

**American Antiquarian Society  
Manuscript Collections**

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**NAME OF COLLECTION:**

Paine Family, Papers, c. 1721-c. 1918

**LOCATION(S):**

Mss. boxes "P"  
Octavo vol. "P"  
Folio vol. "P"  
Oversize mss. boxes "P"

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**SIZE OF COLLECTION:**

nine manuscript boxes; fifty octavo volumes; twenty folio volumes; one oversize folder (3 items)

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**SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON COLLECTION:**

Nathaniel Paine, *Genealogical Notes of the Paine Family of Worcester, Mass.*, (Albany, 1878).

A small portion of Dr. William Paine's correspondence has been indexed in the old catalog. Also, in the old catalog, there is an index to the manuscripts interleaved in the volumes, *Signers of the Declaration of Independence* and *Life of George Washington*.

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**SOURCE OF COLLECTION:**

Gifts of George Sturgis Paine, 1895, 1908; James P. Paine, 1909; Nathaniel Paine, 1920; Russell Sturgis Paine, 1926, 1957, 1958; Alice Paine, 1959, 1960. Papers from estate of Russell S. Paine sent to the AAS by Mechanics National Bank, 1959.

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**COLLECTION DESCRIPTION:**

This collection includes the papers of four generations of the Paine family of Worcester, Mass. The first generation is represented by **Timothy Paine (1730-1793)**, a 1748 graduate of Harvard, American Loyalist who remained in the United States through the Revolution, and an active civic leader in Worcester. Paine was the stepson of the wealthy John Chandler (1693-1762) of Worcester and he married his stepsister **Sarah Chandler (1726-1811)**. They had nine children: William; Timothy (1752-1775), who died unmarried; Samuel; Hannah (1755-1841), who married Ebenezer Bradish; Nathaniel (1755-1757); Nathaniel; Anthony; John (1762-1832), who died unmarried; and Sarah.

The eldest son, **Dr. William Paine (1750-1833)**, was a 1768 graduate of Harvard and an American Loyalist. William studied medicine in Salem, Mass., with Dr. Edward Augustus Holyoke (1728-1829) and Joseph Orne (1749-1786). From 1773 to 1783, he was a partner in an apothecary shop in Worcester, Mass., with Levi Shepard ( - ) and Ebenezer Hunt (1745-1820). In 1774, he sailed for London. After securing a medical degree, which the University of Aberdeen produced for him on a few weeks' notice, he

served with the British forces in America in various capacities including physician to His Majesty's Hospital in Halifax, Nova Scotia. After the war, he was granted land on Passamaquoddy Bay (on the boundary between Maine and New Brunswick), but by 1784 he was spending a good part of his time in Salem, Mass., the home of his wife, **Lois Orne Paine (1756-1822)**. He eventually returned to Worcester and was naturalized a United States citizen in July of 1812. In his later years, he was an active civic leader in Worcester and maintained the family's business and agricultural interests.

**Samuel Paine (1754-1807)**, a 1771 Harvard graduate, followed the tradition of his father and eldest brother as a Loyalist. He never married and spent much of his adulthood in England.

**Nathaniel Paine (1759-1840)**, a 1775 Harvard graduate, reinforced the family's ties with the Chandler family by marrying **Elizabeth Chandler (1764-1830)**. He was admitted to the bar of Worcester County in 1781 and lived in Worcester the rest of his life. He was active in local affairs and served as a Justice of the Peace for Worcester County for many years.

Several other of Timothy Paine's children are represented in the collection including **Anthony (1760-1788)** who died before he had time to establish himself in business or local affairs. Paine's daughter, Sarah (1764-1841), married James Perkins Jr. ( -1822) of Boston who was a partner in the important commercial firm of J. & T. H. Perkins with his brother, Thomas Handasyd Perkins (1764-1854).

The third generation of Paines is represented primarily by two sons of Dr. William and Lois Orne Paine: **William Fitz Paine (1783-1834 or 1837)** and **Frederick William Paine (1799-1869)**. William Fitz Paine spent most of his life as an itinerant merchant in Java, China, Penang, and the Isle of France (Mauritius). He died unmarried. His brother, Frederick William Paine, also traveled widely as an agent of J. & T. H. Perkins. In the late 1820s, he settled in Worcester where he busied himself in local affairs. He was an active member of the Worcester Horticultural Society and the American Antiquarian Society. Frederick William Paine married **Ann Cushing Sturgis (1797-1892)** who is often referred to as "Nancy" in the family correspondence. She was niece of Thomas Handasyd Perkins and James Perkins. Her sister **Elizabeth Sturgis (1788-1873)** never married and was known to her family as "Aunt Betsy."

The fourth generation of Paines is represented by two of the children of Frederick William and Ann Cushing Sturgis Paine: **George Sturgis Paine (1833-1908)** and **Elizabeth Orne Paine Sturgis (1826- )**. George was an 1853 graduate of Harvard and an Episcopal priest who never married. After the death of his mother, he spent most of his time in England. Elizabeth married back into the Sturgis family and wrote family and local histories.

The fourth generation is also represented by **Nathaniel Paine (1832-1917)**, the son of Gardiner and Emily Baker Paine and the namesake grandson of Nathaniel Paine (1759-1840), and a second cousin to George Sturgis Paine and Elizabeth Orne Paine Sturgis. The younger Nathaniel worked in a bank in Worcester, was active in local affairs, and was very interested in local history and the genealogy of the Paine family.

This extensive collection of papers illustrates the varied interests and careers of Paine family members as outlined above in the biographical sketches.

The papers of **Timothy Paine (1730-1793)** include a diary for the year 1785, as well as two volumes of estate records for the periods 1793 to 1795 and 1793 to 1807.

The papers of **Dr. William Paine (1750-1833)** include medical notes and tracts, diaries, accounts, records of the Paine farm lands in Worcester, and journals of two trips: one from Halifax, N.S., to Passamaquoddy Bay, in Maine, 1784, and the other from Portugal as personal physician to Lord Winchelsea, 1781. There

are papers relating to Paine's service at His Majesty's General Hospital in Halifax. There are correspondence and records pertaining to Paine's medical education, as well as commissions and diplomas. Also in the collection, along with his son Frederick William Paine, is a catalog of their books. Four of Paine's diaries and one account book were kept in various almanacs. His 1794 diary was kept in Robert Bailey Thomas' The Farmer's Almanack ... 1794 ... ([Boston] : Belknap and Hall, [1793]); his 1795, 1796, and 1797 diaries were kept in Thomas's Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode-Island, Newhampshire & Vermont Almanack ... (Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, [1794-1796]) for the corresponding years. Also the account book for the period 1810 to 1817 was kept in Isaiah Thomas, Junior's Massachusetts ... Almanack ... 1810 ... (Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, Jun., [1809]).

The papers of **Samuel Paine (1754-1807)** include account books and diaries, business notes, and a notebook containing medical prescriptions, recipes, poetry, and extracts of letters. The collection also includes his 1786 Harvard diploma (see oversize folder).

The papers of **Nathaniel Paine (1759-1840)** include diaries for the years 1798 and 1811, as well as justice of the peace records. These records include two volumes of "Confessions of Debt," for the periods 1788 to 1790 and 1790 to 1796, as well as a certificate of guardianship of Edmund Howe's children.

The papers of **Anthony Paine (1760-1788)** include an account book, for the period 1788 to 1793, which records the settlement of his estate.

The papers of **William Fitz Paine (1783-1834 or 1837)** include descriptions of Penang, Canton and Isle of France (Mauritius), trade records, diary entries, travel descriptions, letterbook entries, legal documents, and "Desultory Remarks on Canton."

The papers of **Frederick William Paine (1799-1869)** include account books, miscellaneous papers, and "tables of altitudes." Also in the collection, along with his father, Dr. William Paine, is a catalog of their books.

The papers of **Elizabeth Sturgis (1788-1873)** include poetry, essays, obituaries, and sermon notes.

The papers of **George Sturgis Paine (1833-1908)** include many undated and incomplete letters to him from his mother (for the rest of his correspondence, see manuscript boxes three and four). The collection also contains a travel visa issued to Paine in 1853 (see oversize folder).

The papers of **Elizabeth Orne Paine Sturgis (1826- )** include two notebooks of recollections of the Paine family and one pamphlet.

The papers of **Nathaniel Paine (1832-1917)** include a catalog of his library, a catalog of his pamphlets, Genealogical Notes on the Paine Family of Worcester, Mass. by Nathaniel Paine A.M. (two volumes), Paine Family Register, or Genealogical Notes and Queries (one volume), Signers of the Declaration of Independence (two volumes), Life of George Washington (ten volumes), and The Home of Washington and Its Associations (one volume), certificates of membership in honorary societies and tributes, a notebook on American engravers, and a diary. In association with Paine's papers is a three volume set, Pictorial History of the Civil War by Benson John Lossing, (Hartford: T. Belknap, 1868), which is filed in the AAS library stacks (call # E510 L881 P868), which contains several interleaved, unindexed letters pertaining to the Civil War.

The collection also contains four manuscript boxes of correspondence of Paine family members including correspondence of members of the Sturgis, Chandler, Perkins, and Rose families, who married into the

Paine family. Some of the correspondence concerns business and trading interests of various family members and should be used in conjunction with the business records in box five. There is also personal correspondence between members of the family and correspondence of family members with friends. There is correspondence from female members of the family and also from younger members of the family to aunts, uncles, and parents.

The collection also contains a manuscript box of miscellaneous items including papers pertaining to French spoliation claims, papers pertaining to Charles Sandos, poetry and songs, miscellaneous miscellaneous papers, legal records and land surveys, sermons, eulogies and tributes, newspaper clippings, and genealogical records.

Included also in the oversize folder is "... a piece of poetry, wrote at Halifax N.S. by the late Dr. M. Byles as a satire on the Directors of the School ...," 1786.

See Contents List.

**American Antiquarian Society  
MANUSCRIPTS DEPARTMENT**

PAINE FAMILY, PAPERS, C. 1721-C. 1918  
CONTENTS LIST

Manuscript Boxes

Correspondence, undated; 1775-1918

Box 1, Folder 1:	undated	Box 3, Folder 2:	1820-1821
Box 1, Folder 2:	1775-1783	Box 3, Folder 3:	1822-1829
Box 1, Folder 3:	1784-1786	Box 3, Folder 4:	1830-1849
Box 1, Folder 4:	1787-1789	Box 3, Folder 5:	1850-1869
Box 2, Folder 1:	1790-1792	Box 4, Folder 1:	1870s
Box 2, Folder 2:	1793-1799	Box 4, Folder 2:	1880-1886
Box 2, Folder 3:	1800-1804	Box 4, Folder 3:	1887-1889
Box 2, Folder 4:	1805-1809	Box 4, Folder 4:	1890-1894
Box 2, Folder 5:	1810-1816	Box 4, Folder 5:	1895-1899
Box 3, Folder 1:	1817-1819	Box 4, Folder 6:	1900-1918

Business Records, undated; 1721-1860

[see also business letters in boxes one through four]

(arranged in chronological order by year but not sorted by month and day)

Box 5, Folder 1:	undated
Box 5, Folder 2:	1721-1770s
Box 5, Folder 3:	1780s
Box 5, Folder 4:	1790s
Box 5, Folder 5:	1800-1819
Box 5, Folder 6:	1820s -- contains a great deal of information on Worcester and the China trade
Box 5, Folder 7:	1830-1860

Miscellaneous Papers

Box 6, Folder 1:	Papers relating to French spoliation claims
Box 6, Folder 2:	Papers pertaining to Charles Sandos (also referred to as Count Stuarton and Count Sturton)
Box 6, Folder 3:	Poetry and songs
Box 6, Folder 4:	Residues (misc. misc. papers)
Box 6, Folder 5:	Legal records and land surveys, 1730-1895
Box 6, Folder 6:	Sermons, eulogies, and tributes
Box 6, Folder 7:	Newspaper clippings
Box 6, Folder 8:	Genealogical records

Papers of Nathaniel Paine (1759-1840)

Box 7, Folder 1:	Diary, 1798
Box 7, Folder 2:	Diary, 1811
Box 7, Folder 3:	Justice of the Peace Records, 1788-1796

Manuscript Boxes

- Papers of Elizabeth Sturgis (1788-1873)
- Box 7, Folder 4: Poetry, essays, obituaries, sermon notes
- Papers of Elizabeth Orne Sturgis (1826- )
- Box 7, Folder 5: Recollections and pamphlet
- Papers of Nathaniel Paine (1832-1917)
- Box 7, Folder 6: Papers, undated; 1863-1917
- Papers of George Sturgis Paine (1833-1908)
- Box 7, Folder 7: Papers, undated; 1867, 1893
- Papers of Dr. William Paine (1750-1833)
- Box 8, Folder 1: Medical tracts, c. 1782
- Box 8, Folder 2: Medical notes, 1782-1783-1784  
--probably copied from Dr. Edward Augustus Holyoke's journal; includes bills of morality for Salem, Mass.
- Box 8, Folder 3: Journal of trip from Halifax to Passamaquoddy, 1784
- Box 8, Folder 4: Diary, 1806 September 6-1807
- Box 8, Folder 5: Diary, 1808
- Box 8, Folder 6: Journal of trip from Portugal as personal physician to Lord Winchelsea, 1781; Portugal Anecdotes, 1781
- Box 8, Folder 7: Papers relating to Paine's service at His Majesty's General Hospital, Halifax, Nova Scotia, 1783-1784
- Box 8, Folder 8: Correspondence and records pertaining to Paine's medical education, 1896-1903
- Box 8, Folder 9: Commissions and diplomas, 1775-1800
- Box 8, Folder 10: Medical notes and recipes
- Papers of Frederick William Paine (1788-1869)
- Box 9, Volume 1: Account Book, 1816-1818  
--includes accounts of J. & T.H. Perkins and personal expenses of Paine while in Europe
- Box 9, Volume 2: Account Book, 1834-1840
- Box 9, Folder 1: Miscellaneous papers
- Box 9, Folder 2: Tables of altitudes, 1809

Manuscript Boxes

## Papers of William Fitz Paine (1783-1834 or 1837)

- Box 9, Folder 3: Descriptions of Penang, Canton and Isle of France (Mauritius); Trade Records, 1804-1805 (incomplete)
- Box 9, Folder 4: Diary entries, travel descriptions, and letterbook entries, undated, 1803, 1804, 1807, 1808, 1810, 1811, 1812  
--includes descriptions of Penang, Isle of France (Mauritius), Java, and China
- Box 9, Folder 5: Legal documents, 1837  
--probably copies of Paine's wills
- Box 9, Folder 6: "Desultory Remarks on Canton"

Octavo Volumes**Timothy Paine (1730-1793)**

- 1 Diary, 1785
- 2 Estate Records, 1793-1795
- 3 Estate Records, 1793-1807

**Dr. William Paine (1750-1833)**

These diaries include accounts and medical notes, as well as records of the Paine farm lands in Worcester, Mass.

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|----|--|----|--|
| 4  | Medical notes, undated                               | 23 | Diary, 1801 October 20-1802<br>November 18 |
| 5  | Medical notes, 1769                                  |    |  |
| 6  | Medical notes, c. 1770                               | 24 | Diary, 1802 November 19-1804<br>August 26  |
| 7  | Medical notes, c. 1770                               |    |  |
| 8  | Drug and medical notes, c. 1772?                     | 25 | Diary, 1804 September 3-1805 January<br>10 |
| 9  | Medical notes, 1772                                  |    |  |
| 10 | Account of drugs & medicines<br>purchased, 1790-1791 | 26 | Diary, 1805 January 11-1806 August<br>28   |
| 11 | Memorandum of visits and<br>prescriptions, 1791      | 27 | Diary, 1809 January 12-1810 May 12<br>28   |
| 12 | Memorandum of visits and<br>prescriptions, 1792      | 29 | Diary, 1810 May 13-1811 April 6<br>30      |
| 13 | Memorandum of visits and<br>prescriptions, 1793      |    | Diary, 1811 April 7-1812 November<br>21    |
| 14 | Memorandum of visits and<br>prescriptions, 1793-1794 | 31 | Diary, 1812 November 22-1814 April<br>17   |
| 15 | Diary, 1794  | 32 | Diary, 1814 April 18-1815 September<br>30  |
| 16 | Accounts for Paine Family Farm,<br>1794-1795         | 33 | Diary, 1815 October 1-1817 May 17<br>34    |
| 17 | Diary, 1795  |    | Diary, 1817 May 18-1818 July 6<br>35       |
| 18 | Diary, 1796  |    | Diary, 1818 July 7-1821 July 14<br>36      |
| 19 | Diary, 1797  |    | Diary, 1821 July 15-1823 March 11<br>37    |
| 20 | Diary, 1798  |    | Diary, 1823 March 12-1824 October<br>21    |
| 21 | Diary, 1799-1800 May 26                              | 38 | Diary, 1824 October 22-1826 April 4        |
| 22 | Diary, 1800 May 27-1801 October 19                   |    |  |

Octavo Volumes**Samuel Paine (1754-1807)**

- 39 Account Book and Diary (in New England), 1778-1799
- 40 Account Book and Diary (in England), 1799 July-1801 January
- 41 Account Book and Business Notes, 1799 February-1802
- 42 Account Book, 1799-1805
- 43 Account Book and Diary, 1801 May-1802 January
- 44 Account Book and Diary, 1802
- 45 Account Book and Diary, 1803 January-June
- 46 Account Book and Diary, 1804 January-April
- 47 Account Book and Diary, 1804 April-December
- 48 Account Book and Diary (in Worcester, Mass.), 1806 January-1807 March
- 49 Account Book, 1799-1806
- 50 Notebook, c. 1802-c. 1804  
--contains medical prescriptions, recipes, poetry, extracts of letters

Folio Volumes**Anthony Paine (1760-1788)**

- 1 Account Book, 1788-1793  
--records of the settlement of his estate

**Dr. William Paine (1750-1833) and Frederick William Paine (1788-1869)**

- 2 Catalog of Books

**Nathaniel Paine (1832-1917)**

- 3 Catalog of Library
- 4 Catalog of Pamphlets
- 5 Genealogical Notes on the Paine Family of Worcester, Mass. by Nathaniel Paine A.M.  
This copy has additional notes, illustrations and autograph letters. Vol. I Worcester, 1904.  
--contains the 1878 version of the above, as well as manuscripts, photographs, newsclippings, silhouettes, and illustrations interleaved
- 6 Genealogical Notes on the Paine Family of Worcester, Mass. by Nathaniel Paine A.M.  
This copy has additional notes, illustrations and autograph letters. Vol. II Worcester, 1904.  
--contains a photograph, letters, copies of letters, and newsclippings interleaved
- 7 The Paine Family Register, or Genealogical Notes and Queries (Albany, N.Y., 1857-1859)  
--contains volume numbers one through eight of the above, for the period 1 January 1857 to 1 January 1859, with photographs interleaved
- 8-9 Signers of the Declaration of Independence, Vol. I-II  
Autographs and portraits of the signers of the Declaration of Independence with an historical monograph and biographies of the signers. Collected by Nathaniel Paine, 1877.  
There is an index to the manuscripts included in these volumes in the old catalog. The illustrations are not indexed.
- 10-19 Life of George Washington by Washington Irving (New York: G.P. Putnam, 1859) Vol. I-X  
Five volumes extended to ten by addition of portraits, autographs, and other illustrations. Extra illustrations added by Nathaniel Paine, 1870. There is an index to the manuscripts included in these volumes in the old catalog. Each volume has an index of the illustrations contained within it except volumes VIII and IX.

- 20 The Home of Washington and Its Associations by Benson John Lossing (New York: W.A. Townsend, 1865)  
Index of published illustrations at end of the volume; no index to illustrations added by Nathaniel Paine.

Oversize Folder

"Complimentary verses ...," 1786  
Harvard Diploma of Samuel Paine (1754-1807), 1786  
Travel Visa of George Sturgis Paine (1833-1908), 1853