

Guide to the Henry Dutton Family Papers

MS 2094



compiled by Michelle Peralta

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
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CALL NUMBER: MS 2094

CREATOR: Dutton family

TITLE: Henry Dutton family papers

DATES: 1859-1890, 2018

BULK DATES: 1859-1890

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 0.5 linear feet (1 box)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: A collection of letters of the family of Henry Dutton (1796-1869), Yale College 1818, 38th governor of Connecticut and Yale law professor (1847-1869). The letters of his only son, Henry Melzar Dutton (1838-1862), Yale College 1857 and Yale Law 1859, written while working as a lawyer in Litchfield, Connecticut, until April 1861 and then serving as a 1st Lieutenant with Company C of the 5th Regiment of Connecticut Volunteers during the Civil War until his death on August 9, 1862, constitute the bulk of the collection. Also included are letters between other members of the Dutton family as well as related families; genealogical information; and short biographies of Henry Dutton, Eliza Eliot Dutton, and Henry Melzar Dutton. Transcriptions of most of the family letters were created by the donor.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.2094>

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 <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.2094>.

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

Gift of Charles W. McLandress, 2018.

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Unpublished materials authored or otherwise produced by the creator(s) of this collection are in the public domain. Copyright to the biographical works on Henry Dutton, Eliza Eliot Dutton, and Lt. Henry Melzar Dutton is retained by Charles W. McLandress until January 1, 2060, or upon his death, whichever occurs first, after which all copyright he holds in the biographical sketches is transferred to Yale University. Copyright status for other collection materials is unknown.

Preferred Citation

Henry Dutton Family Papers (MS 2094). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Processing Information

Manuscripts and Archives staff arranged and described these materials according to national and local standards.

Related Materials

Related material: George Dutton Watrous papers (MS 1065).

Biographical / Historical

Henry Dutton was born on February 12, 1796 in Plymouth, Connecticut. He graduated from Yale College in 1818, and studied law under Roger M. Sherman (Yale College 1792). In 1847 Dutton was appointed as a Professor of Law at Yale College, which he held throughout his lifetime. He was a member of the Connecticut House of Representatives: 1828, 1834, 1838, 1839, and 1850; as well as the Connecticut Senate in 1849. In 1854, Dutton became the 38th Governor of Connecticut. He died on April 26, 1869.

Elizabeth (Eliza) Eliot Joy Dutton was born in 1796, the daughter of Captain Melzar Joy and Anna Eliot. She married Henry Dutton on September 8, 1823 in Fairfield, Connecticut and they had four children: Mary, Anna, Harriet, and Henry. Eliza died on August 24, 1883 in New Haven, Connecticut.

Henry Melzar Dutton was born in 1838, the only son of Henry and Eliza Eliot Joy Dutton. He graduated from Yale College in 1857 and Yale Law 1859 before serving as a Lieutenant for the Fifth Connecticut Volunteer Infantry Regiment. Henry Melzar Dutton died during the U.S. Civil War on August 9th, 1862.

Other family members and related individuals included in the collection: Mary Eliot Dutton Graves (1826-1865); Anna Dutton Graves Thrall (1854-1930); and Joseph Brainerd Thrall (1849-1935).

Scope and Contents

A collection of letters of the family of Henry Dutton (1796-1869), Yale College 1818, 38th governor of Connecticut and Yale law professor (1847-1869). The letters of his only son, Henry Melzar Dutton (1838-1862), Yale College 1857 and Yale Law 1859, written while working as a lawyer in Litchfield, Connecticut, until April 1861 and then serving as a 1st Lieutenant with Company C of the 5th Regiment of Connecticut Volunteers during the Civil War until his death on August 9, 1862, constitute the bulk of the collection. Also included are letters between other members of the Dutton family as well as related families; genealogical information; and short biographies of Henry Dutton, Eliza Eliot Dutton, and Henry Melzar Dutton.

All of the letters between Henry Melzar Dutton and his parents, as well as all of Eliza Eliot Dutton's correspondence in the collection have been transcribed by the donor.

Arrangement

The collection is organized by type of material.

Collection Contents

Family research

This selection of material includes geneological notes and biographies of Dutton family members. Also included is an English transcription of Dutton family letters.

b. 1, f. 1	Dutton, Henry (1796-1869) and Henry Melzar Dutton (1838-1862)	2018
b. 1, f. 2	Dutton, Eliza Eliot (1796-1883)	2018
b. 1, f. 3	Dutton, Henry (1796-1883), Eliza Eliot Dutton (1796-1883), and Henry Melzar Dutton (1838-1862) - Biographies	2018
b. 1, f. 4	Transcription of the Henry Dutton family letters, 1859-1890	2018
Letters		
Dutton, Eliza Eliot (1796-1883)		
b. 1, f. 5-6	Letters to Henry Melzar Dutton	1859-1862
b. 1, f. 7	Condolences Letters received on the occasion of the death of her children: Henry Melzar Dutton (1838-1862); Mary Eliot Dutton Graves (1826-1865); and Harriet Joy Dutton Watrous (1834-1873).	1862-1873
b. 1, f. 8	Letters from her grandchildren	1873-1883
Dutton, Henry Melzar (1838-1862)		
b. 1, f. 9	Yale college transcript, writing "On War," and various correspondence	1857-1862
b. 1, f. 10-11	Letters to his parents	1860-1862
b. 1, f. 12	Letters from Rebecca and Etta Cone	1861-1862
b. 1, f. 13	Graves, Mary Eliot Dutton (1826-1865) and Eliza Eliot Dutton (1796-1883)	1861-1865
b. 1, f. 14	Thrall, Anna Dutton Graves (1854-1930), letters to Miriam Hunt Thrall	1879-1881
b. 1, f. 15	Thrall, Joseph Brainerd (1849-1935) Contains Thrall family related documents.	1875-1890
b. 1, f. 16	Maps and ephemera	undated

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 -- History
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865
-- Personal narratives

Occupations

Soldiers -- Connecticut -- 19th century

Names

Dutton, Henry, 1796-1869

Families

Dutton family