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David Parsons Holton Papers
1855-1881
MssCol NYGB 18107

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Summary

- Main entry:** Holton, David-Parsons, 1812?-1883.
- Title:** David Parsons Holton papers, 1855-1881
- Size:** 1.2 linear feet (3 boxes)
- Source:** Gift of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, 2008.
- Abstract:** David-Parsons Holton, M.D., was a founding member of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society. His papers contain correspondence, notebooks, genealogical research files, and ephemera documenting his research as a genealogist tracing the history and genealogy of the Parsons and Holton families, his experiences in Paris and Berlin in the 1850s, and his participation in a variety of historical, patriotic, educational, and philanthropic societies.
- Access:** Apply in the Special Collections Office for admission to the Manuscripts and Archives Division.
- Preferred citation:** David Parsons Holton Papers, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library.
- Special formats** Genealogies.

Related materials note

Robbins family genealogical research papers, 1880-1956. Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library.

David Parsons Holton family miscellany. Milstein Division, The New York Public Library.

Biographical note

David-Parsons Holton, M.D., was a founding member of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society. His wife, Frances K. Holton, was the first female member of the Society. Their study, *Parsons memorial : family records of Parsons and their descendants in America, with the English ancestry as far as known* was published in part, but never completed.

Scope and content note

Holton's papers contain correspondence, notebooks, genealogical research files, and ephemera documenting his research as a genealogist tracing the history and genealogy of the Parsons and Holton families, his experiences in Paris and Berlin in the 1850s, and his participation in a variety of historical, patriotic, educational, and philanthropic societies. One folder of correspondence, 1869-1877, between Holton, John Stagg Gautier, Samuel Smith Purple, and Henry Reed Stiles deals with the establishment and early operation of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society. Four notebooks kept between 1855-1880, have varied contents including copies of correspondence, diary entries, genealogical notes, drafts of essays, reports for the American press from Paris and Berlin, newspaper clippings on sundry topics including publications of his remarks, printed and draft circulars and announcements from organizations with which he was associated, including the Institute of Reward for Orphans and Patriots, Veterans Temperance Corps, the Founders Kin/Levi Parsons Scholarships, the Pilgrim Record Society, and the American Philological Society.

His genealogical research files on the Parsons, Holton and allied families contain notes, copies of sources, and ancestral charts created for or used in the preparation of the work *Parsons memorial : family records of Parsons and their descendants in America, with the English ancestry as far as known*, compiled with his wife Frances K. Holton.

Finally, the collection contains ephemera from the NYGB and other organizations, broadsides and published announcements of New York City political events, addresses, lectures, and sermons, 1863-1878.

Arrangement note

The David Parsons Holton Papers are organized in the following series:

- Correspondence and notebooks
- Parsons and Holton families research files
- Ephemera

Container list**Correspondence and notebooks**

<u>Box</u>	<u>Fol</u>	
1	1	David Holton Parsons correspondence, 1869-1877
	2	Letterpress copy book fragment, 1871, 1876
		Notebooks
	3	1855-1876
	4	1860s
	5	1870s
	6	Parsons Scholarships, circa 1880

Parsons and Holton families research files

<u>Box</u>	<u>Fol</u>	
2	1	Holton, David Parsons pedigree Includes NYGB Committee report on his pedigree, ancestral chart, and NYGB correspondence, 1919-1942, concerning David Parsons Holton scrapbooks at the New England Historic Genealogical Society.
	2	Holton family genealogical charts
	3-4	Holton family research notes
	5	Parsons, Cornet Joseph
	7	Descendants of Cornet Joseph Parsons through William Parsons of Alfred Maine and Mary Parsons of Parsonsfield, Maine (Postdates Holton's life)
	8	Parsons, Elijah, 1872
	9	Parsons, Rev. Jonathan and Lydia Parsons, undated
	10	Parsons, Samos, undated
	11	Parsons, William and Joel Parsons, undated
	12	"Account of the Parsons and Yates Families"
	13-15	Parsons family research notes, undated (Contents of folder 15 postdate Holton's life)
3	1	Parsons Memorial Printed pages with manuscript corrections and notes
	2	Parsons Portraits [#60]
	3	Addenda Benjamini [#52 and #53] (2 notebooks)
	4	Ancestral charts (Printed)
	5	Parsons pedigree book (Postdates Holton's life)

Ephemera

<u>Box</u>	<u>Fol</u>	
3	6	New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, 1869-1878
	7	Various societies, 1870-1875
	8	New York City circulars, 1863-1876
	9	Genealogical, educational, other, 1870s