

John P. Clarke (1825-1900) Papers, 1851-1900 A&M 1511

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1851-1900



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Descriptive Summary

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English .

Abstract

Correspondence, business and legal papers, surveys, account books, and a diary of a Burning Springs surveyor, oil developer, rural entrepreneur, horticulturalist, and captain of the Little Kanawha River steamer GENERAL JACKSON. Collection includes a brief journal of a trip from Des Moines, Iowa, to the Forks of the Platte in 1860; papers of Clarke's venture in quartz mining and milling in the Colorado Territory, 1861-1863; surveys of the Burning Springs oil region; letters from James C. Clarke, president of the Wirt Oil and Mining Company of which Clarke was superintendent; papers on the National Grange, the West Virginia Grange (Patrons of Husbandry), cooperatives, and the Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia Wool Growers Association; a diary of farming operations at Burning Springs; letters from Clarke's brother, James C., while a member of the Pennsylvania senate, 1875-1880; letterheads from Little Kanawha and Ohio Valley mercantile firms and steamboat companies; and family letters. Other subjects covered include: the Allegheny Valley Railroad; early history of Bethalto, Illinois; the speculative spirit and western expansion, 1860; freighting on the Great Plains during the Civil War; construction of the Chicago, Rock Island, and Pacific Railroad near Council Bluffs in 1868; and the effect of the German crisis of 1866 on American oil prices.

Creator

Clarke, John P. (1825-1900)

Extent

0.44 Linear Feet Summary: 5 1/4 in. (3 reels of microfilm, 1.75 in. each)

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Keywords

Kanawha Valley.

Pennsylvania

Little Kanawha River (W. Va.)

Iowa

Colorado Territory

Ohio River Valley

Illinois

Mills and mill-work

Frontier and pioneer life

Patrons of Husbandry.

Surveyors and surveying.

Steamboats

Railroads - Chicago, Rock Island, and Pacific Railroad.

Farms and farming.

Burning Springs, W. Va. (Wirt County) -- oil region

Diaries and journals.

Mining. SEE ALSO Coal mining.

Petroleum industry and trade

Rivers and river valleys.

Railroads - Allegheny Valley Railroad.
Wirt Oil and Mining Company
West Virginia Wool Growers Association
Clarke, John P.
Clarke, James C.