

# Cole, Henry Denison Papers

Henry Denison Cole Papers

1786-1939



WILLIAM  
& MARY

CHARTERED 1693

## Title Statement

Cole, Henry Denison Papers Guide to the Henry Denison Cole Papers Mss. 39.1 C67

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& MARY

CHARTERED 1693

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## Profile Description

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## Revision Description

**2023** Does not match inventory in Archival Resources of Virginia.

## Descriptive Summary

**Unit ID**

Mss. 39.1 C67

**Unit ID**

/repositories/2/resources/8976

**Unit Date**

1786-1939

**Language**

English

**Creator**

Cole, Henry Denison, 1856-1938

**Creator**

Cole Family

**Creator**

Ewell, Benjamin Stoddert, 1810-1894

**Creator**

Roberts, William Thomas

**Creator**

Rockefeller, Abby Greene Aldrich

**Creator**

Rockefeller, Jr., John D. (Davison), 1874-1960

**Creator**

Tyler, Lyon Gardiner, 1853-1935

**Creator**

Washington, Booker T., 1856-1915

**Extent**

13.00 Linear Feet

**Repository**

Special Collections Research Center

## Administrative Information

**Conditions Governing Access:**

Collection is open to all researchers. Manuscript collections and archival records may contain materials with sensitive or confidential information that is protected under federal or state right to privacy laws and regulations, such as the Virginia Public Records Act (Code of Virginia, § 42.1-76-91); and the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (Code of Virginia § 2.2-3705.5). Confidential material may include, but is not limited to, educational, medical, and personnel records. If sensitive material is found in this collection, please contact a staff member immediately. The disclosure of personally identifiable information pertaining to a living individual may have legal consequences for which the College of William and Mary assumes no responsibility.

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**Acquisition Information:**

Gift

**Preferred Citation:**

Cole Papers, Special Collections Research Center, Swem Library, College of William and Mary.

**Preferred Citation**

Henry Denison Cole Papers. Incorrectly titled as "Cole Papers" in Archival Resources of the Virginias."

## Biographical Information:

Henry Denison Cole (1856-1938) was a resident of Williamsburg for his entire life. He operated a book shop on Duke of Gloucester Street and served as postmaster of Williamsburg, 1884-1889; treasurer of Bruton Parish Church; secretary of the alumni of the College of William and Mary; judge of elections and member of the Democratic committee; the Williamsburg school board; and the board of trustees of Eastern State

Hospital. Further information about this individual or organization may be available in the Special Collections Research Center Wiki: [http://scdbwiki.swem.wm.edu/wiki/index.php/Henry\\_Denison\\_Cole](http://scdbwiki.swem.wm.edu/wiki/index.php/Henry_Denison_Cole).

## Scope and Contents

Included are minutes of the Wise Light Infantry Co. of Williamsburg, 1881-1882; the College of William and Mary Alumni Association, 1906-1917; papers concerning the College of William and Mary including letters, 1873, from Benjamin S. Ewell; the Williamsburg Free School Trustees, 1870-1907; and the Democratic Committee of Williamsburg.

Also accounts of the state school funds, 1894-1911; the city school funds, 1906-1911, 1919-1924; Bruton Parish Church 1897-1938; and of Robert F. Cole (father of Henry D. Cole), 1843-1856.

Also lists of registered voters in Williamsburg, 1889-1896, 1902-1925, and papers relating to property in Williamsburg and the restoration of Bruton Parish Church, 1905-1906.

The collection also includes stereoptican slides and letters from John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and Abby Aldrich Rockefeller.

Includes W. T. Roberts letter, 20 November 1901 criticizing the college, president [Lyon G.] Tyler and the vice-president of the Board of Visitors as a "moral leper." Roberts was rector of Bruton Parish Church (Box 4, folder 1)

The finding aid for this collection is available online at:

<http://vip.lib.virginia.edu:8080/cocoon/vivaead/published/wm/viw00005.xml.frame>

## Separated Materials

The Language of Flowers, published by George Routledge and Son, Ltd., London. Includes notation: "Mr. H.D. Cole, Sept. 1892, Natural Bridge" and November 19, 1935. Moved to Rare Books.

## Keywords

Account books  
Correspondence  
Financial records  
Minutes  
Photographs  
Slides (photographs)  
Williamsburg (Va.)--City Council  
Williamsburg (Va.)--History--19th century  
Williamsburg (Va.)--History--20th century  
Williamsburg (Va.)--Post Office  
African Americans--Virginia--Suffrage  
College of William and Mary--History--19th century  
Democratic Party (Williamsburg, Va.)  
Photography, Stereoscopic  
Virginia. Constitutional Convention (1901-1902)  
Virginia. Militia. Wise Light Infantry  
Voting--Virginia--History  
Stereographs  
Medicine--Prescriptions--19th century  
Programs  
Broadside  
Bruton Parish Church (Williamsburg, Va.)  
College of William and Mary--Alumni and alumnae  
Roberts, William Thomas  
Rockefeller, Abby Greene Aldrich  
Rockefeller, John D. (John Davison), 1874-1960  
Washington, Booker T., 1856-1915

# General

Other Information:

Additional information may be found at <http://ead.lib.virginia.edu/vivaead/published/wm/viw00005.frame>

## Arrangement of Materials:

This collection is arranged into fourteen Series: 1. Papers of Williamsburg City Council, 2. Papers of Williamsburg Post Office, 3. Miscellaneous Letters, 4. Business Papers of H. D. Cole, 5. Papers of the Cole Family, 6. Papers relating to William and Mary College, 7. Wise Infantry Minute Book, etc., 8. Printed Material and Stereoptican Slides, 9. William and Mary Alumni Association, 10. Post Card and Shop Account Book, 11. Papers Relating to Schools, 12. Bruton Parish Records, 13. Williamsburg Democratic Records, and 14. Artifacts.

## Description of Subordinate Components

### **Series 1: Williamsburg Organizations**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607570

**Unit Date** 1861-1936

#### **Scope and Contents**

Henry Denison Cole's papers from his participation in Williamsburg Area organizations.

#### **Sub-series 1: Williamsburg City Council Papers with City Ordinances**

**Unit ID** id160273

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/422443

**Unit Date** 1889-1899

#### **Scope and Contents**

Papers of the Williamsburg City Council, including a manuscript draft of the first ordinance regulating automobile traffic, contract for city gas lighting system, duties of city scavenger, papers regarding bond issue for city water works and sewage disposal, 1889-1891. Doctor bills for small-pox vaccinations, 1899.

#### **Papers**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607493

**Mixed Materials** 1 (Box)

#### **Sub-Series 2: Williamsburg Post Office Papers, Cole as Postmaster**

**Unit ID** id160276

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/422455

**Unit Date** 1884-1889

#### **Scope and Contents**

Papers of Williamsburg Post Office while Cole served as Postmaster.

#### **Papers**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607494

**Mixed Materials** 2 (Box)

**Container** 1 (Folder)

#### **Sub-Series 3: Correspondence and Ephemera from Williamsburg Organizations**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607505

**Unit Date** 1861-1936

#### **Scope and Contents**

Includes fire insurance contract, Eastern State Hospital letter from the engineer, Colonial Hotel

ephemera, arrest warrant and letters from local citizens about local matters, North Carolina Coupon Bond, 1861. Programs for "The Unveiling of a Monument of the site of the Old Capitol...1904," "Celebration of the Ter-Centennial at Jamestown Island...1907, First Peninsula School Fair, 1913, Farmers' Institute 1905;" flyer for Educational and Civic Association 'Trip Around the World,'and invitation to luncheon at the Colonial Inn, 1910.

### **Ephemera and Correspondence**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607506

**Mixed Materials** 3 (Box)

**Container** 5 (Folder)

### **Sub-Series 4: Papers relating to William & Mary**

**Unit ID** id160290

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/422461

**Unit Date** 1851-1901

#### **Scope and Contents**

Three 1873 letters from Benjamin S. Ewell. Legal papers with William & Mary, sealed and signed by Robert Saunders, 1847. Receipt to Gustavus Lobby for philosophy course, signed by Silas Totten, 1851. Open letter from W. T. Roberts, Rector of Bruton Parish Church, criticizing the college, President Tyler, and the Vice President of the Board of Visitors as a "moral leper," 1901 November 20.

### **William and Mary Related Papers**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607500

**Mixed Materials** 4 (box)

**Container** 1 (Folder)

### **Sub-Series 5: Records Relating to Schools**

**Unit ID** id160300

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/422448

**Unit Date** 1894-1930

#### **Scope and Contents**

Correspondence, receipts, and personnel papers concerning the Williamsburg School Board. Includes a 1897 indenture/deed between John and Menirva Dahn and Moses Harrell of the School Board to sell land for a school; 1919 letter from the APVA (Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities) protesting the decision to erect a school on the Palace Green; money pledges by citizens for building the new school; correspondence about firing and keeping Mrs. Jones as a teacher; re-application letter by John S. Charles to be principal of the Nicholson School (1899) and his resignation letter (1900) (the 1899 re-application includes petitions in support of Charles by parents and children. Mr. Charles was principal for 15 years); note on envelope states that The Nicholson School was built in 1897 and gives cost of school; and correspondence, receipts and supply orders for schools (1917-1918). In 1897, one school is called "White School #1." In 1918, one school called "Model School."

Bound volume of minutes of meetings of Trustees of the Williamsburg Free School, 1870-1907. Miscellaneous loose papers pertaining to the school. Bound volume of Williamsburg school accounts and funds, both state and local, 1911-1920. Bound volume of accounts of state school funds, 1894-1911. Bound volume of accounts of city school funds, 1919-1924. Miscellaneous papers and letters to the school board.

### **Williamsburg School Board records**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607536

**Unit Date** 1897-1918

**Mixed Materials** 5b (box)

#### **Scope and Contents**

Correspondence, receipts, and personnel papers concerning the Williamsburg School Board. Includes a 1897 indenture/deed between John and Menirva Dahn and Moses Harrell of the School Board to sell land for a school; 1919 letter from the APVA (Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities) protesting the decision to erect a school on the Palace Green; money pledges by citizens for building

the new school; correspondence about firing and keeping Mrs. Jones as a teacher; re-application letter by John S. Charles to be principal of the Nicholson School (1899) and his resignation letter (1900) (the 1899 re-application includes petitions in support of Charles by parents and children. Mr. Charles was principal for 15 years); note on envelope states that The Nicholson School was built in 1897 and gives cost of school; and correspondence, receipts and supply orders for schools (1917-1918). In 1897, one school is called "White School #1." In 1918, one school called "Model School."

### **Williamsburg school related minutes, accounts, and correspondence**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607532

**Unit Date** 1870-1924

**Mixed Materials** 6 (box)

#### **Scope and Contents**

Bound volume of minutes of meetings of Trustees of the Williamsburg Free School, 1870-1907. Miscellaneous loose papers pertaining to the school. Bound volume of Williamsburg school accounts and funds, both state and local, 1911-1920. Bound volume of accounts of state school funds, 1894-1911. Bound volume of accounts of city school funds, 1919-1924. Miscellaneous papers and letters to the school board.

### **Sub-Series 6: Bruton Parish Church Business Papers**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607501

#### **Financial papers of Bruton Parish Church with Letter from Lyon G. Tyler**

**Unit ID** id160302

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/422449

**Unit Date** 1901-1916

**Mixed Materials** 7a (Box)

#### **Scope and Contents**

Financial papers of Bruton Parish Church, 1897-1938. Reply of President Lyon G. Tyler to November open letter by W. T. Roberts, Rector of Bruton Parish, 1901. W. T. Roberts Letter, 20 November 1901. Letter from Roberts who was rector of Bruton Parish Church criticizing the college, president [Lyon G.] Tyler and the vice-president of the Board of Visitors as a "moral leper." 20 November 1901. Reply of William and Mary president Lyon G. Tyler to November open letter by W. T. Roberts, rector of Bruton Parish Church. 20 November 1901

#### **Contributions to Bruton Parish Church, Bound Volume**

**Unit ID** id160303

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/422450

**Unit Date** 1889-1925

**Mixed Materials** 7b (Box)

#### **Scope and Contents**

Bound volume of contributions to Bruton Parish Church, 1930.

#### **Financial and Business Papers of Burton Parish Church**

**Unit ID** id160308

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/422453

**Unit Date** 1924-1936

**Mixed Materials** 10 (Box)

#### **Scope and Contents**

Financial and business papers of Burton Parish Church arranged by years, 1924-1936.

### **Sub-Series 7: Democratic Committee Minutes, List of White and Black Registered Voters (1889-1896) and 3 Bound Volumes for Registered Voters**

**Unit ID** id160307

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/422452

**Unit Date** 1889-1925

**Scope and Contents**

Bound volume of minutes of Democratic Committee in Williamsburg. In this volume, laid-in, is a Poll Tax poster for Williamsburg, ca. late 1800's-early 1900's. Registered voters in the city white and colored lists, 1889-1896. In the back of the volume there is a collection of ballots. Three bound volumes with lists of registered voters in the city, 1902-1925. Minutes of the Williamsburg Democratic Committee during the presidential campaign, 1900-1904.

**Political Papers**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607549

**Mixed Materials** 9 (Box)

**Sub-Series 8: Wise Light Infantry Company of Williamsburg Minute Book, Colonial Williamsburg Agreement, Newspaper Clippings, Army and Navy Register**

**Unit ID** id160293

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/422462

**Unit Date** 1880-1935

**Scope and Contents**

Minute book of the Wise Light Infantry Company of Williamsburg, 1881-1882. Printed copy of agreement between the City of Williamsburg and Williamsburg Holding Company, now Colonial Williamsburg, 1928. Newspaper clippings, primarily of Yorktown Centennial Celebration, including 1881 October 18 edition of Army and Navy Register listing events, people, military units and their officers.

**Documents**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607507

**Mixed Materials** 4 (box)

**Container** 2 (Folder)

**Series 2: Personal Papers**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607571

**Unit Date** 1857-1934

**Sub-Series 1: Business papers of Henry Denison Cole**

**Unit ID** id160281

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/422457

**Unit Date** 1857, 1871, 1894-1934

**Scope and Contents**

Includes rent and sale contracts for his Williamsburg property. Sale for standing lumber, tax returns, fire insurance policies, four certificates from governors appointing Cole to board of trustees of Eastern State Hospital, lawsuit judgments (1907), Richmond and York River Railroad Company share, January-October 1857 store account for Catherine Maupin, contract between C. Burress and John C. Tilford for property in Williamsburg, 1871.

**Papers**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607496

**Mixed Materials** 2 (Box)

**Container** 3 (Folder)

**Sub-Series 2: Property Papers of H. D. Cole, Robert F. Cole, and Jesse Cole**

**Unit ID** id160283

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/422458

**Unit Date** 1843-1910

**Scope and Contents**

Concerning property of H. D. Cole, his father Robert F. Cole, his grandfather Jesse Cole

concerning property of H. D. Cole, his father Robert F. Cole, his grandfather Jesse Cole.

### **Property Papers**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607497

**Mixed Materials** 3 (Box)

**Container** 1 (Folder)

### **Sub-Series 3: Cole's Bank and Account Books, Richneck Farm Accounts, Scrapbook**

**Unit ID** id160298

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/422447

**Unit Date** 1870-1924

#### **Scope and Contents**

Bound property sales account book, undated; newspaper clipping scrapbook with notes, divided by subjects such as asylum, weddings, deaths, receptions, William & Mary, Williamsburg and others; personal bank account book with deposits and withdrawals from Peninsula, Derickson and Williamsburg banks, 1897-1909; and an account books with blacksmith accounts (1836-1838) and Richneck Farm accounts with include slave purchases with names, home remedies and farm accounts.

#### **Bound Volumes**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607545

**Unit Date** 1836-1909

**Mixed Materials** 5a (box)

#### **Scope and Contents**

Bound Property sale account book, undated; newspaper clipping scrapbook with notes, divided by subjects such as asylum, weddings, deaths, receptions, William & Mary, Williamsburg and others, undated; personal bank account book with deposits and withdrawals from Peninsula, Derickson and Williamsburg banks, 1897-1909; and an account books with blacksmith accounts (1836-1838) and Richneck Farm accounts with include slave purchases with names, home remedies and farm accounts (1846-1891).

#### **Rent collections volume**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607546

**Unit Date** 1901-1909

**Mixed Materials** 8 (box)

#### **Cole's shop Accounts**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607547

**Unit Date** 1895-1916

**Mixed Materials** 8 (box)

#### **Scope and Contents**

Wood and periodical accounts of Cole's shop

#### **Post cards and Souvenir Booklets Material**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607548

**Mixed Materials** 8 (box)

#### **Scope and Contents**

Notes, memos and clippings used to prepare post cards and souvenir booklets

### **Sub-Series 4: Newspaper Clippings**

**Unit ID** id160285

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/422460

**Unit Date** 1883-1911

#### **Scope and Contents**

Assorted newspaper clippings including page about legal proceedings, 1909 and account of burning of

Assorted newspaper clippings, including page about legal proceedings, 1990 and account of burning of Williamsburg Courthouse, 6 April 1911.

### **Newspaper Clippings**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607499

**Mixed Materials** 3 (Box)

**Container** 3 (Folder)

### **Sub-Series 5: Correspondence**

**Unit ID** id160279

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/422456

**Unit Date** 1887-1934

#### **Scope and Contents**

Letter from Paris describing his balloon ascent from E. W. Blodgett, 1899 October 9. Public reaction to Dreyfus case. Letter on growth and development around Lynchburg, 1911 April 16. Letters political and personal, 1888-1936. Letter regarding C. H. Fine, 1911. Letter from John D. Rockefeller, Jr. 1934 March 2. Letter from Abby A. Rockefeller. Letter from John Clofton to Cole about death of Cole's father, 1887.

#### **Correspondence**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607495

**Mixed Materials** 2 (Box)

**Container** 2 (Folder)

### **Series 3: Letters from Lucy Winder to her Parents**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607503

**Unit Date** 1911

#### **Scope and Contents**

Letters from Lucy Winder to her parents while on a European tour.

#### **Letters**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607504

**Mixed Materials** 3 (Box)

**Container** 4 (Folder)

### **Series 4: Medical Remedies**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607523

#### **Scope and Contents**

Remedy for Lock Jaw and Putrid Sore Throat.

#### **Remedies**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607526

**Mixed Materials** 4 (box)

**Container** 3 (Folder)

#### **Language of Flowers**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607527

**Mixed Materials** 4 (box)

**Container** 4 (Folder)

### **Series 5: Stereographs**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607524

#### **Scope and Contents**

125 stereographs

120 stereographs.

### **Stereographs**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607525

**Mixed Materials** 4 (box)

**Container** 4 (Folder)

### **Series 6: Artifacts**

**Unit ID** id293203

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/422454

#### **Scope and Contents**

Hand-thrown stoneware cup and saucer. Tea cup is bowl-shaped and has no handle. Mottled semi-gloss glazes in brown, yellow, green and gray. No visible maker's mark; wheel-throwing marks visible on the bottom of saucer. Dimensions: cup 1 3/4" H x 3 1/8"; diameter; saucer 1 1/8" H x 4 7/8" diameter. Condition is good; cup has two small cracks from firing, and glaze crazing exhibits some stains from use. Images available at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scrc/13452400185> and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scrc/13452525163>.

### **Artifacts**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/607533

**Mixed Materials** 11 (box)