

# Inventory of the Richard H. Patchin Papers, 1829-1902

Richard H. Patchin Papers 1829-19021860-1890  
1829-1902

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A Collection in the Special Collections Research Center Mss. 2008.57  
Earl Gregg Swem Library, College of William and Mary  
2008

## History

**Processed by:** Sarah M. Dorpinghaus

## Title Statement

Inventory of the Richard H. Patchin Papers, 1829-1902

**Subtitle:**

**Collection:** Richard H. Patchin Papers, Mss. 2008.57

## Publication Statement

**Date:** © 2008 By the College of William and Mary. All rights reserved.

**Publisher:** Earl Gregg Swem Library, College of William and Mary

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## Profile Description

**Creation:** Machine-readable finding aid derived from MS Word, created by Sarah M. Dorpinghaus, 07/17/2008

**Language Usage:** Description is in English

## Revision Description

**2013-11-21** Converted to schema conforming EAD by dtd2schema.vh.xsl.

## Overview of the Collection

### Identification:

Mss. Acc. 2008.57

### Language of Materials

The papers are in: English

### Abstract:

The Richard H. Patchin papers largely includes accounts of Patchin's daily activities and personal reflections. Correspondence and professional documents also make up a portion of the collection. The materials document Patchin's work as a teacher, farmer, clothing sales clerk, and lecturer in and around Marlborough, New York during the mid and late 19th century. The documents also address religion, relationships, business activities, and personal aspirations. Some of Patchin's writings suggest that he had periods of mental instability that appear to have increased with age.

### Creator:

Richard H. Patchin; Patchin, John; Patchin, Leah; Stevens, Sarah.

**Quantity:**

4.00 Boxes

**Repository:**

Special Collections Research Center

## Information About Using the Collection

**Conditions Governing Access**

Collection is open to all researchers.

**Conditions Governing Use**

Before publishing quotations or excerpts from any materials, permission must be obtained from the Curator of Manuscripts and Rare Books, and the holder of the copyright, if not Swem Library.

**Processing Information**

Machine-readable finding aid derived from MS Word, created by Sarah M. Dorpinghaus.

**Preferred Citation**

Richard H. Patchin Papers, Accession # Mss. 2008.57, Special Collections Research Center, Swem Library, College of William and Mary.

## Biographical Note

Richard H. Patchin worked as a teacher, farmer, clothing sales clerk, and lecturer in New York during the 1870s.

## Scope and Contents

The Richard H. Patchin papers largely includes accounts of Patchin's daily activities and personal reflections. Correspondence and professional documents also make up a portion of the collection. The materials document Patchin's work as a teacher, farmer, clothing sales clerk, and lecturer in and around Marlborough, New York during the mid and late 19th century. The documents also address religion, relationships, business activities, and personal aspirations. Some of Patchin's writings suggest that he had periods of mental instability that appear to have increased with age.

## Index Terms

This Collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

**Genre/Form of Material:**

Account books

Certificates

Clippings

Diaries

Invoices

**Occupation:**

Farmer

Lecturer

Teacher

**Topical Term:**

Mental illness--United States.

New York (N.Y.)--History--19th century.

## Arrangement of Materials

The materials are arranged in nine series: Personal Writings, Correspondence, Teaching, Business, Poetry and Lyrics, Public Lectures, Miscellaneous Materials, Bound Volumes, and Photographs. Within each series folders are arranged chronologically with undated and miscellaneous material placed last. The Public Lectures series has two subseries: Lectures and Notes and Ephemera.

## Detailed Description of the Collection

### Box 1

#### **Personal Writings,**

**Unit Date** 1857-1898 and undated

##### **Folder 1: Religion,**

**Unit Date** 1857-1894,

##### **Scope and Content**

reflections of the role of religion in Patchin's life and his ambitions to become more religious

##### **Folder 2: Mental health,**

**Unit Date** 1863-1889 and undated,

##### **Scope and Content**

writings about the state of his mental health

##### **Folder 3: Occupations,**

**Unit Date** 1864-1871,

##### **Scope and Content**

thoughts about his various professions- a majority of the documents focus on his teaching and farming career

##### **Folder 4: Marriage,**

**Unit Date** 1864-1875 and undated,

##### **Scope and Content**

writings on Patchin's relationships with women, especially finding a suitable wife

##### **Folder 5: Mother,**

**Unit Date** 1866-1871 and undated,

##### **Scope and Content**

reflections on Patchin's mother, whom he finds frustrating and irritating

##### **Folder 6: Acquaintances,**

**Unit Date** 1870-1880,

##### **Scope and Content**

documentation of friends and acquaintances, often detailing the times when people are unkind to Patchin

##### **Folder 7: Miscellaneous,**

**Unit Date** 1863-1898,

##### **Scope and Content**

writings about Patchin's daily activities, goals, and decisions

#### **Correspondence,**

**Unit Date** 1832-1902

**Folder 8: Letters to Richard Patchin from others,**

**Unit Date** 1832-1902,

**Scope and Content**

A majority of these letters are from Patchin's mother, sister, and brother. Also included are several response letters from school board members whom Patchin contacted in hopes of securing a teaching position.

**Folder 9: Letters to others from Richard Patchin,**

**Unit Date** 1853-1884,

**Scope and Content**

including letters asking for employment, requesting money, and letters to the editors of several newspapers correcting errors noted in previous issues

**Folder 10: Letters to Leah Patchin (mother) and Sarah Stevens (sister) from Richard Patchin,**

**Unit Date** 1843-1863,

**Scope and Content**

provide insight to the period before Patchin's writings became more eccentric

**Folder 11: Letters to Leah Patchin (mother) from others,**

**Unit Date** 1844-1868

**Folder 12: Letters to Richard Patchin from family,**

**Unit Date** 1846-1861

**Folder 13: Envelopes,**

**Unit Date** undated,

**Scope and Content**

included with Patchin's papers, but were separated from the letters that they held

**Teaching,**

**Unit Date** 1846-1879,

**Scope and Content**

documents relating to Patchin's teaching career in Ulster and Orange counties, New York

**Folder 14: Compositions,**

**Unit Date** 1846 and undated

**Folder 15: Licenses and contracts,**

**Unit Date** 1847-1879

**Folder 16: Notes,**

**Unit Date** 1857-1870 and undated,

**Scope and Content**

of a reflective nature about daily issues as a teacher, such as student behavior and lesson plans, as well as personal reflections

**Folder 17: Letters of recommendation,**

**Unit Date** 1863 and undated

**Box 2**

**Business,**

**Unit Date** 1849-1889

**Folder 1: Receipts and invoices,**

**Unit Date** 1849-1881 and undated

**Folder 2: Licenses, certificates, and contracts,**

**Unit Date** 1850-1897 and undated,

**Scope and Content**

hand-written business contracts and city-issued peddler's licenses

**Folder 3: Accounts,**

**Unit Date** 1856-1881 and undated

**Folder 4: Daily notes (folder 1),**

**Unit Date** 1863-1889 and undated

**Folder 5: Daily notes (folder 2),**

**Unit Date** 1863-1889 and undated

**Folder 6: Business philosophy,**

**Unit Date** 1863-1889 and undated

**Folder 7: Hired help,**

**Unit Date** 1868-1872

**Folder 8: Farming,**

**Unit Date** 1868-1875 and undated

**Folder 9: Clothing,**

**Unit Date** 1881-1888 and undated

**Folder 10: Miscellaneous,**

**Unit Date** 1856-1888 and undated,

**Scope and Content**

the majority are scraps of paper on which Patchin used for business calculations

## **Box 3**

**Poetry and Lyrics,**

**Unit Date** 1846-1880 and undated

**Folder 1: "Clothing Song" materials,**

**Unit Date** undated

**Folder 2: Darius Green and his Flying-Machine",**

**Unit Date** undated

**Folder 3: Various poems,**

**Unit Date** 1846-1880 and undated

**Public Lectures,**

**Unit Date** 1870-1898

**Lectures**

**Unit Date** 1870-1898

**Folder 4: "The Characteristics for the Highest Human Happiness,"**

**Unit Date** 1871

**Folder 5: "Variation and Variety,"**

**Unit Date** 1871

**Folder 6: "Miscellanies,"**

**Unit Date** 1883 and undated

**Folder 7: "Debate over the American Indian,"**

**Unit Date** 1898 and undated

**Folder 8: Crusades,**

**Unit Date** undated

**Folder 9: "Anecdotes,"**

**Unit Date** undated

**Folder 10: "A Little of Several Things,"**

**Unit Date** undated

**Folder 11: Order,**

**Unit Date** undated

**Folder 12: Various,**

**Unit Date** undated,

**Scope and Content**

Various lectures written by Patchin.

**Notes and Ephemera,**

**Unit Date** 1870-1882

**Folder 13: Notes and reflections,**

**Unit Date** 1870-1882 and undated

**Folder 14: Handbill notes,**

**Unit Date** 1871-1881

## **Box 4**

**Public Lectures, continued,**

**Unit Date** 1870-1879 and undated

**Notes and Ephemera, continued,**

**Unit Date** 1870-1879 and undated

**Folder 1: Temperance notes,**

**Unit Date** 1870-1879 and undated

**Folder 2: Printed handbills,**

**Unit Date** undated

## **Miscellaneous Materials,**

**Unit Date** undated

### **Folder 3: Miscellaneous materials,**

**Unit Date** undated

## **Bound Volumes,**

**Unit Date** 1829-1881 and undated

### **Folder 4: Newspaper clippings,**

**Unit Date** 1829 and undated

### **Folder 5: Notes and newspaper clippings,**

**Unit Date** 1859-1881 and undated

### **Folder 6: Notes,**

**Unit Date** undated

## **Photographs,**

**Unit Date** undated

### **Folder 7: Unidentified man,**

**Unit Date** undated,

**Scope and Content**

possibly Richard H. Patchin