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Papers of Governor Horace Fairbanks, 1876-1878

These papers consist of three bodies of material, two of them closely related. Of the latter, one is a bound book of transfer copies of Gov. Fairbanks' personally-written outgoing correspondence, Jan. 27, 1877-Sept. 14, 1878. The pages of this book, a few of which are loose, are generally arranged in chronological order and are numbered consecutively, 1-315. The transfer copies are generally legible but portions of many, particularly at the bottom, are very faint, even to the point of illegibility.

The related body of materials is items of incoming correspondence to the governor plus a scattering of printed items, Sept. 6, 1876-July 24, 1878. These are stored in file folders, arranged in chronological order and numbered, 316-384.

The following is an index to both the outgoing and incoming correspondence. It is reasonably comprehensive but entries were not made, either name or subject, for items the undersigned believed dealt with routine or insignificant matters. Liberal use of cross-references was made to minimize repeat listings of page numbers for both a name and related subject. N.B. Where a letter of Gov. Fairbanks refers to an incoming letter preserved in this collection, this relationship is shown by giving the number of the

latter in parentheses following the number of the former, e.g. 18(342). But note that many of the governor's outgoing letters respond to incoming correspondence which is missing from this collection, and that for many incoming letters, no letter of response by the governor is preserved here.

The third body of materials is a collection of Thanksgiving proclamations by governors of other states, 1876 and 1877. They are associated with Gov. Fairbanks' correspondence only by time but are preserved because some reveal conditions prevailing in other parts of the United States at that time. They are filed separately but in no particular order.

See also the Nye and Hagerman Indexes to the Manuscript Vermont State Papers for a scattering of other Fairbanks' correspondence. And for records of appointments made by Gov. Fairbanks see Executive Records, Volume 1.

Robert L. Hagerman
Assistant Editor of State Papers
Nov. 28, 1979

(The original of this description is with Gov. Fairbanks' papers.)

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