

**Sturgis Library Archives
Town and Local History Collection**

F. B. Goss, Collector, District of Barnstable

MS. 91

Extent: 1 large box

Scope and Content Note: The collection consists of a bound presentation volume of signed presidential portraits and appointment certificates for F. B. Goss, Collector of Customs for Barnstable from July 8, 1876 to Aug. 8, 1887; and from Aug. 1, 1889 to Feb. 17, 1894 (15 years, 7 months.) In addition to his duties as Collector, Goss was also the publisher of *The Barnstable Patriot* and a number of other Cape Cod newspapers. The *Patriot* began publishing in 1830 under the editorial direction of Sylvanus Phinney. Goss bought out Phinney in 1869, and took over full control of the newspaper in 1870.

Included in this bound, embossed volume is a list of Collectors of Customs from 1789 to 1898; an engraved portrait of Goss; a list of bondsmen; a list of deputy Collectors; and the following:

- Appointment Certificate with original signature by Ulysses S. Grant, June 30, 1876
- Engraved portrait of Ulysses S. Grant with facsimile signature
- Appointment Certificate with original signature by Rutherford B. Hayes, June 17, 1880
- Engraved portrait of Rutherford B. Hayes with facsimile signature
- Engraved portrait of James Garfield with facsimile (?) signature
- Appointment Certificate with original signature by Chester A. Arthur, July 3, 1884
- Engraved portrait of Chester A. Arthur with facsimile signature
- Handwritten letter with original signature of Grover Cleveland, removing Goss from office of the Collector of Customs, July 26, 1887
- Appointment Certificate with original signature by Benjamin Harrison, July 20, 1889
- Appointment Certificate with original signature by Benjamin Harrison, January 4, 1890
- Engraved portrait of Benjamin Harrison with facsimile signature

Access: **Restricted. May not be photocopied.**

Acquisition: Source unknown.

Processed: Lucy Loomis, March 2009.