Guide to the Fremont Older papers, 1907-1941

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Note
History --History, California --GeneralGeographical (By Place) --CaliforniaArts and Humanities --Fine Arts --Photography
Guide to the Fremont Older Papers, 1907-1941

Collection number: BANC MSS C-B 376

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Collection Summary
Collection Title: Fremont Older Papers,
Date (inclusive): 1907-1941
Collection Number: BANC MSS C-B 376
Creator: Older, Fremont, 1856-1935
Extent: Number of containers: 7 boxes and 2 v.
Linear feet: 4
Repository: The Bancroft Library.
Berkeley, California 94720-6000

Physical Location: For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Library’s online catalog.
Languages Represented: English

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Identifier/Call Number: (BANC PIC 1940.004--POR)

Scope and Content
Most of the papers in the Fremont Older collection came to Bancroft Library in December 1958 as the gift of his widow, Cora B. Older. Some material had been received previously: as gifts from Evelyn Wells (August 1939) and Marshall Maslin, an associate of Older's from the Call-Bulletin (December 1949), and by purchase from John Howell (December 1947). There is a strong probability that the material purchased came from the estate of Carl Hoffman, one of Older's journalistic proteges. The provenance of material other than that in Mrs. Older's gift, has been noted on folders. Obviously the letters in the collection represent only a small portion of what must have been an extensive correspondence. By reputation, however, Older was not a "saving" man, and it is fortunate that some letters escaped destruction or loss. Much of the correspondence relates to the efforts made by Older from about 1927 to secure pardons for Mooney and Billings. Some photographs in the collection have been removed and placed in the Pictorial Collections. Printed items have been catalogued separately.

Biography
Fremont Older was born in Appleton, Wisconsin, August 30, 1856. He began his journalistic career as a printer's devil in his home state in 1869. At the age of 16 he went West and worked as a printer for various newspapers in California and Nevada, and then in San Francisco as a reporter, and eventually as city editor of the Morning Call. From 1894, when he became editor of the San Francisco Bulletin, he steered the destiny of the paper for 24 years, engaging in fight after fight to break the political grip of the Southern Pacific Railroad in the State, to clean up San Francisco, and to expose injustice, crime and corruption. The most spectacular of Older's campaigns against political corruption was his report of the graft prosecution of Mayor Eugene E. Schmitz and political boss, Abe Ruef, in 1906. In 1917, Older undertook the last great fight of his career -the freeing of Tom Mooney and Warren Billings. He became convinced that the two men had been convicted on perjured testimony and came out flatly in the Bulletin with the accusation that they had been framed. Advised by the owners of the paper to drop the case, Older resigned and accepted William Randolph Hearst's invitation to come to his newspaper, the San Francisco Call, and bring the Mooney case with him.

In 1929, at the age of 73, he became editor and president of the Call-Bulletin, a merger which had been accomplished with Hearst's purchase of the moribund Bulletin. Older died of a heart attack on March 3, 1935.

Correspondence
Letters written to Older are filed alphabetically by correspondent.

Scope and Content Note
Single letters have been placed in alphabetical miscellanies; several letters from one person in separate folders. Unidentified and anonymous letters are at the end. Cards have been placed in the manuscripts catalog for correspondents of note.

Letters written by Older are filed chronologically, 1907-1935.

Scope and Content Note
They are mainly typed carbon copies but they include also a few originals and some drafts in longhand. Most of them date from 1928.

Miscellaneous letters concerning the Mooney and Billings cases.

Scope and Content Note
Chiefly copies written by Rena Mooney, C. C. Young, Warren K. Billings, Tom Mooney and Aaron Sapiro.

Mss. Of Older's editorials and other writings

Editorials, in longhand, July 1, 1934-February 15, 1935.

Texts for four speeches (typescript).


Portion of The Life of George Hearst California Pioneer (typescript).


Clippings
Editorials written by Older, 1932-1935 (6 folders)
Chapters of Older's autobiography, My Own Story, published serially in the Call-Bulletin, and related press notices (1 folder)
Autobiographical articles, "Growing Up" published serially in the Call-Bulletin (1 folder)
Articles, "Living in the Country," written by Older (1 folder)
Articles about Older (1 folder)
Articles about Tom Mooney (1 folder)

oversize volume 1

Scrapbook
Scope and Content Note
Mainly newspaper and magazine articles about Older.

oversize volume 2

3 oversize items:
2 certificates of appointment as special health commissioner, 1901
Testimonial from employees of the Bulletin, n.d.

box 6-7

Letters written to Mrs. Fremont Older, 1935-1941.
Scope and Content Note
They are chiefly letters of condolence, March-April 1935, arranged alphabetically by correspondent. Single letters have been placed in alphabetical miscellanies; others in separate folders. Cards have been placed in the manuscripts catalog for correspondents of note.

Sympathy cards addressed to Mrs. Older
Letters of sympathy, March 1935, addressed to Robert Holliday, publisher of the Call-Bulletin

Tributes to Older

Obituaries (2 folders)
Clippings re biography, Fremont Older, by Evelyn Wells
Clippings of articles, "My Typewriter," by Mrs. Older
Clippings re Mrs. Older and her writings

Miscellany
Scope and Content Note
Included is a short autobiographical sketch by Rose Wilder Lane and a portion of a speech written by James D. Phelan

Photographs - including 10 photographs taken during Older's burial
Aiken, Ednah (Robinson), 1872-1960
Letters to Cora B. Older, ca. March 8, 1935.
Allen, Frederick Lewis, 1890-
Letters, July 19, 1932.
American Civil Liberties Union
2 letters to Cora B. Older, 1935. One letter signed by Roger Baldwin. Also: Resolution to Mrs. Fremont Older and the members of Mr. Older's family, April 24, 1935, with many signatures.
Anderson, Maxwell, 1888-1959
Appleton (D.) - Century Company
Atherton, Gertrude Franklin (Horn), 1857-1948
Bacigalupi, James Augustus, 1882-
2 letters, 1925 & 1928. One letter a typed transcript.
Bailey, Warren Worth, 1855-1928
Letters, May 8, [1926?].
Baldwin, Roger Nash, 1884-
8 letters, 1929-1933. Among letters written by Older are several addressed to 
Baldwin.
Barry, John Daniel, 1866-1942
Letters, June 9, 1921. Also, letter, Mar. 7, 1935, in Mrs. Older's correspondence.
Bates, Sanford, 1884-
Letters to Cora B. Older, Mar. 5, 1935.
Beale, Truxton, 1856-1936
Letters, June 27, 1930.
Beatty, Bessie, 1886-
2 letters to Cora B. Older, 1935.
Bender, Albert Maurice, 1866-1941
3 letters to Cora B. Older, 1935. One written on a letter addressed to him.
Bennett, Richard, 1872-1944
Bern, Paul, 1889-1932
2 letters, 1931. Among letters written by Older are some addressed to Bern.
Billings, Warren K., 1894-
15 letters, 1928-1932. Also, copy of letter to Mary Gallagher, May 18, 1930, among 
miscellaneous letters relating to Billings and Mooney cases.
Black, Jack
15 letters, 1929-1931 & n.d. Include copy of letter from Black to William McLaughlin, 
1916. Many letters signed by John Black. Also, letter, n.d., in Mrs. Older's 
correspondence.
Black, Winifred (Sweet), 1869-1936
10 letters, 1920-1931. Several signed Laurianna. Among letters written by Older are 
several addressed to Mrs. Black.
Brady, Loretta Ellen, 1892-
Letters to Cora B. Older, Mar. 4, 1935.
Brady, Matthew, 1876-
Letters, May 8, 1928.
Brisbane, Arthur, 1864-1936
3 letters, 1913-1921. Also, letter, Mar. 8, 1935, enclosing letter from D. Appleton - 
Century Company, in Mrs. Older's correspondence.
Burns, William John, 1861-1932
Letters, ca. 1908.
Collier, John, 1884-
Letters to Cora B. Older, Mar. 6, 1935.
Coolbrith, Ina Donna, 1842-1928
Letters, Dec. 9, 1927.
Creel, George, 1876-1953
Letters to Cora B. Older, Mar. 23, 1935.
Crothers, George Edward, 1870-1957
Letters to Cora B. Older, Mar. 8, 1935.
Cuddy, John
Letters to Cora B. Older, Mar. 4, 1935.
Cullinan, Eustace, 1876-
Letters, July 14, 1931. Among letters written by Older are some addressed to 
Cullinan.
Darrow, Clarence Seward, 1857-1938
21 letters, 1920-1933 & n.d. One letter a typed transcript. Also, telegram and letter, 
1935, signed Clarence and Ruby Darrow, in Mrs. Older's correspondence.
Davies, Marion, 1900-
Debs, Eugene Victor, 1855-1926
Letters, n.d.
Dobie, Charles Caldwell, 1881-1943
Letters to Cora B. Older, 1935.
Dreiser, Theodore, 1871-1945
   2 letters, 1929.
Duffus, Robert Luther, 1888-
   4 letters, 1920-1921. Also, two letters, 1935 & 1936, in Mrs. Older's correspondence.
Dunne, Frank H.
Dutton, (E. P.) & Co., Inc.
   Some letters signed by John Macrae.
Elder, David Paul, 1872-
   Letters to Cora B. Older, Feb. 21, 1936.
Field, Sara Bard, 1882-
   2 letters to Cora B. Older, 1935 & 1936.
Filene, Edward A., d. 1937
   2 letters to Cora B. Older, 1935.
Furuseth, Andrew, 1854-1938
   10 letters, 1909-1934. Also, telegram, Mar. 4, 1935, in Mrs. Older's correspondence.
Frankfurter, Felix, 1882-
   3 letters, 1927 & n.d. Among letters sent by Older are some addressed to
   Frankfurter.
Funsten, Benjamin Reed, 1887-
   Letters to Cora B. Older, March 5, 1935.
Gallagher, Mary E., 1883-
   3 letters, 1929-1930 & n.d. Include note written on copy of letter written to her by
   Warren K. Billings.
Gannon, Thomas M.
   Letters, Feb. 3, 1926.
Garrett, Garet, 1878-1954
   Letters to Cora B. Older, ca. March 6, 1935.
Gleeson, Edgar
Glock, Alma, 1884-1938
   Letters to Cora B. Older, Mar. 4, 1935
Goldman, Emma, 1869-1940
   Letters, Dec. 29, 1931. Griffin, Franklin A. Letters, Jan. 20, 1928. Written on copy of
   his letter to C. C. Young. Among letters written by Older are some addressed to
   Griffin.
Griffin, Franklin A.
   Letters, Jan. 25, 1928. Written on copy of his letter to C. C. Young. Among letters
   written by Older are some addressed to Griffin.
Guck, Homer, 1878-1949
   Letters to Cora B. Older, March 4, 1935.
Hale, Marshal, 1866-1945
   Letters to Cora B. Older, Mar. 8, 1935.
Hallowell, Robert, 1886-1939
   Letters, July 5, 1919.
Hampton, Benjamin Bowles, 1875-
   Letters, Feb. 11, 1929.
Hanna, Edward Joseph, abp., 1860-1944
   Letters, May 9, 1928. Also, copy of letter addressed to him by Aaron Sapiro, July 13,
   1931, among miscellaneous letters relating to Mooney and Billings cases.
Hapgood, Hutchins, 1869-1944
   Letters, Jan. 27, 1919.
Hart, George H., 1883-
   Letters to Cora B. Older, Oct. 10, 1940.
Hawthorne, Hildegarde
List of Correspondents

Hawthorne, Julian, 1846-1934
  5 letters, 1922-1928. Include copy of letter to George West, 1927.

Hearst, Millicent Veronica (Willson)
  Letters, n.d. Also, telegram, Mar. 4, 1935, in Mrs. Older's correspondence.

Hearst, William Randolph, 1863-1951

Heney, Francis Joseph, 1859-1937
  8 letters, 1906-1930. Also, letter and telegram, 1935, in Mrs. Older's correspondence.

Herrick, Robert, 1868-1938
  Letters, June 15, 1926. Among letters written by Older are some addressed to Herrick.

Hichborn, Franklin, 1869-
  Letters, Feb. 23, 1933. Among letters sent by Older are some addressed to Hichborn.

Hoffman, Carl, 1882-1946

Hopkins, Ernest Jerome, 1887-
  2 letters, 1918 & 1930.

Howe, Frederic Clemson, 1867-1940

Irwin, Inez (Haynes), 1873-
  Letters, n.d. Also, letter and telegram, 1935, in Mrs. Older's correspondence.

Irwin, William Henry, 1873-1948
  2 letters, 1921 & 1926.

Jeffers, Robinson, 1887-

Johnson, Alvin Saunders, 1874-

Johnson, Hiram Warren, 1866-1945
  9 letters, 1920-1934. Also, letter and telegram, 1935, in Mrs. Older's correspondence.

[Johnson, Minnie (McNeal)]

Jordan, David Starr, 1851-1931
  8 letters, 1911-1925. Include signed typed copy of letter to Gov. Stephens.

Jordan, Jessie (Knight)
  Letters to Cora B. Older, Mar. 7, 1935

Kellogg, Frederick William, 1866-1940
  Letters, Aug. 16, 1918. Facsimile signature.

Kennan, George, 1845-1923
  Letters, Aug. 28, 1907.

Koenigsburg, Moses, 1878-1945
  Letters, May 20, 1920

La Guardia, Fiorello Henry, 1882-1947
  Letters, Dec. 10, 1932

Lane, Franklin Knight, 1864-1921
  6 letters, 1907-1918.

Lane, Rose (Wilder), 1877-
  27 letters, 1921-1935. Also, letter, Mar. 16, 1935, in Mrs. Older's correspondence.

Langdon, William Henry, 1873-1939
  2 letters, 1908 & 1930.

La Verne, Lucille, 1875-1945
  Letters to Cora B. Older, Mar. 4, 1935.

Lewis, Austin, 1865-1944
Letters to Cora B. Older, Mar, 8, 1935.

Lindsey, Benjamin Barr, 1869-1943
  2 letters, 1912 & 1929. Among letters written by Older are some addressed to Lindsey.

Lippman, Walter, 1889-
  Letters, May 29, 1929.

London, Charmian (Kittredge), 1883?-1958

Lowrie, Donald
  2 letters, 1924. Signed Charlie.

Luhman, Mabel Dodge, 1879-
  Letters, May 29, 1929.

London, Charmian (Kittredge), 1883?-1958

McClure, Samuel Sidney, 1857-1949
  Letters, n.d.

McCormick, Medill, 1877-1925
  Letters, Nov. 17, 1909.

McEwen, Arthur
  Letters, Mar. 2, 1907.

McFarland, John Horace, 1859-1948
  Letters to Cora B. Older, Mar. 4, 1935

McIntyre, Oscar Odd, 1884-1938
  Letters, n.d.

McIvor-Tyndall, Alexander James, d. 1940
  2 letters to Cora B. Older, 1935.

McMurray, Orrin Kip, 1869-1945
  Letters, May 21, 1928.

McNamara, James B.
  7 letters, 1926. Include 3 typed transcripts.

McPike, Henry H., d. 1940
  Letters to Cora B. Older, Mar. 7, 1935.

Markham, Edwin, 1852-1940
  Letters, May 16, 1933.

Marmur, Jacland, 1901-
  Letters to Cora B. Older, Mar. 4, 1935.

Martin, Edward Sanford, 1856-1939
  Letters, May 7, 1926.

Martin, Irving, 1865-1952
  2 letters, 1918 & 1928.

Maslin, Marshall
  Letters to Cora B. Older, ca. Mar. 6, 1935.

Masters, Edgar Lee, 1869-1950
  Letters, Nov. 19, 1926.

Matheson, Duncan, 1865-
  Letters, Sept. 5, 1929.

Meherin, Elenore
  5 letters, 1933 & n.d. Also, two letters and telegram, 1935, in Mrs. Older's correspondence.

Michelson, Miriam, 1870-1942
  Letters, n.d.

Miller, Joaquin, 1841?-1913
  Letters, Oct. 26, 1911. Signed by Miller; written by his daughter, Juanita.

Mooney, Rena

Also, typed copy of Rena Mooney’s letter to Chicago Journal of Commerce, Mar. 14, 1921, among miscellaneous letters relating to Mooney and Billings cases.

Mooney, Thomas Joseph, 1882-1942
20 letters, 1927-1931. Also, telegram, Mar. 4, 1935, in Mrs. Older’s correspondence; and copy of letter to Mary E. Gallagher, May 25, 1930, among miscellaneous letters on the Billings and Mooney cases.

Morgan, Anne Tracy, 1873-
2 letters, 1910.

Neylan, John Francis, 1885-1960
Letters, Feb. 24, 1920. Also, letter, Jan. 6, 1937, in Mrs. Older’s correspondence.

Newman, Louis Israel, 1893-
Letters, Jan. 24, 1930. Also, letter, Mar. 5, 1935, in Mrs. Older’s correspondence.

Nielsen, Alice, 1876-1943
2 letters to Cora B. Older, 1935.

Nockels, Edward N.
7 letters & telegrams, 1920-1921. Among letters written by Older are some addressed to Nockels.

Northcliffe, Alfred Charles William Harmsworth, 1st baron, 1865-1922
2 letters, 1910 & 1918.

Osbourne, Thomas Mott, 1859-1926
2 letters, 1922.

O’Neil, Nance, 1874-

Parsons, Louella O., 1893-
Letters to Cora B. Older, Mar. 4, 1935.

Patterson, Eleanor, 1884-1948
Letters, n.d.

Perkins, Frances, 1882-
Letters, Jan. 19, 1935

Phelan, James Duval, 1861-1930
3 letters, 1908-1929.

Phillips, John Sanborn, 1861-
Letters, Mar. 21, 1910.

Pinchot, Gifford, 1865-1946
Letters, Mar. 28, 1910.

Ralston, Jackson Harvey, 1857-
Letters to Cora B. Older, Mar. 10, 1935

Robinson, Elsie, 1883-

Rolph, James, 1869-1934

Roosevelt, Theodore, 1858-1919
4 letters, 1909-1910. Signature on one letter cut off.

Rossi, Angelo Joseph, 1878-1948
Letters to Cora B. Older, Mar. 4, 1935.

Rowell, Chester Harvey, 1867-1948
Letters, Aug. 30, 1927. Among letters written by Older are some addressed to Rowell.

Rowland, Helen
Letters, n.d.

Rubin, Abraham, 1864-1936
Letters, Aug. 29, 1925. Also, telegram, Mar. 3, 1935, in Mrs. Older’s correspondence.
Runyon, Damon, 1884-1946
   Letters to Cora B. Older, Mar. 5, 1935.
Russell, Charles Edward, 1860-1941
   3 letters, 1916-1928. Also, letter, Mar. 23, 1936, in Mrs. Older's correspondence.
Sandburg, Carl, 1878-
   3 letters, 1921-1929.
Scharrenberg, Paul
   4 letters, 1928-1930. One incomplete. Among letters written by Older are several addressed to Scharrenberg.
Schuster, Max Lincoln, 1897-
   Letters to Cora B. Older, Mar. 5, 1935.
Shortridge, Samuel Morgan, 1861-1952
   Letters, Mar. 8, 1930.
Sinclair, Upton Beall, 1878-
Spreckels, Rudolph, 1872-1958
   2 letters, 1910 & n.d.
Steffens, Lincoln, 1866-1936
   25 letters, 1908-1934. Also, telegram, Mar. 4, 1935, in Mrs. Older's correspondence.
Sullivan, Noël
   2 letters to Cora B. Older, 1935.
Taber, Louise Eddy, 1890-
Tammen, Harry, Heye, 1856-1924
   2 letters, 1921 & 1923.
Taylor, Edward Robeson, 1838-1923
Towne, Charles Hanson, 1877-1949
   Letters to Cora B. Older, June 16, 1936.
Travers, Reginald
   Letters to Cora B. Older, Mar. 4, 1935.
Tully, Jim, 1891-
   2 letters, 1928 & n.d. Also, letter, Mar. 4, 1935, in Mrs. Older's correspondence.
Untermeyer, Samuel, 1858-1940
   Letters to Cora B. Older, Mar. 4, 1935.
Villard, Oswald Garrison, 1872-
Wagner, Frederic
   Letters to Cora B. Older, Mar. 21, 1935.
[Walker, Charlotte]
   2 letters to Cora B. Older, n.d.
Walsh, Frank Patrick, 1864-1939
   8 letters, 1921-1929. Among letters written by Older are some addressed to Walsh.
Warner, Henry Edward, 1876-1941
   Letters, June 6, 1929.
Watkins, Eleanor Preston, 1876-
   Letters to Cora B. Older, ca. May 1, 1935.
Welch, Richard Joseph, 1869-1949
   Letters to Cora B. Older, Mar. 5, 1935.
Whitaker, Robert, 1863-1944
   Letters, Aug. 28, 1925.
Wieland, Madeleine
   Letters to Cora B. Older, Mar. 6, 1935.
Williams, James Thomas, 1881-
   Letters to Cora B. Older, Mar. 4, 1935.
Williamson, Joseph
  Letters & telegram to Cora B. Older, 1935 & 1936
Wise, Stephen Samuel, 1874-1949
Wood, Charles Erskine Scott, 1852-1944
  2 letters to Cora B. Older, 1935.
Young, Charles Sommers, 1873-
  Letters, Sept. 4, 1925.
Young, Clement Calhoun, 1869-1947
  6 letters, 1927-1930. One is typed transcript. Also, typed copy of letter to Franklin A.
  Griffin among miscellaneous letters relating to Mooney and Billings cases.
  Among letters written by Older are some addressed to Young.
Young, Ella, 1867-
  Letters to Cora B. Older, ca. Mar. 6, 1935.
Young, Sanborn
  Letters to Cora B. Older, Mar. 6, 1935. Enclosure: Senate [Calif.] Daily Journal, 51st
  session, Mar. 4, 1935.
Zellerbach, James David, 1892-