Grosvenor Family Genealogy: Papers of the Sardis L. Crissey Family, circa 1837-1945, undated

Administrative Information
Creator
Crissey family

Call Number
RBR CS 71 .C757 G46

Extent
6 manuscript boxes (2.5 linear ft.)

Repository
Rare Book Room, Buffalo and Erie County Public Library

Abstract
Consists of records collected and created by the Crissey branch (Sardis, Hannah, and Mabel Crissey) of the Grosvenor family. Contains manuscripts of genealogies and charts of the Grosvenor family and its branches, with a small amount focusing on the Crissey branch. Also includes photographs, newspaper clippings, correspondence, and historical accounts of the Grosvenor family.

Terms of Use
The Grosvenor Family Genealogy: Papers of the Sardis L. Crissey Family, are open for research.

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Preferred Citation
[Description and dates], Box/folder number, Grosvenor Family Genealogy: Papers of the Sardis L. Crissey Family, Central Library: Rare Book Room, Buffalo and Erie County Public Library.

Processing Note
Previously, this collection existed in two parts. An initial portion of this collection was partially processed and cataloged as the [Genealogy of the Mighill Cressey [i.e. Crissey] family and other families]. The catalog record for this collection, as well as a brief inventory, was retained. At a later date, a separate box of materials from this collection was discovered. This box, along with the initial materials, was re-established as one collection, Grosvenor Family Genealogy: Papers of the Sardis L. Crissey Family.
Biographical Note

About the Sardis Crissey family
Sardis Little Crissey was born April 5, 1840 in Stockton, New York. A member of the Grosvenor family (via Leicester Grosvenor), he was also a descendent of John Davenport, Roger Williams, and Anan Winsor.  

He fought in the 49th regiment, New York Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War, including the battles of Williamsburg, Mechanicsville, and Yorktown. After the war, he worked for the General Land Office in Washington, DC and later earned degrees in both medicine and law.

Sardis married Hannah Maria Morse on December 18, 1867. The materials of this collection were gathered by Maria as she researched the genealogy of the Crissey family. Eventually, her study focused on the Grosvenor line. Through correspondence with family members, photographs and information on the various Grosvenor branches were assembled into the Grosvenor family genealogy. After Sardis’ death in 1906 and Maria’s death in 1912, the manuscript was continued and maintained by their daughter Mabel Edith Crissey. Ultimately, the genealogy manuscript was acquired by the Grosvenor Library, a precursor to the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library.

About the Grosvenor family
The Grosvenor (pronounced Grove-ner) family first came to America in 1680, when John and Esther Grosvenor emigrated form Cheshire, England to Roxbury, Massachusetts. In her book, The Grosvenor Library and its Times, Margaret Richmond Fess states, “Genealogical records show that members of the Grosvenor family were military and community leaders. Their names were linked with the building of schools and churches. In their homes were entertained guests of national importance, such as Alexander Hamilton and Martin Van Buren. During the Revolutionary War, a number of Grosvenors served as officers in George Washington’s army.”

Abel Grosvenor and Reuben Heacock were the first of the Grosvenor family to arrive in Buffalo at the turn of the nineteenth century. They made their living as merchants. At Abel’s death in 1813, his brother Seth Grosvenor came to Buffalo to settle Abel’s estate. Seth himself would also prove to be a successful merchant, and lived in Buffalo from 1813-1815.

The Grosvenor Room at the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library takes its name from Seth Grosvenor. After the British burned the village of Buffalo in the War of 1812, Grosvenor played a prominent role in helping to rebuild the devastated community. Although Grosvenor took his expert business skills to New York City, at his death in 1857, he bequeathed $40,000 to the City of Buffalo to establish a public reference library. The Grosvenor Library opened its doors to the public in March 1871.

4 Ibid., pp. 5.
5 Ibid., pp. 9.
Scope and Content

Organized into four series, this collection details the genealogy of the Grosvenor Family as assembled by Sardis, Hannah, and Mabel Crissey. It is comprised of an unpublished manuscript, ancestral charts, correspondence, and photographs documenting the Grosvenors and various family branches. The first three series concern the Grosvenor family genealogy records.

Series I
This series encompasses the bulk of the collection, and contains Grosvenor family genealogies, ancestral charts, and family history manuscript.

Series II
Series II contains correspondence of the Crissey family, namely Sardis L., Hannah Maria, and Mabel Edith and mainly relates Grosvenor family history. Five glass plate negatives with images of an unknown document in Spanish are also included in this series. The document, seemingly correspondence, is dated 1794 with visible signatures of Esteban Miró, governor of the Louisiana territory and Florida. The relationship of these documents to the Crissey or Grosvenor families is unclear.

Series III
Photographs are organized in this series, and consist of portraits, grave markers, and homes.

Series IV
Sardis, Hannah, and Mabel also compiled records on the Crissey family history and genealogy. Consisting mainly of notebooks, these records are located in Series IV as Notes on the Crissey family.

Arrangement

Series I. Grosvenor family genealogies, circa 1866-1926, undated
   Subseries A. Genealogy charts, undated
   Subseries B. Heraldry, circa 1866-1867, undated
   Subseries C. Family histories, undated

Series II. Correspondence, circa 1892-1945, undated

Series III. Photographs, circa 1861-1914, undated
   Subseries A. Portraits, 1861-1867, 1914, undated
   Subseries B. Buildings, undated
   Subseries C. Grave markers, 1897, undated

Series IV. Notes on the Crissey family, circa 1837, 1861, 1877, undated
Container List

Series I. Grosvenor family genealogies, circa 1866-1926, undated
Scope and content: Consists of ancestral charts, heraldry, and family histories. Quoted folder titles were taken directly from the material. Four folders, 1.1-1.4, consist of notes, research material, and publications; these are located at the start of the series.
Arrangement: Alphabetical by subject.

1.1 Clippings, undated; includes clippings regarding the Battle of Bunker Hill; Grosvenor Library; Edwin A. Grosvenor and his book, Constantinople; various Grosvenor relations.

1.2-1.3 Notes, 1895, 1914, undated; includes description of Grosvenor Library at the Buffalo Savings Bank; journal clipping image of Christ Memorial Church in Pomfret, Connecticut; handwritten notation: “Until Miss Mabel E. Crissey gives her consent (“or dies”), this genealogy is not to be given to anyone” [signed Jay Crissey]; seal sketch [ink]; letter from H.M. Crissey regarding the Crissey genealogy and Grosvenor genealogies as two distinct items to be printed.


Subseries A. Genealogy charts, undated
Scope and content: Includes ancestral charts for Grosvenor and extended family branches.
Arrangement: Alphabetical by title [often a family name].

1.5 “Ebenezer F. Grosvenor Family,” undated

1.6 “Grosvenor name,” undated

1.7 “Grosvenor of Gravenor,” undated; includes charts, notes, coats of arms sketches.

1.8 “Leicester Grosvenor,” undated; includes charts of Paine, Tarbell, and Wheeler branches.

1.9 “Line of Thomas Grosvenor,” undated

1.10 “Payson Family,” undated

1.11 “Places Mentioned in Leicester Branch,” undated; includes notes.

1.12 “Stray Grosvenors,” undated

1.13 “Tarbell Family,” undated
1.14 “Thomas Grosvenor,” undated

1.15 Other charts, undated; includes charts/notes for “Grosvenor family in New Haven, Conn.;” “Frank Livingston Grosvenor, MD;” “Mary Gray Grosvenor;” “Duorie Genealogical Index;” miscellaneous charts [arranged by ancestral number].

1.16 Untitled manuscript, undated; includes ancestral numbers with coordinating names, notes. [handwritten, bound]

Subseries B. Heraldry, circa 1866-1867, undated
Scope and content:  Contains drawings, sketches, and notes.
Arrangement:  Alphabetical by subject/title.

1.17 “Arms: Coats of Mail and Crests,” undated; consists of manuscript regarding coats, descriptions of Grosvenor coats, sketches.

1.18-1.19 Artwork, undated; includes sketches/drawings of coats of arms, notes. [pencil, ink]

1.20 “From the notes of Mrs. H.M. Crissey,” undated; consists of manuscript regarding John Grosvenor including the “coat of arms of John Grosvenor of Roxbury.”

1.21 “Memorandum of pedigree…,” circa 1866-1867; consists of manuscript regarding Sir Thomas C. Grosvenor of Holme.

1.22 Notes, undated; includes notes regarding coats of arms, newsprint clipping of coats design.

Subseries C. Family histories, undated
Scope and content:  Includes type and handwritten manuscripts and notes relating histories of the Grosvenor family and extended family branches. Please note: The manuscript is in draft form, with inconsistent and overlapping pagination.
Arrangement:  Numeric by page number and manuscript title if identified.

1.23 “John Grosvenor,” pp. 1-10, undated

1.24 “Grosvenor,” pp. 11-23, undated

1.25 “Descent of Hugh Lupus,” pp. 15, undated

1.26 “History of Chester,” pp. 24-30, undated

1.27 “Gravenor of Eaton,” pp. 35-39, undated; includes sections entitled “Visitation of Warwickshire” and “Grosvenors of Cheshire.”
1.28 “Grosvenor family of England,” pp. 42-70, undated
1.29 Untitled, pp. 54-55, 76-83, 85-86, undated
1.30 “History of Staffordshire,” pp. 86-88, undated; includes “Visitation of Warwickshire.”
1.31 “English ancestry of the Grosvenor family in America,” pp. 90-95, undated
1.32 “Stafford,” pp. 92-93, undated
1.33 “Chart VI: Visitation of London,” pp. 85a, 98, 101, undated
1.34 “John Grosvenor of Roxbury, Mass.,” pp. 103-108, undated
1.35 “Baskerville,” pp. 109-112, undated
1.36 “Family of Blythe,” pp. 111, undated
1.38 “John Grosvenor of Roxbury, Mass.,” pp. 118-122, undated; includes “Record of births at the Court House, Boston, Mass.”
1.40 Untitled, pp. 140-143, undated
1.41 “Clarke,” pp. 144-154, undated
2.2 Untitled, pp. 160-163, undated; regarding Jacob Jesson family.
2.3 Untitled, pp. 164-166, undated; includes narratives regarding deeds of John, Leicester, Ebenezer, Thomas, and Joseph Grosvenor.
2.4 “Second Generation,” pp. 169-170a, undated; includes narrative.
2.5 “Leicester Grosvenor,” pp. 173, 175, 192-195, undated; includes “Will of Leicester Grosvenor.”
2.6 “The Hubbard family,” pp. 176-178, undated
2.7 “Adams family,” pp.178-185 [some missing], undated

2.8 “The Waldo family,” pp. 184, 189-190, undated

2.9 Untitled, pp. 197-211, undated; includes narratives regarding Susanne, Ebenezer, and Thomas Grosvenor; deeds of Abiel Cheney, John Marcy, Nathan Frink, Ebenezer Grosvenor.

2.10 “Joseph Grosvenor,” pp. 212-215, undated


2.12 “Pomfret in the War of the Revolution,” pp. 218-221, undated


2.18 “Davenport family,” pp. 331-337, undated

2.19-2.20 Untitled, pp. 348-455, undated; includes families: Shaw, Grosvenor; narratives of families: Williston, Hall, Bulkeley, Prescott, Putnam, Fitch.

2.21 Untitled, pp. 358, 431a-432, undated; includes families: Greenwood, Adams.

2.22 Untitled, pp. 456-470, undated; includes families: Allen, Tarbell, Paine.


2.24 Untitled, pp. 517-542 [some missing], undated; includes families: Grosvenor, Marcy; narrative of Hubbard family.
2.25  Untitled, pp. 543-554, 561, undated; includes Dr. Aaron, Hannah, Lucy, Asa Jr., and Ebenezer Hall Grosvenor.

2.26  Untitled, pp. 558-596, undated; includes families: Hall, Williston, Grosvenor.

2.27  Untitled, pp. 598, undated; includes Genevra Laura Cooley, Newton Crissey, Samuel Shephard Crissey.

2.28  Untitled, pp. 607, 609-643 [some missing], undated; includes families: Sessions, Grosvenor, Reynolds.

2.29  Untitled, pp. 644-663, undated; includes "Adams Genealogy;" charts of families: Allen, Lynn, Tarbell, Cheney.

2.30  Untitled, pp. 666-690, undated; includes families: Emmons, Demmon, Paine, Wheeler.

2.31  Untitled, pp. 691-726, undated; includes families: Wheeler, Davenport, Van Wagenen, Grosvenor, Bishop, Butler, Ellis, Crissey, Thompson, Gloyd, Bushnell; narratives of families: Warren, Winsor.

2.32  Untitled, pp. 730-790 [some missing], undated; includes families: Winsor, Crissey, Grosvenor, Eldredge, Abbe, Williams, Stanley, Heacock, Perrin, Marcy, Parker, Wilkinson.


3.5  Untitled, pp. 1001-1021, undated; includes families: Crissey, Warren, Lazell, Winsor, Grosvenor, Goodhue, Fessenden, Teakle, Potter, Humphreys; narrative: "Cushing’s Perilous Task."

3.7-3.8 Untitled, pp. 800-857a [some missing], undated; includes families: Perrin, Briggs, Town, Franklin, Marcy, Niles, Flagg, Cross, Brown, Grosvenor, Ward, Matthewson, Hubbard, Marsh, Parker, Jackman, Lasell, Cargill, Sanborn, Gates.

3.9 Untitled, pp. 858-888, undated; includes families: Grosvenor, Allen, Manning, Kent, White, Spooner, Douglass, Curtiss, Peabody, Wright, Hoyt, Martin, Goddard, Bliss, Harmon, Pike, Thompson.

3.10 Untitled, pp. 889-936, undated; includes families: Moore, Grosvenor, Kibbee, Early, Zeigler, McGowan, Cook, Sanderson, Bissell, Grannis, Pollard, Craig, Foote, Tate, Hall, Rood, Clark, Brooks, Harmon, Harris, Gunn, Guffin, Day, Wolcott, Laselle, Hawley, Calvert, Osgood, Goodridge, Lyon.


3.13 “Abington, Conn.,” undated; includes narrative.

3.14 “Index,” undated; includes index to manuscript.

3.15 Other family history manuscript, undated; includes families Tarbell, Grosvenor, Alden.

Series II. Correspondence, circa 1892-1945, undated
Scope and content: Consists of correspondence of the Crissey family (Sards L., Hannah Maria, and Mabel Edith) with various persons regarding Grosvenor family descendents and the Crissey family’s Grosvenor genealogy manuscript. Also contains 5 glass plate negatives of document in Spanish. These are located at the end of the series in Box 6. **Please note: ALS= autographed letter signed; TLS= typewritten letter signed.**
Arrangement: Alphabetical by correspondent.

3.16 General correspondence, circa 1884-1924; includes postcards, correspondence of Hannah Crissey: Jennie Booth King [ALS], Florence [ALS], Francene Marean? [ALS], L.? M. Grosvenor [ALS], E. Manning? [ALS]; letter from Mason
Grosvenor to Henry M. Holt [TLS]; marriage announcement of Ruth Field and Perry Clifford Pierce [handwritten notes on front and verso].

3.17 A.E.C., 1908; includes notes and postcard image of Clarke? family.  [ALS]

3.18 Mrs. N.S. Bennet, undated  [ALS]

3.19 Clarence W. Bowen, 1922 [TLS]

3.20 Frank E. Cotton, 1904 [ALS]

3.21 Harry G. Crocker, 1922 [TLS]

3.22 Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue, 1911 [TLS]

3.23 Benjamin Grosvenor, 1892 [ALS]

3.24 C.H. Grosvenor, 1892, 1894 [TLS]

3.25 Horace C. Grosvenor, 1939  [ALS]

3.26 Mildred Grosvenor, 1917  [ALS]

3.27 Alice D. Higley, 1908; includes notes and pamphlet regarding Elmer Ellsworth Higley: The Happy Habit Man.  [TLS]

3.28 Winthrop H. Hopkins, circa 1939-1945  [ALS, TLS]

3.29 Ida F. Humphreys, 1916, undated [ALS]

3.30 Mrs. Charles G. Osgood, 1911, undated

3.31 Mrs. C.E. Parmelee, 1893 [ALS]

4.1 Helen L. Peet, 1913, 1914 [ALS]

4.2 Augustus H. Shearer, 1923, 1940; regarding publishing the Grosvenor genealogy manuscript in the Grosvenor Library Bulletin; depositing the Grosvenor genealogy manuscript in the Grosvenor Library.  [TLS]

Box 6 Glass plate negatives: Esteban Miró, undated; consists of 5 plates of documents [correspondence?] dated 1794, relating to Miró, governor of the Louisiana territory and Florida.  [in Spanish].  [Fragile, see librarian for handling.]
Series III. Photographs, circa 1861-1914, undated

Scope and content: Consists of portraits with a few images of grave markers and buildings.
Quoted folder titles were taken directly from the material.
Arrangement: Alphabetical by name or subject.

Subseries A. Portraits, 1861-1867, 1914, undated

Scope and content: Consists of images of Grosvenor family and relations. Most images are cabinet photographs. However, a few are journal clippings, engravings, etc. and are noted in brackets.
Arrangement: Alphabetical by surname.

4.3 Craig, undated; image of Mrs. H.G. Craig. [cabinet photograph]

4.4 Crissey, 1893, undated; images of Sardis L. Crissey. [1 photograph; 6 cabinet photographs: 1 with annotation on verso, “Sardis L. Crissey, whose wife compiled the Genealogy;” 1 cartes-de-visite]

4.5 French, undated; image of Sarah French. [cabinet photograph]

4.6 Goddard, undated; image of Daniel Bulkey Gossard. [cartes-de-visite]

4.7 Grosvenor, A-E, 1887, undated; images of Grosvenor family: Dr. Aaron [cabinet photograph]; Arthur Rufus and Ellen Leonin? [cabinet photograph]; Benjamin [cabinet photograph]; Benjamin F., Susan J., Anna May, and Frank Wilton [cabinet photograph]; Rev. Charles Payson [cabinet photograph]; Chauncey Frederick [cabinet photograph]; Cyrus Pitt [cabinet photograph]; Rev. Daniel [cartes-de-visite]; Mrs. Daniel [cartes-de-visite]; David Rufus [cabinet photograph]; Prof. Edwin Augustus [cabinet photograph].

4.8-4.9 Grosvenor, F-Z, 1896-1897, 1914, undated; images of Grosvenor family: G.; Lemuel C.M.D. [cabinet photograph and engraving]; Lemuel and Eunice (nee Putnam) [photograph]; Dr. Lorenzo N., Wallace F., David B., and Lucy Ella [cabinet photograph]; Rev. Mason [cabinet photograph]; Rufus Lathrop [cabinet photograph]; Mrs. Sara [cartes-de-visite]; Seth Heacock [cartes-de-visite]; Col. Thomas [journal clipping]; Vine [cartes-de-visite]; W.M., Jr. [cabinet photograph]; Col. W.M. [cabinet photograph]; Rev. William Mercer, with caption “Rector of the Church of the Incarnation” [journal clipping]; ? Grosvenor and son [cabinet photograph].

4.10 Hall, undated; images of Harriet L. (nee Grosvenor) Hall, [cabinet photograph]; Rev. Lemuel Hall [cabinet photograph].

4.12 Hopkins, undated; image of Rev. Samuel Miles Hopkins, D.D. [journal clipping]

4.13 Hovey, undated; image of Caroline Marie (nee Grosvenor) Hovey. [cabinet photograph]

4.14 Hoyt, undated; image of E.B. Hoyt. [cabinet photograph]

4.15 Lasell, 1896; image of Prof. M.C. Lasell. [cabinet photograph]

4.16 Lazell, undated; image of Wealthy Ann Lazell. [cabinet photograph]

4.17 Niech?, undated; image of ? Niech. [cartes-de-visite]

4.18 Paine, undated; image of G.F.D. Paine [cabinet photograph]; John Shearer Paine [journal clipping].

4.19 Porter, 1861; image of Stanley Porter. [cartes-de-visite]

4.20 Ranney?, undated; images of Orrin Dantus Ranney [cabinet photograph]; Mrs. O.D. (nee Grosvenor) Ranney [cabinet photograph].

4.21 Roush, undated; image of D. Harlow Roush and Anne May (nee Grosvenor) Roush. [cabinet photograph]

4.22 Thompson, undated; images of Rev. Ebenezer Thompson and son [journal clipping]; Mrs. Clara Grosvenor Thomson [journal clipping]; Justin Thompson [journal clipping]; Paul Stockbridge Thompson and John Ebenezer Grosvenor Thompson. [journal clipping]

4.23 Warren, undated; image of ? Warren of Stockton, NY. [cartes-de-visite]

4.24 Wright, undated; image of Rev. D. Grosvenor Wright. [cartes-de-visite]

4.25 Unknown portraits, undated; images of 2 unknown men. [cartes-de-visite]

**Subseries B. Buildings, undated**

4.26 “Ben-Grosvenor,” residence of Benjamin Grosvenor, undated; images of building exteriors: main building, barns, cottages, pavilion. [cabinet photograph, journal clippings]

4.27 First Congregational Church, Roxbury, Massachusetts, undated [cabinet photograph]

4.29 “House of Jesse Lloyd,” undated; image of building exterior. [cabinet photograph]

4.30 “House of Mrs. Emma Elvira (Moore),” undated; image of building exterior.

4.31 Joseph Putnam house, undated; image of room interior with caption: “Chamber where Gen. Israel Putnam was born.” [journal clipping]

4.32 Unknown buildings, undated; includes castle, church. [cabinet photographs]

**Subseries C. Grave markers, 1897, undated**

4.33 John Grosvenor, undated [cabinet photograph]

4.34 Wheeler monument, 1897 [cabinet photograph]

**Series IV. Notes on the Crissey family, circa 1837, 1861, 1877, undated**

*Scope and content:* Mainly consists of notebooks regarding Crissey family histories, genealogies, and ancestral charts. Some notebooks contain enclosed correspondence and are noted. Quoted folder headings were taken directly from the material.

*Arrangement:* Alphabetical by subject and title.

4.35 Artwork: Mabel Crissey, 1882; includes 2 paintings [ink, wax crayon?]; poem.

4.36 Casket plate: Alice Maria Morse, circa 1861; includes inscription: “Alice Maria Morse, Died Feb. 27, 1861, Aged 43 yrs. 1 mo. 14 dys.”

4.37 Certificate: Calvin Morse, 1837; consists of certificate regarding appointment as postmaster of Cambridgeport, Massachusetts.

4.38 *Genealogy of the Cressey Family,* 1877; consists of published booklet written by George Brainard Blodgette, Boston: David Clapp & Son. [handwritten annotations]

5.1 Notebook: “Connecticut Crissey Branch,” undated; includes family histories, ancestral charts, correspondence, clippings.

5.2-5.3 Notebook: “Crissey Branch,” undated; includes family histories, ancestral charts, correspondence, clippings.
5.4-5.5 Notebook: “Crissey Branch, vol. 1,” undated; includes family histories, ancestral charts, correspondence, clippings.

5.6 Notes, undated; includes note regarding “Mighil Cresse,” his wives, and children; notebook of ancestral charts for Cressey family.

5.7 Register: “Mighill line,” 1837?; A to Z register of family members in the Mighill Cressey family line, notes.

Search Terms
Authors
600 Crissey, Hannah Maria
600 Crissey, Mabel Edith
600 Crissey, Sardis Little
600 Shearer, Augustus Hunt, 1878-1941
600 Grosvenor, Edwin A. (Edwin Augustus), 1845-1936
600 Higley, Elmer Ellsworth

Subject terms
610 Grosvenor Library
610 First Church in Roxbury (Roxbury, Boston, Mass.)
650 Grosvenor family—Genealogy—Charts, diagrams, etc.
650 Crissey family—Genealogy—Charts, diagrams, etc.
650 Allen family—Genealogy
650 Payson family—Genealogy
650 Putnam family—Genealogy
650 Tarbell family—Genealogy
650 Wheeler family—Genealogy
650 Libraries—New York (State)—Buffalo

Genre terms
655 manuscripts
655 notes
655 correspondence
655 photographs
655 heraldry
655 glass negatives
655 pamphlets