

**Fullam-Spauling Family
Papers, 1776-1928
MSA 193**

Introduction

The Fullam-Spauling family papers consist of letters exchanged by several generations of a Ludlow, Vermont, family over one-and-a-half centuries, 1776-1928, focusing on the life of Sewall Fullam (1799-1876). The family name is sometimes spelled Fulham. The letters were given to the Vermont Historical Society by Anne Bowen, great-great-niece of Sewall Fullam (1799-1876) and they occupy .25 linear feet in one Hollinger box (ms. acc. no. 96.11).

Biographical Sketch

Sewall Fullam (April 7, 1799 - Nov. 26, 1876) was born in Cavendish, Vermont, the son of Sewall and Mehitable Harris Fullam. The family moved to Reading and in 1828, Fullam became a resident of Ludlow, where he lived until his death.

He was largely self-taught and became a member of the Windsor County Bar in 1836. He represented Ludlow in the State Legislature from 1834 to 1841, was a member of the 1843 Constitutional Convention, and was State's Attorney in 1842-43 and 1847-48. Fullam married Eunice Howe Goddard of Reading on November 17, 1825. Their five children were: Elizabeth (b. 1826), Candace Lucretia (b. 1828), Volney Sewall (1830-1912), Benoni Buck (1833-1897), and Victoria Eunice (1838-1928), who married Marcus A. Spaulding (1835-1897).

Volney S. Fullam was born in Ludlow, Vermont, on July 16, 1830. In May, 1861, he was commissioned as a Captain in Co. I of the Second Regiment of Vermont Volunteers and saw action at the Battle of Bull Run, July 21, 1861. He was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in January 1862 in the Seventh Regiment and resigned in August 1862 following the Battle of Baton Rouge.

After the Civil War Volney Fullam practiced law in New York City. He returned to Ludlow in 1876 when his father became ill; he lived briefly in Rutland and returned to Ludlow in 1901.

Victoria Eunice Fullam, daughter of Sewall and Eunice Fullam, was born November 2, 1838. She married Marcus Aurelius Spaulding (Feb. 17, 1835-Jan. 14, 1897) on March 20, 1867. Their son, Arthur Goddard was born November 30, 1869 and died October 17, 1894.

Daniel Howe (b. Feb. 17, 1752) was the grandfather of Eunice Howe Fullam. Daniel Howe, who died in the army in 1776, married Eunice Chase (1754-1789). Their daughter Elizabeth (1775-1825) married Aaron Goddard on October 28, 1795. Their daughter, Eunice Howe (1796-1875), married Sewall Fullam.

See Volney Fullam's *Fulham Genealogy with index of names and blanks for records*, 1910 (Colonial Dames), for a complete biography of Sewall Fullam (pp. 57-68) and Volney Fullam's autobiography (pp. 84-106). This book includes photographs of both Volney and Sewall Fullam. There are additional photographs of Volney Fullam in the VHS photo collection.

Scope and Content

The oldest letter in the collection was written by Daniel Howe (1752-1776) in 1776 to his wife, Eunice (1754-1789), while he was serving in the army at Ticonderoga. Daniel Howe was the grandfather of Eunice Howe Goddard who married Sewall Fullam.

Most of the letters in the collection were exchanged by Sewall Fullam and his wife between 1833 and 1876; many of these letters were written during the period Fullam represented Ludlow in the Vermont legislature.

The Fullam's older son, Volney (1830-1912), served in the Civil War between May 6, 1861 and August 1862. In the letters he and his mother exchanged during this period, he mentions "fatigue" after the Battle of Bull Run (July 23, 1861) and shaking hands with President Lincoln: "he is a very plain looking man, but one whom I was very glad to take by the hand" (August 3, 1861). He also writes of having his "picture" taken in Washington (October 27, 1861). These may be the portraits in the Vermont Historical Society portrait collection (Size D, F-PO Fullam). The final letters, written between 1864 and 1870, were exchanged by mother and son when Volney was in "business" in New York City.

The more recent letters in the collection concern members of the Spaulding family, who were related to the Fullams through the marriage of their daughter, Victoria, to Marcus A. Spaulding. The collection includes a letter from their son, Arthur (1869-1894), to his mother as well as a tribute to Victoria after her death in 1928.

The miscellaneous series includes an undated, unsigned, holograph manuscript about the adventures of Thomas Gleason (or Gleeson), "a soldier of the Revolution," who was captured by and escaped from the Indians. According to the author of the manuscript, Gleason died in Cavendish, Vermont. It has not been determined, how or if, Gleason is related to the Fullam family.

Related Collections

- Volney Sewall Fullam Papers, 1826-1912 (bulk 1861-1862) (MSA 172)
- *Fulham Genealogy with index of names and blanks for records*, Burlington Free Press, 1910 (Colonial Dames), pp. 84-106.
- *Minutes of surveys in 1870 for Stedman Spaulding*, Cavendish, Vt. (MSS 20 #36)

- *Family record of the Honorable Francis Fullam and his posterity* (MS X929.2, F9497ff and *MS 929.2, F958), p.211 and 221, (Howe family) and p. 27 (Sewall Fullam autobiography)
- Portraits of Volney S. Fullam: Size D F-PO, Fullam, Volney (1861) and F-PO Fullam, V.S. (1862)
- Check the main card catalog under subject "Fullam (or Fulham) Family," "Vermont--Biography--Fullam," "Fullam, Sewall," and "Fullam, Volney."

Organization

The papers are organized in five series:

- I. Daniel Howe, 1752-1776
- II. Sewall Fullam, 1799-1876
- III. Volney Fullam, 1830-1912
- IV. Arthur Spaulding, 1869-1894
- V. Miscellaneous

Inventory

I. Daniel Howe

MSA 193:1 Letter from Ticonderoga, 1776.

II. Sewall Fullam

- 2 Letters, 1833 - October, 1839
- 3 _____, November 1839-1843
- 4 _____, 1846-1876

III. Volney S. Fullam

- 5 Letters, 1861 - 1870

IV. Arthur Spaulding

- 6 Letters, 1872-1928

V. Miscellaneous

- 7 Thomas Gleason manuscript, undated

Priscilla Page
March 1998

Ticonderoga, September 9, 1776

Loving wife, I take this opportunity to let you know I am well, and hope that these lines will find you so. I send you one letter dated the first of this month, by the way of Brookfield, but I fear you will not get it so I send the second time to let you know of my wellfare(sic). We are stationed [?] Ticonderoga Mills in a very good place. Our allowance in general is very good, but when we had got to Winchester we were turned to Bennington to receive our kettles, canteens and rations, but we received nothing there but allowance to carry us to Skenesborough and were to receive our kettles and the like, but we received nothing there but allowance to carry us to Ticonderoga, but our kettles arrived the fifth of the month, and I hope we shall do well and our [?] other in love. If you have an opportunity to send me a letter I trust you will improve it. I have nothing [?] to wright (sic) more than what you will be as likely to know and if you want any [?] you must get that of Mr. Patterson and Mr. Allen and be sure to get some Rye sowed if possible, and I spoke to Mr. Allen to lend you some till I come home. So I conclude my letter hoping we shall both be prepared through the goodness of god til by his Mercy we shall behold each other again. from your Loving Husband

Daniel Howe

[note: on verso in pencil is written: the last letter written by Daniel Howe,
father of Mrs. Aaron Goddard]