Register of the Corbett, Failing & Co. (Portland, Ore.) Records, 1851-1898

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Register of the Corbett, Failing & Co. (Portland, Ore.) Records, 1851-1898

Collection number: Mss38

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Contact Information

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Descriptive Summary

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Date (inclusive): 1851-1898
Collection number: Mss38
Creator: Reginald R. Stuart
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Access
Collection is open for research.

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personal name
Corbett, Henry W. (1827-1903)

personal name
Failing, Henry

corporate name
Corbett, Failing & Co. (Portland, Ore.)
corporate name
Corbett (H.W.) Co. (Portland, Ore.)
corporate name
Oregon Iron Company
Prominent wholesale hardware firm created (1871) after a merger between two Pacific Northwest businessmen, Henry W. Corbett & Henry Failing. Corbett also served one term as U.S. Senator from Oregon (1867-1873). Many of their goods were shipped by clipper ships and other transportation systems under their control.

**Scope and Content**

Henry W. Corbett's records (1851-1870) consist of one daybook, a ledger, a letter book, correspondence and many receipts. Corbett, Failing Co. records include correspondence (1871-1898), 11 steamship invoice books and scattered records of the Oregon Iron Co., the Oregon & Calif. Stage Co. and several other mercantile ventures.

**Box 1: BUSINESS LEDGERS**

1.1: "Sales." H.W. Corbett, Portland, Day Book, 1851-1857. [brown leather, 32cm., 696 pp.; one page per day, lists items sold]
1.3: "Letters." Corbett (H.W.) Co. Correspondence, 1865-1859. [black cloth, 37cm., 500 pp.; correspondence, purchase orders, payments, etc.; book is water damaged, and many entries are barely legible]

**Box Two: BUSINESS PAPERS**

2.1: Contracts, receipts, payment orders, etc. of Portland City officials, H.W. Corbett et al., 1850S [18 items]
2.2: Correspondence and shipping orders, 1862 [7 items]
2.3: Receipts, correspondence, shipping bills and business agreements pertaining to the creation of a steam ship line, 1863 [12 items]
2.4: Receipts, correspondence, shipping bills, telegram and temperance handbill,1864 [12 items]
2.5: Receipts and shipping bills, 1864 [6 items]
2.6: Receipts, 1865 [15 items]
2.7: Receipts, shipping bills and correspondence, 1865 [28 items]
2.8: Receipts, shipping bills and correspondence, 1865 [11 items]
2.9: Receipts,1866 [16 items]
2.10: Receipts and shipping bills,1866 [16 items]
2.11: Receipts, bills, shipping bills and payrolls of the Oregon Iron Co., 1866 [9 items]
2.12: Receipts, shipping bills,1866 [19 items]
2.13: Receipts, reports of Jackson Co. Road District and waybill of the Oregon Stage Co.,1866 [19 items]
2.14: Receipts, 1866 [16 items]
2.15: Receipts, canceled checks, 1866 [15 items]
2.16: Receipts, 1866 [19 items]
2.17: Do., 1866 [11 items]
2.18: Do., 1866 [16 items]
2.19: Do., 1866 [23 items]
2.20: Do., 1867 [26 items]
2.21: Receipts, canceled checks, 1867 [15 items]
2.22: Receipts, 1867 [6 items]
2.23: Do., 1867 [25 items]
2.24: Do., 1867 [20 items]
2.25: Do., 1867 [21 items]
2.26: Receipts, shipping bills and canceled checks, 1867 [31 items]
2.27: Receipts, 1867 [13 items]
2.28: Do., 1867 [14 items]
2.29: Do., 1867 [20 items]
2.30: Do., 1867 [19 items]
2.31: Do., 1867 [17 items]
2.32: Do., 1867 [15 items]
2.33: Receipts, 1867 [33 items]
2.34: Do., 1867 [18 items]
2.35: Receipts, canceled checks, land appraisal, 1867 [23 items]
2.36: Oregon Stage Co. poster, 1867

BOX 3: RECEIPTS & OTHER PAPERS; FOSTER PAPERS
3.1: Receipts and other records, 1868 [19 items]
3.2: Receipts, 1868 [16 items]
3.3: Do., 1868 [13 items]
3.4: Do., 1868 [18 items]
3.5: Do., 1868 [23 items]
3.6: Do., 1868 [27 items]
3.7: Do., 1868 [36 items]
3.8: Do., 1869 [14 items]
3.9: Do., 1869 [23 items]
3.10: Receipts, canceled checks, 1869 [15 items]
3.11: Receipts, canceled checks, 1870 [5 items]
3.12: Receipts, 1870 [23 items]
3.13: Do., 1870 [21 items]
3.14: Receipts and canceled checks, 1870 [10 items]
3.15: Do., 1870 [26 items]
3.16: Receipts, 1871 [9 items]
3.17: Receipts and correspondence from the I.O.O.F.1872 [3 items]
3.18: Receipts, 1873 [3 items]
3.19: Receipts, 1874 [2 items]
3.20: Corbett payroll, 1875 [1 item]
3.21: Receipt, 1876 [1 item]
3.22: Receipts, canceled checks and Foster correspondence, 1878 [6 items]
3.23: Receipt,1879 [1 item]
3.24: Receipts, stock certificates, shipping bills, 1880's [19 items]
3.25: Receipts, 1890s [28 items]
3.26: Receipts, business memos and agreements, n.d. [5 items]
3.27: "Founders of Industry," n.d. [pamphlet]