

Inventory

Papers
of
Alice Hale Hill

COLLECTION NO 308

Ellen Fisher

WESTERN BUSINESS HISTORY RESEARCH CENTER

THE COLORADO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

DENVER

MAY 1979

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Alice Hale Hill Collection

Forward

Alice Hale Hill (July 19, 1840-July 19, 1908) grew up in a prosperous Providence, Rhode Island family. At the age of 20 she married Nathaniel Peter Hill (1832-1900) a chemistry professor at Brown University. The couple's first two children, Crawford and Isabel, were born in Providence.

In 1864 Eastern investors hired Hill to analyze gold deposits in Colorado Territory. During Hill's three trips to Colorado he was smitten with the West. In 1867 he moved his family to the rugged Colorado mining town of Black Hawk. Their third child, Gertrude, was born there in 1869.

Hill studied European technology and eventually brought a smelting process from Wales to extract gold and silver from Colorado's ore. As the founder of the Boston and Colorado Smelting Company, Hill prospered in the ore reduction industry. He served as mayor of Black Hawk from 1872 to 1874. When Hill decided to erect a larger smelter in Argo, north of Denver, in 1877, he relocated his family to the capital city.

In 1879 N. P. Hill was elected to the United States Senate, where he served one term. Alice Hale Hill was active in Washington, D.C as well as Denver. She was a vice regent of the Mount Vernon Ladies Association for 20 years and established a local chapter in Denver. She was a leader of the Y.W.C.A. and founded the kindergarten system in Denver.

The papers of Alice Hale Hill contain 17 diaries or journals (including one on microfilm), correspondence, a biographical sketch, newspaper clippings, and miscellaneous documents. The papers cover a period of 1840, beginning with a journal written by her mother, Harriet J. Hill, to 1908. The diaries and journals provide a glimpse of upper-class life in Denver and travels abroad. They document the lifestyle of one of Denver's most prominent early families.

The papers of Alice Hale Hill were given, in part, to the Colorado Historical Society by Mrs. Alexander Barbour, a granddaughter, in 1956. Additional material was given by Edith Andrews, Mrs. Barbour's daughter, in 1972, and by Elinor Dorrance Ingersoll in 1977.

Biography

Alice Hale Hill
 b. July 19, 1840
 m. July 26, 1860
 d. July 19, 1908

Husband: Nathaniel Peter Hill
 b. February 18 1832
 d. May 2, 1900

Parents: Isaac Hale
 b. July 29, 1814
 m. July 25, 1838
 d. October 31, 1865

Harriet Johnson
 b. September 17, 1807
 d. July 15, 1890

Siblings: Maria
 b. August 19, 1844
 Harriet [J. Roworth, Providence, RI, no children]
 b. May 18, 1844
 Edna B. Hale [Providence, never married, lived to be 98]
 b.
 Wendell P. Hale [Providence]
 Jesse D. Hale [Denver]
 b. December 9, 1855
 m. Grace Butler, March 18, 1885

Children: Crawford
 b. March 29, 1862
 d. December 22, 1922
 m. Louise Sneed January 15, 1895
 b. 1861
 d. May 28, 1955
 children: Nathaniel P. Hill, II
 b. January 1, 1896
 d. August 12, 1965
 m. Elinor Dorrance (first wife)

Crawford Hill, Jr.
 b. December 9, 1898
 d.
 m. (divorced)

Isabel
 b. April 10, 1864
 m. Franklin Price Knott, December 28, 1901 (Knott 1864-1930)
 d. February 6, 1926

Gertrude
 b. January 26, 1869
 m. Charles Berger, November 5, 1890
 d. January 3, 1891
 d.
 child: Charlotte Alice Berger, August 10, 1891
 m. Lucius M. Cuthbert, October 24, 1900
 children: Gertrude, July 25, 1901
 Alice Middleton, August 25, 1902
 Lucius M., Jr., April 5 1904-August 16, 1906

Alice Hale Hill Collection			
<u>FF</u>	<u>No. Items</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Inclusive Dates</u>
1	1	Diary of Harriet J. Hill	1841-1843
2	6	Correspondence	1840-1860
3	4	Correspondence	1866-1868
4	1	Daily Journal	1876-1891
5	1	Address section of journal (photocopy)	1879-1880
6	1	Letter	2/17/1884
7	1	Journal of a trip to Europe	7/2/1887-9/30/1887
8	1	Journal of a trip to Europe	10/1/1887-11/23/1887
9	1	Daily Journal	1892-1898
10	1	Journal of a trip to Europe	5/21/1889-9/16/1889
11	2	Journal of a trip	1/24/1894-4/12/1894
12	1	Journal of a trip to Europe	1/2/1896-5/27/1896
13	1	Journal of a trip to Europe	3/22/1896-5/27/1896
14	1	Daily Journal (microfilm)	1899-1903
15	1	Journal of a trip to Europe	11/26/1900-5/29/1901
16	1	Journal of a trip to Europe	5/30/1901-1/21/1902
17	1	Journal of a trip to Europe	1/27/1902-5/12/1903
18	1	Journal of a trip	3/19/1904-9/28/1904
19	1	Journal of a trip to Europe	9/29/1904-9/14/1905
20	1	Journal of a trip to Europe	9/14/1905-11/23/1905
21	1	Journal of a trip	2/17/1906-1/13/1907
22	1	Journal of a trip to Europe	3/1907-8/1907
23	1	Daily Journal	1904-1908
24	1	Denver Cathedral Sermon	1905
25	2	Alice Hale Hill biography	

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Clippings about Alice Hale Hill
including death notice

1908