

# Guide to the Henry Stevens Papers

MS 1117



compiled by Janet Elaine Gertz

August 1982

Yale University Library  
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## Collection Overview

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

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1117

**CREATOR:** Stevens, Henry, Jr., 1819-1886

**TITLE:** Henry Stevens papers

**DATES:** 1712-1879

**BULK DATES:** 1834-1879

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.25 linear feet

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Correspondence, chiefly concerning books and cataloguing; an essay on the Universal Postal Union; a portion of a speech; an eighteenth-century French manuscript; and memorabilia. Among Henry Stevens' correspondents are John R. Bartlett, Charles Deane, Charles Coffin Jewett, Henry Coit Kingsley, and J. Wingate Thornton.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1117>

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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.1117>.

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 of Henry Stevens, 1847; of Roland A. L. Tree, 1935; and of the estate of Andrew Keogh, 1953.

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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

Henry Stevens Papers (MS 1117). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Henry Stevens was born on August, 24, 1819, in Barnet, Vermont. He attended Middlebury College for a year, but graduated from Yale College in 1843 with the degree of B.A. Upon graduating, he attended Harvard Law School for a year. In 1840, he worked as a clerk in Washington, D.C. for the the treasury department of the United States Senate. He also worked for the Smithsonian Institution and the Library of Congress and was an early advocate for the use of photography as a means of supplementing bibliographies. In 1845, he moved to London, England where he was an agent for the British Museum. Stevens was an expert in early editions of the English Bible and early voyages to America. He died in South Hampstead, England, on February 28, 1886.

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## Scope and Contents

Correspondence, chiefly concerning books and cataloguing; an essay on the Universal Postal Union; a portion of a speech; an eighteenth-century French manuscript; and memorabilia. Among Henry Stevens' correspondents are John R. Bartlett, Charles Deane, Charles Coffin Jewett, Henry Coit Kingsley, and J. Wingate Thornton.

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## Collection Contents

b. 1, f. 1	Henry Stevens, outgoing letters, with enclosed engraving of H.S.	1852 June 8, 1861 April 6
	Incoming letters	
b. 1, f. 2	American Antiquarian Society	1877 March 30
b. 1, f. 2	Bartlett, John R.	1875 November 5, December 14
b. 1, f. 2	Deane, Charles	1876 December 12, 1877 May 15
b. 1, f. 3	Jewett, Charles Coffin	1852 December 19
b. 1, f. 3	Kingsley, Henry Coit	1875 November 24
b. 1, f. 3	Thornton, J. Wingate	1875 December 9
b. 1, f. 3	U.S., Library of Congress	1875 June 25
b. 1, f. 4	"The Universal Postal Union" (MS) English	[pre-1879]
b. 1, f. 5	Partial draft of address to "Mr. President" (MS)	undated
b. 1, f. 6	"Beauties of Writing..." (MS advertisement) English	1839 December 12
b. 1, f. 7	La vie & les actions en abbregeé de tous les grandes hommes...	1712
b. 1, f. 8	Calling card of Ronald A. L. Tree	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.

### **Subjects**

Cataloging  
Librarians  
Libraries

### **Names**

Bartlett, John Russell, 1805-1886  
Deane, Charles, 1813-1889  
Jewett, Charles C. (Charles Coffin), 1816-1868  
Kingsley, Henry Coit, 1815-1886  
Stevens, Henry, Jr., 1819-1886  
Thornton, John Wingate, 1818-1878