



Guide to the Samuel Dibble papers, 1779-1910 and undated, bulk 1855-1900

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David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

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Summary

Collection Title:

Samuel Dibble papers, 1779-1910 and undated bulk 1855-1900

Creator:

Dibble, Samuel, 1837-1913

Abstract:

Lawyer, politician, and U.S. Representative from Orangeburg, S.C. Correspondence, business and legal papers, and printed matter, mostly dating from 1855-1900, centered on South Carolina history. All pre-1850 papers are legal documents concerned with land surveys and transfers. A few letters written while Dibble was a Confederate soldier relate to the home front; postwar correspondence deals with such matters as phosphate mining, education, professional activities, African Americans in post-Reconstruction politics, and Dibble's opposition to Governor Tillman. Later papers display his expanding activities in banking and railroads. After 1900 the papers concern brother A. C. Dibble, and sons L. V., an insurance agent, and Samuel Jr., a surveyor and civil engineer.

Extent:

3 Linear Feet
Approx. 1,600 Items

Physical Location:

For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Library's online catalog.

Language:

English

Language:

Material in English

Collection ID:

RL.00309

Permalink:

<http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/findingaids/dibblesamuel/>

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Samuel Dibble Papers, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

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Background

Scope and Content

Correspondence, business and legal papers, and printed matter, mostly dating from 1855-1900, centered on South Carolina history. All pre-1850 papers are legal documents concerned with land surveys and transfers. From 1869-1872 there are a number of documents relating to the state's policy of buying large estates for resale in small sections; included are descriptions of estates, prices, and approval by state cabinet members. Further light is thrown on this policy by the records of an investigating committee, 1877.

A few letters written while Dibble was a Confederate soldier relate entirely to the home front in S.C. rather than to his service; letters refer to assessments and requisitions. Postwar correspondence deals with such matters as phosphate mining, education, and professional activities. Later papers display Dibble's expanding activities in banking and railroads.

Dibble was state chairman in 1892 of the "Conservative Democracy of S.C." and was leading the opposition to the renomination of Gov. Tillman. There are a number of undated voter censuses of both black and white voters in various precincts in the Orangeburg County area. In several letters from the 1880s there are comments about the role of African Americans in post-Reconstruction voting and politics.

Dibble was a lawyer for a phosphate mining company, thus there is abundant information on legal cases such as territoriality claims, but also on equipment used, amount mined, and methods of mining. Dibble was often called to legal cases concerning estates, therefore the collection houses the wills of William R. Treadwell (1863), George H. Pooser (1866), David W. Snell (1879), and Christian A. Gates. There is also information about the family of Langdon Cheves in letters of Nov. 18, 1879, and March 22, 1879. After 1900 the papers concern brother A. C. Dibble, and sons L. V., an insurance agent, and Samuel Jr., a surveyor and civil engineer.

The miscellaneous papers include surveyors' notebooks, printed legal cases in which Dibble was involved (particularly in the Supreme Court), speeches by members of Congress, Dibble's business notebooks, railroad timetables, and other print material.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Use Restrictions

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information, consult the copyright section of the Regulations and Procedures of the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

Acquisition Information

The Samuel Dibble Papers were acquired by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library in 1953.

Processing Information

Processed by Rubenstein Library staff

Encoded by Willeke Sandler, April 2012

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Names and Subjects

- Lawyers -- South Carolina
- Lawyers -- Correspondence
- Railroads -- Southern States
- Phosphate industry -- South Carolina
- Governors -- South Carolina
- Soldiers -- Confederate States of America -- Correspondence
- South Carolina -- Politics and government -- 1865-1950
- South Carolina -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865
- African Americans -- South Carolina
- African Americans -- Suffrage
- Banks and banking -- South Carolina
- Education -- South Carolina
- Dibble, A. C.
- Tillman, Benjamin R. (Benjamin Ryan), 1847-1918
- Dibble, Samuel, Jr
- Dibble, Samuel, 1837-1913
- Dibble, L. V.

Collection Inventory

Samuel Dibble papers, 1779-1910 and undated, bulk 1855-1900

Physical Description: 6 boxes

Scope and Contents note

Contains correspondence, certificates, legal documents, ledgers, printed material, and clippings, the majority of which is arranged in one large grouping in chronological order.

Papers, 1779-1871	Box 1
Papers, 1872-1876	Box 2
Papers, 1877-1879	Box 3

Papers, 1880-1910	Box 4
Papers (Misc.)	Box 5
Papers, undated	Box 6

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