

**American Antiquarian Society
Manuscript Collections**

NAME OF COLLECTION:

Sumner, David Hubbard, Account Books, 1802-1861

LOCATION(S):

Folio vols. "S"

SIZE OF COLLECTION:

fifty folio volumes

SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON COLLECTION:

For a biographical sketch of Sumner, see: Lewis Cass Aldrich and Frank R. Holmes, eds., *History of Windsor County, Vermont* (Syracuse: D. Mason & Co., 1891), pp. 893-1896. For genealogical information, see: William Sumner Appleton, *Record of the Descendants of William Sumner* (Boston: David Clapp and Son, 1879), p. 46.

SOURCE OF COLLECTION:

The majority of the collection was the gift of Matt B. Jones. Volume forty-eight was purchased from M. E. Hatch, 1947.

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION:

David Hubbard Sumner (1776-1867) of Hartland, Vt., was a merchant. He ran a general store and became a prominent citizen of Hartland, serving as captain of the militia (formed in 1812), representing Hartland in the State Legislature in 1813 and 1814, serving as justice of the peace, and as postmaster for almost twenty years.

Sumner took great interest in the development of the town, building roads, bridging the Connecticut River, and establishing sawmills. He was very active in the promotion of the navigation of the Connecticut River, serving as president of a company organized to make Water Quechee Falls navigable by putting in locks and canals.

The collection consists of forty-seven account books detailing general store transactions from 1802 to 1833. Forty-four contain records of daily business transactions in which local residents bought or traded farm and dairy products, dry goods, cloth goods, rum, and household items. Sumner had several partners in the course of his mercantile involvement: his nephew, James Breckenridge Sumner (1788-1875); Curtis Cady (-), whose name appears in 1816; and Nathaniel P. Page (-). The daybooks also contain accounts of work and materials used for the Water Quechee Canal. Three ledgers relating to the general store activities from 1802 to 1816 are also included.

The remaining three account books include a day book, 1851 to 1861, containing records of farming and lumber transactions and accounts of lands owned by Sumner, an 1826 to 1836 ledger of receipts for a toll bridge (Sumner was the proprietor), and an 1848 to 1850 ledger recording lumber sales.

See Contents List.

**American Antiquarian Society
MANUSCRIPTS DEPARTMENT**

DAVID HUBBARD SUMNER, ACCOUNT BOOKS, 1802-1861
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