

GUIDE TO THE STEVENS FAMILY PAPERS

This collection is a gift of the estate of Eleanor W. Stevens of Greenfield, Mass.

Biographical Information:

Joseph Wells Stevens, son of Joseph A. Stevens and Jane Wells, was born in the village of Millers Falls, town of Montague, MA, Nov. 18, 1850. His first wife, Myra A. Sibley, died on January 31, 1886, at age 35 soon after delivering her second child, Myron. Joseph later married Mary Eliza Ward on October 31, 1888. He lived in Brattleboro, Vermont, and Athol, MA, before settling in Greenfield in 1871. He died on July 18, 1926.

His career started in 1871 as a teller in the Greenfield First National Bank. He worked his way up to cashier in 1874, and served as president from 1895 through 1921. He was also director of the Greenfield Electric Light and Power Company through 1926. A very active citizen, he served on the building committee of All Souls Church, organized clothing and other drives during WWI, and participated in many civic and fraternal organizations.

His children include Eleanor (born 1891), Myron (born 1886), and Joseph G. (born 1880). Many of the letters listed below are from his son Myron, who lived most of his life in Mexico and Illinois. The correspondence of his second wife, Mary Ward Stevens, dated 1926-27, contains condolence letters written at the time of Joseph's death. Two letters relating to Joseph W. Stevens' uncle, Humphrey Stevens (b. 1821), are also part of the collection.

CONTAINER LIST:

BOX 1

- Folder 1: Misc.: certificates, obituaries, notes, condolences, genealogical materials, and list of the contents of the "Old Red House" in Warwick, 1886-1946 - 22 items
- Folder 2: Letter to Joseph W. Stevens from his sister, Annie Stevens, 1896 - 1 item
- Folder 2a: Letters from Joseph W. Stevens to his children in Greenfield, 1886-1887 -- 22 items
- Folder 3: Joseph W. Stevens, correspondence, 1912 - 29 items
- Folder 4: Joseph W. Stevens, correspondence, 1913 - 22 items
- Folder 5: Joseph W. Stevens, correspondence, Jan.1914-May 1914 -25 items

BOX 2

- Folder 1: Joseph W. Stevens, correspondence, June 1914-Dec. 1914 - 31 items
- Folder 2: Joseph W. Stevens, correspondence, 1915- 21 items
- Folder 3: Joseph W. Stevens, correspondence, 1916 - 47 items
- Folder 4: Joseph W. Stevens, correspondence, 1917; 1924 - 19 letters
- Folder 5: Mary Ward Stevens, correspondence, 1888-1912 - 30 items
- Folder 6: Mary Ward Stevens, correspondence, 1926 - 27 items
- Folder 7: Eleanor Stevens correspondence, certificates, address book, 1900, 1912, 1927, 1946, 1971 - 9 items
- Folder 8: Humphrey Stevens, [brother of Joseph A.], correspondence, 1846- 2 items
- Folder 9: Joseph G. Stevens, correspondence, 1895; 1902 - 2 items