

# Guide to the Goodyear Family Papers

MS 245



compiled by Susan Grigg

November 1979

Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
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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 245

**CREATOR:** Goodyear family

**TITLE:** Goodyear Family Papers

**DATES:** 1755-1908

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 1.5 linear feet (3 boxes, 1 folio)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Papers of the Goodyear family of Connecticut of whom the principal figures are Edward Bassett Goodyear of Naugatuck, Ellsworth D. S. Goodyear, a Civil War general, and Watson Andrews Goodyear, a geologist. The papers of Edward B. Goodyear contain extensive family correspondence including forty-three letters written between 1855 and 1872 by his mother, Esther M. Bassett Goodyear. His papers also contain autobiographical notes and financial documents. Ellsworth D.S. Goodyear, who was a Civil War general is represented by diaries, including one (1863-1865) in the Civil War period and reminiscences. There is also a diary kept by F. Wilbur Goodyear while he was imprisoned in Andersonville. The papers of Watson Andrews Goodyear contain geological reports on various sites in the West (1865-1873) and an account of a series of earthquakes in El Salvador (1879-1880).

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0245>

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## 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.0245>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](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

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift and purchase, 1942-1943.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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### Conditions Governing Use

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### Preferred Citation

Goodyear Family Papers (MS 245). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

CHARLES GOODYEAR, 1833-1896

The only papers of the rubber-manufacturing family are one letter from Charles Goodyear, Jr., and one from the treasurer of the Goodyear India Rubber Glove M'fg Co.

EDWARD BASSETT GOODYEAR, 1840-1899

Edward B. Goodyear was a son of Chauncey and Esther M. (Bassett) Goodyear, a brother of Watson A. Goodyear, and probably a great-grandson of Stephen Goodyear. He fought in the Civil War, lived briefly in Meriden, worked for a supplier of telegraphic equipment in Chicago, and returned to Connecticut in 1874, settling permanently in Naugatuck. His papers in this collection are autobiographical notes, letters from friends and family, and copybooks made by his children, Clinton, Esther, and Frank. These items were purchased from Whitlock's in 1940 and 1945.

Ellsworth D.S. Goodyear and F. Wilbur Goodyear are represented in this collection mainly by diaries related to their service in the Civil War. For Ellsworth Goodyear there is also some postwar material: record books, speeches, and almanacs with interleaved records of the weather. These papers were given to Yale University Library by Mrs. Joseph H. Townsend in 1943.

STEPHEN GOODYEAR, 1729-1803

Stephen Goodyear was deacon and treasurer of the Mt. Carmel Congregational Church and captain of the 15th (Mt. Carmel) company of the 2nd (Col. Joseph Thompson's) regiment of the Connecticut infantry (militia). He is represented in this collection by a photostatic copy of a daybook spanning from 1755 to 1804. It contains personal entries and church and military records. This volume was given to Yale University Library by Clarence W. Bronson in 1945, having been copied from the original by the Connecticut State Library in 1932.

WATSON ANDREWS GOODYEAR, 1839-1891

Sheffield Scientific School, 1863

Watson Andrews Goodyear, the son of Chauncey Good-year, Jr., was born in Hamden, New Haven County, Conn. He was employed immediately after graduation in the translation of a portion of Bodemann's *Anleitung zur Probierkunst*, and in the spring of 1865 he and Mr. Theodore A. Blake went to California, in a partnership as Civil and Mining Engineers which was not dissolved until the spring of 1875. In the meantime he did much other, independent and special work in the line of his profession. He was employed, for instance, for some months in 1866-1867 on a topographical Goodyear Family Papers (MS 0245) - 2 survey in the vicinity of the Cliff House, San Francisco. In April, 1870, he entered the service of the Geological survey of California, under Professor J. D. Whitney, and was actively employed until the close of the season of 1873, when that Survey was stopped. Most of his work in this connection has appeared in the publications of the Survey. At a later date he was employed in the present State Survey of California. The fine collection of specimens of rocks made by him in these years now forms the principal part of the collection belonging to the University of California. In 1877 he published in San Francisco a volume on the Coal Mines of the Western Coast of the United States. In 1877 he returned to Connecticut, but soon went back again to California, and in the fall of 1879 went to the Republic of Salvador as State Geologist. While there he had the opportunity of observing a remarkable series of earthquakes, is detailed account of which he published at Panama in 1880. In the spring of 1881 he returned from San Salvador, and he remained in the vicinity of New Haven until 1885 or 1886, when he resumed the practice of his profession in California. He was subsequently employed as geologist of the State Mineralogical Bureau. He died in San Francisco on April 10, 1891, at the age of 52.

*Yale Obituary Record, 1890-1900.*

Watson A. Goodyear was a brother of Edward B. Goodyear and probably a great-grandson of Stephen Goodyear. His papers in this collection are reports and financial records related to his work as a geologist. The reports were purchased from Whitlock's in 1940.

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## Scope and Contents

Papers of the Goodyear family of Connecticut of whom the principal figures are Edward Bassett Goodyear of Naugatuck, Ellsworth D. S. Goodyear, a Civil War general, and Watson Andrews Goodyear, a geologist. The papers of Edward B. Goodyear contain extensive family correspondence including forty-three letters written between 1855 and 1872 by his mother, Esther M. Bassett Goodyear. His papers also contain autobiographical notes and financial documents. Ellsworth D.S. Goodyear, who was a Civil War general is represented by diaries, including one (1863-1865) in the Civil War period and reminiscences. There is also a diary kept by F. Wilbur Goodyear while he was imprisoned in Andersonville. The papers of Watson Andrews Goodyear contain geological reports on various sites in the West (1865-1873) and an account of a series of earthquakes in El Salvador (1879-1880).

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## Correspondents of Edward B. Goodyear

Barrie, George  
Blake, Theodore A.  
Bliss, Goerge H. & Co.  
Bliss, Tillatson & Co.  
Brainerd, H.L.  
Bronson, Nathaniel R.  
Brooks, John B.  
Chapman, Charles Wesley  
Chapman, Mrs. Charles W.  
Chapman, E.C.  
Chapman, Edward Forrest  
Chapman, Etta S.  
Clifford, Joseph W.  
Costigan, E.

Dickerman, Horace  
Dickinson, Susan E.  
Doolittle, A.I.  
Faulkner, Lizzie G.  
Ford, Frederick D.  
Goodyear, Caroline (Merriman)  
Goodyear, Charles P.  
Goodyear, Chauncey  
Goodyear, Elizabeth S.  
Goodyear, Esther M. (Bassett)  
Goodyear, M.W.  
Goodyear, S.W.  
Goodyear, Watson Andrews  
Grossman, G.J.  
Hall, S. Josephine  
Hill, Hattie  
Jewell, Alice (Merriman)  
Jewell, Charles W.  
King, Saide P.  
Loomis, C.A.  
McFarland, Angeline M.  
Merriman, John W.  
Milliken, C.A.  
Orton, Thomas  
Parkhurst, Lizzy (Hall)  
Peek, Elmer E.  
Powers, Amelia Jennett (Chapman)  
Pultz, C.A.  
Rapp, John Edward  
Raymond, R.W.  
Rudy, W.H.  
Russell, William  
Sandland, Lizzie H.  
Smith, Robert A.  
Strickland, N.I.  
Tyler, W.C.  
Vincent, Sarah H.  
Watts, J. Harold

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## Arrangement

Arranged by family members.

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**Collection Contents**
**Inventory, 1755–1803, 1832 (1853–1908)**
*1.25 linear feet (3 boxes)*

	Charles Goodyear, 1833-1896	
b. 1, f. 1	ALS to Sheldon Bassett	1860 January 21
	Clinton S. Goodyear	
b. 1, f. 2	Composition book	1886-1889
	Edward Bassett Goodyear, 1840-1899	
b. 1, f. 3	Autobiographical notes	1853-1868
b. 1, f. 4-15	Correspondence	1885-1897
b. 1, f. 16	Financial papers	1855, 1871-1895
	Ellsworth D. S. Goodyear, 1827- See: CF17	
b. 2, f. 17	Section of diary	1859 March 14- August 15
b. 2, f. 18	"Plan of Battle of Newbern, North Carolina" English	1862 March 14
b. 2, f. 19	Civil War diary	1863 May 1- September 30, 1864 May 1-1865 No
b. 2, f. 20	Diary and record books	1866, 1867
b. 2, f. 21	Record books	1868, 1869
b. 2, f. 22	"Memorial Day Address" English	1897 June 29
b. 2, f. 23	Address on "McKinley, the Soldier"	1901 September 22
b. 2, f. 24-25	Record of weather, interleaved in <i>Beckwith's Almanac</i>	1906, 1907
b. 2, f. 26	Record of weather, interleaved in <i>Hostetter's Almanac</i>	1908
b. 2, f. 28	Address on "One Day in the Field during the Civil War"	undated
b. 2, f. 29	"Reminiscences" English	undated
b. 4, f. 17	Civil War papers: map of Fort Gregg, Virginia, Campaign; memorial certificate	1865

Esther M. Goodyear

## Esther M. Goodyear (continued)

b. 2, f. 30	Composition book	[1886?]
Esther M. (Bassett) Goodyear		
b. 2, f. 31	Deed	1875
F. Wilbur Goodyear, 1843- Andersonville diary		
b. 2, f. 32	Original and typescript	1864
b. 2, f. 33	Handwritten copy	1864
b. 2, f. 34	Newspaper version	1864
Frank Goodyear		
b. 3, f. 35	Composition book	1894-1895
Stephen Goodyear, 1729-1803		
b. 3, f. 36	Day book (photostatic copy)	1755-1803
Watson Andrews Goodyear, 1839-1891		
b. 3, f. 37	"Report to Professor Silliman" English	1865 July
b. 3, f. 38	"Copy of Preamble and Resolutions passed at a Miner's Meeting" English	1865 October 5
b. 3, f. 39	"Prospectus and Charter of Eureka Lake and Duba Canal Company" English	1865 December 5
b. 3, f. 40	Letter to G.W. Beaver (draft)	1867 August 12
b. 3, f. 41	"Copy of a Report upon the Salt Spring Reservoir" English	1867 August 12
b. 3, f. 42	"A Report [on the] Salt Spring Valley Reservoir" English	1869 December 28
b. 3, f. 43	"notes on the High Sierra South of Mount Whitney" English	1873 November 3
b. 3, f. 44	Cash journal	1875-1887
b. 3, f. 45	"An Account of a series of Earthquakes and Volcanic Phenomena..." English	1886 October 18
b. 3, f. 46	Claim and site book	undated
Goodyear India Rubber Glove M'f'g Co.		
b. 3, f. 47	Letter to Birmingham Iron Foundry	1861 July 27
Unidentified		
b. 3, f. 48	Legal paper	1832



## Unidentified (continued)

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b. 3, f. 49	Science notebook	undated
	"Synopsis of the Cruise of the U.S. Frigate St. Lawrence", 1851-1855; fire bill of U.S.S. Gunboat "Port Royal" English	undated

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## 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

Families  
Mines and mineral resources  
Mothers and sons

### Families

Goodyear family

### Geographic Names

Andersonville (Ga.)  
New Bern (N.C.) -- History  
New Haven (Conn.)  
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865  
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865  
-- Prisoners and prisons  
United States -- History -- Revolution,  
1775-1783  
West (U.S.)

### Corporate Body

Connecticut. Militia. Regiment Infantry, 2nd,  
1775

### Genres / Formats

Diaries

### Occupations

Geologists  
Soldiers

### Names

Brooks, John Boardman, 1832-1914  
Chapman, Charles Wesley, b. 1836  
Chapman, Edward Forrest, b. 1839  
Goodyear, Edward Bassett  
Goodyear, Ellsworth D. S.  
Goodyear, Esther M. Bassett, b. 1803  
Goodyear, F. Wilbur  
Hall, S. Josephine, b. 1842  
Jewell, Charles W.  
King, Saide P.  
McFarland, Angeline M.  
Powers, Amelia Jennett Chapman, b. 1848  
Russell, William, 1815-1899  
Sandland, Elizabeth H.