Finding Aid of the Halleck, Peachy & Billings Records

UCLA Library, Department of Special Collections
Manuscripts Division

Los Angeles, CA

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Edited by:
Josh Fiala, September 2004

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Halleck, Peachy & Billings Records,
Date (inclusive): 1842-1862
Collection number: 2030
Creator: Halleck, Peachy & Billings (Firm)
Extent: 7 boxes (3.5 linear ft.)1 carton (1 linear ft.)
Repository: University of California, Los Angeles. Library. Department of Special Collections.
Los Angeles, California 90095-1575
Abstract: Halleck, Peachy & Billings was one of the leading San Francisco law firms in the settlement of titles to Mexican land grants. The firm was dissolved in 1861. The collection contains correspondence, mainly relating to land litigation of Halleck, Peachy & Billings, with documents and diseños (originals, copies, and translations) used in the settlement of the claims. Also contains papers in various legal cases, some concerning ships, Chinese immigration and the San Francisco funding bill, as well as a few accounts and some tax records.
Physical location: Stored off-site at SRLF. Advance notice is required for access to the collection. Please contact the UCLA Library, Department of Special Collections Reference Desk for paging information.
Language: English.

Restrictions on Access

COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE AT SRLF: Open for research. Advance notice required for access. Contact the UCLA Library, Department of Special Collections Reference Desk for paging information.
Originals restricted. Use microfilm copy only.

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Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Halleck, Peachy & Billings Records (Collection 2030). Department of Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, UCLA.

UCLA Catalog Record ID

UCLA Catalog Record ID: 4233109

Finding Aid of the Halleck, Peachy & Billings Records

Collection previously in the libraries of Robert Ernest Cowan and T.W. Norris.

Biography
Halleck, Peachy & Billings was one of the leading San Francisco law firms in the settlement of titles to Mexican land grants; Frederick Billings arrived in San Francisco in 1849; he immediately established a law practice, and soon formed a partnership with Archibald C. Peachy; Peachy later became a member of the California State Assembly in 1852, and of the State Senate in 1860 and 1862; Henry Wager Halleck graduated in engineering from West point, participated in the Mexican War, and later prepared a report on California land titles; became an active member of the California Constitutional Convention; he resigned from the army and joined the law firm in 1854, compiling his books: The mining laws of Spain and Mexico, and International law; returned to the U.S. Army in 1860, later becoming a general during the Civil War; the firm was dissolved in 1861.

Scope and Content
Collection contains correspondence, mainly relating to land litigation of Halleck, Peachy & Billings, with documents and diseños (originals, copies, and translations) used in the settlement of the claims. Also contains papers in various legal cases, some concerning ships, Chinese immigration and the San Francisco funding bill, as well as a few accounts and some tax records. Includes files on the settlement of the William Alexander Leidesdorff and Joseph L. Folsom estates. Contains a small group of correspondence and papers relating to Henry Wager Halleck's military career, 1847-56, and manuscript drafts and notes for his History of California.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the repository's online public access catalog.

Subjects
Halleck, Peachy & Billings (Firm)--Archives.
Law firms--California--San Francisco--Archival resources.
Alsop & Chaunceyletter to: Box 6, folder 15
Bahneberg, Mr.Box 6, folder 16, 18
Barnes, JamesBox 6, folder 20
Barron, William E.Box 4, folders 1, 2
Barron, Forbes & Companyletter to: Box 4, folder 1
Billings, FrederickBox 1, folders 2, 3; Box 4, folder 1
Bradford, A.C.Box 1, folder 4
Bradley, Mr.letter to: Box 6, folder 20
Brannan, SamuelBox 6, folder 6
Burch, John ChiltonBox 4, folder 2
Calverwell, Stephen L.Box 6, folder 20
Carillo, AnastasioBox 1, folder 6
Carter, BernardBox 1, folder 6
Cross & CompanyBox 1, folder 6
Crowell, William H.Box 1, folder 6
de la Rosa, LuisBox 6, folder 15
Duncan, Sherman & CompanyBox 6, folder 18; letter to: Box 6, folder 14
Dupuy, A.Box 6, folder 15
Durfee & MyersBox 6, folder 20
Ender, E.Box 4, folder 2
Folsom, JosephBox 6, folder 13, 14; letter to: Box 6, folders 15-18
Forbes, AlexanderBox 4, folder 2
Forbes, James AlexanderBox 4, folder 2; Box 6, folder 6
Forrest, S.T.Box 6, folder 19
Fourgeaud, V.J.Box 6, folder 17
Goodhue & Company: letter to: Box 4, folder 1
Grannis, G.W.: memoranda: Box 5, folder 1
Gray, J.B.: Box 4, folder 2
Grim, A.K.: Box 1, folder 6
Guerrero, Francisco: Box 6, folder 2; letter to: Box 6, folder 1
Gwin, William M.: letters to: Box 4, folder 2; Box 6, folder 20
Halleck, Henry Wager: Box 4, folder 1; Box 6, folder 15
Hansen [governor-general]: letter to: Box 6, folder 13
Hardie, James A.: Box 1, folder 6
Harrison, John: Box 6, folder 18
Hendricks, Thomas: Box 1, folder 6; Box 6, folder 20
Hennen, Duncan: Box 6, folder 19
Hill, Richard: letter to: Box 6, folder 15
Humphreys, Joshua J.: Box 1, folder 6
Huse, Charles E.: Box 1, folder 6
Inge, Samuel William: Box 6, folder 19
Jesup, Thomas Sidney: letter to: Box 6, folder 14
Larkin, Thomas Oliver: Box 6, folder 3
Latham, Milton S.: Box 1, folder 1; letter to: Box 4, folder 2
Latham & Aldrich: letter to: Box 6, folder 14
Leidesdorff, William Alexander: Box 6, folder 1; letters to: Box 6, folders 2-6
Loomis, Charles: Box 1, folder 6
Mackay, J.: Box 1, folder 6
Mackay, W.R. Isaacs: Box 1, folder 6
McMurray, R.O.: Box 1, folder 5
Marcy, William Learned: letter to: Box 6, folder 1
Meredith, I.W.S.: Box 6, folder 20
Miner & Haynes: Box 1, folder 6
Montgomery, John B.: Box 6, folder 4
Morgan, John: Box 6, folder 18
Morrison, James: Box 6, folder 20
Müller, C.: Box 6, folder 15
O’Connor, Cornelius: Box 6, folder 20
Olmstead, Horace: Box 6, folder 20
Naglee, Henry M.: Box 1, folder 6
Pairo, A.W.: Box 1, folder 6
Parrott, Juan: Box 6, folder 15
Peralta, Antonio Maria: Box 6, folder 6
Pickett, Mr.: Box 6, folder 17
Revere, Joseph Warren: Box 6, folder 6
Robinson, J.P.: Box 1, folder 6
Rogers, Mrs.: Letter to: Box 6, folder 13
Rogers, D.: Box 6, folder 15-17
Rogers, S.R.: Box 6, folder 16
Sanders & Brenham: Box 6, folder 19
Scott, Charles L.: letter to: Box 4, folder 2
Sherman, Edwin A.: Box 6, folder 20
Sherwood, John: Box 6, folder 18; letter to: Box 6, folder 15
Finding Aid of the Halleck,
Peachy & Billings Records

Smith, James Broom Box 1, folder 6
Smith, S.A. Box 1, folder 1
Smith, Stephen Box 6, folder 5
Snydam, Reed & Company Box 6, folders 15-19; letters to: Box 6, folders 13, 14, 16-17
Southall, A.G. Box 1, folder 6
Stimson, Robert J. Box 6, folder 19
Suter, Lee & Company Box 6, folder 19
Sutter, John Augustus Box 6, folder 6
Taliaferro, Alfred W. Box 1, folder 6
Wakeman, A.C. letter to: Box 6, folder 19
Watson, J.R. Box 1, folder 6
Wilson, James B. Box 1, folder 6; Box 6, folder 20
Wise, Tully R. Box 4, folder 2
Woodliff, Thomas Box 6, folder 20
Yale, Gregory Box 4, folder 1; Box 6, folder 20 letters to: Box 4, folders 1-2
Young, P.R. Box 6, folder 20

Related Material

Halleck, Peachy & Billings correspondence and papers (Collection 102). Available at Department of Special Collections, UCLA.

Various Cases

Box 1, Folder 1
Letters from Halleck, Peachy, & Billings to various persons, 1855-60.
Physical Description: (3 pieces)

Box 1, Folder 2
Letters from Frederick Billings to Alfred Barstow, 1866-69.
Physical Description: (24 pieces)

Box 1, Folder 3
Frederick Billings - papers relating to his official appointments, 1848-55.
Physical Description: (14 pieces)

Box 1, Folder 4
Physical Description: (9 pieces)

Box 1, Folder 5
Letters from R.O. McMurray to Halleck, Peachy and Billings, 1851-53.
Physical Description: (14 pieces)

Box 1, Folder 6
Letters from various persons to Halleck, Peachy & Billings, 1849-60.
Physical Description: (34 pieces)

Box 1, Folder 7
City of San Francisco: claim to Pueblo Lands, prosecuted before the Land Commission - correspondence and papers, 1834-54.
Physical Description: (16 pieces)

Box 1, Folder 8
John A. Sutter, Jr: sale of Sacramento property to Archibald Peachy - papers, 1839, 1848-49.
Physical Description: (5 pieces)

Box 1, Folder 9
Mary H. Machett vs. Stephen W. Tichenor - correspondence and papers, 1842-52.
Physical Description: (7 pieces)
| Box 1, Folder 10 | U. S. Marine Hospital, Rincon Point - correspondence relating to, 1847-57.  
Physical Description: (25 pieces) |
| Box 1, Folder 11 | Alcalde Levanworth: grants of San Francisco property - papers, 1849-52.  
Physical Description: (6 pieces) |
| Box 1, Folder 12 | Henry Hill vs. Charles Botts - correspondence and papers, 1849-55.  
Physical Description: (16 pieces) |
| Box 1, Folder 13 | Henry Hill vs. Charles Botts - correspondence and papers, 1856-59.  
Physical Description: (25 pieces) |
| Box 1, Folder 14 | Thomas W. Hardy estate - correspondence and papers, 1850-68.  
Physical Description: (19 pieces) |
| Box 1, Folder 15 | Street assessment cases, San Francisco - papers, 1851 and n.d.  
Physical Description: (16 pieces) |
| Box 2, Folder 1 | Daniel C. Callahan, property in Sacramento - mortgages and other papers, 1851-62.  
Physical Description: (26 pieces) |
| Box 2, Folder 2 | Joaquin Carrillo et al., claimants for Rancho Llano de Santa Rosa - papers, 1852-60.  
Physical Description: (5 pieces) |
| Box 2, Folder 3 | Rancho Jesus Maria: claim of John G. Parish, James M. Harkin, et al. - papers, 1854-55.  
Physical Description: (13 pieces) |
| Box 2, Folder 4 | Rancho La Visitacion Cañada de Guadalupe y Rodeo Viejo, 1854-59.  
Physical Description: (4 pieces) |
| Box 2, Folder 5 | Rancho Refugio: claim of Juan and Francisco Bolcoff [no.214 (Land Commission)] - papers, ca. 1855.  
Physical Description: (4 pieces) |
| Box 2, Folder 6 | Noah E. Smith vs. William F. Roelofson, involving the latter's interest in the Union Mining and Trading Company, Starr, Binsley & Company, Sacramento, and F. Vassault & Company, San Francisco - depositions on Roelofson's behalf and other papers, 1855-56.  
Physical Description: (11 pieces) |
| Box 2, Folder 7 | William A. Pfeiffer - mortgage papers, 1855-60.  
Physical Description: (6 pieces) |
| Box 2, Folder 8 | C. Morrill vs. G.R. Garretson: reclamation against Garretson's account - correspondence and papers, 1856-59.  
Physical Description: (6 pieces) |
| Box 2, Folder 9 | Grant Hudson vs. Northern et al. - depositions and testimony, 1856-59.  
Physical Description: (1 vol.) |
| Box 2, Folder 10 | David C. Broderick estate: claims of David Hawkes Broderick and John Broderick - correspondence and papers, 1856-60.  
Physical Description: (8 pieces) |
Various Legal Matters Handled by Halleck, Peachy & Billings

Box 3, Folder 1  Accounts, notes, receipts, etc., 1849-60.
Physical Description: (22 pieces)

Box 3, Folder 2  Articles and reports relating to land titles, land law, transportation and trade in sparsely settled areas of the West, mining claims, and a list of a U.S. Grand Jury in San Francisco.
Physical Description: (16 pieces)

Various Legal Matters Handled by Halleck, Peachy & Billings

Box 3, Folder 3  Correspondence and papers, 1851-58.
Physical Description: (47 pieces)

Box 3, Folder 4  Correspondence and papers, 1859-61 and n.d.
Physical Description: (21 pieces)

Box 3, Folder 5  Journals, n.d.
Physical Description: (2 pieces)

Land Claims - Memoranda and Abstracts, Chiefly in Halleck's Handwriting, Transactions ca. 1835-55, no.1-172
Note
(Some numbers missing)

Box 3, Folder 6  no.1-54.
Physical Description: (50 pieces)

Box 3, Folder 7  no.55-100.
Physical Description: (45 pieces)

Box 3, Folder 8  no.101-172.
Physical Description: (45 pieces)

Almaden Claim 1848-60

Box 4, Folder 1  Halleck, Peachy & Billings - letters sent, 1858-60.
Physical Description: (31 pieces)

Box 4, Folder 2  Letters between, various persons, including some to Halleck, Peachy & Billings, 1848-60.
Physical Description: (13 pieces)

Box 4, Folder 3  Legal papers concerning the case, 1847-59.
Physical Description: (16 pieces)

Box 4, Folder 4  Argument for the claim - manuscript draft.
Physical Description: (253 pieces)

Box 4, Folder 5  Argument for the claim - manuscript draft of the printed argument.
Physical Description: (12 pieces)

The William Alexander Leidesdorff & Joseph Libbey Folsom Estates
Box 5, Folder 1  
**G.W. Granniss. Memorandum relating to the Leidesdorff Estate.**  
Physical Description: (2 pieces)

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Box 5, Folder 2  
**Working Papers of Halleck, Peachy & Billings Regarding the Settlement of the Two Estates, Containing, Manuscript Notes, etc.**  
**1850-51.**  
Physical Description: (18 pieces)

Box 5, Folder 3  
**1851-56.**  
Physical Description: (29 pieces)

Box 5, Folder 4  
**1857-63.**  
Physical Description: (24 pieces)

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Box 5, Folder 5  
**Legal Documents, Agreements, etc., Concerning the two Estates**  
**1847-50.**  
Physical Description: (37 pieces)

Box 5, Folder 6  
**1851.**  
Physical Description: (15 pieces)

Box 5, Folder 7  
**1852.**  
Physical Description: (12 pieces)

Box 5, Folder 8  
**1853-54.**  
Physical Description: (7 pieces)

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Box 6, Folder 1  
**Papers Concerning the Leidesdorff Estate**  
**Correspondence**  
**Letters from William A. Leidesdorff to various persons, 1846-47.**  
Physical Description: (2 pieces)

Box 6, Folder 2  
**Letters from Francisco Guerrero to Leidesdorff, 1846.**  
Physical Description: (3 pieces)

Box 6, Folder 3  
**Letters from Thomas Oliver Larkin to Leidesdorff, 1845-46.**  
Physical Description: (2 pieces)

Box 6, Folder 4  
**Letters from John B. Montgomery to Leidesdorff, 1846.**  
Physical Description: (5 pieces)

Box 6, Folder 5  
**Letters from Stephen Smith to Leidesdorff, 1847-48.**  
Physical Description: (4 pieces)

Box 6, Folder 6  
**Letters from various persons to Leidesdorff, 1846-48.**  
Physical Description: (5 pieces)
Legal Documents

Box 6, Folder 7

1854-55.
Physical Description: (17 pieces)

Box 6, Folder 8

1856-59.
Physical Description: (12 pieces)

Accounts and Bills, Mainly Relating to the Leidesdorff Estate

Box 6, Folder 9

1841-47.
Physical Description: (27 pieces)

Box 6, Folder 10

1848.
Physical Description: (65 pieces)

Box 6, Folder 11

1849.
Physical Description: (47 pieces)

Box 6, Folder 12

1850-51 and n.d.
Physical Description: (21 pieces)

Papers Concerning the Folsom Estate

Letters from Joseph L. Folsom to Various Persons

Box 6, Folder 13

1849-51.
Physical Description: (14 pieces)

Box 6, Folder 14

1852-54.
Physical Description: (6 pieces)

Letters from Various Persons to Joseph L. Folsom

Box 6, Folder 15

1849-June 1851.
Physical Description: (14 pieces)

Box 6, Folder 16

July-December 1851.
Physical Description: (13 pieces)

Box 6, Folder 17

1852-53.
Physical Description: (8 pieces)

Box 6, Folder 18

1854-55.
Physical Description: (14 pieces)

Letters Received by Halleck, Peachy, and P. Warren Van Winkle, Executors of the Estate, Relating to its Administration
### Papers Concerning the Folsom Estate

**Letters Received by Halleck, Peachy, and P. Warren Van Winkle, Executors of the Estate, Relating to ...**

**Finding Aid of the Halleck, Peachy & Billings Records**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 6, Folder 19</th>
<th>1850-56.</th>
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**American and Union Theaters, San Francisco**

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<th>Box 7, Folder 1</th>
<th>Correspondence, 1852-55.</th>
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<th>Box 7, Folder 2</th>
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**Folsom as Assistant Quarter Master, San Francisco: Settlement of Accounts**

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<tr>
<th>Box 7, Folder 4</th>
<th>Papers, 1847-52.</th>
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**Tehama House Boarding House, San Francisco: Papers and Accounts**

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<th>Box 7, Folder 7</th>
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**Settlement of the Folsom Estate: Bills and Accounts**

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<td>Physical Description: (25 pieces)</td>
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</table>
Box 7, Folder 13  
**City, State and County taxes - various lists, 1851/52-1855/56.**
Physical Description: (11 pieces)

Box 7, Folder 14  
**Account books, 1852-55, 1871-77.**
Physical Description: (4 volumes)

Oversize Box 8

*Empty strong-box (with key) which originally contained part of the Halleck, Peachy, and Billings papers.*