



Pipkin Family Papers (S0532)

Collection Number: S0532

Collection Title: Pipkin Family Papers

Dates: 1853-1877

Creator: Pipkin, Philip, 1814-1883

Abstract: The Pipkin Family Papers consist of correspondence sent to and from members of the Pipkin Family of Hillsboro, Missouri, mostly Philip Pipkin, a local attorney and judge, and his son-in-law, attorney John Lilburn Thomas. Subjects of interest include the Civil War in Jefferson County, Missouri, land sales, and court cases handled by Philip Pipkin.

Collection Size: 0.25 cubic feet
(3 folders)

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-St. Louis](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at stlouis@shsmo.org.

Restrictions on Use: The Donor has given and assigned to the Society all rights of copyright, which the Donor has in the Materials and in such of the Donor's works as may be found among any collections of Materials received by the University from others.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Pipkin Family Papers* (S0532); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-St. Louis [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-St. Louis].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Dorothy Ross on November 10, 2023 (Accession No. SA4676).

Processed by: Processed by AJ Medlock and Isaac Alexander, November 2023.

Biographical Note:

Philip Pipkin was born to Colonel Philip Pipkin and Susannah Morris on November 6, 1814, near Marshall, Tennessee. Pipkin attended Cumberland College (University of Tennessee),

graduating in 1834. His father moved to Missouri in 1830, and Pipkin followed him north after graduation. Pipkin married Sarah Park in St. Louis, Missouri, on November 7, 1836. They had several children, including Sarah Ellen Thomas (1837-1916), Julia Ashbury, William, Susan, and Charles. After Sarah Pipkin's death in 1849, Philip Pipkin remarried Sophia Thomas on February 14, 1850. The marriage produced the following children: Emily Pipkin Simmons, Ardelle, Wilton, and Merrill.

During his life, Pipkin was a practicing attorney and politician. In 1840, Pipkin won election to the Missouri House of Representatives. He also participated in the second Missouri Constitutional Convention in 1845. In 1858, Pipkin moved to Ironton, Missouri, opened a law office, and became a Justice of the County Court. Pipkin's personal and professional lives intertwined throughout his life. For example, Sophia Pipkin's brother, John Lilburn Thomas (1833-1924), married Sarah Ellen Pipkin, one of Philip Pipkin's daughters from his first marriage, on December 2, 1856. Pipkin and Thomas frequently collaborated on cases.

In February 1861, Pipkin served as a member of the State Convention to consider whether Missouri should secede from the Union. After the Civil War began, Pipkin publicly argued for southern states' rights. Due to Pipkin's outspokenness, the Union military arrested him several times for disloyalty to the U.S. government. At one point in 1864, Union General Thomas Ewing Jr. banished Pipkin, but the order was revoked before it could be enacted. However, Union forces confiscated the Pipkin family residence that same year for use as a field hospital. Also in 1864, Pipkin served as a delegate to the Democratic State and National Convention, voting for General George McClellan, who lost 212-21 to President Abraham Lincoln.

After the war, Pipkin moved to Kimmswick, Missouri, in Jefferson County. In 1872, Pipkin served as Judge of the 26th Circuit Court in Missouri. He attended the fourth Missouri Constitutional Convention as a delegate again in 1875. In 1881, Pipkin retired and moved to Iron County, Missouri. Philip Pipkin died on February 6, 1883, in Farmington, Missouri, due to an undisclosed illness.

Arrangement:

The collection is arranged chronologically.

Scope and Content Note:

The Pipkin Family Papers contain correspondence from Philip Pipkin, a Hillsboro, Missouri, attorney and judge to his son-in-law, attorney John Lilburn Thomas. In the letters, Pipkin recounts his business deals, court cases, property sales, and family letters. Correspondence of interest include Pipkin's description of the 1861 Missouri State Convention, the Civil War in Jefferson County, and Democratic politics. The materials in this collection are arranged chronologically, dating from 1853 to 1877.

Container List:

f. 1-3 Correspondence, 1853-1877

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