

89-A 735

COLLECTIONS OF CORRESPONDENCE AND MANUSCRIPT DOCUMENTS

NAME OF COLLECTION: RAILROADS - LETTERS ON STATE AID and DOCUMENTS

SOURCE: Purchase from Paul North, Jr. - July, 1953
Gift of Kenneth Rendell, 1973, 1975, 1976

SUBJECT: The practice and history of aid to railroads in 17 states
up to the mid 19th century; articles of incorporation and
stock certificates for a great variety of railroads

DATES COVERED: ca. 1840-1930 NUMBER OF ITEMS: ca. ~~250~~ 300

STATUS: (check appropriate description)
Cataloged: Listed: Arranged: X Not organized:

CONDITION: (give number of vols., boxes, or shelves)
Bound: Boxed: 2 Stored:

LOCATION: (Library) Rare Book & Manuscript CALL-NUMBER Ms Coll
Railroads

RESTRICTIONS ON USE

DESCRIPTION: This collection consists of 37 letters written in reply to a questioner sent out by the Philadelphia attorneys, Campbell, Reall, Foster, Bright, and Dallas, in regard to the case of Sharpless et al. vs. The Mayor, Aldermen, and Citizens of Philadelphia in 1853. The case, which was a proceeding in equity before the Supreme Court of the State of Pennsylvania, was an attempt to enjoin the city from subscribing to stock in certain railroad companies, on the ground that the laws authorizing such subscriptions were unconstitutional. The questioner requested information of an authentic character on the following:

- 1/ subscriptions to stock, loans, or guarantees made by the state or by counties, towns, villages, cities, etc. within the state to Railroads, canals, roads, bridges, etc.
- 2/ The names of municipal corporations or other agents making loans, grants, or subscriptions, the names of the railroads, etc. receiving such loans, the dates and amounts of such loans, the laws under the terms of which such loans have been made, and dates and locations of such laws.
- 3/ any decisions on the constitutionality of such laws, loans, etc. and their location.
- 4/ the name and residence of the state reporter and state printer and the form in which the state laws are printed and information on how copies of the laws might be obtained.

These letters of reply contain this information for 17 states (New Hampshire,

Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, Arkansas, Virginia, Kentucky, North Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama, Maine, and Louisiana) The letters, for the most part, give brief but full accounts of the history, legislation, and policy of aid to railroads by local governments in these states up to 1853, the year in which all of the letters are dated. The letters were written by state officials and functionaries and are all in script of the clarity of mid-19th-century legal hands.

JAN 1955

1973 Addition: The articles of incorporation for the following West Virginia railroads have been added to the collection:

1. Clarksburg, Weston and Glenville Railroad and Transportation Company
2. Weston and Buckhannon Railroad Company
3. Weston and Elk River Railroad Company
4. Weston and West Fork Railroad Company
5. Buckhannon River Railroad Company

The first four of these railroads merged into the Clarksburg, Weston and Midland Railroad Company. The last railroad (no. 5) joined with the Clarksburg, Weston and Midland Railroad Company and merged into the West Virginia and Pittsburgh Railroad Company. The papers for all of these consolidations are also included in this addition.

ELJ

19 March 1973

Rendell Gifts (1973, 1975, 1976)

Railroad Stock Certificates - 3 folders

Revised 12-20-76 Brc

Transfer from General Library

Scrapbooks: The Great Erie Railway War, 1868 newspaper clippings
The New York Central... Sample Railroad Tickets, ca. 1900.

Rev. 11/1/78 Brc