
Guide to the Adolph Sutro Papers, 1861-1899JL004

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General note

NOTE: The correspondence on the Sutro Tunnel contains letters written by Pelham Ames and R.S. Raw; many of these are directed to one another rather than to Sutro himself. Both men were secretaries to Adolph Sutro. With very few exceptions, all other correspondence is addressed to Sutro himself.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

This collection of his papers includes correspondence dealing with the construction of the Sutro Tunnel (1869-1896; with a possible date of 1867); applications for employment on the tunnel project (1873-1877) and in the Baths (1892-1895); personal bills (1869-1890); miscellaneous correspondence (1870-1895); miscellaneous papers and printed matter (1865-1889); and a safe book (1861-1899).

The correspondence dealing with the Sutro Tunnel is arranged in alphabetical order by author; with few exceptions all correspondence is addressed to Sutro. The number in parenthesis following each name indicates the number of letters written by that correspondent; when only one piece of correspondence is included, there is no such indication. The miscellaneous correspondence is also listed alphabetically, with each letter listed with date and a brief subject identification. A letter of particular interest in this group is one written by Cyrus Adler of the Smithsonian Institution; Adler was a Jewish scholar, educator and author, and wrote to Sutro in 1890 regarding a manuscript that Sutro possessed in his library. Certain personal letters, such as correspondence to Sutro from the schools that his children attended, are also included.

The large percentage of material pertaining to the Sutro Tunnel makes this collection of his papers particularly valuable to anyone interested in that important achievement; in addition, certain aspects of his character and personality are given some light through the varied miscellaneous correspondence.

BIOGRAPHY

Adolph Heinrich Sutro was born in Prussia in 1830. He came to the United States in 1850, to California in 1851, and to Nevada in 1860. Sutro was the mining engineer who planned the Sutro Tunnel, which was constructed through Mount Davidson to reach the Comstock lode. The tunnel was built between 1869 and 1878 and cost \$6,500,00 to build. In 1878 Sutro sold his interest in the tunnel and invested in San Francisco real estate, most notably the Cliff House and the Sutro Baths. He was elected mayor of San Francisco in 1894 for one term, and died in 1898.

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Provenance:

Gift of the Sutro family, date unknown

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Access Restrictions:

None.

Box 1, Folder 1

Miscellaneous correspondence (arranged alphabetically)

Cyrus Adler- of the Smithsonian Institution, re: MS is Sutro's library 1890

P.W. Amez- telegram copy, advice 1877

D.R. Ashley- suit against McCall 1870

Astronomical Society of the Pacific- from Chas. Burckhalter, Sec'y, notice of Sutro's election to the Society 1890

Mary P. Banks- re: her son 1872

G. Behrend- in German, 1887 Oct. 19 and Oct. 23

J.D. Bethel- personal requests, Sept 30, 1877 and Dec 2. 1879

F. Brandis & Co.- price of instruments, 1877

Murray Brothers- machine estimates, 1887

Daniel S. Brown- death of Dr. Reninger, 1877
California Electric Light Co.- answer 1887
W.C. Chapin- pipe measurements and prices 1890
E.B. Church- explanation of bill 1876
J.A. Church- reply to invitation 1877
Ellwood Cooper- letter of introduction 1889
Easton, Eldridge & Co.- San Francisco real estate 1889
Eisen & Stewart- (Gustav Eisen)- personal 1887
Geographical Society of the Pacific- from C.M. Grant, notice of Sutro's election to the Society- 1890
A. Goldsmith- information - - telegram, inquiry Sept 9, 1877; Sept 16, 1877
J. Habets- in German 1887
Catherine H. Hittell- Central Pacific RR. government ownership 1895
Holladay & Holladay- Calif. School of Mechanical Arts, 1890 Jan 21 and Jan 25
George Houston- stable bill 1887
J.W. Howland- electricity experiments 1877
H. Hunt- Bordeaux wines 1877
A. J. Hutchinson- wood order 1877
F.C. Innes & Co.- Vancouver real estate 1886
David Johnson- re: Edgar Sutro at school (son), (St. Matthew's Hall, San Mateo) , and 1877 Oct. 11 and Nov. 9 1877 Nov. 10
G.W. Johnson- real estate, (2) Oct 19, 1887
R.F. Kelker- death of Dr. Renninger 1877
A. Kemble- rare books collection offer 1886
C.R. Kerger- in German 1890
F. Von Leicht- transit instrument, sale 1887
Max Levy- subscription list to San Francisco Cremation Co. 1890 Jan 22 and Jan 26
A. Lincoln- magnesium lamps 1872
J. Livingston- request for deed 1877
Lyle- pedigree of Matt Gunn, Sutro's horse 1877
W.H. Martin- Olympic Club baseball park 1887
H.P. Merritt- mules 1877
Mrs. E.F. Mills- re: Rosa 1877
L.L. Mills- re: Rosa, daughter, (2 letters) 1887 Nov
Mrs. J.H. Mills- character of certain officials, 1877 Mar. 3-4
William Mooney- telegram for money 1877
J.G. Negley- invention to Patent Office 1877
J. Palamountain- stereoscope 1877
Henry Pennington- letters re: his disappearance
 1. notes
 2. I.O. Acton 1895
 3. Taylor Rogers Nov 22, 1895
 4. Taylor Rogers Nov 23, 1895
 5. I.O. Acton 1896
 6. Taylor Rogers 1896
F.P. Perkins- re: literary work 1886
J.B. Pitchford- estimates on machinery, 1877 and 1887
Lewis R. Price- personal note 1876
J.H. Raymond- (Vassar College), in re: to Sutro's daughter 1877
J.W. Reid- regret at not seeing Sutro 1890
G.A. Rerch, M.D.- in German 1877
Miss M. Reinhardt- pamphlet on the English & German Boarding and Day School 1873
R. Rickord- inquiry re: air compressing and drilling machinery 1877
William H. Rideing- elections 1877
G. Specht- in German - 1877 July and 1877 Oct.
C.D. Turk- telegram re: team of horses 1877
Robert Warner- notice of receipt of letter 1887
Henry A. Wasmuth- in German 1887

	<p>George H. Watson- request that Kate, Sutro's daughter be allowed to remain at Laurel Hall 1877 Mrs. G.H. Watson- instructions re- Kate's departure from Laurel Hall 1877 H. Werderman- instructions 1877 E.J. Wickson- info. on olives 1889 Wimmer & Co.- portrait of Sutro 1890 John B. Winters- -Water Commission 1877 George Woods & Co.- condensing process for dryrooms 1877 W.L. Woods- regret 1877 O.F. von Rhein & Co.- Golden Gate and Webster St. lots 1890</p>
Box 1, Folder 2	<p>Correspondence: George W. Merritt, reports to Sutro on real estate, taxes, conditions of his property. 1889 Feb 22-July 11,</p>
Box 1, Folder 3	<p>Personal bills - insurance, children's school bills, accommodations, clothing, etc. (chronological arrangement), 1869-August 1877</p>
Box 1, Folder 4	<p>Personal bills Sept 1877-1890</p>
Box 1, Folder 5	<p>Applications for employment: Sutro baths (chronological arrangement) 1892-1895</p>
Box 1, Folder 6	<p>Applications for employment: Sutro Tunnel (chronological arrangement) 1873-1877</p>
Box 1, Folder 7	<p>Correspondence re: Sutro Tunnel: Adamson to Billmeyer W.R. Adamson, agent 1887 Joseph Aird price list 1873 Alta Boiler Works 1872 Pelham W. Ames (19) Jan-March 1877 John Anderson 1872 W.G. Armstrong & Co. (2) diagrams (2) Sept-Oct 1873 Artesian Well Boring Tools- price list Atkins Brothers 1875 William Augerman April-May 1877 W.W. Bailey 1877 L.N. Baker 1877 Bandmann, Nielsen & Co. (2) form letter June, Dec 1875 Chas. Beer (12) Oct-Dec 1873 J.L. Bell (4) April-May 1876 Porter Bell & Co. 1872 William B. Bement 1872 F.A. Benjamin (8) Nov 1873-Feb 1874 William Berry 1877 E. Biddle (2) May, Dec 1877 Bigelow & Johnston 1872 Billmeyer & Smalls 1876</p>
Box 1, Folder 8	<p>Correspondence re: Sutro Tunnel: Bishop to Brown Victor Bishop & Co. 1877 H.C. Blanchard 1872 William Bohn 1877 M.J. Bolan 1877 D.J. Bousfield 1877 B.L. Brandt 1873 Henry L. Brevoort (3) June-August 1872 Lyman Bridges & Co. (8) March-Dec 1877 B.F. Brown 1878 Thomas Brown (proprietor of The Burleigh Rock Drill) (62) Oct 1873-March 1879</p>

Box 2, Folder 9

Correspondence re: Sutro Tunnel: Bounton to Burleigh
J.D. [Bounton?] 1874
C.H. Bryan 1877
Burleigh Rock Drill Co. (39) July 1870-Dec 1876

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Correspondence re: Sutro Tunnel: California Powder Works to Kruse & Euler
California Powder Works 1875
A.S. Cameron & Co. 1872
W.H. Cameron (Edinburgh & District Water Trust) (2) June, July 1873
Campbell 1869
Carroll & Snyder 1872
Lewis Chalmers 1877
Chaudoir 1873
Michael Chevalier 1877
A.R. Chisholm 1877
Arthur Chomaly 1877
G.M. Clements (2) Jan 1877
Cochrane, Grove & Co. 1873
L.W. Conn 1877
Co-operative Iron & Steel Works 1876
Cope & Maxwell Manufacturing Co. 1876
Craven Bros. 1874
Capt. C.B. Dahlgren 1877
Dana & Co., (2) May, July 1872
Charles S. Davis 1876
E.S. Davis 1877
Davis & Riker 1872
James Delavan 1877
Diamond Rock Boring Co. 1873
H.L. Dinker 1877
W. & B. Douglas 1877
George Driver 1877
Dubois & Francois (3) 1873
D.W. Earl 1872
A. Eilers 1877
Robert Fairlie (2) Nov 1873
Federated Trades and Labor Organization 1887
J.N. Flint 1877
William B. Frue (2) 1877
Edward Greene 1877
H.B. Hanmore (6) Feb-April 1877
Dennis Harrington 1877
C.N. Harris Dec (2) 1877
A.O. Harrison 1890
Harrison Boiler Works - Price list 1872
George L. Harvey 1877
Harvey & Co. 1873
Haskins Machine Co. 1872
J.E. Hilgard 1877
Charles L. Hoffmann 1876
Henry Howard & Co. Iron gas tube and fitting list 1873; 1872
Dr. J.W. Howland 1877
Joseph Hyman 1877
The Ingersoll Rock Drill Co. (3) 1874-1877
W.H. Jewell 1875
Owen Kelly 1877
Kelton & Thomas 1877

M.A. Kelton 1877
Kimball Manufacturing Co. 1872
Carl Kley Oct-Nov (3) 1873
John Knowles Fitting list 1873; 1871
Knowles Patent Steam Pump Works 1872
Kruse & Euler 1875

Box 2, Folder 11

Correspondence re: Sutro Tunnel: Lance to Office of Public Printer

George F. Lance 1876
Land Department 1877
[W.C.?] Lewis [1867?]
Lloyd & Lloyd (6); Iron gas tube and fitting list 1873
J.P. Loya 1877
George G. Lyon (4) 1872
J.W. Macdermott 1873
Robert Maclaren 1873
Charles G. Mann 1877
P. Marcelin 1876
Maschinenbau-Actien-Gesellschaft HUMBOLDT - vormals Sievers & Comp. (4) 1873
[P. Mauris?] 1875
J.W. Maxwell 1877
F.B. Mercer (10) 1876-1877
J.H.P. Merigold 1877
H.P. Merritt 1877
Milburn & Co. Ltd. Circular 1873;
J.G. Mitchell 1872
E.J. Moore 1887
J.C. Mormsey 1873
Henry G. Morris 1872
Morris, Tasker & Co. (6) 1872-1873
George M. Mowbray 1877
Francis Murphy 1877
Thomas McCloskey 1877
J. McCone 1872
Thomas McGill & Co. 1877
Thomas H. McGrath 1877
McKean & Co. 1876
William McLeod 1877
Narrow Gauge RR Construction & Supply Co. 1872
John [Newton?] 1872
Thad [Norris?] 1872
J.H. Nottage 1874
Parke & Lacy (3) 1876-1877
Pennsylvania Diamond Drill Co. 1872
Philadelphia & Reading RR Co. (2) 1873, 1876
T.E. Picotte (2) Oct, Nov 1876
W.S. Pinney 1872
Henry Pleasants (13) 1872-1873
Porter, Bell & Co. 1873
Lewis R. Price 1877
Public Printer, Office of 1877

Box 2, Folder 12

Correspondence re: Sutro Tunnel: Raggi to John Russell & Co.

Bernardo Raggi 1889
A.C. Rand 1872
R.S. Raw (22) 1876-1877
Henry Reid 1874

Garrett Reilly 1877
George Reuling, M.D. 1877
J.B. Reynolds (see also Ingersoll Rock Drill) (4) 1876-1877
W.H. Rideing 1877
R.S. Ripley 1873
E.A.L. Roberts 1876
I.B. Robertson 1877
Wilhelm Rose (2) 1877
Ross & Co. 1877
Root Steam Engine Co. 1872
P.R. and F.M. Roots Circular on rotary blowers 1872; 1869
Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. [1874?]
Charles Rulison 1877
John Russell & Co. 1873

Box 2, Folder 13

Correspondence re: Sutro Tunnel: Safford to Young

H.S. Safford 1873
Schmeisser, Wench & Co. 1874
Seligman 1877
F. Shanly (3) 1872-1873
Shellabarger & Wilson (8) 1875-1877
Shotts Iron Works 1873
James R. Smedberg 1879
Emma G. Smith 1877
H. Smith Jr. 1875
H.G. Smith & Co. 1872
George W. Snyder 1872-1873
C.H. Stegman 1877
J.H. Struckdinger 1877
[W?] Stursberg 1877
Sutro & Co. 1879
G.C. Thaxter 1877
B.B. Thayer 1877
William Thorpe 1877
Tipton & Pollock 1877
S.S. Townsend (3) 1872
Virginia and Truckee RR Co. (2) 1877
Union and Central Pacific RR Line (2) 1872
H. Hussey Vivian 1877
O.F. von Rhein & Co. 1890
Waring & Parke, Engineers 1872
R.W. Warren (Vulcan Powder Works) 1877
Franz Welter 1873
J.W. Willard 1875
Hon. J.A. Williamson (4) 1877
[Wilson, McLay & Co.?] 1873
James Woods 1877
W.L. Woods (2 letters, one re bill in the House of Representatives) 1877
Wright & Sanders, Architects 1886
Frank S. Young (4) 1877

Box 2, Folder 14

Miscellaneous papers re: Sutro Tunnel

Notes [1877?]
Memoranda
Summaries
Statements
Unidentified material

