Georgia; Kansas City, Missouri; and Kearney, Nebraska.

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## Arrangement

Organized into two series: I. Correspondence 1887-1901. II. Papers, 1888-1900.

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## Collection Contents

### Series I: Correspondence, 1887 August-1901 February

Series I contains 746 letters, 27 telegrams, and 16 postcards to or from Colonel Frank Trumbull Lee.

A majority of the letters concern business dealings with bankers and stockbrokers, manufacturers, mining companies, and real estate developers over affairs in New Haven, Connecticut; Tallapoosa, Georgia; Kansas City, Missouri; Kearney, Nebraska; New York, New York; and other locations.

Other letters concern family matters in New Haven, as well as Lee's time serving in the Connecticut National Guard.

Series I is arranged into three subseries: Business, Connecticut National Guard, and Family and Acquaintances. Materials within each file are arranged in order received from dealer.

	Business	1877-1900
	155 letters to Frank Trumbull Lee from bankers and stock brokers, manufacturers, mining companies, and real estate developers.	
	45 letters relate chiefly to the Imperial Hygenique Fluid Company.	
	295 miscellaneous letters are from various correspondents.	
	Arranged alphabetically by business or business type.	
b. 1, f. 1	Bankers and stock brokers	1894
	12 letters from C. B. Bolmer of Prine & Whitely and 14 from Watson & Gibson to Frank Trumbull Lee concerning the buying and selling of stocks, dividends received, and monies paid.	January-1896 February
b. 1, f. 2-7	Manufacturers (6 folders)	1894
	10 letters from Chicago Wire Goods Company, 19 from Frank L. Darrow of the Columbus Buggy Company, 3 from L. Dow of the Dow Type Composing Company, 8 from Henry P. Jones of Phineas Jones & Co., 4 from George F. Holcomb of the New Haven Carriage Company, 9 from S. Marsh Young of the Manhattan General Construction Company, and 11 from J. L. Thompson of the Judson Manufacturing Company to Frank Trumbull Lee. Letters concern investments, payments, and other business plans.	February-1896 October
b. 1, f. 8-10	Mining companies (3 folders)	1890-1900
	3 letters from the Georgia-Alabama Investment Development Company; 3 from G.F. Quackinbush & Co.; 13 from Whitney & Scutt; and 1 from the Tallapoosa Land, Mining and Manufacturing Company to Frank Trumbull Lee. Letters concern the buying and selling of land lots, stocks, and other matters relating to mining land and real property in Tallapoosa, Georgia.	
	Also present are 12 letters from the Ozark Zinc Development Company; 7 from the Pittsburg and St. Louis Zinc Company; and 2 from the Henson Creek Lead Mines Company to Lee. Letters concern Lee's possible investments and involvement.	
b. 1, f. 11-13	Real estate developers (3 folders)	1890 July-1897 December
	9 letters from C. W. Waddell of the Consolidated Land Company in Kansas City, Missouri; 7 from the Midway Land Company in Kearney, Nebraska; and 10 from the Missouri, Kansas, and Texas Trust Company of Kansas, City Missouri, to Frank Trumbull Lee. Letters concern Lee's investments.	

## Business (continued)

b. 1, f. 14-17	Imperial Hygenique Fluid Company (4 folders) 45 letters from Charles E. Granniss, president of the Imperial Hygenique Fluid Company, and other company members to Frank Trumbull Lee. Letters concern the company's pricing, sales, jobbers, costs, investments, and failure.	1890 August-1898 April
b. 1, f. 18-34	Miscellaneous (17 folders) 295 letters, 27 telegrams, and 16 postcards from various businesses and organizations around the United States to Frank Trumbull Lee. Included are letters from the Republican League of New Haven and the Citizens Law & Order League of New Haven.	1877-1900
	Connecticut National Guard 51 letters to Colonel Frank Trumbull Lee from various departments of the Connecticut National Guard. Multiple letters are from Lieutenant-Colonel H. C. Morgan, acting quartermaster general, and document Lee's involvement with the running of the armory and payment of those providing services to the guard.  Arranged chronologically.	1890 July-1896 October
b. 1, f. 35-37	Connecticut National Guard (3 folders) <i>51 letters</i>	1890 July-1896 October
	Family and Acquaintances 186 letters to Frank Trumbull Lee from family and acquaintances.  Family members include mother Francis Maria Lewis Lee, wife Virginia "Bessie" Scranton Lee (also known as "Buddie"), brother Reverend William B. Lee; sister Elizabeth B. Lee, and daughter Marion Frances Lee.  Among the correspondents are John B. Doherty of the Connecticut Indemnity Association; George C. Goodon of William Trevor & Co.; James J. Jarman; and Edward E. Bradley of the New Haven Wheel Company. These letters concern both business and personal matters.  Also present are 13 letters from Frank Trumbull Lee to acquaintances and family.  Arranged alphabetically by sender.	1889 July-1901 February
b. 1, f. 38	Bradley, Edward E. to Frank Trumbull Lee <i>4 letters</i>	1891 February-1892 December
b. 1, f. 39	Doherty, John B. to Frank Trumbull Lee <i>4 letters</i>	1890 October-1894 July
b. 1, f. 40	Goodon, George C. to Frank Trumbull Lee <i>9 letters</i>	1890 August-1899 May
b. 1, f. 41	Jarman, James H. to Frank Trumbull Lee <i>3 letters</i>	1890 September
b. 1, f. 42	Lee, Elizabeth B. to Frank Trumbull Lee <i>13 letters</i>	1891 January-1900 August
b. 1, f. 43-46	Lee, Frances Maria Lewis to Frank Trumbull Lee (4 folders) <i>65 letters</i>	1890 May-1901 February

## Family and Acquaintances (continued)

b. 1, f. 47-48	Lee, Frank Trumbull to various recipients (2 folders) <i>13 letters</i>	1889 July-1900 October
b. 1, f. 49	Lee, Marion Frances to Frank Trumbull Lee <i>6 letters</i>	1895 October-1899 November
b. 1, f. 50-54	Lee, Virginia "Bessie" Scranton to Frank Trumbull Lee (5 folders) <i>50 letters</i>	1890 September-1900 February
b. 1, f. 55-57	Lee, William B. to Frank Trumbull Lee (3 folders) <i>31 letters</i>	1890 July-1899 September

**Series II: Papers, 1888-1900**

Series II contains 46 bank deposit books, checkbooks, and cash account books; a stock ledger book for the Imperial Hygenique Fluid Company; approximately 958 personal and business receipts; 75 circulars, brochures, prospectuses, and other printed material for various business enterprises; 17 pieces of paperwork for various estates, inventories, and liabilities; and 35 pieces of miscellaneous printed and manuscript ephemera.

Series II is arranged alphabetically by format. Materials within each file are arranged in order received from dealer.

b. 2, f. 58-75	Bank deposit books, checkbooks, and cash account books (18 folders)	1888-1898
b. 2, f. 76-79	Paperwork (4 folders)	circa 1890-1900
b. 2, f. 80-86	Printed material (7 folders)	circa 1890-1900
b. 3, f. 87-107b. 4, f. 108-113	Receipts (27 folders)	circa 1888-1900
b. 4, f. 114	Stock ledger book	1895 December-1896 May
b. 4, f. 115-118	Other papers (4 folders)	circa 1890-1900



## **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.

### **Geographic Names**

Connecticut -- Economic conditions -- 19th century  
Connecticut -- Social life and customs -- 19th century  
Kansas City (Mo.)  
Kearney (Neb.)  
New Haven (Conn.)  
Tallapoosa (Ga.)

### **Occupations**

Businessmen -- Connecticut -- 19th century  
Soldiers -- Connecticut -- 19th century

### **Subjects**

Mines and mineral resources -- Georgia  
Mines and mineral resources -- Missouri  
Mines and mineral resources -- Nebraska  
Real property -- Georgia -- Tallapoosa

### **Corporate Body**

Connecticut. National Guard. Regiment, 2nd.  
Company F

### **Acquired From**

Michael Brown Rare Books, LLC , bookseller