

## The John Albion Andrew Papers, 1860 – 1918

**Repository:** Hingham Public Library  
**Creator:** John Albion Andrew  
**Quantity:** 1 document box  
**Processed by:** Bob Malme  
**Access:** Open for Research  
**Related Materials:** Bicentennial Collection

### Provenance

This collection contains published speeches of, or about, John Albion Andrew (1818-1867), Governor of Massachusetts, 1861-1866 and resident of Hingham from 1848 to 1867. This is an artificial collection, having been collected and assembled by John Richardson in the mid-twentieth century. It was donated in 1976 and 1980 as part of the Bicentennial Collection.

### Biographical Note

John Albion Andrew was born May 31, 1818 in Windham, Maine. He graduated from Bowdoin College in 1837 and later trained as an attorney in Boston in the offices of Henry H. Fuller. After being admitted to the bar in 1840, he practiced law as a partner in the offices of Theophilus P. Chandler at the corner of Court and Washington Streets. He discovered Hingham through his wife, Eliza Jones Hersey (b. 1826) and fell in love with the town and its people. The couple was married in the town on December 24, 1848 and settled into a house, first on Main Street near Water Street, and later on Summer Street where they resided during the summer and fall months, wintering in a house on Charles Street in Boston after buying it in 1855. Four of their five children were born in Hingham, they were Charles Albion (1849-1850), John Forrester (b. 1850), Elizabeth Loring (b. 1852) and Edith (b. 1854). Their final child, Henry Hersey (b. 1858) was born in Boston.

Never active in politics as a young man, he became so in reaction to the passage of the Fugitive Slave Act in 1850 when allied himself with those supporting the abolitionist movement. He chaired the meeting that established the Republican Party in Massachusetts in 1855. In 1857, Andrew won election as a representative in the Massachusetts Legislature and quickly became its leading abolitionist voice. Following John Brown's 1859 raid on Harper's Ferry, Virginia, Andrew helped organize legal aid for Brown. He ran for governor as the nominee of the Republicans and was elected to the post in November 1860. His time in office largely corresponded with that of the Civil War during which time he worked tirelessly for the Union cause and is known for being one of the first governors to send troops to defend Washington, DC at the start of the war in 1861, and for approving the first regiment of African American soldiers, the 54<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts, after the Emancipation Proclamation was issued in 1863. He left the governor's office and returned to law practice in January 1866, turning down an appointment of Port Collector for the City of Boston from President Andrew Johnson, but intending to remain active in politics. He died suddenly though at age 49 in Boston of a stroke on October 30, 1867. First buried at Mount Auburn Cemetery, his body was moved to the Hingham Cemetery in 1869. Proud citizens of Hingham, and others who knew him, helped raise money for a statue at his grave site, which was dedicated in October 1875.[1]

## **Scope and Content Note**

This collection is composed of two bound volumes of speeches and six folders of speeches and published works by, or about, John Albion Andrew. It includes materials gathered at the dedication of the Hingham Cemetery statue dedication in 1875 and a biographical pamphlet issued on the centennial of his birth in 1918.

## **Arrangement**

This collection is organized into the following series:

- Series I. Published Speeches, 1860-1867
- Series II. Published Works About, 1862, 1918
- Series III. Hingham Cemetery Statue Dedication Materials, 1875-1878

### **Series I. Published Speeches, 1860 – 1867**

Box 1 Bound Volumes A and B, Folders 1 to 3

This series includes published speeches of John A. Andrew when he was running for, serving as, and later as former, governor of Massachusetts. The two bound volumes are the official legislative record of his speeches from 1860 to 1867. Volume A also has speeches he made before the 1860 Republican Convention, and while governor at the Inauguration of Harvard President Thomas Hill in 1863, from a speech before the New England Horticultural Society in Springfield in 1864, at the dedication of the Ladd and Whitney Monument in 1865, and to the Agricultural Society of Vermont at Brattleboro in 1866, and as former governor at the Annual Meeting of the New England Historic-Genealogical Society in Boston in January 1867, and an argument on The Errors of Prohibition before the Joint Special Committee of the General Court of Massachusetts in April 1867. The volume also contains correspondence between Governor Andrew and General Benjamin Butler in 1862, first published in the Boston Post. Volume B contains Governor Andrew's annual January speeches before the legislature from 1861 to 1866 and a valedictory address upon leaving office later in January 1866. The three folders contain published speeches delivered in Hingham and Boston as Republican nominee for governor and submitted to the Senate Committee investigating the events surrounding John Brown's Raid at Harper's Ferry, Virginia in 1860; two additional bound copies of his January 6, 1865 speech before the Massachusetts legislature, and an additional copy of his speech to the Vermont Agricultural Society in 1866.

### **Series II. Published Materials, 1862, 1918**

Box 1 Folders 4 and 5

This series contains published works about John Albion Andrew both while serving as governor and posthumously. The published work while he was governor is a pamphlet entitled 'The Conspiracy To Defame Governor Andrew' written by 'Warrington' reviewing the speeches by a 'people's convention' held by opponents of the governor on October 7, 1862. The posthumous publication is 'John A. Andrew' written by James Freeman Clarke in 1918, the centennial anniversary of John Albion Andrew's birth. The author was an acquaintance of Andrew's first meeting him as a member of his church in September 1841. The booklet was published by Geo. H. Ellis Co. and is 52 pages in length.

### **Series III. Hingham Cemetery Statue Dedication Materials, 1875-1878**

Box 1 Folder 6

This series contains a program and a published booklet relating to the dedication of the Governor John A. Andrew statue in the Hingham Cemetery on October 7, 1875 and an account of the organization and members of the John A. Andrew Monument Association. The Dedication was proceeded by a procession along Main Street that passed by the statue in the cemetery and then went to Old Ship Church, where the dedicatory ceremony was held. Members of the procession included the Vice-President of the United States, most members of the Massachusetts executive branch, state legislators, Hingham Selectmen, officers of the G.A.R. and other invited guests. The Chief Marshall for the ceremony was John C. Whiton and aids included Major Lyman B. Whiton, Captain Augustus Sampson, Captain Lemuel Pope, and Paymaster Charles H. Boardman. Besides text of the speeches given at the ceremony the booklet also contains a couple 1870's photos of the statue, and the surrounding cemetery grounds that includes a view looking north from the cemetery across the Mill Pond. The inside front of the booklet is signed by J. S. Smith and bears the date November 13, 1878. The booklet was published in Boston in 1878 by the John A. Andrew Monument Association and is 55 pages in length. The folder also contains an envelope with a quote from a John Albion Andrew speech in 1866.

Note: A more substantial collection of John Albion Andrew papers, consisting of 25 boxes of loose manuscripts and 16 bound volumes of letterbooks, scrapbooks, and miscellaneous records, can be found at the Massachusetts Historical Society in Boston, under Call Number Ms. N-728.

[1] Additional material for the biographical sketch material was obtained from a Wikipedia article, John Albion Andrew, URL address: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John\\_Albian\\_Andrew](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Albian_Andrew) downloaded 3/19/14.