Finding Aid to the Addington family papers, 1793-1941 (bulk 1871-1921)

Finding aid prepared by California Historical Society staff.
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Descriptive Summary
Title: Addington family papers
Date (inclusive): 1793-1941
Date (bulk): 1871-1921
Collection number: MS 3013
Physical Description: 3 boxes (1.5 Linear feet)
Repository: California Historical Society
678 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA, 94105
415-357-1848
reference@calhist.org
URL: http://www.californiahistoricalsociety.org
Physical Location: Collection is stored onsite.
Language of Materials: Collection materials are in English.
Abstract: Personal correspondence of Sara Addington Davis, relating to the lives of several Iowa and New England families; together with correspondence of her relatives, including letters (1849-1853) of her father, Daniel Davis, a native of Vermont, describing his voyage to California via Cape Horn, his arrival in San Francisco, and his life in Marysville, California, from 1850; a genealogical notebook, a cookbook, a scrapbook of obituaries, an autograph album, an account book, and ephemera and miscellany, some of which relates to Addington's daughter, Lois. Also includes two English grammars, one (1793) belonging to Jacob Davis, and the other (1838) belonging to Daniel Davis.
Note
Previously titled: Sara Addington Davis papers, 1842-1941.
Access
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Preferred Citation
Identification of item, Addington Family Papers, MS 3013. California Historical Society.
Separated Materials
Photographs shelved as MSP 3013.
Acquisition Information
Purchased from Argus Book Shop.
Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library’s online public access catalog.
Voyages to the Pacific coast.
California--Gold discoveries.
Marysville (Calif.)--Social life and customs.
Addington family--Correspondence.
Genealogies.
Obituaries.
Autograph albums.
Account books.
Scope and Contents
Personal correspondence of Sara Addington Davis, relating to the lives of several Iowa and New England families; together with correspondence of her relatives, including letters (1849-1853) of her father, Daniel Davis, a native of Vermont,
describing his voyage to California via Cape Horn, his arrival in San Francisco, and his life in Marysville, California, from 1850; a genealogical notebook, a cookbook, a scrapbook of obituaries, an autograph album, an account book, and ephemera and miscellany, some of which relates to Addington's daughter, Lois. Also includes two English grammars, one (1793) belonging to Jacob Davis, and the other (1838) belonging to Daniel Davis.

Letters from Daniel Davis to Harriet Davis 1849-1853

1849 September 12
Scope and Content Note
Describes various ships' accommodations, eagerness of emigrants to go to California.

1849 September 17
Scope and Content Note
Describes trip to Bunker Hill Monument and the Boston Navy Yard.

1849 September 19
Scope and Content Note
Expresses feelings on leasing home; describes system of "shares" in ship's companies. Has engaged passage on the Daniel Webster, which he describes. Mentions Vermonters in Boston, and a tailors' strike and protest march.

1849 September 19-20
Scope and Content Note
Describes Mt. Auburn Cemetery; encounter with a woman whose husband and son are leaving for California.

1849 September 21
Scope and Content Note
Has met friends, and had daguerrotype taken; describes mining tools.

1849 September 22
Scope and Content Note
Has learned he is entitled to a "protection" (i.e. insurance); describes eagerness of emigrants to sail.

On board the Daniel Webster

1849 November 3
Scope and Content Note
Explains his desire to leave home; describes feelings upon embarking, seasickness, weather, passengers.

1849 November 18
Scope and Content Note
"Speaking a ship" (meeting another vessel at sea)

1849 November 20
Scope and Content Note
Describes ship's temperance society, other occupation and pranks. Excerpts from his journal--a porpoise caught.

Rio de Janiero
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 1</th>
<th>1849 November 27</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tells of arrival at Rio de Janiero, harbor renulations, trouble on another ship (the <em>Chester</em>).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 1</th>
<th>1849 November 21-27</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sketch of the Rio de Janiero lighthouse with description of harbor and ships.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 1</th>
<th>1849 November 30</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Describes Rio de Janiero: slaves, market, money, liquor.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**On board the *Daniel Webster***

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 1</th>
<th>1850 February 14</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rounding the Horn; albatross and penguins; voyage from Rio de Janiero.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Valparaiso**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 1</th>
<th>1850 February 23</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Describes Valparaiso, prices, cemetery, harbor; tension between Chileans and Yankees.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 1</th>
<th>1850 February 24</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice and temptation in Valparaiso; vegetable sizes.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**San Francisco**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 1</th>
<th>1850 October 17</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice and crime in the city; has had bad luck and illness since arrival; area offers &quot;no inducements to permanent settlement&quot;.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Marysville**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 1</th>
<th>1850 December 25</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complains of not receiving mail; discusses &quot;state of society&quot; in California; describes local Indians, and weather; has learned some Spanish.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 1</th>
<th>1850 December 27</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal health and situation; has job in a store; women in California; miners turning to ranching; discomfort of &quot;camping out&quot;.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 1</th>
<th>1851 January 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thoughts on his character; fate of some fellow passengers and a story of a miner who made good.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1851 January 28</td>
<td>Written on lettersheet with view of San Francisco; describes site and weather at Marysville, and California geography.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1851 February 25</td>
<td>Has resolved to remain in California for the present; desires news of friends.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1851 May 9</td>
<td>San Francisco fire; loss of job; tired of California and may come home; sends $50 home by a friend.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1851 October 25</td>
<td>Has been in the mountains since May; capture by Indians; illness; netting used to the steno, his own case not typical.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1851 November 12</td>
<td>Glowing description of the free life of California (including camping - also see letter 1850 December 27)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1852 January 19</td>
<td>Replies to a &quot;moral lecture&quot; from sister with thought on life and character.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1852 January 25</td>
<td>Friend has not delivered $50; replies to home news.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1852 February 24</td>
<td>Personal affairs; has had measles; compares California weather with Vermont's.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1852 March 7</td>
<td>Flooding at Marysville.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1852 March 22</td>
<td>A large robbery; Marysville authorities vs. Vigilance Committee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1852 March 28</td>
<td>Describes feelings about home and lack of a &quot;social disposition&quot;.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1852 May 30</td>
<td>Getting on better, thinking less of going home; stories of California generally exaggerated.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Box 1, Folder 1  1852 June 5
Scope and Content Note
Health and food; old friends; brother's career as a school teacher.

Box 1, Folder 1  1852 October 12
Scope and Content Note
Usefulness of his own teaching career; life and growing up; aftermath of spring floods.

Box 1, Folder 1  1853 January 25
Scope and Content Note
Loneliness; a hard winter; high prices; lack of work; refers to "seeing the elephant".

Box 1, Folder 1  1853 March 13
Scope and Content Note
Australia gold fever; a city election; prices.

Letters to Daniel Davis
Box 1, Folder 2  1852-1897
Letters to Sara Davis Addington
Box 1, Folder 3  Regarding Arunah Huntington Estate 1881-1885
Letters to Sara Davis Addington
Box 1, Folder 4  Regarding Daniel Davis Estate 1900-1901
Box 1, Folder 5  Regarding A.J. Davis Estate 1911-1914
Box 1, Folder 6-8  1888-1904
Box 1, Folder 9  From Clinton H. Addington 1904
Box 1, 1905-1921
Folder 10-12
Box 2, Folder 13  Letters to Clinton H. Addington 1886-1921
Box 2, Folder 14  Letters to Lois Addington 1913-1941
Box 2, Folder 15  Letters to Charlotte Bruce Davis 1868-1881
Letters to Gertrude Patten Addington
Box 2, Folder 16  From William Henry Addington, Jr. 1863-1874
Box 2, Folder 17  From her sons 1886-1889
Box 2, Folder 18  From Edgerton Family 1887-1889
Box 2, Folder 19  Miscellaneous 1863-1888
Letters to William Henry Addington Jr.
Box 2, Folder 20  From Gertrude Patten Addington 1863-1874
Box 2, Folder 21  Miscellaneous 1868-1892
Box 2, Folder 22  Letters to David Fatten 1872-1873
Box 2, Folder 23  Family genealogy (Davis-Addington) and partial family trees
Box 2, Folder 24  Obituary scrapbook (Addington-Edgerton-Patten)
Box 2, Folder 25  Account Book of Daniel Davis 1862-1868
Box 2, Folder 26  Autograph Album of Sara Davis (including autographs to Daniel Davis, 1842) 1882
Box 2, Folder 27  Cookbook Compiled by the Ladies' Guild of First Baptist Church (Osage, Iowa) 1906
Box 2, Folder 28  Portfolio--Gift to Sara Davis 1884
Ephemera
Box 2, Folder 29  Addington & Edgerton
Box 2, Folder 30  Lois Addington