

SPRAGUE FAMILY PAPERS

PVMA Library

Scope and Content Note:

This line of the family originated in Middlesex County, Mass., in the 17th century. Edward, great-grandfather of Jose Sprague, was born in Malden, Mass., in 1662/3, as was Jose's father, Hezekiah (b. 1740). By 1775, Hezekiah had moved west to Guilford, Vt., and by 1782 to Bernardston, Mass., where he died. Much of the collection described here was a gift of Elsie Scott of Greenfield, Mass.

Sprague, Jose², son of Hezekiah and Rachel Byam Sprague, was born in Guilford, Vt., May 8, 1777. In 1808, he married Phoebe Hale, who was born Aug. 6, 1783; died May 31, 1862. The couple lived in Gill, Mass., and had 7 children, two whom are mentioned below. Jose Sprague died Nov. 30, 1852.

His papers consist of a barter book dated 1840s, in which produce was exchanged for washing.

Sprague, Lucina³, daughter of Jose and Phoebe, was born Aug. 27, 1824, died in Bernardston, Mass., Sept. 29, 1851. Her twin sister Lovina is mentioned below.

Her papers include a copybook dated 1838, a miscellaneous book of poetry, recipes, and death dates, and a joint copy book with her sister Lovina, dated 1838.

Sprague, Lovina³, daughter of Jose and Phoebe, was born Aug. 27, 1824, died in Bernardston, Mass., Oct. 16, 1847. She married Seth Hall in 1846.

Her papers include 2 copy books dated circa 1838, and a palm leaf supply price book, dated 1839.

Sprague, Avery William³, son of Jose and Phoebe, was born in Bernardston, Mass., on July 8, 1814; died in Gill, Mass., Oct. 18, 1886. He married Sophia A. Newton of Greenfield in 1861. She died Apr. 23, 1893. They had 4 children, 2 of whom are mentioned below.

His papers include a copybook dated 1830 with notes on farming accounts in 1838. There is also a photo of him, along with a 1936 insurance calendar with a picture of the Avery house and genealogy on reverse side.

Sprague, Susan⁴, daughter of Avery William and Sophia, was born May 21, 1862. Married William A. Scott in 1895 and they resided in Greenfield.

Her papers include 2 plant records books, a plant analysis book, and a school work book on geography from the Hooker School in Springfield, dated 1891.

Sprague, Martha⁴, daughter of William Avery and Sophia, was born Oct. 15, 1866. She resided in Greenfield and hadn't married as of 1902.

Her papers consist of a plant record book from the end of the 19th century, which includes the genealogy of Elsie Scott.

Sprague, Susan Fowle, daughter of John and Elizabeth Poole Sprague of Malden, Mass., was born in 1797. Possibly related to the above Sprague family.

Her papers consist of 4 book-keeping exercise books, published in 1858 by Crosby & Ainsworth, Boston. Sprague has filled in most of the booklets with examples of foodstuffs, cloths, labor, etc.

Container List:

Box 1

Folder 1: Jose Sprague papers, barter book, 1840	(1 item)
Folder 2: Lucina Sprague papers, copybook c. 1838; poetry/recipe/genealogy book, 1848; joint copy book with sister Lovina, c. 1838	(3 items)
Folder 3: Lovina Sprague papers, two copybooks, c. 1838; palm leaf supplies book, 1839	(3 items)
Folder 4: Avery William Sprague papers: copybook, 1830; modern notes on farming accounts in 1838, photolithograph of Avery; 1936 insurance calendar with Avery genealogy on verso	(4 items)
Folder 5: Martha Sprague papers: plant record book, 1882-1897, with genealogy of Elsie Scott line	(1 item)
Folder 6: Susan Sprague, school work book, 1891; plant record books, 1881-83; 1883-1930; plant analysis book, 1881-82	(4 items)
Folder 7: Susan F[owle] Sprague, accounting booklets, 1858.	(4 items)

[See also Northfield-Gill Town Papers, Box 4, Folder 4]

