

2015

European and North American Railway Company Records, 1868-1893

Special Collections, Raymond H. Fogler Library, University of Maine

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/findingaids>



Part of the [History Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Special Collections, Raymond H. Fogler Library, University of Maine, "European and North American Railway Company Records, 1868-1893" (2015). *Finding Aids*. Number 21.

<https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/findingaids/21>

This Finding Aid is brought to you for free and open access by the Special Collections at DigitalCommons@UMaine. It has been accepted for inclusion in Finding Aids by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UMaine. For more information, please contact Special Collections, Fogler Library, 207-581-1686 or um.library.spc@maine.edu.



ArchivesSpace

European and North American Railway Company Records

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on June 02, 2016.

Finding aid written in English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Raymond H. Fogler Library Special Collections Department

5729 Raymond H. Fogler Library

University of Maine

Orono, ME 04469-5729

207.581.1686

spc@umit.maine.edu

URL: <http://www.library.umaine.edu/speccoll/>

Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Historical Note	3
Scope and Contents of the Records	4
Conservation Note	4
Administrative Information	5
Controlled Access Headings	5
Collection Inventory	6
Contents of Box	6

Summary Information

Repository:	Raymond H. Fogler Library Special Collections Department
Creator:	European and North American Railway Company
Title:	European and North American Railway Company Records
ID:	SpC MS 0776
Date [inclusive]:	1868-1893
Date [bulk]:	1881-1882 (bulk)
Physical Description:	1 cubic foot (1 box)
Physical Location:	
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The records consist primarily of correspondence and legal documents of the European and North American Railway Company from 1878 to 1882.

Preferred Citation

European and North American Railway Company Records, SpC MS 0776, [Folder No.],
Raymond H. Fogler Library Special Collections Department, University of Maine, Orono, Maine

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Historical Note

The collection contains records of the European and North American Railway Company, organized in Bangor, Maine, with track from Bangor to Vanceboro, Maine.

The European and North American Railway Company was chartered by the Maine legislature in 1850 to construct a railroad to an ice free harbor in New Brunswick or Nova Scotia in order to shorten ocean voyages between North America and Europe. The company was incorporated in 1853 with John A. Poor as president. Building plans languished for years but were revived in 1864 when funding was secured. The company received credit of \$1,000,000 from the city of Bangor to build the line and was also granted rights to timber and land owned by the state of Maine on the Penobscot and St. John Rivers.

In 1864 the European and North American also acquired the rights, roadbed, right of way and all other property of the Penobscot Railroad Company. This railroad had been chartered in 1847 to build a railroad from Bangor to Milford but work had ceased by about 1858. The European and North American continued this work, and the line opened in 1871 in Maine. In 1872 the Maine and New Brunswick divisions were consolidated under one management with a mortgage created to cover all of the property. Financial difficulties led to a default on this mortgage in 1875, with dissolution of the legal association between the Maine and New Brunswick companies in 1876. In that year, the trustees of the Maine division took over its operation, with Hannibal Hamlin and William B. Hayford operating it for several years. In 1880, bondholders organized a new company with the same name, receiving stock in exchange for bonds and coupons in the amount of \$2,000,000. In 1882 the line was leased to the Maine Central Railroad for 999 years; the Maine Central acquired it in 1955.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents of the Records

The records consist primarily of correspondence and legal documents of the company, 1878-1882. The correspondence is mainly between Charles Stetson, a Bangor attorney and one of the directors of the company, and William L. Putnam, a Portland attorney prominent as counsel for various railroads. It concerns difficulties encountered in the finances of the company and concentrates on several suits against it, especially those brought by John Greenough, Foster Edwards and Lysander Stone, and Marcus P. Norton. Correspondence with the Boston law firm of Warren & Brandeis involving these cases is also found in the collection.

Also present in the collection are summaries of land holdings and copies of deeds for the company's wood and property which were deeded to major landowners such as Ebenezer S. Coe, David Pingree, William H. McCrillis, and Thomas Egery. A small group of documents concerning the financial state of the company, 1882-1883, ends the collection.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Conservation Note

The collection has been re-housed in acid-free folders and boxes.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Raymond H. Fogler Library Special Collections Department

5729 Raymond H. Fogler Library

University of Maine

Orono, ME 04469-5729

207.581.1686

spc@umit.maine.edu

URL: <http://www.library.umaine.edu/speccoll/>

Restrictions on Access

Kept at Fogler Library's offsite storage facility. One week's notice required for retrieval.

Use Restrictions

Information on literary rights available in the Library.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Controlled Access Headings

- Railroads -- Maine
- Maine
- Correspondence
- Legal documents
- European and North American Railway Company
- Stetson, Charles, 1801-1883
- Putnam, William L. (William LeBaron), 1835-1918
- Coe, Eben S., 1814-1899

- McCrillis, William H., 1813-1889
- Pingree, David, 1841-
- Egery, Thomas

Collection Inventory

Contents of Box	
Title/Description	Instances
Documents, correspondence, etc. from Greenough case, January 1878-1882, undated	Box 1 Folder 1-4
Documents from Simon G Jerrard case, 1879	Box 1 Folder 5
Documents, 1880	Box 1 Folder 6
Correspondence, January 1881-June 1884	Box 1 Folder 7-9
Documents, correspondence, etc. from Norton case (Warren and Brandeis), 1884-1888	Box 1 Folder 9a-11b
Newspaper clippings re Marcus Norton, 1884-1885	Box 1 Folder 11c
Documents, correspondence, etc. concerning railroad bonds, 1889	Box 1 Folder 12
Correspondence, etc. with Maine Central Railroad, 1887-1919	Box 1 Folder 13-14
Listing of land transfers, 1868-1882	Box 1 Folder 15
Summary of properties, 1882	Box 1 Folder 16
Abstract of records, Somerset County Registry of Deeds, December 13, 1883	Box 1 Folder 17
Notice: Auction sale of timber lands, May 1, 1882	Box 1 Folder 18
Copies of deeds, 1879-January 1884	

	Box 1
	Folder 19-20
Copies of deeds, June 1893	Box 1
	Folder 21
Memos about bonds, 1882-1883	Box 1
	Folder 22
Statements of earnings and expenses, 1880-1882	Box 1
	Folder 23
Inventory of property, October 1, 1882	Box 1
	Folder 24
Account of supplies received, December 12, 1882	Box 1
	Folder 25
Bills and accounts, 1872, 1882, undated	Box 1
	Folder 26

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)