

Guide to a Microfilm Edition of
*The Alexander Ramsey Papers
and Records*

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Introduction

THE PAPERS AND OFFICIAL RECORDS of Alexander Ramsey are the sixth collection to be microfilmed by the Minnesota Historical Society under a grant of funds from the National Historical Publications Commission. They document the career of a man who may be characterized as a 19th-century urban pioneer par excellence. Ramsey arrived in May, 1849, at the raw settlement of St. Paul in Minnesota Territory to assume his duties as its first territorial governor. The 33-year-old Pennsylvanian took to the frontier his family, his education, and his political experience and built a good life there.

Before he went to Minnesota, Ramsey had attended college for a time, taught school, studied law, and practiced his profession off and on for ten years. His political skills had been acquired in the Pennsylvania legislature and in the U.S. Congress, where he developed a subtlety and sophistication in politics that he used to lead the development of his adopted city and state. Ramsey's papers and records reveal him as a down-to-earth, no-nonsense man, serving with dignity throughout his career in the U.S. House and Senate, as territorial and state governor, as mayor of St. Paul, as secretary of war, and as chairman of the Utah Registration and Election Board (Utah Commission).

Ramsey's mark was moderation. Although he was ambitious, petty jealousy, vindictiveness, dramatic exhibitionism, and diatribe were not his style. He liked to win but was graceful in defeat. He and his family lived comfortably but not ostentatiously. Hospitable by nature, they made many friends and participated fully in community life, contributing time and money to schools, libraries, churches, and other institutions. They also established themselves in their new locale by investing in lands and businesses there.

A major factor in the selection of the Ramsey materials as the sixth edition in the Minnesota Historical Society's microfilm series sponsored by the National Historical Publications Commission

(NHPC) was the interrelationship of Ramsey's life and career with those of several other men whose papers the society had filmed previously. Divergent political views of five 19th-century Minnesotans with widely differing backgrounds and personalities are represented in these collections. In addition to the papers of Ramsey, who was a Whig and a Republican, the microfilm editions include the papers of Lawrence Taliaferro, U.S. Indian agent with ties in Virginia and Pennsylvania; Henry Hastings Sibley, fur trader, Democrat, governor, and businessman, who came from Michigan; Ignatius Donnelly, Minnesota lieutenant governor, U.S. congressman, author, orator, Republican and third-party leader, who migrated from Pennsylvania; and James Wickes Taylor, a publicist with a passionate interest in Canadian-American relations and forerunner of a long line of Minnesotans to serve the nation in foreign posts, who hailed originally from New York and Indiana.

These five groups of papers show personal and political relationships between Taliaferro and Sibley, Sibley and Ramsey, and Ramsey, Donnelly, and Taylor. The language of agrarian protest is common to the 19th-century Donnelly Papers and to those of the 20th-century National Nonpartisan League and one of its spokesmen, Henry G. Tiegán. The Nonpartisan League and Tiegán papers also have been microfilmed by the society for the NHPC series. Both coherence and variety are found within each set of papers and between and among the several collections. Now available to a national audience, they offer a broad and valuable view of events and aspirations in national life.

Another factor influencing the decision to prepare this work was the obvious usefulness of bringing together on film both the so-called "private" papers of Ramsey the man and the "official" records of Ramsey as territorial and state governor. The papers are located in the Minnesota Historical Society's manuscripts division and the records are in the Minnesota State Archives. While each unit retains its integrity, they are overlapping and complementary. Each enhances the other.

Ramsey's papers have for many years been regarded by scholars as an important source of political data. This guide makes it apparent that they also contain information for the fruitful study of numerous other topics. Students will find substantial material on economic and urban development, cultural and social institutions and events, railroads, Indian-white relations, military affairs, travel, education, domestic details, the role of immigrants, and communication.

In publishing this edition, we acknowledge the support and encouragement of Oliver W. Holmes and Fred Shelley of the NHPC, the society's director, Russell W. Fridley, and Dr. Franklin W. Burch, former Minnesota state archivist. Maureen Leverty and Deborah K. Neubeck of the manuscripts staff prepared the manuscripts and records for filming, assisted by former staff members Constance J.

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Others who contributed in various ways were John J. Wood, deputy director of the society, Mrs. Sara D. Jackson of the NHPC staff, John A. Dougherty, library assistant and formerly curator of the Ramsey House, and society personnel in the newspaper, library, and audio-visual divisions. The papers and records were copied by microphotographer Lawrence E. Bloom and developed and printed by the society's microrecording laboratory. Helen M. White directed the project, edited the microfilm, and wrote the guide.

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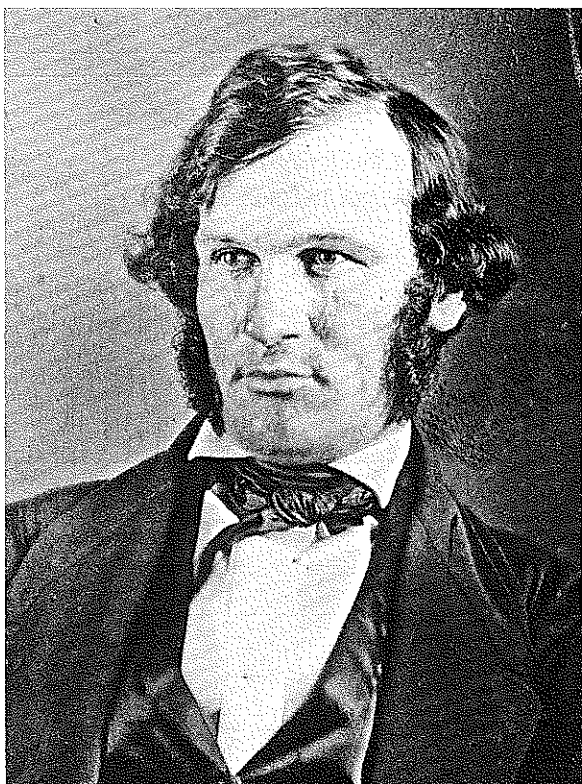
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Contents

The Alexander Ramsey Papers and Records	1
Biographical Sketch	5
Origin of the Papers	10
Description of the Papers	11
Correspondence and Miscellaneous Papers	11
Genealogy	11
Undated	12
Pennsylvania, 1829-1849	13
Minnesota Territorial Governor, 1849-1853	16
Interim, 1853-1859	21
Minnesota State Governor, 1860-1863	24
Senate, 1863-1875, and St. Paul, 1875-1879	28
Secretary of War, 1879-1881	35
Retirement, 1881-1903	38
Volumes	41
Library Pamphlets	44
Description of the Records	48
Territorial Governor, 1849-1853	48
Subject Files	48

Volumes	50
State Governor, 1860-1863	51
Volumes	51
Subject Files	53
Selected Bibliography	64
The Microfilm	66
Microfilm Errors	69
Selected List of Authors	71
Selected List of Subjects	73
Selected List of Autographs	76

Guide to a Microfilm Edition of
THE ALEXANDER RAMSEY PAPERS
AND RECORDS



Alexander Ramsey about 1849, a daguerreotype in the Minnesota Historical Society's audio-visual library.

The Alexander Ramsey Papers and Records

THIS MICROFILM EDITION of the papers and records of Alexander Ramsey contains two major groups of materials: 57 rolls of Ramsey Papers for the years from 1829 to 1903, including correspondence and miscellaneous items, volumes, and pamphlets in the possession of the Minnesota Historical Society; and 13 rolls of Records of the Governors in the Minnesota State Archives, comprising files and volumes for Ramsey's terms of office as governor of Minnesota Territory, 1849-53, and governor of the state, 1860-63.

Papers for Ramsey's early Pennsylvania years (1829-49) are school exercises, diaries and memorandum books, scrapbooks, genealogical notes, financial and legal records, broadsides, and correspondence. They concern family and business matters, Ramsey's education, legal studies, admission to the bar and intermittent practice of law, and a trip to Texas. Their chief subject is politics, reflecting Ramsey's early devotion to the Whig party and his involvement as a political campaigner and elected official. They document his service, in particular, as a clerk of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives; as a two-term member of the U.S. House of Representatives whose special interests were tariff, military affairs, and postal reforms; and as chairman of the Pennsylvania State Central Committee of the Whig party, directing the campaign that carried Pennsylvania for Zachary Taylor in 1848.

President Taylor appointed Ramsey governor of the newly organized Minnesota Territory and Minnesota superintendent of Indian affairs, positions he held concurrently from 1849 to 1853. In the 1850s Ramsey joined the Republican party and became a state and national party leader. Information on political patronage and appointments, campaigns, elections, and conventions spans three decades in the papers. Political, personal, and governmental papers, intermixed in the records and papers, contain much information about the activities of the Minnesota executive branch, the legislature, and other departments of government, and reveal the domi-

nating concerns of the territorial and state gubernatorial periods: Indian-white relations, the tragic Dakota or Sioux Uprising of 1862, and the mobilization of volunteer regiments for the Civil War.

In 1863 Ramsey was elected to the U.S. Senate, where he served until 1875. There is data in the papers on the Civil War, Reconstruction, and other matters of general concern to Congress during these years. Subjects of special interest in letters, petitions, statistical data, memoranda, drafts of bills, revisions of bills and acts, and committee reports are railroad building and financing, Canadian-American relations, the American diplomatic mission to the Scandinavian countries, the Lake Superior harbor at Duluth, Mississippi River bridges and navigation, and postal affairs. The latter includes information on the abolition of franking, sound financial management of the service, the extension of communications through telegraph and cable service, a proposed postal treaty between the United States and France, and financial subsidies to encourage shipbuilding and the use of American steamships for mail and passenger service.

In 1879 Ramsey was appointed secretary of war in the cabinet of President Rutherford B. Hayes. His papers for this period include invitations to social and ceremonial events, correspondence about political, confidential, or personal matters, but very little concerning the routine operation of the War Department.

A scrapbook of clippings and a large pamphlet collection in the papers relate to Utah Territory. They contain information on religion, polygamy, and economic affairs in Utah and on Ramsey's last official service (1882-86) as a member of the Utah Registration and Election Board (Utah Commission).

Investments in Minnesota and Wisconsin real estate were the basis of Ramsey's small but comfortable fortune. Deeds, mortgages, leases, records of assessments and taxes, rents collected, and statements of income and expense form a significant part of the papers.

In addition extensive personal correspondence of Ramsey's wife, daughter, and grandchildren, as well as other relatives and friends, enriches the papers with many details of 19th-century school life and educational experiences, tales of travel and adventure in the United States, Europe, and India, and social life and customs, particularly in St. Paul, Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C., over three generations. And for more than 50 years, Ramsey's brief, meticulous diary entries provide the key to the business, political, and social events described in the papers and records.

The Ramsey Papers in the Minnesota Historical Society measure 31 linear feet, of which 21 feet are included in this microfilm

edition. Papers not filmed are items which originated after Ramsey's death, relating primarily to his daughter and her children, copies of manuscripts already in the papers, and copies of items in other repositories.

The Ramsey Papers are reproduced on 57 rolls of microfilm. The bulk of the papers are for the years from 1849 to 1903. Some papers for dates after Ramsey's death in 1903 are clippings or items relating to his estate. Correspondence and miscellaneous papers are filmed on Rolls 1-37 and the 161 volumes are on Rolls 38-54. Pamphlets given by Ramsey to the society's library are represented on Rolls 55-57. Only the first page of each pamphlet was copied. Thus the microfilm is, in effect, an index to the pamphlets. Following the pamphlets on Roll 57 are copies of catalog cards listing the society's manuscript and library holdings relating to Ramsey.

Following the papers is a 13-roll edition of Records of the Governors, Alexander Ramsey (Rolls 1A-13A). The original records encompassing Ramsey's term of office as territorial governor measure 10 linear inches in the Minnesota State Archives. The records for Ramsey's years as governor of the state comprise 3 2/3 linear feet. They are filmed according to their present arrangement in the archives; their original arrangement and organization is not known. On Roll 1A are subject files for Ramsey's term as territorial governor. Rolls 2A and 3A contain filmed volumes of records for Ramsey's years as territorial and state governor. In some cases, where it was not possible to separate records of Ramsey's administration from those of other governors, a complete volume has been filmed, which includes records for other years. On Rolls 3A-13A are the subject files for Ramsey's term as state governor.

A note on each microfilm roll gives a brief description of the papers; a selected chronology of events in Ramsey's life; sample citations to the papers and records; a comparative list of old and new volume numbers for the convenience of persons who have used the Ramsey Papers in the past; and a list of all the microfilm rolls.

The 2B film format was used in copying both papers and records, with some exceptions. The 2A format was used for Rolls 38-47 containing Ramsey's diaries and memorandum books. A running title beneath each film frame gives the name of the institution holding the original papers or records, the roll and frame number, and the reduction ratio of the image when any ratio other than the standard of 12:1 is used. Other special targets indicate incomplete or defective manuscripts, enclosures, and other technical information deemed useful to the reader. Sometimes a manuscript is filmed more than once at different camera settings if the writing is faded or blurred. Usually an intentional duplicate exposure target is filmed with the duplicate frame. Ordinarily an item incor-

rectly filmed out of sequence within a few frames was not refilmed. Other items found out of place and inserted into their proper film sequence are identified with letters following the frame number (as 163A). Long series of blank pages were not filmed, nor were the back pages of scrapbooks when they contained printed matter not related to the papers.

Undated items are copied before dated ones. A chronological order is followed (with some exceptions) in the arrangement and filming of the papers. On Rolls 1 and 2 of the Minnesota Historical Society's papers are filmed genealogical records, undated, and other miscellaneous manuscript and printed items which seemed more useful in this place. Volumes were filmed chronologically within series whenever possible.

Several other exceptions to chronological order in the microfilm edition should be noted. It was not possible to find and put together all enclosures with their original covering letters. Wherever this could be done, the enclosures follow their covering letters. Nor was it possible to put together all vouchers and bills with the abstracts to which they belong. Legal documents often were filed either under the date on which they were drawn or the date when they were filed. Some special groups of papers, such as those relating to estates, Senate bills, and corporations, have been kept together and filmed under an appropriate date within the correspondence files. Special targets indicate these groups of papers.

This guide to the microfilm edition of Ramsey Papers and Records provides biographical data on Ramsey, information on the origin of the Ramsey Papers, and an analysis of both papers and records. It also includes an inventory of the microfilm rolls, a selected bibliography of manuscript and published sources on Ramsey, selected lists of author and subject entries used by the society in cataloging the microfilm edition of papers and records, and a selected list of autographs appearing in the papers.

Biographical Sketch

ALEXANDER RAMSEY was born in 1815 at Hummelstown, Pennsylvania, the eldest child of Thomas Ramsey, a blacksmith of Scotch-Irish ancestry, and Elizabeth Kelker Ramsey, who was of German-Swiss descent. After the death of his father in 1826, Ramsey was sent to Harrisburg to live with Frederick Kelker, his mother's uncle. There he attended school, worked in a hardware store, and was apprenticed to Jacob Colestock to learn the carpenter's trade. There, too, he was first elected to office -- as secretary of a literary society and as president of the Hall of Friendship Fire Company, a group of young volunteer fire fighters. Ramsey early became interested in politics, undoubtedly influenced by the ardent devotion of his Kelker relatives to the Whig party and by the fascinating drama centering around the Statehouse in Harrisburg.

He left Harrisburg in 1834 to enroll in the Manual Labor Academy of Lafayette College at Easton. Although he borrowed some money from his uncle, he paid most of his expenses with part-time earnings as a carpenter at the college. He attended classes for two terms, leaving in May, 1835. Shortly thereafter he obtained a teaching position at Kutztown in the school that was to become Franklin Academy (later Keystone State Normal School). Ramsey remained in Kutztown for two years, teaching, making friends of the "weighty squires," and participating actively in local politics. "I bid fair," he wrote at this time, "to be an honest politician, a race of men as rare in these days as good men in Sodom in the days of Lot." At Kutztown, too, he submitted his first communication to the press -- a report on local political events which he signed "Junius." For several years thereafter he continued to write of political and legislative doings for Whig newspapers.

In 1837 Ramsey was elected to the Whig state convention as a delegate from Kutztown, and he decided to abandon teaching for the study of law. He returned to Harrisburg in the fall to begin legal studies in the law office of Hamilton Alricks. Nevertheless he found time to campaign for Whig candidates for state office,

and during the following legislative sessions, he was appointed to a number of clerkships in the employ of the legislature.

Ramsey completed his legal studies in 1839 at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, in John Reed's law school (later Dickinson School of Law) and was admitted to the bar in November of that year. Hearing that there were opportunities for lawyers in Texas, he took a trip there early in 1840. Unimpressed either by the environment or by the business opportunities, he returned to Pennsylvania, was a delegate to the Whig national convention in Baltimore in May, 1840, and then plunged into the Whig campaign for the election of William Henry Harrison as president. In January, 1841, Ramsey was elected chief clerk of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.

The next year he was ready to try for Washington, running for election to the U.S. House of Representatives from the district including Dauphin, Schuylkill, and Lebanon counties. He won but the election was declared invalid because of a change in district boundaries. After the boundary issue was resolved in 1843, he ran successfully and took his seat in the House in December at the age of 28. Re-elected in 1845, he served in the Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth Congresses on committees of claims, expenditures, public buildings, and military affairs. When war with Mexico was imminent in 1846, he was a member of the joint congressional committee consulted by the secretary of war in making plans for the Mexican military campaign. In the House Ramsey reflected the concerns of his largely industrial Pennsylvania district by supporting protective tariff legislation; he also became interested in postal reform, a matter which later continued to concern him in the Senate.

He retired from the House in 1847 and settled down briefly to practice law in Harrisburg. Dealing largely with the settlement of estates, his practice seems never to have been more than a part-time occupation between political projects, for he was soon chosen as chairman of the Whig state central committee. In that position he organized and directed a highly effective political campaign at the county and school district levels to win Pennsylvania for the Whigs and Zachary Taylor in the presidential election of 1848.

Success in the Keystone State was crucial to the Whig national ticket, and Ramsey was given much credit for the Pennsylvania victory. He hoped to be appointed collector of the port of Philadelphia as his reward. Instead President Taylor offered him the governorship of recently organized Minnesota Territory. After ten years in the thick of Pennsylvania politics and two terms in the House, Ramsey had learned his way around Washington, become acquainted with many of the influential party leaders of his day, and acquired considerable political expertise. His experience in the nation's capital was especially helpful for a territorial ex-

ecutive required to consult Washington on all the major decisions of administration.

Ramsey's appointment brought Minnesota to the favorable attention of many of his former associates, resulting in a substantial migration of capital as well as of Pennsylvanians, who visited and settled in the territory. Ramsey made shrewd investments in Minnesota real estate, both for himself and for Pennsylvanians who had confidence in his judgment. With the exception of one or two estate cases, he abandoned the practice of law entirely and made real estate investment and development his major private business.

Despite his political and administrative competence, Ramsey's position and that of the Whig party in the territory was not a strong one. The party was declining nationally as leaders died in office and bureaucratic upheavals resulted in Washington. Ramsey was flexible, in ways natural to him, steering a course of co-operation and conciliation with local Democrats while attempting to neutralize the Washington activities of enemies within his own party.

His duties as territorial governor were less arduous than those he performed concurrently as superintendent of Indian affairs. In 1851 he served as a commissioner to negotiate treaties with the Dakota or Sioux for the cession of large areas of Minnesota land for white settlement. Sectional politics in Washington, as well as the interests of Indians, fur traders, lobbyists, and settlers, were hopelessly entangled in the complex treaty negotiations and their aftermath. Ramsey was accused of fraud in the negotiations and, although he was ultimately exonerated, investigations of his conduct did not finally clear him until 1854, the year after he relinquished the governorship and the superintendency to Democrat Willis A. Gorman.

In 1855 Ramsey was elected to a term as mayor of St. Paul. By 1857 he had joined the newly formed Republican party and was a candidate for election as governor. Minnesota became a state in May, 1858, and fur trader and Democrat Henry H. Sibley defeated him in the first gubernatorial election. Ramsey, however, won the succeeding contest to become Minnesota's second state governor. He was re-elected in 1861. During his second term of office in January, 1863, Ramsey was elected by the legislature to the U.S. Senate. He deferred his retirement as governor, however, until well after the end of the legislative session, resigning at the end of June, 1863. His administration was marked by sound economic management, particularly of the state's school lands, and by two crises -- the Civil War and an uprising of Dakota Indians on the Minnesota frontier in which more than 400 persons were killed in 1862. Ramsey was in Washington in 1861 at the time the Civil War began, and as governor he offered the government, in the name of the state, the first volunteer regiment for the Union Army. Duties connected with the war effort occupied much of his time

and attention during his second gubernatorial term.

In the Senate he served two terms (1863-75), and was appointed to a number of committees, acting as chairman of the committee on post offices and post roads. In that capacity he championed what were then hopeless projects: abolishment of the franking privilege and development of a national postal telegraph system and international telegraph lines. He favored related legislation to encourage and subsidize American steamship lines. In 1869 he went to Paris in an unsuccessful attempt to negotiate an international postal agreement with France. Reflecting the special interests of Minnesotans, Ramsey was also concerned with measures for the improvement of Mississippi River navigation, government support for railroad building in Minnesota and the West, and improvement of commercial and diplomatic relations with Canada and the Scandinavian countries. He was a "radical" Republican in most post-Civil War Reconstruction measures, and he voted for the impeachment of President Andrew Johnson.

After he left the Senate, Ramsey and his family went back to Minnesota to live, but he returned to Washington several times in the late 1870s as a lobbyist for railroad interests and for the Fort Snelling Bridge Commission.

In the summer of 1879 President Rutherford B. Hayes invited Ramsey to join his cabinet as secretary of war, a position he assumed in December. Ramsey's administration of the department was competent, characterized by friendly relations with Congress and with ranking military officers -- many of whom he had known previously either in Minnesota or in Washington. Perhaps the most difficult problem of his tenure was the Whittaker case involving a Negro cadet at West Point. There is evidence that both Ramsey and the president shared the widespread national sympathy for the young cadet and attempted within the limits of military procedures to see that his case was fairly heard. They also tried to institute needed reforms in the administration of the academy.

In the fall, before the election of 1880, Ramsey accompanied President Hayes on a western trip. Although Hayes refused to run for re-election, his tour had obvious political value in aiding the Republican victory in November of his successor James A. Garfield. Before the end of the year, when the secretary of the navy left office, Ramsey held a short interim appointment as secretary of that department. His tenure in the War Department ended with the inauguration of President Garfield.

He was called again to public service on a brief assignment for fellow Minnesotan William Windom, who as secretary of the treasury asked him to handle an investigation at the U.S. mint in San Francisco in 1881. Then in 1882 he was appointed to the Utah Registration and Election Board. He served as chairman of the board for four years. His resignation in 1886 marked the end

of his long career as a public officeholder.

In his prime Ramsey stood nearly six feet tall and weighed 190 pounds. Broad of shoulder and face, with a "winning countenance," gray-green eyes, shaggy brows, sideburns, and a massive head of auburn hair, he was kindly, calm, and good humored, with natural dignity and courteous manners. Possessing good health during most of his life, he took great pleasure in eating well and was reputed to have "one of the best stomachs in America." He enjoyed fine wines and brandies; it was said that he drank as much as any man of his time, but he could "stand it better."

He was a safe and sound "nuts and bolts" party man, shrewd, prudent, and reliable. As a speaker, he reached the point of his discourse "by the simplest and most direct route." Conciliatory in dealing with his foes, he was often accused by exasperated friends of neglecting them or taking them for granted. Many people concluded that he was a man of moderate talents, lacking in intellectual brilliance or originality. He seems to have accepted this view of his own talents and perhaps even deliberately cultivated it, content to be useful in a pedestrian way.

In 1845 Ramsey married Anna Earl Jenks, daughter of a member of Congress from Bucks County, Pennsylvania. It was a happy marriage; Mrs. Ramsey was an intelligent woman, gracious and competent in assisting her husband throughout his career. Three children were born to the Ramseys. Two of them died in childhood in 1851; the third, Marion, was educated in Philadelphia while her parents were living in Washington. In 1875 she married Philadelphian Charles Eliot Furness. Furness became ill not long after the birth of their last child and was separated from his family for the rest of his life.

After Mrs. Ramsey's death in 1884, Mrs. Furness took over the management of her father's household. She and her children lived with him until his death. Ramsey's careful real estate investments provided their livelihood and paid for the medical care of Marion's husband. In addition to managing his properties, Ramsey served as an officer in a number of Minnesota charitable and educational institutions. Throughout his life he enjoyed associations in the St. Paul society which included many of his longtime Minnesota friends.

Ramsey was courtly and dignified in old age, as in youth. Although conscious of his position, he was not seduced by power or wealth. Comfortable but frugal to the end, he was never as affluent as his dignity, home, or position suggested. He died in his home in St. Paul in 1903. His granddaughters, who never married, lived in the Ramsey House until their deaths. They willed the home to the Minnesota Historical Society, which maintains it as a museum reflecting Ramsey's life and times -- the first half century of the state's history.

Origin of the Papers

RAMSEY began to place papers in the Minnesota Historical Society in the 1860s and 1870s when he presented five now unidentifiable items relating to Ulysses S. Grant, Indian tribes, and Minnesota's northern boundary. In 1881 he added copies of two manuscripts concerning the Dakota Indians. In 1878 he gave 40 volumes of pamphlets and other printed materials to the library.

Some two weeks after Ramsey's death, the Minneapolis Journal on May 10, 1903, reported that David Kingsbury, the society's assistant secretary, had found a group of Ramsey's papers in a pile of rubbish about to be burned in the capitol furnace. Originally from the governor's office, the items included two "scrapbooks" of letters and Ramsey's telegrams to and from President Abraham Lincoln and others during the Civil War and the Dakota Uprising. Although no documentation has been found on the matter, details of content given in the Journal suggest that the rescued materials were preserved by the society (which was then located in the capitol) and are among those here microfilmed.

The remainder of the collection came from a variety of sources. Marion Ramsey Furness, Ramsey's daughter, presented approximately 66 individual items and two boxes of materials between 1918 and 1935. John A. Dougherty contributed 21 items between 1964 and 1966, the fruits of research he conducted and directed while curator of the Ramsey House. Through the years, 16 other persons added approximately 50 items, and several purchases were made. The rest of the papers were given between 1936 and 1964 by Ramsey's granddaughters, Anna and Laura Furness.

Description of the Papers

Correspondence and Miscellaneous Papers

GENEALOGY

THE GENEALOGICAL FILES (Roll 1) are organized by family lines. They include such materials as newspaper clippings, correspondence, obituaries, sermons, memoirs, photographs, a genealogical table, and memoranda on the families of Alexander Ramsey, his wife (Anna Earl Jenks), and his son-in-law (Charles Eliot Furness). Additional genealogical information on these families appears elsewhere in the correspondence and miscellaneous papers and is noted in the appropriate sections below.

Information on Ramsey's forebears and on his brothers and sisters is contained in the genealogical files. His paternal grandfather, Alexander, who died in 1815, was a Revolutionary War soldier; his father, Thomas (1784-1826), served in the War of 1812; and his mother, Elizabeth Kelker Ramsey (1791-1858), was a descendant of two Revolutionary War soldiers, Anthony Kelker and Philip Lorenz Greenawalt. His sisters were Elizabeth, who died in infancy; Margaret (1817-71), who married John N. Speel; and Catherine (1826-82), who married John Nininger (1821-78). One of the Niningers' daughters, Pauline (1848-1921), became the opera star Pauline Lucca. Their son was Alexander Ramsey Nininger (1844-1918). Ramsey's brothers, neither of whom married, were Henry Kelker Ramsey (1819-55) and Justus Cornelius Ramsey (1821-81). Justus accompanied Alexander to Minnesota and was his business associate for the rest of his life.

Anna Jenks was one of the nine children of Michael Hutchinson Jenks (1795-1867) of Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Jenks was judge of probate, real estate "conveyancer," and member of the U.S. House of Representatives. Data on the Jenks family is sparse in the genealogical files, but there is supplementary information in the papers, particularly in the Ramseys' correspondence with Judge Jenks, Mrs. Ramsey's brothers J. Ridgway and William J. Jenks, and her sister Hannah Jenks Crouch.

In 1875 the Ramseys' daughter, Marion (1853-1935), married Charles E. Furness (1844-1909), the son of James Thwing Furness (1812-91) and Elizabeth Margaret Eliot Furness (1819-88). The genealogical files have information on Charles Furness, his education at Harvard, his parents, his sisters, Rebekah T. (1854-1937) and Laura (1857-1949), and his brothers, William Eliot (1839-1913) and Dawes Eliot Furness (1846-1913). William's autobiography, which is present in the papers, is particularly significant. It comments on the life of this "heretical" Unitarian family in Quaker Philadelphia, the education of children in private church schools, the Civil War service of William and his uncle Francis A. Eliot (1825-62), the inauguration of President Abraham Lincoln, associations with Charles Sumner, business experiences in Chicago following William's settlement there in 1865, and the Chicago fire of 1871.

Items in the file concern other Furness, Greenleaf, Dawes, and Eliot relatives such as the Unitarian clergymen William Greenleaf Eliot, Frederick May Eliot, and William Henry Furness; Shakespearean scholar Horace Howard Furness; and poet Thomas Stearns (T.S.) Eliot.

UNDATED

The undated file*, which is part of the correspondence and miscellaneous papers (Rolls 1-2), is divided into five segments. In the first segment are letters and other items that are completely undated; those bearing day and month dates are in the second. These two segments consist largely of personal letters of Marion Ramsey Furness and her three children: Laura Furness, Anna Earl Ramsey Furness, called Anita, and Alexander Ramsey Furness, called Ramsey.

The letters, supplemented by other items, have information on Ramsey-Furness friends and relatives, social life, travels in the United States and Europe, and the children's education. A number of letters are from or about Patty Flandrau Selmes and her daughter, Isabella D. Selmes, later Isabella Greenway, U.S. congresswoman from Arizona. There are only a few items directly associated with Alexander Ramsey, among them memoranda concerning land sales and other financial transactions. There also are maps and plats for Duluth, St. Paul, South St. Paul, and railroads.

Visiting cards, invitations, and gift cards, arranged alphabetically, are in a third segment. Many are from members of the Ramsey-Furness social circle in Minnesota; a number are from Wash-

*Whenever possible undated items were provisionally dated and put in chronological files. As filming of the papers progressed, it was possible to supply dates for some of the "undated" items in this section. Thus in a few cases items that appear here were filmed again in chronological sequence.

ingtonians and apparently date from Ramsey's years as senator and secretary of war.

The fourth segment is made up of newspaper clippings. Some are undated and some are dated after Ramsey's death. Most of them concern Ramsey's life, family, friends, and associates. Included are two Ramsey biographies published serially in St. Paul and Minneapolis newspapers -- one by Martin W. Odlund (1927) and the other by Lawrence Boardman (1929). There are interviews with former Ramsey servants and Mrs. Furness. The latter draw on her experiences and on her study of Ramsey's papers; several of the items recall her balloon ascension with John H. Steiner in the 1860s. There is also information on participation in cultural and other organizations by Mrs. Furness and her daughters and material on such former St. Paulites as Thomas Cochran of the J. P. Morgan Company, Sarah Flandrau Cutcheon, and Isabella Greenway.

The fifth segment is divided roughly by subject. It includes drawings, perhaps by Alexander Speel, one of Ramsey's nephews; a file relating to Charles M. Flandrau, which contains biographical information and data on his books and a few references to his sister-in-law, Grace Flandrau; "Literary Materials," which include notes about Ramsey and early days in Minnesota, probably made by Mrs. Furness, and student essays on a number of subjects, which appear to have been written by Mrs. Furness and her daughters. Among the miscellany that completes the undated materials are a note from Julia Marlowe, valentines, recipes, and notes on the furnishings of the Ramsey House.

PENNSYLVANIA, 1829-1849

Although there are scattered references elsewhere, most of the material on Ramsey's early life in Pennsylvania appears on Rolls 2, 3, 38, 51. Only a few of these items date before 1841. Letters, school exercises, notes, and other materials have information on Ramsey's education, particularly his experiences at Lafayette College, on the organization of a debating society at Harrisburg, on family affairs and personal expenses, and on his studies at John Reed's law school in Carlisle.

His trip to Texas in 1840 is covered by letters of introduction (Roll 2) written by John C. Montgomery to Thurlow Weed and to General James Hamilton whom Ramsey hoped to meet, a Houston, Texas, receipt, and Ramsey's notes of the journey in vols. 1-2, Roll 38.

Ramsey had become interested in politics during his school days, worked for the Whigs in the election of 1838, and obtained part-time employment during legislative sessions in Harrisburg. In 1840 he was a delegate to the Whig national convention in Baltimore and in January, 1841, was chosen clerk of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. The papers for 1840-41 (Roll 2) are

largely financial, including bills, receipts, vouchers, and statements of account for the clerk's office in 1841 (and for 1840 when Jacob Seiler held the position), and information on Ramsey's personal expenses. Only a floor plan for the U.S. House of Representatives in 1842 and a few other miscellaneous items suggest Ramsey's political activities and his 1842 and 1843 campaigns for Congress.

The 1843 campaign was successful and Ramsey served in the House from 1843 until March, 1847. Politics becomes the major subject of the papers in 1844 (Rolls 2-3). Among Ramsey's most frequent correspondents were Samuel H. Clark, Theodore Fenn, Levi Kline, and James Cooper. They and others, largely from Ramsey's legislative district, wrote him about the nomination of James M. Porter as secretary of war, an investigation of the contract for state printing, Whig newspapers, a proposed German-language paper, candidates for local and state offices, postal appointments, routes, and reform, and the tariff. Only Ramsey's views on the tariff issue are outlined in any detail — in his House speech in April, 1844 (Roll 2). His support for a protective tariff met the wishes of his constituents, and one wrote that it had been a long time since the district "had a man to open his mouth in Congress."

Ramsey was a delegate to the Whig national convention of 1844 and worked in the campaign for Henry Clay as well as for his own re-election. Letters and circulars (Rolls 2-3) describe the activities of Clay clubs, the distribution of Whig literature and songbooks, and campaign tactics and tricks; they also discuss allegations that Ramsey had acted improperly in awarding printing contracts while clerk of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. Supplementary information about the campaign, as well as Ramsey's later activities in Washington, is found in the volumes on Roll 38, particularly vol. 11 which lists many of Ramsey's constituents, noting the publications he sent them from Washington.

Ramsey and Anna E. Jenks were married in 1845. Letters (Roll 3) from Ramsey to her father, Michael H. Jenks; her brother William J. Jenks; and his brothers, Justus C. Ramsey and Henry K. Ramsey, then a second lieutenant in the U.S. Sixteenth Infantry, discuss family matters and Washington social life and gossip, but there is little about his congressional career. For Ramsey's years in Congress there are also some bills and receipts for family expenses and information on Ramsey's property in Harrisburg and on his investments. Letters from Greenawalt relatives concern an ancestor's service in the Revolutionary War. Other items are a request for assistance from Simon Cameron, a note signed by Thaddeus Stevens, a circular regarding the Washington Monument, a dinner invitation from Winfield Scott, whom Ramsey favored as a Whig presidential candidate, and notes on U.S. northern boundary surveys. Included, too, is vol. 2 of William H. Price's Clement Fal-

coner, *The Memoirs of a Young Whig* (Boston, 1844), a satire of life in Washington in the 1830s in which a redheaded congressman from Pennsylvania resembles Ramsey.

The nation's concern with slavery is represented by four pamphlets of the 1840s published by the New England Anti-Slavery Tract Association (Roll 2) and by an address (1846) given at a Boston vigilance meeting on the escape and recapture of a slave. Some years earlier Ramsey had stated that he was "neither an Abolitionist, Colonizationist, nor yet an Amalgamationist," and that he observed extremism on both sides of the slavery controversy. Yet there is no detailed expression of his views on the subject in the papers, and he rallied with other Whigs to support Southern Zachary Taylor in the campaign of 1848.

Correspondence, circulars, and financial items for 1848 (Roll 3) relate largely to the Pennsylvania Whig State Central Committee, of which Ramsey became chairman and Dr. Thomas Foster, secretary. There is information on the committee's fund raising, disbursements of money spent "with judicious energy" throughout the state, and campaign activities. In the efficient organization were county "Committees of vigilance," "Block Committees," traveling colporteurs, committees on singing, and "Rough and Ready" clubs. Among the activities sponsored were mass meetings and torchlight processions in support of Taylor, "Old Honest Buena Vista." It was a time when, according to a Massachusetts correspondent, "the whole issue of the Presidential contest seems to hang upon Pennsylvania."

Ramsey's law practice took second place to politics. For most of the period 1839-49 he seems to have specialized in the settlement of estates, but there are only scattered items about his cases. Best documented (1847-49, Roll 3) is the case of the estate of George Oglesby, who had been a business partner of Ramsey's cousin Rudolph F. Kelker. After 1849 public office and real estate holdings supplied Ramsey's livelihood.

Clippings of newspaper stories, correspondence with Pennsylvania friends, and reminiscent accounts of early experiences are scattered through the papers after 1849, supplementing the information on Ramsey's Pennsylvania years. Of particular interest are letters from Nellie Eyster, F. W. Edgar, G. W. Kidd, and others which came to Ramsey in 1880 after his appointment as secretary of war (Roll 25). These and clippings (vols. 128, 133, Rolls 51, 52) recall his family, his political activities, his membership in clubs and volunteer fire associations, and his experiences at Lafayette College, Kutztown, and Harrisburg. There are letters also from Rudolph Kelker (1885, Roll 28) and A. Boyd Hamilton (1893, Roll 30), and others written at the time of Ramsey's death in 1903 (Roll 37). Especially useful is the autobiographical memoir (1898, Roll 34) of Dr. Foster who had known Ramsey since 1842.

Another important source of Pennsylvania data is correspondence with Ramsey's daughter Marion who was sent to private schools in Philadelphia in the 1860s and who lived there for a time after her marriage to Charles Furness (see page 34). Correspondence with her, between her and her children during visits there, and with the Furness relatives in Philadelphia particularly after the family moved to St. Paul supplies much interesting information on politics, education, and social life there.

MINNESOTA TERRITORIAL GOVERNOR, 1849-1853

Ramsey was appointed governor of Minnesota Territory by President Zachary Taylor on April 2, 1849. His papers (Rolls 3-8) for this period supplement in many respects the official records of his governorship (Rolls 1A-2A). There is information on appointments, apportionment, election districts and elections, meetings of the legislature, contracts for public printing, and lists of books and details of operation for the territorial library. Correspondence, as well as day-to-day entries and brief comments in the diaries (Rolls 38-39), provide background for the official actions.

After receiving word of his appointment, Ramsey noted in his diary (vol. 18, Roll 38) that he went to Washington to make calls on the president and the executive departments with which he would be dealing. The correspondence files (Roll 3) contain his commission, oath of office, bond, and a copy of the act organizing the territory. They have information, too, on Pennsylvanians' farewell to a native son in whom they felt pride and from whom they expected favors. Whigs, in particular, hoped that the governor would provide opportunities for them in the new territory. When David Cooper was appointed an associate justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court in 1849, the Pennsylvania tie was made stronger.

Letters of introduction bulk large in the correspondence for the territorial period. Pennsylvania introductions to Ramsey preceded the arrival in the new territory of John P. Owens, William Hollinshead, Hugh Tyler, Nathaniel McLean, and many others. Horace Greeley, William P. Fessenden, and Governors Joseph A. Wright (Indiana) and William F. Johnston (Pennsylvania) were among the state and national leaders who introduced deserving Whigs, prospective settlers, and visitors to Minnesota. Alexander Wilkin, who became territorial secretary in October, 1851, for example, was introduced by several persons, as were Oliver H. Kelley, who later organized the Patrons of Husbandry (better known as the Grange), and Charles Whittlesey, who was interested in making Minnesota land surveys. Governor Eden Colville of Rupert's Land introduced such visitors as Arctic explorer Dr. John Rae; J. Morrison Harris wrote of Baltimore artist Francis B. (Frank) Mayer who wanted to paint Indian scenes in Minnesota. Other correspondents who wished to go to Minnesota were simply excited by the general prospects of the territory. One wrote, for instance, it was "to

the adventurer what Ohio was when we were boys."

In May, 1849, Ramsey embarked on his Minnesota adventure with his wife and son, a nursemaid, his brother Justus, and his secretary, Dr. Thomas Foster. Letters to Pennsylvania relatives (Roll 3) describe the journey by train, lake and river steamboats, and stage to the new territory and his warm reception by Henry H. Sibley, Minnesota's territorial delegate to Congress. It was Sibley, a fur trader and a Democrat, who guided him on his first tours of the territory, opening Ramsey's eyes to the significance of the traders in Minnesota politics.

The papers suggest Ramsey's equivocal position in Minnesota and Washington. While he was titular head of the Whig party in the territory, he had few Whigs to lead. Since the influential citizens of the area were largely Democrats, he was obliged to work with them. At the same time he maintained close contact with the Whig administration in Washington. In such an environment petty sniping, backbiting, and "blackguarding" were common.

The controversial territorial secretary, Charles K. Smith, was frequently at odds with his colleagues in Minnesota. A copy of a legislative apportionment act (March, 1851, Roll 5) bears Ramsey's endorsement that "as Sec'ty C. K. Smith was very hostile to the purposes of this bill & fearing he might not protect it this duplicate was made. . . ." A Ramsey supporter called Smith "that walking plague." Smith seems to have inspired a circular (November, 1851, Roll 6) dubbing Ramsey nothing but a "Pennsylvania coffee house politician," while in Washington former Pennsylvanian Hollinshead attacked Ramsey for "speculation" and "anti-Whig activity." Inflammatory remarks by St. Paul editor James M. Goodhue about Justice Cooper were the cause of a bloody encounter with gun and knife between the editor and Cooper's brother Joseph in which both men were seriously wounded. Letters (February, 1851, Roll 5) from David and another brother, U.S. Senator James Cooper, thanked Ramsey for his kindness to the injured Joseph.

Charting a course between opposing factions, Ramsey was cautious and conciliatory, prompting his friend and critic Dr. Foster to write in exasperation that the governor's chief weakness was "more to compromise with enemies, than sustain and reward friends." Letters from the ubiquitous Foster, who was at various times a secretary, librarian, lobbyist, reporter, apologist, and publicist for Ramsey and Minnesota, as well as an employee of the Office of Indian Affairs, are an important source of information on people and events in Pennsylvania, Washington, and Minnesota during these years.

Among other Minnesotans who corresponded with Ramsey about government and politics were Justices Cooper, Aaron Goodrich, and Bradley B. Meeker; territorial officers Smith, Wilkin, Lorenzo A. Babcock, Alexander M. Mitchell, and Henry A. Lambert; newsmen John

P. Owens and Charles J. Henniss; military officers stationed at Fort Snelling and Fort Gaines (Ripley); and such interested citizens as William G. Le Duc, Jacob W. Bass, and John H. Stevens.

Ramsey's chief correspondent in Washington was territorial delegate Sibley, who wrote about such subjects as the design of the territorial seal, bills for railroad and education land grants, military protection for the frontier, construction of roads and public buildings, the territorial budget, a bill designed to reduce the area of the Fort Snelling reservation, and the legal requirement forcing Minnesota territorial officers to stay in the territory and perform their duties if they wished to remain in office. Other Washington correspondents were Fitz Henry Warren, postmaster general; Thomas Corwin, secretary of the treasury; Eli-sha Whittlesey, comptroller of the treasury; and John M. Clayton and Daniel Webster, who successively held the office of secretary of state.

According to Sibley, everything was "deranged" in Washington following the death of President Taylor in July, 1851 (Roll 6). When President Millard Fillmore replaced many top officials in the administration, old lines of communication were broken, although Ramsey remained in office through Fillmore's term (until May, 1853). On one pretext or another, numbers of Minnesota politicians went to Washington to scamper among the departments searching for ways to reach the newly influential people of Fillmore's administration. Highest priority in these Washington activities was the matter of Indian treaties.

No official responsibilities were more complex than those which Ramsey assumed with the governorship as Minnesota superintendent of Indian affairs. The crux of the matter was land. Although Minnesota's boundaries were generous, only the small area between the St. Croix and Mississippi rivers was legally open to white settlement. Dakota, Chippewa, and Winnebago tribes inhabited the territory and white men encroached on tribal lands. Responding to pressures from settlers and to his own concept of the territory's needs, Ramsey made land-cession treaties with the Indians a primary concern of his administration.

The papers contain communications between Ramsey and the Department of the Interior and the Office of Indian Affairs, as well as copies of reports and financial records for the Minnesota superintendency. In addition to this routine data, there is much correspondence with Sibley and others about the legislation which authorized treaties with the Minnesota Indians and about attempts to influence the choice of treaty commissioners.

In 1849 Ramsey and John Chambers, ex-governor of Iowa, were appointed to negotiate a treaty with certain mixed-blood Dakota at Mendota. There is very little data in the files about the negotiations, but there are copies of bills and vouchers covering treaty

expenses and some correspondence about the Senate's failure to ratify the treaty (Roll 4).

Ramsey's special duties as a treaty commissioner in 1851 are revealed in much more detail (Roll 6). For his negotiations with Red Lake and Pembina bands of Chippewa, there is a journal of the treaty expedition, a diary for the same period (vol. 22, Roll 38), Ramsey's report to Washington about the project, copies of the treaties, a "traders' paper," expense accounts for the commission, and other data regarding the Chippewa. The treaties were not ratified by the Senate because it was believed that white settlers would not want to move into the region for some years. (For information on Ramsey's renegotiation of these treaties in 1863, see Rolls 14, 39, and pages 27, 42, 46, below.)

Ramsey and Luke Lea, commissioner of Indian affairs, were appointed earlier in 1851 to negotiate treaties with Dakota tribes at Mendota and Traverse des Sioux. Although copies of the treaties are not in the papers, a copy of a controversial "traders' paper" is in the files for July, 1851 (Roll 6), and there is a letter of introduction from fur traders William G. and George W. Ewing for Madison Sweetser, who played a major role in events following the negotiation of the treaties.

No provision was made in the treaties for the payment of debts owed by the Indians to fur traders. Immediately after the Indians had signed the treaties, however, they were "pulled by the blanket" to sign a separate paper acknowledging such debts and authorizing the payment of them out of treaty funds. The fact that debts to the Ewings were not included in the traders' paper encouraged Sweetser to assist the Indians in questioning the validity of the traders' document. The Senate ratified the treaties in 1852 but made amendments that required the Indians' concurrence. In the general uproar over the traders' paper, the Dakota were reluctant to approve any additional documents. The traders hired Henry M. Rice to exert his influence with the Indians in favor of the treaties.

A show of force by soldiers from Fort Snelling, the deposing of a recalcitrant chief, and the temporary suspension of annuity payments were other tactics used by Ramsey to persuade the Indians to sign the amended treaties. Then Ramsey recognized Sibley and Hugh Tyler, whom the Indians had designated their agents, to receive the treaty moneys. In turning the funds over to the two men, he in effect declined to take final responsibility for the disbursement of treaty payments. From start to finish, Ramsey had deferred to Sibley, whose multiple role as fur trader, lobbyist, legislator, and agent now brought him the additional responsibility of defending both Ramsey and the treaties in Washington.

Ramsey was attacked in the press for his role in treaty affairs, and Sweetser, still disaffected, laid formal charges

against him before the U.S. Senate and the Office of Indian Affairs. At Ramsey's insistence, Sibley then requested an investigation to clear Ramsey's name. In April, 1853, President Franklin Pierce appointed Richard M. Young, former clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives, and Willis A. Gorman, who in May succeeded Ramsey as governor, to inquire into the charges.

Nearly all the correspondence files for 1853 are concerned with the investigation, much of it carried on in hearings at St. Paul between July and October (Roll 8). Among the papers are affidavits, depositions of witnesses, notes of testimony, and copies of letters from Ramsey defending his actions. Notes of testimony are also found in vols. 24, 25 and part of 26 (Rolls 38, 39). The report of the investigation was submitted to the president at the end of 1853, forwarded to the Senate early in 1854, and published in 33 Congress, 1 session, Senate Executive Document, no. 61 (serial 699). Although the Senate criticized aspects of the treaty negotiations, it concluded that the charges against Ramsey had not been sustained. In January, 1854 (Roll 9), a letter from Daniel A. Robertson withdrew the charges he had made against Ramsey in the press. However, Ramsey had not heard the last of the sorry episode, for it was his destiny to again be governor when Minnesota reaped the whirlwind of the Dakota treaties in the tragic uprising of 1862.

Other facets of Indian-white relations are described in the papers. There are letters from Henry M. Rice and others about the removal of both Winnebago and Chippewa tribes to new reservations. Letters from Dr. Foster discussed government attempts to educate the Winnebago. Indian agents Jonathan E. Fletcher, John S. Watrous, and Nathaniel McLean offered information in unofficial communications that supplemented their official reports to Washington. Missionaries and clergymen such as Bishop Joseph Cretin, J. P. Bardwell, George A. Belcourt, Sherman Hall, Gideon H. Pond, and Stephen R. Riggs sent information and advice about various tribes. Joseph Henry of the Smithsonian Institution proposed publication of Riggs' Dakota dictionary, Andrew Robertson wrote his views about the Dakota among whom he had lived for more than 14 years, while William W. Warren wrote about Chippewa affairs and a Chippewa history Ramsey had asked him to prepare. Chippewa chiefs Flat Mouth, Buffalo, Hole-in-the-Day, and a group of Winnebago presented grievances and requests for assistance. Proposals to send a party of Indians to a London exposition were criticized by Sibley who predicted that the British would "pet and caress" the Indians and convince them of British superiority. Other letters noted problems arising out of the illegal sale of liquor to Indians and acts of violence between white men and Indians as well as between different Indian groups.

Business papers for the period reveal land investments made by Alexander and Justus, their interest in the St. Paul Land Company, construction of the Ramseys' first St. Paul home, and

the brothers' joint ownership of that residence.

Other Pennsylvania correspondents included J. H. Reed, the son of Ramsey's law professor; Frederick Schmidt, his German teacher at Lafayette College who founded a German-language Whig newspaper; Stephen A. Miller, W. T. Sanders, and others who kept him informed about Pennsylvania politics; Benjamin Bannan who sent books for Minnesota schools; and Rudolph Kelker who served as the Ramsey brothers' business agent in Harrisburg. Kelker included family news in his letters as did Henry Ramsey and members of the Jenks family. Anna Ramsey wrote to relatives about the inconveniences of life in Minnesota, but there are only brief references to the deaths in 1851 of five-year-old Alexander and infant William Ramsey and the birth in 1853 of a daughter, Marion. The Ramseys' association with the Presbyterian church is mentioned; a notice from the Middleton Meeting of Friends "disowned" Mrs. Ramsey for nonattendance and for her marriage outside the meeting.

In addition to these materials, several miscellaneous items have particular interest. They include an autographed photograph of Frederika Bremer, who visited the Ramseys in October, 1850; a phrenological report on Ramsey; the will of Michael Earl, Mrs. Ramsey's grandfather; proceedings of the Democratic national convention of 1852; and some letters from Wallace B. White, Elihu B. Washburne, and others about the election. There are letters from Dr. Rae; Ephriam S. Seymour, author of Sketches of Minnesota; the Reverend Claus L. Clausen of Wisconsin, who wanted information about Minnesota for possible Norwegian emigrants; the Western Farm and Village Association (Rollingstone Colony) in New York, about emigration; and from D. S. Curtiss about public funding for telegraph lines.

INTERIM, 1853-1859

For the rest of 1853 and well into 1854 (Rolls 8-9), Ramsey continued to be preoccupied with the aftermath of the Dakota treaties. Until the investigation was completed, he was not permitted to settle his accounts with the Indian Office. Thus, although he had officially retired as governor and superintendent of Indian affairs, his papers for another year contain bills, vouchers, abstracts, affidavits, and letters from Sibley, Hugh Tyler, Bishop Cretin, Norman W. Kittson, and officials of the Indian department regarding the investigation and other Indian matters.

Land, railroads, and politics occupied much of Ramsey's attention from mid-1854 until his inauguration as the state's second governor in January, 1860 (Rolls 9, 10, 39). In this interim, Ramsey substantially enlarged his own Minnesota and Wisconsin real estate holdings and purchased lands for a number of eastern investors. Particularly well documented are investments in Washington County lands by Ramsey, members of the Shreve family of Mount Holly, New Jersey (Mrs. Ramsey's sister and her husband), and Joshua

B. Carter. With his brother-in-law John Nininger, Ramsey invested in the short-lived town of Nininger in Dakota County and in saw-mill property at Manomin (now Fridley, Anoka County). Land investments were made on Lake Superior at Beaver Bay, Minnesota, and Superior, Wisconsin; others were at Carver and Red Wing, Minnesota, and near La Crosse, Wisconsin. In addition to correspondence there are deeds, leases, abstracts, mortgages, and tax receipts relating to these and other land investments. To manage his expanding business, Ramsey hired Joseph C. Lewis, who remained in his service until the mid-1870s; Lewis' letters and statements of account give additional details of his real estate transactions.

A major, although unprofitable, undertaking was the establishment of a milling business at Hastings in Dakota County in the mid-1850s (Rolls 9-10). The papers contain information on the acquisition of the land and water-power rights from Elbert H. Halstead at the lower falls of the Vermillion River. Ramsey and Dr. Foster organized as Alexander Ramsey and Company to build the mills. Foster served as superintendent of the works. The venture was financed largely by Michael and William Jenks, Henry W. Patrick, and others. Papers in the files indicate that William G. Le Duc negotiated for the purchase of the property in 1857 (Roll 10) but was unable to make mortgage or interest payments. Ramsey took over the property in 1860 and finally sold it in 1877. (Additional information on the mill occurs on Rolls 11, 19, 22, and 51, as discussed below, pages 28, 35, 44).

Many of Ramsey's land investments undoubtedly were made with railroad development in mind, and his interest in railroads is reflected in the papers. Of particular concern to him was the Minnesota and Northwestern Railroad Company, which the legislature incorporated in 1854 to build a line from the Illinois border to Lake Superior. Two of the firm's Minnesota directors were Ramsey and Edmund Rice, whose brother Henry was then Minnesota's delegate in Congress. In Washington, Henry Rice, working with such congressmen as Elihu B. Washburne of Illinois and James D. Doty of Wisconsin, played a key role in the abortive attempts of the 1850s to get a congressional land grant to finance the road. Ramsey made at least one trip east to lobby for the legislation. The tangled story of the company and the grant is told in Ramsey's correspondence with such men as Benjamin Thompson, the Rice brothers, Washburne, Doty, George W. Billings, John M. Barbour, and Robert W. Lowben (Rolls 9-10).

The Lake Superior, Puget's Sound and Pacific, the Minnesota and Pacific, and the Transit railroads also were of interest to Ramsey's correspondents, as were further efforts to get land grants; a thwarted attempt to provide construction funds by issuing state railroad bonds; and the failure of a New York mission to negotiate bonds for railroads. It was in fact a decade of failure. At its close, the companies were bankrupt, no track had been laid, and the railroads were a major problem facing Ramsey

when he assumed the Minnesota governorship in 1860.

Ramsey was elected mayor of St. Paul in 1855 but the papers contain little about his term of office. They do, however, have some information about the burgeoning city. Letters from James Hoy and H. B. Spelman concern the St. Paul Gas Light Company and the introduction of gas lighting, and Thomas B. Winston wrote (1855, Roll 9) about charter government for the city. (Winston's will is in the papers for 1859 (Roll 10) and correspondence between Ramsey as one of the executors and others continues into the early 1860s when the estate was settled.) Other miscellaneous St. Paul items concern the building of a hotel, street improvements, and attempts of Sir George Simpson and others to open a British-supported bank in the city. Letters from Mrs. Ramsey's brother J. Ridgway Jenks, who was in the drug business, to Pennsylvania relatives and copies of Ramsey's letters to his father-in-law Judge Jenks also provide details of St. Paul life and economic conditions at a time when, Ramsey wrote, "I am as scarce of spare change as I was when a carpenter's apprentice."

The death of the Whig party complicated Ramsey's political career. A man without a party, he moved cautiously toward a new political affiliation. His correspondence with Edwin D. Morgan, Republican national chairman, began in 1856 (Roll 9) when Morgan appointed Ramsey to the party's executive committee. Although there is little in the papers to document his travels, he went East a number of times to attend the Republican national conventions and to work for party support of Minnesota's campaign efforts. He served as president of the local club supporting John C. Frémont, the first Republican candidate for president in 1856, and campaigned for the national ticket in Wisconsin and Pennsylvania. Party leaders such as Salmon P. Chase, Thaddeus Stevens, Thurlow Weed, Simon Cameron, Theodore Adams, and Horace Greeley wrote to him, and he was successful in getting both funds and nationally known speakers to support Minnesota's Republican campaigns.

Although Ramsey stumped widely for the party between 1856 and 1860, none of his campaign speeches have been preserved. The papers contain a printed speech (1855, Roll 9) by Charles Sumner on the slave oligarchy and two nonpolitical ones by Ramsey (Roll 10) -- one given at the Minnesota territorial fair (1857), the other at the premature celebration honoring the completion of the Atlantic cable (1858).

Ramsey did not play an active role in the uproarious conventions of 1857 that framed the rival state constitutions for Minnesota, but in the fall he tried unsuccessfully to win the governorship in a contest with Sibley. There is some correspondence (Roll 10) on political matters with Wallace B. White, Stephen Miller, Jane Grey Swisshelm, Cyrus Aldrich, William Windom, W. C. Dodge, and William H. Wood. Two years later Ramsey and Ignatius Donnelly, his running mate for lieutenant governor, won in a vigorous campaign.

Throughout the interim years, many people continued to think of Ramsey as a man of political as well as economic substance. Easterners reported political activities to him, sent letters of introduction for promising potential Minnesotans, asked his advice about politics and investments, and sent him money to invest for them. Minnesota correspondents such as Richard H. Chute, Jared Benson, David Cooper, and Charles Passavant valued his opinions. Ten years after his arrival in the territory, Ramsey was ready to move into a larger sphere of action as the second governor of the thirty-second state.

MINNESOTA STATE GOVERNOR, 1860-1863

Ramsey served as governor of the state from January, 1860, until June, 1863. He did not complete his second term, having been chosen by the Minnesota legislature as U.S. senator. This period is covered by Rolls 11-14, 39, and the archival records.

National politics were crucial in the presidential year of 1860 (Roll 11). Ramsey attended the Republican national convention in May with the state's delegation, at first supporting the candidacy of William H. Seward for president. When Abraham Lincoln was chosen as the party's candidate, Ramsey was appointed to the committee that went to Springfield to notify Lincoln of his nomination. The printed Proceedings of the convention are in the papers with correspondence about the convention, the candidates, the campaign and campaign expenses, the election, and its aftermath. Letters from Republican Congressmen Cyrus Aldrich, William Windom, and Morton S. Wilkinson are included with those of political leaders Jared Benson, Stephen Miller, John W. North, T. T. Mann, Thomas Spooner, James T. Sherman, and Seward, who campaigned in the state for the Republican ticket.

After the Republican victory, Ramsey received many letters from Minnesota office seekers who believed that he could help them to federal positions in the nation's first Republican administration. John North, Schuyler Colfax, and others indicated support for Ramsey for an appointment in Lincoln's cabinet. Ramsey's candidacy was favored by Minnesota's congressmen, largely, it was said, because his influence threatened their own in the state. In the meantime, the president had determined to consult congressional leaders rather than governors in distributing patronage, and the delegation paid little attention to Ramsey's recommendations.

In this situation a disappointed office seeker concluded that there was no place for a Ramseyite "in Abraham's bosom." Three faithful friends whom Ramsey most wanted to help -- Robert F. Fisk, Dr. Foster, and Stephen Miller -- were passed over despite his strongest endorsements. (Fisk was later appointed St. Paul postmaster.) Letters indicate that he was able to help John Jay Knox and David Heaton to positions in the Treasury Department,

but Foster, William L. Banning, Miller, and others with whom there is correspondence received their rewards only in military appointments after the Civil War began.

Apprehension, unrest, and gloom about the future of the country are vividly expressed in letters from Washington early in 1861 (Rolls 11-12). Henry Rice, Wilkinson, and North wrote about a proposed peace conference, a last-minute attempt to avert secession and war. In April, when Fort Sumter was attacked, Ramsey was in Washington on patronage matters and immediately pledged to the president a regiment of Minnesota volunteers to help put down the rebellion (Roll 12).

Many items in the Ramsey Papers for this period concern the governorship. Dealing primarily with the Civil War and the Dakota Uprising, they also concern Indian affairs, appointments, and criminal matters, and overlap the governor's records described on pages 48-63. The explanation for the illogical separation from the official files may lie in the Minnesota Historical Society's rescue operation noted on page 10.

The recruiting and mustering in of the First Regiment Minnesota Volunteer Infantry is one of the significant aspects of the Civil War that touched the governor's office. Information about this regiment is especially full in the papers, covering its organization and outfitting in 1861 and its activities during the next year (Rolls 12-13). Letters from Willis A. Gorman, a veteran of the Mexican War and Ramsey's successor as territorial governor, whom he appointed colonel of the regiment, from Lieutenant Colonel Stephen Miller, and from Edward D. Neill, chaplain, supply a week-by-week account of regimental activities and internal politics. Telegrams from Wilkinson about casualties and from Governor Andrew G. Curtin of Pennsylvania about a battlefield cemetery in July, 1863, allude to the heroic role of the First in the battle of Gettysburg. By then Ramsey's chief correspondents had left the regiment. Neill had resigned, Gorman and Miller were promoted.

There is less detailed data on other military units organized while Ramsey was governor. Included is a brief speech by Ramsey at flag ceremonies honoring the Fifth Regiment Minnesota Volunteer Infantry in 1862, and in the same year some items on the Third Infantry Regiment, which was surrendered by Colonel Henry C. Lester over the protests of most of its officers (Roll 13).

Telegrams, mainly to and from officials of the War Department, cover military subjects also treated in the records. Letters from individuals often concern persons who wanted commissions, promotions, or special military assignments and for whom more information is found in the records. Among the candidates were Samuel P. Jennison, Oren T. Hayes, William Markham, William H. Burt, Christopher C. Andrews, and Alexander Wilkin. Other letters urged Ramsey to support candidates for brigadier general:

Sibley, Miller, Gorman, Horatio P. Van Cleve, John B. Sanborn, and Napoleon J. T. Dana. Ramsey's nephew Alexander R. Nininger wrote about his own wish for a commission, and two authors of note -- Edward E. Eggleston and Harriet E. Bishop (1862, Roll 13) -- wrote about other candidates. From Consul Henry S. Sanford in Belgium and others Ramsey heard about a gift of cannon to the state, and he notified Sanford of his appointment as a major general in Minnesota's militia. Another exchange of communications between Ramsey, Edwin D. Morgan of New York, and other loyal governors assured them of Ramsey's support for the Union cause.

Politics within the volunteer regiments, particularly the First, are revealed in many letters (Rolls 12-13). The heart of the political conflict was the rivalry between Ramsey and Representative Cyrus Aldrich for the Senate seat of Henry Rice. Aldrich men in 1861 appear to have initiated a Supreme Court test (*in re* Edward F. Stevens) of the legality of Ramsey's procedures in mustering the First Regiment. In the same year they supported a Union ticket headed by an officer of the First to challenge Ramsey men in the state election. The next year (1862), in which commissioners visited the troops to obtain their votes under the terms of a law passed by the legislature that summer, Lieutenant Governor Donnelly was elected to the House. Ramsey and Aldrich factions made strong efforts to influence legislators in support of their Senate candidates. Partisans on both sides tried to discredit the opposition. Letters from Horace Greeley and John Jay Knox informed Ramsey of allegations against Aldrich and of President Lincoln's defense of the congressman.

In the midst of these political and military intrigues, Ramsey faced a major crisis in Indian affairs (Rolls 11-14). New political appointees had taken over Minnesota positions in the Office of Indian Affairs amid charges of corrupt practices against their predecessors. Annuity payments to the Indians were delayed, and the Dakota -- angered by these matters and other grievances born of the 1851 treaties -- attacked Minnesota frontier settlements. The Dakota Uprising began on August 18, 1862. Almost immediately Ramsey appointed Sibley colonel of volunteers to defend the beleaguered communities. Copies of telegrams sent to President Lincoln and War Department officials requesting federal assistance emphasized Ramsey's view that the uprising was a "national war" rather than a Minnesota battle. Early in September this view was recognized when Ramsey was notified that the army had created a new Department of the Northwest with headquarters in St. Paul and that General John Pope had been appointed to its command. The "Minnesota war" became a part of the "war on the plains," another front of the Civil War.

There is other correspondence in the papers about the uprising and its aftermath which fills in details of the story that is revealed more adequately in the records (see pages 48-63). Some items in the papers concern Sibley's military campaigns against the

Dakota in 1862 and 1863; others from lobbyist Richard Chute and Minnesota congressmen describe attempts to get federal compensation for the military costs and the loss and damage to private property in the uprising. After the white captives of the Dakota were released, a military court condemned 303 Indians to death for their part in the insurrection. The final decision on their fate, however, rested with the president. Telegrams from Ramsey to Lincoln conveyed the governor's fear that if the Indians were not promptly executed, citizens would seek their own vengeance. Ramsey's proclamation of December, 1862, attempted to quiet the spirit of vengeance and warned citizens not to commit lawless acts against the Indian prisoners which would bring lasting discredit to themselves and to the state. The proclamation and letters praising it from Bishop Henry B. Whipple and others are on Roll 13. Before the end of the month 38 of the Indians were hanged at Mankato by order of the president. Other letters from the secretary of the interior discussed the cost of removing the Dakota and Winnebago tribes from the state.

While the war with the Dakota still raged in southern Minnesota, marauding bands of Chippewa threatened the frontier farther north. William P. Dole, commissioner of Indian affairs, was in the state hoping to negotiate a treaty with the Chippewa, but the chiefs were restless and "saucy" and refused to meet with him. A letter from Dole at Anoka (Roll 13) supplements his correspondence in the records (Roll 2A). When he abandoned his task, the Minnesota legislature in special session authorized a state treaty with the Chippewa. Negotiated by Henry Rice in September, 1862, (a copy is in the papers for March, 1863, Roll 14), it was notable chiefly as a public relations gesture, since the state had no treaty-making powers.

The next year, in calmer circumstances, Washington authorized Ramsey to negotiate another treaty with the Indians for the cession of lands in northwestern Minnesota. He met with them at the Old Crossing of the Red Lake River in the fall of 1863. In the papers for that year (Roll 14) are his recommendations to the Indian Office regarding the treaty, his message to the Indians, letters of instruction to him, copies of the treaty (October, 1863), records of expenses incurred, information on the military escort sent with the treaty expedition, and data on persons who wished to participate in the mission. His journal of the treaty expedition is vol. 38 (Roll 39) of the diaries and memorandum books.

Among Ramsey's correspondents on this treaty and other Indian matters were Father Francis X. Pierz, George W. Northrup, Bishop Whipple, Norman W. Kittson, Paul H. Beaulieu, Henry A. Swift, Stephen R. Riggs, James W. Lynd, Sibley, Indian Office officials, and Hole-in-the-Day, an influential Chippewa chief.

A scattering of papers documents Ramsey's more routine functions during the gubernatorial years. Data on appointments to such positions as superintendent of public instruction, regent of the

University of Minnesota, and emigration agents is included. Other subjects touched upon are the state's fiscal situation, public lands, a proposed school for deaf mutes, the transfer of insane persons to an Iowa institution, the state prison, the apprehension of criminals, congressional bills of Minnesota interest, and railroad bonds and foreclosures. Among the correspondents are Lieutenant Governor Donnelly, Samuel P. Jennison, John S. Proctor, W. H. English, Andrew G. Chatfield, Edmund Rice, Jonas Howe, Charles Scheffer, David Blakeley, Gordon E. Cole, and Nathaniel P. Causin. There are letters of special interest from Alfred J. Hill about the state's northern boundary; from Sarah Josepha Hale about the celebration of Thanksgiving; from William Windom about the Bilansky murder case (see page 63); from Elijah M. Haines about a copyright infringement; from Dr. Rae about a hunt on the prairies; and from the redoubtable journalist Jane Swisshelm on a variety of subjects.

Personal business and family affairs, although not extensively represented in this period, continue to occupy a place in the papers. Included are the financial statements of Joseph Lewis, as well as data on the Hastings mill property (Roll 11), lands at Stillwater, farm land near La Crosse, Wisconsin, and the settlement of the Winston estate. Letters from Pennsylvania relatives note business transactions and family news. Among the correspondents is Francis A. (Frank) Eliot, who wrote to his sister Margaret Eliot Furness, from a Pennsylvania regiment. A letter (copy) from clergyman William H. Channing announced Frank's death in the battle of Chancellorsville.

Ramsey's preparations for winding up the governorship and moving to Washington are shown in Roll 14. After the legislature elected him to the Senate in January, 1863, he spent some time in Washington following the Minnesota legislative session, which ended in March, and was sworn in as a U.S. senator then, although he did not resign as governor until June. Some question was raised about his right to hold the two positions concurrently. However, since Lieutenant Governor Donnelly had been elected to the House of Representatives and his successor, Henry Swift, was reluctant to perform the governor's functions, Ramsey's action was not seriously disputed. A finale to the Ramseys' residence in St. Paul was written when they enrolled Marion in a Philadelphia school, moved into the National Hotel in Washington, and sold their first St. Paul house to Horace R. Bigelow.

SENATE, 1863-1875, AND ST. PAUL, 1875-1879

Ramsey's term in the U.S. Senate began on March 4, 1863, and he served a second term, which ran until March 3, 1875, in the Thirty-eighth through Forty-third Congresses (Rolls 14-21, 39-41. See also pamphlets on Rolls 55-57). Military affairs -- a prominent subject in the papers for the preceding period -- continued to occupy some of his attention until the end of the Civil War. Such correspondents as Willis Gorman, Henry Sibley, and Alfred

Sully sought help in obtaining promotions, while others requested positions or advocated reforms in the army's medical service. At the end of the war brief letters from Ramsey tell of his military inspection trip (1865, Roll 15) to Charleston and Richmond.

In his senatorial years Ramsey represented Minnesota on commissions for the Gettysburg and Antietam national cemeteries. There are reports and correspondence about meetings of the commissions and such problems as the controversy over the burial of Confederate soldiers at Antietam. Included, too, is a Maryland bill establishing a cemetery for Confederate soldiers and information about the legislation that established federal responsibility for military cemeteries. Information on these and other cemetery matters is on Rolls 16, 18-20.

Only a few scattered items recall Ramsey's Senate service on committees for naval affairs, patents, and territories. On the latter subject, John Potter and Nathaniel P. Langford, Minnesotans in Montana Territory, wrote about political affairs, overland travel there, and a Yellowstone colonization scheme of James L. Fisk.

Another Senate assignment in 1866 -- as chairman of the committee on post offices and post roads -- gave Ramsey an opportunity to pursue an interest he had retained since the 1840s when he was in the House of Representatives. The many clippings, memorials, memoranda, correspondence, drafts of bills, and speeches supply a great deal of information about national and international postal matters. They include data on finance, the abolition of the franking privilege, procedures for handling dead letters, devices for metering postage and canceling stamps, as well as proposals for providing federal subsidies to establish a postal telegraph service and to build American steamships that would carry foreign mail.

As chairman of the Senate postal committee, Ramsey was a logical choice for appointment in 1869 to the special commission of the Post Office Department to negotiate an international postal agreement with France. On the negotiating team with him were Edward E. Paulding and William C. Barney, the latter of whom also was interested in promoting a transatlantic cable between the United States and France. Information about the mission to Paris is found in correspondence, memoranda, and other materials (Roll 18) and a diary for 1869 (vol. 45, Roll 40). Among the writers were Paulding; Barney; John A. J. Creswell, postmaster general; and Joseph H. Blackfan, superintendent of foreign mails. Included is data on the background of postal relations between the United States and France, proposed treaty provisions, and brief references to Ramsey's association in Paris with Ambassador Elihu B. Washburne and a letter from John Meredith Read of the embassy staff. There is information, too, about meetings with proponents of international telegraph and cable projects and the reasons for the failure of Ramsey's mission. The full report of the negotia-

tions appears in 41 Congress, 2 session, Senate Executive Documents, no. 14 (serial 1405).

Patronage is another aspect of postal affairs documented in the papers. Postmaster and postal route agent positions constituted the majority of federal jobs available in Minnesota, and many loyal party members requested appointments. Requests for Ramsey's support also came from Republicans in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee who wanted secessionists removed from postal jobs. Additional letters, petitions, memoranda, and memorials scattered through the Senate years describe efforts to secure other federal positions, including assignments in the U.S. consular and diplomatic service. Among the correspondents on these and other public questions were William R. Marshall, Joseph A. Wheelock, Dr. Jacob H. Stewart, Frederick Driscoll, Henry A. Swift, Samuel P. Jennison, Cushman K. Davis, and Christopher C. Andrews, who was appointed minister to Norway and Sweden in 1869. (See especially Ramsey's speech notes for his address to the Senate on Scandinavian emigration and upgrading Andrew's position in the papers for June, 1874, Roll 21.)

Ramsey supported another project dear to St. Paulites. In May, 1866 (Roll 16) he introduced a bill for the construction of a federal building in St. Paul to house postal, judicial, and treasury department offices. The effort to secure the legislation, which had begun in the late 1850s, finally was successful. (Construction dragged on and the structure was not completed until 1873.) Correspondence with Judge Rensselaer R. Nelson, Dr. Stewart, and George W. Moore, a petition on behalf of the building, a draft of a bill from the treasury department, memoranda, and other items in the papers give many details of the project.

Measures for the improvement of the Mississippi River, which Ramsey supported, also were popular in Minnesota. He sponsored an amendment to the rivers and harbors bill in 1866 authorizing a War Department survey of the river which was conducted by General Gouverneur K. Warren of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. There is correspondence with Warren and others (1866-71, Rolls 16, 19) about river improvements and the survey, which included an examination of the Falls of St. Anthony, an important water-power source that erosion threatened to destroy.

A related measure involved installation of a lock and dam with water-power facilities on the Mississippi between St. Paul and Minneapolis. Called the "Meeker Dam Project," the venture required a federal land grant to finance construction. Bitter controversy raged over the project, which was never completed. Data on the subject is found in clippings, telegrams, a memorial of the Minnesota legislature, and many letters (1867-73, Rolls 16, 19-20). Among Ramsey's correspondents were Joseph Wheelock, Ignatius Donnelly, Eugene M. Wilson, William D. Washburn, and members of the Minneapolis Board of Trade.

Railroad extension was as important to Minnesotans as navigation improvement and this, too, had Ramsey's endorsement. In 1863 he introduced a bill providing a land grant to aid construction of the Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad. The bill became law in 1864 and the line between St. Paul and Duluth was completed in 1871. In 1865 Ramsey became a member of the committee on the Pacific Railroad; in the following years the files contain correspondence about the St. Paul and Pacific and the Lake Superior and Mississippi railroads. In 1866 (Rolls 15-16) there is correspondence with Elias F. Drake about additional legislation for land grants to the state in support of the Northern Pacific Railroad. Many letters, maps, and other papers concern these railroad measures, as well as complementary legislation relating to improvement of the harbor at Duluth as a Lake Superior terminus. Letters and telegrams in the files for 1873 (Roll 20) are about Senate Bills 1472 and 1473 for the construction of a railroad bridge over the Mississippi River at La Crosse, Wisconsin. Information on other bridge matters, including that completed over the Mississippi at Fort Snelling in 1880, is on Rolls 22 and 51 (vol. 131). Ramsey's correspondents on railroad matters included William L. Banning, Calvin A. Tuttle, George L. Becker, Oscar Taylor, Jay Cooke, Edmund Rice, Donnelly, Knute Nelson, and Charles H. Graves.

There are also copies of the Railroad Record Extra (1868, Roll 16) with a series of articles on Pacific railroads. Present, too, are materials on possible interline competition, problems of settlers claiming lands within the railroad grants, railroad land surveys, and the influence of a Pacific railroad on Canadian-American politics.

As railroads were extended into northern Minnesota, interest grew in settling that portion of the state. The discovery of gold in the Vermilion Lake region in 1865 accentuated the interest. The papers (Rolls 15-16) contain a map of the gold region, a copy of laws adopted by prospectors, and letters from such men as Thomas M. Newson and George R. Stuntz. Many questions were raised as a result of the short-lived gold rush. Correspondents urged surveys, sales of mineral land, and sought the removal of the Chippewa from the gold seekers' path. R. F. Crowell and Chief Hole-in-the-Day described the Indians' reluctance to move and the chief's wish to visit Washington on behalf of his people. A letter from Mrs. Ramsey tells of his visit and his fine presence at a reception in February, 1867 (Roll 16).

Further correspondence and related papers on Indian matters include data concerning Indian indemnity claims, the problem of resettling in Minnesota "deserving" Dakota who had not been involved in the 1862 conflict but who had been removed from their homes, the belated settlement of Ramsey's 1863 treaty commission accounts, and Sibley's experiences as a treaty commissioner negotiating with the Sioux in Dakota (1865, Roll 15). Other topics are a proposal to appoint Morton S. Wilkinson commissioner of Indian affairs, the

appointment (1873, Roll 20) of Dr. Foster as historiographer in the Office of Indian Affairs, Frank Mayer's wish to paint the treaty scene at Traverse des Sioux, and the Board of Indian Commissioners' second annual conference (1873); Alfred J. Hill's investigations of Indian mounds for the Minnesota Historical Society; and a description by Dr. Thomas S. Williamson of the condition of the Sioux on the Dakota plains.

Northern migration and railroad expansion affected Canadian-American relations. These and other interrelated subjects documenting the complex relationship of the two countries appear in clippings, memoranda, correspondence, and other items. Information is given on Ramsey's proposals for reciprocal trade agreements and trade regulation, the location of the international boundary with respect to Hunter's Island (1867, Roll 16) and U.S. consular representatives at Winnipeg, particularly James Wickes Taylor, who began a long career in that position in 1870. The implications of railroad expansion to the Pacific are discussed, as is the covert agitation for American annexation of portions of Canada. The theme of annexation also is expressed in the data on the Red River Rebellion, which broke out in 1869 (Roll 17). Among the correspondents (Rolls 16-19) are Taylor, William H. Seward, John Stiles, William G. Fonseca, and Oscar Malmros.

The papers Ramsey collected as a senator cover a wide variety of other subjects, only a few of which can be mentioned here. For example, there is information on currency, the national debt, taxes, and civil rights. A number of letters, affidavits, bills, and the like (1867-70, Rolls 16-19) advance special claims against the government by Joseph R. Brown and Arthur W. Kelley arising out of their service in Dakota during the war. There also are letters from Edward D. Neill, who, after leaving the White House where he was one of Lincoln's secretaries, was assigned to the consular service in Dublin and then returned to Minnesota to establish Macalester College; William W. Folwell, president of the University of Minnesota, who solicited federal support for university instructors of military tactics; Father George A. Belcourt (1867, Roll 16) renewing an acquaintance of the 1850s; and Dr. A. W. de Klerck of Amsterdam, who announced that he intended to investigate the condition of railroads offering bonds in foreign markets. Alexander H. H. Stuart, who had been secretary of the interior in the 1850s and had opposed secession, wanted his rights restored (1870-71, Rolls 19, 20).

Despite the variety of materials, however, there are only hints of Ramsey's views as a Republican "radical" on the great issues of Reconstruction faced by Congress, although there is some information on state and national politics during the period. Recorded are the fierce struggle within the state between the Ramsey and Donnelly factions of the Republican party, the election of Daniel S. Norton as U.S. senator in 1865 (Roll 15), Ramsey's re-election campaign in 1868 (Roll 16), and the Minnesota legisla-

ture's choice of Samuel J. R. McMillan as his successor in 1875 (Roll 21). There are some notes on Ramsey's campaigns on behalf of Lincoln in 1864 and Grant in 1868 and Republican circulars for the 1872 presidential campaign (Rolls 15-16, 20).

Letters, invitations, visiting cards, tickets, and other items provide a rich source of information on life in Washington, Philadelphia, and St. Paul, and on family news and travels. A vivid picture emerges of the Washington scene, particularly during the Lincoln and Johnson administrations. Visits to wounded Civil War soldiers in Washington hospitals, sight-seeing trips with visitors, shopping, social calls, dinners, receptions, opera-going, and social functions at the White House are detailed. Mrs. Ramsey writes of dining at the White House in early 1865 and attending the theater with Mrs. Lincoln; other letters report on Lincoln's assassination and John Wilkes Booth's death in April, 1865 (Roll 15). Neill comments on clearing out his office after the president's death, and a card from the secretary of war invites Ramsey to accompany the funeral train to Springfield.

Not to be neglected are letters and other information about Martha E. Clark Hall, the Ramseys' Negro servant, who was a member of their household for many years and whose friends and social life both in St. Paul and Washington are mentioned in the papers.

Information on Philadelphia, St. Paul, and other areas, and on family matters is included in letters from Mrs. Ramsey's relatives. There are communications from William J. Jenks of Philadelphia and Mr. and Mrs. J. Ridgway Jenks of St. Paul. Data on Michael H. Jenks includes information about his Minnesota investments, a copy of his will, and other papers about his estate after his death in 1867 (Roll 16). Other letters concern Hannah Crouch, her husband, and Hannah's part-time residence with the Ramseys after the Reverend C. J. Crouch's death in 1874.

Letters from Ramsey's sister Catherine R. Nininger and her children, written from St. Paul, New York, Alabama, and Europe tell of the education of daughters Catherine and Pauline (the latter began her singing career as Pauline Lucca during these years). Mrs. Nininger describes life on an Alabama plantation after the war, and Lieutenant Alexander R. Nininger, her son, wrote from Alabama where he was stationed (Roll 16).

Programs and a few letters from Marion Ramsey, who was attending Miss Eliza Casey's school in Philadelphia, give information on concerts and school activities. There are many letters to her from St. Paul friends -- particularly Ellen Mackubin -- filled with accounts of studies, parties, popular books of the times, amateur theatricals, church functions, and local gossip.

When Ramsey went to Paris on his postal mission in 1869, Mrs. Ramsey and Marion went with him. After traveling about with them

for a time, Ramsey went to Paris to stay until November. His wife and daughter spent the winter in Dresden, where Marion studied German and music. The two then visited Austria and Switzerland, went to Paris, where they witnessed some events of the Franco-German War, and sailed for home in August, 1870. Mrs. Ramsey's journal, programs, letters, and memorabilia of their experiences, particularly of their life in Dresden, are in the correspondence files (Rolls 18-19). Marion's European diary is vol. 97 (Roll 47).

Lieutenant Herbert A. Sawyer, whom Marion met in Dresden, wrote many letters to her in the next five years from India, where he was posted with the Nineteenth Punjab Infantry. Many other letters came to her after her social debut in Washington in the winter of 1870-71 (Roll 19). Among her correspondents were J. Davis Tileston; Fitch Gilbert of Gilbertsville, New York; and Charles E. Furness of Philadelphia, who was introduced to the Ramseys by Charles Sumner, a family friend.

Charles Furness and Marion became engaged in the summer of 1874 (Roll 21). The papers contain letters of congratulation, a copy of the wedding invitation, the marriage license, and bills for wedding expenses and the trousseau purchased for Marion in Paris by Ellen Mackubin. Following the wedding in March, 1875, the Furnesses went to live in Philadelphia.

Before their European trip, the Ramseys had made plans to build a new house in St. Paul (Rolls 16-20 and vols. 40-52 on Rolls 40-41). The foundation was laid in 1868. The papers contain bills for supplies and construction as well as specifications, drawings, elevations, and contracts. Itemized lists of purchases from eastern firms of furniture, fixtures, and draperies also are in the files. The house was substantially completed in 1872 and the family moved in that fall. Until Ramsey's retirement from the Senate in March, 1875, they lived in this house while in St. Paul and in the National Hotel while in Washington. After retirement, the house became their permanent residence, and it is this structure which has been preserved.

Tranquil years between 1875 and 1879 are described in many letters from Mrs. Ramsey to her daughter (Rolls 21-23). They tell of Ramsey reading Dickens aloud on winter evenings, or promenading on the piazza listening to the robins sing in spring, or collecting his rents with "religious" regularity on the first of each month, of Mrs. Ramsey visiting with her St. Paul neighbors, tending her flower garden, or sewing baby clothes for Marion's children.

Ramsey made trips East each year during this period. There is little in the correspondence to describe his activities, although he seems to have lobbied for railroad legislation on several of the trips. In 1876 (Roll 22) he visited Marion and the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition, and attended the Republican national convention which nominated Rutherford B. Hayes for presi-

dent. After the election a former Senate colleague, Zachariah Chandler, was appointed to the Hayes cabinet. Among the letters from political associates are those from Chandler, Henry B. Anthony, Cassius M. Clay, and William G. Le Duc. Ramsey recommended Le Duc for appointment as commissioner of agriculture.

It was Le Duc who in 1878 helped to arrange for President and Mrs. Hayes to visit Minnesota, where they were entertained by the Ramseys. Letters from Le Duc, William S. King, George R. Finch, and Hayes concern the visit and the appearance of the president and James G. Blaine at the Minnesota State Fair (Roll 22).

While the bulk of the papers for this interim consist of Mrs. Ramsey's letters, there is much information in them about the Furnesses in Philadelphia and the birth of their children. An 1876 letter from Rudolph F. Kelker gives genealogical data on the Kelker and Greenawalt families. Business records continue in the papers. After 1876 Joseph Lewis left Ramsey's employ and there are no more of his statements of account. A file of papers in 1879 summarizes titles to the Hastings mill property.

SECRETARY OF WAR, 1879-1881

In July, 1879, President Hayes invited Ramsey to join his cabinet as secretary of war. The Senate confirmed the nomination in December and Ramsey served until succeeded by Robert T. Lincoln in March, 1881. The period is covered by Rolls 23-26, 42-43, and 48-49. The papers contain several letters from President Hayes about the appointment as well as congratulatory letters from family and friends and from job seekers and their supporters. Ramsey's responses suggest his problem in trying to satisfy the latter. A limited number of civilian positions were available in the department, and most of them had been filled before he took office at mid-term in the Hayes administration. Many of the letters described in this section are Ramsey's "private" correspondence which was segregated from his "official" papers as secretary of war. The private letter books, which contain his answers, are on Rolls 48-49 (vols. 104-105, see page 43).

In addition to the applicants for civilian posts, other persons wrote requesting appointments to West Point, assignments in the territorial governments of western states, and positions such as military chaplain, trader, paymaster, and member of the Board of Visitors for West Point. Unable to fulfill many of these requests, Ramsey added names to the hundreds already in the job seekers' file. Unhappy officers and employees and their friends added another category of letters. Ignoring the chain of command, they appealed directly to the secretary, complaining of injustices done, asking for redress of grievances, for a new assignment, an extension of furlough, or some other special consideration. Ramsey investigated their problems and was able to help some. Letters by or in behalf of Henry C. De Ahna, Charles Brewster, C. A. H. Mc-

Cauley, William H. Rogers, and Henry T. Stockton, are of particular interest, as is a report on the service of Major Martin R. Delany in the U.S. Colored Troops. In addition to these complaining letters, there were many applications for military pensions, which Ramsey forwarded to the Department of the Interior, commissioner of pensions.

A great number of Minnesotans wrote to Ramsey about jobs, War Department business, or their need for help in approaching some other part of the federal bureaucracy. Of interest to many was the St. Paul position of supervisor and inspector of steamboats, for which there are letters and a petition in support of candidates Mark D. Flower and John H. Reaney. Also included are friendly letters from congressmen who had known Ramsey during his years in the House and Senate, as well as from other legislators who had official business to transact. Pennsylvanians also considered him a friendly presence in the government and claimed his attention. Other correspondents requested his autograph or photograph and government publications such as the army register and the newly published volumes of records of The War of the Rebellion.

Many of the letters and other items for this period are routine. A notable exception is the material on the Whittaker case (Rolls 24-26). On April 5, 1880, Johnson C. Whittaker, the only Negro cadet at West Point, was found in his room bound and suffering from wounds. After consultation with the president, Ramsey asked Martin I. Townsend, U.S. district attorney for the northern district of New York, to conduct an investigation and sit in on the court of inquiry in the case. Townsend's preliminary report is in the papers as are letters and newspaper clippings about it. Racism and snobbery among the cadets were widely blamed for Whittaker's plight, and there was a loud clamor for reform at the academy.

Few believed either that Whittaker's wounds were self-inflicted, as was alleged, or that he was an incompetent student, although he was dropped from the rolls for failing one of his final examinations. Nor did Townsend, who wrote Ramsey in outspoken sympathy for the young cadet. Letters came from the Reverend Justin D. Fulton, Elihu B. Washburne, Melville D. Landon (Eli Perkins), John Butler, Hawkins Taylor, and others. In May, General John M. Schofield, commanding officer at the academy, invited Ramsey to address the 1880 graduating class. His invitation is in the papers, as is one from Professor Edgar W. Bass (son of Minnesota pioneer Jacob W. Bass) who invited Ramsey to stay with him while at West Point. A news story (June, 1880) about the event quotes Ramsey as telling the class that it was "ignoble to be governed by an imagined superiority" and "thrice ignoble to make active exhibition of so unworthy a sentiment by oppressing those we may deem beneath us. A true manhood dictates the extending of a helping hand."

Working within the military system, Ramsey and the president made plans to replace General Schofield at the academy. Telegrams from General Alfred H. Terry indicate that he was considered for the position, but the final choice of General Oliver O. Howard (after whom Howard University was named) was a popular one. The president, Ramsey, and Howard all approved Whittaker's request for a court martial. Because court action was pending, Ramsey made no further public comment on the case nor is there in the files any record of the court proceedings. His view of the case is suggested, however, in his annual report (in the papers for November, 1880) recommending the upgrading of academic standards at West Point and adding a fifth "preparatory" year "to keep the Academy open to boys from all conditions of life." A final letter from Townsend (February, 1881) appeared to express public satisfaction as well as his own for Ramsey's course in "saying kind words and doing kind deeds for the weak and friendless."

Ramsey was a member of the president's party on a long western trip in the fall of 1880. The papers contain newspaper accounts of the journey and of the many public functions; letters, particularly those of Charles Furness who accompanied the party as far as San Francisco; and communications from Ramsey's private secretary, Major Jacob J. Noah, and chief clerk, Henry T. Crosby, in the War Department. The trip combined official and political functions and, according to one of Ramsey's correspondents, was an important influence on the West Coast in the Republican victory in November.

Ramsey, who expected to leave his post when Garfield took office in 1881, began to think of the future. His name was mentioned for other national positions, but he decided to try again for the U.S. Senate. Clippings and letters from Thomas M. Newson, William S. King, and other faithful friends tell of his unsuccessful contest with Samuel J. R. McMillan for the position.

Ramsey heard from other old friends and acquaintances in these years -- from Wallace B. White then living in England; Dr. Foster in a "valley of humiliation" in the second auditor's office; Moses N. Adams, an army chaplain in the West; Joshua B. Carter in Melbourne, Australia; and a group of Minnesota old settlers planning to celebrate the opening of the new Fort Snelling bridge in 1880. Dr. John Rae wrote about the Howgate polar expedition, Frank Mayer about his painting, and Frederick Billings about railroads and the imminent completion of the Northern Pacific. Other letters and clippings recalled many of Ramsey's past associations. Lafayette College days were remembered when he and President Hayes attended the dedication of Pardee Hall in December, 1880. In the same month, a few letters and a commission document the fact that Ramsey served for ten days as acting secretary of the navy (Roll 26).

A few items concern Ramsey's personal life during this period.

A clipping entitled "Celebrities at Home" presents an amiable picture of Ramsey at his office and at home in the J. A. J. Cresswell house at 19th and I streets in Washington. Some idea of the Ramseys' social life is gleaned from the invitations to parties, receptions, and meetings of patriotic organizations. Letters tell of the death of Charley Furness, Ramsey's grandson; Mrs. Ramsey's long illness; and the death of Ramsey's brother Justus in 1881. There are bills from Washington shopkeepers, lists of household supplies purchased from the U.S. army commissary, and continuing Minnesota land and tax papers.

RETIREMENT, 1881-1903

When Ramsey returned to St. Paul after retiring as secretary of war, his public career was virtually at an end. Although he served on a few boards and commissions, for the most part he settled down quietly and collected rents for the rest of his life. The papers reflect this change (Rolls 26-37, 43-47, 49, 51). They also reflect changes in the lives of his family. After Charles Furness took a railroad position in Minnesota, he and his family moved to St. Paul. In 1882 he became ill, went East for medical treatment, and never again lived with his family. Marion Furness and her three children stayed on with her parents in the big stone house on Exchange Street; when her mother died in 1884, she took over management of the household.

A short period of public service came for Ramsey before he settled down in St. Paul. In May, 1881, William Windom, secretary of the treasury in the Garfield cabinet, appointed Ramsey a special examiner to make an investigation at the U.S. mint in San Francisco. Windom's invitation, the appointment, and bills for some purchases made in San Francisco are in the papers (Roll 26-27), but there is no information about Ramsey's duties there. In October of the same year Ramsey went East as a commissioner for the Yorktown centennial celebration, representing Minnesota governor John S. Pillsbury. As secretary of war Ramsey had participated in some of the planning for the celebration. His certificate of appointment, a newspaper interview with him, and several invitations to centennial functions are in the papers.

Ramsey's only major public assignment in these years was as a member of the Utah Registration and Election Board. Authorized by Congress under terms of the Edmunds Bill, the commission was formed to supervise elections in Utah Territory in an effort to stamp out the practice of polygamy. Ramsey was named to the board by President Chester A. Arthur in June, 1882, and accepted the position in July. He became chairman of the board at its first meeting in Utah in August and served in that position until his resignation in 1886. In the correspondence (1882-88, Rolls 27-29) are some printed commission reports, a statement by Harriet E. Cook Young about polygamy, and a few letters, which reveal little about his service. The chief source of information in the papers on his

commission duties is a scrapbook on Roll 51, vol. 132 (see page 43).

There are certificates for Ramsey's appointments as a Minnesota delegate to the constitutional centennial celebration in Philadelphia (1887) and to the National Farmers Congresses in 1896-97; a letter from Henry S. Fairchild speaks of Ramsey's membership on a committee to select the site for a new state capitol in 1893. The papers afford similar glimpses of his other public activities on the governing boards of the St. Paul Public Library and the Minnesota Historical Society, for example, and of his contributions to Republican party activities, the endowment fund for Macalester College, churches, patriotic, and humanitarian organizations.

Scattered letters about a variety of subjects are in the correspondence files (Rolls 28-34). There is significant genealogical data on the Ramsey forebears in letters of 1887 and 1895; on the Greenawalts in 1891; and on the Jenks family in 1896. Information about the Furnesses is contained in letters from Charles Furness' parents, his sisters and brothers, his uncle (the Reverend William H. Furness), and in his uncle's obituaries (1896). Early Minnesota and Pennsylvania days are recalled in scattered clippings on these rolls; in Dr. Foster's reminiscences (1898, Roll 34); in letters from P. L. Share in which was enclosed a badge for the 1840 Harrison presidential campaign; from A. Boyd Hamilton about politics and Ramsey's law studies with Hamilton Alricks (1893); from Clark E. Carr (1897-98) who remembered that it was Ramsey who transmitted to President Lincoln the request that the president deliver an address at the dedication of the Gettysburg cemetery.

A few other letters deserve special notice (Rolls 30-31, 36-37). One from Frank Mayer (1893) was a last appeal for funds for his painting; U. S. J. Dunbar requested Ramsey to sit for a bust (1894); Vinnie R. Hoxie wrote about her portrait of Ramsey (1902); George B. Halsted asked his opinion on placing statues of Henry Sibley and William Windom in the Statuary Hall of the U.S. House of Representatives (1891). In 1888 Ramsey was notified that a St. Paul public school was to be named in his honor. Other letters and clippings (1902) concern ceremonies in honor of the steamship "St. Paul," at which Anita Furness represented her grandfather, and letters of appreciation he received from the National Life Insurance Company as its last living original incorporator (1903).

The bulk of the correspondence is between Mrs. Furness and her children and reveals many facets of their life and Ramsey's in his retirement years. Many of those with whom the Furnesses corresponded were Ramsey's friends, too, and information about him and about day-to-day activities in St. Paul appears in these letters. Church attendance, carriage and bicycle rides, teas, luncheons, dinners, receptions, German dances, concerts, theater, lectures, clubs, shopping, sewing, cardplaying, births, deaths, marriages -- hardly a daily detail is omitted from the newsy letters. Bills,

report cards, and other items give information on the children's school days and language study beginning with their kindergarten years, while letters from White Bear Lake and Clearwater report on summer holidays spent there.

Travel played an important part in the lives of family members. Mrs. Furness regularly visited her husband (first in New Jersey and later at Rochester, Minnesota) and Furness relatives. Her letters and those of the children describe visits with friends and relatives and travels to Chicago, New York, Philadelphia, Yellowstone Park, Boston, Washington, D.C., and Boone, Kentucky. Ramsey, too, contributed to the family travel narratives, writing briefly from Mexico; Hot Springs, Arkansas; and Saratoga Springs, New York. All attended the World's Fair in Chicago in 1893 (Roll 30).

In 1894 Anita went to Paris with Alice P. Goodrich and her daughter, Constance. The two girls were enrolled in the Convent de l'Assomption at Auteuil, near Paris. Mrs. Furness joined Anita for the summer holidays in 1895. Anita stayed on for another year, making trips to other places in France, Germany, and England. Many details of the journeys, studies, friends, and life in the convent school are given in letters from Anita, her mother, and Mrs. Goodrich, as well as in report cards, school bills, and financial accounts. More school and travel records for Anita are in Rolls 53-54 (vols. 145-152). Vol. 100 (Roll 47) is a diary of a European trip of her aunts Rebekah and Laura Furness. Anita returned home in 1896 and was introduced to St. Paul society that fall.

Laura was graduated from high school in St. Paul and in 1900 went to Boston, where she attended Mrs. Henry Bellows' school on Beacon Street. Hospitable Furness relatives lived nearby and her letters tell of visiting Harvard University with her Uncle Dawes E. Furness and of hearing her father's cousin Horace H. Furness lecture on Shakespeare. She wrote about classes, concerts, theater and gallery trips, friends, and holiday visits with other St. Paul girls in the East. She returned to St. Paul in 1901 and her "coming out" was held in November.

Letters from many friends of Laura and Anita are in the papers. Some of the most interesting are from Charles M. Flandrau, who wrote about school days at Harvard, summer work in the West, European travels, and his first book, The Diary of a Freshman (Rolls 30, 35-37). His sister Patty Flandrau Selmes wrote of her life in St. Paul and Boone, Kentucky; her daughter, Isabella; and such friends as the James J. Hills, Julia Marlowe (who wrote several notes to the Furnesses), and the Theodore Roosevelts, whom she visited at the White House in 1902.

Ramsey Furness' educational experiences were less rewarding than those of his sisters. Family letters mention a brief academic career at Phillips Academy at Andover, Massachusetts, from which he was expelled, and at a school in Waban, Massachusetts, which he

attended for part of a year. After returning to St. Paul, Ramsey worked for a season at Crow Wing and then "on the line" for the Great Northern Railway Company. Letters from him tell of his experiences and frustrations on these jobs.

Monthly statements of account, correspondence, tax lists, and other papers have substantial information on the financial base that supported the Ramsey-Furness family. These materials, with those relating to the estates of Ramsey (1903), his wife (1884), and his brother Justus (1881), make up about half of the correspondence and miscellaneous papers between 1881 and 1903. Ramsey's extensive real estate holdings and those which Marion Furness inherited from her mother are well documented. Among them is correspondence (1897-99) about titles to lands in Washington County in which Ramsey had invested with Joshua Carter, data on St. Paul buildings constructed for Ramsey, and many other business interests. They include information on a patent for an automatic railroad switch, of which Ramsey was part owner, and on the Mesaba Iron Company, incorporated in 1882, of which Ramsey was president for a time. During this period other companies in which Ramsey held stock were either in financial difficulties or failed. Letters, stock certificates, and financial statements indicate, for example, that the American Life Insurance Company was in financial straits. Clippings (1881-82) tell of the bankruptcy of his nephew Alexander R. Nininger, whose company in Miles City, Montana, had close financial ties with many St. Paul businesses. Extensive files for the Germania Bank of St. Paul give details of its receivership and reorganization which involved bank officials, Ramsey, and Mrs. Furness in a lengthy legal dispute that lasted until well after Ramsey's death.

Ramsey's death in April, 1903, brought a flood of memorials, obituaries, and letters of condolence, many with a reminiscent theme. Among those who recalled associations with Ramsey were Rudolph F. Kelker, William J. Jenks, Joseph H. Woodbury (son of Chipewa Chief Hole-in-the-Day), Katharine Read Lockwood (daughter of John Meredith Read), former family servant Cornelius O'Connor, and Marguerite F. Very (daughter of Marine Corps General Jacob Zeilin).

Volumes

Ramsey's diary and memorandum books on Rolls 38-47 (vols. 1-90) provide an invaluable tool for understanding the rest of his papers and records. Political, business, civic, cultural, social, and family affairs are chronicled in day-to-day entries, noting where he went; the persons he saw; the letters he wrote; the money he spent and received; the land and lots he bought, sold, rented, or leased; the organizations he supported and served; his political activities; and the social events in which he and his family participated. For the most part the entries are brief and factual

with rare comments about or evaluations of what he has recorded.

The diaries and memorandum books for the Pennsylvania years (Roll 38) were kept in less orderly fashion than the later volumes. At times they are little more than jottings. Lists of books in his library, quotations from famous writers, useful facts, study schedules, political data, and expense accounts (often in German) are contained in them. An exception, in vols. 1-2, are consecutive entries chronicling his trip to Texas in 1840. Ramsey explained (vol. 7) the fragmentary nature of one diary. It was not kept "accurately," he wrote, "as I was more attentive to politics (the Harrison campaign being a very exciting one)."

When Ramsey moved to Minnesota in 1849, he began the more systematic entries that are characteristic of the later volumes. Before 1877 business and personal notations are intermingled. In 1876 when he discharged his manager, he began keeping two diary-memorandum books for each year. One of them was perhaps intended to record purely business matters but the distinction was soon forgotten, and he seems to have written indiscriminately in whichever book was readily at hand.

While engaged in Indian Office business, he also kept separate diaries. For example, on Roll 38, vol. 20 covers an official trip to "Chippewa country" in 1850; vol. 22 covers the period in which he was negotiating Dakota and Chippewa treaties in 1851. Many of the events of the Dakota negotiations are detailed in vols. 25-26 (Rolls 38-39), which contain notes on testimony given during the 1853 treaty investigations. Negotiations with the Chippewa for a treaty in 1863 are covered in vol. 38 (Roll 39). A related financial record, vol. 115 (Roll 51), is the bank book showing Ramsey's deposits and withdrawals of Indian Office funds in the Merchants Bank of New York, 1852-54.

Some diaries and memorandum books contain records of special political interest. Vol. 11 (Roll 38) is a list of Ramsey's Pennsylvania constituents to whom he sent government publications when he was in the House. Vol. 16 (Roll 38) appears to be a record of funds paid to Pennsylvania campaign workers in 1848. Vols. 158-159 (Roll 54) are lists of Minnesota voters. The former may be for Ramsey's gubernatorial years (1859-63). The latter, much more comprehensive, is a listing by county, town or city, and occupation of prominent Republicans throughout Minnesota in 1870.

Rolls 51-53 (vols. 128-138) contain scrapbooks. Of these, vol. 128 contains clippings regarding Pennsylvania elections and related political data for the 1830s and 1840s, while vols. 129-130, 133-134 contain clippings from Minnesota and eastern newspapers on politics, elections, agriculture, and other subjects, and many reminiscences of early days in Pennsylvania and Minnesota.

Two scrapbooks deal with other special subjects. Vol. 131 con-

tains a record of the debates in the Senate and House in May, 1866, on Senate Bill 236, which Ramsey reported from his committee on post offices and post roads, authorizing the construction of a railroad bridge over the Mississippi River at Burlington, Iowa. There also is mention of Ramsey's support for a comprehensive survey of the river. (Another item of railroad interest is in vol. 161 (Roll 54) the program of the St. Paul celebration upon the completion of the Great Northern Railway in 1893.)

An indexed file of clippings from eastern and Utah newspapers in vol. 132 (Roll 51) concerns many aspects of the "Utah question" during the years 1882-86 when Ramsey served as chairman of the Utah Commission. There are reports of interviews with Ramsey and other commissioners; information on commission-supervised elections, territorial government, and court cases involving voting rights; and comments, lectures, sermons, and other data on polygamy, religious freedom, economic activity in Utah, and attempts of anti-Mormon "Gentiles" to gain economic advantage there. Portrayed more fully than in the correspondence files are Ramsey's moderate position on the board and his interest in safeguarding freedom of religion, while at the same time attempting to carry out the terms of the Edmunds Bill to disfranchise Utah polygamists.

Letterbooks (Rolls 48-49) covering Ramsey's "private" and confidential correspondence while secretary of war (vols. 104-105) comprise his answers to many of the letters in the correspondence and miscellaneous papers. They are more revealing than other sources in the papers of his views and actions on political, patronage, and sensitive matters such as the Whittaker case and reform at West Point and of his relations with the president and other members of the administration and Congress. A third letterbook, vol. 103, contains a few personal letters, largely for 1852.

The key to Ramsey's manifold real estate transactions is contained in the financial volumes (Rolls 49-51). Vol. 106 lists his holdings and sales of land and lots in St. Paul and such areas as Nininger, Stillwater, and Red Wing, Minnesota, and Superior, Wisconsin. A brief check list of properties leased in 1862-79 is contained in vol. 107. Tax assessments on St. Paul lots, 1873-1901, are noted in vol. 108, and rent collections for Ramsey and for his estate, 1897-1903, are itemized in vol. 109. The journals for the years from 1857-73 in vols. 112-113 and the indexed ledgers, 1849-76, in vols. 110-111 give remarkably detailed information: a full range of such financial transactions as household expenses, servants and laborers employed, moneys invested for family and eastern friends, farm income and expenses, itemized costs for settling the Thomas B. Winston estate (1861-64), and accounts with many other individuals and firms. Vol. 116 is little more than a memorandum concerning a subscription fund invested in real estate for the benefit of Edward Neill, and vol. 117 summarizes Ramsey's notes receivable and payable on lots, rents, stocks, and farm seeds in various Minnesota counties. The monthly statements of account kept

by Joseph Lewis, 1867-76, in vol. 114, like the other financial records described here, supplement the deeds, leases, abstracts, bills, and receipts found in the correspondence files.

Special accounts for Ramsey's investment in the mill property at Hastings are in vols. 118-122 (Roll 51). They cover Dr. Foster's expenditures as superintendent of the works for the building of the flour and grist mill at Hastings and some of the records of the early operation of the mill. Vol. 118 also contains Foster's entries for the operation of his St. Paul drug store.

Two volumes concern Justus Ramsey's business dealings (Roll 51). Vol. 123 contains brief records of his book and stationery business in St. Paul (1849-50) and a few of his real estate investments. Vol. 125 is the record kept by Ramsey as executor (1881-82) of his brother's estate. Ramsey was executor of Mrs. Ramsey's estate and kept records for this undertaking in vol. 126. A third "estate" book, vol. 127, contains itemized accounts of the executors of his own estate.

Only a few volumes were kept by Mrs. Ramsey. They include diary and memorandum books (vols. 94-96) and two recipe books (vols. 156-157) which seem to have been used by Marion Furness also. In vols. 94-96, largely for the years 1879-84, are recorded some household expenses, social engagements, and travel notes, a record of social calls in Washington and St. Paul, and visits to the Home for the Friendless, a St. Paul charitable organization which Mrs. Ramsey supported.

Marion Furness' school notebooks (1865-70) are on Roll 53 in vols. 139-144. Roll 47 contains vol. 97 (June-August, 1869) covering her trip to Europe, vols. 98-99 including lists of calls she made (1887-92 and 1894-1901), and other memoranda (1878-98).

For Anna (Anita) Furness (Rolls 51-54) there are personal financial accounts (1894-1900) in vol. 124; scrapbooks, largely of programs and other memorabilia (1890-1909) in vols. 135-136; and notebooks largely for classes during the years when she studied in France, vols. 145-152. Diaries and memorandum books for Laura Furness (Rolls 47, 52-54) are in vols. 101-102; her scrapbooks are vols. 137-138; and her notes for classes (ca. 1900-02) are vols. 153-154. In addition to these Furness volumes there is an inventory of the books in Charles Furness' library in 1886 (vol. 160) and a diary (vol. 100) kept by his sisters Rebekah and Laura Furness on a trip to Europe (1893-94). Sketches in vol. 155 may have been drawn by one of the sisters.

Library Pamphlets

Pamphlets and miscellaneous printed items which Ramsey gave to the

society in 1878 and which are located in the library are found on Rolls 55-57. They are divided into two series. The first, an unbound file, is arranged roughly in alphabetical order by the first letter of the author's surname, by publication title, or by subject. The alphabetical reference point is not always clear. The second series consists of 40 bound volumes. Each item within a volume is numbered on the first page and a brief volume index (not always inclusive) precedes the items.*

Most of the items date from the 1860s and 1870s. Many reflect the concerns of Congress during Ramsey's senatorial years, and they include reports, speeches, and extensions of remarks. Particularly numerous are publications relating to the Civil War, slavery, suffrage, the Sanitary Commission, Reconstruction, the Freedmen's Bureau, the Ku Klux Klan, the Union League, and the impeachment of Andrew Johnson.

In addition, there are items concerning trade, tariffs, manufactures, agriculture, the public lands, mining and mineral resources, education, immigration, civil service reform, Cuba, Canadian-American relations, banking, currency, taxation, women's rights, the U.S. Navy, Army, and Merchant Marine, and the welfare of sailors, soldiers, and seamen.

Ramsey's special interests in railroad and water transportation are reflected. The pamphlets relating to railroads have information on legislation and the construction of the Lake Superior and Mississippi, Northern Pacific, Union Pacific, and other lines and the building of the Sutro Tunnel in California. Printed materials dealing with water transportation concern navigation of the Fox, Wisconsin, and Upper Mississippi rivers and the Falls of St. Anthony; the authorization and building of the Duluth and other canals; steamboat transportation of passengers and mail; shipbuilding; and ocean steam navigation.

Ramsey's involvement with improved postal service, reform of the franking privilege, and establishment of a postal telegraph system are well represented. Among items relating to the telegraph system are Gardiner G. Hubbard's report on his visit to Europe (1871) to study postal telegraph systems (vol. 34); the Minnesota legislature's report (1867) on a telegraph line in connection with the Northern Pacific Railroad (vol. 21); Ramsey's Senate speech (1872) on "Postal Telegraph -- the Method To Obtain Cheap

*The reader is reminded that only the indexes and the first pages of the publications are filmed. To order a full photocopy of any of these items from the society's library, note the title and alphabetical references for the unbound series and the volume and item numbers for the bound series. The reader should also be warned that the roll notes on the microfilm list the contents of Rolls 55-57 incorrectly. The alphabetical series and vols. 1-6 are on Roll 55, vols. 7-24 on Roll 56, and vols. 25-40 on Roll 57.

and Safe Telegrams," (vol. 31); and his report (1872) on Senate Bill 341 to reduce telegraph rates and to connect the telegraph and postal service (vol. 33). Notable, too, are the proceedings of a public meeting in St. Paul (1859) to support an overland mail service from the city to Puget Sound (vol. 7).

Ramsey's concern with Indian affairs is well represented also. Data are present for various tribes on such subjects as treaties, education, proposed reforms, and investigations. Among the items is a request for a supplementary appropriation relating to the Dakota treaty of 1858 (vol. 33); the two Chippewa treaties (1863) Ramsey negotiated and a confidential message (1863-64) by the president regarding them (vols. 2, 28); publications of the Bishop Samuel Seabury's mission (Faribault, Minnesota) on the "Indian System" (vols. 18, 25); Donnelly's speech (1865) on reform of that system (vol. 15); Neill's survey (1868) of efforts to "civilize" the native peoples (vol. 25); and Dr. Foster's views [1872?] on Indian matters (vol. 13).

Among the substantial number of publications on territories scattered throughout the pamphlet collection are many relating to Utah. They contain materials on such subjects as polygamy, celestial marriage, territorial courts, the Utah Bill, and the constitution of the State of Deseret. Information on Dakota Territory, though less voluminous, includes reports on history, exploration, and resources, as well as the messages (vols. 22, 33) of early territorial governors. Among Colorado items are William Gilpin's notes (1870) on the territory (vol. 11).

The publications contain a good deal of information on national cemeteries. Ramsey was one of the original commissioners (1864) of the Soldier's National Cemetery, which later became the Gettysburg National Cemetery. The charter, speeches, special reports, and the commission's annual reports (1864-73) are among the items included (Alpha File, G; vols. 2, 3, 6, 15, 25). There also is information on national cemeteries at Antietam (vols. 33, 36), at Jefferson Barracks (Alpha, J), and at Arlington (vol. 32).

A number of scattered publications relate to the national capital. Among them are the reports of Norton P. Chipman and others, largely for the 1870s, on extension of the capitol grounds, government of the District of Columbia, the location of the Washington railroad depot (vols. 4, 5, 8, 16, 24), and several publications advocating removal of the capital to the Mississippi Valley (vols. 39, 40). Other items relate to a Lincoln memorial (vols. 2, 22) and appeals for funds to complete the Washington Monument (vols. 23, 28).

A few items of Pennsylvania interest include publications (1867, 1870, 1872) about Lafayette College (Alpha, H; vols. 11, 28, 33) and others concerning the centennial celebration (1876) in Philadelphia (Alpha, I; vol. 32); an address (1872) about the Penn-

sylvania Historical Society (vol. 16); a report (1866) on the Union League of Philadelphia (vol. 30); and addresses (1850, 1868) by Pennsylvania governors (Alpha, J, P).

Among other gubernatorial addresses are those of Rutherford B. Hayes of Ohio (Alpha, H) dated 1868, and Lucius B. Fairchild of Wisconsin (Alpha, W) dated 1869. Ramsey included his own messages (1860-63) to the legislature (vol. 15) and those of his successors Henry A. Swift, Stephen A. Miller, and Horace Austin (vols. 15, 25, 35). A number of Ramsey's speeches and reports for his senatorial years are in vols. 18, 31, and 33.

There are other publications of state interest -- a number of speeches by Minnesota congressmen; a University of Minnesota "Almanac" for 1872 (vol. 1); essays on "Minnesota as a Home for Emigrants" (1865) by Mary J. Colburn and William R. Smith (vol. 17); a brochure (1871) on the Northwestern Colonization Company (vol. 10); Eduard Pelz's "Das Mississippi-Gelenke" (1871) (vol. 3); and a letter (1864) recommending the publication of the writings of B. A. Froiseth in the Scandinavian languages (vol. 22).

This brief description cannot convey the remarkable variety of subject material covered by dozens of these pamphlets. The information they contain ranges from the cultivation of opium in the United States to the Chicago fire, from the ventilation of buildings to the future of the Republican party, from the Society for Abolishing Humbug to plays and other publications in German and English, from spiritualism to Unitarianism, from phonography to travelers' guides.

Description of the Records

THE RECORDS for Ramsey's gubernatorial terms located in the State Archives consist of subject files and volumes. The subject file and volume titles appear on the microfilm as segment titles. The materials are copied on Rolls 1A-13A in the same sequence as they are found in the archives. Some volumes containing records of Ramsey's administrations also include records of other governors; these volumes were filmed in their entirety.

Original arrangement is impossible to determine. Some letters, responses, enclosures, petitions, reports, and other items that once may have been together have been scattered through a number of files. In addition, Ramsey kept materials relating to the governorship in personal files that have become a part of the Ramsey Papers. In fact, much of his correspondence in the papers for the territorial period derives from his public office. Moreover, another complexity faces the user. Although most of the records created while Ramsey was Minnesota superintendent of Indian affairs, an office he held concurrently with the governorship, are in the National Archives, related materials (copies) are found in the papers as well as in the records. Thus, the user should be prepared to find information on a subject scattered about in volumes and various files in the records and papers.

Territorial Governor, 1849-1853

The records for Ramsey's territorial governorship (Rolls 1A-2A) are in subject files and volumes measuring 10 linear inches. The internal arrangement of files and file divisions is usually but not always chronological. A description of the volumes for the territorial period follows that of the subject files.

SUBJECT FILES

The Appointments file includes letters, petitions, and other

items with information on applications for office, endorsements, acceptances, complaints, and resignations.* The file divisions are:

"General" for positions such as territorial auditor, territorial guard officers, secretary, auctioneers, superintendent of common schools, and University of Minnesota regents.

"Commissioners of Deeds" for appointees to represent Minnesota interests in other states.

"County Offices" arranged alphabetically by county for town as well as county positions.

"Justices of the Peace," which includes a petition from Western Farm and Village Association members recommending Thomas K. Allen.

"Librarian," in which is a letter of recommendation from Harriet E. Bishop.

"Notaries Public" contains recommendations and applications for office.

"Commissions" contains sample forms as well as copies of commissions for such offices as register of deeds.

Letters Received contains the following seven file divisions:

1. "Administration of Justice" includes a notice from the commanding officer at Fort Snelling about his refusal to accept a prisoner; a letter with a petition signed by many Red River Valley residents concerning the election of 1851, their naturalization, and other questions; items relating to absences of judges from the territory and the removal of a justice of the peace; references to Wisconsin statutes; and a list of the laws of various states in the territorial library.

2. "Buildings" includes materials about the design and construction of a penitentiary; furnishing and equipping rooms for the legislature; and a contract and specifications for the construction of the territorial capitol.

3. "Federal Civilian Agencies" contains routine communications from federal officials; a letter about new mail routes to the Hudson's Bay Company settlements; and items regarding the Washington Monument and Minnesota's contribution to it.

4. "Habeas Corpus at Fort Snelling" tells the story (1851) of a conflict between military and civilian authorities that arose when George Brennan, a soldier who married the post chaplain's servant, attempted to obtain a discharge from the army because he was not given quarters within the post. The wide-ranging ramifications and implications of the case involving the governor, the Ramsey County judge of probate, civilian lawyers, and military officials up to the secretary of war are revealed.

*In this guide subject-file titles of archival records are underscored while those for divisions within a file are enclosed in quotation marks.

5. "Indian and Military Affairs" contains communications from Alexander Wilkin about his attempt to capture an Indian wanted for murder; from Oliver H. Kelley and from Francis Lee, commanding officer at Fort Snelling, about various Winnebago problems; from Father George A. Belcourt on Red River Valley matters; and a report from James McClellan Boal on militia organization in the territory.

6. "Legislative Assembly" includes communications from the legislature about confirmation of appointments, an apportionment bill, and revision of statutes. There are also materials on an invasion of the legislative assembly by a mob in March, 1850 -- a disruption quelled by "parleying" and "good natured reasoning."

7. "Other Territorial Affairs," a miscellaneous file, includes data on the territorial seal, the first official Minnesota land sale, information for prospective Swiss immigrants, data on the collection of delinquent taxes, and on a supposed plot against "a defenseless female," St. Paul hotelkeeper Elizabeth Parker. Noteworthy are communications from Edward Neill, superintendent of common schools.

Message, the next subject file, contains only Ramsey's message to the legislature, dated January 13, 1852.

Petitions and related items deal with the formation of election precincts and a day of thanksgiving.

Proclamations includes those establishing the territorial government, holding elections, locating land offices, announcing the death of President Zachary Taylor, and proclaiming Thanksgiving Day. (There are also several letters by clergymen about the Thanksgiving Day custom.)

Reports transmitted to the governor include those of the librarian, auditor general, and adjutant general.

Document Transmittals are largely routine letters about the forwarding and exchange of documents between Minnesota, other states, and institutions such as historical societies and universities.

VOLUMES

Four volumes (Roll 2A) contain information on Ramsey's term as territorial governor. Vol. 1 is a journal (1849-53) in which are copied commissions, oaths of office, and bonds for various officials; the governor's proclamations and messages regarding the organization of the territory and its division into election and judicial districts; messages to the legislature (1852-53); and other materials on the election of legislators and the territorial dele-

gate to Congress, a referendum on the sale of intoxicating liquors, and the census of 1849.

Vol. 2 contains messages to the legislature (1849-53); communications about the petition from Red River Valley settlers; a record of Ramsey's actions on bills; his nominations for offices; his opinion on an act to dissolve a marriage; and copies of acts to incorporate the University of Minnesota and several railroad companies.

Vol. 3 (1849-63) lists brief titles of bills passed by the legislature, the dates they were presented to the governor, and the dates he acted on them. Among the bills is a joint resolution to donate funds for building the Washington Monument and the act incorporating the Minnesota Historical Society, of which Ramsey became the first president. The Ramsey territorial material is found at the beginning of this volume, which also contains entries for other governors and for Ramsey's years as state governor (see below).

Vol. 4, an index to civil appointments (1849-59), was also completely filmed. In addition to the names of appointees, the record usually includes the appointment date, the position filled, and the appointee's residence. Entries for the territorial period appear at first in chronological order and later in alphabetical order. Commissioners of deeds also are listed by the state in which they resided.

State Governor, 1860-1863

The records for Ramsey's tenure as state governor (Rolls 2A-13A) comprise 3 2/3 linear feet. The volumes, continuing the series from the territorial period, are described below, followed by the subject files.

VOLUMES

Vol. 3 contains records for both Ramsey's territorial and state governorships; the former period is described above. For the 1860-63 state governorship it lists a great variety of legislation passed on such diverse subjects as a Lake Superior lighthouse, improvement of navigation on the St. Croix River, railroad construction, the telegraph, emigration, the state seal, the destruction of blackbirds, and the manufacture of lager beer.

Vol. 5 -- Civil Appointments (1858-80) has been filmed in its entirety. The appointments for the Ramsey period are listed in alphabetical and chronological order. "Remarks," a part of the entries, often indicate the office to which the appointment was made and whether the person was reappointed or not.

Vols. 6 and 7 are journals (1860-63) containing copies of letters sent and related materials, largely in chronological order and indexed by subject. While Ramsey wrote most of the communications, Samuel P. Jennison, his secretary, and Lieutenant Governor Ignatius Donnelly -- each of whom acted for the governor when he was absent from the state -- also are represented. The journals make clear, more readily than the other records, the chronological progression of events during Ramsey's governorship, and the index reveals many themes covered more fully in the subject files that follow the volumes.

Within the scope of this description, the varied content of the journals can only be suggested. Concerning criminal matters, there is data on such subjects as arrests, rewards, extraditions, sentences, pardons, and the state prison. Many facets of the Civil War are discussed including details about the organization of Minnesota regiments, battles and skirmishes, the welfare of the soldiers, officer selection, burial of the dead, and -- amid the tragedy of war -- a comedy, when Henry S. Sanford, U.S. minister to Belgium, presented to the First Minnesota three brass cannon for which the embattled regiment had no use.

Information on the Dakota Uprising is given in more detail. Topics included are origins of the conflict; the special session of the legislature called to meet the emergency; organization of the militia to protect the frontier, rescue prisoners, and punish the Indians; and attempts to get federal reimbursement for the state's military effort and for civilian losses in the uprising. Also relating to Indian affairs is a copy of the Chippewa treaty negotiated by state-appointed commissioners in September, 1862.

Other subjects on which the journals have information are railroads, public lands, territorial and state seals, Norwegian immigration, needs of orphaned, insane, and handicapped persons, and appointments. Included, too, are certificates of election for Donnelly and William Windom to the U.S. House of Representatives and the attorney general's opinion on Ramsey's retention of the governorship after his election to the Senate in January, 1863.

Vol. 8 -- Proclamations and Messages (1860-63) -- includes the governor's inaugural messages, messages to the legislature, proclamations, and other materials with information on such subjects as crimes, elections, constitutional amendments, county boundaries, appointments, Thanksgiving Day, the Civil War, the Dakota Uprising, and the execution of Dakota Indians at Mankato.

Vol. 9 -- Letters, Military, Railroads (1860-63) has jottings on the completion of railroads and land granted for their construction.

Vol. 10 -- Daily Journal (1862-63) seems to be a very brief record of letters written, persons appointed to office, occurrences, and visitors.

SUBJECT FILES*

Accounts contains bills of expenses for the governor's office and capitol maintenance; purchases of supplies, services, and furnishings; per diem and mileage allowances, salaries, and other expenses for legislators, capitol employees, the governor's secretary, court witnesses, and other persons; and expenses for the militia, the state library, and the state prison.

Civil Appointments includes letters, petitions, recommendations, and applications. Among the positions noted in the first file division entitled "State Officials" are Indian uprising claims commissioners, railroad land agent, emigration agent, University of Minnesota regent, state librarian, state prison warden, and soldier's allotment agent. The other file divisions are "Local Officials" (arranged alphabetically by counties); "Commissioners of Deeds"; "Notaries Public"; "Soldiers Vote Commissioners"; and "Resignations."

The Military Appointments files (Rolls 4A-7A) are rich and varied in content. When the Civil War came, the commissioning of officers in state-organized military units opened to Governor Ramsey a new way of granting political rewards. While the voices of the people evident in Ramsey's appointment files urged him to consider usefulness and devotion to the Republican party as well as devotion to the Union as qualifications for officer selection, he conciliated his political opponents by also selecting some qualified Democrats such as former Governor Gorman.

The files reveal that other criteria, such as regional and ethnic considerations, were also deemed important in awarding commissions. When large numbers of men from a given area or ethnic group enlisted, it was felt that their area or group should be represented in the officer corps. Fitness to command, previous military experience, and bravery in action were not neglected as qualifications for appointment, nor were evidences of a candidate's popularity in his home community and among those he had commanded in earlier assignments. Some of the same criteria, in addition to training and experience, seem to have been considered in recommending men for medical appointments and chaplaincies.

The records contain letters, petitions, and other items arranged in file divisions that are generally titled by the names of military units. Because the same individual may have been considered for more than one appointment, information concerning him may be found in two or more files. Moreover, related data may also

*See footnote, page 49.

exist in Letters Received, described on pages 56, 59-60, below.

"Military -- General" contains miscellaneous materials about chaplains, officer promotions, organization of a German military unit, the Fort Ripley garrison, criticism of officer candidates, and recommendations of individuals for appointments. Among the letter writers are Lyman W. Ayer, General John Pope, William Colvill, Henry Z. Mitchell, Jane Swisshelm, Vice President Hannibal Hamlin, Frans H. Widstrand, and Thomas R. Potts.

"Cavalry and Mounted Rangers" has items about the candidacy of Robert H. Rose, Lyman S. Kidder, and others. Letter writers include Rose, James W. Taylor, Jane Swisshelm, William Crooks, Charles E. Flandrau, and Henry Sibley.

The "First Regiment" file deals largely with reorganization after the battle of Bull Run. There is also information on recommendations, appointments, promotions, resignations, replacements, and men captured at Bull Run. Among those represented by letters are Napoleon J. T. Dana, Alfred Sully, Horatio P. Van Cleve, Hamlin, and Minor T. Thomas.

"Second Regiment," a file which is subtitled "General and Surgeons," has letters with information on candidates for surgeon; promotion recommendations for Van Cleve, Alexander Wilkin, and William W. Woodbury; recommendations for the reinstatement of William Markham; and the candidacy of various other persons. Also included are letters from Lyman Ayer requesting a commission to serve in the Indian war, from George V. Mayhew about garrisoning Fort Ripley, and from Andrew R. Keifer reporting on the battle of Cumberland.

"Third Regiment" has three subtitled files. The first, "General," has data on candidates for positions, particularly Benjamin Densmore, George Mayhew, and Henry Mitchell. Letter writers include Jane Swisshelm, Lieutenant Colonel Henry C. Rogers at Fort Ripley, David Blakeley, Henry C. Lester, and David Heaton.

The second subtitled file is labeled "Individuals." Among the men on whom there is comment with respect to appointments and promotions are James George, John R. Bennett, Robert N. McLaren, Oren T. Hayes, Gustavas A. Holtzborn, and George W. Sweet.

The third subtitled file, "Chaplains and Surgeons," has varied information on the education and experience of candidates for these positions as well as on recommendations, appointments, and resignations. Surgeons discussed are Francis H. Milligan, Charles L. Anderson, Levi Butler, William L. Lincoln, William W. Mayo, William H. Morton, and William N. Towndrow. Chaplains mentioned include Henry W. Elliott and Chauncey Hobart. Among the letter writers are George A. Nourse, John H. Stevens, Mayo, Sibley, Rice, and Lester who observed that the services of a chaplain "are hardly commensurate with the salary."

"Third or Fourth Regiment," the next file division, is divided into three parts. The first, titled "General," contains data on such officer applicants as William K. Tattersall, William W. Phelps, Joseph R. Brown, Henry A. Lambert, and T. D. Smith. "Chaplains," the second category, includes candidates A. M. Torbet, F. A. Conwell, and David Burt. "Surgeons," the third category, has information on such doctors as John B. Le Blond and Francis B. Etheridge.

Files on the other military units follow without further internal subdivisions. Material on the "Fourth Regiment" discusses regimental problems and the siege of Corinth as well as recommendations, endorsements, appointments, promotions, transfers, and resignations relating to such positions as chaplain, surgeon, assistant surgeon, and band leader. Information is present on Moses N. Adams, Rudolph von Borgersrode, Luther L. Baxter, Ebenezer Le Grow, David W. Wellman, Asa W. White, and John B. Sanborn.

The "Fifth Regiment" file reveals, in addition to the usual military affairs, difficulties in organizing and managing a regiment composed of such various ethnic groups as Irish, French, Norwegians, and Germans. Examples of matters involving these nationalities are William B. McGrorty's complaint that other recruiters were "stealing" his Irishmen, protests from the regiment about Borgersrode, its German commanding officer, for his "lack of self control, foreign manner, and defective English"; the desire of the Germans and Irish for a Catholic chaplain, a position for which Father John Ireland was recommended; Francis Hall's offer to enlist Norwegians; and the endorsement of John C. Deveraux as an officer candidate. Among the letter writers are Alexander B. Davis, Peter O'Connor, Henning von Minden, William Pfaender, Rutherford B. Hayes of the Twenty-third Ohio, and Conwell.

Samples of letter writers and subjects in the "Sixth Regiment" file are William Crooks, who recommended men for promotion in the regiment and Sibley for a commission as brigadier general of volunteers; Torbet, who wanted an appointment as chaplain; Philander Prescott, who requested a lieutenancy for his son, Lawrence T.; and David Heaton, who discussed the "pretensions" of a local guard company.

A scanty file for the "Seventh Regiment" includes letters by Nicholas L. Ohlstrom, a "humble Swede" who claimed he had been forced from the regiment by the scheming of his fellow officers, and William R. Marshall, who recommended men for promotions.

Among the few letters in the "Eighth Regiment" file is one from James F. Bradley, stationed at Fort Ripley, who wanted more action and more pay, and communications regarding the recruiting of Irishmen.

In a brief file for the "Ninth Regiment" are recommendations by Stephen Miller and others for Dr. Alfred Muller, who wanted an appointment as surgeon. The few items constituting the "Tenth Regiment" file include requests for commissions, among them one supporting a Baptist clergyman, whose appointment as chaplain would bring representation in the Minnesota regiments to "all but the Universalists."

The file division entitled "Medical and Hospital" contains papers concerning surgeons, including Dr. Franklin A. Blackmer, who wanted to serve with his son in the Fifth Regiment; Dr. Reginald H. Bingham, who requested reinstatement; Dr. Hippolyte J. Seigneuret at Fort Ridgely, who feared that Ramsey had forgotten him; Dr. John E. Patterson, who was operating a floating hospital in the South; Dr. Vincent P. Kennedy, who in seeking an appointment offered to support Ramsey's candidacy for the Senate; and Frank E. Howe and Robert R. Corson, who were appointed agents to care for Minnesota sick and wounded in the East.

Others aspired to be nurses and hospital stewards, among them Jane Swisshelm; Mr. and Mrs. Silas Newcomb and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Merrill, who offered to enlist together; and Mrs. M. S. Tillson, graduate of a medical college and mother of a son killed in service. Also in the files are communications from the St. Paul Academy of Medicine and the State Medical Board which certified surgeons for military service.

In a file entitled "Other Units" is miscellaneous data on the Second and Third batteries, Brackett's Battalion, the Minnesota Sharpshooters, the Second U.S. Regiment (Berdan's) of Sharpshooters, the U.S. Navy, West Point, and the Artillery. There is also some information on people who sought such posts as Indian interpreter, sutler, paymaster, quartermaster, or commissary officer.

Among others who wished special consideration from Ramsey were Thomas H. Armstrong, who declared that he had been "nearly hanged" for Republican principles; Nelson W. Dickerson, who wanted an easier post; George W. Northrup, on duty in Kentucky, who wished to be transferred to Indian service; and John Connolly, experienced with iron boats and Ericsson propellers, who wanted a position in the U. S. Navy.

Letters Received, Civil Affairs is a misnomer, since many communications in its 14 file divisions are about military as well as civil affairs.

1 & 2. The first two file divisions are entitled "Ramsey to Donnelly" and "Donnelly to Ramsey." Ramsey, writing when he was absent from the state, mentioned political appointments, wartime conditions in Washington, mobilization, enlisting female nurses, quarrels among military officers, and his trip to visit Minnesota regiments. From the home front, Lieutenant Governor Donnelly re-

ported on the organization of the First Regiment and garrisoning frontier forts, as well as such civil business as his resignation in 1863 to become a member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

3. The file on the "Legislature," which contains items documenting transactions between that body and the executive department, has information on the Dakota Uprising, the cost of the Indian war, the state of the Union, county boundaries, resolutions, appointments, railroad bonds, relief for Kansas, and Edward Neill's history of Minnesota.

4. Routine and miscellaneous communications from the attorney general, adjutant general, state treasurer, and auditor are included in the files for "State Officials." Also present are data on soldiers' allotments, bounties for volunteers, organization and equipping of militia units, arms for the state arsenal, draft exemptions, a visit by John B. Sanborn to the First Regiment's camp, as well as on civil affairs such as state finance, railroad foreclosures, the meeting of presidential electors in 1860, and meetings of the University of Minnesota Board of Regents. In addition, Thomas Foster, Sr., the "capitol keeper," made an inventory of public property, and Samuel P. Jennison mentioned attempts to recover books borrowed from the state library.

5. In "President of the U.S." appear two routine acknowledgments of communications -- one from President James Buchanan and the other from John G. Nicolay, Lincoln's secretary.

6. "Federal Civilian Agencies -- Interior Department" includes letters dealing chiefly with land and Indian affairs. Included are data on land sales, pre-emption payments, land for public buildings, railroad lands, and swamp land selection. Information on Indian matters concerns the removal of Winnebago tribes from the state, the sale of their lands, and the protection of lands owned by Winnebago servicemen; the difficulty of keeping Indians on reservations; and a proposed treaty with the Red Lake and Pembina bands of Chippewa.

7. The file for "Other Federal Civilian Agencies" includes communications from the Post Office Department on the state legislature's request for a special mail agency; from the U.S. Department of State on a northern boundary survey, states' rights, the Civil War, and military exemptions for aliens; from the Treasury Department on government procedures, federal taxes, and appointments; from the comptroller's office on income from public land sales; and from the third auditor on accounts for various volunteer military units and the state's claim for payment of expenses relating to the Dakota Uprising.

8. Largely routine communications or requests for information comprise the "Other States" file. Included is a resolution to the president (1862) pledging support for the Union from governors of

loyal states. The resolution had Ramsey's "hearty approbation."

9. Letters about "Emigration" are from persons interested in moving to Minnesota, from William Leip regarding German emigration, and from the Wisconsin legislature recommending the appointment of Eduard Pelz as "Agitator of Emigrants."

10. The file on "Lands and Railroads" suggests the difficulties of building railroads in wartime. Included is information on incorporation and building of various lines -- the Minnesota and Pacific in particular, which was attempting to complete its tracks between St. Paul and St. Anthony -- and the question of a railroad terminal point on Lake Superior. Immigrants wrote of their problems in establishing land ownership, and Philander Prescott discussed liquor and Indians, claimants for treaty money, and Indian treaties.

11. Communications from counties and towns are in the "Local Government" file. Among the subjects mentioned are county government, elections, judicial districts, bridges, and jobs. Examples of nonroutine subjects are the request of St. Cloud citizens for a brass cannon to celebrate the success of "our brave soldiers" and a report by the secretary of the Alexandria Republican Club about his trouble with Democrats, Chippewa Indians, and county commissioners.

12. "Requests for Assistance" came from the poor, the ill, the bereaved, the old, and the "children who cry for bread," whose miseries derived from the Civil and Indian wars. Families of servicemen sought to have punishments stayed, bodies brought home for burial, some word of those missing in action, or attention for those who were imprisoned and ill. Letters from areas ravaged by the Indian war describe impressment of horses and plundering by Minnesota soldiers.

13. "State Purchases" includes offers to sell the state various military supplies, collection claims for services and supplies furnished, Henry Sanford's announcement of his gift of cannon, and letters from publishers who wanted statistical data on state fortifications and military activities.

14. The file entitled "Other" has letters that seem to have strayed from various files for civil and military affairs, among them requests for information about Minnesota similar to those in "State Purchases." Introductions were requested and presented, including one from Horace Greeley on behalf of General Hiram Walbridge; Alfred J. Hill reported on his investigation of northern boundary materials in the archives of the U.S. State Department; and Richard Chute advocated a military hospital at St. Anthony. Additional subjects touched upon are immigration, Kansas relief, problems of handicapped persons, and other matters of government concern.

The first section of Letters Received, Civil War is "War Department," a file that contains routine circulars from the secretary of war about the raising, organizing, and mustering in of troops. There are also replies to requests for information about such questions as draft exemptions, captured surgeons, purchases of supplies, a fort in the Red River Valley, commissions for foreign-born officers, and business of the First and Third Minnesota regiments.

Letters from the "Adjutant General's Office," supplementing those from the secretary of war, refer to several of the same subjects, while those from the "Quartermaster General's Office" relate to troop movements and supplies.

The file labeled "Other Higher Commands" includes letters from General Henry W. Halleck about complaints of soldiers "borrowed" from Minnesota regiments by other states; from General George B. McClellan with ideas about recruiting and filling up older regiments; and from General William S. Rosencrans, who wanted deserters returned. There are a few other communications from the Coast Survey, the Sanitary Commission, the Ordnance Department, and from the offices of the provost marshal, paymaster general, hospital chaplain, and assistant surgeon general.

"District of Minnesota" includes letters from Sibley, who commanded this unit in the army. Materials concern disturbances at Fort Snelling, the appointment of Captain A. D. Nelson to be commanding officer there, bridge construction over the Blue Earth River, and surgeons.

Following "District of Minnesota" are file divisions for each of the first five Minnesota regiments and the Sharpshooters. They contain letters written mainly from the South by officers, chaplains, surgeons, and a few enlisted men. In them is information on such subjects as military engagements, casualties, supplies and equipment, promotions, furloughs, discharges, transfers, resignations, paroles, loyalty, and political attitudes.

In addition, subjects of particular concern to each regiment are discussed. The First had a problem with Sanford's gift of cannon. James George of the Second urged protection of lands of his Winnebago soldiers. Officers Hans Mattson, Christopher C. Andrews, and Chauncey W. Griggs of the Third voiced their disgust at Henry Lester's surrender of their regiment, while chaplain Benjamin F. Crary deplored conditions "humiliating in the extreme." Men of the Fifth wrote in praise of their chaplain, Father John Ireland.

Mentioned in the file division entitled "Other Minnesota Units" are the Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, and Tenth regiments, as well as the First Minnesota Battery, Company A of the U.S. Sharpshooters (Berdan's), the Mounted Rangers, and the Chisago County Rangers. In-

cluded is data on Fort Abercrombie, Minnesotans in Wisconsin regiments, transfers, paroles, and other routine military details.

Letters concerning the "Draft and Local Conditions" have a strong patriotic and antislavery tone, sharply critical of alleged Southern sympathizers, traitors, rebels, and people who did not pay taxes. Examples of letters illuminating such concerns as the draft, recruitment, and frontier defense are those from Sauk Rapids residents defending George V. Mayhew, a recruiting officer who had been "persecuted"; one from William H. Tillingworth, studying photography in Chicago, who objected to being drafted in Illinois; John H. Stevens who stated that unless the frontier was given military protection, "it will be impossible to keep a solitary settler west of the woods"; and Dr. Nathaniel S. Tefft who commented on the serious problem of getting farmers to serve in the army during planting and harvesting seasons: "When the government has been waiting nearly a year for a general to get out of the mud, it would seem not too lenient to wait thirty days, for loyal men to get out of the grain field."

Many letters in the file of "Offers To Serve and Raise Men" proclaim patriotism, martial spirit, ethnic pride, and vengeance. The Reverend J. C. Crawford -- six feet tall, 200 pounds, and "Republican to the backbone" -- urged that "every pulpit, study, shop, and field be foresaken for the protection of our Glorious Union." Hans Mattson, Hans C. Heg, and Magna Samson were among those who volunteered to recruit immigrants as soldiers; Myron Colony of Alexandria wanted to organize a rifle company and bring his wife along as a "Daughter of the Regiment"; J. H. West, who lost everything in the Dakota Uprising, wanted to organize a company of cavalrymen who would make their own rules of warfare and "exterminate" the Indians; and 55 men signed a bitter remonstrance against the appointment of an "obnoxious" officer at Fort Snelling.

The "Sick and Wounded" file division includes letters about hospital visits and other matters written by Frank E. Howe, military agent of the New England Soldiers' Relief Association, and Robert R. Corson, agent of the Union Refreshment Committee of Philadelphia. John P. Owens and Benjamin Thompson reported on the condition of Minnesota soldiers in the South. James Hall and others wrote about Minnesota soldiers "cooped up" in a Keokuk, Iowa, hospital; George Martin offered soldiers his special cure for rheumatism; and the Minnesota Soldiers' Aid Society advocated the location of a military hospital at Hastings, Minnesota, amid "pure bracing air" and "kind hearts and minds."

Letters Received, Indian Affairs, a file which deals for the most part with the Dakota Uprising, has two divisions. The first -- "Indian Agencies, Military Posts and Units" -- contains a few letters foreshadowing the conflict. Correspondents such as Major W. W. Morris at Fort Ridgely, Clark W. Thompson, superintendent of Indian affairs, and Thomas J. Galbraith, Indian agent, wrote of Indi-

an depredations and unrest, the illegal operations of white "rogues," and the need for additional troops to protect the frontier, while Philander Prescott proposed the formation of an Indian unit for Civil War service.

When the uprising began in August, 1862, a nearly day-to-day chronicle of events is revealed in the letters and reports as the governor's office became the command and information center. They tell of death and destruction and of settlers fleeing frontier settlements and farms for havens in larger towns and military posts. They describe the actions Ramsey took to meet the emergency -- his appointment of Sibley as colonel of volunteers, his call for men to serve under Sibley, and his efforts to calm "the needless panic" that was sweeping the state.

Sibley, Charles E. Flandrau, Brown County sheriff Charles Roos, and others who participated in the action reported to the governor. They wrote of the difficulties in equipping and arming the volunteer force; the battles of Birch Coulee, Wood Lake, and other engagements; the freeing of white captives at Camp Release; the capture of many Dakota; and the plight of bewildered Winnebago Indians who did not participate in the uprising but were threatened by vindictive whites.

There are also complaints about Sibley, whose progress up the Minnesota Valley seemed overly cautious and slow to panic-stricken people. Ramsey sent Lieutenant Governor Donnelly to Sibley's camp to "urge him on," and Donnelly's letters from the field are in the file. So, too, is a warning against the detractors by Flandrau, who called Sibley "a sound man & careful." Sibley himself described the difficulties he experienced in operating without "the veriest necessities." "The war of the races has begun again, renewed in its old & simplest form," he stated, "and one must go to the wall."

Additional letters from Sibley, Major General John Pope, Quartermaster Montgomery C. Meigs, Senator Henry M. Rice, Senator Morton S. Wilkinson, John G. Nicolay, Stephen Miller, and others have information on such subjects as threats against the Winnebago, the financial cost of the uprising, plans for a punitive expedition against the Dakota, the need to keep travel routes to Canada open, and the execution of 38 Dakota judged guilty of violence against the whites during the uprising.

The file also contains letters reporting on hostile activities between Chippewa and white settlers and the problem of caring for refugees, and William P. Dole, commissioner of Indian affairs, who was in Chippewa country trying to negotiate a treaty, described his difficulties. A copy of a state-authorized treaty negotiated in September, 1862, is included in the file.

The second section of Letters Received, Indian Affairs is en-

titled "Local Residents and Others." Letters and petitions from frontier residents received before the uprising expressed fear of the Indians, reported destruction of livestock, and requested guns or troops, while communications from Chippewa chiefs, James C. Burbank, and a steamboat captain concerned disturbances caused by the use of a steamboat on the Red River.

After the uprising began, a flood of letters came from many parts of the state. Correspondents such as John Stevens, Oliver Kelley, Jane Swisshelm, and Horace Austin described the Indian attacks; local measures taken for defense; the need for troops and arms; dissatisfaction with Sibley's campaign; pillaging by the soldiers; the Chippewa's cessation of hostilities to meet with the treaty commissioners; and hardships in organizing local defense when many able-bodied men were away from home in the Union Army. Minnesota soldiers stationed in the South asked to be transferred home to help with the Indian war, and letters from various places in the East reported on money and clothing collected for the refugees.

As the dead were buried, the captives released, and people began slowly to return to ruined homes and wasted fields, the letters began to ask, "Who will pay?" Richard Chute reported from Washington that congressional action would be needed to pay the state and individuals for the costs of the uprising. In the spring of 1863 a few correspondents from out of state asked for information about conditions in Minnesota. Others, having fled and lost everything, wanted help in returning home.

While some persons asked who would pay, others began to think about why the uprising occurred. For example, Walter H. Brown believed that the Indian agents "by their defrauding administration caused the outbreak and its many murders." While expressing "deep solicitude" for the sufferers, Bishop Henry B. Whipple blamed the tragedy on the "bad system of Indian affairs . . . permitting every evil influence to degrade them [the Indians] we turn them over to be robbed and plundered, [and] at last wonder we have reaped what we sowed."

Letters Received, Indian Affairs is followed by a small file entitled Copies of Letters Sent. Written chiefly by the governor to officials and departments in Washington, the letters supplement and duplicate letters recorded in vols. 6 and 7. They concern the organization, outfitting, and deployment of military units, the establishment of military posts, a federal appropriation for expenses arising out of the uprising, questions about Indian and school lands, and the location of a military hospital at St. Anthony.

Opinions of the Attorney General, a segment of records from the office of the state attorney general, concern the duties of the state in criminal affairs such as extraditions and arrests,

the duties of officials, county organization and boundaries, boards of equalization, railroad matters, the state seal, taxes, land titles, the governor's right to remove officials from office, the question of the clergy's exemption from the draft, and precedents favoring the right of the governor to hold office after his election to the U.S. Senate.

Pardon and Other Criminal Papers, arranged alphabetically by the name of the accused person, are in two series. The first relates to such crimes as assault, battery, forgery, timber and other thefts, adultery, kidnapping, and manslaughter. The second more extensive series consists of murder cases. The accused persons were Mary Ann Evards Wright Bilansky, Jacob D. Bunce, Charles Dunphy, Henry Kriegler, and Patrick Maher. Among the materials in these files are transcripts of court records; correspondence of lawyers, judges, families, friends, and associates of the accused persons; requests for pardons, retrials, and commutations of sentences; and petitions testifying to the local esteem in which an accused person was held. While these files are chiefly significant for their information on crime and criminal procedures, they are also useful for data on social life and customs, business affairs, clothing, furnishings, social attitudes and prejudices, and a variety of other minutiae of 19th-century Minnesota life.

Included in a Petitions file are those concerning the appointment of Isanti County commissioners, building a fort at the head of Lake Superior, opposition to a special session of the legislature, and location of a military hospital in Hennepin County.

Board of Prison Inspectors contains reports of John S. Proctor, warden of the Stillwater State Prison, and abstracts of the proceedings of the Board of Prison Inspectors. There is information on prisoners received and discharged, the health of convicts, contracts with industries using prison labor, the prison chaplain, its library, employees, equipment, supplies, financing, construction, and maintenance.

Requisitions received by the governor for the return of fugitives to other states are supplemented in some cases by brief transcripts of the trials of the persons requisitioned.

The last subject file for Ramsey's governorship is entitled Document Transmittals and Acknowledgments, similar to that for the territorial period (see page 50). Exchanged and acknowledged were publications from Minnesota and other states, government departments in Washington, territories, some institutions, and the republic of Haiti.

Selected Bibliography

NO COMPREHENSIVE BIOGRAPHY of Ramsey has yet been written. Published biographical sketches of him, while they present useful information on his life, are limited in scope, focusing mainly on his career as territorial and state governor. Such works are Martin W. Odland's biography serialized in the Minneapolis Tribune in 1927; Lawrence Boardman's memoir, drawing on Ramsey's diaries as sources, in the St. Paul Pioneer Press in 1929; William J. Ryland, A Study of a Frontier Politician (Philadelphia, 1941), a doctoral dissertation at Yale University in 1930; and James H. Baker's highly laudatory "Alexander Ramsey," in Lives of the Governors of Minnesota (St. Paul, 1908).

Other published sources of information on Ramsey are articles in Minnesota History such as Lucile M. Kane, "The Sioux Treaties and the Traders," 32:65-80 (June, 1951); Rhoda R. Gilman, "Ramsey, Donnelly, and the Congressional Campaign of 1868," 36:300-308 (December, 1959), and John C. Haugland, "Politics, Patronage, and Ramsey's Rise to Power, 1861-1863," 37:324-334 (December, 1961). A fairly complete series of Ramsey's speeches and public messages is in the collections of the Minnesota Historical Society library; many of them are in printed form; a number are foreign-language translations.

The manuscripts division of the Minnesota Historical Society has a large number of collections of personal papers which contain source materials about Ramsey and many letters from him. The small collection of copies of Ramsey's correspondence (1834-49) with his Kelker relatives in the Rudolph F. Kelker Papers is worthy of special notice. The location of the original letters is not known. (Copies of some of the letters are also in the Ramsey Papers.) Many of these manuscript sources were used by Haugland in his well-documented "Alexander Ramsey and the Republican Party, 1855-1875; A Study in Personal Politics," an unpublished doctoral dissertation at the University of Minnesota, 1961.

Another source of information in the manuscripts collection

of the society is the detailed genealogical research compiled by John A. Dougherty in "Materials Concerning the Ramsey and Related Families and the Ramsey House, 1842-67." This collection greatly augments the genealogical materials in the papers.

Two major sources of information on Ramsey in the National Archives are the Records of the U.S. Office of Indian Affairs (Record Group 75) and the Records of the Secretary of War (Record Group 107). In the first group, important information appears in the records of the Minnesota superintendency, 1849-56, which have been microfilmed (M-842), and in the files of a number of related series of records. In the second group, material on Ramsey's term as secretary of war is in Letters Sent, 1879-81, Letters Received for the same period, and related files.

The Microfilm

The Alexander Ramsey Papers

Correspondence and Miscellaneous Papers

- Roll 1. Genealogy; Undated
- Roll 2. Undated; 1829-April, 1844
- Roll 3. May, 1844-August, 1849
- Roll 4. September, 1849-June, 1850
- Roll 5. July, 1850-April, 1851
- Roll 6. May, 1851-April, 1852
- Roll 7. May, 1852-January, 1853
- Roll 8. February-December, 1853;
Ramsey Investigation,
July-October, 1853
- Roll 9. 1854-56
- Roll 10. 1857-59
- Roll 11. 1860-February, 1861
- Roll 12. March, 1861-January, 1862
- Roll 13. February-December, 1862
- Roll 14. 1863-February, 1864
- Roll 15. March, 1864-February, 1866
- Roll 16. March, 1866-1868
- Roll 17. January-February, 1869
- Roll 18. March-December, 1869
- Roll 19. 1870-September, 1871
- Roll 20. October, 1871-February, 1874
- Roll 21. March, 1874-1875
- Roll 22. 1876-April, 1879
- Roll 23. May, 1879-January 20, 1880
- Roll 24. January 21-April, 1880
- Roll 25. May-November, 1880
- Roll 26. December, 1880-May, 1881
- Roll 27. June, 1881-October, 1884
- Roll 28. November, 1884-May, 1887
- Roll 29. June, 1887-1890
- Roll 30. 1891-93

- Roll 31. 1894-March, 1895
- Roll 32. April-December, 1895
- Roll 33. 1896-97
- Roll 34. Germania Bank, 1897-1909;
1898-May, 1899
- Roll 35. June, 1899-February, 1901
- Roll 36. March, 1901-February, 1902
- Roll 37. March, 1902-1903;
Alexander Ramsey Estate,
April, 1903-1904

Volumes

Diaries and Memorandum Books

- Roll 38. Vols. 1-25, 1829-53
- Roll 39. Vols. 26-39, 1853-64
- Roll 40. Vols. 40-46, 1864-70
- Roll 41. Vols. 47-52, 1871-76
- Roll 42. Vols. 53-61, 1876-80
- Roll 43. Vols. 62-69, 1881-84
- Roll 44. Vols. 70-76, 1885-90
- Roll 45. Vols. 77-82, 1891-96
- Roll 46. Vols. 83-88, 1897-1901
- Roll 47. Vols. 89, 90, 1902-03; vols. 91-96, Anna E. Ramsey,
1865-84; vols. 97-99, Marion R. Furness, 1869-1901; vol. 100,
Rebecca and Laura Furness, 1893-94; vols. 101, 102, Laura Fur-
ness, 1895, 1903

Letter Books

- Roll 48. Vol. 103, May, 1850-April, 1852; Vol. 104, Secretary of
War, December, 1879-July, 1880
- Roll 49. Vol. 105, Secretary of War, July, 1880-March, 1881

Financial Records

- Roll 49. Vols. 106-109, real estate leases, tax assessments, rent
collections, 1849-1903
- Roll 50. Vols. 110-113, real estate ledgers, journals, 1849-76
- Roll 51. Vols. 114-118, real estate miscellaneous, 1852-1901;
vols. 119-122, Hastings mill, 1857-58; vols. 123-127, account
and estate books, 1849-1905

Scrapbooks

- Roll 51. Vols. 128-132, 1838-1902
- Roll 52. Vols. 133, 134, reminiscences, 1899-1901; vols. 135, 136,

Anna Furness programs, 1890-1909; vol. 137, Laura Furness miscellaneous, 1893-1907

Roll 53. Vol. 138, Laura Furness programs, 1894-1914

School Notebooks

Roll 53. Vols. 139-144, Marion Ramsey, 1865-70; vols. 145-150, Anna Furness, undated, 1885-96

Roll 54. Vols. 151, 152, Anna Furness, 1895-96; vols. 153, 154, Laura Furness, [1901?]-1902

Miscellaneous Volumes

Roll 54. Vols. 155-161, undated, 1865-93

Library Pamphlets

Roll 55. Alpha A-Z, vols. 1-6

Roll 56. Vols. 7-24

Roll 57. Vols. 25-40

Catalog Cards

Roll 57. Catalog cards of Minnesota Historical Society holdings, library and manuscript materials relating to Ramsey

RECORDS OF THE TERRITORIAL GOVERNORS
Alexander Ramsey, 1849-1853

Subject Files

Roll 1A. Appointments; Letters Received; Message; Petitions; Proclamations; Reports; Document Transmittals

Volumes

Roll 2A. Vols. 1-4

RECORDS OF THE GOVERNORS
Alexander Ramsey, 1860-1863

Volumes

Roll 2A. Vols. 3-6

Roll 3A. Vols. 7-10

Subject Files

Roll 3A. Accounts, 1860

Roll 4A. Accounts, 1861-62; Appointments (Civil); Appointments (Military): General, Cavalry and Mounted Rangers

Roll 5A. Appointments (Military): Infantry -- 1st Regiment-3rd Regiment, General

Roll 6A. Appointments (Military): Infantry -- 3rd Regiment, Individuals-4th Regiment

Roll 7A. Appointments (Military): Infantry -- 5th Regiment-Other Units; Letters Received (Civil Affairs): Ramsey (to Donnelly)-Legislature

Roll 8A. Letters Received (Civil Affairs): State Officials-Requests for Assistance

Roll 9A. Letters Received (Civil Affairs): State Purchases, Other; Letters Received (Civil War): War Department-4th Regiment

Roll 10A. Letters Received (Civil War): 5th Regiment-Sick and Wounded; Letters Received (Indian Affairs): Indian Agencies, Military Posts and Units, 1860-September 15, 1862

Roll 11A. Letters Received (Indian Affairs): Indian Agencies, Military Posts and Units, September 16, 1862-June 1863; Local Residents and Others

Roll 12A. Copies of Letters Sent; Opinions of the Attorney General; Pardon and Other Criminal Papers: A-Bilansky

Roll 13A. Pardon and Other Criminal Papers: Bunce-Maher; Petitions; Board of Prison Inspectors; Requisitions; Document Transmittals and Acknowledgments

MICROFILM ERRORS

October 31, 1841, L. Collins to Ramsey, should be October 31, 1848

March 25, 1857, J. Ridgeway Jenks to M. H. Jenks, should be March 25, 186-

May 29, 1867, Marion to Mrs. Ramsey, should be May 29, 1864

June, 1867, Helen Jenks to Mrs. Ramsey, should be [1864?]

May 1, 1869, J. Morrison Harris to Ramsey, should be [1851?]

May, 1871, map of St. Paul, should be May, 1885

May 18, 1875, John B. Sanborn to Ramsey, should be May 18, 1885

Vol. 22, June-October, 1851, "Treaty of Traverse des Sioux,"
should be "Indian Treaties"

Roll 55 contains Alpha File and vols. 1-6

Roll 56 contains vols. 7-24

Roll 57 contains vols. 25-40

Selected List of Authors

Adams, Theodore	Furness, Marion Ramsey
Aldrich, Cyrus	(Mrs. Charles Eliot)
Andrews, Christopher Columbus	Furness, William Eliot
Austin, Horace	Furness, William Henry
Babcock, Lorenzo A.	Gilbert, Fitch
Bannan, Benjamin	Goodrich, Aaron
Banning, William L.	Goodrich, Alice Paris
Belcourt, George Antoine	(Mrs. Aaron)
Benson, Jared	Gorman, Willis Arnold
Boal, James McClellan	Hall, Henry
Carlton, Ambrose B.	Hall, Martha E. Clark
Carter, Joshua B.	(Mrs. Peter)
Channing, William Henry	Harris, J. Morrison
Chute, Richard Henry	Hayes, Rutherford Birchard
Clark, Samuel H.	Heaton, David
Cole, Gordon Earl	Hunt, William Morris
Cooper, David	Jenks, Jonathan Ridgway
Cromwell, R. P.	Jenks, Michael Hutchinson
Crooks, William	Jennison, Samuel Pearce
Dana, Napoleon Jackson Tecumseh	Kelker, Rudolph Frederick
Davis, Cushman Kellogg	Kelley, Oliver Hudson
Day, David	Kline, Levi
Donnelly, Ignatius	Knox, John Jay
Dougherty, John Alley	Lambert, Henry A.
Drake, Elias Franklin	Le Duc, William Gates
Driscoll, Frederick	Mackubin, Ellen
Fenn, Theodore	McLaren, Robert Neil
Flandrau, Charles Eugene	McMillan, Samuel James Renwick
Flandrau, Charles Macomb	Marshall, William Rainey
Fletcher, Jonathan Emerson	Mayer, Francis Blackwell
Foster, Thomas	Mayhew, George V.
Frémont, John Charles	Meeker, Bradley B.
Furness, Alexander Ramsey	Miller, Stephen
Furness, Anna Earl Ramsey	Neill, Edward Duffield
Furness, Charles Eliot	Newcomb, Simon
Furness, Laura	Newson, Thomas McLean

New England Anti-Slavery
 Tract Association
 New England Soldiers' Relief
 Association
 Nininger, Alexander Ramsey
 Nininger, Catherine Ramsey
 (Mrs. John)
 North, John Wesley
 Northrup, George W.
 Pennsylvania Legislature,
 House--clerk
 Prescott, Philander
 Ramsey, Alexander
 Ramsey, Anna Earl Jenks
 (Mrs. Alexander)
 Ramsey, Henry Kelker
 Ramsey, Justus Cornelius
 Rice, Edmund
 Rice, Henry Mower
 Roos, Charles
 Sanborn, John Benjamin
 Sanford, Henry Shelton
 Sawyer, Herbert A.
 Seigneuret, Hippolyte J.
 Selmes, Patty M. Flandrau
 (Mrs. Tilden R.)
 Sherman, William Tecumseh
 Sibley, Henry Hastings
 Stevens, John Harrington
 Stewart, Jacob Henry
 Stuart, C. U.
 Swift, Henry Adoniram

Taylor, James Wickes
 Thompson, Benjamin
 Tileston, J. Davis
 Townsend, Martin Ingham
 Tyler, Hugh
 Union Refreshment Committee,
 Philadelphia
 United States Department of
 Interior
 United States Department of
 State
 United States Office of
 Indian Affairs
 United States Office of Indian
 Affairs, Minnesota Superin-
 tendency
 United States War Department
 Van Cleve, Horatio Phillips
 Warren, Gouverneur Kemble
 Washburne, Elihu Benjamin
 Western Farm and Village
 Association (Rollingstone
 Colony), New York
 Wheelock, Joseph Albert
 Whig State Central Committee,
 Pennsylvania
 Whipple, Henry Benjamin
 White, Wallace B.
 Wilkin, Alexander
 Wilkinson, Morton Smith
 Wilson, Eugene McLanahan
 Windom, William

Selected List of Subjects

- Abercrombie, Fort (Dakota Territory)
 Administration of estates
 Alabama
 Architecture: designs and plans
 Atlantic cable
 Autographs
 Banks and banking: Minnesota; United States
 Bilansky, [Mary] Ann Evards
 Wright (Mrs. Stanislaus)
 Canada: boundaries -- United States; commerce -- United States
 Chaplains
 Chicago fire, 1871
 Chippewa Indians: government relations; treaties
 Clay, Henry
 Clement Falconer, The Memoirs of a Young Whig
 Convent de l'Assomption, Auteuil, France
 Dakota Indians: government relations; treaties; wars, 1862-65
 Dickinson School of Law, Carlisle, Pennsylvania
 Draft, military
 Duluth (Minnesota) harbor
 Earl family
 Education: Minnesota; United States
 Elections and election campaigns
 Eliot family
 Emigration and immigration
 Europe: description and travel
 Expositions, fairs, etc.
 Extradition cases: Minnesota
 Fire departments, volunteer
 Flour mills: Hastings, Minnesota
 Franco-German War, 1870-71
 Franking privilege
 Fur trade
 Furness family
 Germans in Minnesota; in the United States
 Greenawalt family
 Greenway, Isabella Dinsmore Selmes (later King, Mrs. Harry O.)
 Handicapped: care and treatment
 Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
 Home economics: United States
 Hospitals, military
 India: description and travel
 Indians of North America: government relations
 Jenks family
 Kelker family
 King. See Greenway
 Kutztown, Pennsylvania
 La Crosse, Wisconsin
 Lafayette College, Easton, Pennsylvania
 Land: taxation; tenure law; titles -- registration and transfer: Minnesota, Wisconsin

Lawyers: Pennsylvania
 Legislation
 Libraries: Minnesota
 Mesaba Iron Company
 Military posts
 Minnesota: capital and capitol; governor; history -- Civil War; seal; state prison, Stillwater; University
 Minnesota Historical Society
 Minnesota Territory
 Missionaries
 Mississippi River: bridges; dams; navigation
 Montana Territory
 Mormons and Mormonism
 National cemeteries: United States
 Negroes: politics and suffrage; social life
 Newspaper publishing: United States
 Nininger family
 Northern boundary of the United States
 Oglesby, George, estate
 Pardons
 Patronage, political
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
 Political parties: United States
 Politics and government: Minnesota; Pennsylvania; United States
 Postal service: laws and regulations; United States
 Printing, public
 Railroad: land grants; law
 Railroads: Minnesota; United States
 Ramsey (Alexander) and Company
 Ramsey family
 Ramsey House, St. Paul, Minnesota
 Real estate business
 Reconstruction
 Red River of the North: navigation
 Red River Rebellion, 1869-70
 Red River Valley (Red River of the North)
 Republican party
 Ridgely, Fort (Minnesota)
 Ripley, Fort (Minnesota)
 St. Anthony Falls, Minnesota
 St. Paul, Minnesota: economic conditions; social life and customs
 Scandinavians in Minnesota; in the United States
 Selmes. See Greenway
 Shipbuilding
 Sibley expedition, 1863
 Sioux Indians. See Dakota Indians
 Snelling, Fort (Minnesota)
 Steam navigation
 Superior, Lake, North Shore
 Tariff
 Telegraph
 Texas: description and travel
 Thanksgiving Day
 Theater
 Unitarianism
 United States: commerce -- Canada; description and travel; diplomatic and consular service; history: Revolution, War of 1812, War with Mexico (1845-48), Civil War -- foreign participants, medical and sanitary affairs, Negro troops; social life and customs; territories and possessions
 United States Army: appointments and retirements; recruiting, enlistment, etc.; supplies and stores; surgeons
 United States Congress: Senate -- Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads
 United States Military Academy, West Point, New York
 Utah Registration and Election Board
 Utah Territory
 Ventilation
 Vermilion (Minnesota) gold rush of 1865

Washington, D.C.
Washington Monument, Washington,
D.C.
Welcker's restaurant, Washington,
D.C.
Whig party
White House, Washington, D.C.
Whittaker, Johnson Chesnut
Winnebago Indians
Winston, Thomas B., estate

Selected List of Autographs

Given here is a selected list of persons for whom there are autographed letters in the Ramsey Papers and Records. Some items are letters of substance, others are little more than signatures on routine or perfunctory notes. Since the archival records are not all in chronological order, a roll number followed by R identifies the location of items in the Ramsey Records; a date marks items in correspondence files of the Ramsey Papers.

- | | |
|---|--|
| Alricks, Hamilton, 7R | Eggleston, Edward Everett, 1862 |
| Arthur, Chester Alan, 1883 | Fessenden, William Pitt, 1849 |
| Billings, Frederick, 1880 | Fulton, Justin D., 1880 |
| Bishop, Harriet E., 1857, 1862;
IR; 4R | Garfield, James Abram, 1881 |
| Blaine, James Gillespie, 1880 | Grant, Ulysses Simpson, 1869 |
| Bond, John Wesley, 1851 | Greeley, Horace, 1849, 1852,
1857, 1862; 9R |
| Bremer, Frederika, 1850 | Hale, Sarah Josepha (Buell),
1860 |
| Brown, Joseph Renshaw, 6R | Hamlin, Hannibal, 1860, 1880;
4R, 5R |
| Buchanan, James, 1852; 8R | Helper, Hinton Rowan, 1879 |
| Burnside, Ambrose Everett,
1880 | Henry, Joseph, 1851; 13R |
| Cameron, Simon, 1845, 1853,
1861 | Hole-in-the-Day, 1851, 1863 |
| Chandler, Zachariah, 1875 | Hoxie, Vinnie Ream, 1902 |
| Chase, Salmon Portland, 1857,
1858 | Landon, Melville DeLancey (Eli
Perkins), 1880 |
| Clausen, Claus Lauritz, 1850 | Lanman, Charles, 1865 |
| Clay, Cassius Marcellus, 1869,
1875 | Leland, Charles G., 1870 |
| Colfax, Schuyler, 1861, 1869 | Lincoln, Abraham, 1862, 1865;
8R |
| Colville, Eden, 1851, 1852 | Marlowe, Julia, und., 1892,
1894, 1898 |
| Conkling, Roscoe, 1880 | Mayo, William Worrall, 6R |
| Cooke, Jay, 1870 | Nelson, Knute, 1874, 1898 |
| Cooper, James, 1844, 1851,
1854, 1856 | Nicolay, John George, 1861; 8R,
11R |
| Crittenden, John Jordan, 1854 | Nobles, William H., 11R |
| Deringer, Calhoun M., 1880 | |

Rae, John, 1852, 1858, 1861,
1880, 1881
Read, John Meredith, 1871,
1879
Schurz, Carl, 1880
Scott, Winfield, 1846
Selmes, Isabella Dinsmore
(Greenway King), 1894
Seward, William Henry, 1860,
1868
Seymour, Ephriam Sanford, 1850
Seymour, Horatio, 1880
Simpson, (Sir) George, 1858
Smith, Green Clay, 1880
Stephens, Alexander Hamilton,
1881

Stevens, Thaddeus, 1845, 1851,
1855
Stuart, Alexander Hugh Holmes,
1851, 1870, 1871
Summer, Charles, 1879
Swisshelm, Jane Grey (Cannon),
1859, 1861; 4R, 5R, 7R, 11R
Taney, Roger Brooke, 1849
Taylor, Zachary, 1849
Thayer, Martin Russell, 1880
Webster, Daniel, 1850
Weed, Thurlow, 1855, 1879
Whittlesey, Charles, 1849
Widstrand, Frans Herman, 4R
Wright, Joseph Albert, 1852;
1R