

DELANO FAMILY PAPERS

1568 - 1919

Accession Numbers: 67-20, 79-5

The majority of these papers from "Steen Valetje", the Delano house at Barrytown, New York, were received at the Library from Warren Delano on April 21 and May 8, 1967. A small accretion to the papers was received from Mr. Delano on May 22, 1978. Literary property rights have been donated to the United States Government.

Quantity: 22 linear feet (approximately 55,000 pages)

Restrictions: None

Related Material: Additional Delano family material, given to the Library by President Roosevelt and other donors, has been filed with the Roosevelt Family Papers. The papers of Frederic Adrian Delano also contain family material dating from the 1830's. Correspondence from various Delano family members may also be found in the papers of Franklin D. and Eleanor Roosevelt.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Many members of the Delano family in the United States, descended from Philippe de la Noye who arrived in Plymouth, Massachusetts in 1621, were involved in the New England sea trade. Captain Warren Delano (1779-1866), Franklin Delano Roosevelt's great-grandfather, was a sea captain and ship owner who sailed from Fairhaven, Massachusetts. He and his first wife, Deborah Perry Church (1783-1827), had the following children:

Warren II	1809-1898
Frederick A.	1811-1857
Franklin Hughes	1813-1893
Louisa Church	1816-1846
Edward	1818-1881
Deborah Perry	1820-1846
Sarah Alvey	1822-1880
Susan Maria	1825-1841

Warren Delano II, President Roosevelt's grandfather, born July 13, 1809 in Fairhaven, also embarked upon a maritime career. In 1833, he sailed to China as supercargo on board the Commerce bound for Canton where he became associated with the shipping firm, Russell Sturgis and Company. In January 1840 he became a partner in the house of Russell and Company, also of Canton. During the Opium War, Warren remained in Canton and Macao, serving as acting consul for the United States. In 1843 he returned to the United States where he married Catherine Robbins Lyman (a daughter of Judge Joseph Lyman of Massachusetts). Shortly thereafter the couple departed for Macao and remained there until 1846. After returning to the United States, the Delanos lived in New York until 1851 when they moved to "Algonac" near Newburgh, New York. At this time Warren's financial interests were settled in real estate and mining. During the panic of 1857 Delano suffered severe financial losses and in 1859 he returned to China to refresh his fortune. His family, which included the President's mother, Sara, joined him at Hong Kong in 1862, returning to the United States after the Civil War. Warren Delano died at "Algonac" on January 17, 1898, nearly two years after the death of his wife Catherine on February 10, 1896.

Warren and Catherine's children were as follows:

Susan Maria	1844-1846
Louise Church	1846-1869
Deborah (Dora) Perry	1847-1940
Annie Lyman	1849-1926
Warren	1850-1851
Warren	1852-1920

Sara	1854-1941
Philippe deLannoy	1857-1881
Katharine (Kassie) Robbins	1860-1953
Frederic Adrian	1863-1953
Laura Franklin	1864-1884

Warren's brother, Franklin Hughes Delano, born July 27, 1813, became a partner in the New York shipping firm of Grinnell, Minturn and Company in January 1839. In September 1844 he married Laura Astor (a daughter of William Backhouse Astor and granddaughter of John Jacob Astor). As a wedding present the couple received a portion of William Backhouse Astor's "Rokeby" estate near Barrytown, New York; their house called "Steen Valetje" was constructed there around 1850. Franklin H. Delano was involved in many financial ventures with his brothers Warren, Frederick, and Edward; he also had control over a large piece of property in the city of New York which his wife had inherited. He served as Consul for Chile at New York from 1840 until 1851 when he resigned that office and also retired as an active partner in Grinnell, Minturn and Company. He and his wife travelled to Europe that year; they later spent much of their time in Italy and Monte Carlo. Franklin H. Delano died in Monte Carlo in December 1893; Laura died there in 1902.

Franklin's nephew, Warren Delano III, who inherited "Steen Valetje" in 1894, was born at "Algonac" in 1852. After graduating from Harvard University in 1874 he joined the management of the Union Mining Company at Mt. Savage, Maryland. In the summer of 1876 he married Jennie Walters of Baltimore. Warren III had many mining, banking and railroad interests; as a hobby he bred horses at "Steen Valetje". He was killed on September 9, 1920 when his horse ran into the path of an oncoming train at Barrytown, New York. At the time of his death, Delano was a director of the Union Mining Company, President of the Delano Coal Company, and Chairman of the Board of the Vinton Colliery Company.

SERIES DESCRIPTION

This collection includes papers of Franklin Hughes Delano, Warren Delano II, and Warren Delano III. The papers consist of correspondence from family members, business associates, and friends; financial and legal papers; diaries; letter-books; newspaper clippings; and scrapbooks arranged in four sections: I. PAPERS OF FRANKLIN HUGHES DELANO, II. PAPERS OF WARREN DELANO II, III. PAPERS OF WARREN DELANO III, and IV. OTHER FAMILY PAPERS and thereunder divided into ten series as follows:

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES

CONTAINERS

I. PAPERS OF FRANKLIN HUGHES DELANO

1-7 1. Family Correspondence, 1838-1888

Correspondence from Delano and Astor family members, arranged in alphabetical order by correspondent. Letters from brothers Warren II, Frederick, and Edward, concern family financial affairs as well as other personal matters. Warren and Edward were both members of the shipping firm of Russell and Company at Canton, China in the early 1840's. Frederick Delano was also involved in many shipping ventures, often in partnership with his brothers. Many letters from Warren II and his children also date from the period of their residence in Hong Kong in the 1860's. Related material may also be found in Series 3, 4, 5, and 6. See also the diaries and accounts of Edward Delano, filed with the Roosevelt Family Papers. Correspondence of Warren Delano II and other family members may also be found in the papers of Frederic A. Delano.

8-14 2. General Correspondence, 1839-1890

Correspondence from business associates and personal friends, arranged alphabetically by correspondent. Included is correspondence from Chamberlain and Ashforth who handled the collection of rents from the Delanos' property in the city of New York. Correspondence from Philip Kissam of the Astor Estate Office reveals much about Franklin Delano's investments, particularly in railroads, and includes observations on the New York stock market in the latter part of the 19th century. Letters from Robert Bennet Forbes and John Murray Forbes of Boston and Francis S. Hathaway of New Bedford, Massachusetts are concerned with Franklin Delano's shipping ventures in the 1840's. Other correspondence concerns construction of the Laura Franklin Hospital (later part of the Fifth Avenue

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Continued

Hospital) which Franklin built in memory of his niece, Laura Delano, who died in 1884. Also correspondence from many European friends, particularly those resident in Italy. Two letterbooks kept by Mr. Delano are filed at the end of the series. Other material concerning Franklin Delano's financial affairs may be found in Series 1, 3, and 5.

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3. Subject File, 1833-1894

Correspondence, diaries, financial papers, receipted bills, trade circulars, rent rolls, estimates and specifications, cancelled checks and checkbooks, legal papers, a book with addresses and household accounts of Laura A. Delano, monthly accounts, a time book, a record of rainfall kept by William Anderson (superintendent at "Steen Valetje"), and some printed material. Arranged alphabetically by subject. The financial papers, including accounts of sales, invoices, and bills of lading, date mainly from the 1840's when Franklin H. Delano was associated with Grinnell, Minturn and Company. Related material may be found in Series 1 and 2.

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4. Mt. Savage Iron Company, 1858-1863

Correspondence from employees of the Mt. Savage Iron Company, Mt. Savage, Maryland, to John Graham, President of the company, describing company operations. Also some receipted bills and cancelled checks. Warren Delano II had a financial interest in this company (later called the Union Mining Company) and Franklin H. Delano apparently looked after Warren's interests during the latter's third trip to China in the 1860's. Correspondence from C. Slack includes some description of Civil War military activities in the Cumberland

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County, Maryland area. Arranged by correspondent. Other material concerning the iron works at Mt. Savage may be found in Series 1, 5, 6.

II. PAPERS OF WARREN DELANO II

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5. General Correspondence, 1830-1891

Correspondence and financial papers, arranged alphabetically by correspondent or subject. Letters from brother, Franklin H. Delano, and son, Warren Delano III, discuss various financial matters as well as family affairs. Correspondence from John M. Forbes, Enoch Pratt, and J. F. Winslow discusses the iron works at Mt. Savage, Maryland. Material relative to Warren's investments in Pennsylvania coal lands is found in correspondence from C. L. White, Superintendent of the New Boston Coal Mining Company. Also correspondence and accounts reflecting Warren's financial interests in China, 1835-1871. Related material may be found in Series 1, 4, and 6.

According to correspondence in this collection, the papers of Warren Delano II herein described were sent to Warren Delano III by his sister Annie Delano Hitch in 1899. Other papers of Warren II and various family members may have been lost when the original "Algonac" burned to the ground in 1916. (The house was rebuilt in 1917 and sold by the family in 1955.)

III. PAPERS OF WARREN DELANO III

35-49

6. Family Correspondence, 1864-1915

Correspondence addressed to Warren or Jennie Walters Delano, arranged alphabetically. Letters from father, Warren Delano II, include some discussion of the Union Mining Company at Mt. Savage, Maryland where Warren III was employed

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- 35-49 after his graduation from Harvard University. Related material may be found in Series 1 and 5.
- 50-51 7. General Correspondence, 1891-1919
Correspondence, often from Dutchess County residents, mostly concerning stock and equipment for the Barrytown estate. Letters of condolence on the death of his father, Warren II, and some newspaper clippings and other material memorializing Warren Delano II, Catherine Lyman Delano, and John Murray Forbes. Arranged alphabetically by correspondent or subject.
- 52-53 8. Financial Papers, 1894-1918
Receipts kept by William Anderson, superintendent at "Steen Valetje"; monthly accounts kept by Anderson and his successor, James Galvin, 1894-1918. Cancelled checks from Rhinebeck and New York banks, 1915-1917. Arranged chronologically.
- 54 9. Diaries and Scrapbooks
Diaries kept by Warren Delano III and H.A. deWindt during a trip to Wyoming and Yellowstone Park in August and September 1899. They were accompanied by Warren's brother and son, Frederic A. and Lyman Delano. Also a scrapbook kept by Warren III in Hong Kong in 1861 which includes a list of "Imports of Rice into Canton Waters in 1862" entered by his father. A scrapbook with newspaper clippings dated 1880-1909 includes an article concerning the history of Russell and Company's financial interests in China.

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55-56 10. Other Family Papers, 1568-1890

Correspondence, deeds, wills, genealogical material, a scrapbook (1802-1877), and a story by Elizabeth Babcock written in 1862 for the travelers on the Surprise enroute to China.

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Astor, Margaret Rebecca Armstrong
(FHD's mother-in-law)
Astor, William Backhouse
(FHD's father-in-law)
Astor, William B.
(FHD's brother-in-law)
Astor, William Waldorf
(son of John Jacob Astor III)
Carey, Alida Astor (Mrs. John Carey Jr.)
(FHD's sister-in-law)
Carey, John Jr.
Carey, John Sr.
Chanler, Bessie and Margaret
(daughters of Margaret Astor Ward
Chanler)
Church, Samuel
Delano, Catherine Robbins Lyman ("Katie")
(Mrs. Warren Delano II)
Delano, Deborah Perry
(FHD's sister)
Delano, Edward ("Ned"), 1840-1841
(FHD's brother)
Delano, Edward, 1842-1843
Delano, Edward, 1844-1849
- 2 Delano, Edward, 1850-1859
Delano, Edward, 1862-1875
Delano, Frederic Adrian
(FHD's nephew)
Delano, Frederick A., 1840-1843
(FHD's brother)
Delano, Frederick A., 1844-1845
Delano, Frederick A., 1850-1851
Delano, Frederick A., 1852-1857
Delano, Jabez Jr.
(FHD's first cousin)
Delano, Jabez III
- 3 Delano, Capt. Joseph Clement
(FHD's first cousin)
Delano, Laura Astor
(Mrs. Franklin Hughes Delano)
Delano, Laura Franklin
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4	Delano, Warren II, 1840-1842 Delano, Warren II, 1843-1844 Delano, Warren II, 1845-1849 Delano, Warren II, 1850-1857 Delano, Warren II, 1859-1861
5	Delano, Warren II, 1862-1864 Delano, Warren II, 1865-1866 Delano, Warren II, 1867-1868 Delano, Warren II, 1869-1870 Delano, Warren II, 1875-1877 Delano, Warren II, 1878-1879
6	Delano, Warren II, 1880-1882 Delano, Warren II, 1883-1884 Delano, Warren II, 1885-1888 Delano, Warren III (FHD's nephew) de Stuers, Alphonse and Maggie Carey (FHD's niece) Fitch, A. C. (Aunt) Forbes, Dora Delano (FHD's niece)
7	Hitch, Annie Delano (FHD's niece) Hitch, Frederic Delano Hitch, Joseph Lyman, Anne Jean Robbins, Charles A. Robbins, Katharine Delano ("Kassie") (FHD's niece)

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 - Terry, Eliza
(FHD's first cousin)
 - Ward, Margaret Astor ("Maddie", later Mrs.
John Winthrop Chanler, FHD's niece)
 - Weekes, Alice Delano
(daughter of Capt. Joseph C. Delano)
 - Weekes, Arthur Delano
 - Weekes, Frederick Delano
 - Weekes, Henry deForest
 - Weekes, John Abeel (married to Alice
Delano)
 - Weekes, John Abeel Jr.

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Steen Valetje)
 - Armstrong, John
 - Ashforth, George
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 - Astor Library
 - B General
 - Baldwin Brothers and Company (New York)
 - Baring Brothers and Company (London)
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 - Baylies, Franklin
 - Bianchi, Oswald
 - Billings, William
 - Bossange, Hector
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 - C General

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- Chamberlain and Ashforth
- Chase, George
- Clapp, James
- Clarke, J. G.
- D General
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Mass.
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Moore, T.W.
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Nye, Gideon Jr.
O General
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- Letterbook of Franklin H. Delano,
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 - 15 Aberdeen Steam Navigation Company
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 - American and Cuba Copper Company
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 - 16 Anderson, William - Monthly Accounts,
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III. PAPERS OF WARREN DELANO III

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