

**American Antiquarian Society  
Manuscript Collections**

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**NAME OF COLLECTION:**

Cole, Zacheus, Papers, 1826-1843

**LOCATION(S):**

Folio vols. "C"  
Misc. mss. boxes "C"

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**SIZE OF COLLECTION:**

one folio volume; four folders (76 items)

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**SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON COLLECTION:**

AAS Printers file (Cutler)

Mason, Alverdo H., *Genealogy of the Sampson Mason Family* (E. Braintree, Mass.: A.H. Mason, 1902), 162.

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**SOURCE OF COLLECTION:**

Purchased from Carmen D. Valentino, 2002

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**COLLECTION DESCRIPTION:**

Zacheus Cole (1791-1882), the son of John and Polly (Bemis) Cole, was born in Dummerston, Vt., on 28 March 1791. In 1815 Zacheus Cole married Annis Harlow Marvin (1785-1877) of Westminister, Vt., the widow of Giles Marvin (1781-2-1814); the Coles subsequently had five children. Zacheus Cole died 12 October 1882.

This collection contains records of Zacheus Cole's business activities in Westminister between 1826 and 1843. The folio volume, labeled "Day Book C," is actually a ledger containing accounts with more than three hundred individuals and companies. An extremely wide range of business is recorded, but Cole's specialty seems to have been metal work, and there are accounts for mending or making kettles, tools, cutlery, jewelry, umbrellas, clocks, guns, and many other items. He also plated various items such as nuts and knobs. A significant part of Cole's trade was related to funerals. There are a number of accounts for "trimmings" and "letters" for coffins, as well as grave digging and attending funerals.

Among Cole's customers was James Iredell Cutler (1792- ) of Bellows Falls, Vt., a paper manufacturer, bookseller and publisher. Cole supplied Cutler with ruling pens (as he did for several other men in the book trades) but he also did repairs to Cutler's printing press, and there is an 1827 account for "altering types for spelling book." Cole also occasionally sold almanacs and other books.

There are four folders of receipts and miscellaneous items dated 1826-1843.