Finding aid to the Asbury Harpending papers, MS 950MS 950

Finding aid prepared by Marie Silva.
California Historical Society
2014
678 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
reference@calhist.org
URL: http://californiahistoricalsociety.org/
Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: California Historical Society
Title: Asbury Harpending papers
creator: Harpending, Asbury.
Identifier/Call Number: MS 950
Physical Description: 12 boxes (5 linear feet)
Date (inclusive): circa 1862-1919
Location of Materials: Collection is stored onsite.
Language of Material: Collection materials are predominantly in English, with some documents in Spanish and French.
Abstract: Consists of correspondence, deeds, agreements, accounts, receipts, manuscript maps, and other papers reflecting Asbury Harpending's business and speculative activities in the Western United States, Kentucky, New York, and Latin America between the years 1862 and 1919. Although the collection contains some letters written by Harpending (mostly to his children), the bulk of the correspondence was written to Harpending by his friends and business associates—including and especially George D. Roberts—and concerns the many mining enterprises in which Harpending was involved. Deeds, accounts, receipts, and other financial records reflect Harpending's interests in numerous mining properties in the Western United States, Mexico, and Colombia. Of particular significance are papers related to Harpending's involvement in the Diamond Hoax (1871-1873), including letters and telegrams written by Philip Arnold, William C. Ralston, and George D. Roberts documenting events leading up to the discovery of the hoax in 1872, and the scandal's personal, legal, and financial aftermath.
Access
Collection is open for research.
Publication Rights
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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Asbury Harpending papers, MS 950, California Historical Society.
Separated Materials
Photographs have been separated from the collection and shelved under the call number MSP 950. Identified portraits may have been separated from the collection and filed in the Portraits Collection.
Processing Information
The collection was reprocessed and additions incorporated by Marie Silva in 2014. More additions were incorporated by Louisa Brandt in 2017.
System of Arrangement
The collection is arranged in chronological order. Scope and content notes have been added at the folder level to facilitate discovery.
Biographical Information
Asbury Harpending was a native of Princeton, Kentucky. At the age of fifteen, he ran away from home, joining William Walker on his filibuster expedition to Nicaragua. In 1857, he traveled to California, making a fortune in gold mining in Camptonville, California, and, later, in Mexico. In 1860, he returned to San Francisco from Mexico a wealthy man. In the early 1860s, Harpending participated in Confederate conspiracies to establish a secessionist Republic of the Pacific (1860) and to intercept ships carrying gold bullion from San Francisco to the national capitol (1863). For the latter attempt, he was arrested, convicted of treason, and imprisoned at Alcatraz. He served ten months in prison before he was pardoned by President Lincoln.
Shortly after his release from Alcatraz, Harpending resumed his energetic entrepreneurial activities, investing in gold and mineral mines in California, Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Mexico; railroads (including the Beckwourth Pass Route); and San Francisco real estate south of Market Street. Harpending gained notoriety, however, for his role in the swindle known as the Great Diamond Hoax (1872). According to his own account, Harpending was contacted in 1871 by his business partner and financier William C. Ralston after two Kentuckians, Philip Arnold and John Slack, had approached
George D. Roberts (also a business associate of Harpending) and showed him gems purportedly taken from vast, hitherto undiscovered diamond fields somewhere in the American West. The men, with William M. Lent, George S. Dodge, and S. M. Barlow, formed a mining company in October 1871, declaring their respective interests in Arnold and Slack’s “discovery” and attracting significant investment from major financiers. It was not until October 1872 that geologist Clarence King discovered the site of the purported field, determined that it had been “salted” with purchased gems, and rushed to publicize the fraud. Arnold and Slack were fingered as the perpetrators of the swindle; although he claimed innocence, Harpending’s exact role in the hoax remains unclear.

After the Diamond Hoax was uncovered, Harpending returned to Kentucky, where he began investing in land, mining, and agricultural enterprises. His close associate Roberts remained in San Francisco, apparently embattled by the legal consequences of the Hoax. After a few years in Kentucky, Harpending relocated to New York, and began vigorously investing in the mining share and grain, provisions, and cotton markets. For over a decade (circa 1883-1894), he was an active investor in various gold and mineral mines in the Tolima region of Colombia, forming the Colon Consolidated Gold Mining Company, Las Casas Gold Mining Company, and El Cristo Gold and Silver Mining Company. Around 1894, Harpending returned to California, where he began investing in gold mines in Amador and El Dorado counties, forming the Lucille Gold Mining Company, the Havilah Gold Mining Company, and the Union Gold Mining Company; he managed the latter company for many years. Throughout the post-Diamond Hoax period, Harpending was continuously embroiled in legal disputes centering on his business activities. His autobiography, *The Great Diamond Hoax and other stirring incidents in the life of Asbury Harpending*, was published in 1913.

**Scope and Contents**

The collections consists of correspondence, deeds, agreements, accounts, receipts, manuscript maps, and other papers reflecting Asbury Harpending's business and speculative activities in the Western United States, Kentucky, New York, and Latin America between the years 1862 and 1919. Although the collection contains some letters written by Harpending (mostly to his children), the bulk of the correspondence was written to Harpending by his friends and business associates—including and especially George D. Roberts—and concerns the many mining enterprises in which Harpending was involved. Deeds, accounts, receipts, and other financial records reflect Harpending’s interests in numerous mining properties in the Western United States, Mexico, and Colombia. Of particular significance are papers related to Harpending's involvement in the Diamond Hoax (1871-1873), including letters and telegrams written by Philip Arnold, William C. Ralston, and George D. Roberts documenting events leading up to the discovery of the hoax in 1872, and the scandal's personal, legal, and financial aftermath.

Papers in Series 1 (1862-1873) include correspondence, deeds, agreements, accounts, receipts, and other records related to Harpending's mining, railroad, and real estate investments in the Western United States and Mexico between the years 1863-1873. Papers dated between the years 1871-1873 document the role of Harpending and his associates in the Diamond Hoax, including letters, ciphered telegrams, agreements, and legal records. A cipher key, dated circa 1871, can be found in this series; undated cipher keys can also be found in Series 2 (Box 10, folder 5).

Papers in Series 2 (1874-1917) include letters, ciphered telegrams, accounts, receipts, and other records related to Harpending's business activities after the Diamond Hoax, with extensive records for the years 1874-1902. Particularly well documented are Harpending's investments in gold and mineral mines in the Tolima region of Colombia (circa 1883-1894) and in Amador and El Dorado counties, California (circa 1894-1902). Papers in this series also concern Harpending’s investments in the New York mining share and grain, provisions, and cotton markets; his investments in mining enterprises throughout the Western United States; and the many legal disputes in which he was involved.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**

Hoaxes--West (U.S.)
Swindlers and swindling--West (U.S.)
Mines and mineral resources--California.
Mines and mineral resources--Colombia.
Mines and mineral resources--Mexico.
Mines and mineral resources--West (U.S.)
Cipher and telegraph codes--Mining.
Manuscript maps.
Telegrams.
Harpending, Asbury--Archives.
Arnold, Philip.
Ralston, William Chapman, 1826-1875.
Roberts, George D.

Series 1: 1862-1873

Physical Description: 1.25 boxes

Box 1, Folder 1

Notes appearing to relate to a secessionist conspiracy in California 1862?

Deeds for mining properties 1863-1865

Scope and Contents
Includes deeds for mining properties in the Washington Mining District, Lander County, Nevada; Humboldt County, Nevada; Placer County, California; and San Juan del Río, Mexico.

Box 1, Folder 2

Deeds for mining properties 1863-1865

Scope and Contents
Includes deeds for mining properties in the Washington Mining District, Lander County, Nevada; Humboldt County, Nevada; Placer County, California; and San Juan del Río, Mexico.

Box 1, Folder 3

Correspondence 1865

Scope and Contents
Includes letters by Asbury Harpending, Sr. to his sons Benjamin and Harpending (Asbury Harpending, Jr.) in Kentucky; and letters to Harpending and associates regarding various mining properties and investments.

Box 1, Folder 4

Deeds and agreements for mining properties 1866-1868

Scope and Contents
Includes an indenture between Harpending and Archibald C. Peachy and others for a mining claim in Whiskey Diggings, Placer County, California; an agreement between Harpending and Peachy for a mining claim in Los Angeles County, California (at Rancho Temescal, in which Ygnacio del Valle held an interest); and other deeds and agreements for mining properties in San Diego County, California; San Bernardino County, California; Durango, Mexico; and Sinaloa, Mexico (the Golconda Mine).

Box 1, Folder 5

Correspondence, accounts, receipts, and other papers 1866-1868

Scope and Contents
Grounds map of the Durango Tin Mining Companies is shelved with oversize manuscripts under the call number MS 950.

Scope and Contents
Includes letters by Asbury Harpending, Sr. to his son Harpending (Asbury Harpending, Jr.) in Kentucky; letters written to Harpending by various agents and associates concerning various mining properties and investments in California and Mexico; and a broadside, published by Harpending, advertising the sale of Millville Farms in Princeton, Kentucky.

Box 1, Folder 6

Correspondence, minutes, accounts, and other papers 1869

Scope and Contents
Includes letters by Asbury Harpending, Sr. to his son Harpending (Asbury Harpending, Jr.) in Kentucky; letters to Harpending regarding mining, real estate, and railroad investments (including opening the Beckwourth Pass Route and the transfer of the San Francisco and Humboldt Bay Railroad Company to the San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad Company); an angry letter to Harpending, by Lewis H. Thompson, concerning an alleged extortion attempt; minutes of a meeting of the miners of Pima County, Arizona; and accounts of the Lyth Creek Mines in San Bernardino County, California.

Box 1, Folder 7

Deeds, accounts, and maps 1870

Scope and Contents
Includes deeds and notices for the New Mexico Mining Company, signed by W.C. Ralston and others; and accounts and maps for lots in San Francisco, south of Market Street.
Box 1, Folder 8

**Correspondence and other papers 1870**

Scope and Contents
Includes mining laws of Virginia District, Grant County, New Mexico; confidential letters from George D. Roberts to Harpending about the sale of the New Mexico Mining Company; correspondence concerning mining properties in Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, and California, and railroad investments (the Beckwourth Pass Route and the Oroville and Virginia City Railroad); and correspondence between Asbury Harpending, Sr. and his son Harpending (Asbury Harpending, Jr.).

Box 1, Folder 9

**Key to cipher 1871?**

Scope and Contents
Key to cipher used by Harpending and his associates, listing ciphers for names, places, words (including diamonds, rubies, and sapphires) and short phrases.

Box 1, Folder 10

**Correspondence 1871 January-October**

Scope and Contents
Consists of correspondence written to Harpending in London and California. Many letters and telegrams—the earliest of which is dated 1871 January 4—concern business activities associated with the Diamond Hoax, including correspondence from associates George D. Roberts and Philip Arnold.

Box 1, Folder 11

**Agreement between Philip Arnold and Asbury Harpending; agreement between Asbury Harpending and William M. Lent, George S. Dodge, Philip Arnold, William C. Ralston, George D. Roberts, and Samuel S. M. Barlow 1871 October 31**

Scope and Contents
Two agreements (and addendum), dated 1871 October 31, establishing the Golconda Mining Company, and declaring the interests of the named parties in the property, discoveries, and mines associated with the Diamond Hoax.

Box 1, Folder 12

**Correspondence and other papers 1871 November-December**

Scope and Contents
Includes letters written to Harpending in San Francisco from George D. Roberts and others, many of which concern business activities associated with the Diamond Hoax. Also includes an unfinished letter written by Harpending from St. Louis, Missouri, to an unidentified recipient, concerning his wife’s health; and other papers of uncertain date likely created in 1871.

Box 1, Folder 13

**Correspondence, chancery records, and other papers 1872 January-May**

Scope and Contents
Includes letters and telegrams written to Harpending concerning business activities associated with the Diamond Hoax, including a telegram from W. C. Ralston, dated 1872 April 29, informing Harpending and Dodge of the probable treachery of “A” [Arnold?]; chancery records, filed 1872 January, in the cases Asbury Harpending vs. Albert Grant, the California Mining Company Limited, and the Mineral Hill Silver Mining Company Limited; and Alfred Rubery vs. Albert Grant; and the supplemental report of Prof. B. Silliman on the Emma Mine, in Little Cottonwood, Canyon, Utah Territory, dated 1872 February 29.
Box 1, Folder 14  Correspondence, agreements, and other papers 1872 June-December
Scope and Contents
Includes letters and telegrams written to Harpending concerning business activities associated with the Diamond Hoax; an agreement between Harpending and Philip Arnold, dated 1872 July 6 from New York, declaring their interests in capital stock related to the Diamond Hoax; a legal document, dated 1872 July 20, naming Harpending as Arnold's power of attorney; a statement, by E.W. Eastland, asserting that he never defamed Harpending's character in relation to the Diamond Hoax; and other papers of uncertain date likely created in 1872.

Box 1, Folder 15  George D. Roberts letters to Asbury Harpending 1873
Scope and Contents
Confidential letters written to Harpending by his associate George D. Roberts concerning their mutual affairs vis-à-vis the settlement and fall-out of the Diamond Hoax. Roberts discusses the impact of the hoax on the stock market, the activities of former associates (including Arnold and Slack), accusations and recriminations, and legal disputes, particularly with L. L. Treadwell.

Box 2, Folder 1  Correspondence, accounts, receipts, and other papers 1873 January-August
Scope and Contents
Includes letters and telegrams written to Harpending in San Francisco and Kentucky; letters written by Harpending to his children; and accounts and receipts representing Harpending's business activities in St. Louis, Missouri, and Kentucky.

Box 2, Folder 2  Correspondence, accounts, receipts, and other papers 1873 September-December
Scope and Contents
Includes letters written to Harpending, accounts, and receipts, mostly reflecting Harpending's business activities in New York, Indiana, and Kentucky.

Series 2: 1874-1919
Physical Description: 8.75 boxes

Box 2, Folder 3  George D. Roberts letters to Asbury Harpending and correspondence concerning Philip Arnold 1874
Scope and Contents
Includes letters from Robert to Harpending concerning their mutual affairs in San Francisco, including their indictment in the Treadwell case; and letters written to Harpending concerning Philip Arnold and his arrest in Kentucky.

Box 2, Folders 4-5  Accounts, receipts, correspondence, and other papers 1874-1875
Scope and Contents
Includes business correspondence and records documenting Harpending's business ventures in and around Louisville, Princeton, and Millville, Kentucky, including a general store, and mining and agricultural investments.

Box 2, Folder 6  George D. Roberts letters to Asbury Harpending and other correspondence from San Francisco 1876
Scope and Contents
Includes letters from Robert to Harpending concerning their mutual affairs in San Francisco, including legal disputes with Treadwell and Baux, collapsing stock values, and Ralston's suicide; a letter to Harpending from his wife in San Francisco; and other correspondence.
Box 2, Folder 7  
**Accounts, receipts, correspondence, and other papers 1876**  
Scope and Contents  
Includes business correspondence and records documenting Harpending's business ventures in and around Louisville, Princeton, and Millville, Kentucky, including a general store, and mining and agricultural investments.

Box 2, Folder 8  
**Accounts, receipts, correspondence, and other papers 1877**  
Scope and Contents  
Includes correspondence written to Harpending concerning business ventures and investments in Kentucky and California; stock certificates for the Cornucopia Consolidated Gold & Silver Mining Company in Elko County, Nevada; and other papers.

Box 2, Folders 9-10  
**Correspondence, accounts, receipts, and other papers 1878**  
Scope and Contents  
Includes correspondence written to Harpending concerning mining investments in Monitor, Alpine County, California; Nevada; and Arizona (the Consolidated Arizona Gold & Silver Mining Company).

Box 2, Folder 11  
**Correspondence, receipts, agreements, and other papers 1879**  
Scope and Contents  
Includes correspondence written to Harpending and agreements concerning his interests in a mining claim in Pima County, Arizona; the Pioneer Fluming Company in California; the Oroville & Virginia City Rail Road Company in California; and real property in Alameda County, California.

Box 2, Folder 12  
Box 2, Folder 13  
Box 3, Folders 1-2  
**Miscellaneous papers circa 1874-1879**  
**Ciphered telegrams 1880**  
**Correspondence, deeds, receipts, and other papers 1880**  
Scope and Contents  
Includes letters and telegrams written to Harpending (mostly in New York) by associates John F. Cassell, George D. Roberts, and others concerning mining investments in California, Nevada (State Line Mining Company, Gold Mountain), and Colorado; and deeds for mining properties.

Box 3, Folders 4-7  
**Correspondence, accounts, receipts, and other papers 1881**  
Scope and Contents  
Includes letters and telegrams written to Harpending (mostly in New York) and his associate George D. Roberts concerning mining investments, particularly the State Line Mining Company (Esmeralda County, Nevada); and accounts with the New York stock brokerages Prince & Whitely and Henry Clews & Company and other papers reflecting Harpending's investment activities in the mining share market. Many telegrams are ciphered, with one decoded on the reverse.

Box 4, Folders 1-3  
**Correspondence, accounts, receipts, and other papers 1882**  
Scope and Contents  
Includes letters and telegrams written to Harpending (mostly in New York) concerning mining investments, including the State Line Mining Company (Esmeralda County, Nevada) and Las Nueve Minas de Santa Maria Gold and Silver Mining Company (Santa Maria, Mexico); sketches of the Santa Maria mines; a personal letter to Harpending from his wife; and accounts and other papers reflecting Harpending's investments in the grain, provisions, and cotton market.

Box 4, Folder 4  
**Grain, provisions, and cotton brokers circulars 1882**
**Box 4, Folders 5-8**

**Correspondence, accounts, receipts, and other papers 1883-1884**

**Scope and Contents**
Includes letters written to Harpending and other papers concerning mining investments in Santa Maria, Mexico (Las Nueve Minas de Santa Maria Gold and Silver Mining Company) and Chapparal, Tolima, Colombia (Colon Consolidated Gold Mining Company, etc.); and accounts with New York stock brokerages reflecting Harpending's activities on the mining share market.

**Box 5, Folders 1-2**

**Correspondence, accounts, receipts, and other papers 1885**

**Scope and Contents**
Includes letters written to Harpending and other papers concerning mining investments in Chapparal, Tolima, Colombia (Las Casas Gold Mining Company, etc.) and the impact of the Columbian revolution of 1885 on mining industries; letters to Harpending from John Kelly, Jr., in San Francisco concerning Democratic politics in the city; and accounts with New York stock brokerages reflecting Harpending's activities on the mining share market.

**Box 5, Folders 3-5**

**Correspondence, accounts, receipts, and other papers 1886**

**Scope and Contents**
Includes letters written to Harpending and other papers concerning mining investments in Chapparal, Tolima, Colombia (Las Casas Gold Mining Company, Colon Consolidated Gold Mining Company, etc.); and accounts with New York stock brokerages reflecting Harpending's activities on the mining share market.

**Box 5, Folders 6-7**

**Correspondence, accounts, receipts, and other papers 1887**

**Scope and Contents**
A rough map of Cristo Hill [Columbia], dated 1887 July 18, is shelved with oversize manuscripts under the call number MS 950.

**Box 5, Folder 8, Box 6, Folder 1**

**Correspondence, accounts, receipts, and other papers 1888**

**Scope and Contents**
Includes letters written to Harpending, a manuscript map of El Cristo Mine, and other papers concerning mining investments in the Tolima region of Colombia (El Cristo Gold & Silver Mining Company, etc.); and accounts with New York stock brokerages reflecting Harpending's activities on the mining share market. Many telegrams are ciphered.

**Box 6, Folders 2-3**

**Correspondence, accounts, receipts, and other papers 1889**

**Scope and Contents**
Includes letters written to Harpending and other papers concerning mining investments in the Tolima region of Colombia (the Bocaneme Mines, El Cristo Gold & Silver Mining Company, etc.); a manuscript map of Antioquia State in Columbia; and accounts with New York stock brokerages reflecting Harpending's activities on the mining share market.

**Box 6, Folder 4**

**Letters and notes 188?**

**Scope and Contents**
Contains letters written to and notes taken by Harpending, dated from the 1880s (exact dates uncertain), concerning mining investments in Mexico and Colombia, the grain and provisions market, and other business and personal matters.
Box 6, Folder 5

**Telegrams and memoranda 1887**

**Scope and Contents**

Contains telegrams and memoranda written to Harpending, dated from the 1880s (exact dates uncertain). Many of the telegrams are ciphered.

Box 6, Folder 6

Box 6, Folders 7-8, Box 7, Folder 1

**Accounts, receipts, and other papers 1887**

**Correspondence, accounts, receipts, and other papers 1890**

**Scope and Contents**

Includes letters written to Harpending and other papers concerning mining investments in the Tolima region of Colombia (El Cristo Gold & Silver Mining Company and the Bocanene Mines); monthly payroll statements for El Cristo Mine, listing miners and other employees; and a report on the Blue Belle Mine in Nevada County, California.

Box 7, Folders 2-3

**Correspondence, accounts, receipts, and other papers**

**Scope and Contents**

Includes letters written to Harpending and other papers concerning mining investments in the Tolima region of Colombia (El Cristo Gold & Silver Mining Company and the Bocanene Mines); monthly payroll statements for El Cristo Mine, listing miners and other employees; and court documents in the cases *First National Bank of Jersey City vs. Asbury Harpending* and *The Western National Bank of the City of New York vs. Asbury Harpending and others*.

Box 7, Folder 4

**Correspondence, court documents, and other papers 1892**

**Scope and Contents**

Includes letters written to Harpending concerning legal actions and defenses, including former associate David Stewart’s claims against the Bocaneme and El Cristo mines; court documents in the cases *Moses Stark vs. Asbury Harpending*, *David Stewart vs. El Cristo Gold and Silver Mining Company*, and *Metropolitan Trust Company of the City of New York as receiver, etc. vs. Asbury Harpending*; newspaper clippings; and a prospectus for the Monte Cristo Gold Mining Company.

Box 7, Folders 5-6

**Correspondence, court documents, and other papers 1893**

**Scope and Contents**

Includes letters written to Harpending, mostly by S.W. Blakely, concerning claims against the Bocaneme and El Cristo mines; court documents in the case *Western National Bank of the City of New York vs. Asbury Harpending*; articles of incorporation and extracts from minutes for the Lucille Gold Mining Company, formed in Ashland, Boyd County, Kentucky; and papers related to the Sapphire & Ruby Company of Montana.

Box 7, Folders 7-9, Box 8, Folders 1-3

**Correspondence, accounts, and other papers 1894**

**Scope and Contents**

Includes letters written to Harpending (many addressed to him in Alameda, California) concerning claims against and the sale of the Bocaneme and Monte Cristo mines; correspondence, articles of agreement, payroll statements, and other papers related to the Lucille Gold Mining Company, which operated a mine in Plymouth, Amador County, California; manuscript and printed maps of the Lucille Gold Mine; correspondence and accounts with Joshua Hendy Machine Works of San Francisco; and an agreement between John H. Hendy and D. C. Wickham for the South End Nashville Quartz Mining Claim in El Dorado County, California.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box, Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Scope and Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8, 4-6</td>
<td><strong>Correspondence, accounts, and other papers 1895</strong></td>
<td>Map of the Lucille Gold Mine, Amador Company, is shelved with oversize manuscripts under the call number MS 950. Include letters written to Harpending (many addressed to him in Nashville, California) and other papers related to the Lucille Gold Mining Company, the Havilah Gold Mining Company, and the Richmond Gold Mining Company; payroll statements for the Lucille Gold Mining Company; a manuscript map of the Lucille Gold Mine; and correspondence and accounts with Joshua Hendy Machine Works of San Francisco.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8, 7-8</td>
<td><strong>Correspondence, accounts, and other papers 1896</strong></td>
<td>Include letters written to Harpending and other papers related to the Union Gold Mining Company (El Dorado, California), the Peabody Gold Mine (Grass Valley, California), and other California mining investments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9, 1-4</td>
<td><strong>Correspondence, accounts, and other papers 1897-1898</strong></td>
<td>Include letters written to Harpending, accounts, payroll statements, and other papers related to the Union Gold Mining Company (El Dorado, California), and correspondence concerning the disposition of the Cajongora Mine, Harpending's last Colombian investment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9, 5-6</td>
<td><strong>Correspondence, accounts, and other papers 1899</strong></td>
<td>Include letters written to Harpending, accounts, payroll statements, a time book, and other papers related to the Union Gold Mining Company (El Dorado, California); letters about and a manuscript map of the Redfield Mine (Tulare County, California); and angry letters dictated by Harpending to Gen. O. H. Lagrange on Divinder Gold Mining Company letterhead.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9, 7</td>
<td><strong>Letters, telegrams, and notes 189?</strong></td>
<td>Contain letters and telegrams written to Harpending, and draft letters and notes written by Harpending, dated from the 1890s (exact dates uncertain). Many telegrams are ciphered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9, 8</td>
<td><strong>Accounts and receipts 189?</strong></td>
<td>Contain accounts, payroll statements, and receipts dated from the 1890s (exact dates uncertain), many related to Union Gold Mining Company (El Dorado, California).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9, 9-11, 10, 1-2</td>
<td><strong>Correspondence, accounts, and other papers 1900-1902</strong></td>
<td>Plan de la propriete de Union Gold, dated circa 1900, is shelved with oversize manuscripts under the call number MS 950. Include letters written to Harpending, accounts, payroll statements, and other papers related to Union Gold Mining Company (El Dorado, California) and other mining investments in California; and Harpending family correspondence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10, 3-4</td>
<td><strong>Correspondence, accounts, and other papers 1903</strong></td>
<td>Contain records related to the Union Mine, bank receipts, personal and professional correspondence, including letters to Harpending from Pierre Humbert and others.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Box 10, Folder 5  **Correspondence, accounts, and other papers 1904**  
**Scope and Contents**  
Includes papers related to Union Mine, D.O. Mills Banking, the value of gold bars, and other business materials.

Box 10, folder 6  **Correspondence, accounts, and other papers 1905**  
**Scope and Contents**  
Includes materials related to Union Mine, claim receipts for Union Mining Gold Company, correspondence to Harpending from Pierre Humbert, and other personal and professional materials.

Box 10, Folder 7  **Correspondence, accounts, and other papers 1906-1909**  
**Scope and Contents**  
Includes materials related to the Union Mine, a Supreme Court document concerning Harpending and Pierre Humbert, a pamphlet about the cause of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake, and other personal and professional materials.

Box 10, folder 8  **Correspondence, accounts, and other papers 1910-1915**  
**Scope and Contents**  
Includes materials about the Union Mine, including recent financial troubles, a manuscript page of Harpending's autobiography and correspondence regarding its publication, and other personal and professional materials.

Box 10, folder 9  **Correspondence, accounts, and other papers 1916-1919**  
**Scope and Contents**  
Includes materials on the Mother Lode Mines, two lawsuits involving Harpending, and his son Albert Harpending, and other personal and business telegrams and correspondence.

Box 11, Folder 1  **Maps of Mines undated**  
**Scope and Contents**  
Printed and hand-drawn maps of mines, including a lithograph of the buildings at El Cristo Mine (Tolima, Colombia), a printed diagram of the Pyramid Range Silver Mountain Mines, a map of the lots owned by the Union Gold Mine (El Dorado, California), a hand drawn map of the Grayeagle and Alpine Mines, and other maps.

Box 11, Folder 2  **Cipher keys undated**  
**Scope and Contents**  
Keys to ciphers used in Harpending's correspondence.

Box 11, Folders 3-4  **Correspondence, incoming, A-Z undated**  
**Scope and Contents**  
Includes undated, alphabetized correspondence to Harpending from William C. Ralston, L.G. Quinlin, John F. Cassell, D.F. Verdenal, William Skyrme, and others, largely on matters of mining business.

Box 11, Folder 5  **George D. Roberts letters to Asbury Harpending undated**  
**Scope and Contents**  
Includes correspondence from George D. Roberts to Harpending concerning shared business affairs and associates, finance and investment.

Box 11, folder 6  **Correspondence, incoming, unknown author undated**  
**Scope and Contents**  
Includes correspondence to Harpending, unsigned, with only a first name, initials, or illegible handwriting, largely on matters of mining business and investments.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder/Box</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Scope and Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, folder 7</td>
<td><strong>Correspondence, incoming, family undated</strong></td>
<td>Includes correspondence to Harpending from family members, especially his wife, Ira A. Harpending.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, folder 8</td>
<td><strong>Correspondence, outgoing undated</strong></td>
<td>Includes correspondence written by Harpending to &quot;Mrs. Hearst,&quot; J.B. White, and other business correspondents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, Folders 9-11</td>
<td><strong>Correspondence undated</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, Folder 12</td>
<td><strong>Telegrams undated</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 12, Folders 1-3</td>
<td><strong>Accounts, covenants, and other papers undated</strong></td>
<td>Includes materials concerning the Bonanza Queen, El Cristo Mine, Havilah Mine in El Dorado County, California, State Line Property, Crockett Mine, Lucille Gold Mine, San Jose Mine, Mother Lode Gold Company, and other business materials.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 12, Folder 4</td>
<td><strong>Calling and business cards undated</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 12, Folder 5</td>
<td><strong>Ephemera 1873-1896, undated</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 12, Folder 6</td>
<td><strong>Newspaper clippings 1887-1917, undated</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>