

GUIDE TO THE
MICROFILM EDITION OF THE
Forbes Papers



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. . . The need to understand the origin and development of our institutions is indeed of such moment that it affects the national interest and security. It is a story in essence of the strength possessed by a people whose reliance has been placed on an ancient human aspiration for freedom and for improving man's condition. It is a story whose record can be opened fully for the world to see. Only a free people could dare reveal the whole of its past triumphs and failures, its elevated and its tragic moments. . . .

. . . The thoughtful man is almost invariably a student of history, for he understands that one who knows nothing of the past, like a people ignorant of its origins, is a man without roots, passing through life in a sort of half-conscious sleep, almost defenseless against the problems of his day and against those who would misuse or manipulate him. A citizenry lacking the perspective that history alone provides can indeed render our form of government defenseless and impotent. . . .

If each generation is to rewrite its own history—if, indeed, we wish to encourage everyman to become his own historian, as is essential in a democratic society—we must stimulate and assist the process by expanding the base of reliable documentation, making it available not just to a few research scholars but to teachers, editors and journalists, practitioners of learned professions, textbook writers, and all men of learning and influence generally.

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MICROFILM EDITION OF THE
Forbes Papers

FREDERICK S. ALLIS, JR., Editor

ALEXANDER W. WILLIAMS, Associate Editor



MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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INTRODUCTION

THIS pamphlet and the forty-seven reels of microfilm that it accompanies represent the fifth microfilm edition of manuscripts published by the Massachusetts Historical Society under the auspices of the National Historical Publications Commission.* These editions are part of a broad program set up by the Commission in 1965 to encourage the publication of important manuscript collections either in letterpress, as with the Jefferson and Adams Papers, or on microfilm. The over-all purpose of the program is stated in the passage taken from the Commission's 1963 report to President Kennedy that appears on the inside front cover of this pamphlet. Implicit in the whole program is a concept stressed by Wayne C. Grover, formerly Archivist of the United States—what he called "Equal Opportunities for Scholarship." If the microfilm editions sponsored by the Commission can be widely disseminated throughout the country, the task of examining manuscript collections need no longer involve costly travel to distant libraries. In addition, with multiple copies in existence, the original source material is protected from loss by fire or other accident. It may well be that as this program and similar ones sponsored by the National Archives and the Library of Congress expand, they will usher in a truly new era in research opportunities.

Early in 1965 the Commission made a grant to the Massachusetts Historical Society, which immediately went to work to set up an editorial organization. Stephen T. Riley, Director of the Society, was named Project Director; Lyman H. Butterfield, Editor of the Adams Papers, became Institutional Adviser; Peter Scott, Head of the Microreproduction Laboratory at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the man in charge of filming the Adams Papers, became Technical Director; and the undersigned was appointed Editor.

The choice of the Forbes Papers for our fifth microfilm edition marks a sharp break from the earlier publications as far as subject matter is concerned. Winthrop Sargent, Timothy Pickering, Benjamin Lincoln, and Artemas Ward, whose papers we published in our first four editions, were all men of the Revolutionary generation whose careers ended early in the nineteenth century, if not before. Furthermore, these four all made their reputations in the fields of government and war. The

* For a listing of the first four editions in this program, as well as microfilms published by the Society alone, see page 69.

Forbes family, by contrast, made its most important contributions to American history throughout the nineteenth century, and although several members of the family held minor governmental positions or acted as advisers to government departments, the family's reputation derived from its achievements in commerce and business rather than in politics. Robert Bennet Forbes was consultant to the Federal Government during the Civil War in the construction of warships, but that is as close as any member of the family whose papers are represented in this collection came to the armed forces. This large and extraordinarily varied collection of papers, therefore, is valuable primarily for the insight it gives into the commercial activities of an aggressive and talented family that was engaged primarily, but by no means exclusively, in the China trade during the nineteenth century. In addition, there is much interesting material for the social historian in the collection. Descriptions of life at sea, Francis Blackwell Forbes's studies of Oriental botany, material on the education of his three sons in English and American schools in the latter part of the nineteenth century, Forbes travels in Europe, long runs of letters from Forbes wives in America to their husbands in the Far East describing everyday life in this country—these and many other subjects not directly related to the commercial affairs of the Forbeses give the collection several new dimensions. In short, here is a veritable mine of information on almost every conceivable aspect of the lives of a distinguished American commercial family of the nineteenth century. We are confident that when scholars have made full use of this collection, knowledge of the whole field of American commercial relations with the Far East, as well as many other tangential subjects, will be significantly advanced.

As is always the case with ventures of this kind, we have received invaluable assistance from a number of people. Our greatest debt is to H. A. Crosby Forbes, Director of the Capt. Robert Bennet Forbes House, Inc., in Milton, Massachusetts, who, with the support of his Trustees, arranged to have the Forbes collection loaned to the Massachusetts Historical Society so that this edition might be prepared. In addition, Mr. Forbes has been more than generous of his time in answering questions, providing bibliographical information, and helping us find our way in the collection itself. We are also grateful to David O'Neal, formerly custodian of the Forbes House, for his work in cataloging the books in the Forbes House library.

Stephen R. Kroll, who worked with us on the Timothy Pickering Papers, made the initial inventory of the Forbes Papers after they had been transferred to the Massachusetts Historical Society. He then developed a system for arranging the collection in logical subdivisions. Mr. Kroll accomplished this basic organization of the collection so successfully that only in a very few instances have we modified his original decisions, and to a large extent the form in which the Forbes Papers are presented is a tribute to his editorial skill.

We are grateful to Mr. Philip Jones of Shelton, Connecticut, for permission to microfilm Xerox copies of the Samuel Brimblecom letters that are in his possession, and we wish to thank Professor Robert Lovett, who is in charge of the manuscript collections at the Baker Library of the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration, for allowing us to reproduce Xerox copies of various documents in the collection of Forbes Papers at that library.

As with other editions, the staffs of the Massachusetts Historical Society and of the Microreproduction Laboratory at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology have helped us in ways too numerous to mention. We do, however, want to record our special gratitude to Malcolm Freiberg, Editor of Publications at the Massachusetts Historical Society, for generously giving us the benefit of his editorial ability and experience in this edition, as well as in all previous ones.

Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes and Mr. Fred Shelley of the National Historical Publications Commission have supported us throughout the project with their usual blend of sympathy for our problems and insistence upon excellence.

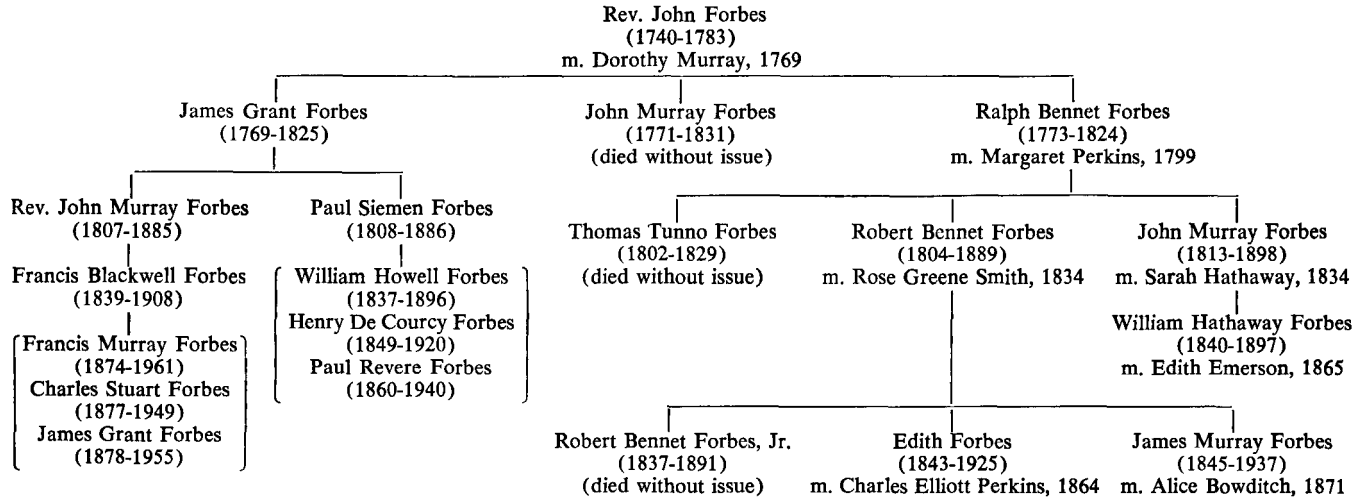
FREDERICK S. ALLIS, JR., Editor

ALEXANDER W. WILLIAMS, Associate Editor

Boston, Massachusetts
October, 1968

A CONDENSED GENEALOGY OF THE FORBES FAMILY

Only those members of the family who are represented in this collection of Forbes Papers are listed.



The Forbes Family

FOR over two hundred years the Forbes family has been playing a dynamic part in the history of the United States. From the arrival of the first Forbes in East Florida in 1764 to the present, members of the family have been active in many extraordinarily diversified vocations and avocations. Though based in Boston, the Forbesees have ranged far and wide over the globe, living and working in China, the Philippines, South America, Europe, and other parts of the United States. The Forbes family tree is adorned with sea captains, China merchants, railway builders, utility executives, consuls, clergymen, territorial governors, Chinese botanists, art museum curators, historians, bankers, and remarkably few black sheep. Bostonians have attempted to sort out members of this prolific family by classifying them into "long-tailed Forbesees" and "short-tailed Forbesees," according to each individual's attitude toward the cropping of horses' tails. But in the last analysis, the Forbesees have defied classification; they have been, and remain to this day, a group of independent, aggressive, talented people who have left their mark on the world in which they lived.

The first member of the family to come to this country was the Rev. John Forbes (1740-1783), who was appointed minister at St. Augustine's in 1763, at the time when East Florida was ceded by Spain to Great Britain at the close of the Seven Years' War. A member of a distinguished Scottish family, the Rev. Mr. Forbes emigrated to East Florida the following year and began what was to prove to be twenty years of difficult and unrewarding service in a variety of governmental positions. From the beginning, he found the climate injurious to his health, which necessitated at least one leave of absence, and he never received proper financial or other support from his government. In 1769 he obtained permission to go to Boston, where he married Dorothy Murray, a member of another well-known Scottish family, who is described as "a young lady of some fortune." Although the couple spent some time in Florida in the early years of their marriage, it soon became clear the colony was not a suitable place in which to raise a family, and Mrs. Dorothy Murray Forbes returned to Boston with the children. In the meantime John Forbes had served on the Governor's Council, held various judgeships, including the position of Chief Justice, and had literally worn himself out wrestling with the manifold problems incident to the settlement of

a new country. When the Revolution came, East Florida and John Forbes remained loyal to the crown, as did Dorothy Forbes's father, James Murray, in Boston. And it was only with the greatest difficulty that Mrs. Forbes was able to retain the family estate in Milton, Brush Hill. Most of the rest of the Murray family left Massachusetts after the fall of Boston, with James Murray proscribed by the future Commonwealth. In East Florida John Forbes loyally stuck to his post, struggling manfully to keep the colony faithful to the King. The final blow came in 1783, when the English in East Florida were told that the area was to be retroceded to Spain in the coming treaty. Heartbroken at this news, John Forbes received permission to return to England, where he died the same year. Francis Blackwell Forbes, his great-grandson, who wrote a piece on John Forbes, speaks of his career as one of "hard work, discouragement, broken health, and ruined hopes." There are a few papers relating to John Forbes and a substantial number to the Murray family in this microfilm edition.

The death of John Forbes found Mrs. Dorothy Murray Forbes in Milton with two of her three boys, John Murray and Ralph Bennet. The eldest, James Grant Forbes, had returned with his father to England. There is little in this collection of Forbes Papers about James Grant (1769-1825), although his grandson, Francis Blackwell, plays a most prominent part. John Murray Forbes, the Consul (1771-1831), was certainly the most distinguished of these three brothers. Born in East Florida and brought up in Milton, he was a Harvard classmate and friend of John Quincy Adams, a relationship that was to affect his career significantly later on. After a false start practicing law in Boston, Forbes went to Europe in the late 1790's and remained there for about twenty years. From 1801 to 1819 he served as Consul for the United States in Copenhagen, and then Hamburg, being particularly concerned with commercial problems. Returning to the United States shortly after John Quincy Adams had been appointed Secretary of State, he was asked by the new Secretary to represent this country in Argentina. It was in South America that he performed his most important public service, walking a thin line between Argentinian revolutionaries and reactionaries. He died at his post in 1831, never having married. There is a sizable amount of material on this John Murray Forbes in the present edition, particularly on his work at Copenhagen and Hamburg.

Dorothy Murray Forbes's third son, Ralph Bennet Forbes (1773-1824), had an interesting, but not really successful, career as a merchant. His main claim to fame is as the father of Robert Bennet Forbes and of John Murray Forbes the businessman. In 1799 Ralph Bennet married Margaret Perkins, the sister of the fabled Boston merchants James and Thomas Handasyd Perkins, who were already actively engaged in the China trade. Presumably with the help of his brothers-in-law, Ralph Bennet Forbes engaged in some commercial ventures in Europe during the early 1800's, most of which appear to have been less than successful. The most dramatic chapter in the life of Ralph Bennet and his family occurred in the years just before and during the War of 1812, when Margaret Perkins Forbes, with two young sons, sailed for Europe on the *Midas* in an effort to meet her husband at Marseilles. The story of their capture by British patrols and of their difficulties in getting back to the United States is one of the high points of the material in this collection. There is a good deal of other material on Ralph Bennet in this microfilm edition also.

Thomas Tunno Forbes (1802-1829), Ralph Bennet's oldest son, was the first of the family to take an active part in the China trade. Sent to the Far East by his Perkins uncles while still a very young man, he and John P. Cushing, a relative by marriage, soon achieved important roles as agents representing the Perkins interests in China. Early in the history of Perkins and Company close connections were established with the great Hong merchant, Houqua—a relationship that was to prove invaluable in the years to come. Thomas Tunno Forbes was just getting established in China when he was drowned in a typhoon in 1829, which tragically cut short what promised to be a highly successful mercantile career. Some of his letters and reports from the Far East appear in this microfilm edition.

The death of Thomas Tunno Forbes created a crisis in the business activities of the Perkinses in China. They finally decided to join forces with the firm of Russell and Company, which had been founded in the early 1800's by Samuel Russell of Middletown, Connecticut, and some associates from Providence, Rhode Island. By 1830 this company was acting for the Perkinses and virtually every other American trading in China, and for the rest of the century it dominated American commerce in the Far East. There can be little question that the cooperation of

Houqua, who transferred his allegiance to Russell and Company, was primarily responsible for the predominant position that the firm enjoyed throughout the nineteenth century.

Robert Bennet Forbes (1804-1889), the second son of Ralph Bennet, led the most colorful life of anyone in the family's long history. He is also the most important single figure in this microfilm edition, his letter-books and papers comprising almost half the total collection. His delightful autobiography, *Personal Reminiscences* (Boston, 1878, 1882, and 1892), reveals him as a man of courage and compassion, with an extraordinarily wide range of interests that he pursued vigorously during his long and active life. It is eminently fitting that the home he built in Milton should have become a National Historic Landmark and a museum to house the records of his career and those of other members of the Forbes family.

Robert Bennet Forbes attended Milton Academy for three years, but his father's financial difficulties made it imperative for him to break off his education and go to work. Fortunately for him, he was taken in by his Perkins uncles, and after a short stint as a clerk, sailed for China at the age of thirteen on one of their ships. From then on, his rise as a sea captain and China trader was rapid. He received his first command at the age of twenty, soon after that became associated with Russell and Company, and had done so well by the time he was twenty-eight that he was able to return to Boston and enter business as a merchant dealing with Russell and Company in the produce of the Far East. In 1834, at the age of thirty, he married Rose Greene Smith and planned to settle permanently in Milton, where he had just built the house that still bears his name.

Unfortunately, the Panic of 1837 hit him hard, as some of his papers show, and he was obliged to return to China to recoup his fortune. He was in the Far East from 1837 to 1840 and again from 1849 to 1851, becoming head of Russell and Company, playing a prominent part in the outbreak of the Opium War, serving as United States vice-consul, and successfully building up his financial position. After 1851 he was once again able to return to Boston and follow the career of ship-owner and ship-builder, concerns that were to occupy him for the rest of his active life in business. During the Civil War he acted as consultant for the United States government in the construction of gunboats, built other warships for the Union Navy on his own account, and assisted his

brother, John Murray Forbes, with his mission to prevent the Laird Rams from being turned over to the Confederacy.

After the war Captain Forbes, as he was called during much of his lifetime, retired from most of his business affairs, but he was by no means idle. What he did was to embark on a whole new career as philanthropist and writer. Reel XLVI of this microfilm edition contains sixty pamphlets and books, most of which he wrote during this period. He had already made a name for himself as a supporter of good causes when, in 1847, distressed at the heart-rending accounts of the famine in Ireland, he had prevailed on the Federal Government to make the U.S.S. *Jamestown* available for relief purposes. He had then succeeded in loading the vessel with food and other supplies, had taken command of her on the voyage to Ireland, and had successfully accomplished his mission. Throughout his life he was continually shocked at what he believed was the unnecessary loss of life at sea, and during his later years he wrote several pamphlets on devices to make ocean travel safer. He was one of the first to suggest the idea of East-West sea lanes for Atlantic steamship crossings and lived to see this means of preventing mid-ocean collisions become a reality. One of the earliest supporters of Lieutenant Matthew F. Maury's scheme for wind and sea charts, Forbes aided him for many years in collecting statistical information, as the extensive correspondence between the two indicates. He was equally concerned with providing homes for retired sailors and helped establish one in Massachusetts. He was an active supporter of the Massachusetts Humane Society, serving on its board of directors for many years. He had a never-flagging interest in ship construction and rigging and made an important contribution with a rig for sailing vessels that bore his name. And when he became too old to supervise the construction of real vessels, he took up the hobby of making model yachts. Retirement also gave him time to travel. He and his wife spent a year in Pau, France, during 1868 and 1869, where he took up fox hunting for the first time, and he later made several excursions to the American West. In short, whether as sea captain, merchant, ship-owner, or philanthropist, Robert Bennet Forbes was never a man to rest on his oars.

Ralph Bennet Forbes's third son, John Murray (1813-1898), had a career equally as important as that of his older brother, Robert Bennet. Unfortunately, he appears only on the periphery of this collection, primarily in correspondence with other members of the family. As noted

in the Provenance, the location of the great bulk of his papers is presently unknown. Like his two older brothers, he went to China at an early age and soon amassed a large fortune. Unlike them, he then transferred his business interests to projects within the United States, especially railroads. He was the driving force behind the construction of the Michigan Central and the Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy railroads, serving as president of latter in the 1880's. During the Civil War he worked in a number of capacities to aid the cause of the North. He was consultant to the Navy, was sent to England to deal with the Laird Ram problem, urged on Lincoln the enlistment of more Negro troops, and labored tirelessly in many ways to speed a Union victory. He worked for the most part behind the scenes and was content to let others get the credit for what was accomplished. Throughout his life he was known as the most hospitable of hosts, a quality Ralph Waldo Emerson attested in his *Letters and Social Aims*. His son, William Hathaway Forbes (1846-1897), a few of whose papers appear in this microfilm edition, became the first president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

Brief mention should be made of Robert Bennet Forbes's children, since all three are represented in this microfilm edition. The oldest, Robert Bennet, Jr. (1837-1891), proved a disappointment to his father, as one entire letterbook filled with parental complaints about his son's spendthrift ways demonstrates. This eldest son never married and died only two years after his father. The second child, Edith (1843-1925), was devoted to her father and he to her, as their correspondence during the 1870's and 1880's makes clear. In 1864 she married Charles Elliott Perkins, and the couple soon moved to Burlington, Iowa, where Perkins became president of the Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy Railroad, which Uncle John Murray had founded. Six of her scrapbook diaries are a part of this collection and record the life of her family in Iowa at the turn of the century.

Robert Bennet's third child and second son, James Murray Forbes (1845-1937), followed in his father's footsteps as a China merchant. After schooling in Concord, Massachusetts, he went to the Far East in 1863 at the age of eighteen and spent most of the next ten years there. Starting as a clerk with Russell and Company, he rose rapidly in the firm and by 1871 had prospered to such an extent that he was able to return to the United States as an independently wealthy man. In that

same year he married Alice Bowditch, granddaughter of the Navigator, and the couple settled permanently in Boston and Milton. The rest of James Murray Forbes's life was relatively uneventful, being spent in routine business concerns, travel, and the composition of his reminiscences. There is a substantial amount of material on him in this microfilm edition, especially on the period when he was in China, as well as many papers of various members of the Bowditch family.

The last Forbes to figure prominently in this collection is Francis Blackwell Forbes (1839-1908), whose papers form the second largest segment. Frank, as he was usually called, was in the same generation as James Murray Forbes, but was descended from a different branch of the family. His grandfather was James Grant Forbes, the eldest son of the Reverend John Forbes of East Florida fame. His father—another John Murray Forbes—was a clergyman. After a secondary school education at the Grammar School of Columbia College in New York, Frank Forbes went to China in 1857 and remained there for the most part until the early 1880's. Like so many of his kinsmen, he became a partner in Russell and Company and was particularly active in the Shanghai Steam Navigation Company, which operated a fleet of flat-bottomed, shallow-draft steamers, imported from the United States, up and down the Yangtze. In 1867 he married Isabel Clarke and brought her back with him to China, where they raised three sons. Frank Forbes did not devote all his time to business; while in the Far East he developed an interest in Chinese botany and became a leading specialist in the subject, as his letterbooks and papers show. He was active in promoting what became the Shanghai Country Club, acted as consul in Shanghai for Norway and Sweden, and wrote some interesting papers on the Burlingame Mission. He left China in the early 1880's and moved to Europe, spending most of the next twenty years in England and France. It was at this time that he became associated with the Serrell Automatic Silk Reeling Company of Paris, a corporation that held patents for a device to wind silk directly onto the loom from the cocoon. As long as he had remained in China, Frank Forbes prospered. But his association with the Serrell Company proved disastrous for him when the Company failed in 1894. In addition, he seems to have been hit much harder by the failure of Russell and Company in 1891 than other members of the family. During the last years of his life he became actively interested in

bimetalism and corresponded widely with silverites both in Europe and in the United States.

It remains to speak briefly of a few of Frank Forbes's relatives. His uncle, Paul Siemen Forbes (1808-1886), was in China during much of the same period that Frank was and is represented in this microfilm edition by a substantial number of letters. Paul Forbes' sons, William Howell (1837-1896), Henry De Courcy (1849-1920), and Paul Revere (1860-1940), also appear occasionally. Finally, there is some charming correspondence on the education of Frank Forbes's three sons, Francis Murray, Charles Stuart, and Grant at schools in England, at Groton, and at Harvard.

Fortunately for the record, almost all the Forbeses were inveterate letter writers and, more important, they were careful to keep copies of what they wrote. Most important, they wrote vigorous, colorful prose, and their letters are full of humor and specific detail. Together with their other papers, therefore, their correspondence provides the reader with an exceptionally clear view of their manifold activities. And the record is an impressive one. If one excepts public office, there are few American families whose careers, individually and collectively, can equal those of the descendants of the Rev. John Forbes of East Florida.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

THE following list of materials on the Forbeses and their activities is selective; we believe, however, that it will provide enough leads to enable the user to probe as deeply into the subject as he wishes.

On the Rev. John Forbes, see the article in the *DAB* by Edgar L. Pennington with accompanying bibliography. See also Edgar L. Pennington, "John Forbes," *The Florida Historical Society Quarterly*, Vol. VII, No. 3 (January, 1930), pp. 164-173, and Francis B. Forbes, "The Reverend John Forbes in East Florida, 1764-1783," a manuscript that is reproduced in Reel XXXVII of this microfilm edition.

On James Murray and his family, see Nina M. Tiffany, *Letters of James Murray, Loyalist* (Boston, 1901, privately printed) and Mary B. Broadfoot, "A Man with Two Countries, A Loyalist in Colonial Cape Fear," in *Lower Cape Fear Historical Society Bulletin*, Vol. VIII, No. 3 (May, 1965). There are numerous letters to and from James Murray and his children, including Dorothy Murray Forbes, in the James Murray Robbins Collection at the Massachusetts Historical Society.

On James Grant Forbes, see his *Sketches, Historical and Topographical, of the Floridas; More Particularly of East Florida* (New York, 1821). The University of

Florida Press issued a facsimile reproduction of this work, with an introduction by James W. Covington, in 1964.

On John Murray Forbes, the Consul, see the article by Arthur P. Whitaker in the *DAB* with accompanying bibliography. See also Joseph Lyman, "Common-place-book," a manuscript containing copies of some John Murray Forbes letters written in 1820, in the manuscript collection at the Widener Library at Harvard, and F. A. Espil, *Once anos en Buenos Aires, 1820-1831; las crónicas diplomáticas de J. M. Forbes* (Buenos Aires, 1956).

On Ralph Bennet Forbes, see *Reminiscences of Ralph Bennet Forbes* (Boston, n.d.) and *Voyage of the Midas, 1811* (Boston, n.d.), both of which are reproduced on Reel XLVI of this microfilm edition.

On Thomas Tunno Forbes, see the obituary published in the *Canton Register*, Monday, August 17, 1829, and reprinted in the *Captain R. B. Forbes House Register*, Vol. I, No. 1 (Autumn, 1965) and William Youngs, "Memo for Mr. Forbes Respecting Canton Affairs . . .," *Business History Review*, Vol. XL, No. 1 (Spring, 1966), pp. 98-107.

On Robert Bennet Forbes, see the article by Robert G. Albion in the *DAB* with accompanying bibliography. See also James B. Connally, *Canton Captain* (New York, 1942); Anne Colver, *Shamrock Cargo: A Story of the Irish Potato Famine* (Philadelphia, 1952); and H. A. Crosby Forbes and Henry Lee, *Massachusetts Help to Ireland During the Great Famine: A Commemorative Exhibition, 1847-1967* (Milton, Mass., 1967). In Reel XLVI of this microfilm edition there are reproduced sixty pamphlets and books, all but a few written by Robert Bennet Forbes. In addition to the works appearing there, he also wrote the following: *Remarks on China and the China Trade* (Boston, 1844); *The Voyage of the Jamestown on Her Errand of Mercy* (Boston, 1847); *Protection of Ships from Lightning, According to the Principles Established by Sir W. S. Harris . . .* (Boston, 1848); *To Merchants, Underwriters, and others Interested in the Welfare of Our Maritime Interests* (Boston, 1852); "The Auxiliary Screw Packet Ship Massachusetts . . .," Letter to the Editor of *The Nautical Magazine*, printed in the April, 1853, number of that magazine; *Memorial on the Subject of "Floating Mercantile Schools" for the Preparation of Young Men for Seamen* (Washington, 1854); *On the Establishment of a Line of Mail Steamers from the Western Coast of the United States, on the Pacific, to China* (Boston, 1855); *The Forbes's Rig for Ships, No. II* (New York, 1855); *Proceedings on the Occasion of Laying the Cornerstone of the Sailors' Snug Harbor of Boston, on July 14, 1856* (Boston, 1857); *The Prize Steamer "Cherokee," Formerly the "Thistle"* (Boston, 1864); *The Rescue of Charles Whall . . .* (Boston, 1866 [?]); *The R. B. Forbes' Rig for Fore-and-aft Vessels, Steamers, Sloops, Barks, Yachts and Boats* (New York, 1880); "Loss of Life and Property in the Fisheries," *Bulletin of the United States Fish Commission for 1884* (Washington, 1884), Vol. IV, pp. 181-182; *Log of the Jamestown, Out and Home, 1847* (Boston, 1884); "An Improved Catamaran," *Outing* (1885); *An Interesting Memoir of the Jamestown Voyage to Ireland, by the Late R. B. Forbes*. Cullen Series No. 1 (Boston, 1890); and *Reasons for Resigning from the Humane Society of Massachusetts* (n.p.n.d.).

On John Murray Forbes, the businessman, see the article in the *DAB* by Henry Greenleaf Pearson with accompanying bibliography, as well as Pearson's biography, *An American Railroad Builder: John Murray Forbes* (Boston, 1911). In addition to one pamphlet written by John Murray Forbes that appears in Reel XLV of this microfilm, see the following of his writings: *The Educational Commission* (Boston, 1862); *Verses from the Island Book* (Cambridge, 1865); *The Currency. Remarks and Examination of John M. Forbes . . . before the Committee . . . on Banking and Currency* (Washington, 1874); *An Old Scrap-book* (n.p., 1884, 1891); *Letters Regarding the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Stock, Including one from the President, C. E. Perkins* (Boston, 1889); *Some Random Recollections of an Octogenarian* (Boston, 1898); and "Letters of J. M. Forbes, 1843-1867," typewritten copies of which are at the Baker Library of the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration and at the Massachusetts Historical Society. See also Arthur M. Johnson and Barry E. Supple, *Boston Capitalists and Western Railroads: A Study in the Nineteenth-century Railroad Investment Process* (Cambridge, Mass., 1967); Richard C. Overton, *Burlington Route: A History of the Burlington Lines* (New York, 1965); Ralph W. Hidy, *The House of Baring in American Trade and Finance: The English Merchant Bankers at Work, 1763-1861* (Cambridge, Mass., 1949); and *Guide to the Burlington Archives in the Newberry Library, 1851-1901* (Chicago, 1949).

On other members of the Forbes family and the family in general, see James Murray Forbes, *Recollections and Events from the Threshold of Eighty-Five* (Boston, 1930, privately printed); Arthur S. Pier, *Forbes: Telephone Pioneer* (New York, 1953); Francis B. Forbes, *An Enumeration of all the Plants Known from China Proper, Formosa, Hainan, Corea, the Luchu Archipelago, and the Island of Hong Kong, Together with Their Distribution and Synonymy*. 3 Vols. (London, 1886-1905); Edith Perkins Cunningham, *Family Photographs*. 2 Vols. (Cambridge, Mass., 1939, privately printed); Edith P. Cunningham, editor, *Family Letters, 1861-1869* (Charles Elliott Perkins and Edith Forbes Perkins) (Boston, 1949, privately printed); Edith P. Cunningham, editor, *Letters and Journals of Edith Forbes Perkins, 1908-1925* (Cambridge, Mass., 1931, privately printed); A. K. Teele, *The History of Milton, Mass., 1640-1887* (Boston, 1887); Edward P. Hamilton, *A History of Milton* (Milton, 1957); and Helen Howe, *The Gentle Americans* (New York, 1965).

On China and the China trade, one cannot do better than start with John K. Fairbank, *The United States and China* (Cambridge, Mass., 1948, rev. edn. 1958), which includes an excellent bibliography that lists other bibliographical works as well. On the activities of the Forbeses and of Russell & Co., see especially Kwang-Ching Liu, *Anglo-American Steamship Rivalry in China, 1862-1874*, Harvard East Asian Studies 8 (Cambridge, Mass., 1962). For a study of a British firm in China during the same general period, see Edward LeFevour, *Western Enterprise in Late Ch'ing China: A Selective Survey of Jardine, Matheson & Company's Operations, 1842-1895* (Cambridge, Mass., 1968). Finally, there is an unpublished master's thesis at Tufts University by Paul G. Pickowicz entitled

China Trade: An Introduction to Robert Bennet Forbes, John Murray Forbes, and Russell and Company (1968).

Additional information on the Forbeses and their activities can be obtained from H. A. Crosby Forbes, Director of the Capt. Robert Bennet Forbes House, Inc., in Milton, Mass.

PROVENANCE

ALMOST ALL the Forbes Papers included in this microfilm edition are part of a collection belonging to the Capt. Robert Bennet Forbes House, Inc., in Milton, Massachusetts. Most of the Robert Bennet Forbes material was stored in the Milton house after his death in 1889 and has remained there ever since. The Francis Blackwell Forbes material became the property of F. Murray Forbes, Senior, and was given to the Forbes House by his heirs. The James Murray Forbes material was the property of Allan Forbes and was turned over to the Forbes House at the time of its establishment. Mrs. Raymond Emerson gave the Forbes House the log of the ship *Alert* and a few other items. Finally, other members of the family have turned over to the Forbes House from time to time individual documents in their possession. In short, though different parts of the present collection belonged to various members of the family in the past, almost all of the Forbes Papers in this microfilm edition are now part of a unified whole in the possession of Forbes House in Milton.

The material in Part VI, Number 2, including correspondence of John Murray Forbes, the Consul, and his nephew, John Murray Forbes, the businessman, as well as papers of other members of the family, is the property of the Massachusetts Historical Society.

In 1951 W. Cameron Forbes gave to the Baker Library at the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration a collection of papers of various members of the Forbes family, particularly John Murray Forbes, the Consul, and Francis Blackwell Forbes. The F. B. Forbes Letterbooks in the Harvard Business School collection complement those reproduced in this microfilm edition. In the collection that we received from the Forbes House in Milton were a number of Xerox copies of items, the originals of which are in the Baker Library. In Part VI, Number 12, of this microfilm is a copy of an inventory of the Forbes Papers in the Baker Library.

It would be a mistake to think that the Forbes Papers in this microfilm edition and those in the Baker Library at Harvard represent anything like a complete collection of the family papers; indeed, they may well be only the visible part of an iceberg of documents, the rest of which are still in private hands. After the death of John Murray Forbes, the businessman, his daughter, Sarah Forbes Hughes, edited eight volumes of

his letters and papers (*Letters and Recollections of John Murray Forbes* (n.p., 1899)). The present location of the letters from which she worked is unknown. R. Forbes Perkins of Manchester, Massachusetts, has a collection of Forbes Papers, a copy of the inventory of which is filmed in Part VI, Number 12, of this microfilm edition. Important records of J. M. Forbes & Company of Boston are still in private hands. And finally, H. A. Crosby Forbes, Director of the Forbes House, has suggested to us that various members of the family may still have papers in their possession. Thus this microfilm edition can make no claim to completeness. Nonetheless, it does contain a vast amount of important material focused on the activities of the family during the nineteenth century, particularly with respect to the China Trade, and as such has a unity of its own.

EDITORIAL PROCEDURE

THE task of organizing the Forbes Papers for microfilming has not been an easy one. The collection is large, covers a wide variety of subjects, and includes a great number of correspondents. The first decision that we had to make was whether or not to reorganize the files and boxes of material, a good part of which already had at least some degree of organization. In some cases documents were obviously arranged by the person who had originally written or received the letters; in others, the arrangement had been done by earlier editors. We finally decided that to reorganize the material completely would fatally destroy the relationships that many of the documents bore to each other, and that we should accept the existing arrangement as a point of departure.

We have, however, done some reorganizing within the existing structure of the collection. In the case of individual files and boxes, we have attempted to put the papers in chronological order, and in the case of boxes containing several folders of material, we have attempted to arrange the individual files in chronological order, according to the earliest date in each file. We have not, it should be admitted, been completely consistent in this policy. On several occasions, after several reels of microfilm in a given series had been completed, we discovered earlier boxes or folders that should have preceded material already filmed. It would obviously have been too expensive to refile all the material, and so we have simply left the material where we found it, even though it did occasionally violate our policy of arranging subdivisions in chronological order.

The collection has been broken down into six major Parts, each of which is subdivided into Numbers. Many of the Numbers have been further subdivided into individual Folders. In many cases this organization is not logical. For example, a single Number may consist of three or four documents, while in another case, a Number may consist of as many as fifteen or twenty individual Folders, each of which is larger than some of the other individual Numbers. We can only say, by way of explanation, that we considered it more important to stick to our original decision of filming the papers as we found them than to attempt a reorganization that might be more logical but that would involve destroying existing relationships.

The six main divisions of the collection are as follows:

Part I—The Letterbooks of Robert Bennet Forbes, consisting of thirty-eight Numbers. The first ten reels of the microfilm edition contain this Part.

Part II—The Papers of Robert Bennet Forbes, consisting of seventeen Numbers. Reels XI through XX contain this Part.

Part III—The Letterbooks of Francis Blackwell Forbes, consisting of eleven Numbers. Reels XXI through XXIV contain this Part.

Part IV—The Papers of Francis Blackwell Forbes, consisting of twenty Numbers. Reels XXV through XXXVII contain this Part.

Part V—The Papers of James Murray Forbes, consisting of twenty-one Numbers. Reels XXXVIII through XLI contain this Part.

Part VI—Forbes Papers Miscellany, consisting of twelve Numbers. Reels XLII through XLVII contain this Part.

With a few exceptions, we have followed the policy adopted for our earlier editions of filming everything in the collection, no matter how trivial some of the items may seem. In the case of the Forbes Papers we have made two minor exceptions to this policy. Since the collection is primarily a nineteenth-century one, we have usually omitted papers dated after the World War I—for example, some letters of the late Allan Forbes written in the 1930's and 1940's. In other cases we have omitted papers of distant relatives of wives of Forbeses, especially when such papers had no connection with the Forbeses at all at the time they were written. An example of this is material on the Civil War activity of a member of the Amory family. But these omissions represent a tiny percentage of the collection as a whole, and the documents will be available at the Capt. Robert Bennet Forbes House, Inc., in Milton for those wishing to examine them.

Users of this microfilm edition will find that numerous duplicate copies of letters have been filmed. For example, many of the letters that Robert Bennet Forbes wrote from China exist in the collection in two places—first in the onionskin Letterbooks that he kept, and second, among his papers, where the actual letter sent is to be found. We have made no attempt to check these letters against each other. In some cases we know that part of a letter is missing. Thus we believed the safest and easiest thing to do was to reproduce all the letters, even though some would be duplicates.

At the start of each subdivision we have indicated on the target the

number of pages or items in that particular subdivision. The purpose of this has been to give the user a general idea of how much material there is in that subdivision. We have not, however, made a major project out of counting the documents or pages. For example, when two accounts are found stapled together, we have usually counted them as a single item, although another editor might count them as two.

We have made no attempt to footnote the collection, as the editor of a letterpress edition would do, but have limited ourselves to explaining the form and sequence of the documents. Normally we have used targets only when they are necessary to introduce a new reel or subdivision; to label intentional duplicate exposures; and to deal with particular situations where, we believe, the text would be confusing without additional explanation. We have left undisturbed the notations of earlier editors, which can be distinguished by the fact that they are never in brackets. To enable users of this microfilm edition to locate particular items easily, we have given each frame a number.

Readers of this Guide who wish to know more about the technical procedures used in the actual microfilming are referred to the statement by Mr. Peter Scott in the Guide to the Winthrop Sargent Papers. Or they may obtain specific answers to questions by writing Mr. Scott at the Microreproduction Laboratory, MIT, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

AS NOTED in the statement on Editorial Procedure, we have divided this edition of Forbes Papers into six Parts: I—The Letterbooks of Robert Bennet Forbes; II—The Papers of Robert Bennet Forbes; III—The Letterbooks of Francis Blackwell Forbes; IV—The Papers of Francis Blackwell Forbes; V—The Papers of James Murray Forbes; and VI—Forbes Papers Miscellany. In the description of the six Parts that follows we have decided to present the material in tabular form, believing that this will make it easier to use. For each subdivision of the collection we have included its Number, the dates, the actual or estimated total pages or items, and some remarks on the character of the material. In presenting the total items or pages, we have used a number alone if it records the total items, a number followed by “pp.” if it records the total pages. The remarks characterizing the material are condensations of statements on the microfilm targets. We have attempted to include all important information, but the user is referred to the targets for additional descriptive detail. Some of the letterbooks have indexes of their contents; when this is the case, we have used the word “Index.”

It should be emphasized at the start that since we have adopted the policy of filming the material in the form that we found it, there is unavoidably some overlapping of both dates and material. For example, by no means all of the material on Robert Bennet Forbes is to be found in Parts I and II. We urge, therefore, *that anyone who uses this Description of the Collection read it through in its entirety if he wishes to be sure of locating all the material on a particular subject.*

We have used the following abbreviations: N for Number; F for Folder; RBF for Robert Bennet Forbes; FBF for Francis Blackwell Forbes; JaMF for James Murray Forbes; JMF1 for John Murray Forbes, the Consul; JMF2 for John Murray Forbes, the businessman; PSF for Paul Siemen Forbes; and RSF for Rose Smith Forbes. (See the genealogical table that appears on page 8 of this pamphlet.)

PART I—THE LETTERBOOKS OF ROBERT BENNET FORBES

REEL I—NUMBERS 1 THROUGH 10—1825-1848

Number	Dates	Total Pages or Items	
N1	1825-1832	144 pp.	Business letters written by RBF from China, South America, Europe, and the United States to such correspondents as T. H. Perkins & Sons, Baring Bros., Russell & Co., John P. Cushing, Thomas T. Forbes, and William Sturgis. Long account of RBF's troubles getting out of the River Plata in 1827.
N2	1828-1829 (?)	52 pp.	Notes on remission of funds to the Far East, manner of packing goods for China Trade, and specific remarks on such goods as cloth, birds nests, shark fins, ginseng, fish, coral, and opium.
N3	1838-1839	91 pp.	Letters from RBF to RSF describing voyage to China, daily life in Canton, and business dealings with Russell & Co.
N4	1838	94 pp.	Letters from RBF to RSF describing daily life in Canton.
N5	1839	91 pp.	Letters in the form of a journal from RBF to RSF describing life in Canton, Macao, Hong Kong, and aboard the bark <i>Trenton</i> .
N6	1839-1840	92 pp.	Letters in the form of a journal from RBF to RSF describing life in Canton and aboard various vessels in local waters. A few letters to RBF's mother, Margaret Perkins Forbes.
N7	1840	68 pp.	Letters from RBF to RSF, with a few to RBF's mother, Margaret Perkins Forbes, describing life in Canton and detailing RBF's plans to return home because of difficulties arising from the Opium War.
N8	1840	69 pp.	Letters in the form of a journal from RBF to RSF describing RBF's voyage on the ship <i>Niantic</i> from Macao to New York. Two other letters, one to Samuel Mather, the second to George S. Paine.
N9	1841, 1845	54 pp.	Mostly letters from RBF to RSF describing a trip to Europe that RBF took in

1841. Also one letter to Thomas G. Cary, one to Margaret P. Forbes, and one to F. H. Delano. The Delano letter is dated 1845, the rest 1841.
- N10 1847-1848 117 pp. Report by RBF on expedition of ship *Jamestown* to relieve Irish famine. RBF letters from Boston to President Polk, David Henshaw, Josiah Quincy, Jr., William Rathbone in Liverpool, England, various firms in China, Lieutenant Matthew F. Maury and ship captains on navigational matters, and Boston associates on local concerns.

REEL II—NUMBERS 11 THROUGH 15—1848-1851

- N11 1848 81 pp. RBF's letters from Boston to ship captains, Lieutenant M. F. Maury, Robert C. Winthrop, Cary & Co. in New York, and others firms in England and the United States. Index.
- N12 1848 84 pp. Business letters written by RBF from Boston to Baring Bros. and Forbes Forbes & Co. in London, William Rathbone in Liverpool, James Scott & Co. in Ireland, and others. Index.
- N13 1849 104 pp. Mostly letters from RBF to RSF and RBF, Jr., describing voyage to Canton via Europe and Egypt. A few letters from RBF to JMF2.
- N14 1849-1850 90 pp. Letters from RBF to RSF and RBF, Jr., describing life in Canton and Hong Kong.
- N15 1849-1851 388 pp. Letters from RSF and RBF, Jr., to RBF in China describing Forbes family life in Milton during RBF's absence.

REEL III—NUMBERS 16 THROUGH 20—1849-1861

- N16 1849-1850 6 pp. Four letters written by RBF from Canton to Joseph Lyman, T. H. Perkins, W. W. Swann, and Margaret P. Forbes. Index.

Description of the Collection

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| N17 | 1850 | 87 pp. | Letters in the form of a journal written by RBF to RSF from Canton describing life there. A few letters addressed to RBF, Jr., and other correspondents. |
| N18 | 1850-1851 | 57 pp. | Letters from RBF in Canton to various ship captains, partners in Russell & Co., F. T. Bush in Hong Kong, Henry and James Sturgis in Hong Kong and Macao, Edward Cunningham, and PSF. Index. |
| N19 | 1851-1852 | 400 pp. | Letters from RBF in Boston and Milton to Russell & Co., James, Russell, and Robert Sturgis in Canton, Edward Cunningham in Shanghai, D. N. Spooner and Warren Delano in Canton, Rathbone Bros. in Liverpool, Baring Bros. in London, Lieutenant M. F. Maury in Washington, W. H. Seward, Charles Sumner, and various ship captains and shipbuilders. A few family letters. |
| N20 | 1851-1861 | 213 pp. | Business letters from RBF in Boston, mostly after 1855, to J. P. Cushing and Edward and James Cunningham in China, PSF in Paris and China, Russell Sturgis in London, Warren Delano, JMF2, Daniel Webster, Charles Francis Adams, W. H. Seward, Lewis Cass, N. P. Banks, and various ship captains. Index. |

REEL IV—NUMBERS 21 AND 22—1862-1865

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|-----|-----------|-------------|--|
| N21 | 1862-1863 | ca. 600 pp. | Business letters from RBF in Boston to Baring Bros., Bates & Co. of Boston, W. R. Bush, Cary & Co. of New York, Nelson Curtis, Gustavus V. Fox, Commodore F. H. Gregory, Admiral S. P. Lee, S. M. Pook, Russell & Co., Gideon Welles, and various ship captains. Index. |
| N22 | 1863-1865 | ca. 400 pp. | Business letters from RBF in Boston and Milton to Gustavus V. Fox, Admirals S. P. Lee, F. H. Gregory, and L. M. Goldsborough, John and Edward Cunningham, Warren Delano, various members of the Forbes family in China, Charles Sumner, R. C. Winthrop, Russell Sturgis in London, and various ship cap- |

tains. Many of these letters deal with Civil War matters and with RBF's part in them. Index.

REEL V—NUMBERS 23 THROUGH 26—1865-1879

- N23 1865-1866 50 pp. Almost entirely letters from RBF in Boston and Milton to his son JaMF in China.
- N24 1868-1869 65 pp. Primarily letters from RBF in Pau, France, to his sons JaMF and RBF, Jr. RBF and RSF spent a year there. Also seven documents found loose in the volume.
- N25 1877-1878 ca. 250 pp. Letters from RBF in Milton to RSF, JMF2, his son-in-law Charles E. Perkins, Benjamin F. Butler, and various officials in the Navy Department.
- N26 1878-1879 ca. 400 pp. Letters from RBF in Milton to John P. Bayley, Edward Cunningham, Warren Delano, H. W. Hubbell, S. I. Kimball, Richard Lewis, A. A. Low, Commodore F. A. Parker and Russell Sturgis. Also letters to RBF from JMF2 and RBF, Jr. Pages 347-362 contain a history of Russell & Co. by RBF. Index.

REEL VI—NUMBERS 27 AND 28—1879-1881

- N27 1879-1880 ca. 400 pp. Business letters from RBF in Milton to JMF2, RBF, Jr., JaMF, his son-in-law C. E. Perkins, A. H. Clark, John P. Cushing, John Ericsson, J. S. Paine, L. R. Hamersley & Co. in Philadelphia, B. S. Osborn, Admiral J. R. Ward in London, and various naval officers. Index.
- N28 1880-1881 ca. 475 pp. Business letters from RBF in Milton to JMF2, RBF, Jr., JaMF, William Hathaway Forbes, Warren Delano, John Ericsson, Hannibal Hamlin, George B. Hanover, W. C. Hunter in Paris, Senator George F. Hoar, S. I. Kimball, A. A. Low, Richard Lewis, Admiral John Rodgers, Russell Sturgis in London, H. A. Whitney, and various naval officers. Index.

Description of the Collection

REEL VII—NUMBERS 29, 30, AND 31—1881-1885

- N29 1881-1883 ca. 275 pp. Letters from RBF in Milton to RBF, Jr., JaMF, JMF2, C. E. Perkins, Sir Thomas Brassy in England, Admiral George H. Preble, General M. B. Hazen, Lieutenant-Commander F. E. Chadwick, Senator George F. Hoar, and Philip K. Dumaesq. Index.
- N30 1883 ca. 275 pp. Letters from RBF in Milton to RBF, Jr., JMF2, RSF, Admirals D. D. Porter, J. R. Ward, Thomas O. Selfridge, and C. P. R. Rogers, Commodore R. W. Shufeldt, John Ericsson, David W. Low, S. H. Pook, and various Scottish mercantile houses. Index.
- N31 1883-1885 ca. 300 pp. Letters from RBF in Milton to E. Bell in London, H. and D. C. Babson in Gloucester, Mass., B. W. Crowninshield, Captain G. W. Creasy, JMF2, William Hathaway Forbes, W. C. Hunter, S. I. Kimball, J. D. Long, H. A. Pierce, Captain Pryce Protheroe, H. E. Scudder, and E. S. Tobey. Index.

REEL VIII—NUMBERS 32 AND 33—1883-1886

- N32 1883-1886 ca. 200 pp. Family letters and memoranda from RBF in Milton to RSF, RBF, Jr., and JaMF. Most of the letters concern the problems RBF was having with RBF, Jr.'s financial irresponsibilities. Index.
- N33 1885-1886 ca. 400 pp. Business letters from RBF in Milton to D. J. Dixwell, W. Delano, Sir Roderic Cameron, General J. A. Cunningham, John Ericsson, JMF2, JaMF, George H. Folger, E. E. Hale, W. C. Hunter, S. I. Kimball, Inspector D. M. C. Long, D. McLean, A. A. Low, Richard Olney, Charles and Edith Perkins, H. S. Russell, Moorfield Storey, Roland Worthington, and various government officials and naval officers.

REEL IX—NUMBERS 34, 35, AND 36—1886-1889

- N34 1886-1889 ca. 450 pp. Business letters from RBF in Milton and Boston to W. S. Barrett, J. W. Collins, Arthur H. Clark, JaMF, RBF, Jr., Captain A. W. Greely, W. C. Hunter, S. I. Kimball, A. A. Low, Charles and Edith Perkins, Admiral D. D. Porter, Peck and Snyder, J. C. Rogers, Commodore W. S. Schley, Moorfield Storey, Russell Sturgis, E. A. Tonzalien, George L. Vose, and other business associates.
- N35 1889 ca. 250 pp. Letters and memoranda from RBF in Milton, dealing almost entirely with maritime matters—famous voyages, shipwrecks, and rescues. Included are accounts of the *Jamestown* and *Macedonian* voyages to relieve the Irish famine. Also a few family letters. Index.
- N36 1889 18 pp. Letters from RBF in Milton to various newspaper editors on the subject of safety at sea. Index.

REEL X—NUMBERS 37 AND 38

- N37, 38 1870's 362 pp. The two volumes that make up this reel are two different drafts of what RBF called his "Autobiography," which was later published under the title *Personal Reminiscences* (Boston, 1878).

PART II—THE PAPERS OF ROBERT BENNET FORBES

REEL XI—NUMBERS 1, 2, AND 3—1768-1879

- | <i>Number</i> | <i>Dates</i> | <i>Total Pages
or Items</i> | |
|---------------|--------------|---------------------------------|--|
| N1 | 1768-1813 | 23 | A bound volume of Forbes family letters, mostly from Ralph Bennet Forbes, RBF's father, to Dorothy Murray Forbes, RBF's grandmother, and to James Grant Forbes and JMF1, RBF's uncles. A few Murray letters. |

Description of the Collection

N2	1807-1811	4	An account by Ralph Bennet Forbes, RBF's father, of the capture of the schooner <i>Coquette</i> and associated documents.
N3—25 Folders			
N3, F1	1821	1	Letter to RBF from his aunt, Mary Abbot.
N3, F2	1822	1	Letter from RBF in Rotterdam to his father, Ralph Bennet Forbes.
N3, F3	1838	1	A letter from the Hong merchant Houqua, written from Canton, China.
N3, F4	1838	20	Letters from RBF in Canton to Russell & Co.
N3, F5	1840-1842	6	Letters from RBF in China and Boston to James P. Sturgis.
N3, F6	1838-1839	13	Letters from various ship captains to RBF.
N3, F7	1849	3	Letters from RBF in Canton to John C. Green in New York.
N3, F8	1850	4	Letters from RBF in Canton to Warren Delano, Forbes Forbes & Co. in London, and the British Consul in Canton.
N3, F9	1823-1829	37	Mostly letters of instruction to RBF from his brother, Thomas T. Forbes, and from Thomas H. Perkins & Sons.
N3, F10	1850, 1868	2	Letters from RBF to PSF.
N3, F11	1818-1849	4	Documents concerning Russell, Sturgis & Co. and Russell & Co.
N3, F12	1817-1818	1	Account of expenses of the ship <i>Canton Packet</i> .
N3, F13	1837	1	"An Account of Failed Paper" written by RBF at the time of the Panic of 1837.
N3, F14	1840	1	Extracts of letters written by RBF from Canton and Macao.
N3, F15	1824-1839	14	Accounts of RBF with Russell & Co.
N3, F16	1838	2	Bills of exchange drawn from China.
N3, F17	1857	4	Drafts of letters from RBF to officials in the State Department and a Report of a Committee on Chinese Affairs.
N3, F18	1857	1	Report by RBF to Boston Board of Trade.

N3, F19	1857	2	Drafts of letters from RBF to Secretary of State on opium situation in China.
N3, F20	1857	6	Letters to RBF from William B. Reed in Philadelphia and Washington on a Chinese trade mission.
N3, F21	1854	1	Letter from RBF to Secretary of State William L. Marcy on the Chinese situation.
N3, F22	1871	1	Letter from RBF to his new daughter-in-law, Alice Bowditch (Mrs. JaMF).
N3, F23	1849-1879	33	Letters from RBF to JaMF, draft of report by RBF to the Secretary of Navy, and letters to RBF from Edward Cunningham, John Griswold, Warren Delano, and A. A. Low.
N3, F24	1846-1879	7	Letter from RBF to J. G. Palfrey, one from Palfrey to RBF, one from Charles Bradford to RBF, and undated expense accounts and newspaper clippings.
N3, F25	1879	55	Letters to and from RBF. Chief correspondents are A. A. Low, Edward Cunningham, Russell & Co., Russell Sturgis, T. J. Coolidge, Charles P. Bradford, E. Carrington, S. Wells Williams, PSF, Warren Delano, W. C. Hunter, and others.

REEL XII—NUMBERS 4 AND 5—1819-1885

N4—19 Folders

N4, F1	1819	1	Letter from his parents, Ralph Bennet and Margaret Perkins Forbes, to RBF.
N4, F2	1822	1	Letter to RBF from his brother Thomas in Canton.
N4, F3	1829, 1836	2	Letters from Samuel Russell, one from Canton to John P. Cushing, the other from New York to RBF.
N4, F4	1838-1873	13	Letters to RBF from Lewis Cass, Admiral S. I. Du Pont, Charles E. Perkins, and others.
N4, F5	1838	3	Two linguist's reports on cargoes exported from China and a printed table of tea prices.

Description of the Collection

N4, F6	1838	1	Letter from E. Emery in Chile to RBF with bill of lading.
N4, F7	1846-1879	110	Mostly letters to Forbes from Major W. B. Scott, Thomas Appleton, R. C. Winthrop, George Ashmon, David Henshaw, Marcus Morton, John W. Davis, British Consul in China, George B. Loring, Professor A. D. Bache, Lewis Cass, William B. Reed, Isaac Toucey, R. C. Schenk, John G. Palfrey, Charles F. Adams, Joshua Bates, Charles G. Loring, Josiah Quincy, William W. Wood, Vice President Henry Wilson, George S. Boutwell, Zachariah Chandler, Anson Burlingame, and other government officials.
N4, F8	1851-1879	50	Almost all letters from Captain Louis M. Goldsborough to RBF on the subject of ships that RBF was having built.
N4, F9	1851	1	Letter from Dr. Peter Parker in Canton to RBF.
N4, F10	1854	1	Report on China written by RBF for Secretary of State William L. Marcy.
N4, F11	Undated	1	Report of a Committee of Boston merchants on Commodore Perry's expedition to Japan.
N4, F12	1856	1	Letter from John T. Moore to RBF covering an account entitled "Operation in Rye."
N4, F13	1858-1861	50	Mostly letters from RBF in Boston to JaMF.
N4, F14	1858-1868 (?)	31	Mostly letters from RSF to JaMF.
N4, F15	1865-1867	4	Letters to RBF and RSF from a nephew named Smith in Chile.
N4, F16	1867	1	Account of a cargo of tea imported by RBF.
N4, F17	1868	1	Letter from RBF in Geneva, Switzerland, to Edward Cunningham.
N4, F18	1870	13	Letters from RBF to JaMF in China.
N4, F19	1885	76	Letters of condolence to various members of the Forbes family on the death of RSF.

N5	1828-1852	3	Memorandum on Canton affairs by John P. Cushing and two letters from Cushing to RBF.
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REEL XIII—NUMBER 6—1838-1867

N6—9 Folders

N6, F1	1838	1	Account of a portrait of RBF painted by George Chinnery at Canton in 1832.
N6, F2	1838-1839	69	All but one letter from RSF in Boston to RBF in China.
N6, F3	1838	7	Letters from RBF in Canton to RSF.
N6, F4	1838	14	Two accounts of RBF's ship <i>Canton Packet</i> , one linguist's report, and eleven letters from Russell & Co. and Baring Bros. to RBF.
N6, F5	1839-1841	55	Letters from RSF in Boston to RBF.
N6, F6	1839	27	Letters from RBF in China to RSF.
N6, F7	1840	40	Letters from RBF in China to RSF.
N6, F8	1843-1864	50	Letters from RBF in China and Boston to Russell & Co., Warren Delano, Baring Bros., and other merchants in England, France, and India.
N6, F9	1863-1867	3	Letter from Warren Delano in Hong Kong to RBF, one from George Tyson in Shanghai to RBF, and one from S. K. Lothrop to JaMF.

REEL XIV—NUMBER 7—1834-1853

N7—9 Folders

N7, F1	1834	9	Letters from JMF2 in Canton to RBF.
N7, F2	1835	25	Letters from JMF2 in Canton and Manila to RBF.
N7, F3	1836	2	Letters from JMF2 in Canton to RBF.
N7, F4	1849	26	Letters from RBF in England and on way to China to JMF2.
N7, F5	1850	40	Letters from RBF in Canton to JMF2.
N7, F6	1851	11	Letters from RBF in Canton to JMF2.
N7, F7	1852	11	Letters from RBF in Boston to JMF2.

Description of the Collection

N7, F8	1853	7	Letters from RBF in England, Holland, and Boston to JMF2.
N7, F9	1850's	27	Undated letters from RBF to JMF2.

REEL XV—NUMBER 8—1836-1889

N8—10 Folders

N8, F1	1836-1881	84	Letters from various naval officers to RBF on the subject of safety at sea.
N8, F2	1854-1881	41	Letters to RBF from various naval officers on the subject of ship construction. The principal correspondent is Samuel H. Pook.
N8, F3	1848-1857	74	Letters from Lieutenant Matthew F. Maury of the National Observatory to RBF.
N8, F4	1858	1	Report by Captain Charles Breck, USN, of an expedition to explore the River Plata in Argentina.
N8, F5	1875-1876	11	Letters from John Ericsson to RBF.
N8, F6	1876	14	Documents on the subject of a new life-boat.
N8, F7	1870-1871	22	Letters dealing with the U.S.S. <i>Guerrière</i> .
N8, F8	1887	1	Resolution of the Boston Marine Society for RBF's 60th anniversary as a member.
N8, F9	1889	81	Personal letters from family and friends to RBF.
N8, F10	1889	43	Personal letters from family and friends to RBF.

REEL XVI—NUMBER 9—1838-1866

N9	1838-1866	239	Letters from RBF in either Boston or China to PSF concerned primarily with the Forbeses' business ventures in China.
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REEL XVII—NUMBERS 10 AND 11—1828-1889

N10—9 Folders

N10, F1	1828-1881	20	Eighteen letters and two pamphlets on a variety of subjects, some on China trade.
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			Some letters from Commander Joseph Smith. One pamphlet the reminiscences of Ralph Bennet Forbes, the other by RBF entitled <i>Personal Memoranda</i> .
N10, F2	1844	1	Memorandum of an agreement between RBF and Samuel Hall to build the bark <i>Coquette</i> .
N10, F3	1847-1888	7	Miscellaneous letters, three of them on the subject of the <i>Macedonian</i> and Irish famine relief.
N10, F4	1862	1	Arthur H. Clark's copy of RBF's pamphlet entitled <i>The Forbes Rig</i> .
N10, F5	1872-1881	14	Letters from RBF to JMF2 and memoranda on RBF's Milton property.
N10, F6	1876	1	Original pencil drawing by RBF of the warship <i>Meteor</i> .
N10, F7	1889	72	Personal letters from family and friends to RBF.
N10, F8	Undated	1	Typewritten copy of RBF's article <i>How to Construct a Model Yacht</i> .
N10, F9	1838-1889	156 pp.	Typewritten copies of material from the Forbes Papers. 121 pages are copies of letters from RBF to RSF in 1838 and 1839.
N11—6 Folders			
N11, F1	1843-1880	45	Mostly letters to RBF from various officials in the Navy Department, especially George Bancroft and Isaac Toucey.
N11, F2	1845-1855	16	Letters from Commander Charles S. Morris to RBF.
N11, F3	1855-1862	20	Letters from Lieutenant John A. Dahlgren, USN, later Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance, to RBF.
N11, F4	1856-1859	11	Letters from D. N. Ingraham, Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance, to RBF.
N11, F5	1864-1881	71	Almost all letters from Commander S. B. Luce to RBF.
N11, F6	1881-1882	43	Three letters from Lieutenant F. E. Chadwick to RBF and a printed report of the Superintendent of the Naval Academy.

REEL XVIII—NUMBERS 12 AND 13—1845-1889

N12—5 Folders

N12, F1	1846-1869	58	Business letters to RBF from various Customs Collectors, Treasury Department officials, and political leaders, among them Howell Cobb, Salmon P. Chase, John B. Floyd, A. D. Bache, Abbot Lawrence, and R. C. Winthrop.
N12, F2	1868-1869	14	Letters from RBF while in Europe, many addressed to his daughter, Edith Forbes Perkins.
N12, F3	1870-1880	39	Letters to RBF from various federal officials, many about safety at sea. Principal correspondents include W. Hunter, Admiral George Preble, and Benjamin F. Butler.
N12, F4	1871-1878	11	Letters from Admiral David Porter to RBF.
N12, F5	1889	130	Personal letters from family and friends to RBF, many congratulating him on his 85th birthday.

N13—3 Folders

N13, F1	1845-1880	62	Letters written to RBF by a variety of correspondents, some of them foreign, on the subject of safety at sea.
N13, F2	1847-1878	106	Letters and documents dealing with RBF's association with the Massachusetts Humane Society. A substantial part of the material is a correspondence between RBF and the lawyer A. T. Perkins.
N13, F3	1857-1880	28	Letters from Commander Daniel Ammen to RBF on proposed regulations to prevent collisions at sea.

REEL XIX—NUMBERS 14 AND 15—1862-1877

N14	1862-1871	184	Letters from RBF to JaMF in China. A few letters to Warren Delano and Russell & Co.
N15	1873-1877	15	Correspondence between RBF and S. K. Lothrop.

REEL XX—NUMBERS 16 AND 17—1810-1889

N16—4 Folders

N16, F1	1839-1880	136	Letters from various admirals and commodores to RBF.
N16, F2	1842-1881	78	Letters from various naval officers to RBF.
N16, F3	1844-1880	46	Letters from officials in the Treasury Department to RBF.
N16, F4	1838-1889	21	Miscellaneous letters and documents. Some letters from RBF to his family, one to Josiah Quincy, and a printed list of the partners of Russell & Co.

N17—6 Folders

N17, F1	1819	1	Letter from William Sturgis to John P. Cushing. Mentions RBF.
N17, F2	1829-1857	27	Letters from John P. Cushing, mostly from Watertown, Massachusetts, to RBF.
N17, F3	1830	1	Letter from John P. Cushing in London to RBF.
N17, F4	1834-1848	12	Papers relating to RBF's mother, Margaret Perkins Forbes.
N17, F5	1843-1859	6	Four letters from Caleb Cushing to RBF, one from Cushing to Senator Holmes, one from Conway Whittle to Cushing.
N17, F6	1843-1844	20	Letters from Samuel A. Brimblecom to members of his family while on a voyage to the Far East on board RBF's brig <i>Antelope</i> . These are Xerox copies of the originals in the possession of Philip Jones of Shelton, Connecticut, and may not be quoted in print without his permission.

PART III—THE LETTERBOOKS OF
FRANCIS BLACKWELL FORBES

REEL XXI—NUMBERS 1, 2, AND 3—1869-1885

<i>Number</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Total Pages or Items</i>	
N1	1869-1880's	129 pp.	FBF's notebook on Oriental botany, with memoranda on such subjects as

- Chinese forest trees and shrubs, Shanghai flora, the origins of cultivated plants, and botanical nomenclature.
- N2 1881-1882 447 pp. Letters from FBF in China to J. B. Cunningham, De Courcy Forbes, William Howell Forbes, JMF, Jr., William Pethick, J. B. Manson, J. S. Wheaton, Major-General Pakenham, General Starring, W. Harwood, John L. Cadwalader, S. W. Pomeroy, W. V. Drummond, and other associates, including some Chinese.
- N3 1882-1885 271 pp. Letters from FBF on Chinese botany written to such correspondents as H. F. Hance in England, R. Franchot in France, C. J. Maximowicz in Russia, Professor Carnel in Florence, W. Caruthers at the British Museum, and N. Rondot in Paris. Index.

REEL XXII—NUMBERS 4, 5, AND 6—1885-1889

- N4 1885-1886 75 pp. Letters from FBF in London to E. L. Godkin, William Howell Forbes, G. H. Wheeler, the Rev. John Watt, Russell & Co., and other correspondents. Index.
- N5 1887-1888 340 pp. Letters from FBF in Paris dealing with affairs of the Serrell Silk Reeling Co., with which FBF became associated. Principal correspondents include E. W. Serrell, Alfred Bie and Charles Guerin in Lyons, W. Harwood in London, William Keswick, W. H. Tottie, Thomas Wardle, Colonel Harrison Ritchie, Cornelius Roosevelt, John Munroe & Co., and Russell & Co.
- N6 1888-1889 349 pp. Letters from FBF in Paris dealing with affairs of the Serrell Co., of which FBF was now managing director. Principal correspondents include E. W. Serrell, Colonel Harrison Ritchie, Cornelius Roosevelt, Charles Guerin, the English law firm of Harwood and Stephenson, S. W. Pomeroy, W. H. Tottie, Mrs.

George Walker, William Keswick, and the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China. Index.

REEL XXIII—NUMBERS 7 AND 8—1888-1891

- N7 1888-1890 335 pp. Letters from FBF in Paris on affairs of the Serrell Co. Principal correspondents include E. W. Serrell, William Keswick, B. W. Frazier, Russell & Co., Harwood & Stephenson, W. H. Tottie, JaMF, JMF2, R. Blackwell, Cornelius Roosevelt, John Munroe & Co., F. D. Hitch (FBF's trustee), Endicott Peabody of Groton, Colonel Harrison Ritchie, Edward Luckemeyer, and the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China.
- N8 1890-1891 295 pp. Letters from FBF in Paris, St. Moritz, Venice, Florence, and Milan on affairs of the Serrell Co. Principal correspondents include E. W. Serrell, Colonel Harrison Ritchie, Chabrières, Cornelius Roosevelt, William Keswick, W. H. Tottie, and the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China.

REEL XXIV—NUMBERS 9, 10, AND 11—1891-1895

- N9 1891-1892 299 pp. Letters from FBF in Paris on business matters, including the affairs of the Serrell Co. and the failure of Russell & Co. in 1891. Principal correspondents include E. W. Serrell, Colonel Harrison Ritchie, Morel & Cie. of Lyons, W. H. Tottie, James G. King & Sons, W. Harwood, F. D. Hitch, Ewen Cameron of the Hong Kong Bank in London, Russell & Co., S. W. Pomeroy, Edward Luckemeyer, F. O. Ritz, Endicott Peabody, Cornelius Roosevelt, JMF2, and the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China.
- N10 1892-1894 300 pp. Letters from FBF in Paris to E. W. Serrell, J. G. King & Sons, JMF2, William

			Howell Forbes, Baring Bros., A. C. Hunter in Shanghai, W. Harwood, S. W. Pomeroy, W. H. Tottie, Walter de H. Scott in London, Professor H. S. Foxwell of Cambridge, England, Professor F. J. Edgeworth of Oxford, Sir William Houldsworth, G. H. Wheeler in Shanghai, C. E. Perkins, B. W. Frazier, the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, China, and others. Some interesting material on the use of silver as currency.
N11	1894-1895	251 pp.	Letters from FBF in Paris to Professor F. J. Edgeworth of Oxford, Sir William Houldsworth, J. G. King & Sons, Ewen Cameron, William Howell Forbes, JMF2, Murray Forbes, W. H. Tottie, W. Harwood, C. E. Perkins, the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, and others.

PART IV—THE PAPERS OF FRANCIS BLACKWELL FORBES

REEL XXV—NUMBERS 1, 2, AND 3—1850-1902

<i>Number</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Total Pages or Items</i>	
N1	1850-1857	47	Letters from various members of his family to FBF while at school and reports on FBF from the Grammar School of Columbia College, New York.
N2	1857-1863	9	Letters from FBF on voyage to China and in China to members of his family.
N3—10 Folders			
N3, F1	1858-1902	91	Letters and reports from FBF in China, including letters to his family, material on the Burlingame mission, reports on silk consumption, the Shanghai Country Club, and the liquidation of the Shanghai Silk Filature Co.
N3, F2	1868-1886	97	Business letters from Edward Cunningham in Boston and Milton to FBF in China.
N3, F3	1870	4	Newspaper clippings from Shanghai newspapers on the subject of the Tientsin Massacre of 1870.

Description of the Collection

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N3, F4	1871-1872	2	A deed and a power of attorney signed by Edward Cunningham.
N3, F5	1875-1902	4	One letter from Edward Cunningham to JMF2, one from Thomas Wheelock to JMF2, two from FBF to Cunningham.
N3, F6	1875	10	Letters from Edward Cunningham in Shanghai to FBF.
N3, F7	1877, 1880	2	Letters from Edward Cunningham to Russell & Co.
N3, F8	1879-1882	49	Correspondence and reports from FBF in Shanghai and Tientsin to William Pethick, Li Ching-fong, O. N. Denny, and others. Some memoranda by FBF on the subject of loans to China.
N3, F9	1891-1896	39	Correspondence of FBF with Harwood & Stephenson and the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, mainly on the subject of the liquidation of Russell & Co.
N3, F10	1899-1901	22	Correspondence between FBF and John Barrett, William Keswick, Everett Frazier, William Harwood, R. Gundry, Ewen Cameron, and others.

REEL XXVI—NUMBER 4—1857-1907

N4—6 Folders

N4, F1	1857-1894	38	Papers relating to FBF's service as Swedish-Norwegian consul in China, including FBF's correspondence with various Swedish and Norwegian officials, passports, certificates, and other documents.
N4, F2	1857, 1859	4	A letter of introduction for FBF written in Latin by Archbishop John Hughes, an exchange of letters between Sir Rustomjee Jamsetjee[?] and the Chinese merchant Houqua, and an undated petition supporting the nomination of Theodore Lyman for Congress.
N4, F3	1861-1865	4	Four Confederate bonds.
N4, F4	1863-1899	217	FBF's personal correspondence on family and household matters.

Description of the Collection

N4, F5	1900-1907	110	FBF's personal correspondence on family and household matters.
N4, F6	ca. 1900	11	Correspondence of FBF and R. S. Gundry of London on the so-called "Goodnow Fiasco" in Shanghai.

REEL XXVII—NUMBER 5, SECTION A—1859-1908

N5—15 Folders

N5, F1	1859-1906	7	Mostly letters from PSF to FBF.
N5, F2	1862-1896	13	Mostly letters from J. M. Forbes & Co. to FBF on money matters.
N5, F3	1865-1902	57	Papers relating to FBF's children, including birth certificates and children's letters.
N5, F4	1867-1908	48	Papers relating to FBF's wife, Isabel Clarke Forbes, including family letters, legal papers, and financial memoranda.
N5, F5	1867-1872	112	Letters to FBF's wife, Isabel, mostly from her sister, Alice Frazier.
N5, F6	1880's	8	Papers and newspaper clippings relating to the last years of FBF's father, the Rev. John Murray Forbes, and to the settlement of his estate.
N5, F7	1879-1906	116	Business letters from FBF's brother, JMF, Jr., in Boston, New York, and China.

REEL XXVIII—NUMBER 5, SECTION B—1883-1920

N5, F8	1883-1889	15	Letters to FBF from RBF, JMF, Jr., and PSF.
N5, F9	1885-1902	44	Mostly letters from JaMF to FBF on the subject of FBF's son, Francis Murray Forbes, who lived with JaMF while he was being educated and starting off in business.
N5, F10	1885-1893	11	Documents relating to a legacy given by George Dent to Ethel Forbes.
N5, F11	1885-1900	133	Letters and reports relating to the education of FBF's son Francis at Albion House in England, at Groton, and at Harvard.

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N5, F12	1887-1900	115	Letters and reports relating to the education of FBF's son, Charles Stuart Forbes, at Albion House and Uppingham in England.
N5, F13	1889-1897	111	Letters and reports relating to the education of FBF's son, Grant, at Albion House and Uppingham.
N5, F14	1905	6	Documents relating to the marriage settlement of FBF's daughter, Isobel, with her husband, Albert de Mimont.
N5, F15	1912-1920	43	Letters to Charles Stuart Forbes in Paris, many of them about World War I, from R. G. Harper Plympton of Baltimore, Gery Cullom in England and Florence, and a unidentified third correspondent.

REEL XXIX—NUMBER 6, SECTION A—1861-1901

N6—15 Folders

N6, F1	1861-1891	71	Mostly financial statements sent to FBF by Russell & Co.
N6, F2	1861-1892	106	Letters to FBF from officials in Russell & Co., including G. H. Wheeler, William Pethick, F. D. Hitch, and F. D. Bush. The last letters deal with the failure of Russell & Co.
N6, F3	1862-1872	108	Mostly papers relating to the real estate and other property owned by FBF in Shanghai.
N6, F4	1863-1877	34	FBF's accounts with Russell & Co.
N6, F5	1865-1894	46	Financial statements sent FBF by Baring Bros., Jardine & Matheson, and other banks.
N6, F6	1872-1882	66	Papers relating to the property in Chefoo, China, first known as "The Lawn" and later as the Country Club.
N6, F7	1875-1901	72	Financial statements sent FBF by the French banking houses of Munroe & Co. and Hottinguer & Co.
N6, F8	1877-1886	11	Documents relating to the claim of W. Scott Fitz against Russell & Co.

Description of the Collection

REEL XXX—NUMBER 6, SECTION B—1878-1904

N6, F9	1878-1882	77	Letters from Henry De C. Forbes in Paris and China to FBF.
N6, F10	1880-1896	25	Letters from William Howell Forbes in China and the United States to FBF.
N6, F11	1882-1891	67	Papers relating to FBF's business affairs with the Keechong Filature Association and with Russell & Co.
N6, F12	1880-1890	53	Letters and legal and financial documents sent to FBF by his London lawyers, Harwood & Stephenson, and by the firm of Jardine & Matheson.
N6, F13	1886-1891	16	Documents relating to the Alabama Claims of the partners of Russell & Co.
N6, F14	1886-1901	216	Letters and financial statements from the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China to FBF.
N6, F15	1899-1904	109	Letters and legal documents relating to FBF's trust properties.

REEL XXXI—NUMBERS 7 AND 8—1866-1869

N7	1866-1867	42	Letters from FBF at sea and in China to his fiancée, Isabel Clarke.
N8	1868-1869	39	Letters from FBF in Shanghai to his wife, Isabel.

REEL XXXII—NUMBER 9—1866-1896

N9—2 Folders

N9, F1	1870-1875	81	Letters from FBF in China to his wife, Isabel.
N9, F2	1866-1896	133	Letters from Isabel Clarke Forbes in New York, China, and Europe to FBF.

REEL XXXIII—NUMBER 10—1871-1904

N10—4 Folders

N10, F1	1875-1893	70	Papers relating to FBF's interest in Chinese botany, including correspondence with C. J. Maximowicz, W. T. Thistleton Dyer, and W. B. Hansley.
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Description of the Collection

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N10, F2	1901-1902	6	Letters and memoranda relating to a passport question.
N10, F3	1871-1904	184	Bills and other financial papers relating to FBF's life in Europe.
N10, F4	1882-1900	98	Papers relating to the leasing of three houses in England and one in France by FBF.

REEL XXXIV—NUMBERS 11, 12, AND 13—1873-1908

N11—2 Folders

N11, F1	1873-1890	36	Accounts of Isabel Clarke Forbes with Russell & Co.
N11, F2	1881-1898	76	Business papers of Isabel Clarke Forbes, mainly accounts from James G. King & Sons in New York and from her brother-in-law, B. W. Frazier, in England.
N12	1883-1906	239	Business papers of Isabel Clarke Forbes, mostly accounts from James G. King & Sons in New York.
N13	1877-1908	126	Personal letters to FBF from family and friends, including his sister, Adelaide Carmichael, B. W. and Alice Frazier, Edith Forbes Perkins, F. D. Hitch, Mrs. Howard Kennedy (Aunt Fanny), J. H. Campbell, and S. H. Pakenham.

REEL XXXV—NUMBER 14, SECTION A—1867-1903

N14—12 Folders

N14, F1	1867-1893	89	Papers relating to FBF's life insurance policies.
N14, F2	1881-1900	57	Papers relating to the Yangtse Insurance Association, including a number of printed reports.
N14, F3	1885-1886	27	Notes and accounts relating to the Serrell Automatic Silk Reeling Co., of which FBF later became managing director.
N14, F4	1886-1903	146	Letters to FBF and other documents on the subject of bimetalism. Principal correspondents include Arnold Hepburn and Henry McNeil of the London Bimetallic League, Sir William Houldsworth, Ed-

Description of the Collection

			ward Tuck, F. W. Taussig, President E. B. Andrews of Brown University, and John Macdonald.
N14, F5	1886-1887	132	Business correspondence of FBF in connection with the Serrell Silk Reeling Co. Principal correspondents include E. W. Serrell, Colonel Harrison Ritchie, Cornelius Roosevelt, and William Harwood.

REEL XXXVI—NUMBER 14, SECTION B—1888-1908

N14, F6	1888	227	Business correspondence of FBF in connection with the Serrell Silk Reeling Co. Principal correspondents include E. W. Serrell, Colonel Harrison Ritchie, William Harwood, F. O. Ritz, and Cornelius Roosevelt.
N14, F7	1889-1893	141	Business correspondence of FBF in connection with the Serrell Silk Reeling Co. Principal correspondents include E. W. Serrell, Colonel Harrison Ritchie, Cornelius Roosevelt, and F. O. Ritz.
N14, F8	1894-1902	138	Business correspondence of FBF in connection with the Serrell Silk Reeling Co. The two principal correspondents are E. W. Serrell and F. O. Ritz.
N14, F9	1894-1902	73	Letters and postcards to FBF from Dana Horton and R. S. Gundry.
N14, F10	1894-1896	9	Papers relating to the so-called Ernest Seyd slander in connection with the "Crime of '73." One of the correspondents is Sir William Houldsworth.
N14, F11	1898-1908	43	Letters and papers relating to FBF's connection with The Associated Charities of Boston and other charitable organizations.
N14, F12	1904-1907	8	Documents relating to the Stone Telephone and Telegraph Co.

REEL XXXVII—NUMBERS 15, 16, 17, 18, 19,
AND 20—1839-1931

N15	1891-1901	14	Letters to FBF from such relatives as his Aunt Fanny (Mrs. Howard Kennedy),
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N16	1893, 1896	2	his sister, Adelaide Carmichael, and Ellen M. Griswold. One letter from W. Cameron Forbes to FBF's son Francis Murray on the subject of Harvard clubs, one letter from Francis Murray to FBF.
N17—2 Folders			
N17, F1	1889-1902	96	Letters relating to FBF's interest in the Far East, especially the Philippines. Principal correspondents include John Hay, John Bassett Moore, Whitelaw Reid, Sir Andrew Clarke, and Everett Frazier.
N17, F2	1900-1903	136	Letters relating to FBF's interest in the Far East, especially the currency problem in the Philippines. Principal correspondents include Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, Senator H. M. Teller, A. M. Townsend, Sir Ewen Cameron, Secretary of the Treasury Lyman Gage, J. Howard Gwyther, Nelson Aldrich, William B. Allison, Thomas S. Hopkins, Edward Brush, W. W. Rockhill, and Edward G. Gardiner.
N18—12 Folders			
N18, F1	1868-1886	31	Accounts and other documents between FBF and Russell & Co.
N18, F2	1870-1877	32	Accounts and other documents between FBF and Russell & Co.
N18, F3	1872-1883	28	Accounts and other documents between FBF and Russell & Co.
N18, F4	1874-1886	19	Accounts of the trustees of the property of FBF's wife, Isabel.
N18, F5	1874-1885	21	Documents relating to the estates of William M. and Isabella Clarke, FBF's father- and mother-in-law.
N18, F6	1874-1911	20	Miscellaneous business papers.
N18, F7	1878-1883	25	Documents relating to the settlement of the estate of FBF's father-in-law, William M. Clarke.
N18, F8	1879-1884	14	Accounts and other documents between FBF and Russell & Co.

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N18, F9	1886-1906	55	Miscellaneous personal papers, some on Chinese botany, with 30 photographs of Chinese scenes.
N18, F10	1887-1896	37	Accounts and other documents between FBF and Munroe & Co.
N18, F11	1891	2	Documents relating to the property of FBF's wife, Isabel.
N18, F12	1897-1901	21	Documents relating to the New Jersey Zinc Co., in which FBF was interested.
N19—10 Folders			
N19, F1	1839-1907	31	Family documents—baptismal certificates, trust agreements, and the like.
N19, F2	1861-1881	23	Documents relating to FBF's North Bank estate in Shanghai.
N19, F3	1867-1896	6	Documents relating to FBF's first name. He was christened Francis, married as Frank, and wished to avoid legal complications.
N19, F4	1872, 1881	2	Indentures related to FBF's North Bank estate in Shanghai.
N19, F5	1874-1931	9	Documents relating to FBF's wife, Isabel, mostly wills and estate papers.
N19, F6	1882-1900	10	Documents relating to the leasing of property by FBF.
N19, F7	1899	2	Indentures relating to FBF's property on 9th Avenue in New York City.
N19, F8	1899	4	Papers relating to Charles F. Dunbar's article on the Gold Standard that appeared in 1899.
N19, F9	1899	4	Copies of French newspapers dealing especially with Queen Victoria. The original package was entitled by FBF "The Chivalrous French—Journalists of Paris and the Queen."
N19, F10	1903-1906	10	Documents relating to FBF's will.
N20—3 Folders			
N20, F1	1880's	1	Inventory of personal effects brought by FBF from Shanghai.
N20, F2	1885	40 pp.	Manuscript of FBF's article entitled "The Reverend John Forbes in East Florida, 1764-1783."

N20, F3 1886-1902 5 Printed articles, all but one on the currency question.

PART V—THE PAPERS OF JAMES MURRAY FORBES

REEL XXXVIII—NUMBERS 1, 2, 3, 4, AND 5—1813-1865

N1—8 Folders			<i>Total Pages or Items</i>	
<i>Number</i>	<i>Dates</i>			
N1, F1	1813-1831	20		Mostly letters from Nathaniel Bowditch, the navigator, to Elizabeth Clarke and to his son, Nathaniel Ingersoll Bowditch.
N1, F2	1838, 1847	8		Letters from Nathaniel I. Bowditch, one from his father, and one printed poem.
N1, F3	1841-1865	9		Papers relating to N. I. Bowditch's interest in establishing a scholarship at Harvard.
N1, F4	1832-1861	11		Mostly letters from N. I. Bowditch to his brother, Dr. Henry Bowditch.
N1, F5	1832-1860	16		Miscellaneous Bowditch family letters.
N1, F6	1859-1860	5		Letters from N. I. Bowditch to his niece, Bessie Mason.
N1, F7	1858 & undated	20		Letters from Elizabeth Bowditch to her daughter, Alice, the future Mrs. JaMF.
N1, F8	Undated	6		Letters from William Bowditch to his sister, Alice, and to JaMF. Several written from Madeira.
N2	1857	ca. 40 pp.		Journal kept by JaMF at age of twelve while at school in Concord, Massachusetts.
N3	1857-1858	52		Letters from RSF to JaMF while at school in Concord.
N4—4 Folders				
N4, F1	1857-1861	26		Letters from a variety of correspondents to JaMF while he was at school.
N4, F2	1857-1858	11		Letters from JaMF to his parents while he was at school.
N4, F3	1858-1859	7		Letters from Philip K. Dumaesq, mostly to JaMF.
N4, F4	1859-1860	9		Letters from S. Kirkland Lothrop to JaMF.

N5	1853-1863	4	Three letters to RSF from JaMF at school and en route to Hong Kong and one unidentified letter.
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REEL XXXIX—NUMBER 6—1855-1909

N6—20 Folders

N6, F1	1855-1860	28	Letters to JaMF from his sister Edith, his brother, RBF, Jr., and his friend Philip K. Dumaresq.
N6, F2	1863	14	Letters from JaMF while on route to China to RSF.
N6, F3	1864	29	Letters from JaMF in Hong Kong and Shanghai to RSF.
N6, F4	1865	26	Letters from JaMF in Shanghai to RSF.
N6, F5	1866	19	Letters from JaMF in Shanghai to RSF.
N6, F6	1867	11	Letters from JaMF in Shanghai, Canton, and other parts of the Far East to RSF.
N6, F7	1868	19	Letters from JaMF in Canton and Shanghai to RSF.
N6, F8	1870	3	Letters from JaMF in Hong Kong and Alexandria, Egypt, to RSF.
N6, F9	1863	7	Letters from JaMF en route to China to RBF.
N6, F10	1864	36	Letters from JaMF in Hong Kong and Shanghai to RBF.
N6, F11	1865	31	Letters from JaMF in Shanghai to RBF.
N6, F12	1866	28	Letters from JaMF in Shanghai to RBF.
N6, F13	1867	22	Letters from JaMF in Canton, Shanghai, and other Chinese ports to RBF.
N6, F14	1868	18	Letters from JaMF in Canton, Hong Kong, and Paris to RBF.
N6, F15	1870	4	Letters from JaMF in Canton and at sea to RBF.
N6, F16	1869-1909	47	Letters from JaMF to his future wife, Alice Bowditch, and to his sister, Edith.
N6, F17	1877	17	Letters from JaMF to RBF.
N6, F18	1865-1866	4	Letters from JaMF in China to family and friends.
N6, F19	1864	2	Letters from JaMF in China to his sister, Edith.

N6, F20 1871 1 List of wedding presents received by JaMF and Alice Bowditch Forbes.

REEL XL—NUMBERS 7 THROUGH 14—1858-1930

N7 1858 77 pp. Journal kept by JaMF at age of thirteen.
 N8 1865-1869 16 Letters to JaMF from JMF2, Edward Cunningham, George Tyson, and PSF.
 N9 1849-1921 143 pp. Journal kept by JaMF on his second voyage to China, 1870-1871. Included also are miscellaneous letters and memoranda found in the back of the volume covering the period 1849-1921.
 N10 1871 308 pp. Diary of Alice Bowditch Forbes.
 N11 1872-1887 8 Letters to JaMF and his wife from S. Kirkland Lothrop.
 N12 1861-1900 59 Letters to Alice Bowditch Forbes from various relatives and friends.
 N13 1874-1875 34 pp. Journal kept by JaMF (in French).
 N14 F 1884-1930 197 pp. Journal kept very intermittently by JaMF. Some material on his travels in Europe. Loose papers at back are dated 1930, for the most part.

REEL XLI—NUMBERS 15 THROUGH 21—1880-1929

N15 1880's 9 Letters from Allan Forbes to his mother, Alice Bowditch Forbes.
 N16 1891 & undated 27 Letters to Alice Bowditch Forbes from her daughters, Mary and Dorothy.
 N17 1892-1893 73 Bound volume of letters from JaMF, his wife, and his children while traveling in Europe. Mostly addressed to JaMF's sister, Edith Forbes Perkins.
 N18 1892-1893 33 pp. Scrapbook of menus, programs, and other mementoes of the Forbes family trip to Europe.
 N19 1903 60 pp. Typewritten account of a Forbes family trip to the West Coast and Mexico. Illustrated with family photographs.
 N20 1905-1908 128 pp. Notebook of typewritten reminiscences by JaMF entitled "The Rice Field,

			1905." Numerous photographs of Forbes family life.
N21	1905-1929	151 pp.	Notebook of typewritten reminiscences by JaMF.

PART VI—FORBES PAPERS MISCELLANY

REEL XLII—NUMBER 1—1783-1831

N1—17 Folders

<i>Number</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Total Pages or Items</i>	
N1, F1	1783-1797	12	Typed copies of letters from JMF1 to various members of the family. Originals at the Baker Library, Harvard Business School.
N1, F2	1788-1802	36	Typed copies of letters from JMF1 to his mother, Dorothy Murray Forbes. Originals at the Baker Library, Harvard Business School.
N1, F3	1788-1802	22	Letters from JMF1 to his mother, Dorothy M. Forbes.
N1, F4	1789-1801	9	Letters from JMF1 to various friends.
N1, F5	1785-1792	25	Bills paid by JMF1.
N1, F6	1792	2	Typed copies of letters from JMF1 to John Clark Nightingale. Originals at the Baker Library, Harvard Business School.
N1, F7	1792	1	Legal document signed by JMF1 as attorney.
N1, F8	1800-1801	38	Letters from JMF1 to Ralph Bennet Forbes.
N1, F9	1808-1819	7	Letters from JMF1 to Ralph Bennet Forbes.
N1, F10	1809-1815	244 pp.	Typed copies of letters from JMF1 in Copenhagen and Hamburg to such correspondents as Robert Smith, John Quincy Adams in Russia, General John Armstrong in Paris, Jonathan Russell, Henry Clay, William Jones, James Madison, J. J. Astor, and a variety of European correspondents. Originals not located.
N1, F11	1813, 1815	2	Copies of letters from JMF1 to European business correspondents.

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N1, F12	1814-1816	5	Letters from JMF1 to his aunt, Mrs. Elizabeth Robbins.
N1, F13	1817	1	Letter from JMF1 to Thomas C. Amory & Co.
N1, F14	1804-1829	5	Two letters from JMF1 and Xerox copies of three business documents of JMF1. The originals of the latter are in the Baker Library, Harvard Business School.
N1, F15	1828-1831	15	Typed copies of letters from JMF1 to PSF. Originals not located.
N1, F16	1829	4	Letters from JMF1 to William Tudor.
N1, F17	1829-1831	30 pp.	Letterbook of JMF1. Principal correspondents include Martin Van Buren, John D. Mendenhall, the Lawrence brothers, and Joshua Bates. Index.

REEL XLIII—NUMBERS 2 AND 3—1808-1928

The material in Number 2 is in the possession of the
Massachusetts Historical Society

N2—4 Folders

N2, F1	1808-1816	56	Letters to and from members of the Forbes family. Mostly letters to Ralph Bennet Forbes but some to JMF1. Correspondents include John Adams, James Monroe, and Robert Mackay, aside from members of the family.
N2, F2	1817-1862	56	Mostly letters to JMF1 and JMF2 from such correspondents as John Quincy Adams, Henry Clay, Daniel Brent, John G. Whittier, Oliver Wendell Holmes, William C. Bryant, Daniel Webster, W. H. Seward, Gideon Welles, and Charles Sumner.
N2, F3	1863-1890	76	Almost all letters to JMF2 from such correspondents as Edwin M. Stanton, Salmon P. Chase, Charles Sumner, Charles Francis Adams, U. S. Grant, W. T. Sherman, Richard Cobden, and John G. Whittier.
N2, F4	1891-1928	19	Papers relating to the Forbes family. Letters to JMF2. The last item is a copy of

the report on the Philippines made by Professor Henry Jones Ford in 1913, with a covering letter from W. Cameron Forbes dated 1928.

N3—12 Folders

N3, F1	1810-1822	4	Letters from John P. Cushing in Canton to various members of his family.
N3, F2	1823	1	Letter from Thomas T. Forbes in Canton to James M. Robbins.
N3, F3	1823-1829	7	Correspondence of John P. Cushing with Perkins & Co., Russell & Co., and others.
N3, F4	1825	153 pp.	Letterbook of Thomas T. Forbes in Manila addressed, for the most part, to Perkins & Co. in Canton.
N3, F5	ca. 1830	123 pp.	Account book presumably kept by John P. Cushing in China. Includes memoranda on China trade matters.
N3, F6	1830-1842	5	Xerox copies of documents relating to the China trade. Originals at the Baker Library, Harvard Business School.
N3, F7	1833	112 pp.	Log of the ship <i>Alert</i> kept by JMF2 on his return from China to Boston.
N3, F8	1838-1906	7	Miscellaneous documents connected with the China trade. Four originals and three Xerox copies of originals at the Baker Library, Harvard Business School.
N3, F9	1839	186 pp.	Journal kept by John Cunningham at Penang and Singapore.
N3, F10	1839	1	Letter from John P. Cushing to the Hong merchant Houqua.
N3, F11	1855	8 pp.	Article by Edward Cunningham entitled "Our Commercial and Political Relations with China by An American Resident in China."
N3, F12	1908	1	Article on Russell & Co. published in the Boston <i>Globe</i> .

REEL XLIV—NUMBERS 4, 5, AND 6—1732-1930

N4—8 Folders

N4, F1	1732-1837	129 pp.	Typed copies of Murray and Forbes letters, especially those of James Murray,
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			the Loyalist. Originals at the Massachusetts Historical Society.
N4, F2	1778	1	Letter from Dr. Earle[?] Barker to Dorothy M. Forbes.
N4, F3	1781	1	Letter from James Murray to his daughters.
N4, F4	1783	1	Letter from Catherine Goldthwait to Dorothy M. Forbes.
N4, F5	1783-1810	24	Letters from James Grant Forbes to his mother, Dorothy M. Forbes. Mostly typed copies of originals at the Baker Library, Harvard Business School.
N4, F6	1785	13	Bills paid by Dorothy Murray Forbes.
N4, F7	1789	1	Lease of land between Dorothy M. Forbes and Andrew Spooner.
N4, F8	1800	1	Letter to Dorothy M. Forbes[?] from W. Wilkins[?].
N5—13 Folders			
N5, F1	1789-1804	4	Letters from Ralph Bennet Forbes to his mother, Dorothy M. Forbes.
N5, F2	1795	1	Invoice of cargo of brandy and wine shipped from Bordeaux for Ralph Bennet Forbes.
N5, F3	1800-1810	9	Letters to Ralph Bennet Forbes from a variety of correspondents on business matters.
N5, F4	1804	1	Document attesting the birth date of Ralph Bennet Forbes.
N5, F5	1808	4	Business correspondence of Ralph Bennet Forbes.
N5, F6	1808-1809	8	Papers relating to the Bark <i>Coquette</i> .
N5, F7	1809	18	Business letters to Ralph Bennet Forbes from a variety of correspondents.
N5, F8	1809	27	Business letters to Ralph Bennet Forbes from such correspondents as Thomas Amory, Henry Higginson, C. R. Codman, and G. Darby.
N5, F9	1809	22	Business letters to Ralph Bennet Forbes, some from Thomas Amory.
N5, F10	1809	8	Business letters to Ralph Bennet Forbes, some from Thomas Amory.

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N5, F11	1810-1819	5	Letters from James Grant Forbes to his brother, Ralph Bennet Forbes.
N5, F12	1811	1	Letter from Stephen Cathalan to Jonathan Russell about Dorothy Murray Forbes.
N5, F13	ca. 1815	2	Letters from Margaret Perkins Forbes to her husband, Ralph Bennet Forbes.
N6—15 Folders			
N6, F1	1768	1	Deed of land in Milton to Nathaniel Robbins.
N6, F2	1771-1809	6	Miscellaneous bills paid by members of the Murray family.
N6, F3	1794	1	Conveyance of land to John Forbes under the will of Elizabeth Inman.
N6, F4	1797-1845	9	Typed copies of miscellaneous Forbes family letters, including some from James Grant Forbes and PSF. Originals not located.
N6, F5	1796	1	Deed to land in Boston. Edward H. Robbins mentioned.
N6, F6	1802	1	Bill signed by E. H. Robbins.
N6, F7	1819	2	Letters from James H. Robbins in Russia to his father, E. H. Robbins.
N6, F8	1823	1	Letter from James Grant Forbes to his nephew, Thomas T. Forbes.
N6, F9	1825	1	Letter from Ralph Waldo Emerson to Miss Elizabeth B. Francis, later the mother of Alice Bowditch.
N6, F10	1838	1	Letter from H. Pratt McKean to Joseph Cabot.
N6, F11	1843	1	Letter from Charles C. Perkins to Emma Perkins Forbes.
N6, F12	1867-1878	86	Correspondence of Isaac Sweetser on insurance business.
N6, F13	1873	2	Letters from JMF, Jr., in China to Alice Bowditch Forbes.
N6, F14	1896	43 pp.	Printed copy of the will of JMF2.
N6, F15	1857, 1930	12	Typed copies of letters dealing with the Rev. John Murray Forbes's relations with the Catholic Church. Originals not located. Covering letter, dated 1930, from Paul Revere Forbes.

REEL XLV—NUMBER 7—1769-1894

N7—14 Folders

N7, F1	1769-1776	3	Xerox copies of three Murray letters. Originals at Baker Library, Harvard Business School.
N7, F2	1770-1830	3	A notebook used by Dorothy M. Forbes in the 1770's, a drawing made by Thomas T. Forbes in 1813, and a pocket diary used by various Forbeses.
N7, F3	1776-1894	26	Miscellaneous family papers, including PSF's customs receipts and a printed program of a Forbes family theatrical put on in 1894.
N7, F4	1784-1807	3	Documents relating to James Grant Forbes.
N7, F5	1807-1834	1	Printed ship's log, some of which is filled in with details of voyages.
N7, F6	1834-1865	5	Letters and a notebook of clippings relating to Nathaniel I. Bowditch and Mrs. Revere's undated account of Brush Hill in Milton.
N7, F7	1836	37 pp.	Typewritten copies of three journals of a trip to Europe taken by PSF's family. Originals not located.
N7, F8	1859-1861	192 pp.	Diary of Mary Hathaway Forbes, daughter of JMF2, describing life in Concord, Boston, and Naushon Island, Massachusetts.
N7, F9	1860-1878	129 pp.	Manuscript diary of the voyage to Greenland of the schooner <i>Nautilus</i> in 1860 with additional notes on later voyages. Authorship undetermined.
N7, F10	1868-1881	138	Scrapbook of letters from PSF, mostly to his son, Paul Revere Forbes.
N7, F11	1860-1880	12	Miscellaneous family letters, some from JaMF in China.
N7, F12	1883	139 pp.	Manuscript diary of a trip to Germany and Spain taken by Paul Revere Forbes.
N7, F13	1890's	63 pp.	Pamphlet entitled "Fossils In Re Free Ships and Reform of Tariff and Civil Service" (Boston, n.d.). Includes speeches of JMF2 delivered in the 1890's.

N7, F14 Undated 3 Undated letters of RBF, Jr., to his mother and uncle.

REEL XLVI—NUMBER 8—1849-1891

N8 1849-1891 60 Pamphlets and books, almost all of them written by RBF. For a detailed listing, see the introductory targets for this reel.

REEL XLVII—NUMBERS 9, 10, 11, AND 12—1817-1904

N9 1817-1829 96 Bills, receipts, and other business papers relating to the business affairs of Theodore Lyman in Boston and Alfred Richardson of the firm of Bacon & Richardson in the Far East.

N10 1817-1870 ca. 150 Bills, receipts, accounts, letters, and other business papers dealing with the business relations between Theodore Lyman in Boston and Alfred Richardson of Bacon & Richardson.

N11 1888-1904 ca. 900 pp. Six scrapbook diaries kept by Edith Forbes Perkins, daughter of RBF. Many of the newspaper clippings pasted into the diaries concern the Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy Railroad.

N12 10 pp. Copies of two inventories of Forbes Papers in other collections. The first is an inventory of the Forbes Papers at the Baker Library, Harvard Business School; the second is of the papers in the possession of R. Forbes Perkins of Manchester, Massachusetts.

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THIS index is limited to the proper names that appear in the Description of the Collection. Instead of using page numbers to locate the names, we have used the basic divisions of the collection. For example, the entry for Elizabeth Bowditch would read "PV: N1, F7," indicating that there are some letters to or from Elizabeth Bowditch in Part V, Number 1, Folder 7.

We have had difficulty distinguishing between William Hathaway Forbes and William Howell Forbes, both of whom appear in the collection as "W. H. Forbes." We believe that the "W. H. Forbes" who appears in Part I as a correspondent of Robert Bennet Forbes is William Hathaway, and that the "W. H. Forbes" who appears in Parts III and IV as a correspondent of Francis Blackwell Forbes is William Howell. We have indexed them accordingly.

Mrs. Phyllis Girouard of the Staff of the Massachusetts Historical Society prepared the index for us.

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