C Sterett, Smith A. (-1887), Papers, 1861-1899 2074 5 folders

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INTRODUCTION

The papers of Smith A. Sterett contain letters from business associates, friends, and family; business papers; Sterett's Confederate Army discharge; and an elementary spelling book. Sterett was a Montana Territory prospector, Helena, MT, merchant, and Nevada, MO, hardware merchant.

DONOR INFORMATION

The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Ruth McDaniel on 19 August 1964.

FOLDER LIST

- f. 1 Spelling Book. Noah Webster, THE ELEMENTARY SPELLING BOOK, BEING AN IMPROVEMENT OF THE AMERICAN SPELLING BOOK. Revised edition, New York, 1866. D. Appleton & Co.
- f. 2 Miscellaneous Papers, 1861-1899. Sterett's Confederate Army discharge from G.W. Conant's Company, Second Cavalry Regiment, Eighth Division, Army of Missouri, December 8, 1861. Ticket for first trip on the Mississippi River steamer G.W. Graham, May 27, 1865. Partnership agreement, Albert Gallatin Clarke, Otis J. Renwick, and Smith A. Sterett, for a tin and hardware store in Helena., Montana Territory, February 10, 1867. Three memoranda of gold bullion deposited at the U.S. assay office, July 13, 1868. Obituary of Albert Gallatin Clarke, December 1899.
- f. 3 Correspondence, 1867-1868. Letters to Sterett from J.D. Morrison,
 Albert Gallatin Clarke, Otis J. Renwick, and James H. Shook. Gold
 mining in the Montana Territory. Weather, crops, business
 opportunities, and unemployment. Population growth of Helena,
 Montana Territory. Helena tin and hardware business owned by
 Clarke, Renwick, and Sterett; operated by Clarke. Reconstruction
 politics in the Montana Territory, election of 1868, Union League.
 Morrison's dry goods business in Columbia, Missouri. Missouri
 land prices. Correspondents ' views of marriage. Prize fights in
 Helena.
- f. 4 Correspondence, 1869-1870. Letters from Otis J. Renwick, Albert Gallatin Clarke, W.R. Davidson, and Sterett's brother A.C. Sterett. Economic conditions in the Montana Territory. Clarke closing out Helena hardware business. Unemployment in Montana, Indiana, Kentucky, and Missouri. Missouri offered best opportunities for a

man of limited means. News of Sterett's friends and family in Warsaw, Missouri. Universal suffrage of tax payers in Benton County. Railroads in Benton County. 1870 labor situation in Kansas. HELENA MONTANA NEWSLETTER, March 1869.

Correspondence, 1876-1895. Letters to Sterett from Albert Gallatin Clarke, J.T. Quarles, and Sterett's brothers Jeffrey and Preston. Black Hills gold rush, Sioux Indians, gold mining in Montana, and lode owned by Clarke, Renwick, and Sterett. Crops, livestock, hard times. Death of Mrs. Clarke and marriage of Renwick, 1876. Sterett's brothers request job information and write of unemployment and hard times in Colorado, 1878, and California, 1883. Request from Quarles for a personal favor. Letters to Sterett's daughter, Edna B. Sterett, from Clarke regretting Sterett's 1887 death, reminiscences of Montana gold rush days. Population growth, opportunities in Montana Territory. Information about teaching in Helena: salaries, openings, duties. Unemployment, scarcity of jobs, and hard times, 1895.

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