

Archives and Special Collections

Dickinson College

Carlisle, PA

COLLECTION REGISTER

Name: **Southard, Samuel L. and Jacob Simmons Mosher** **MC 2008.5**

Materials: Papers (1809-1956)

Volume: 0.25 linear feet (1 Document Box and 6 Oversized Folders)

Donation: Gift of John Mosher in honor of Walter Beach (Class of 1956), 2007

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

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Samuel L. Southard was born to Henry and Sarah Lewis Southard in Basking Ridge, NJ on June 9, 1787. He attended the local school and graduated from the College of New Jersey (Princeton University) in 1804. In 1805 he obtained a position as a private tutor near Fredericksburg, VA, took up the study of law, and was admitted to the bar in that state in 1809. In 1811, Southard returned to New Jersey to practice law and married Rebecca Harrow the following year. He was appointed law reporter for New Jersey's Supreme Court in 1814 and served as an associate justice for that body from 1815 to 1820. Southard was a member of the New Jersey General Assembly for a brief period in 1815 and served in the U. S. Senate from 1821 to 1823. He then received several federal appointments, including Secretary of the Navy from 1823 to 1829, Secretary of the Treasury ad interim in 1825, and Secretary of War ad interim in 1828. Southard subsequently returned to his native state, where he held the position of Attorney General of New Jersey from 1829 to 1833 and was elected governor in 1832. He resigned from this position in February 1833 to return to the U. S. Senate, serving as president pro tempore from 1841 to 1842. He remained in the Senate until his death on June 26, 1842.

Jacob Simmons Mosher was born in Coeymans, NY near Albany on March 19, 1834 to Christopher and Elizabeth Boucher Mosher. While young, his family relocated to New Jersey where he attended Rutgers College from 1853 to 1856, but left before receiving his degree. Mosher then returned to the Albany area to serve as principal of Public School No. 1. In 1863, he married Emma Starr Montgomery and graduated from Albany Medical College. As a medical student, he had begun teaching chemistry and experimental philosophy at the Albany Academy and continued to do so after completing his studies. In 1864, Mosher served in the Civil War as a surgeon and became Assistant Medical Director for New York State in Washington for a short period of time before resigning from military service. Upon returning to Albany, he resumed teaching, taking an additional position at Albany Medical College, where he taught chemistry and medical jurisprudence, and in 1865 began serving as librarian and registrar. Mosher left Albany in 1870 to assume the role of Deputy Health and

Executive Officer of the Port of New York. He returned to Albany Medical College in 1876 and remained there until his death, teaching a variety of subjects, including pathology, clinical medicine, and hygiene. During the course of his medical career, Mosher also helped to found the Albany College of Pharmacy and served on its faculty and board of trustees. In 1879, he was a member of the yellow fever commission appointed by President Rutherford B. Hayes. He also served on the Board of Public Instruction of Albany, the Albany City Board of Health, the Executive Committee of the State Normal School in Albany, and the Board of Trustees of the Albany Female Academy. In addition, Mosher belonged to numerous professional organizations, including the American Medical Association, the Medical Society of the State of New York, the New York Academy of Medicine, the New York Neurological Society, the Albany County Medical Society, the Richmond County Medical Society, and the Albany Institute. During the final year of his life, Mosher served as Grover Cleveland's physician while Cleveland was governor of New York. Mosher died on August 13, 1883.

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

This collection contains the papers of Samuel L. Southard and Jacob Simmons Mosher, as well as genealogical materials documenting both families.

The Genealogy portion of the collection contains genealogical charts, notes, correspondence, and newspaper clippings regarding the Southards, Moshers, and related families.

The papers of Samuel L. Southard date from 1809 to 1842 and reflect his career as a lawyer, politician, and cabinet member. They are divided into three groupings: Correspondence, Credentials, and Miscellaneous.

The Correspondence grouping contains letters primarily written to Southard by various individuals regarding his role in law and politics. The letters are organized alphabetically by author. Of note are two letters written to Southard by the Marquis de Lafayette. These letters address plans to grow crops in Florida using white laborers rather than slaves and news of mutual acquaintances.

The Credentials section includes certificates, commissions, and appointments presented to Southard establishing his qualifications to practice law and authorizing his roles as Deputy Attorney General of New Jersey, U. S. State Senator, and Secretary of the Navy. These documents are arranged chronologically.

The Miscellaneous category contains a speech given in the U. S. Senate upon Southard's death, an engraving of Southard, and various other documents relating to the politics of his day. This category also contains correspondence regarding the deposit of the Southard papers at the Library of Congress in 1913 and the family's subsequent reclamation of those documents in 1956.

The papers of Jacob Simmons Mosher date from 1839 to 1901. They contain correspondence of a primarily social nature between Mosher and Grover Cleveland, George A. Iselin, and August M. Turney. The letters from Cleveland relate to plans for a hunting trip Mosher never attended, as he died unexpectedly just days before the event. These materials also include Mosher's invitation to the 1869 Americus Club Academy of Music Annual Ball, which he received from William "Boss" Tweed in 1869. In addition to these items documenting Mosher's life, these papers include correspondence by Charles Dickens explaining his writing process, a brief letter from William McKinley to General Albert D. Shaw, and a printed copy of the last speech given by McKinley before his death. These materials are organized alphabetically according to the name of the associated individual.

COLLECTION INVENTORY

BOX 1 – MC 2008.5

GENEALOGY

Folder 01) Southard and Mosher family genealogy materials

SAMUEL L. SOUTHARD

Correspondence

- Folder 02) Alexander, J. W. to Samuel Southard – Nov. 3, 1832
- Folder 03) Creighton, William, Jr. et. al. to Samuel Southard – May 14, 1837
- Folder 04) Frelinghuysen, Theodore to Samuel Southard – Aug. 23, 1837
- Folder 05) Higbee, L. A. & Captain Stockton to Samuel Southard w/reply –
Sep. 12, 1833
- Folder 06) Lafayette, Marquis de to Samuel Southard (2 transcriptions) –
Mar. 12, 1828
Lafayette, Marquis de to Samuel Southard (transcription) –
Mar. 30, 1828
- Folder 07) Smith, Linnaeus to Samuel Southard – Sep. 17, 1823
- Folder 08) Southard, Samuel to John P. Jackson (fragment) – undated
- Folder 09) Unknown to Samuel Southard – Feb. 5, 1842

Credentials

- Folder 10) Law License, Virginia – May 2, 1809
- Folder 11) Law Certificate, Prince George's County, Virginia – Dec. 14, 1810
- Folder 12) Commissions (6), Deputy Attorney General of New Jersey – 1811-15
- Folder 13) Appointment to replace James J. Wilson in U. S. Senate – Feb. 16, 1821
- Folder 14) Commission, Secretary of the Navy – Sep. 16, 1823

Miscellaneous

- Folder 15) Senate roll-call – circa 1833-34
- Folder 16) Printed broadside "Monster Bank" – Feb. 5, 1842
- Folder 17) Invitation to White House dinner – Apr. 11[?], 1842
- Folder 18) Jacob W. Miller's speech in Senate upon Southard's death –
Jun. 27, 1842
- Folder 19) Southard Papers Reclaimed from Library of Congress – 1913-1956

JACOB SIMMONS MOSHER

Cleveland, Grover

- Folder 20) Letter to Jacob Simmons Mosher (transcription) – Apr. 3, 1883
Letter to Jacob Simmons Mosher (transcription) – Aug. 9, 1883

Iselin, George A.

- Folder 21) Letter to Jacob Simmons Mosher – Jun. 19, 1875

BOX 1 – MC 2008.5 (cont.)

JACOB SIMMONS MOSHER (cont.)

McKinley, William M.

- Folder 22) Letter to General Albert D. Shaw – Jun. 27, 1900.
- Folder 23) Last speech, Buffalo, NY – Sep. 5, 1901

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SAMUEL L. SOUTHARD

Credentials

- Folder 01) Commission, Law Reporter of New Jersey – 1818, 1820
- Folder 02) Commission, Secretary of the Navy – Dec. 9, 1823

Correspondence

- Folder 03) Duval, William F. to Samuel Southard – May 7, 1831
Southard, Samuel to William Creighton, et. al. – May 30, 1837
Ward, G. W. to Samuel Southard – Apr. 28, 1835

Miscellaneous

- Folder 04) Steel engraving of Samuel Southard with autograph – undated

JACOB SIMMONS MOSHER

Turney, August M.

- Folder 05) Letter to Jacob Simmons Mosher – Oct. 7, 1875,
Letter from Charles Dickens to L.G. Clark[e?] – Mar. 27, 1839

William M. Tweed

- Folder 06) Americus Club Academy of Music Annual Ball, invitation and
ticket – Jan. 7, 1869

This collection register was prepared by Malinda Triller, 2008.