

## Godfrey (Ard and Family) Papers, 1839-1945

3 boxes, incl. 60 vols.

Correspondence, financial and legal papers, diaries and other papers relating to the family of Ard Godfrey of St. Anthony and Minneapolis.

Godfrey was born in Orono, Maine, January 18, 1813. He came to St. Anthony in 1847 and, with Franklin Steele, built the first <sup>commercial</sup> saw mill at the Falls of St. Anthony. He also built the first house in Minneapolis, and his daughter, Harriet, was the first white child born in Minneapolis. Ard Godfrey died in Minneapolis on October 15, 1894. (See genealogical chart attached to this inventory, for data on the family.)

## Description of the Papers.

## Correspondence and Other Papers, 1839-1945.

Included in the box are family and business correspondence, deeds, mortgages, powers of attorney, wills, and other papers relating to Godfrey's business ventures and to his family.

There are very few papers for the 1839-1849 period. Included in this section are deeds to property in Maine (owned by members of the Godfrey family), letters written by Godfrey to his wife while he lived in Savannah, Georgia (1839), letters written to Godfrey while on his first trip to St. Anthony (1847), correspondence between Mrs. Ard Godfrey and her relatives in the East; her sisters Anne E. Chamberlain and Lucy Burr, and her brother Alexander Gordon. The letters give details on Godfrey's business ventures in Georgia, descriptions of his first visits to St. Anthony, the construction of the dam and mill at St. Anthony, the weather, and family matters.

Items of particular interest in this section are: the agreement (December 11, 1848) between Godfrey and Franklin Steele to construct the mill at St. Anthony Falls, and ledger sheets (1847-1853) of the St. Anthony Mill Company.

The papers from 1850 to 1865 are fairly complete and contain family correspondence, and business and financial papers. There are letters from Hiram and Harriet Emery, B. A. and Lucy Burr, Anne E. Chamberlain (all sisters and brothers of Ard and Harriet Godfrey), a letter from Ard Godfrey's mother, Catherine, and a few letters written by Harriet Godfrey to her Eastern relatives. The letters give data on family matters, financial transactions, and similar subjects.

In general, the papers for the 1850-1861 period relate to Ard Godfrey's logging ventures at St. Anthony Falls and Elk River, Minnesota. There are correspondence, agreements, deeds, powers of attorney, and similar papers

3348

10,128

11,478  
16,308

relating to these matters. Frequent correspondents in this period include: Winfield Scott Hancock, James Monroe, J. G. Jameson, Joseph McAlpine, and George A. Camp. Other letter writers of interest include W. T. Magruder, Ahira Richardson, L. H. Bennet, James Bell Cunningham, George E. H. Day, Henry M. Rice, and Franklin Steele.

Also included is information on the rafting of the logs from St. Anthony to St. Louis, their sale there, and details on land transactions in the St. Anthony area. The latter information is revealed through the deeds, agreements, as well as by powers of attorney granted to Godfrey and entered into by Godfrey and individuals in Minnesota and in the East.

The papers from 1861-1865 are more personal and relate to the Civil War and to Ard Godfrey's gold mining ventures in the West. There are letters written by Louis C. Meeker of the First Minnesota Regiment to Harriet R. Godfrey, which contain information on the first battles of the Civil War. These letters tell of the regiment's activities in Virginia, treatment of prisoners by the Confederate Army, army routine, the battle between the Merrimac and Monitor, and the battle of Fair Oaks. (Louis Meeker is listed in the Roster of Company D, First Minnesota Regiment. This roster is found in volume 1 of Minnesota in the Civil War and Indian War, p. 55.)

From June, 1862 to May, 1863, there are many letters exchanged between Ard Godfrey, his wife Harriet, and his children, particularly Harriet and Helen. During that time, Ard Godfrey was engaged in gold mining ventures in the West. The letters from his wife and daughters give details on the Sioux Outbreak, family matters, the Civil War, financial matters, and similar subjects. The letters from Godfrey describe the departure of the Fisk Expedition from Ft. Abercrombie (July 5, 1862), the trip westward, the success of the mining ventures, prices of goods, the construction of his saw mill near Grass-hopper Creek, Dakota Territory, and his departure from Dakota Territory in May, 1863.

The papers for the period from 1866 to 1945 are few. Included are Harriet Godfrey's teaching certificates (1869-1876), school programs, religious cards, essays by Harriet Godfrey, letters from Helen Berry, a daughter of Ard Godfrey (1884-1902), and deeds, correspondence and other papers relating to the sale of Godfrey family property to the city of Minneapolis (1901-1909).

Items of particular interest in the correspondence section are:

1. August 17, 1853. Letterhead. Bradley House, Galena, Ill.
2. July 14, 1861. Civil War letterhead.
3. June 22, 1862. Civil War letterhead: General McClellan.
4. December 8, 1864. Alfred C. Godfrey, to brother Ard. A description of the Battle of Cold Harbor. Alfred Godfrey was a chaplain of the 20th Maine Regiment.
5. May 11, 1865. Letterhead. Jefferson Barracks, Missouri. Shows the Army hospital there.
6. December, 1930. Reminiscences of Fort Snelling and St. Anthony written by Harriet Godfrey.

The rest of the collection (excluding the diaries) includes one folder of typewritten extracts of the diaries kept by Harriet Godfrey, one folder of family reminiscences, and one folder containing Xerox extracts of a scrapbook kept by Harriet Godfrey. The clippings (ca.1887-1945) contain data on the Godfrey family, the Godfrey House, and early Minneapolis history.

A dismantled scrapbook (41 p. in folder) compiled by Mrs. Jessie Hale Tuttle contains snapshots (all identified with handwritten captions) and newspaper clippings (1921-1928) relating to Abner and Harriet Godfrey and Mrs. Harriet Mousseau. On pages 22-25 are clippings containing Harriet Godfrey's diary, 1863-1869.

#### Inventory and Description of Volumes.

The first forty-nine volumes are diaries kept by Abner C. Godfrey (1858), Mrs. Ard Godfrey (1858, 1872, 1888, and 1890), Helen Godfrey (1860 and 1868), and Harriet R. Godfrey (1863-1930). Volumes fifty through sixty contain handwritten extracts of the diaries, prepared by Harriet R. Godfrey, and miscellaneous material.

The major portion of the diaries were kept by Harriet R. Godfrey, although there are gaps, and a few of the diaries are not complete. There is also an overlapping of dates in some of the volumes. Most of the volumes contain brief entries giving data on the weather, health of members of the family, births, deaths, and marriages in the family, religion, social activities, some financial matters, and similar data. There are some diaries, kept by Harriet Godfrey, in journal form, rather than diary. They contain much information on Harriet's religious beliefs and family relationships and problems.

#### Inventory of Volumes.

Volume 1. 1858.	Diary. Abner C. Godfrey.
2. 1858.	Diary. Mrs. Ard Godfrey (?)
3. 1860.	Diary. Helen Godfrey (?)
4. Apr. 7-Aug. 30, 1863.	Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
5. 1864.	Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
6. Jan., 1865- Dec., 1868.	Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey. (Incomplete.)
7. 1866.	Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
8. 1867.	Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
9. Jan.-Nov., 1868; June, 1856-Apr., 1857.	Diary. Helen Godfrey; Cash Book. Unidentified, but probably kept by Ard Godfrey.
10. 1869.	Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
11. 1870.	Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.

- Volume 12. Jan., 1870.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey. First and last parts of volume contain copies of religious writings. There are only a few diary entries in the middle of the book.
13. Mar. 4, 1871-  
Mar. 31, 1872.      Diary-Journal. Harriet R. Godfrey. Part of the volume is badly faded.
14. June 10-Sept. 14,  
1872.      Diary. Mrs. Ard Godfrey. Most of the entries describe her visits to relatives in the East.
15. May, 1872-Jan., 1886;  
1856-1857.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey;  
Scale Book. Godfrey and Camp.
16. 1873.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
17. 1874.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
18. 1877.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey. Not complete.
19. 1878.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
20. 1885.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
21. Nov. 16, 1886-  
Feb. 28, 1889.      Diary-Journal. Harriet R. Godfrey. The first part of the volume contains poems, essays, etc.
22. 1888.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
23. 1888.      Diary. Mrs. Ard Godfrey. Most of the entries describe the trip of the family to California.
24. Mar. 1-Aug. 13, 1889;  
Jan. 1-Apr. 15, 1896.      Diary-Journal. Harriet R. Godfrey. The entries in this volume are continued in volume 32.
25. 1890.      Diary. Mrs. Ard Godfrey.
26. 1890.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
27. 1891.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
28. 1892.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
29. 1893.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
30. 1894.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
31. 1895.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
32. Apr. 16, 1896-  
June 21, 1897.      Diary-Journal. Harriet R. Godfrey.  
(Continued from volume 24).

- Volume 33. June 22, 1897-  
 Jul. 25, 1898;  
 Dec. 19, 1899;  
 Apr. 14, 1900-  
 Aug. 22, 1900;  
 June-Dec., 1901      Diary-Journal. Harriet R. Godfrey.
34. Jan. 1, 1902-  
 June 30, 1902.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
35. Jul. 1, 1903-  
 Nov. 27, 1904.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
36. Aug. 3, 1903-  
 Oct. 25, 1910.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey. Kept while  
 she was matron of the Church Home and  
 Crittenden Home.
37. Dec. 27, 1906-  
 Feb. 22, 1907.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
38. Jan. 1-Jul. 12, 1908.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
39. Feb. 5-Jul. 19, 1910.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
40. Jan. 1-30, 1911.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
41. Jan. 2-Nov. 5, 1913.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
42. 1921.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
43. 1922.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
44. 1923.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
45. 1924.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
46. May 8-June 28, 1925.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
47. 1926.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
48. Jan. 1, 1927-  
 Jan. 31, 1929.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
49. 1930.      Diary. Harriet R. Godfrey.
50. 1848-1856.      Copies of agreements, letters, and other  
 papers relating to the Godfrey Family.  
 Made by Harriet R. Godfrey.
51. 1853-1863.      Copies of extracts of Ard Godfrey letters.  
 Made by Harriet R. Godfrey.
52. 1863-1864.      Extracts from Godfrey Family diaries.  
 By Harriet R. Godfrey.

Volume 53.	1864.	Extracts from Godfrey Family diaries. By Harriet R. Godfrey.
54.	1865, 1866, 1869.	Extracts from Godfrey Family diaries. By Harriet R. Godfrey.
55.	1868.	same.
56.	1870, 1871, 1872.	same.
57.	1872-1896.	same.
58.	Undated.	Reminiscences of Ard Godfrey's arrival in Minnesota and reminiscences of Harriet Godfrey.
59.	Undated. <i>Miscellan</i>	Miscellaneous extracts and writings. Harriet R. Godfrey?
60.	Undated.	Miscellaneous writings, including original stories. Helen Godfrey?

Box contents list

- Box 1. Correspondence and Other Papers, 1839-1945.  
Jessie Tuttle scrapbook, 1921-1928. 1 folder.
- Box 2. Volumes 1-31.
- Box 3. Volumes 32-60.

## Godfrey Family Genealogical Chart

Ard Godfrey m. Harriet Newel (1838)  
 (1813-1894) (1816-1896)

Helen m. Mark Berry (1866)  
 (1839-1902)

John  
 (1840- )

Abner Crossman m. Viola Ada Shepley (1865)  
 (1843-1928) ( -1911)

Harriet Rezada  
 (1849-1943)

## Ard and Harriet (Newel) Godfrey (Continued)

Kitty m. \_\_\_\_\_ (1880)  
 ( )

Minnie\* m. Daniel W. Ham (1885)

Mary\* m. Charles G. Parsons (1883)  
 (1857-1932)

Marguerite\*\* m. \_\_\_\_\_ Palen.

\*Twins.

\*\*Donor of the Godfrey Papers.

P33 [Added to Ard Godfrey - family papers]

PK613  
M419

[Tittle, Mrs. Jessie Hale, comp.]

Scrapbook containing snapshots and newspaper clippings relating to Abner and Harriet Godfrey and Mrs. Harriet Mousseau, early residents of Minneapolis, 1921-28.

41 p.

Clipping containing diary of Harriet Godfrey, April, 1863-February, 1869: p. 22-25.

1. Minneapolis - History. 2. Godfrey, Harriet Razada, 1849-  
3. Godfrey, Abner Crossman, 1843-1928. 4. Mousseau,  
Mrs. Harriet (Cloutier) 1848-  
x ref. Mousseau, Mrs. Harriet (Cloutier) 1848-

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