# Table of Contents

Collection Overview ........................................................................................................ 1  
Administrative Information .............................................................................................. 1  
Arrangement..................................................................................................................... 2  
Scope and Contents........................................................................................................... 2  
Biographical / Historical................................................................................................. 2  
Names and Subjects ......................................................................................................... 2  
Container Listing ............................................................................................................. 3  
    Series 1: Correspondence, 1852.................................................................................. 3
Collection Overview

Repository: Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title: Reuben Moffat Papers
Identifier: NMAH.AC.1101
Date: 1852
Extent: 0.15 Cubic feet (1 box)
Source: History of Technology, Division of, NMAH, SI
Moffat, Reuben
Work and Industry, Division of, NMAH, SI
Language: English
Summary: The collection documents personal correspondence between Reuben Moffat and his father, John Little Moffat. The materials consist primarily of letters written during the year 1852 and detail Reuben Moffat's attempts to obtain a patent for his electric gold washer and magnetic separator invention.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information
Source of acquisition unknown.

Collected for the National Museum of American History, Division of Engineering and Industry (now called the Division of Work and Industry.) Transferred to the Archives Center in 2007.

Provenance
Collection transferred from the Division of Engineering and Industry (now called the Division of Work and Industry) to the Archives Center in 2007. Previous provenance unknown.

Processing Information
Processed by Kendra Ciccone (intern), April 2010; supervised by Alison Oswald, archivist.

Preferred Citation

Restrictions
Collection is open for research.
Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

Biographical / Historical

Reuben Moffat of Brooklyn, New York, was an inventor seeking to obtain a patent for an "electric gold washer and magnetic separator", which he developed in the years following the Gold Rush. Whether this patent was ever obtained is not discernable from the papers in the collection.

Scope and Contents

Personal correspondence with Moffat's family members on the subject of family matters and of his invention of an electric and magnetic gold amalgamator and washer.

Arrangement

Collection is arranged into one series.

Series 1, Correspondence, 1852

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:
- Gold mines and mining
- Inventions -- 19th century
- Inventors -- 19th century

Types of Materials:
- Correspondence -- 19th century

Names:
- History of Technology, Division of, NMAH, SI
- Work and Industry, Division of, NMAH, SI
## Container Listing

Series 1: Correspondence, 1852

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 1</th>
<th>Letters from Reuben Moffat to John Little Moffat, his father, 1852 January</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 2</td>
<td>Letter from Reuben Moffat to John Little Moffat, 1852 February 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 3</td>
<td>Letter from Reuben Moffat to John Little Moffat, 1852 February 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 4</td>
<td>Letter from Reuben Moffat to John Little Moffat, 1852 March 4-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 5</td>
<td>Letter from Reuben Moffat to John Little Moffat, 1852 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 6</td>
<td>Letter from John Bernard to Reuben Moffat, inquiry response, 1852 March 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 7</td>
<td>Letter From Thomas Ewbanks/Patent Office to Reuben Moffat, 1852 March 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 8</td>
<td>Letter from Reuben Moffat to John Little Moffat, 1852 April 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 9</td>
<td>Letter from Reuben Moffat to John Little Moffat, 1852 May 23-24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 10</td>
<td>Letter from Reuben Moffat to John Little Moffat, 1852 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 11</td>
<td>Letter from Alex Barclay to John Little Moffat and letter from Reuben Moffat to John Little Moffat, 1852 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 12</td>
<td>Barclays Amalgamator drawing, description of A. Barclay's Gold Washer, and envelope, 1852 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Image(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 13</td>
<td>Letter from Reuben Moffat to John Little Moffat, 1852 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 14</td>
<td>Letter from Virginia and Reuben Moffat to John Little Moffat, and letter from Reuben Moffat to John Little Moffat, 1852 August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 15</td>
<td>Letter from Reuben Moffat to John Little Moffat, 1852 September 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 16</td>
<td>Letter from Reuben Moffat to John Little Moffat, 1852 October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 17</td>
<td>Letter from Reuben Moffat to John Little Moffat, letter from Alex Barclay to Reuben Moffat, letter from Reuben Moffat to Alex Barclay, 1852 November</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Box 1, Folder 18  Letters from Reuben Moffat to John Little Moffat, letters from Mr. Cook to Reuben Moffat, 1852 December

Return to Table of Contents