

Guide to the Luey Family Papers PVMA Library

Scope and Content Note:

The branch of the Luey Family that these papers relate to resided in the upper Connecticut River Valley in the early 19th century. The majority of the papers are associated with Lester Lyman Luey. Most of the papers were donated by Eleanor Luey Bell, Natalie Hazleton Mata, and Martha Parrish; a group of diaries were the gift of Charles and Lester Hazleton.

Biographical Notes & Description of Papers:

Lester Lyman Luey, son of Dexter and Eliza Thomas Luey, was born in Rochester, VT, in 1819. His family relocated to New Hampshire about ten years later. In 1837, Luey took up residence in the northern part of Deerfield, MA, (Cheapside) which later was annexed to Greenfield. He spent the majority of his life there, but also resided in Athol, MA. In 1844 he married Mary Moody of South Hadley, MA. The couple had five children, one of whom is listed below. For many years Luey, who was referred to as Captain, transported freight on the Connecticut River between Hartford, CT, and Montague or Cheapside (Deerfield), MA. He later served as station master for the Connecticut River Railroad in Greenfield; near the end of his life he ran a grocery business there.

His papers consist of receipts and accounts, correspondence, a brief memoir printed in the *Greenfield Gazette & Courier* (also a typed transcription), and miscellaneous photocopies and newspaper clippings. Among his correspondence is an 1850 contract to build his house in Deerfield. Some of the receipts relate to the river shipping business, as does a small account book. The majority of receipts and invoices are from the grocery business he ran with Charles Henry. Miscellaneous receipts include tax bills, Church, Masonic, and medical expenses, and subscriptions and memberships. Shelved in the Diary Collection are 50 small diaries that Luey kept, covering the period 1842-1903.

Ira Orvis Luey, younger brother of Lester, was born in Columbia, NH, in 1822. By the mid-1850s he was residing in Bernardston, MA. He married Mary Morgan of Northfield, MA. The couple had five children, one of whom is mentioned below. Like his brother, Lester, Luey worked on the river transporting goods. Luey died in Millers Falls, MA, in 1895.

His papers consist of an account book, covering the period 1862-1870, that details his lumbering business. Shelved in the Account Book Collection.

Martha E. "Mattie" Luey, daughter of Lester and Mary Moody Luey, was born in Greenfield, MA, in 1850.

Her papers consist of letters from the period 1862-1873.

Herbert M. Luey, son of Ira and Mary Morgan Luey, was born in . He eventually moved to Brooklyn, NY, where he worked as a tailor, and later designed women's clothing; some of his work is now part of the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

His papers consist of a photocopy of a patent (1895) for a bicycle habit.

Container List:

BOX 1

- Folder 1: Papers of L.L. Luey, correspondence, 1845-1900, originals and photocopies (29 items)
- Folder 2: Papers of L.L. Luey, correspondence and receipts for goods shipped on the Ct. River, 1843-49 (46 items)
- Folder 2a: Papers of L.L. Luey, "Acct. of Freight carried on the boat Franklin," c. 1840 (1 item)
- Folder 3: Papers of L.L. Luey, memberships, legal docs., invitations, insurance, and misc. photocopies, 1845-1898 (40 items)
- Folder 4: Papers of L.L. Luey, misc. receipts, 1846-1898 (81 items)
- Folder 5: Papers of L.L. Luey, receipts of Henry & Luey, 1865-1874 (54 items)
- Folder 6: Papers of L.L. Luey, bank books and butter accounts of Henry & Luey (27 items)
- Folder 7: Papers of Ira Orvis Luey, lumbering accounts (1 item)
- Folder 8: Papers of Martha Luey, 1862-1873 (4 items)
- Folder 9: Papers of Herbert Luey, 1895 (1 item)