

Frank S. Lee (1852-1936)
Papers
A Finding Aid

Livingston County Historian's Office
5 Murray Hill Dr.
Mt. Morris, NY 14510
November 2015

I. Collection Summary

Title	Frank S. Lee (1852-1936) Papers	
Collection No.	C140	
Extent	2.58 linear feet; 4 boxes	
Date Range	1863-1926 (bulk 1865-1890)	
Abstract	<p>This collection comprises correspondence relating to Frank S. Lee (1852-1936), the Lee and Wells families of Conesus and Groveland, and their relatives and friends. A significant portion of the collection contains letters between Frank S. Lee and his future wife, Anna M. Parker, between 1882 and 1890. The collection also includes correspondence between Frank and young female friends in the late 1860s through the 1870s, correspondence between the Lee brothers, their parents and relatives in the 1870s and 1880s, Frank's diaries during the 1870s, and letters from G. Wiley Wells during and after his service in the Civil War.</p>	
Names	<p>Boyd, Jim Boyd, Leonora C. Conderman, Allie V. Gamble, Jennie F. E. (Boyd) Lee, Anna M. (Parker) Lee, Bradner Wells Lee, David R. Lee, Elizabeth N. (Wells) Lee, Franklin S. Lee, James Avery</p>	<p>Lee, Lizzie S. Palmer, Allie Parker, Susie Wells, Guilford Wiley Wells, Huylar Z. White, Emma G. White, Hettie Paret Wells, Charity K.</p>
Languages	English.	
Access and Restrictions	<p>Use of the documents in the collection is for serious research and by request and permission of the Livingston County Historian's Office. Any use of the material in publications must be cited as follows, "Courtesy of Livingston County Historian's Office, New York". Additionally, all documents should be handled with care.</p> <p>To arrange to conduct research with the documents in the collection, contact the Livingston County Historian by mail at: 5 Murray Hill Drive, Mount Morris, NY, by phone at (585) 243-7955, or by e-mail at Historian@livingstoncountyny.gov.</p>	
Copyright	<p>Some materials may be subject to copyright. Researchers are required to seek written permission from the copyright holder to reproduce and/or publish materials under copyright.</p>	
Arrangement Notes	<p>While every effort has been made to keep items together and to take care with matching places, dates, and handwriting, some envelopes may not be matched with the correct letters due to several organizational sortings and other factors of entropy.</p>	

Multiple sheets of the same letter bear the same identifying numbers, while their corresponding envelopes are labeled with the identifying number with an additional “a” or “b”.

II. Biographical and Background Information

Franklin S. “Frank” Lee was born 1852 and spent most of his life in East Groveland, Livingston County, NY. He was the son of David R. Lee and Elizabeth Northrup Wells, daughter of Isaac and Charity K. Wells. According to the 1855 census, Isaac was a blacksmith from Vermont, and Charity was from Washington County, NY. They may have lived in York for a time and then resided in Conesus.

Frank was a farmer and married later in life to Miss Anna M. Parker of Sparta Hill. They resided in Groveland on Lee Road at the Lee family homestead until the last few years of their lives, when they relocated to Dansville, Livingston County, NY.

Frank Lee’s uncles, G. Wiley Wells and Huylar Z. Wells, brothers of Frank’s mother, Elizabeth Wells Lee, are of some note. G. Wiley Wells followed his father’s trade as blacksmith as a youth before he served in the Civil War. He joined the 27th NY Infantry as a private in 1861, being promoted to Lt. Col. of the 130th Regiment, NYV in early 1863, then Captain of Co. G, 19th NY Cavalry by the end of the same year, and finally was with the 1st NY Dragoons by the end of the war. He suffered a wound to his arm that troubled him after his service had ended in 1865.

By April of 1865, he had located in Washington DC with his new wife, Katie, whom he’d wed the previous year. He may for a time have been employed at the Quartermaster General’s Office in Washington, but by 1870 was a United States attorney for the northern district of Mississippi in Holly Springs, MS from 1870-1875. He was elected a member of the 44th Congress from 1875-1877, and was Consul General at Shanghai, China, from 1877-1879. In 1879 he settled in Los Angeles, California, where he practiced law. He died at Santa Monica, CA, in 1909.

Huylar Z. Wells spent time during the 1860s in Rochester, then moving to Lockport, NY in 1866, and finally landing in Washington, DC by 1869 where he was employed by the Second Auditor’s Office of the United States Treasury. Letterheads from about 1878 also identify him as an attorney at law in Washington, DC. His mother, Charity K. Wells, came to live with his family in the 1870s for a time after the death of her husband.

Frank S. Lee’s brother, Bradner W. Lee, also became a well-known lawyer in Los Angeles, taking after his uncle, G. Wiley Wells.

III. Family Trees

Information to compile the following outlines was collected from correspondence, genealogical notes, obituaries, and other references from within the collection and from outside sources. Though every effort was made to provide accurate information about relationships, dates, and other details, some errors may exist.

Lee Family Tree

1. James Lee (1780-____) m. Sarah ____ (1784-____)
 2. Elizabeth Lee (b. 1804)
 2. David S. (b. 1806)
 2. Mary Lee (b. 1808)
 2. Avery S. Lee (b. 1810)
 2. Sarah Jane Lee (b. 1812) m. ____ Roberts
 2. David R. Lee (1815-1888) m. 1849 to **Elizabeth Northrup Wells** (1838-1917)
 3. Bradner Wells Lee (1850-____) m. 1883 to Helena Farrar
 4. Bradner Wells Lee, Jr. m. 1923 to Eve Rawlinson
 4. Kenyon Farrar Lee (1888-1963)
 3. **Frank Scot Lee** (1852-1936) m. 1891 to **Anna M. Parker** (1858-1935)
 4. Huyler Wells Lee (b. 1896)
 5. Huyler W. Lee Jr.
 4. Evelyn Parker Lee (b. 1898) m. Minot Greenlaw
 3. Charles B. Lee (1854-1862)
 3. James Avery Lee (1860-1916) m. 1881 to Sarah Bessie Sickly (d. 1955)
 4. Robert R. Lee
 2. Susan Lee (b. 1817)
 2. James B. Lee (1819-1886) m. Samantha Chadwick
 2. Russell Lee (b. 1821)
 2. Sophia Lee (b. 1823)

Wells Family Tree

1. Isaac Wells (c. 1807-1867) m. Charity Kenyon ____ (c. 1806-1889)
 2. **Elizabeth Northrup Wells** (1838-1917)
 2. Huylar Z. Wells m. Mary E. ____ "Mollie"
 2. G. Wiley Wells (1840-1909) m. Katie ____
 3. Charlie (d. 1872)

IV. Contents List

Box 1	Folder 1	Lee and Wells genealogy papers and finding aid
Box 1	Folder 2	Correspondence, Frank S. Lee to J. Avery Lee, 1877-1878 (16 items)
Box 1	Folder 3	Correspondence, Frank S. Lee, business, 1873-1890 (8 items)
Box 1	Folder 4	Correspondence, Miss Emma G. White to Frank S. Lee, c. 1866-1869 (11 items)
Box 1	Folder 5	Correspondence, Addie Palmer to Frank S. Lee, c. 1868-1871 (4 items)
Box 1	Folder 6	Correspondence, Allie Conderman to Frank S. Lee, 1875-1884 (17 items)
Box 1	Folder 7	Correspondence, Hettie Paret White to Frank S. Lee, c. 1880-1883 (7 items)
Box 1	Folder 8	Correspondence, Frank S. Lee to Lee and Wells family, 1871-1880 (2 items)
Box 1	Folder 9	Correspondence, Miss Jennie F. E. Boyd to Frank S. Lee, c. 1871-1877 (19 items)
Box 1	Folder 10	Correspondence, Frank S. Lee to Miss Jennie F. E. Boyd, c. 1873-1877 (27 items)
Box 1	Folder 11	Correspondence, friends to Frank S. Lee, c. 1871-1890 (35 items)
Box 2		Diaries, Frank S. Lee, 1873-1876 (3 items)
Box 2	Folder 12	Correspondence, Charity K. Wells to Elizabeth N. Lee, 1873-1881 (25 items)
Box 2	Folder 13	Correspondence, family and friends to Charity K. Wells, c. 1870-1883 (10 items)
Box 2	Folder 14	Correspondence, Charity K. Wells to J. Avery Lee and Frank S. Lee, c. 1876-1883 (5 items)
Box 2	Folder 15	Correspondence, Huylar Z. Wells to Isaac T. Wells and Charity K. Wells, c.1864-1883 (31 items)
Box 2	Folder 16	Correspondence, Huylar Z. Wells to Elizabeth N. Lee, 1875-1878 (7 items)
Box 2	Folder 17	Correspondence, Huylar Z. Wells to Frank S. Lee, 1869-1878 (7 items)
Box 2	Folder 18	Correspondence, Huylar Z. Wells to J. Avery Lee, 1878 (4 items)
Box 2	Folder 19	Correspondence, G. Wiley Wells to family, 1865-1878 (4 items)
Box 2	Folder 20	Correspondence and miscellaneous, to G. Wiley Wells, c.1865-1877 (6 items)
Box 2	Folder 21	Correspondence, Katie Wells to family, c. 1865-1880 (8 items)
Box 2	Folder 22	Correspondence, Katie Wells to Isaac T. Wells and Charity K. Wells, c. 1865-1883 (14 items)
Box 2	Folder 23	Correspondence, G. Wiley Wells to Isaac T. Wells and Charity K. Wells, c. 1863-1871 (20 items)
Box 2	Folder 24	Correspondence, Elizabeth N. Wells to Charity K. Wells and brother, 1870-1883 (8 items)
Box 2	Folder 25	Correspondence, Elizabeth N. Lee to J. Avery Lee, 1877-1878 (19 items)
Box 2	Folder 26	Correspondence, Bradner W. Lee to Elizabeth N. Lee, 1873-1880 (11 items)
Box 2	Folder 27	Correspondence, Bradner W. Lee to J. Avery Lee, 1872-1879 (8 items)
Box 2	Folder 28	Correspondence, Bradner W. Lee to Frank S. Lee, 1866-1878 (24 items)
Box 2	Folder 29	Correspondence, Cousin Lill to Frank S. Lee, 1880-1881 (23 items)
Box 2	Folder 30	Correspondence, friends to J. Avery Lee, c. 1873-1884 (24 items)
Box 2	Folder 31	Correspondence, Bessie Sickly to J. Avery Lee, 1878-c.1881 (9 items)
Box 2	Folder 32	Correspondence, Leonora C. Boyd to J. Avery Lee, 1873-1878 (18 items)
Box 2	Folder 33	Correspondence, Jennie Boyd Gamble to J. Avery Lee, 1878 (3 items)
Box 2	Folder 34	Correspondence, Lee family to various others, 1869-1879 (8 items)
Box 2	Folder 35	Correspondence, Lizzie S. Lee to Frank S. Lee, 1867-1878 (9 items)
Box 2	Folder 36	Correspondence, Parnell Sidway to Frank S. Lee, 1870-1872 (6 items)
Box 2	Folder 37	Correspondence, K. Sidway to Frank S. Lee, 1877-1881 (11 items)
Box 2	Folder 38	Correspondence, David R. Lee business, 1874-1876 (3 items)
Box 2	Folder 39	Wedding invitations, Lee and Sickly, 1883-1923 (3 items)

Box 2	Folder 40	Correspondence, miscellaneous, 1875-1926 (4 items)
Box 3	Folder 41	Correspondence, Anna M. Parker to Frank S. Lee, unknown dates (17 items)
Box 3	Folder 42	Correspondence, Anna M. Parker to Frank S. Lee, 1882-1883 (27 items)
Box 3	Folder 43	Correspondence, Anna M. Parker to Frank S. Lee, 1884 (27 items)
Box 3	Folder 44	Correspondence, Anna M. Parker to Frank S. Lee, 1885 (29 items)
Box 3	Folder 45	Correspondence, Anna M. Parker to Frank S. Lee, 1886 (46 items)
Box 4	Folder 46	Correspondence, Anna M. Parker to Frank S. Lee, 1887 (49 items)
Box 4	Folder 47	Correspondence, Anna M. Parker to Frank S. Lee, 1888 (36 items)
Box 4	Folder 48	Correspondence, Anna M. Parker to Frank S. Lee, 1889 (24 items)
Box 4	Folder 49	Correspondence, Anna M. Parker to Frank S. Lee, 1890 (17 items)

V. Related Materials

G. Wiley Wells Veteran Folder

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