

CIVIL WAR AND RECONSTRUCTION: THE MAKING OF MODERN AMERICA

Series One: The Papers of Jay Cooke (1821-1905)

from the Historical Society of Pennsylvania

Part 3: General Correspondence, January 1868-April 1870

DETAILED LISTING

(Most letters are addressed to Jay Cooke, unless otherwise indicated below).

Reel 41

Dates: January-February 1868

Principal and most interesting correspondence

- to and from Henry Cooke (“HDC” or “Harry”), Washington DC. Henry and Jay exchange letters on various financial and political issues; 1) liquidity of their banks, see Henry’s letters dated 15 and 16 January. 2) Committee and press investigations into their financial conduct and relationship with the Secretary of the Treasury, see Henry’s letters dated 7, 12, 17, 21, 26, 28 February, and Jay’s letters dated 11, 24, 27 February 3) Bills against the National Banks, see Henry’s letter dated 28 January in which he states “I have worked hard to kill the bill in the committee” and Jay’s letters dated 29 January. 4) Attempts to pass a new Loan Bill, see Henry’s letter dated 18 January in which he states “At Sherman’s request, I have been over the loan bill, with your and Fahney’s annotations”. 5) Discussions on donating \$5,000 to the Republican Party at request of W. E. Chandler and the possible benefits to the Cookes, see Henry’s letters dated 29, 31 January and 1 February and extracts below. Also see Jay’s letter dated 7 January in which he relates to Henry how in response to W. B. Sloan’s enquiry as to whether National Bankers would support Chase for President, he replied that he “had nothing to do with politics”.
- from H. C. Fahnestock (“HCF” or “Fahney”), New York, regarding the inefficient running of the banks in the previous year and accounting rules. See letters dated 7 and 24 January.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York., reporting the reduced banking profits of the previous year, the large amount of begging letters he receives and selling gold. See letters dated 3, 13, 16 and 17 January.
- from W. S. Huntington, 1st National Bank, Washington DC.
- from Samuel Wilkeson, New York Tribune. Wilkeson responds to Jay Cooke’s request for him to repay some of his outstanding loan, by relating how he had “saved” the Cooke’s \$200,000 by influencing the outcome of a Committee investigation into their banking procedures. See letter dated 18 January and extract below.
- from William E. Chandler, Treasury Department, Washington DC, requesting the Cooke’s to donate funds to Grant’s Presidential campaign with the potential reward of patronage from the future government. See letters dated 28 and 31 January and 12 February, and extract below.
- from H. R. Halburd, Treasury Department, Washington DC, informing Jay Cooke of how each Committee member stands on Samuel J. Randall’s Anti National Bank Bill. See letter dated 20 January.
- from L. L. Crouse or “Star”, House of Representatives, Washington DC, informing Jay Cooke of the “key” he will use to communicate the proceedings in Congress and subsequent reports on the Impeachment of the President. See letters and telegraphs dated 10, 11, 12, 17, 23, 24 and 26 February.
- from Lockwood, providing further details of impeachment proceedings. See telegraph dated 26 February.

- from Chief Justice S. P. Chase, Washington DC. See letter dated 11 January.
- from W. B. Sloan, Attorney and Real Estate Agent, Ohio, enquiring if National Banks and Bankers will support Chase's Presidential campaign. See letter dated 3 January.
- from A. B. Nettleton, Sandusky Register, regarding newspaper matters and the debate on greenbacks versus gold. See letter dated 30 January.
- from P. Justice, Philadelphia, regarding a deal for 600 tons of steel from Jay Cooke's business. See letter dated 8 January.
- from W. Cranwell, Real Estate broker, Omaha, Nebraska, regarding land deals in Minnesota and along the Union Pacific Railroad.
- from W. J. Barney, land agent, Chicago. See letter dated 18 January
- from William Lloyd, ex soldier, can't live off \$4 pension due to wounds received during Civil War. See letter dated 1 January.
- from D. Miller, Rectory, Frankford, relating how he has distributed \$500 donation from Jay Cooke. See letter dated 1 January
- from W. H. B. Hartley, New York, informing Jay Cooke that "good reliable Railroad bonds can be sold" in London. See letter dated 14 January.
- from J. Black, State Temperance Union, Philadelphia. See letter dated 17 January.
- from O. O. Howard, Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, War Department, Washington DC, reporting how Jay Cooke's \$3,000 donation could be spent on the starving and homeless in the South.
- from W. L. Banning, Lake Superior Railroad Co. See letters dated 23 and 31 January.
- from Isaac Sturgeon, North Mississippi Railroad Co., regarding land around the railroad. See letter dated 14 February.
- from W. H. Van Nortwick, Revenue Inspector's Office, New Jersey, asking for Jay Cooke's support in his plan to raise more revenue from liquor tax. See letter dated 14 February.
- from various churchmen, D. Miller and J. Taylor, Cobalt; S. W. Thomas, G. Mead and R. J. Parvin, Philadelphia; Lewis Henry, New York; S. N. Sanford, Ohio.

Key topics include

- Committee and press investigations into Cooke's financial conduct and relationship with the Secretary of the Treasury is strongly defended. S. Wilkeson relates how the political machine can be influenced. See extract below.
- Finance Bills in Congress, including S. J. Randall's Bill against the National Banks and a new Loan Bill. Henry Cooke attempts to use his contacts in Washington to influence proceedings.
- Discussions on and subsequent donation of \$5,000 to the Republican Party at request of W. E. Chandler and the possible benefits to the Cookes. See extracts below.
- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke, and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs of the bank, including the need to limit large liabilities.
- Continuing proceedings in Congress regarding the impeachment of the President and the Presidential ambitions of Chase and Grant.
- Land and Railroad investments, including the North Missouri and Warren and Franklin Railroad Companies.
- Other topics include church matters and Jay Cooke's numerous charitable donations

Extract from Henry Cooke's letter to Jay Cooke dated 29 January 1868 from Washington DC
"...He and W. both said that the sub'n of \$5,000 made now would be gratefully remembered and that it was of vital importance that it be made promptly...Chandler urged strongly that this timely donation would give us a hold upon Grant's administration (if he sh'd be the nominee) which nothing else could give us – that we could give it without compromising ourselves with Gov. Chase – as it would be given not in the interest of any particular

Presidential Candidate...I will only say by way of suggestion – that bad as is the prospect with our present stupid Congress, it would be much better with a friendly President...”

Extract from W. E. Chandler’s letter to Jay Cooke dated 28 January 1868 from Washington DC

“...we haven’t, unfortunately, the patronage of this administration although we placed it in power. We shall have however the patronage & power of the next; and whoever helps us in this emergency, with the knowledge of those who are to be in power, to save New Hampshire and the country from the curse of copperhead rule; shall be remembered hereafter to the extent of my ability and influence with those who authorize me to act...”

Extract from S. Wilkeson’s letter to Jay Cooke dated 18 January 1868

“...The Chairman was instructed to report on a resolution requesting the Attorney general to bring a suit against your Bank to recover the \$200,000.

The resolution was reduced to writing and the Chairman stood in the front of the Speaker’s desk to offer it. The misfortune was boldly and promptly averted He was decoyed from the floor of the House and held in conversation in a corridor till the opportunity to offer it was lost on the regular order of business...Delays were then prepared to wear out the hostile feeling in the Committee room. Then Randall’s absence in Philadelphia was waited and watched for – when it occurred, the report of the Committee was flung into the House and your bank was saved...”

Reel 42

Dates: March-April 1868

Principal and most interesting correspondence

- to and from Henry Cooke (“HDC” or “Harry”), Washington DC. Henry and Jay exchange letters on various financial and political issues; 1) Congressional resolution raised by General Logan to investigate into their financial conduct and the amount of commission made by the Cooke’s selling government bonds and gold, see Henry’s letters dated 19, 20, 24, 25 & 26 March, and Jay’s letters dated 23 & 27 March 2) Start of Impeachment trial against President Johnson, see Henry’s letters dated 6, 7 March 15 & 27 April, and Jay’s letters dated 5 & 6 March. 3) Debate with Sherman whether to repay government loans in gold or greenbacks, see Henry’s letters dated 2, 4 & 21 March, and Jay’s letters dated 2 March (to Sherman) & 3 March. Also see Henry’s letter to Jay dated 17 March relating how he had a train compartment “all alone, the same, the conductor said, which he always gives to you”.
- from H. C. Fahnestock (“HCF” or “Fahney”), New York, regarding banking and trading.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding family and business matters, including an Anglo-American Oil Company venture, see letters dated 11 & 14 April; and 14 March reporting the receipt of 200 “very fine Africaine” cigars that Jay Cooke had requested for the “General”.
- from William E. Chandler, Treasury Department, Washington DC, outlining details of the commissions made by Jay Cooke & Co. in bond and gold sales (\$6,873,934.96 & \$293,782.00). See letter dated 23 April.
- from Jay Cooke & Co., Washington DC, providing an addition to the telegraph cipher key e.g. Allen Andover = buy. See letter dated 18 March.
- from L. L. Crouse or “Star”, House of Representatives, Washington DC, informing Jay Cooke on Impeachment and Congressional proceedings. See letters and telegraphs dated 3, 9, 16 & 24 March and 8, 27 & 30 April.

- from Ed. McPherson, House of representatives, Washington DC, reporting to Jay Cooke on the resolution by Logan to investigate commissions. See letter dated 18 March.
- from Secretary McCulloch, Treasury Department, Washington DC, requesting figures on Gold sales and commissions in 1864. See letter dated 2 April.
- from William Smith, Senate Chamber, Pennsylvania, promoting the National Insurance Bill. See letter dated 1 April.
- from F. H. Evans, London, chasing Anglo-Oil Co. to remove Jay Cooke's name from unsolicited publicity
- from S. Marks, Huron, thanking Jay Cooke for letting him know his son had asked him for a loan, stating he was "once proud of that boy". See letter dated 7 March.

Key topics include

- Congressional Resolution raised by General Logan, supported by S. J. Randall and Drexell, and the Ledger newspaper, investigating the level of commission paid to Jay Cooke & Co. for selling government bonds and gold. The Treasury Department and the Cookes defend their conduct. See extract below.
- Proceedings in Congress: Start of Impeachment trial of President Johnson; National Insurance Bill and general committee business. See extract below.
- Debate between Jay Cooke and Sherman over the right to repay government loans in greenbacks. Cooke wanted them to be paid in gold as originally promised
- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke, and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs of the bank.
- Land and Railroad investments, including the North Missouri Railroad bonds and tax.
- Other topics include church matters, Gas works in Washington and Jay Cooke's numerous charitable donations

Extract from Henry Cooke's letter to Jay Cooke dated 6 March 1868 from Washington DC

"...You will see by the papers that gov. Chase 'though better of it,' and took his seat yesterday promptly, as presiding officer of the High Court of Impeachment. – There will probably be a delay of a week or ten days after the organisation of the Court...to give the President time to consult council etc. and the trial will last at least a month, and no one can tell how much longer. It is very doubtful whether there will be much genuine legislation until the trial is over...for there is little doubt that the President will be deposed, and Wade put in his place..."

Extract from Jay Cooke's letter to Henry Cooke dated 24 February 1868 from Philadelphia

"...I consider Logan's remarks as a direct insult which ought to be met at once...The question of employing another person to act for the treasury Department is another matter and if Congress wishes the Secretary to abandon the policy which has prevailed since the commencement of the war we have no complaint to make. We can get along without them if they can get along without us, but I am determined that these attacks upon our honour and our integrity shall be met at once, and indignantly...It is hard that a gallant soldier like General Logan should lend himself to injure the very parties that stood by him and his fellow soldiers, and raised the means for their payment when these very men who are now hounding him on to attack our character and reputation stood by, and speculated in gold and did all they could do negatively to break up the Union..."

Reel 43

Dates: 1 May-30 June 1868

Principal and most interesting correspondence

- to and from Henry Cooke (“HDC” or “Harry”), Washington DC. Henry and Jay exchange letters on various financial and political issues; 1) Impeachment trial against President Johnson, see Henry’s letters dated 4, 15, 16 & 18 May, and Jay’s letters dated 12 & 18 May. 2) S. P Chase running for Democratic nomination, and Republican Convention in Chicago, see Henry’s letters dated 23 & 27 May and 2 & 6 June, and Jay’s letters dated 30 May & 4 June. 3) New loan Bill, urgent sale of shares and lucrative sale of Georgetown Bank, see Henry’s letters dated 25 & 26 May, and Jay’s letters dated 4, 5 & 26 May 4) Also see Henry’s letter to Jay dated 12 May and 24 June regarding the death of their sister Sarah and rumours of McCulloch’s resignation.
- from H. C. Fahnestock (“HCF” or “Fahney”), New York, regarding banking and impeachment. See letter dated 16 May with printed telegram reporting a not guilty verdict in the impeachment trial.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding family and business matters.
- from W. E. Chandler, Treasury Department, Washington DC, regarding impeachment and funding for Grant and Colfax campaign. See letters dated 2 May, 14 June and extract below.
- from W. S. Huntington, 1st National Bank, Washington DC, assuring Jay Cooke that he has not beed “gambling” with stocks. See letters dated 1 & 6 May.
- from L. L. Crouse or “Star”, House of Representatives, Washington DC, informing Jay Cooke on Impeachment proceedings. See letters and telegraphs dated 4, 5, 7, 11, 12, 15 & 16 May and extract below.
- from H. Flynt, Jay Cooke & Co., Washington DC, regarding stocks. See letter dated 7 May.
- from Secretary McCulloch, Treasury Department, Washington DC, relating the pressure that he has been put under in the previous months. See letter dated 4 May in which he states “believe me when I say that I am exceedingly anxious to be relieved from the cares and responsibilities of the Treasury Department”.
- from Henry D. Moore, Preston Coal, Philadelphia, relating news of the coal industry and his \$40,000 debt due to investments with Jay Cooke. See letters dated 5 & 14 May and 5 June.
- from W. G. Neilson, Elizabeth Town, regarding mining investments. See letter dated 5 June.
- from William Merredith, regarding Union Pacific Railroad bonds See letter dated 12 May.
- from C. H. Clark, National Life insurance Company, Philadelphia. See letter dated 10 June.

Key topics include

- Exciting updates by letter and telegraph of Impeachment trial of President Johnson, which remained a close decision until the final vote. See extract below. Jay Cooke wrote to his brother on 18 May “we are all in gloom about the failure of Impeachment”.
- Contest for future Presidential nominations. Chief Justice Chase aligns himself with the Democratic Party, while Henry and Jay Cooke support the Grant and Colfax ticket at the Republican Convention in Chicago. Henry Cooke had regular contact with both Chase and Grant, sometimes on the same night. In his letter to Jay, dated 27 May he relates how “[Grant] had handily gone before Gov. Chase called”. See extracts below
- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke, and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs of the bank. Jay pushes his partners to urgently sell shares and for his brother to “push” the potentially lucrative sale of the Georgetown Bank.
- Progress of a new 5% loan bill and charter for National Insurance Company.

- Land, Mining and Railroad investments, including Cleveland, Columbus & Cincinnati Railroad Co., Union Pacific Railroad, Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad, and Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad.
- Other topics include illness and eventual death of the Cooke's sister Sarah, church matters.

Extract from "Star"'s letter to Jay Cooke dated 7 May 1868 from Washington DC

"...Dear Sir, the Senate at 4p.m. is still in secret session on the order limiting debate on the final issue, and not on the issue itself. The anxiety and excitement as to the result is very great. The confidence of both sides is wonderfully strong – particularly that of the intimate friends of the President. One of his secretaries bet one hundred dollars last night on acquittal, and says the President has information which leads him to anticipate a favourable result by a vote which he believes will astonish the country ..."

Extract from Henry Cooke's letter to Jay Cooke dated 23 May 1868 from Washington DC

"...I like the work done at Chicago. Colfax is a far better man than Wade, and the resolutions are stronger for the maintenance of the public faith than I had hoped – and I think we can claim some credit for that. I'll tell you why and how some time..."

Extract from W. E. Chandler's letter to Henry Cooke dated 14 June 1868 from Washington DC

"...The insurance bill still remains on the Speaker's table - it cannot remain there much longer.

Please confer with Jay while in Philadelphia as to the subscription which you will give to the nat'l committee to help elect Grant & Colfax. You know I am bound to confer with you on the subject & - after it is arranged to protect & defend you...How much more than \$10,000 can you go – can you give double that to elect Grant & Colfax being protected from other demands.

Give my love to Mr Jay Cooke & believe me ..."

Reel 44

Dates: 1 July – 8 August 1868

Principal and most interesting correspondence

- to and from Henry Cooke ("HDC" or "Harry"), Washington DC. Henry and Jay exchange letters on various financial and political issues; 1) Progress of Insurance Bill through the Senate and signed by the President, with help from J. K. Moorhead & Colfax, and accusations of monopoly, see Henry's letters dated 3, 22 & 25 July 2) S. P. Chase failure to gain the Democratic Presidential nomination, see Henry's letters dated 7, 9 & 22. 3) also see Jay's letter dated 6 July refusing to give any money to the Grant campaign if they advocated the repudiation of the National Debt; and Jay's letter to S. P. Chase dated 15 July regarding business and politics.
- from Henry Cooke to H. C. Fahnestock, explaining the overdraft at the Washington Branch and belatedly requesting him not to tell Jay Cooke before he has a chance to do so himself. See letter dated 1 July.
- from H. C. Fahnestock ("HCF" or "Fahney"), New York, complaining of poor performance of Washington branch stating how he was "heartily tired of watching the things there". See letters dated 1, 2 & 20 July.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding family and business matters, including a strike at the Preston Coal Company and complaints about Jay Cooke telling New York branch when to sell stocks. See letters dated 9 & 10 July.

- from J. K. Moorhead, Senator, Pittsburgh, requesting more time from Jay Cooke to repay a loan, stock investments and explaining his vote in favour of the Insurance Bill. See letters dated 15, 17 & 21 July & 7 August and extract below.
- from L. L. Crouse or “Star”, House of Representatives, Washington DC, informing Jay Cooke on proceedings in Congress, including a proposed tax on bonds and Randall back to attempt to abolish National Banks. See letter dated 7 July.
- from Lewis Gunckal, National Asylum for Volunteer Soldiers, Dayton , Ohio, regarding Jay Cooke’s decision to withdraw his time. See letter dated 13 July.
- from Anson Burlingame, American Diplomatic Minister to China, Washington DC, accepting an invitation from Jay Cooke.
- from Samuel Wilkeson, Bridgehampton, see his flamboyant letter dated 7 August urging Jay Cooke to write down his own history of the Civil War else he would not be done justice.
- from R. J. Parvin, Pennsylvania, regarding church matters.

Key topics include

- The progress of the Insurance Company Bill through Congress to receiving the President’s signature. The Cooke’s call on the assistance of “friends” including Colfax and J. K. Moorhead and faced accusations of monopoly. The Cooke’s and W. E. Chandler become Directors of the new National Insurance Company.
- Chief Justice S. P. Chase’s failure to win the Democratic Party’s Presidential nomination.
- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs of the bank.
- Railroad investments, including the Sterling Iron and Railroad Co. and Pennsylvania Canal Co.
- Other topics include church and charity matters.

Extract from Henry Cooke’s letter to Jay Cooke dated 22 July 1868 from Washington DC

“...the Insurance bill passed the House precisely as it came from the Senate, after a sharp fight, by nearly a two-thirds vote – 90 to 52 – It was opposed violently by some of the friends of other interests, but Randall was absent when it came up, and we had our friends all ready for the final vote... we had our forces well marshalled, and the result showed that we had done right in not pushing the bill out of order – Painter reports that when he went to Gen’l Moorhead (whom he found voting against us in the preliminary motions) and reminded him that this was our bill – he was met with the reply that he ‘had no interest in the bill’ etc. etc....”

Extract from J. K. Moorhead’s letter to Jay Cooke dated 7 August 1868 from Pittsburgh

“...As for the remark coming from Painter, I recollect of his coming to me just as I came out of Committee room, and saying the Insurance Bill was up. Says I is this Jay Cooke’s Bill, and he said yes – I told him I was for it. It came up suddenly, was not discussed and passed very quickly...”

Reel 45

Dates: 8 August – 30 September 1868

Principal and most interesting correspondence

- to and from Henry Cooke (“HDC” or “Harry”), Washington DC. Henry and Jay exchange letters on various financial and political issues, including the success of the National Insurance Company and the demand for its stocks. See letter dated 15

August and extract below. Henry went to Europe on 5 September and wrote from Genoa on 17 September.

- from H. C. Fahnestock (“HCF” or “Fahney”), London, on holiday and business. He reports that “In London business does move as rapidly as with us”. See letters dated 17, 29 & 30 September.
- from Pitt Cooke, Sandusky, Ohio and New York, regarding family and business matters.
- from J. K Moorhead, Senator, Pittsburgh, regarding investments. See letters dated 21 & 29 August.
- from William E. Chandler, Treasury Department, Washington DC, regarding the Presidential race and requests for its funding. See letters dated 5, 11 & 19 September.
- from D. Hudson, Preston Coal Company, requesting help for two miners disabled in an accident. See letters dated 19 August and 1 September.
- from W. G. Neilson, Elizabethtown, regarding iron works. See letter dated 24 August.
- from C. H. Clark, National Insurance Company, Philadelphia.
- from G. Trask, Stitchling, campaigning against alcohol and tobacco on health and psychological grounds. See letter dated 25 August.
- from G. E. Sickes, National Temperance Society, Publication House, requesting Jay Cooke to be an honorary life director as he his already a subscriber. See letter dated 4 September.
- from Charles Fulton, President of republican State Central Committee, Baltimore. See letter dated 27 August.
- from J. Russell Young, New York Tribune, requesting Jay Cooke to hand him ‘a point in the financial question’. See letter dated 31 August.
- from Barton Bates, President of North Missouri Railroad Co., regarding bonds. See letter dated 1 September.
- from A. B. Nettleton, Sandusky Register, regarding notice for National Insurance Company. See letter dated 9 September.
- from H. C. Swain, Jay Cooke & Co., Washington DC, regarding banking business.

Key topics include

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs of the bank. It is a quiet period. Congress is on Summer break, Fahnestock and Henry Cooke travel to Europe.
- National Life Insurance Company starts successfully and there is a strong demand for shares, including requests from Secretary of Treasury McCulloch, who also asks Jay Cooke if his son can become an agent. See extract below.
- Funding for the Presidential election.
- Railroad investments, Iron and Coal works, church and charity matters.

Extract from Henry Cooke’s letter to Jay Cooke dated 15 August 1868 from Washington DC
“...Everybody wants stock in the Ins Co.! Sec’y McC [Secretary of Treasury McCulloch] wants some! And said I must write you to let him in! He also says his son at Fort Wayne would like an agency, and he wants him to have it. – says he knows everybody in that part of the State and is an active, energetic fellow, and a tip top business man. His name is Charles McCulloch...”

Reel 46

Dates: October – November 1868

Principal and most interesting correspondence

- from H. C. Fahnestock (“HCF” or “Fahney”), London and Paris. Attempts to sell Railroad bonds is unsuccessful due to the economic climate and fear of war in Europe. He also reports on the sale of 11,000 tons of iron, prospects for a London branch and the his feelings following the death of one of his children. See letters dated 3, 7, 10, 17, 21, 28 & 29 October, and 3 & 6 November, and extract below.
- from Pitt Cooke, Sandusky, New York, regarding banking matters. He reports problems with the 1st National Bank owing New York branch \$381,000. He also states how much they miss Henry Cooke’s ‘great influence & power in diplomacy’ in Washington, and says Henry should return from Europe ‘Now’. See letters dated 21 & 24 November.
- from William E. Chandler, Concord, New Hampshire, thanking Jay Cooke for his Presidential campaign contributions, describing the distribution of \$90,000 between two States, the eventual election of Grant, and his response to Jay Cooke’s enquiries regarding Grant’s religious leanings. See letters dated 2 October and 7 & 20 November.
- from Chief Justice S. P. Chase, Washington DC, regarding railroad stock and his and Jay Cooke’s conduct during the sale of government loans and securities. See letter dated 17 November.
- from W. G. Neilson, Elizabethtown, regarding iron works. See 8 page letter dated 4 November and 6 November.
- from C. H. Clark, National Insurance Company, Philadelphia, regarding business proceedings, his mutual interest in railroad bonds and the sale of 11,000 tons of iron in London. See letters dated 1, 5, 6, 7, 9, 12 & 13 October.
- from Lewis B. Gunckal, Dayton, Ohio, regarding the need for funds in Grant’s election campaign due to tactics and fraud by the opposition, and thanks for Jay Cooke’s “generous offer”. See letters dated 1 & 2 October.
- from J. Cooke Jr., Philadelphia, regarding the “certain” election of Grant, death of Fahnestock’s child and the number of begging letters Jay Cooke receives. See letters dated 1, 14 & 22 October.
- from E. A. Rollins, Treasury Department, Washington, regarding proceedings in Washington. See 7 page letter dated 13 October.
- from H. C. Swain, Jay Cooke & Co., Washington DC, regarding banking business in Henry Cooke’s absence.

Key topics include

- Funding for and election of General Grant as President. Jay Cooke is also concerned about the President Elect’s religious standing. See extracts below.
- Correspondence between, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs and banking. Henry Cooke is in Europe and is missed in Washington, while Fahnestock is in London, fails to sell Railroad bonds but does get involved in the sale of 11,000 tons of iron. See extract below.
- National Life Insurance Company continues to be successful and branches open in New York and Washington DC.
- Railroad investments, Iron and Coal works, church and charity matters.

Extract from H. C. Fahnestock’s letter to Jay Cooke dated 3 October 1868 from London, England

“...At this writing we have no prospect of placing the bonds. There is no limit to money here but recent experiences in American Railway securities have not had time to be forgotten, and longer time must elapse before new enterprises can find favour. There is we find a wide spread feeling of uncertainty – apprehension that Napoleon & Bismarck have not yet settled accounts, and that a freak war must come before affairs can rest upon a permanent basis...”

Extract from W. E. Chandler's letter to Jay Cooke dated 7 November 1868 from Concord, New Hampshire

"...The battle's fought, the victory's won. And a glorious success it has been... You see how much we needed those contributions for Indiana and Pennsylvania. I believe I wrote you that we gave 50m to Indiana and in all, 40m to Pennsylvania; if we had not we should certainly have lost Indiana...I want to thank you for your timely help then and for your continued assistance through the whole fight...and now Mr Grant must and will give us peace. He must be radical but sensible, maintain the public faith and give four years of quiet, prosperous business and mercantile, manufacturing, and financial success to all branches of industry. Such are my hopes & such my faith. Now all hands must take hold and push the Insurance Company..."

Extract from W. E. Chandler's letter to Jay Cooke dated 20 November 1868

"...A President elect passes into a new atmosphere, where even his most intimate friends cannot talk to him as before. He achieves greatness, but thus in a certain sense loses all his friends. Mr Lincoln, notwithstanding many grave faults, always respected the religious sentiments of the country. I hope & believe General Grant will do the same..."

Reel 47

Dates: December 1868

Principal and most interesting correspondence

- to and from Henry Cooke ("HDC" or "Harry"), Washington DC. Henry and Jay exchange letters on various financial and political issues, including the proposal to support Governor Dennison's appointment as the new Secretary of the Treasury. See Henry's letters dated 14 & 16 December, and Jay's letter dated 15 December. *Please note Jay Cooke's letter dated 18 December 1867 in which he denies making comments about S. P. Chase and the Presidential nominations. This letter was filed in the wrong year and should be viewed with material on reel 40.*
- from H. C. Fahnestock ("HCF" or "Fahney"), New York.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding banking matters.
- from William E. Chandler, Head of Insurance Agency of Jay Cooke & Co. in New England. See letter dated 5 December.
- from C. H. Clark, National Insurance Company, Philadelphia See letter dated 10 December.
- from J. McChilloch (?), Cincinnati, relating the progress of the investigation into the steamboat accident in which Rev. Parvin, a regular correspondent to Jay Cooke, had died. See letters dated 11, 12 & 13 December.
- from J. Cooke Jr., Philadelphia, regarding the death of Rev. Parvin. See telegraph dated 11 December.
- from T. S. Parvin, Wreck, on Board the 'Graham', looking for remains of his father, Rev. Parvin. See letter dated 18 December.
- from W. H. Taylor Jr., Grandson of 9th President Harrison, Minneapolis, appealing for help as he can't support his wife and children.
- from Paul Gregory, Central City, Colorado, requesting Jay Cooke's investment into his gold and silver mine. See letter dated 24 December.
- from W. L. Banning, President of Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad Co., regarding failure to sell bonds in Europe and being let down by the Financial Association of London. See letter dated 30 December.

Key topics include

- Discussions regarding new political appointments in the Grant administration.
- Correspondence between, Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs and banking, including the National Insurance Company and new 5-20 bond issue.
- Jay Cooke receives many letters from the church community regarding the death of his friend, and regular correspondent, Rev. Parvin following an explosion on a steam boat.
- Railroad and mining investments, including Port Huron & Lake Michigan Railroad Co., Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad Co, and Georgetown Railway.

Extract from Henry Cooke's letter to Jay Cooke dated 14 December 1868 from Washington DC

"...Judge Swayne of the Supreme Court, also, was in this morning, to talk about Gov. Dennison and the Secretaryship of the Treasury. He thinks, if we can get Ohio united for Dennison, we can carry him through..."

Extract from Jay Cooke's letter to Henry Cooke dated 18 December 1868 from Philadelphia

"...I enclose a note to [Uriah H.] Painter which please read and deliver. Of course I never said anything to him about the election. I am not in the habit of expressing my opinions about such matters - in fact don't have any opinions.

I will talk over the Insurance matter when you and Huntington come over.

There are one or two points in the Sherman bill as telegraphed that are not right...What does Hooper mean by introducing a bill to tax national bank notes...You must get in your loans a rapidly as possible...I gave Wm Harding today a honor of attorney to vote our stock in the Georgetown Railway...You can assure the Chf Justice that I made no such expression of opinions as Painter elated..."

Reel 48

Dates: January 1869- February 1869

Principal and most interesting correspondence

- from Henry Cooke ("HDC" or "Harry"), Washington DC. Henry and Jay exchange letters on various financial and political issues, notably on attacks on Jay Cooke and Congressional attempts to restrict the power of the Secretary of the Treasury, strongly resisted by the Cookes. See letters dated 25 January and 6, 16, February and extract below. Other topics include visit of General Grant to offices of Jay Cooke & Co. (8 January, 2, 4, 7, 13 February); letters from Jay Cooke to Governor Chase. and General Grant (11 Jan); loans (13 January); banking (14, 15, 18 & 25 January), National Insurance Company and other financial bills discussed in Congressional Committee (19 Jan, 5, 25 & 27 Feb), turning down Presidency of railroad company (22 January).
- from Jay Cooke to Henry Cooke, Philadelphia, notably regarding attacks on Jay Cooke and Congressional attempts to restrict the power of the Secretary of the Treasury. See letters dated 27 January, 4 February and extract below. Other topics include Jay's belief that Governor Dennison is "the right man" for the Secretary of the Treasury" (6 February); letters to Governor Chase & General Grant (8-9, 11 & 12 January) and banking (14, 16 & 21 January)
- from H. C. Fahnestock ("HCF" or "Fahney"), New York and Washington DC. Banking (18, 25, 26, 28, 30 January, 2, 10 February), also providing printed details of Bank's Bill authorising Secretary of the Treasury to appoint agents to operate overseas. See letter dated 18 February.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding banking matters including his share of \$300, 000 profits from 1868 (\$12,000), which he states cost "that much to live her

- economically”, and his desire to clear personal debts. See letters dated 2, 6 January. Also, see letters on banking dated 15, 18, 19 January, 11, 15 February), and a box of “A.1 cigars” sent to Jay Cooke to give to General Grant (4 February).
- from John Sherman, Committee of Finance, U.S Senate, relating situation in Congress regarding financial legislation. See letter dated 24 February.
 - from George C. Thomas, Jay Cooke & Co., Philadelphia, relating his willingness to work for Jay Cooke abroad if a ‘foreign house’ was established. See letter dated 11 January.
 - from L. C. Macdowell (?), Philadelphia, the Washington correspondent for a newspaper in Atlanta, enquiring whether the rumours were true that Jay Cooke was being put forward as the new Secretary of the Treasury. See letter dated 6 January.
 - from D. D. Hudson, Preston, enquiring whether “the remains of Mr. Parvin [have] been recovered”. See letter dated 1 January.
 - from Henry D. Moore, Philadelphia, relating an offer to buy a majority of their shares in the Preston Coal and Improvement Company. He informs Jay Cooke that he would accept an off below the market price in order to clear his debts. See letter dated 4 January.
 - from Jacob J. Storer, Boston, relating his developments in steel production. See letter dated 5 January.
 - from William E. Chandler, relating Jacob J. Storer’s new developments in Steel production. See letter dated 11 January.
 - from Jay Cooke Jr., Philadelphia, requesting to have a ‘interest’ in the London branch of Jay Cooke and Co. See letter dated 12 January.
 - from Rice Harper, Sandusky, regarding tax and land issues. See letter dated 13 January.
 - from Frank H. Evans, London, relating low demand for railroad bonds and a desire for a London branch of Jay Cooke & Co. as soon as possible. See letters dated 16, 20 January and 9 February.
 - from Samuel Wilkeson, New York, responding ‘you bet’ to Jay Cooke’s enquiry if he wanted to increase his income by promoting the land of the Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad Co. and stating “You people Must give me some land. I hunger for a Minnesota farm”. See letter dated 29 January and 5, 13, 27 February.
 - from John Russell Young, New York Tribune, relating his consistent support for Jay Cooke & Co. and their interests. See letter dated 11 February.
 - from W. L. Banning, St. Paul, Minnesota, requesting more information about plans to develop railroad land in the State, with relation to the Northern Pacific Railroad and Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad. See 11 page letter dated 7 February.
 - from A. J. Drexel, Drexel & Co., Philadelphia, defending the independence and integrity of the Philadelphia Ledger (which he part owned) for its support of Bills in Congress. See letter dated 17 February.

Key topics include

- House of Congress. Senator Conkling’s Bill to outlaw secret sales of government gold and bonds and restrict powers of Secretary of Treasury. The Bill is supported by the Philadelphia Ledger, part owned by Drexel & Co., much to Jay Cooke’s frustration. Also committee discussion regarding the Insurance Company charter. See extracts below.
- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs and banking, including discussions on opening a banking house in London and sale of oil, coal and railroad company shares.
- Railroads including Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad Co (1, 15 January, 7 February), promoting sale of bonds with the help of newspaper men, Wilkeson and Young; Northern Pacific Railroad (7, 13 February); Port Huron and Lake Michigan

Railroad Co. (2, 8, 20, 28 January, 13 February); Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad Co. (4 January)

- Prospect of Jay Cooke becoming Secretary of Treasury, and President elect General Grant arranging to visit Jay Cooke who arranged a gift of cigars.
- Various letters relating Church matters, requesting job opportunities, charity and the offer of a pair of Antelope for \$300 (see letter dated 18 January from E. Gregg).

Extract from Henry Cooke's letter to Jay Cooke dated 25 January 1869 from Washington DC

"...I suppose the prime movers in the petition of Congress in regard to sales of gold & bonds, and for restrictions upon the power of the Sec'y, are the sore heads of Wall St. These attacks are, as you say, outrageous and ungrateful, and I will try to get to the bottom of them and head them off..."

Extract from Jay Cooke's letter to Henry Cooke dated 4 February 1869 from Philadelphia

"...I have General Grant's cigars all ready but if he doesn't come I shall have to smoke myself.

You see what damage the new resolution does – it is copies and sent to everybody & is used by agents to frighten timid holders of policies. It is a great outrage – I will prepare a circular to counteract it. I see that the House & Senate Committees are about to repeal all (?) authority the Sec'y of Treas'y to have discretion as to time & mode of sales of Bonds & Stock & Gold – this is rather late measure & calculated to hit at Gen. G's [Grant's] new Secty, more than at McCulluch. It is a foolish thing & discreditable to the Repub. Party..."

Extract from Henry Cooke's letter to Jay Cooke dated 6 February 1869 from Washington DC

"...Be assured that I am watching closely all these legislature movements and am constantly heading off such outrageous propositions as those to which you refer. During the past few days I have been especially busy in this direction. I can't well write details, but when I next see you, will explain fully – and meanwhile I will only say that I feel sure that enough has been done to prevent any objectionable legislation this session...I am very sure you will have a visit from Genl and Mrs Grant before he returns to Washington..."

Reel 49

Dates: March 1869

Principal and most interesting correspondence

- to and from Henry Cooke ("HDC" or "Harry"), Washington DC. Henry and Jay exchange letters on various financial and political issues, notably the appointment of the new Secretary of the Treasury and rumours that Jay was expected to be offered the position. See letter Henry's letters dated 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 March, and Jay's denial in letter dated 2 March and extract below. Also, from 16 March there are letters regarding the sale of Lake Superior railroad Bonds. See letter Henry's letter dated 20, 22 March regarding the speed of sales and Jay's letters dated 16 & 20 March relating sale of over \$400,000 worth of bonds and stating that they are selling like "hot cakes...could sell 40 million just as well as 4 million". Also see Jay's letters dated 24, 25 March, and Henry's dated 25, 26 March, stressing the importance of the St. Croix Railroad land grant being restricted as a rival to Lake Superior project. See extract below
- from H. C. Fahnestock ("HCF" or "Fahney"), New York, notable his letter telling Jay Cooke to take the position of Secretary of the Treasury if he is offered it, and opportunity of selling railroad bonds in Germany. See letters dated 4, 13, 15, 16 March.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding banking matters. See 7 page letter dated 2 March and 3 March. Also letter dated 8 March relating a visit of General Grant's

brother, and 11, 13, 15, 16 March regarding publicity for Lake Superior Railroad bonds. Following their involvement in the Lake Superior RR Bonds, Pitt recommends they “ought to control the Northern Pacific RR with its 44 million acre Land Grant”. See letter dated 13 March.

- from Rice Harper to Samuel Wilkeson and Jay Cooke, regarding land purchases in Minnesota. See letter dated 9 March.
- from General George B. Sargent, Surveyor and Land Agent, relating the prospect of growth in a new city at the end of the Lake Superior Railroad line. See letter dated 1 March and extract below.
- from Jay Cooke Jr., Philadelphia, regarding appointment to Secretary of the Treasury. See letter dated 11 March.
- from Uriah H. Painter, Washington, regarding the progress of land grants to the Le Croix Railroad rivalling the Lake Superior Railroad interests of the Cookes. See letters dated 25 and 31 March.
- from W. S. Huntington, First National Bank, Washington DC, relating Painter’s feedback on the land grant issue of the St. Croix Railroad. See letter dated 26 March.
- from Samuel Wilkeson, Washington DC, relating a \$1m worth of Lake Superior Railroad Bonds having been sold in one day. See letter dated 17 March. Also see letters dated 3, 4 March from House of Representatives, and letter dated 10 March from New York, relating the delay in advertising railroad bonds due to Grant’s Cabinet appointments. See letter dated 11 March regarding land purchases in Duluth, Minnesota.
- from Frank H. Evans, London, regarding sale of bonds. See letters dated 3, 5 March.

Key topics include

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs and banking,
- Railroads including Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad Co., the publicity and the fast sale of their bonds under the management of Jay Cooke (1, 16, 17, 20, 22 March), and the Cooke’s efforts with the help of U. Painter and S. Wilkeson to influence the Houses of Congress regarding land grants to the rival Le Croix Railroad. See extract below; Port Huron and Lake Michigan Railroad Company (8 March).
- Prospect of Jay Cooke becoming Secretary of Treasury and eventual appointment of George S. Boutwell, following A. T. Stewart’s enforced refusal due to business interests.
- Land purchases in Minnesota.
- Various letters relating church matters, requesting job opportunities and charity.

Extract from G. B. Sargent’s letter to Jay Cooke dated 1 March 1869 from New York

“...In my capacity of Government Surveyor in Illinois and Missouri & afterwards as Surveyor Genl. of Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota I became familiar with the lands of those States and the numerous cities and towns that have grown up within their boundaries I have watched their growth from infancy to maturity, and have carefully noted the causes which gave them their several growths and I give it to you as my firm conviction that the terminus of your road on Lake Superior will attain a larger growth in five years than any city in the States above named attained in twenty...I beg leave to say that I should be most happy to take charge of your individual land interests...”

Extract from Henry Cooke’s letter to Jay Cooke dated 1 March 1869 from Washington DC

“...Do you know Jay, that I believe that the desperateness with which they fight to tie the hands of the Secretary [of the Treasury] forms out of the almost universal belief that you are to be the next Sec’y of the Treasury? – I have done what I could to dissipate such an idea – but it is the prevailing idea, in New York and Wash’n – and in that connection I want only to

suggest that if Grant should send your name to the Senate or tender the app't to you, you will not , too hastily decline...

Extract from Henry Cooke's letter to Jay Cooke dated March 26 in Washington DC

"...We had anticipated several of Banning's [Lake Superior Railroad Company] moves. Huntington saw Howe, Julian & others, and more important still Pomery, who is Chairman of the Land Committee in the Senate, and he has agreed not to call up or report the Bill without giving us notice, and when he does so call it up, if he does so this session, he will move its re-committal to his Committee.

If he keeps this promise that will dispose of it for this session..."

Reel 50

Dates: April 1869

Principal and most interesting correspondence

- to and from Henry Cooke ("HDC" or "Harry"), Washington DC. Henry and Jay exchange letters on various financial and political issues, including a bonus payment of 160 acres of land to S. Wilkeson for his "services to the company" and Wilkeson's \$5,000 expenses with which to influence the St. Croix Railroad Bill. See Jay's and Henry's letters dated 2 April. Other letters regarding the St. Croix Bill include Henry's dated 3, 5, 10, 13 April, and Jay's dated 5, 6, 14 April. Also, read comments on the merits of the Northern Pacific Railroad in Jay's letter dated 6 April, and Henry's dated 30 April.
- from H. C. Fahnestock ("HCF" or "Fahney"), New York and Washington DC, regarding banking matters, railroad bonds and a incidence of forged cheques. See letters dated 7, 8 and 17 April.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York and Washington DC, regarding banking matters, and the prospects of the Northern Pacific Railway. See letters dated 5, 7 April.
- from Edwin F. Johnson, Engineer in Chief, Northern Pacific Railroad Co., Middletown, relating plans for the Northern Pacific Railroad, including costs and benefits. See letters dated 9 and 14 April.
- from W. L. Banning, Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad Company, Philadelphia, regarding the passing of the St. Croix Railroad land grant Bill through the Senate, and why it should not pass in the House. See letter dated 3 April. Also see letters dated 19, 26 April from St Paul.
- from Samuel Wilkeson, Washington DC, relating the progress of the St. Croix Railroad Bill and its defeat. He reports that it was worth \$500,000 to the Lake Superior Railroad Company, but only requested \$3,000 for his fee. See letters dated 4, 5 & 13 April and extract below. Also see letter dated 23 April stating that he would soon go to New York to "commence writing up Duluth in the Tribune", where Jay cooke and colleagues were planning great expansion due to the Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad.
- from Uriah H. Painter, Washington DC, relating the progress of the St. Croix Railroad Bill, with newspaper clipping of the debate. See letters dated 4, 5 April.
- from Rice Harper, Sandusky and St. Paul's, regarding land purchases in Duluth. See letters dated 5 & 12 April.

Key topics include

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs and banking,

- Railroads including Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad Co., and the Cooke's efforts with the help of U. Painter and S. Wilkeson to influence the Houses of Congress regarding land grants to the rival Le Croix Railroad. See extracts below.
- Promotion of the Northern Pacific Railroad to the Cooke's, and discussions on the Union Pacific Railroad.
- Various letters relating church matters, requesting job opportunities and charity.

Extract from Henry Cooke's letter dated 2 April 1869 from Washington DC

"...Wilkeson says he has received no letter or advice from Banning and is very sore at his neglect. So I read him part of your letter, received this morning. He says that when Banning was here, and saw the 'fight' on hand, and realised the importance of winning it, he distinctly told him that he must succeed at any cost, and when Wilkeson asked him how much he would be authorised to expend if necessary, he told him \$5,000. On the strength of this, he has made certain engagements- and now he says Banning is 'crawfishing', and leaving him in the lurch. I told him that your letter authorised me to advance the 5,000, if necessary, but that I didn't want to take the responsibility of deciding the point of necessity – that I would so as he said. So the matter rests. The bill was brought up this morning but was staved off after a hard fight..."

Extract from Samuel Wilkeson's letter to Jay Cooke dated 5 April from Washington DC

"...I have paid my debts of honor – I am serene and lovely. I act with my feet higher than my head, and have the pipe of peace and meditation in my mouth. Through tobacco smoke one takes pensive views of the vicissitudes to which human affairs are subject. How can men be induced to go into dishonest railroad adventures! I wonder how badly they feel when their schemes are suddenly splintered and smashed up beneath them.

Legislative speaking St. Croix lies dead in the room of the Land Committee. Twas a hard fight – but a decisive victory – St. Croix was whirled to the Land Committee by 85 to 41 in a call of the yeas and nays after a fierce debate of an hour and a half –

It won't come out of the Land Committee.

I used the whole of the fund...and made engagements to the am[oun]t of 1,200 besides – It was necessary to do it. I felt it to be my duty to do it and I expect to have the amount promptly and I hope cheerfully paid..."

Reel 51

Dates: May 1869

Principal and most interesting correspondence

- from Henry Cooke ("HDC" or "Harry"), Washington DC, regarding Northern Pacific Railroad and banking matters. See letters dated 1, 3, 4, 6, 17 & 24 May. Also plans for expedition along Northern Pacific Railroad route. See letters dated 7, 21, 22 & 26 May. Petitioning at the "President's" for "mail by steamer to Duluth". See letter dated 8 May.
- from Jay Cooke to Henry Cooke, Philadelphia, regarding the personnel and military escort for the expedition along the proposed route of the Northern Pacific Railway. See letter dated 1 May and extract below. Also, banking matters and prospects of Northern Pacific Railroad. See letters dated 14, 17, 18 & 22 May.
- from H. C. Fahnestock ("HCF" or "Fahney"), New York, regarding banking matters, notably April's profits of \$70,000 see letter dated 3 May. Also see letter dated 5 May regarding railroad proposal in the South, "extending to the Rio Grande". Other notable letters include 13, 18 & 19 May relating various financial dealings, and letter to George Thomas dated 22 May relating the benefits for newspaper men in return for positive articles on the Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad. See extract below.

- from Pitt Cooke, Sandusky and New York, regarding personal and banking matters. See letters dated 3, 4, 6, 8, 11, 14, 17, 18 & 20 May. Also see letter dated 15 May expressing his disillusionment with Henry Cooke's "Scatteration" policy of investing in "Stone Quarries, Gas Companies, Ferries, Gold Mines, Engraving companies, etc, etc- oh!" See Pitt's letters dated 21 & 22 May regarding the Northern Pacific Railroad ("this great and truly national work").
- from Mary Cooke, Jay Cooke's sister, Brooklyn. See letter dated 5 May.
- from George Cooke, Jay's cousin, Brooklyn. See letters dated 10 & 19 May.
- from James Taylor, St. Paul, regarding acquisition and annexation of land in the North and West, and British territories in Canada, and the implications for the Lake Superior and Northern Pacific railroads. See letters dated 5, 8, 18 & 22 May and extract below.
- from W. J. Barney, Land Agent, Chicago, regarding tax issues. See letter dated 4 May.
- from George Thomas, Jay Cooke & Co., Philadelphia, regarding banking matters. See letter dated 8 May.
- from congregation of Grandville, pleading with Jay Cooke to remove the preacher he provided for them. See letter dated 4 May
- from W. G. Moorhead, Jay Cooke & Co., Philadelphia. See letter dated 14 May.
- from Samuel Wilkeson, New York, regarding Northern Pacific Railroad. See letter dated 15 May.
- from L. W. Powell, Chicago Republican newspaper, offering to have the Lake Superior Railroad "written up" in Eastern newspapers in return for expenses, time and labor payments. See letter dated 17 May.
- from William E. Chandler. See letter dated 19 May.
- from Frank Evans, London, regarding "Parliamentary sanction to lay down tramways in London", and a visit of member of the Cooke family to England. See letter dated 19 May.
- from General John Sherman. See letter dated 20 May.
- from J. H. Weir, Harrisburg National Bank. See letters dated 7, 8 & 15 May.
- from Rice Harper, St. Paul's, regarding land purchases and economic growth in Duluth with "Every available place...filled and new shanties and houses...going up." See letters dated 5, 20 & 27 May.
- from George B. Sargent, Land Agent, Duluth, regarding purchase of lumber and building of properties. See letter dated 10 & 12 May.
- from W. L. Banning, Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad Co. See letters dated 22 & 26 May.

Key topics include

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs, banking and tax issues.
- Railroads including Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad Co. bonds; Lake Huron and Lake Michigan Railroad Company (6 May), North Missouri Railroad (13 May)
- Negotiations with the board of the Northern Pacific Railroad and consideration of the proposed route.
- Economic impact of railroad. Land and property purchases in Minnesota in anticipation of the railroad.
- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

Extract from Jay Cooke's letter to Henry Cooke dated 1 May from Philadelphia

"...The Northern Pacific matter progresses nicely...the thing has gone so far as to receive a request from them that we shall arrange with the President or Genl Sherman, or Gen. Rawlins for a proper escort to start about the first of June to make the surveys and examinations that

we require before finally closing the matter. We shall want to send out several editors and engineers of our own, etc. so that we shall have a true and faithful account of the whole thing...I should like to go but do not see how I can..."

Extract from James Taylor's letter to Jay Cooke dated 8 May from St Paul

"...Take the whole two millions of acres together, and the grant on the completion of a railroad, would readily sell for ten millions of dollars...When I met you in Philadelphia I mentioned the possibility of a cession of the territory west of longitude 90 to the United States. In that event the section here described would unquestionably constitute part of the Northern Pacific Railroad. If the territory remains Canadian, there is no doubt of vigorous measures for the colonization of the Selkirk and Saskatchewan districts, and prominent among these will be the railway..."

Extract from H. C. Fahnestock's letter to George Scott dated 22 May from New York

"...You have no idea how much we are obliged to ride our money editors on the Superior subject and how much the little they do helps our bonds...I have made promises to them and can't disappoint them, and therefore we must hold these 100th bonds until they pay a respectable profit. We can't afford to disappoint these men & injure ourselves in future transactions for the sake of saving a little money for ourselves..."

Reel 52

Dates: June-July 1869

Principal and most interesting correspondence

- from Henry Cooke ("HDC" or "Harry"), Washington DC, regarding banking matters, see letters dated 7, 8 June and 1 July. Also see letters dated 9 and 18 June relating to the Northern Pacific Railroad party.
- from Jay Cooke to Henry Cooke, Gibraltar. See letter dated 30 June. Also see Jay Cooke's letter to Secretary of the Treasury Boutwell, dated 20 July.
- from H. C. Fahnestock ("HCF" or "Fahney"), New York, regarding banking matters. See letter dated 11 June. Also see letter dated 19 June passing on General Sherman's concerns about the negative aspects of the Northern Pacific Railway route.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding personal and banking matters, see letters dated 7, 9, 10, 11, 14, 22, 28 June, 9, 10, 14, 16, 17, 22 & 23 July. Also see letter dated 12 June expressing relief that the "Clarks did not get into the Northern Pacific" as "they have been a constant impediment to our work in the negotiations of the Lake Sup & Miss Bds".
- from W. Milnor Roberts, engineer on the West coast party exploring the Northern Pacific Railroad route, relating his fear of Indians, his dislike of Canfield and the pressure he felt from him to be positive about the route, and 4th July Speech in Portland. See letters dated 14, 22, 23, 26, 28 June and 6, 11, 13, 16, 21, 26 July and extract below.
- from Jay Cooke Jr., Philadelphia, relating large bank balances and details of \$400,000 in the bank. See letters dated 12 and 24 June. Also see letter dated 29, stating that "the exploring expedition thus far seems to have been very loosely managed and it would not surprise me to see them all come home in disgrace".
- from J. K. Moorhead, Pittsburgh, relating his meeting with the Northern Pacific party and his positive thoughts about the route. See letter dated 27 July.
- from George B. Sargent, Land Agent, Duluth, regarding properties and progress of the railroad. See letters dated 2, 7, 14, 17, 22 June, 23 and 29 July.
- from J. Gregory Smith, New York, relating news from Canfield about General Sherman's escort of the Northern Pacific party. See letter dated 9 June.

- from W. E. C. Moorhead, Omaha, Walla Walla, relating news from the Northern Pacific party, see letters dated 13 June and 19 July and extract below.
- from R. B. Claxton, Omaha, Salt Lake City, Portland, Walla Walla, to Mr Sexton and Jay Cooke, relating details of the Northern Pacific party, see letters dated 14, 21, 22 June, 5, 6, 9 and 22 July.
- from Samuel Wilkeson, Salt Lake City, Puget Sound, Pine Tree Creek, relating news from the Northern Pacific party. See letters dated 18 June, 11, 25 and 28 July and extract below.
- from C. P. Judson, to the President of the Northern Pacific Railroad, on the subject of the railroad. See letter dated 21 June.
- from Joel Bigelow, Chicago, relating details of business affairs in Duluth, including map and street plan. See letter dated 6 July.
- from T. H. Canfield, Seattle, Olympia, relating details of Northern Pacific party. See telegraphs dated 7, 12, 16, 17 July and letter dated 29 July.
- from Jay Cooke & Co. to President U. S. Grant, acknowledging receipt of two boxes of silver plate for deposit. See letter dated 13 July.
- from Secretary of the Treasury Boutwell. See letters dated 21 and 22 July.
- from W. G. Moorhead, Isle of Wight, and London. See letters dated 22 & 27 July.

Key topics include

- Exploration of the Northern Pacific Railroad from the West coast. The party included W. Milnor Roberts, Mrs Roberts, W. E. C. Moorhead, Samuel Wilkeson (now Secretary of the railroad), R. B. Claxton and Thomas H. Canfield. Their reports provide fascinating insights into their journey and details of wilderness and frontier towns.
- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke, Jay Cooke and Jay Cooke Jr. regarding business affairs and banking issues.
- Railroads including Northern Pacific; Cincinnati, Sandusky and Cleveland (15 June); Lake Superior and Mississippi (17 June, 2 July); North Missouri (19 June); St. Paul & Pacific (7 July); Sandusky, Mansfield & Newark (15, 19 July).
- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

Extract from W. E. C. Moorhead's letter to Jay Cooke dated 13 June from Omaha

"...Up to the present time the Northn. Central Expedition looks very much like a failure...Dr Claxton, Milnor Roberts & myself have obeyed instructions, & we found ourselves together at this place Saturday night, but Mr Canfield & the rest of the party, nothing can be learned...we cannot get any letters now before Tuesday (as no train leaves Chicago on Sundays) & we are therefore condemned to remain in this most wretched hole until Wednesday afternoon. Another thing, which fear will give trouble. Mr Roberts has been foolish enough to bring his wife...it will be enough to have her along as far as the 'Columbia River' but after that a women wd embarrass (?) the entire party & if Roberts was not a fool he wd see it. We must live on horseback & sleep in tents & outdoors – ford deep streams & rough it generally, so that a delicate women wd be a perfect drag..."

Extract from W. Milnor Roberts' letter to Jay Cooke dated 6 July from Portland

"...Since we have been here our time has been constantly taken up with calls from the best citizens of Oregon, who were congregating here in great numbers for the celebration of July 4th which took place on the 5th, George Francis Train being the orator of the day. Mr Canfield and myself having rec'd a special invitation from the Portland gentlemen...[we] had seats assigned us in the grand stand facing the thousands assembled...at the close of his very good oration Mr train referred to Mr Canfield and myself in such a positive way by name that we were called out both by the crowd...and had to speak "Northern Pacific Railroad" ...had anyone told me a month or so ago when I was in Portland, Maine that I would be making a

speech to several thousands of people on the 5th July in Portland Oregon, I would have thought him demented...”

Extract from S. W. Wilkeson’s letter to Jay Cooke dated 11 July from Puget Sound
*“...I have (?) seen the country from Portland to Puget Sound – have been around the Sound. There is nothing in the American Continent equal to it. Such timber – such soil – such ore lands – such fish – such climate – such coal – such timbers – such rivers!
My expectations are not only surpassed – but my wildest hopes are more than satisfied...The empire of the Pacific Coast is to be enthroned on Puget Sound. Nothing can prevent this – nothing.
There is no end to the possibilities of wealth here...Salmon are not caught here. They are pitchforked out of the streams.
Jay, we have got the biggest thing on Earth. Our enterprise is an inexhaustible gold mine...”*

Reel 53

Dates: August 1869

Principal and most interesting correspondence

- from Henry Cooke (“HDC” or “Harry”), New York and Washington DC, regarding banking matters, see letters dated 11 & 23 August.
- from Jay Cooke to H. C. Fahnestock, Henry Cooke, and A. B. Nettleton. See letters dated 6, 13, 15, 19, 21, 23, 24 August.
- from H. C. Fahnestock (“HCF” or “Fahney”), New York, regarding banking matters. See letters dated 2, 4, 7, 9, 11-13, 16-21, 23-26, 30 August and 10 & 28 August relating the difference in profits between the bond and stock market.
- from Pitt Cooke, Sandusky, Chicago, St Paul, and Marquette, Lake Superior, regarding personal and banking matters. See letters dated 5, 6 August, and west bound railroad routes. See letters dated 8, 10, 11, 25 & 30 August
- from W. Milnor Roberts, engineer on the West coast party exploring the Northern Pacific Railroad route, relating his dislike of Canfield and the quality of land. See letters dated 4, 8, 9, 13, 14, 17 & 24 August, and to W. G. Moorhead dated 24 August.
- from W. J. Otto, Acting Secretary, Department of the Interior, Washington DC, regarding Jay Cooke’s enquiry about acts “granting lands to aid in the construction of a railroad and telegraph line from Lake Superior and Puget Sound on the Pacific Coast by the Northern Route. See letter dated 17 August.
- from T. H. Canfield, Helena, relating progress of the Northern Pacific party over the Rocky Mountains. See telegraph dated 17 August.
- from G. B. Sargent, Land Agent, Duluth, relating the progress of the town. See letters dated 6, 9, 13, 23, 27 & 30 August.
- from R. B. Claxton, relating details of the Northern Pacific party, see letters dated 4, 23 August and 43 page letter dated 10 August.
- from Samuel Wilkeson, relating news from the Northern Pacific party. See letters dated 19 August. See extract below.
- from S. P. Chase, expressing his desire to join the Northern Pacific enterprise. See letters dated 16, 24 & 31 August.
- from W. G. Moorhead, Paris. See letters dated 2, 9, 16, 27 & 30 August regarding negotiations to sell Northern Pacific Bonds.
- from W. L. Banning, President, Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad Co., St Paul, relating the admiration for the Northern Pacific Railroad route as expressed by Gov. Smith. See letter dated 3 August.

- from John Russell Young, New York. See letter dated 9 August, relating his “little bomb shell which I set off for our road”.
- from J. J. Cisco, New York, regarding estimates of costs for constructing the Northern Pacific Railroad.
- from William E. Chandler, Washington DC. See letter dated 14 August.
- from A. B. Nettleton, Publisher, The Advance, Chicago

Key topics include

- Exploration of the Northern Pacific Railroad from the East and West coast. The West coast party included W. Milnor Roberts, Mrs Roberts, W. E. C. Moorhead, Samuel Wilkeson (now Secretary of the railroad), R. B. Claxton and Thomas H. Canfield. Their reports provide fascinating insights into their journey and details of wilderness and frontier towns. The East coast party included W. L. Banning and Pitt Cooke.
- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs and banking issues.
- Railroads including Northern Pacific with many prospective suppliers contacting Jay Cooke; Lake Superior and Mississippi (2, 3 August); Union Pacific (21 August)
- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

Extract from W. Milnor Roberts’ letter to Jay Cooke dated 17 August from Helena, Montana

“...the whole length of the excavation being a little over on fourth mile. It is through loam and clay; not a particle of rock (?) visible within two miles, in any direction This may strike you as almost marvellous; and so indeed it is; that the great backbone of the continent; the great chain of the Rocky Mountains; should be tamed down, at this particular Pass...”

Extract from S. W. Wilkeson’s letter to Jay Cooke dated 19 August from Helena, Montana

“...I advise that you ask Harry to go to the Interior Department and inquire if we can file our map of the line of the Road...Care should be taken to have the line longer than we will build on. Then when we go to Congress to get authority to change the locations, it will be an agreement in favor of granting us authority to do so, that the Government will save land by the change, no man would dare vote against the Bill...Tomorrow we go to Fort Benton – thence to Cadot’s Pass – if the Indians will let me. We anticipate trouble from them between here and Benton ...the Yellowstone to the Missouri, ‘Tis the garden of America, and our milk – so the Government has abandoned it to the Sioux and outlawed the white man who enter it. It would take 500 soldiers to pass so safely through the country – and yet the North pacific Road has got to run through the Yellowstone Valley...”

Reel 54

Dates: September – 11 October 1869

Principal and most interesting correspondence

- from Henry Cooke (“HDC” or “Harry”), Washington DC, regarding banking and railroad matters, see letters dated 7-11, 13, 15, 16, 22, 23, 28, 29 September and 5, 9 October.
- from Jay Cooke to H. D. Cooke, Philadelphia. See letters dated 8-11, 15, 21, 23-25, 27, 28 September. Also see letters dated 2, 5, 6, 7, 11 October from Gibraltar, Ohio to George Thomas of Jay Cooke and Co. and 5 October to Henry Cooke.
- from H. C. Fahnestock (“HCF” or “Fahney”), New York, regarding banking matters. See letters dated 1-4, 7-11, 16-18, 20-22, 25, 27, 28, 30 September and 1 September

relating the difference in profits between the bond and stock market. Also letter to H. D. Cooke dated 8 September.

- from Pitt Cooke, Sandusky and New York, regarding personal, railroad and banking matters. See letters dated 4, 6, 7, 11, 21, 22, 27-30 September and 1, 4, 6, 11 October.
- from W. Milnor Roberts, engineer on the West coast party exploring the Northern Pacific Railroad route, relating the distance travelled of 9,000 miles. See letters dated 6, 11, 17, 24 September and 7 October.
- from G. C. Thomas, Jay Cooke & Co, relating that young men plan to travel West after hearing reports in the Boston Journal by Charles Coffin of the Western reconnaissance party of the Northern Pacific Railroad; and a suspected plan to rob the bank using chloroform. See letters dated 4 and 8 October.
- from S. P Chase, Narragansett, regarding financial matters. See letter dated 1 September.
- from G. B. Sargent, Land Agent, Duluth, relating the progress of the town. See letters dated 2, 8, 15, 16, 18 September.
- from A. B. Nettleton, Publisher, The Advance, Chicago, regarding Railroads. See letters dated 2, 4, 27 September.
- from Samuel W. Wilkeson, Virginia City and St Paul, relating the closing stages of the Northern Pacific Railroad reconnaissance party, and concern over the land grant to the St Croix Railroad. See letters dated 3, 12 September. Also see letter dated 7 October in which he relates the detailed notes made by Milner Roberts and advises Jay Cooke to take charge of them on the basis that Wilkeson has offended Milner Roberts for advising against his wife joining the expedition.
- from E. D. Litchfield, London, to W. G. Moorhead, regarding sale of railroad bonds in Europe. See letter dated 6 September.
- from John Russell Young, New York, regarding the repayment of a loan provided by Jay Cooke in 1866. See letter dated 6 September.
- From W. G. Moorhead, Geneva and office of Rothschilds, London. See letters dated 8, 16 September and 4, 6 October.
- from W. L. Banning and W. J. Vincent, St Paul, regarding land grant to the St Croix and Bayfield Railroad. See letters dated 15, 30 September and 5, 11 October.
- from J. K. Moorhead, Pittsburgh. See letters dated 4, 9 October 1869

Key topics include

- Completion of the Exploration of the Northern Pacific Railroad from the East.
- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs and banking issues, including fluctuations in the gold market.
- Railroads including Northern Pacific with many prospective suppliers contacting Jay Cooke, and concern over the land grant to the St Croix and Bayfield Railroad; Lake Superior and Mississippi (13, 15, 21, 24, 27 September, 7 October); St Paul and Pacific (1 October); Pennsylvania (1 September) .
- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

Extract from W. Milnor Roberts' letter to Jay Cooke dated 17 August from Helena, Montana

"...the whole length of the excavation being a little over on fourth mile. It is through loam and clay; not a particle of rock (?) visible within two miles, in any direction This may strike you as almost marvellous; and so indeed it is; that the great backbone of the continent; the great chain of the Rocky Mountains; should be tamed down, at this particular Pass..."

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“...I advise that you ask Harry to go to the Interior Department and inquire if we can file our map of the line of the Road...Care should be taken to have the line longer than we will build on. Then when we go to Congress to get authority to change the locations, it will be an agreement in favor of granting us authority to do so, that the Government will save land by the change, no man would dare vote against the Bill...Tomorrow we go to Fort Benton – thence to Cadot’s Pass – if the Indians will let me. We anticipate trouble from them between here and Benton ...the Yellowstone to the Missouri, ‘Tis the garden of America, and our milk – so the Government has abandoned it to the Sioux and outlawed the white man who enter it. It would take 500 soldiers to pass so safely through the country – and yet the North Pacific Road has got to run through the Yellowstone Valley...”

Reel 55

Dates: 12 October – 30 November 1869

Principal and most interesting correspondence

- from Henry Cooke (“HDC” or “Harry”), Washington DC, regarding banking and railroad matters, see letters dated 12 October and 2, 6, 13, 19, 20, 22, 24, 29, 30 November. See letters dated 16, 18, 27, 29 October regarding Speaker Blaine’s negotiations for a “handsome money subsidy” in relation to the proposed Southern Pacific Railroad and Little Rock Railroad. Also see letter dated 19 October to George Thomas regarding their lack of influence over the St Croix land grant decision.
- from Jay Cooke to G. C. Thomas, Jay Cooke & Co., Gibraltar, regarding banking, railroads and recommendation to “sell out the balance” of his government bonds in the event of elections going against the Republicans. See letters dated 12, 15 October. Also see letters dated 21, 26, 31 October and 3, 23, 27 November to H. D. Cooke regarding Speakers Blaine’s proposals, a proposed visit to President Grant to “talk up” the Northern Pacific railroad and specie payments.
- from H. C. Fahnestock (“HCF” or “Fahney”), New York, regarding banking matters and gold trading. See letters dated 16 October and 10, 11, 29 November. Also see letter dated 20 November relating the purchase of disputed land wanted by the Union Pacific Railroad Co. See extract below.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding personal, railroad and banking matters. See letters dated 9, 13 November. Also see letters dated 16, 26 October relating disagreements over when to sell gold between Dodge and Fahnestock. Also see letters dated 21, 27 October and 11 November.
- from W. Milnor Roberts, Saint Louis, regarding his report on the Northern Pacific Railroad route, bridge building and plans to employ 7,000 Swedish labourers. See letters dated 18, 20 October and 24, 30 November.
- from G. C. Thomas, Jay Cooke & Co., regarding banking matters and circular to priority investors in the Northern Pacific Railroad. See letter dated 12 October and printed circular designed to raise 5 million dollars, providing much detail on the proposed road and its investment potential dated 13 October.
- from J. W. Taylor, St Paul, Washington and New York, providing Jay Cooke with his recommendations for the most “eligible” route for the Northern Pacific Railroad, and the implications and value of land grants from Congress. See letters dated 12 October and 2, 28, 29 November.
- from G. B. Sargent, Land Agent, Duluth, relating the progress of the town. See letters dated 22 November.
- from A. B. Nettleton, regarding publicity matters. See letters dated 17, 30 November.
- from Samuel W. Wilkeson, Bridgehampton and New York, relating his exploits in his capacity as Secretary of the N.P.R.R. and his concern over payments and his role in the enterprise. See letters dated 30 October and 23 November.

- from James G. Blaine, Speaker of the House of Representatives to H. D. Cooke and Jay Cooke, Washington DC, inviting them to invest in Little Rock Railroad Co. and a proposed Southern Pacific Railroad Co. See letters dated 14, 25 October and 10 November.
- from Robert Lamborn, Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad Co., Philadelphia, relating a positive interview with the new Governor expressing support for railroads in his jurisdiction. See letters dated 17, 20 October and 3, 25 November.
- from W. G. Moorhead, London and Brighton to G. C. Thomas and Jay Cooke relating the prospects of investment from Europe in the Northern Pacific Railroad. See letters dated 14, 16, 23, 27 October and 5, 26 November.
- from W. L. Banning, Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad Co., St Paul, regarding St Croix land grant and various railroad companies. See letters dated 13, 26 October and 16 November. Also see J. Vincent's letter to Banning dated 11 October.
- from J. K. Moorhead, Pittsburgh, regarding personal and railroad matters. See letter dated 21 October
- from Rice Harper, Duluth, regarding partition of lands between Branch, Cooke, Banning and Moorhead, and the discovery of silver deposits. See letters dated 18 October and 6 November.
- from J. Gregory Smith, St. Albans, regarding railroad matters. See letter dated 23 November.

Key topics include

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs and banking issues including a fall in gold prices.
- Northern Pacific Railroad, including proposed route, attempts to raise investment capital to start building in order to fulfil company charter and qualify land grants.
- Interest in the Southern Pacific Railroad from Speaker J. G. Blaine.
- Other railroads including Lake Superior and Mississippi (13, 17 October); St Paul and Pacific (13, 17, 23, 27, 28 October); Kansas Pacific (27 November), St Croix (13 October); Penna (13 October).
- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

Extract from J. Taylor's letter to Jay Cooke dated 12 October from St Paul

"...Allow me to say, on the question of the most eligible route for the Northern Pacific Railroad through Minnesota, that my first choice is from the western extremity of Lake Superior at Duluth...if Congress will intervene and aid the construction of this Interior Division by a stock guarantee of \$30,000 per mile, all uncertainty would vanish...while the Northern Pacific will make the most of its magnificent donation of lands, yet a contingency may occur which will call for further legislation, and, in that event, it will be prudent to establish seasonably a community of interest on this subject with the Southern States ..."

Extract from H. D. Cooke's letter to Jay Cooke dated 16 October from Washington DC

"...Speaker Blaine has been in the city for a day or two; and has made some valuable suggestions in regard to the Pacific Railroad, which I think will worthy(?) of your consideration. They relate to Congressional legislation and the Southern Pacific R. R. demands. He says if we manage our case with discretion we can get a handsome money subsidy from Congress..."

Extract from H. C.F. Fahnestock's letter to Jay Cooke dated 20 November from New York

"...You will be pleased to know that the sale of the disputed 60 miles of Union Pacif RR to the Central Co has been closed, and that next week we shall get all the land. The companies desire the fact to be kept private for the present for their own purposes..."

Reel 56

Dates: December 1869

Principal and most interesting correspondence

- from Henry Cooke (“HDC” or “Harry”), Washington DC, regarding banking and railroad matters, and his efforts to get legislation relating to the N.P.R.R. through Congress. See letters dated 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 28, 29, 30, 31 December.
- from Jay Cooke to H. D. Cooke, New York and Philadelphia. See letters dated 2, 3, 10, 11, 13, 21, 23, 28, 29, 30 December. Also see letter of 10 December to J. Gregory Smith, President of the N.P.R.R. outlining terms of agreement.
- from J. Gregory Smith to Jay Cooke, Vermont Central. See letters 13 December
- from H. C. Fahnestock (“HCF” or “Fahney”), New York, regarding banking and railroad matters. See letters dated 10, 11, 13, 14, 17, 18, 27, 29 December.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding personal and banking matters. See letters dated 10, 13, 16, 17, 18, 24, 31 December.
- from W. Milnor Roberts, engineer, regarding railroad and land matters. See letters dated 8, 9, 16, 20, 29 December.
- from G. C. Thomas, Jay Cooke & Co., regarding banking matters. See letter dated 4, 13, 14 December also see Letters 15, 16 December from Jay & Henry Cooke to G. C. Thomas.
- from G. B. Sargent, Land Agent, Duluth. See letters dated 6, 13, 14, 15, 20, 22, 24, 27 December.
- from Samuel W. Wilkeson, Secretary of Northern Pacific Railroad. See letter dated 22, 30, 31 December.
- from Robert Lamborn, Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad Co., Philadelphia,. In Milwaukee concerning harbour and canal work around Lake Superior. See letters dated 13, 20, 21, 23, 24, 31 December.
- from W. G. Moorhead, Paris, to Jay Cooke and H. C. Fahnestock, regarding banking and railroad matters. See letters dated 5, 6, 9, 14, 15, 17, 21 December.
- from W. L. Banning, Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad Co., St Paul. See letters dated 13, 23 December.
- from Rice Harper, Duluth, regarding land matters. See letter dated 31 December.
- from Isaac J. Hutchinson, West Rilling (?), suggesting Jay Cooke was a descendant of a passenger on the Mayflower. See letter dated 1 December.
- from H. Dyer, New York, regarding \$16,000 investment. See letters dated 2 December.
- from (Capt.) Nathaniel R Harris to Jay Cooke, regarding the character of a correspondent to President Grant. See letter dated 13 December.
- from Phillip W. Holmes New York office to Jay Cooke, discussing Governor Marshall of Minnesota. See letters dated 12, 24, 29 December
- from Mr Corbete United States Senate Room Washington to Jay Cooke, Discussing national debt bill. See letter dated 14 December.
- from W. L. Banning Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad Co. to Jay Cooke, regarding land grants. See letter dated 21 December.
- from W. J. Barney Land agent Chicago to Pitt Cooke, regarding land acquisition. See letters dated 21, 23, 29 December.
- from Commissioner Wilson Department of the Interior, General Land Offices, to Jay Cooke, regarding land allocation. See letter dated 28 December.
- from S. P. Chase, Washington DC. See letter dated 8 December.

Key topics include

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke, G. C. Thomas and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs and banking issues.
- Northern Pacific Railroad, notably Jay Cooke's decision to act as official agent, and approaches from candidates for positions as local agents.
- Other railroads including Lake Superior and Mississippi; Oregon Central (8, 9 December); St Paul and Pacific (6 December); Central RR of Iowa; Kansas Pacific (14 December); St Louis, Chillicothe and Omaha Rail Road (20 December).
- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

Extract from Samuel Wilkeson's letter to Jay Cooke dated 22 December 1869 from New York

"...It is a great while since I was as happy as I was at 10 o'clock in the night of the 20th hearing of the hearty concurrence between you and Mr Smith & Mr Rice & Mr Hindon. I flung my hat to the ceiling. Smith and I congratulated each other's arms off, nearly, with protracted and increasingly furious hand-shaking. 'Tis a great event for your house, 'Tis a blessed event for our country. For the road completed will bless our country beyond the possibility of any other agency..."

Extract from H. Dyer's letter to Jay Cooke dated 2 December 1869 from New York

"...You will find to my credit that Sixteen Thousand Dollars on the book of the New York House. Please invest the amount in good securities, but yielding as much income as possible without too much risk – I would suggest that the securities be of a kind to rise in value. Coupon Bonds preferred..."

Reel 57

Dates: January 1870

Principal and most interesting correspondence

- from Henry Cooke ("HDC" or "Harry"), Washington DC, regarding banking and railroad matters, see letters dated 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 14, 17, 18, 19, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31 January.
- from Jay Cooke to H. D. Cooke, including his decision to turn down Speaker Blaine's offer of investing in the Southern Pacific Railroad. See letters dated 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 16, 18, 19, 26, 27, 28, 29 January. In addition personal family letters dated 24, 31 January.
- from Jay Cooke to G. C. Thomas. See letters dated 11, 21, 31 January.
- from H. C. Fahnestock ("HCF" or "Fahney"), New York, regarding banking matters and attempts to get Henry Ward Beecher and Horace Greeley to subscribe to the Northern Pacific RR. See letters dated 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 27, 29 31 January.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding personal and banking matters. See letters dated 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 27, 29, 31 January.
- from W. Milnor Roberts, engineer, regarding railroad matters. See letter dated 7 January.
- from G. C. Thomas, Jay Cooke & Co., regarding banking matters. See letters dated 11, 15, 20, 21, 22, 25 January.
- from General W. S. Hancock, regarding the value of the N.P.R.R. to the government and likely hostility of the Sioux. See letter dated 11 January.
- from J. Gregroy Smith, relating to the construction of the N.P.R.R. See letters dated 7, 8, 14, 19, 21, 24 January.
- from G. B. Sargent, Land Agent, Duluth. See letters dated 4, 20 January.

- from Samuel W. Wilkeson to Jay Cooke and G. C. Thomas, Secretary of Northern Pacific Railroad, including his attempts to get Henry Ward Beecher and Horace Greeley to subscribe to the Northern Pacific RR. See letters dated 3, 7, 10, 21, 31 January and extract below.
- from Robert Lamborn, Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad Co., Philadelphia,. See letters dated 6, 8, 10 January.
- from W. G. Moorhead, regarding banking and railroad matters. See letters dated 21, 22 January.
- from W. L. Banning, Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad Co., St Paul. See letters dated 6, 7, 10, 11, 17, 18, 29 January.
- from J. K. Moorhead, Pittsburgh, regarding personal and railroad matters. See letters dated 14, 15, 19, 21, 24, 25, 25, 28 January.
- from Governor B Marshall, State of Minnesota, to Jay Cooke. See letters dated 4, 22, 23 January.
- from J. A. Hills to Jay Cooke. See letter dated 4 January.
- from M. Casswell to Jay Cooke. See letter dated 4 January.
- from J. B. Montgomery to Jay Cooke. See letters dated 5, 10, 11, 26 January.
- from E. Dodge to Jay Cooke. See letter dated 5 January.
- from J. E. Wylie to Jay Cooke regarding the establishment of a steamship line between San Francisco, Japan & China. See letter dated 5 January.
- from C. Stiles to Jay Cooke, cryptic references to important information? See letter dated 10 January.
- from A. G. Dudley Ward, London. Regarding recent article in the London Globe regarding the Northern Pacific Railway. See letter dated 12 January.
- from C. A. Clark, President National Life Insurance Company Washington. See letter dated 15 January.
- from the Scandinavian Emigrant Agency, Chicago. See letters dated 11, 13 January.
- from W. S. King P.M. House Of Representatives, Washington. See letter dated 19 January.
- from Stephen Sarter New York. See letter dated 18 January.
- from Governor R. B. Hayes State of Ohio. See letter dated 24, 30 January.
- from Dyck to Pitt Cooke, regarding bonds. See letter dated 20 January.
- from W. H. Armstrong, House of Representatives Washington. See Letter Dated 24 January.
- from S. Smith, Manager Franklin Telegraph Company Philadelphia. See Letter dated 24 January.
- from John Pinkerton. See letter dated 25 January.
- from H. G. Marquand, Wall Street New York, regarding a new English company. See letter dated 26 January.
- from M. H. Bovee regarding the abolishment of Capital punishment. See letter dated 27 January.
- from H. C. Swain. See Letters dated 26, 27 January.
- from Major J. N. Cox, Philadelphia. See letter dated 29 January.
- from H. D. Faulkner, New York. See letters dated 7, 27 January.

Key topics include

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs and banking issues.
- Northern Pacific Railroad; promotion and selling of bonds to preferred candidates “pool”; raising \$5,600,000.
- Other railroads including Lake Superior and Mississippi; Portland and Kenneber (letter dated 6 January); Central Railroad of Iowa (letters dated 7, 27 January); Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad Company (letter dated 14 January); Baltimore and

Ohio Railroad (letter dated 19 January); Vermont Central Line (letter dated 21 January); St Pauls Pacific Railroad Company (letter dated 22 January); Hastings & Dakota (letter dated 24, 29 January); Michigan Air Line Extension Railroad company (see letter dated 28 January); Middle Creek (letter dated 31 January).

- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

Extract from General Winfield S. Hancock's letter to Jay Cooke dated 11 January 1870 from St Paul

"...In regard to Indian expenditures it is not seen that the construction of a railway into their country upon the line proposed will in any way tend immediately to diminish them; it will most probably provoke their hostility, especially that of the Sioux, and lead to a war ending in their possible destruction. This war in the nature of things will occur before your road is in a condition to carry our supplies to any great extent unless large subsidies be paid them to purchase peace..."

Extract from Samuel Wilkeson's letter to George Thomas dated 31 January 1870 from New York

"...Of course my wife wants the 20.000 in the Five Million spec but I can't get Jay to say at what figures he will take her Warren & Franklin Bonds –

I want some too.

Mr Greeley must have 20.000 – I have spoken to him about it and of course he will expect to have it – and there is no interest on this continent strong enough to afford to disoblige that powerful man. And he must have his own time to pay in too.

Reel 58

Dates: February 1870

Principal and most interesting correspondence

- from Henry Cooke ("HDC" or "Harry"), Washington DC, regarding banking and railroad matters, see letters dated 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 12, 14, 15, 19, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26 February.
- from Jay Cooke to H. D. Cooke, banking railroad and personal family letters. See letters dated 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 23, 24, 25, 28 February.
- from H. C. Fahnestock ("HCF" or "Fahney"), New York, regarding banking matters. See letters dated 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28 February.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding personal and banking matters. See letters dated 4, 5, 7, 8, 18, 19, 21, 23, 24 February.
- from G. C. Thomas, Jay Cooke & Co., regarding banking matters. See letter dated 2, 11, 14 February.
- from Governor Smith. See letter dated 7, 10, 11, 23, 26, 28 February.
- from G. B. Sargent, Land Agent, Duluth to Jay Cooke & G. C. Thomas. See letters dated. 1, 5, 17, 22, 23, 24, 26 February.
- from Samuel W. Wilkeson, Secretary of Northern Pacific Railroad. See letters dated 5 February.
- from W. G. Moorhead, regarding banking and railroad matters. See letters dated 11 February.
- from W. L. Banning, Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad Co., St Paul. See letters dated 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 18, 21, 22, 24, 25, 28 February.
- from J. K. Moorhead, Pittsburgh, regarding personal and railroad matters. See letter dated 22 February.
- from Rice Harper, Duluth, regarding land matters. See letter dated 12, 25 February.

- from S. P. Chase, declining an offer to invest in the N.P.R.R. on grounds of health. See letter dated 4 February.
- from William Windom, relating deep snow on the route of the N.P.R.R. See letter dated 1 February and extract below.
- from Ira Spaulding, regarding construction work on the N.P.R.R. See telegram dated 15 February.
- from Colonel R. T. P. Allen Superintendent Kentucky Military Institute. See letters dated 6 February.
- to & from Ignatius Donnelly, House of Representatives, Washington. See letters dated 7, 8 February.
- from J. P. Bhave Washington. See letter dated 8 February.
- from J. Sherman, United States Senate Chamber. See letter dated 9 February.
- from Governor Marshall. See letters dated 1, 8 February.
- from Thomas Emeley, Leeds, UK. See letters dated 11 February.
- from H. D. Faulkner New York. See letters dated. 5, 9, 11, 14, 25 February.
- from W. H. Armstrong House of Representatives, Washington. See letters dated 12 February.
- from M. H. Bovee, regarding capital punishment. See letter dated 14 February.
- from General K. Reed. See letter dated 15 February.
- from Colonel Spragne, Adjutant Generals Office, War Department. See letter dated 19 February.
- from R. C. Mitchell Editor The Superior Tribune. See letter dated 21 February.
- from A. Higgins Delaware District Attorneys Office. See letter dated 23 February.

Key topics include

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs and banking issues.
- Northern Pacific Railroad; its construction, promotion and selling of bonds.
- Other railroads including Lake Superior and Mississippi; Portland & Kenneber (See letter dated 8 February); The Michigan Air Line Extension Railroad Company (See letter dated 9 February); Lake Shore & Michigan South Railway Company (See letter dated 10 February).
- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

Extract from William Windom's letter to Jay Cooke dated 1 February 1870 on route of Northern Pacific

"...The snow is too deep in the woods to make a thorough exploration of the country on each side of our line as contemplated by yourself and Governor Smith, but I have employed a few men who are accustomed to travelling on snow shoes to accompany the engineers..."

Extract from Henry Cooke letter to Jay Cooke dated 1 February 1870 from Washington DC.
"...I finally settled down to give 75,000 to King, Halderman & Wilson instead of giving King a full share and H + W. 70,000 as Jay Jr suggests. We want all the help we can get to decide the wavering Superior folks.

Reel 59

Dates: March 1870

Principal and most interesting correspondence

- from Henry Cooke ("HDC" or "Harry"), Washington DC, regarding banking and railroad matters, including General Horace Porter (Grant's Private Secretary)

- acceptance of money (31 March). See letters dated 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 30, 31 March.
- from Jay Cooke to H. D. Cooke, banking, railroad and personal family letters. See letters dated 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 29, 31 March and extract below.
 - from H. C. Fahnestock (“HCF” or “Fahney”), New York, regarding banking matters. See letters dated 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31 March .
 - from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding personal and banking matters. See letters dated 2, 3, 4, 5, 11, 16, 19, 21, 22, 24, 25, 28, 29, 30, 31 March.
 - from W. Milnor Roberts, engineer, regarding railroad matters. See letter dated 3, 9, 22 March.
 - from G. C. Thomas, Jay Cooke & Co., regarding banking matters. See letter dated 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 16, 17, 18, 29 March.
 - from Governor Smith, Boston, New York. See letter dated 4, 7, 15, 16, 18, 19, 21, 22, 26, 28 March.
 - from Gilead A. Smith, London. See letters dated 4, 5, 19, 26 March.
 - from S. Bleichroder, Berlin. See letter dated 5 March.
 - from G. B. Sargent, Land and bond agent to Jay Cooke. See letters dated 1, 3, 11, 12, March.
 - from A. B. Nettleton, regarding publicity matters. See letter dated 16, 18, 29 March.
 - from and to Samuel W. Wilkeson, Secretary of Northern Pacific Railroad. See letters dated 1, 3, 5, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17, 19, 22, 24, 26, 27, 30 March.
 - from Mr Graves, regarding information of possible use to the N.P.R.R. concerning the original treaty setting up the Chippewa Indian Reservation. See letter dated 11 March.
 - from Robert Lamborn, Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad Co., Philadelphia,. See letters dated 18, 21 March.
 - from and to W. G. Moorhead, Rome, Paris regarding banking and railroad matters. See letters dated 11, 14, 17, 19 March.
 - from W. L. Banning, Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad Co., St Paul. See letters dated 3, 5, 8, 9, 21, 22, 24, 26, 29 March.
 - from J. B. Walker. See letter dated 5 March.
 - from J. K. Moorhead, Pittsburgh, regarding personal and railroad matters. See letter dated 2 March.
 - from Rice Harper, Duluth, regarding land matters. See letter dated 1, 9, 11, 29 March.
 - from S. P. Chase. See letter dated 23, 26 March.
 - from William Windom, See letter dated 31 March.
 - from Ignatius Donnelly, House of Representatives, Washington DC., relating the opinion that Congress would rather give “land than money”. See letters dated 5, 11, 23 March and extract below.
 - from J. P. Bhave Washington. See letters dated 5, 25 March.
 - from Governor W R Marshall. See letters dated 22, 24 March.
 - from Thomas Emeley, Venice Italy. See letter dated 18 March.
 - from H. D. Faulkner New York. See letters dated 21, 23, 25, 28 March.
 - from W. H. Armstrong House of Representatives, Washington. See letters dated 26 March.
 - from General K. Reed. See letters dated 10, 14 March.
 - from A. Melville, Attorney & Counsellor New York. See letter dated 2 March.
 - from W. S. King P.M. House Of Representatives, Washington. See letters dated 4, 21 March.
 - from Mr Marx, Marx & Co Brokers. Concerning \$20 Million. See letter dated 12 March.
 - from W. B. Ogden. See letters dated 5, 7, 9, 10, 12 March.

- from Mr Truman, concerning the Eastern terminus of the N.P.R.R.. See letter dated 14 March.
- from James Mason, New York regarding a scandal concerning his business partner J. E. Maxwell. See letter dated 14 March.
- from Baron Geralt. See letter dated 21 March.
- from President U. S. Grant, German Town (?). See letter dated 25 March.

Key topics include

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs and banking issues.
- Northern Pacific Railroad; its construction, promotion and selling of bonds. Attempts to gain Congressional support for right to mortgage and land rights via the Northern Pacific Bill.
- Other railroads including Lake Superior and Mississippi (letter 1, 21, 22, 25 March); Fort Wayne of Chicago Railway co. (letter 1 March); Pennsylvania Central Railroad Co. (letter dated 3, 16, 18 March); St. Croix, Superior & Bayfield Rail Road (letter 21 March); The Central Railroad Company of Iowa (letter 21, 23, 25, 28 March); Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton. Cincinnati, Richmond & Chicago. Dayton & Michigan Railroads (letter 25 March); Milwaukee & St Paul Railway (letter 26 March); Chicago & North-western railway (letter 26 March).
- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

Extract from Jay Cooke's letter to Henry Cooke dated 1 March 1870 from Philadelphia

"...I am afraid from what Corwin said to Mr Fahnestock, that you given undue hopes to Fremont about advances on Arkansas bonds, indeed, that you have made direct promises to make such advances although Mr Brown says you have not. We cannot & will not advance on any such securities & especially to Fremont ..."

Extract from Ignatius Donnelly's letter to Jay Cooke dated 5 March 1870 from Washington D. C.

"...This spirit simply means the failure of all legislation for its harbour. I do not mean to complain of Senator R.. but he needs some strong will behind him to say this must be done. My relations are not such that I can press him...I have no doubt of the hours and none of the senate with the help you give, if Senator R. will only take hold of the measure with zeal and determination...There have been several precedents for this kind of legislation...I have left with Senator R. a copy of the bill ready to introduce...I cannot but think that the present congress would rather give land than money..."

Reel 60

Dates: April 1870

Principal and most interesting correspondence

- from Henry Cooke ("HDC" or "Harry"), Washington DC, regarding banking and railroad matters, including efforts to pass Northern Pacific Bill and support of President Grant (23 April). See letters dated 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 April and extract below.
- from Jay Cooke to H. D. Cooke, relating banking issues and attempts to discredit Northern Pacific Bill. See letters dated 1, 2, 4, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 26, 27, 29, 30 April. In addition personal family letters dated 4, 5, 19, 20, 22, 23, 25, 27, 28 April.
- from Jay Cooke to G. C. Thomas. See letters dated 26 April.

- from H. C. Fahnestock (“HCF” or “Fahney”), New York, regarding banking matters. See letters dated 2, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 23, 28, 29 April.
- from Pitt Cooke, New York, regarding personal and banking matters. See letters dated 1, 11, 13, 15, 16, 23, 29 April.
- from W. Milnor Roberts, engineer, regarding railroad matters. See letters dated 4, 25 April.
- from G. C. Thomas, Jay Cooke & Co., regarding banking matters. See letters dated 4, 5, 7, 19, 20, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28 April.
- from Governor Smith, relating to the construction of the N.P.R.R. See letter dated 1, 6, 9, 12, 13, 14, 28 April.
- from Gilead A Smith, London. Including a formal letter renouncing one Mr Nelson, and another who had allegedly been claiming to represent him. See letters dated 2, 7, 21, 27 April.
- from G. B. Sargent, Land and bond agent, Frankfurt, relating attempts to sell bonds in Europe and to gain support of *London Times*. See letters dated 2, 4, 5, 8, 11, 25, 27, 30 April and extract below.
- from A. B. Nettleton, regarding publicity matters. See letters dated 2, 6 April.
- from Samuel W. Wilkeson, Secretary of Northern Pacific Railroad. See letters dated 2, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15, 23 April.
- from Robert Lamborn, Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad Co., Philadelphia,. See letters dated 11, 19, 26, 27, 28 April.
- from W. G. Moorhead, Venice, Florence, Munich, Paris regarding banking and railroad matters, including prospect of London banking house. See letters dated 3, 4, 8, 11, 17, 27 April.
- from W. L. Banning, Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad Co., St Paul. See letters dated 8, 13, 18, 21, 23, 25, 27, 28, 30 April.
- from J. K. Moorhead, Pittsburgh, regarding personal and railroad matters. See letters dated 9, 13, 16, 23, 28 April.
- from Rice Harper, Duluth, regarding land matters. See letter dated 2, 13, 14, 19, 26 April
- from John Halls, Pittsburgh. See letters dated 1, 26, 29 April.
- from Ignatius Donnelly, House of Representative, Washington DC. See letters dated 12, 13, 22, 26 April.
- from Governor W. R. Marshall. See letter dated 1, 9 April.
- from Thomas Emeley, Wharfedale UK. See letters dated 23, 28 April.
- from M. H. Bovee Philadelphia. See letter dated 12 April.
- from W. B. Ogden. See letter dated 2 April.
- from J. E. Woodbridge, US Senate regarding debate currently in progress in the Senate. See letters dated 8, 11, 12, 13, 18, 21 April.
- from G Momment (?) application for settlement dated 14 April.
- from Mr Ritchie, City of Superior, regarding immigrant settlers along the route of the N.P.R.R. See letters dated 18, 20 April.
- from W. J. Barney, Land agent, Chicago. See letters dated 20, 23, 25 April.
- from Miram Hayes. See letter dated 25 April.

Key topics include

- Correspondence between Henry Cooke, H. C. Fahnestock, Pitt Cooke and Jay Cooke regarding business affairs and banking issues.
- Northern Pacific Railroad. Attempts to pass Northern Pacific Bill through Senate, which passed the Bill on 21 April. Attempts via George B. Sargent and H. Budge to sell N.P. bonds in Germany and rest of Europe. Attacks on Northern Pacific Bill from rival bankers via the *Ledger* and *London Times*.

- Other railroads including Lake Superior and Mississippi; Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne of Chicago Railway Co. (letter 1 April); Central Railroad of Iowa (letter 1 April); Portland & Kenneber Railroad (17 April); Pennsylvania Railroad Co. (25 April); Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railway.(29 April).
- Various letters relating church matters, potential investments, job opportunities and charity.

Extract from Henry Cooke's letter to Jay Cooke dated 20 April 1870 from Washington D. C.
"...We have been at work like beavers and have whipped the enemy on every vote so far – in most cases three or four to one. We let the other side do most of the talking and we do the voting. Their object is to throw the vote over and prolong the discussion, but we expect to get a vote before adjournment this evening..."

Extract from G. B. Sargent's letter to Jay Cooke dated 30 April 1870 from London
"...The results of my investigations are anything but pleasant. Childs, while here, toadied to the editor and proprietor of the Times, was Sampson's [money editor of the Times] guest all the time he was here, and their relations were of the most intimate character. Since Childs' return to the United States the Times has continually quoted from the Ledger as the paper of the United States..."