

Archives and Special Collections

Dickinson College

Carlisle, PA

COLLECTION REGISTER

Name: **Vanderbilt, Cornelius** **MC 2001.14**

Material: Family Papers (1766-1897)

Volume: 1.0 linear feet (Document Boxes 1-2, 1 Photograph Folder and 1 Oversized Folder)

Donation: Gift of John King, 1971

Usage: These materials have been donated without restrictions on usage.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Cornelius and Jacob Vanderbilt, brothers, moved from Bucks County, Pennsylvania (circa 1790) and settled in Newton Township, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. Cornelius's son, also named Cornelius, and then his son Cornelius L., were tax assessors for Newton Township and held various elected public offices including those of judge and clerk. Other notable members of the family include Cornelius H. Vanderbilt, who served with the Union Army during the Civil War and was killed during a skirmish with Confederate Cavalry in 1862. Little other biographical information is available. (Additional information, available upon request, can be found in a family file donated by a descendant in 2005.)

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

The Vanderbilt Family Collection is housed in two document boxes, one photograph folder and one oversized folder, and the materials are divided into five basic categories: Correspondence, Legal and Financial Papers, Tax Collector Papers, Miscellaneous and Photographs. These materials were donated to Dickinson College Special Collections by Professor John King in 1971.

Researchers should note the prevalence of certain family names in this collection. The names Cornelius and Jacob appear in nearly every generation of the family, and often more than once. As a result, it is not always clear from the correspondence and documents as to which particular family member is involved.

The Correspondence section consists mainly of letters received by Cornelius Vanderbilt. The correspondence is arranged alphabetically according to author, and then chronologically. Most letters revolve around Vanderbilt family matters and are generally personal in nature.

The Legal and Financial Papers series is subdivided into the following five categories: Bills, Receipts and Notes; Bonds and Payments; Estates and Wills; Land Sales; and Miscellaneous.

The bulk of this series consists of documents relating to the various financial transactions of the Vanderbilt family, including accounts of auctions, expenditure lists, insurance policies and court summonses. Due to their size, several items in this series are housed in one oversized folder, designated OC 2001.14. Among these oversized items are two property deeds, one property mortgage and one bond of payment. Items in this series are arranged chronologically.

The Tax Collector Papers series consists of the documents and business for which Cornelius, Sr. and Jr., Newton Township tax assessors, were responsible. These documents are arranged chronologically and include tax lists, receipts and circulars.

The series entitled Miscellaneous consists of a variety of ephemera arranged chronologically, including a list of medical services provided, a book of psalms, family history information and notices of election to public office.

The final series, Photographs, consists of one photograph, thought to be Cornelius H. Vanderbilt, a Civil War soldier.

COLLECTION INVENTORY

BOX 1 - MC 2001.14

CORRESPONDENCE

- Folder 01) Delaney, James
 - Letter to "Dear Brother" – June 13, 1799
- Derr, C.
 - Letter to Cornelius L. Vanderbilt – Feb. 10, 1853
- Douglas, Mary Ann
 - Letter to Cornelius Vanderbilt – undated
- Fosnot, William C.
 - Letter to "Dear Ant" – July 12, 1862
- Folder 02) Kelley, Cornelius V.
 - Letter to Cornelius L. Vanderbilt – Aug. 15, 1849
- Kelley, John J.
 - Letter to Cornelius L. Vanderbilt – Apr. 12, 1849
- McDowell, Samuel W.
 - Letter to Cornelius Vanderbilt – Aug. 29, 1848
- Neill, Daniel and Sarah
 - Letters to Cornelius Vanderbilt – 1814-1818
- Neill, Tillyerd
 - Letters to Cornelius Vanderbilt – 1813-1818
- Folder 03) Rightmire, Lewis and Elenor
 - Letters to Cornelius Vanderbilt – 1814-1818
- Folder 04) Steel, Grizzella
 - Letter to Cornelius and Mary Vanderbilt – May 18, 1818
- Steel, John
 - Letter to Cornelius and Mary Vanderbilt – Jan. 4, 1818
- Vanderbilt, Cornelius
 - Letters to Mahala Vanderbilt – 1861, undated
- Vanderbilt, Cornelius and Mary
 - Letter to Daniel and Sarah Neill – Sep. 6, 1827

BOX 1 - MC 2001.14 (cont.)

CORRESPONDENCE (cont.)

- Folder 05) Vanderbilt, Jacob
 - Letter to Cornelius Vanderbilt Jr. – Mar. 25, 1803
- Vanderbilt, Jacob
 - Letter to Cornelius Vanderbilt – May 11, 1849
- Vanderbilt John B.
 - Letters to Cornelius Vanderbilt – 1849
- Vanderbilt, Joshua W.
 - Letter to “Friend” – Dec. 21, 1857
- unknown
 - Letter to Genoa – undated

LEGAL AND FINANCIAL PAPERS

Bills, Receipts and Notes

- Folder 06) Bills, Receipts and Notes 1766-1800
- Folder 07) Bills, Receipts and Notes 1800-1809
- Folder 08) Bills, Receipts and Notes 1800-1809
- Folder 09) Bills, Receipts and Notes 1810-1819
- Folder 10) Bills, Receipts and Notes 1810-1819
- Folder 11) Bills, Receipts and Notes 1820-1829
- Folder 12) Bills, Receipts and Notes 1820-1829
- Folder 13) Bills, Receipts and Notes 1830-1839
- Folder 14) Bills, Receipts and Notes 1830-1839
- Folder 15) Bills, Receipts and Notes 1840-1849

BOX 2 - MC 2001.14

LEGAL AND FINANCIAL PAPERS (cont.)

Bills, Receipts and Notes (cont.)

- Folder 01) Bills, Receipts and Notes 1850-1859
- Folder 02) Bills, Receipts and Notes 1860-1869

Bonds and Payments

- Folder 03) Bond of payment, John Kelly to Michael Heany - Nov. 14, 1786
- Folder 04) Bonds of payment, Cornelius, Aaron, and Jacob Vanderbilt to Barnad Helphart - Dec. 20, 1787
- Folder 05) Bonds of payment, Cornelius Vanderbilt and Lewis Rightmire to Bartte White - Dec. 26, 1789
Ezekiel Mitchell - Sep. 14, 1791
- Folder 06) Bonds of payment, Cornelius and Aaron Vanderbilt to Thomas Kenady - Apr. 24, 1792
- Folder 07) Bond of payment, Jane Kenady to Joseph Coats - Dec. 14, 1797
- Folder 08) Bond of payment, Elizabeth Vanderbilt to Cornelius Vanderbilt and list of expenditures - Dec. 21, 1808

BOX 2 - MC 2001.14 (cont.)

LEGAL AND FINANCIAL PAPERS (cont.)

Bonds and Payments (cont.)

- Folder 09) Bonds of payment from Cornelius Vanderbilt to Cornelius Vanderbilt 1806 (14), Elizabeth Vanderbilt 1805-1809 (5), United States Government Jan. 1, 1814 and Abijah Shield Jan. 8, 1816
- Folder 10) Letter of attorney to release funds from Lewis Rightmire to Cornelius Vanderbilt - Feb. 19, 1818

Estates and Wills

- Folder 11) Will of Cornelius Vanderbilt - Oct. 10, 1796
- Folder 12) Letter of Administration of the Estate of Cornelius Vanderbilt (Feb. 9, 1809) with accompanying bonds of payment and conditions of sale - 1808
- Folder 13) Account of Cornelius Vanderbilt Sr. Estate - 1813
- Folder 14) Account of the Christiana Vanderbilt Estate - Oct. 5, 1815 (Includes financial records/notes from James Delaney Jr., administrator of the estate - 1817-1818)
- Folder 15) Grant of payment from the estate of George Cope to John Dunlap in lieu of direct payment by John and Catherine Golden - Mar. 1, 1842
Receipts of payments received from the estate of George Cope by his daughters Maria Marquart and Catherine Golden - 1836-1840
- Folder 16) Oxer Estate papers including those pertaining to the guardianship of George Auxer by Cornelius Vanderbilt - 1841-48
- Folder 17) Guardianship papers of the Henry children for Cornelius Vanderbilt - 1850-54
- Folder 18) Last Will and Testament of Cornelius Vanderbilt - Sep. 12, 1851
Accompanying summonses to contest the validity of the will and receipt of costs - 1852
- Folder 19) Last Will and Testament of Cornelius L. Vanderbilt - July 28, 1854
- Folder 20) Account of the Estate of Jacob Vanderbilt, Sr. - 1804-5

Land Sales

- Folder 21) Lease of land, Henry Macer to Alexander and Ezekiel Mitchell - Feb. 23, 1790
- Folder 22) Sale of land, Daniel Neill to Elizabeth Vanderbilt - Aug. 13, 1804
- Folder 23) Property maps for property sold to John Snevely by George Cope - Mar. 30, 1835 (See Oversized Folder)
- Folder 24) Bonds for the property sold to Cornelius Vanderbilt by Andrew Davidson and David Snevely - 1841-1846 (See Oversized)
- Folder 25) Deed of land. Samuel and Balser Smith to John Snevely - Oct. 11, 1846
- Folder 26) Receipts, bonds, and correspondence relating to the lease of land to Isaac G. Koons from William A. Vanderbilt - 1879-1885

BOX 2 - MC 2001.14 (cont.)

LEGAL AND FINANCIAL PAPERS (cont.)

Miscellaneous

- Folder 27) Papers relating to the marriage of James Delaney and Mary Vanderbilt - Aug. 10, 1788
- Folder 28) Court Summonses - 1804-1850
- Folder 29) Account of expenditures of William Vanderbilt and Sarah Vanderbilt - 1823-1829
- Folder 30) Conditions of sale and items sold by John B. Vanderbilt - Mar. 22, 1849
- Folder 31) Insurance policies of Cornelius S. Vanderbilt - 1849-50
- Folder 32) Deed of stock and farming equipment to William A. Vanderbilt from mother Mahala Vanderbilt - 1871

TAX COLLECTOR PAPERS

- Folder 33) Tax assessments, Newton Township - 1800
- Folder 34) Tax Receipts - 1800-1809
- Folder 35) Circular relating to tax assessment and the printing of tax code in German - 1850
- Folder 36) List of taxable residents of North and South Newton Townships -1850
- Folder 37) List of roads, towns and distances

MISCELLANEOUS

- Folder 38) List of medical services provided by George Grove, M.D. to John Vanderbilt - 1838
- Folder 39) Notice of meeting regarding damages done to the property of Cornelius Vanderbilt due to the opening of a public road - Aug. 21, 1839
- Folder 40) Election Notices - 1846-1852
- Folder 41) Psalms & Hymns and Selections, belonging to William A. Vanderbilt - May 29, 1865
- Folder 42) Essays by Cornelius S. Vanderbilt - 1891-1897
- Folder 43) Genealogical information
- Folder 44) Military discharge notices
- Folder 45) Land survey

OVERSIZED - OC 2001.14

LEGAL AND FINANCIAL PAPERS

- Folder 01) Bond of Payment from James Delaney to Elizabeth and Cornelius Vanderbilt -
Aug. 23, 1808
Deed for property to John Snevely by George Cope - Mar. 30, 1835
Mortgage and Deed for the property sold to Cornelius Vanderbilt by Andrew
Davidson and David Snevely - Mar. 26, 1842

PHOTOGRAPHS - PC 2001.14

- Folder 01) John White Geary (Civil War)

This collection register was prepared by Robert K. Reeves, August 2001.