



Jacob V. Brower Letters C1761

Collection Number: C1761

Collection Title: Jacob V. Brower Letters

Dates: 1901, 1904

Creator: Brower, Jacob Vradenberg, 1844-1905

Abstract: A letter written in 1901 by Jacob V. Brower to a Professor Kingery in Crawfordsville [Minnesota?] and a letter written in 1904 by Julius Chambers of New York to explorer Jacob V. Brower describing travel in Minnesota.

Collection Size: 1 folder

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at research@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Jacob V. Brower Letters* (C1761); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Columbia].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by William Trogdon on April 4, 2006 (Accession No. CA6108).

Processed by: Processed by John Konzal, March 21, 2018

Historical Note:

Jacob Vradenberg Brower was born in 1844 to parents Abraham Duryea Brower and Mary (Stevens) Brower, who had originally settled in Michigan and later moved to Minnesota. At age 16 he came with his parents to Watab, in Benton County, and then to Todd County, Minnesota, where the family settled permanently on a farm in the area of Long Prairie. In 1862, at age 19, he enlisted in the Minnesota Volunteers under the command of General H.H. Sibley, and participated in several battles with Indians during the Indian campaign in 1862. He went on to serve in many battles until 1865, the end of the Civil War.

He returned to Todd County, Minnesota, and in 1867 married Armina E. Shava. They had two children, R.B. Brower and Josephine V. Brower.

Jacob Brower was appointed the first County Auditor of Todd County, Minnesota, on January 1, 1867. In 1871 he undertook the study of law and was admitted to practice in 1872, serving for a time as the County Attorney in Todd County. In 1873 he relocated to St. Cloud, Minnesota, and was president during the construction and early operation periods of the Sauk Centre Northern Railroad. This line is now referred to as the Great Northern Railroad.

He was associated in the ownership of two newspapers, first the *Todd County Argus*, and later the *Sauk Centre Tribune*. Brower plotted the Village of Browerville, in Todd County. In 1911, the Hill-Lewis survey data and Winchell-Upham survey data, along with Jacob Brower's archaeological information on Northern Minnesota artifacts and sites was compiled (edited) by State Geologist Newton H. Winchell. Winchell's atlas was published on the authority of the Minnesota Historical Society in, "The Aborigines of Minnesota."

Brower is a central figure in the exploration and history of the Missouri River in its farther reaches. He wrote the book, *The Missouri River and Its Utmost Source*, published first in 1896 and again in the second edition in 1897.

Jacob Vradenberg Brower died in 1905.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following single series:

Letters

Scope and Content Note:**Letters**

The letters pertain to description of travel in Minnesota and on the Mississippi River.

Container List:

| | |
|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| f. 1 | Letters: 1901 letter by J.V. Brower to a Professor Kingery in Crawfordsville [Minnesota?]. 1904 letter written by Julius Chambers of New York to Missouri River explorer Brower. |
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Index:

| Index Term | Folder | Image |
|-------------------------------------|--------|-------|
| Explorers | 1 | |
| Brower, Jacob Vradenberg, 1844-1905 | 1 | |
| Chambers, Julius | 1 | |
| Minnesota—Description and Travel | 1 | |