Roger W. Woodbury Autograph Book
Mss.01677

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Summary Information

Repository: History Colorado. Stephen H. Hart Research Center

Creator - Arranger: Woodbury, R. W. (Roger William), 1841-1903

Title: Roger W. Woodbury Autograph Book

Date: 1808-1880

Extent: 1.0 File folder(s)

Language: English

Collection [Box]: 0.25 lf

Abstract: Roger W. Woodbury was a prominent newspaper editor in Denver from 1867-1868, previously serving as a captain in the Civil War for the Union Army. This collection contains his autograph book. Woodbury collected autographs from prominent national and Civil War figures, including Robert E. Lee, Millard Fillmore, Susan B. Anthony and others.

Preferred Citation note
Cite collection as: Roger W. Woodbury Autograph Book, Mss.01167, History Colorado.
Biographical note

Roger W. Woodbury was born March 3, 1842, in Framerton, New Hampshire. He learned the printer's trade in that vicinity then joined the Union army during the Civil War. He retired as a captain and veteran of many war battles, in 1865. He continued his involvement with the military after arriving in Colorado, and eventually became a brigadier general in the National Guard.

He returned to New Hampshire after the war and worked on a newspaper in Manchester. In 1866 he arrived in Colorado, and like many before him mined briefly in the mountains of the state. He worked for the *Golden Transcript* and moved to Denver in 1867 where he became city editor of the *Tribune*, one of the city's earliest papers. Soon he became managing editor, and in 1868 he and John Walker and L. M. Koon bought the paper. They owned and operated the paper until 1871 when they sold it.

Meanwhile, in Denver, S. T. Sopris and Clarence Hager started the *Denver Daily Evening Times* in April, 1872. Later that year, after the *Times* had been sold to A. J. Boyer, Woodbury purchased the *Times*. He expanded and published the paper and moved it to a building on Lawrence Street in 1874. On May 28, 1888, after making a business success of the paper, he sold the company to a group of investors including his son, Frank S. Woodbury. That ended Roger W. Woodbury's newspaper career. During that time he became an advocate of admission of Colorado as a state of the union, and he supported Republican candidates for public office. In 1884 he was elected a regent of the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Woodbury received high praise from business people in Denver and historians when he stepped down as newspaper owner. One associate called him "the embodiment of energy, laboring early and late." An historian said he was "brisk, enterprising and reliable."

In 1888 Woodbury became president and manager of the Union National Bank. That career ended along with the Union National Bank when the bank closed during the Panic of 1893. After leaving Colorado, Woodbury became president of the California Eastern Railway Company.

Scope and Contents note

This collection contains one (1) autograph book belonging to Roger W. Woodbury. Autographs have been cut from documents and pasted into the autograph book. Contains autographs from 1808-1880.

Administrative Information
Publication Information

History Colorado. Stephen H. Hart Research Center

Conditions Governing Access note

Open to researchers without restrictions.

Provenance

Donated by Roger W. Woodbury on May 1st, 1897.

Processing Information note

Processed by Jillian Rittersbacher on October 28, 2013.

Controlled Access Headings

Genre(s)

- Autograph books
- Autographs.

Personal Name(s)

- Anthony, Susan B., (Susan Brownell), 1820-1906
- Bell, Louis, 1836-1865
- Bragg, Braxton, 1817-1876
- Colfax, Schuyler, 1823-1885
- Fillmore, Millard, 1800-1874
- Greeley, Horace, 1811-1872
- Johnson, Bushrod R., (Bushrod Rust), 1817-1880
- Knox, Thomas W., (Thomas Wallace), 1835-1896
- Lee, Robert E., (Robert Edward), 1807-1870
- McCall, George A., (George Archibald)
- Pegram, John, 1832-1865
- Pemberton, J. C., (John Clifford), 1814-1881
- Rawlins, John A., (John Aaron), 1831-1869
- Stanton, Elizabeth C., (Elizabeth Cady), 1815-1902
• Whittier, John G., (John Greenleaf), 1807-1892

Subject(s)

• Civil War, U. S., 1861-1865