

# No Newspaper? No Problem: Processing Archival Collections to Bridge the Gap

By Savannah Sessions, MLIS 2019

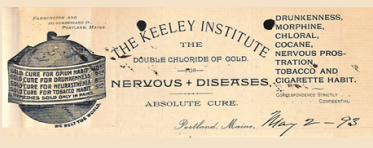
## Challenge

- Lack of newspaper coverage for the town of Bethel, Maine between the years of 1890-1895.
- The Bethel Historical Society owns a large, unprocessed archival collection. The Herrick & Park papers is made up of 115 boxes of correspondence dated July 1, 1891 to June 3, 1946.



## Solution

- Process the Herrick & Park papers covering the years of 1891-1895.
- Create an online exhibit for the BHS website highlighting some of the interesting examples of letterhead in the collection to generate excitement about and awareness of the collection.



## Process

- Catalog and make searchable in Past Perfect
- Arrange collection in new housing
- Develop Index and Finding Aid
- Note location of correspondence with significant individuals during the time period
- Digitize Collection
- Online Exhibit on the BHS website

## Future Work

- Continue to increase accessibility.
- Transcribe significant letters to make text fully searchable.
- Re-house, index, and catalog the remainder of the collection.

