

2016

Croswell Family Papers, 1791-1921

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Croswell Family Papers

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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/>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Raymond H. Fogler Library Special Collections Department
Creator:	Croswell family
Title:	Croswell Family Papers
ID:	SpC MS 0782
Date [inclusive]:	1791-1921
Date [bulk]:	1825-1870 (bulk)
Physical Description:	1 cubic foot (1 box)
Physical Location:	
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	Business records of the Croswell family, long-time owners of a general store in Farmington, Maine.

Preferred Citation

Croswell Family Papers, SpC MS 0782, [Box No.], [Folder No.], Raymond H. Fogler Library Special Collections Department, University of Maine, Orono, Maine

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Biographical Note

The collection contains business records of the Croswell family, long-time owners of a general store in Farmington, Maine.

Thomas Croswell moved to Farmington Falls in 1816 and opened the store, which continued in business until it was sold by Robert A. Croswell in 1958. Several generations of the Croswell family were involved with the store. Thomas Croswell's sons, Andrew and Thomas, Jr., succeeded him in the business, with Andrew buying his brother's share in 1887. Andrew operated the store until 1900 when his sons Ernest and Clyde took over. Ernest's son Robert succeeded them and ran the store until it was sold in 1958.

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Scope and Contents

This small collection contains primarily financial records from the general store and memorandum books of a general nature or dealing with specific activities. Most of the materials are dated but only a few can specifically be identified as belonging to the Croswell family.

The financial records of the store are found first in the collection and consist of daybooks of customer purchases, cashbooks, and store account books. Most date from the 1820s or the 1850s and 1860s. The general memo books list financial transactions, goods and livestock bought and sold, and expenses of various aspects of doing business. The collection also contains a set of memo books listing cattle bought and sold, work done logging and hauling timber, work on a bridge, hauling other goods, and selling commodities such as hay or beans. The most complete are the cattle books, covering the 1830s to the 1850s, and recording the number and kind of cattle bought and sold and their costs. Many of the entries refer to Brighton, presumably Brighton, Massachusetts, which with its weekly cattle market was one of the leading cattle centers in New England at this time.

An account book, 1799 to 1803, listing amounts due to James and Robert Gower of Farmington, is also found in the collection. Its relation to the Croswell family is unclear.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Restrictions on Access

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

Provenance

Purchased from Dan Casavant Rare Books, Waterville, Me., in September 2001.

Restrictions on Use

Information on literary rights available in the repository.

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Controlled Access Headings

- General stores -- Maine -- Farmington
- Farmington (Me.)
- Boston (Mass.)
- Farmington (Me.)
- Brighton (Mass.)
- Financial records
- Daybooks
- Cashbooks
- Account books
- Croswell family

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances
Daybook of customer purchases, 1825	box 1 folder 1
Daybook (no. 2), 1855	box 1 folder 2
Daybook, 1857	box 1 folder 3
Daybook of purchases, January 1862 (?), 1865	box 1 folder 4
Cashbook, 1858 (?), 1868 (?)	box 1

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	folder 5
Cashbook, 1863-1865	box 1
	folder 6
Cashbook, 1866-1878	box 1
	folder 7
Cash rec'd, undated	box 1
	folder 8
Acct. of T. Croswell, 1817	box 1
	folder 9
Amounts paid, 1827-1828, 1834	box 1
	folder 10
Store account book, 1855-1862	box 1
	folder 11
Account book, 1856-1858	box 1
	folder 12
Account book, 1857-1861	box 1
	folder 13
Receipt books, 1871, 1882-1883	box 1
	folder 14
Checks taken in, 1921	box 1
	folder 15
Memo book, 1824	box 1
	folder 16
Memorandum of a/c notes due, September 1834	box 1
	folder 17
Memo book, 1845	box 1
	folder 18
Memo/account book, Farmington, 1846-1847	box 1
	folder 19
Memo books, 1861-1862, 1866 (?), 1866, 1869	box 1
	folder 20
Memo books, 1871-1872, undated	box 1

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	folder 21
Correspondence, miscellaneous documents, 1860s-1880s, undated	box 1
	folder 22
Cattle books, 1820 (?), 1831-1834	box 1
	folder 23
Cattle books, 1834-1837	box 1
	folder 24
Cattle books, 1839-1841, 1843 (?), 1844, 1848	box 1
	folder 25
Cattle books, 1851 (?), 1856 (?), undated	box 1
	folder 26
Memo book, (blacksmith?), 1804-1805	box 1
	folder 27
Account of work on bridge, 1822-1825	box 1
	folder 28
Diary of work done, (logging and hauling timber), 1834-1835	box 1
	folder 29
Hauling goods, 1849-1851	box 1
	folder 30
Teaming book, 1868-1869	box 1
	folder 31
Hay scales, 1858	box 1
	folder 32
Beans, undated	box 1
	folder 33
Thomas Croswell (medicinal recipes), undated	box 1
	folder 34
Account book, amounts due to James Gower and Robert Gower, Farmington, 1799-1803	box 1
	folder 35