

**Rufus S. Frost Papers**  
**A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**  
**Washington, D.C.**  
**2009**

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm96083899>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms009293>

Prepared by Karen Linn Femia

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Revised 2010 April

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Rufus S. Frost Papers

**Span Dates:** 1841-1883

**Bulk Dates:** (bulk 1860-1880)

**ID No.:** MSS83899

**Creator:** Frost, Rufus S.

**Extent:** 250 items

**Extent:** 1 container

**Extent:** 0.4 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in English

**Location:** Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm96083899>

**Summary:** Merchant, public official, and United States representative from Massachusetts. Chiefly correspondence pertaining to family and personal matters, social occasions, and church activities.

## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

### People

Frost family.

Frost, Rufus S.

### Places

Massachusetts--Social life and customs.

### Occupations

Merchants.

Public officials--Massachusetts.

Representatives, U.S. Congress--Massachusetts.

## Provenance

The papers of Rufus S. Frost, merchant, public official, and United States representative from Massachusetts, were purchased by the Library of Congress in 1996.

## Processing History

The papers of Rufus S. Frost were arranged and described in 1997. The collection was revised in 2009.

## Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Rufus S. Frost is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

## Access and Restrictions

The papers of Rufus S. Frost are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

## Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Rufus S. Frost, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Note

Rufus S. Frost, born in Marlboro, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, July 18, 1826, was a merchant and woolen manufacturer in Massachusetts. His many civic activities included service as the mayor of Chelsea, Massachusetts, 1867-1868, and as a member of the Massachusetts senate, 1871-1872, the Governor's Council, 1873-1874, and the United States House of Representatives, 1875-1876. He died in Chicago, Illinois, March 6, 1894

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of Rufus Smith Frost (1826-1894) span the years 1841-1883 with the bulk of the material dating from the 1860s to the 1870s. The papers primarily consist of correspondence, mostly that of Rufus S. Frost, a Massachusetts merchant and woolen manufacturer who served in local and state offices and in the United States House of Representatives.

The general correspondence in the papers is organized chronologically, and the family correspondence is organized alphabetically by name of family member. Containing little regarding Frost's business or political endeavors, the letters are largely about family or personal matters, social occasions, and activities with the church and the sabbath school. There is one letter each from Henry Ward Beecher, George Barrell Cheever, George W. Bethune, Alexander H. Bullock, and Hugh McCulloch. A miscellany folder includes school essays and financial papers.

## Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by subject or type of material.

## Container List

<b>Container</b>	<b>Contents</b>
BOX 1	Correspondence
BOX 1	Family
BOX 1	Frost, Ellen (Nellie) (wife), 1851-1876
BOX 1	Frost, Rufus S., 1866-1883
BOX 1	Miscellaneous, 1867-1883
BOX 1	Unidentified sister-in-law, "Lillie" 1865-1867
BOX 1	General, 1841-1883 (5 folders)
BOX 1	Miscellany, 1851-1863, 1882
BOX 1	Travel in Europe and Egypt, 1877