Vinton, Frederic (1817-1890), collector.

Collection of newspaper accounts concerning Charles Sumner.

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A
Finding Aid
Prepared
by
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Department of Rare Books and Special Collections
Princeton University Library
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Introduction

Scrapbook consists of newspaper accounts of Charles Sumner, collected by Frederic Vinton, librarian of the Chancellor Green Library at Princeton (1873-1890).

**Range of collection dates:** 1874-1878

**Size:** 1 portfolio (77 pieces)

**Language:** English

**Provenance:** Frederic Vinton.

**Restrictions:** Unknown.

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Collection of newspaper accounts concerning Charles Sumner.

Scope Note:

Charles Sumner (6 Jan. 1811-11 Mar. 1874), politician and reformer, was born in Boston, Massachusetts, to a middle-class family committed to humanitarian reform. At age fifteen Sumner entered Harvard, where he excelled in literature and history. Following graduation in 1830, he enrolled in the Harvard Law School.

His career as a lawyer was superceded by a political career which focused on prison reform and education, anti-militarism, and antislavery reform. He was elected to the senator of Massachusetts in 1851, and carried his focus on slavery to Washington. Totally opposed to the passage of the Compromise of 1850, he turned his energies to the repeal of the infamous Fugitive Slave Act. He argued that states had the right to choose whether or not slavery would be permitted. The 1854 passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Bill allowed territories the same power.

Sumner used the territorial issue as the occasion for his most famous antislavery Senate oration, "The Crime against Kansas." Delivered in May 1856, its language was extremely inflammatory, and Sumner became engaged in a heated exchange with senator Stephen A. Douglas of Illinois. Two days later Sumner was physically beaten by Preston Brooks, congressman from South Carolina. It was three years before Sumner was well enough to resume his position in the Senate. In late 1859, he returned and continued his attacks on bondage with a four-hour address, "The Barbarism of Slavery."

Sumner continued to wield his influence during the Civil War and Reconstruction, and became a confidant of President Abraham Lincoln. Sumner also opposed Grant’s efforts to expand in the Caribbean.
Collection regarding Charles Sumner

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Arrangement

Materials are organized chronologically. They span the first announcement of Sumner’s death on March 11, 1874, thru to June 12, 1874; one issue from 1878 discusses his home.

1. “Senator Sumner dying: He cannot live through the day.” The Boston Daily News, Boston (no. 1440), March 11, 1874.
6. “Sumner Dead. The great statesman gone to his rest.” The Boston Daily Globe, Boston (vol. 5 no. 61), March 12, 1874.
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12. “Mr. Sumner and the young.” and “Charles Sumner: The obsequies at Washington.” and “Senator Sumner’s funeral.” and “Mr. Sumner’s successor.” Boston Evening Journal, Boston (vol. 41 no. 13615), March 13, 1874.


15. “Charles Sumner: Death of an eminent statesman.” and “Mr. Sumner’s Death: The preparations for the funeral.” Boston Semi-Weekly Advertiser, Boston (vol. 144), March 13, 1874.


23. “The next senator.” and “Mr. Sumner’s remains.” and “The Sumner Obsequies.” Boston Post, Boston (vol. 86 no. 63), March 14, 1874.

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of his funeral.” Boston Evening Journal, Boston (vol. 41 no. 13616), March 14, 1874.
31. “Lying in state: Solemn reception of Mr. Sumner’s remains.” Boston Daily Advertiser, Boston (no. 18478, vol. 123 . . . no. 64), March 16, 1874.
32. “Charles Sumner: The result of the autopsy.” Boston Evening Journal, Boston (vol. 41 no. 13617), March 16, 1874.
34. “The obsequies.” Boston Post, Boston (vol. 86 no. 64), March 16, 1874.
41. “The funeral: Impressive ceremonies in King’s Chapel.” Boston Daily Advertiser, Boston (no. 18179, no. 65), March 17, 1874.
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42. “Memorial honors to Sumner.” Boston Evening Transcript, Boston (vol. 47 no. 14385), March 17, 1874.
44. “The earthly end: Charles Sumner’s remains consigned to the tomb.” The Boston Daily Globe, Boston (vol. 5 no. 65), March 17, 1874.
45. “The earthly end: Charles Sumner’s remains consigned to the tomb.” The Boston Daily Globe, Boston (vol. 5 no. 65), March 17, 1874. Copy 2.
46. “Charles Sumner.” and “Charles Sumner: His last hours and expressions.” Boston Weekly Transcript, Boston (vol. 23 no. 1096), March 17, 1874.
47. “Painting of Sumner’s last hours.” Boston Evening Transcript, Boston (vol. 47 no. 14386), March 18, 1874.
49. “Charles Sumner: Death of the eminent statesman.” Boston Weekly Advertiser, Boston (vol. 64), March 19, 1874.
52. “Sabbath services.” Watchman and Reflector, Boston (vol. 55, no. 12), March 19, 1874.
53. “Charles Sumner.” Watchman and Reflector, Boston (no volume given), March 19, 1874.
54. “Charles Sumner.” Zion’s Herald, Boston (vol. 51), March 19, 1874.
55. “Charles Sumner: His life, death, and burial.” American Traveller, Boston (vol. 36 no. 12), March 21, 1874.
56. “When Charles Sumner was first elected . . .” The Pilot, Boston (vol. 37 no. 12), March 21, 1874.
57. “Sumner’s college days.” The Bunker Hill Times, Boston (vol. 2 no. 23), March 21, 1874.
58. “Sumner.” Banner of Light, Boston (vol. 3 no. 25), March 21, 1874.
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63. “Charles Sumner.” Watchman & Reflector, Boston (vol. 55 no. 13), March 26, 1874.
64. “Devoted to principle.” and “Mr. Sumner in private life.” and “Wilson on Sumner.” and “His ruling passion.” Watchman and Reflector, Boston, March 26, 1874.
65. “A sermon on the death of Charles Sumner.” Zion’s Herald, Boston, (vol. 60 no. 13), March 20, 1874.
68. “What we have lost in Sumner.” Princeton Press, Princeton (vol. 43 no. 23), April 4, 1874.
70. “Mr. Sumner in his library.” The Independent, New York (vol. 35 no. 1324), April 16, 1874.
72. “Charles Sumner: Boston’s tribute to the illustrious dead.” Boston Evening Transcript, Boston (vol. 47 no. 14421), April 29, 1874.
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78. ___ “The home of Charles Sumner.” The Boston Beacon, Boston (vol. 5 no. 4), January 26, 1878.