

Augustus Graham and John Bell Graham Papers
1808 — 1962 (Bulk Dates: 1850s)
Guide to the Augustus Graham and John Bell Graham Papers
Catalogued 1966
ArMs 1977.266

Brooklyn Historical Society
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OCR by Sarah Steele, January 2008

Introduction

The Augustus Graham and John Bell Graham papers consist of biographical and pictorial data collected and compiled by three descendants of Augustus Graham (- 1851), philanthropist, businessman; and his brother John Bell Graham of Brooklyn. As Material is developed this collection is being added to by the donors Elizabeth Hayes Goddard, Nelson Hayes and George McG. Hayes, great-great-grandchildren of Augustus Graham and his wife Mary Cocke. Collection begun 1965.

Folder List

- Folder 1 Augustus Graham. Outline Chronology as of January 1965 compiled by Elizabeth Hayes Goddard with the assistance of Nelson Hayes and George McG. Hayes. Maryland, 1965. 47 p., F°, typed (carbon copy).
- 2 Marriage record of Augustus Graham and Martha Cocke. Typed copy, 1p., F°.
- 3 Naturalization certificate of "Augustus Graham from Great Britain." D.S. William Ritchie, Clerk, Frederick County Court (Md.), 2 April 1808. 1 p., 7"x11" parchment, paper seal affixed.
- 4 Copy of attest of naturalization of August Graham. 1p., n.d., typed.
- 5 D.S. James Tillary, President, St. Andrew's Society, New York, certificate of resident membership issued to Mr. Augustus Graham, 1 December 1817. Also signed by John J. Palmer, Sec. Red wax seal affixed, cracked. 10" x 15", paper foxed.
- 6 Passport No. 12 issued to Augustus Graham, 23 June 1831, D.S. Washington Irving and many others. F°. Two poems written in pencil on interior, Folds cracked.
- 7 Two tickets for Westminster Abbey to the coronation of there Majesties, King William IV and Queen Adelaide, 1831, issued to Augustus Graham. 5 letters covering identification.
- 8 Passport No. 1272 issued to Augustus Graham 22 April 1843, D.S. Daniel Webster. F°
- 9 A.L.S. A.G. 14 Nov. 1846. to Mr. Coleman. Mentions his grandchildren and their instructor(s). 3%M x 6". 1p. mss.
- 10 A.L.S. Sept.12, 1845. Note penned by Augustus Graham, possibly a draft for a letter to be written to Chester Coleman relative to moving his Maryland farm or adding to it. Mr. Graham offers to make down payment, keep up interest and eventually

to provide for ultimate payment from \$10,000 to \$25,000.

11 Will of John Bell Graham, 5 May 1853. Transcript from will book, negative photostat made 1962. F^o, 2 p. and 2 half pages.

12 A.L.S. Chester Coleman, Brooklyn, N.Y., 8 March 1851 to his parents (Mr. and Mrs. Seth Coleman, Jr. at Sodus, N.Y.) re: care of his wife Eliza Graham's father, Augustus Graham, in his last illness. Gives outline of daily routine; describes new furnace in residence; states Mr. Graham has given him 25 shares in Lead Works; comments on religious views of Augustus Graham. (Chester Coleman and his wife Eliza Rebecca Graham left their farm in 1850 at Mount Pleasant, Frederick County, Md., to come to Brooklyn to care for Mr. Graham in his terminal illness.)

13 A.L.S. Chester (Coleman), Brooklyn, N. Y., 24 Sept. 1851 to brother Linus (one of twins Linus and Lyman who lived at Sodus, N.Y.) re: travels and the management of estate of Augustus Graham.

14 D.S. A. Graham, President; K. Nichols, Treasurer, Brooklyn, 17 April 1851. Three certificates of membership in Brooklyn City Hospital No. 187, 188, 189 for Chester Coleman, Mrs. Eliza K. Coleman and Augustus G. Coleman, each costing \$500.00. 7"x8½"

15 Resolutions adapted upon the death of Augustus Graham (2): 1) Brooklyn Institute, 1 Dec. 1851; 2) Board of Trustees, Church of the Savior, Brooklyn, 28 Nov. 1851.

16 Discourse on Augustus Graham preached by Frederick A. Farley, D.D., pastor of Church of the Savior. (From the *Christian Inquirer*, 6 Dec. 1851).

17 Poem written by A. Graham in Middletown, Ct. beneath a tree in the graveyard, n.d.

18 Graham, Augustus. Dissertation on original sin. n.p., n.d. ip., F^o, torn at folds into 4 pieces. Transcript typed by EHG.

19 Supreme Court. Chester Coleman, Robert Sherwell and Abiel A. Low, Executors of Augustus Graham, deceased, against Eliza R. Coleman, and others. Summons & Complaint, N.Y. 1854; Case, N.Y., 1856; Answers, N.Y. 1854; Abstract and Points for the defendant, Mrs. Coleman, n.d. All four booklets paper bound. 8°. Typed comment by Nelson Hayes, Boxbury, Vt., 11 Aug. 1962. 1p.

20 A.L.S. Robert Sherwell to John Peters, 2.7 Jan 1853, 21 Feb. 1853, 22 Feb. 1855, 23 Nov. 1853 re: will of Augustus Graham. (Robert Sherwell, nephew of Augustus Graham, was also his business manager. Part of the bitterness against Chester Coleman, son-in-law of Augustus Graham shows in these letters. E.H.G.) (These copies

by Chester Coleman - they are in his handwriting. E.H.G.)

21 D.S., S.L. Husted, President, Chas. C. Betts, Sec., Wm. H. Cury, Treasurer, Brooklyn, 21 Feb. 1854 on receipt of Brooklyn City Rail Road Company for \$125, installment of 10% on subscription for 50 shares of capital stock to be purchased by Chester Coleman; the money received by H.C. Murphy, temp. Treas. Certificate No. 18.

22 A.L.S. David Farley of Brooklyn, N.Y., Nov. 26, 1857 to Chester Coleman at Canandaigua, N.Y., re: Graham property in Brooklyn and description and sketches of stone monument erected over grave of Augustus Graham in Greenwood Cemetery.

23 A.L.S. David Farley of Brooklyn, N.Y., 19 May 1859 to Chester Coleman at Canandaigua, N.Y., re: Graham property in Brooklyn.

24 A.L.S. David Farley of Brooklyn, N.Y. 23 June 1863 to Mrs. Chester Coleman (Eliza R. Graham) re: visit of Parley and his wife to Canandaigua.

25 Mounted news clippings re: "mystery" of the Grahams and of their houses. *New York Herald*, 24 Oct. 1886 and 24 July 1886.

26 Program of Graham lectures at Academy of Music, Sunday evening, Jan. 2, 1887. Gen. Jesse C. Smith, President, presiding. On obverse a brief history of the Brooklyn Institute by Augustus Graham. 1 p. (Brooklyn, 1887) 5"x8. Torn as if from mounting.

27 A.L.S. Chester (Coleman), Brooklyn, 10 Oct. 1854, to his parents. One of the last letters written from Brooklyn before moving to Canandaigua (E.H.G. Also A.L.S. Chester, Canandaigua, N.Y. 3 Oct. 1857 to his brother Linus at Sodus, N.Y.).

28 File of correspondence developed during search for details of the life of Augustus Graham; Academy of Music, Brooklyn Museum, Institute of Arts and Sciences, University of Rochester Library, Green-Wood Cemetery, Medbury Vicarage; also article on Thomas Thompson, artist who painted a portrait of Augustus Graham, from *Antiques*, Feb. 1949; also snapshots of monuments in Green-Wood Cemetery.

29 Photographs of oil portraits of Augustus Graham: 4 colored; 1 black and white; 1 by Bachrach, black and white, of a daguerreotype.

30 Photographs of oil portraits of John Bell Graham and Mrs. John Bell Graham by Charles Nahl, Brooklyn Artist, 1850.

31 Photographs of memorabilia of Augustus Graham: tickets to coronation of King William the IVth and Queen Adelaide (see originals in Folder #6); sample of handwriting (see original in Folder # 9); silver tea set (2 copies); also unidentified newspaper clipping "Large Donations"; 1 black and white print of the Bachrach copy of daguerreotype; 1 black and white print of the Charles Nahl portrait.

32 Package containing red wax seal imprinted "Brooklyn Institute Founded 1825," in center an encircling spray surrounding monogram "AG." Cracks in wax — fragile

GRAHAM, AUGUSTUS and GRAHAM, JOHN BELL

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