

The Hiram Walworth Collection on Alexander H. Grant, Joseph Giraud, and, Zephaniah C. Platt

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Special Collections
Benjamin F. Feinberg Library
Plattsburgh State University College
Plattsburgh, N.Y. 12901

By
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Revised by
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Introduction

Hiram Walworth (1833-1908) was a prominent Plattsburgh citizen. He was an executor for the Alexander H. Grant estate and the Zephaniah C. Platt (1805-1884) estate. Alexander H. Grant was also an executor for his father-in-law's (Joseph Giraud) estate.

Alexander H. Grant was a businessman in New York City. His papers contain various business transactions, receipts, deeds, bonds, and legal correspondence. He married Sarah M. Giraud, one of Joseph Giraud's eight children, in 1847 and she died in 1854. A. H. Grant had six siblings, but his only brother, Douglas Grant of Chazy, had died by 1857. His sisters were: Pamela Platt, widow of Nathaniel C. Platt of New York City; Matilda DeFores, wife of Dr. Truman DeFores of Plattsburgh; Jane Hazen, wife of Nathan Hazen of Poynette, Wisconsin; and Moriah Goodrich, wife of Silas Goodrich of Schuyler Falls. Executors of the A. H. Grant estate were George H. Burroughs of Champlain, and Ellen M. Bailey and Hiram Walworth of Plattsburgh.

The Giraud papers consist of Joseph Giraud's will, accounts, and receipts of the settlement of his estate.

Hiram Walworth was the son of Hiram Walworth (1800-1858) and Della A. Griffin. He was born in New York City; his family moved to Plattsburgh at an early age. He continued his education at the old Plattsburgh Academy. For many years he was a member of the Clinton County Bar, Board of Education, and Y.M.C.A., and also a member of several historical societies. He had a strong interest in local history and wrote several pamphlets which Special Collections has in its inventory. In 1857 he married Cornella Lynde Bailey and they had seven children.

H. Walworth was the first cashier at the First National Bank when it was organized in 1863. He worked at this bank until 1866. He was secretary of the Clinton County Savings Bank from 1876 until the bank closed in 1879 and was also an organizer of the Plattsburgh Institute, incorporated in 1895. He served as its first secretary and was also a trustee. By 1900 he was a real estate and insurance agent with an office on Winslow block. His wife died in 1904 and he followed her in 1908. The Hiram Walworth Papers include materials relating to the settlement of the A. H. Grant estate.

Hiram Walworth was also an executor for the estate of Zephaniah C. Platt (1805-1884). Z. C. Platt was a son of Isaac C. Platt (1781-1872), who was a son of Charles Platt (1744-1831), one of the four Platt brothers who were the first settlers and proprietors of Plattsburgh. Z. C. Platt was a successful agriculturalist and businessman in Plattsburgh. He married Anna Elizabeth Miller in 1829. They had four children, three of whom survived childhood: Ann Elizabeth Caroline, John Deill, and Mary Platt. Anna Platt died in 1871 and her widower married Julia Haynes in 1873. Z. C. Platt was the original president of the First National Bank, organized in 1863, where H. Walworth was a cashier. Platt served in this role until 1870. He was the first and only president of the Clinton County Savings Bank (1869-1879) with H. Walworth as secretary from 1876 until the bank closed. The Platt papers contain deeds and business receipts as well as papers dealing with the settlement of the Z. C. Platt estate.

The Grant Papers were donated by John Grant to the Clinton County Historical Association. They in turn donated them to Special Collections, Feinberg Library.

Background Sources in Special Collections

Death of Hiram Walworth.- Plattsburgh Sentinel, Oct. 16, 1908. p. 2, colt 1.

Death of Mr. Walworth. Plattsburgh Republican, Oct. 17, 1908. p. 2, colt 2.

Hurd, Duane H. History of Clinton and Franklin Counties. Philadelphia, J. W. Lewis, 1880.

Platt, Charles. Platt Genealogy in America, From the Arrival of Richard Platt in New Haven, Connecticut, in 1638. New Hope, Pa., 1963.

Platt, George L. The Platt Lineage; A Genealogical Research and Record. New York, T. Whittaker, 1891.

Tuttle, Maria Jeannette Brookings, comp. and ed. Three Centuries in the Champlain Valley. Plattsburgh, N.Y., Saranac Chapter, D.A.R., 1909.

Contents

The collection is housed in two full and two half-full Hollinger boxes and is further subdivided by consecutively numbered folders. Box 1 contains J. Giraud's will and estate settlement papers. Box 2 houses A. H. Grant's correspondence and receipts. Box 3 contains settlement papers of the A. H. Grant estate. Box 4 contains Z. C. Platt's correspondence and estate settlement papers. Two folders of miscellaneous materials are also in this box.

Box 1

- 1/1: J. Giraud Will 1852 (1 item)
- 1/2: J. Giraud Estate 1852-1874 (50 items)
- 1/3: J. Giraud Estate 1875-1885 (22 items)

Box 2

A. H. Grant - Business Correspondence

- 2/1: 1835-1855 (5 items)
- 2/2: 1856-1860 (8 items)
- 2/3: 1861-1870 (13 items)
- 2/4: 1871-1879 (20 items)
- 2/5: 1880-1884 (16 items)

Receipts - Business and Tax

- 2/1: 1853-1865 (30 items)
- 2/2: 1866-1884 (62 items)
- 2/3: Legal Correspondence 1861-1869 (7 items)
- 2/4: Personal Correspondence 1884 (1 item)
- 2/5: Wills 1867, 1878 (2 items)

2/6: Fireman's Certificate 1842 (1 item)

2/7: Marriage Certificate 1847 (1 item)

2/8: Bank Account Books 1884 (2 items)

Box 3

3/1: A. H. Grant Estate 1884 (26 items)

3/2: A. H. Grant Estate 1885-1900 (37 items)

3/3: A. H. Grant Estate 1901-1902 (29 items)

Box 4

4/1: Z. C. Platt - Business Correspondence, 1835-1883 (9 items)

4/2: Z. C. Platt Estate 1884 (12 items)

4/3: Z. C. Platt Estate 1885 (26 items)

4/4: Z. C. Platt Estate 1886 (39 items)

4/5: Z. C. Platt Estate 1887-1888 (26 items)

4/6: Miscellaneous 1847-1888 (19 items)

4/7: Miscellaneous Undated (18 items)

TOTAL NUMBER OF ITEMS

Box 1: **73**

Box 2: **168**

Box 3: **92**

Box 4: **149**

TOTAL: **482**